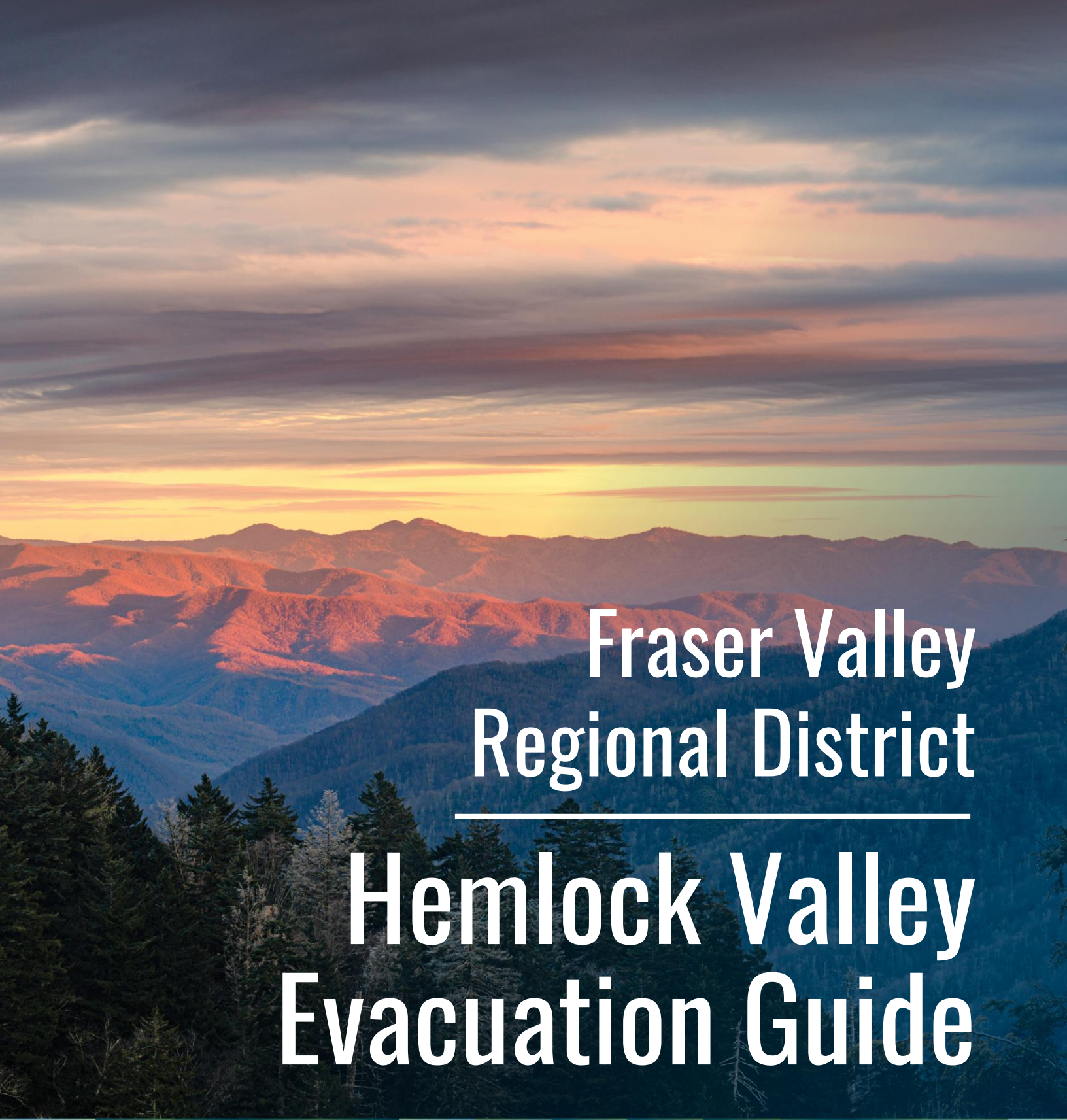


Fraser Valley Regional District

Hemlock Valley Evacuation Guide

Fraser Valley Regional District

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AMENDMENT RECORD

Updated information can be sent to emergencyinfo@fvrd.ca for consideration in future amendments.

VERSION NUMBER	RELEASE DATE	ITEMS UPDATED	BY WHOM
V 1.0	2025-December	Initial document creation	Torpy/Beacon

ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Torpy Consulting (Torpy) and The Beacon Design Collective (Beacon) were retained by the Fraser Valley Regional District (the FVRD) to compile this Hemlock Valley Evacuation Guide. This guide covers Hemlock Valley, a portion of the off-reserve Electoral Area C, with names and maps aligned with Statistics Canada and provincial naming conventions. This guide is informational, not an operational plan.

Evacuation orders are issued only for direct and imminent threats to life and safety—not for events like road closures that isolate a community. Residents should be prepared to self-sustain for up to 14 days. Resorts and operators of short-term rentals must ensure guests understand the area's risks and come prepared.

OVERVIEW

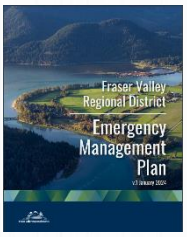
HEMLOCK VALLEY EVACUATION GUIDE OBJECTIVES

Everyone has a role in evacuation planning and awareness. This guide for Hemlock Valley aims to:

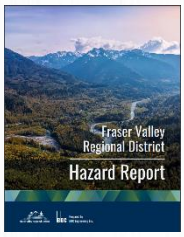
- Enhance situational awareness for local government and partners through integration with the FVRD's Emergency Management Plan, Hazard Report, and Master Evacuation Guide
- Ground-truth the realities of Hemlock Valley to inform readiness and evacuation alerts and orders
- Identify potential evacuation routes, emergency sites, partners on the landscape, communications, evacuation complexities, and opportunities
- Inform public expectations and promote readiness in Hemlock Valley

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

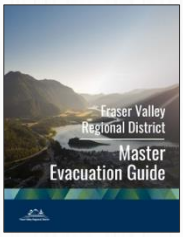
This guide is supplementary to the FVRD's Master Evacuation Guide, and these documents should be used together. For improved operational readiness, this guide should also be used with the FVRD's Emergency Management Plan, and its Hazard Report.



Click here to access the Emergency Management Plan



Click here to access the Hazard Report



Click here to access the Master Evacuation Guide

FOR EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE (EOC) STAFF

This document increases situational awareness and operational readiness for EOC staff. It assists in developing operational evacuation plans by quickly identifying places and populations, evacuation routes, first responder access, and potential emergency sites. It also describes the jurisdiction, responsibilities, and resources of the various entities on the landscape, and how to communicate and coordinate with each other during emergencies. General evacuation complexities are noted for Hemlock Valley.

FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

This guide contains important information that may assist first responders with situational awareness and tactical plans during incidents and emergencies. It describes jurisdiction, responsibilities, and resources of various entities on the landscape, including potential emergency sites. Places, population, evacuation complexities, and evacuation routes are listed within. It outlines communication across entities, how to receive information from the EOC, how to provide intelligence to the EOC, and how to request site support.

FOR PARTNERS ON THE LANDSCAPE

Partners on the landscape include local authorities, agency authorities, response agencies, and community and institutional groups. This guide provides vital situational awareness to those partners, including how to coordinate, communicate, receive information from, and provide intelligence to the EOC. It outlines jurisdictions, responsibilities, and resources of various entities on the landscape, and how to request site support during emergencies. Partners on the landscape can increase their effectiveness and resilience during emergencies by increasing their own levels of preparedness and operational readiness.

FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

After reading this guide, the Master Evacuation Guide, the Community Profiles section of the Emergency Management Plan, and the Hazard Report, FVRD residents will have a clearer understanding of their hazard context, their situation during emergencies, how to receive evacuation notices and information from the FVRD, how to evacuate from their home or work, and the necessity to be prepared and self-sufficient for up to 14 days during an emergency. An individual's resilience to an emergency is directly related to their level of preparation.

HEMLOCK VALLEY DESCRIPTION

» MAP – VEHICULAR ROUTE

» GEOGRAPHY

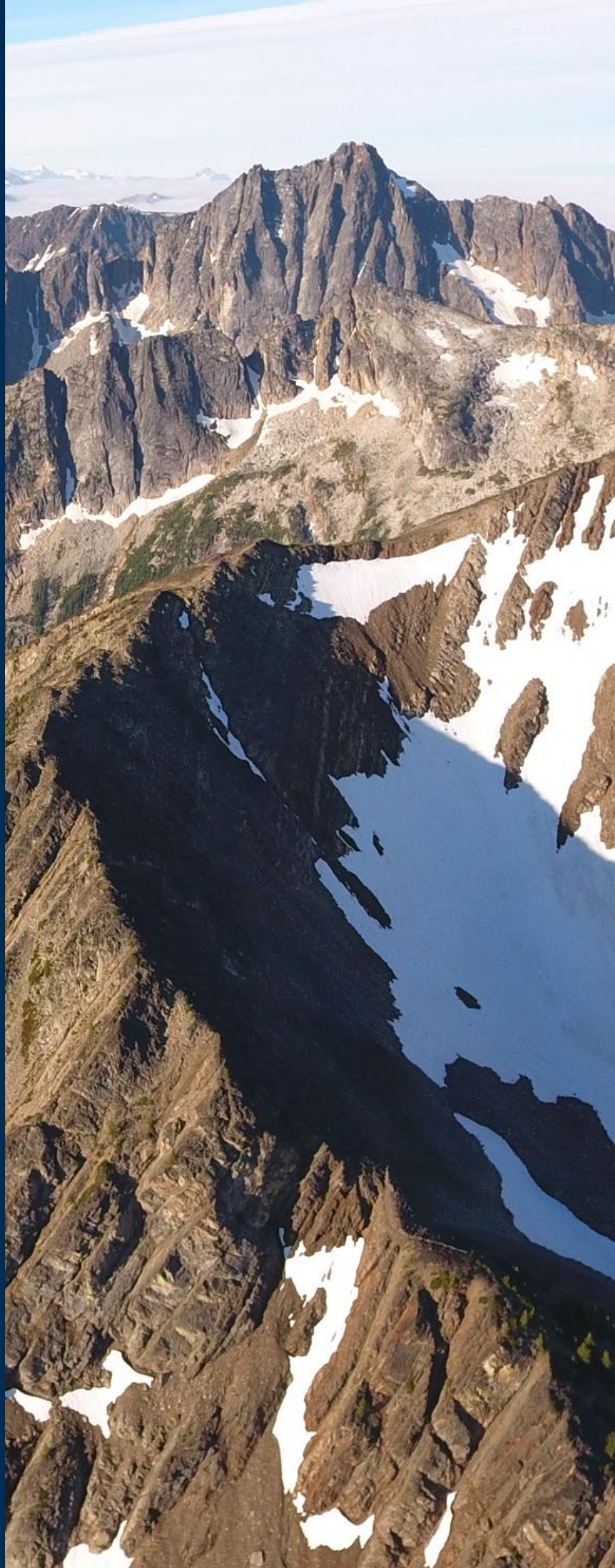
» PLACES AND POPULATION

» MAP – VILLAGE

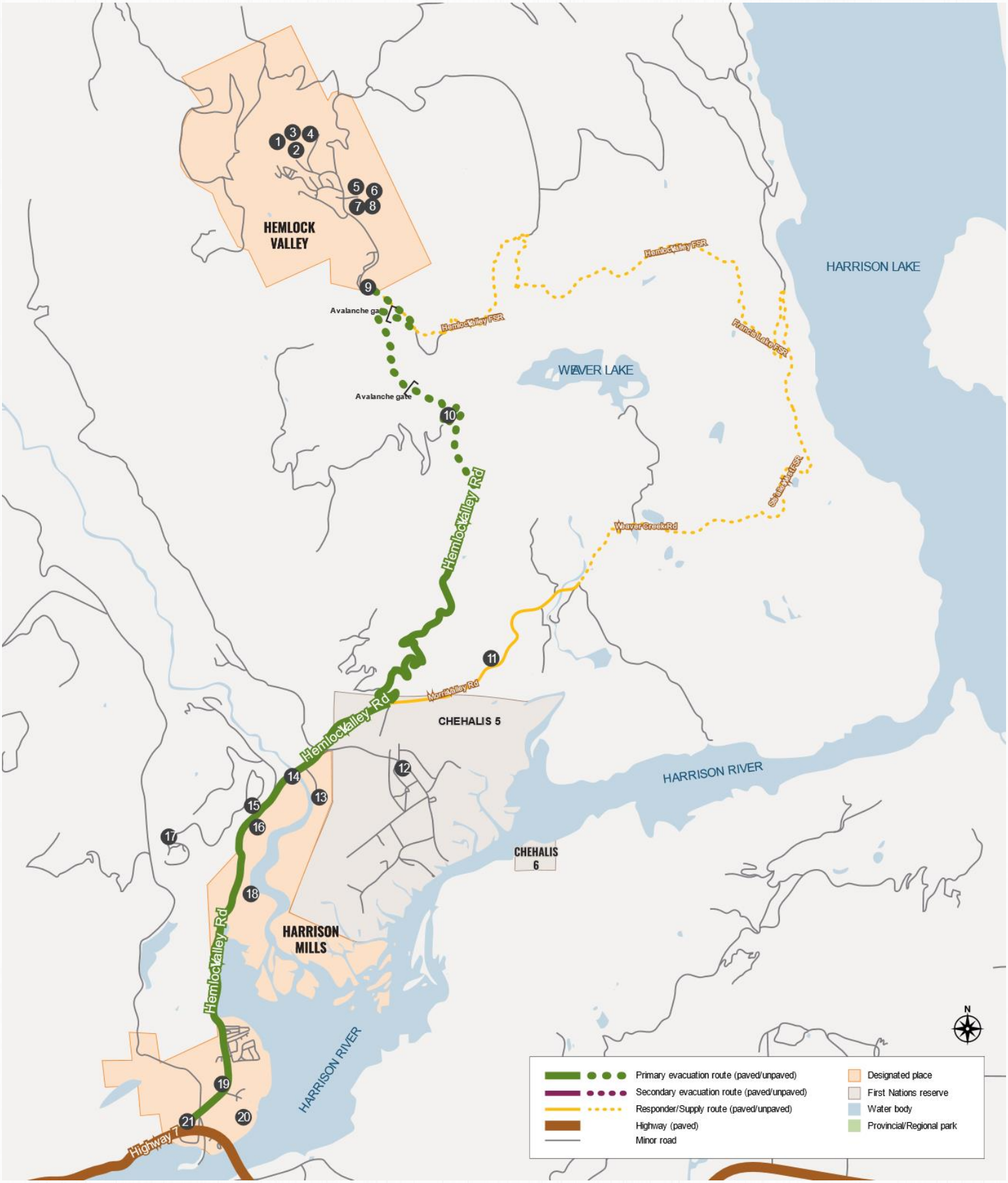
» PARTNERS ON THE LANDSCAPE

» COMMUNICATIONS

» POTENTIAL EMERGENCY SITES



MAP – VEHICULAR ROUTE



GEOGRAPHY

8.79
HEMLOCK VALLEY AREA IN KM²



1
PRIMARY ROUTE

0
SECONDARY ROUTES



1
RESPONDER ACCESS ONLY

Access/Egress

VEHICULAR ROUTES

There is one vehicular route to evacuate Hemlock Valley: Hemlock Valley Road. A large portion of the route is a steep, narrow, winding, and unpaved mountain road. Road conditions are impacted by regular freeze/thaw cycles, heavy snow loads, debris flows, landslides, and high precipitation events. It is also vulnerable to obstruction by wildfire. Hemlock Valley Road is a unique road in the province because of traffic volumes in winter, especially on weekends. Visitors driving in Hemlock Valley are not always prepared for conditions, may not have appropriate vehicles, and/or may not drive to conditions.

Forest service roads (FSRs) also provide access to the Hemlock Valley village site, though some sections may be seasonally deactivated. Suitable for ATVs, UTVs, and some high-clearance 4x4s, these routes are not appropriate for evacuation but may serve as a first responder access route for agencies like Ground Search and Rescue.

The FSR network surrounding the village site has many egress pathways that traverse through hazardous Crown lands and may or may not be suitable during certain hazards, or for most vehicles that are not ATVs/UTVs. FVRD will work towards validating additional FSRs through the Chilliwack Forest District staff.

The BC ministry responsible for roads and highways is the primary entity responsible for roads in Hemlock Valley. The FVRD does not have jurisdiction over roads and does not have a public works department or road maintenance equipment.

Hemlock Valley Road is vulnerable to tree falls, ice, heavy snow, avalanches, slides, and washouts. An avalanche hazard section has gates operated by the BC ministry responsible for roads and highways. **Always confirm the route is navigable before directing evacuees.** Mass evacuations may require traffic control or pilot cars for safe travel.

ROUTE TYPE	JURISDICTION/ROAD MANAGER	MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR (IF DIFFERENT FROM ROAD MANAGER)
Paved and unpaved roads	Ministry of Transport Chilliwack office: 604-795-8211 Transportation Management Centre BC (TMCBC) via E-Comm 9-1-1 relay or PREOC request	Emil Anderson Maintenance (EAM) 24-hr phone line: 1-800-667-5122
Forest service roads (FSRs)	Chilliwack Forest District Office: 604-702-5700	Licensees: Contact via Chilliwack Forest District Office

Before issuing an evacuation order that incorporates an FSR, check the Chilliwack Natural Resource District Road Safety Information web page for closures.

Check the Forest Service Road Safety Information South Coast Region interactive map for FSR route names and hazards.

Before issuing an evacuation order that incorporates a public road, check DriveBC for route impacts.



Hemlock Valley Road south to Hwy 7

Hemlock Valley Rd → Morris Valley Rd → Lougheed Hwy 7

PRIMARY ROUTE

ROAD NAME	PAVED OR UNPAVED?	IS THERE ROAD SIGNAGE?	ROAD JURISDICTIONS	MAINTENANCE AND SEASONALITY
Hemlock Valley Rd	» Unpaved 2x4 until 4.5km from Morris Valley Rd, then paved » Chains required in winter	Yes	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	» Maintained year round by the BC ministry responsible for roads and highways and EAM
Morris Valley Rd	» Paved	Yes	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways and EAM
Lougheed Hwy 7	» Paved	Yes	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways and EAM

If this route is compromised, there are no vehicular evacuation alternatives for Hemlock Valley.



Hemlock Village east to Morris Valley Rd and Hwy 7

Hemlock Valley Rd → Hemlock Valley FSR → Francis Lake FSR → Sts'ailes West FSR → Weaver Creek Rd → Morris Valley Rd → Lougheed Hwy 7

RESPONDER ACCESS ONLY

ROAD NAME	PAVED OR UNPAVED?	IS THERE ROAD SIGNAGE?	ROAD JURISDICTIONS	MAINTENANCE AND SEASONALITY
Hemlock Valley Rd	» Unpaved 2x4 » Chains required in winter	At route entrances, not at junctions	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways and EAM
Hemlock Valley FSR	» Unpaved 4x4 » Wilderness road	Yes	» Chilliwack Forest District	» Chilliwack Forest District or its licensees
Francis Lake FSR	» Unpaved 4x4 » Industrial road	Yes	» Chilliwack Forest District	» Chilliwack Forest District or its licensees
Sts'ailes West FSR	» Unpaved 4x4 » Industrial road	Yes	» Chilliwack Forest District	» Chilliwack Forest District or its licensees
Weaver Creek Rd	» Unpaved 2x4	Yes	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways and EAM
Morris Valley Rd	» Paved	Yes	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways and EAM
Lougheed Hwy 7	» Paved	Yes	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	» BC ministry responsible for roads and highways and EAM

Duty to notify other road jurisdiction holders

FVRD must:

- Inform the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) and the public when issuing evacuation notices
- Given that both Morris Valley Road and Hemlock Valley Road travel through Sts'ailes reserve lands, inform Sts'ailes First Nation when exercising land-based emergency powers such as evacuations and/or restricting public access to evacuated or unsafe areas.
- Call 604-702-5700 for the Chilliwack Forest District if using FSRs, and check for closures online.
- As a best practice, inform the BC ministry responsible for roads and highways via the Regional Transportation Management Centre, using the E-Comm 9-1-1 relay, PREOC relay, or the internal agency phone line

GROUP TRANSPORTATION

There is no public transit servicing Hemlock Valley. Additionally, taxis, shuttle buses, and private car services may choose not to traverse gravel roads or enter areas under evacuation order.

AIR EVACUATION

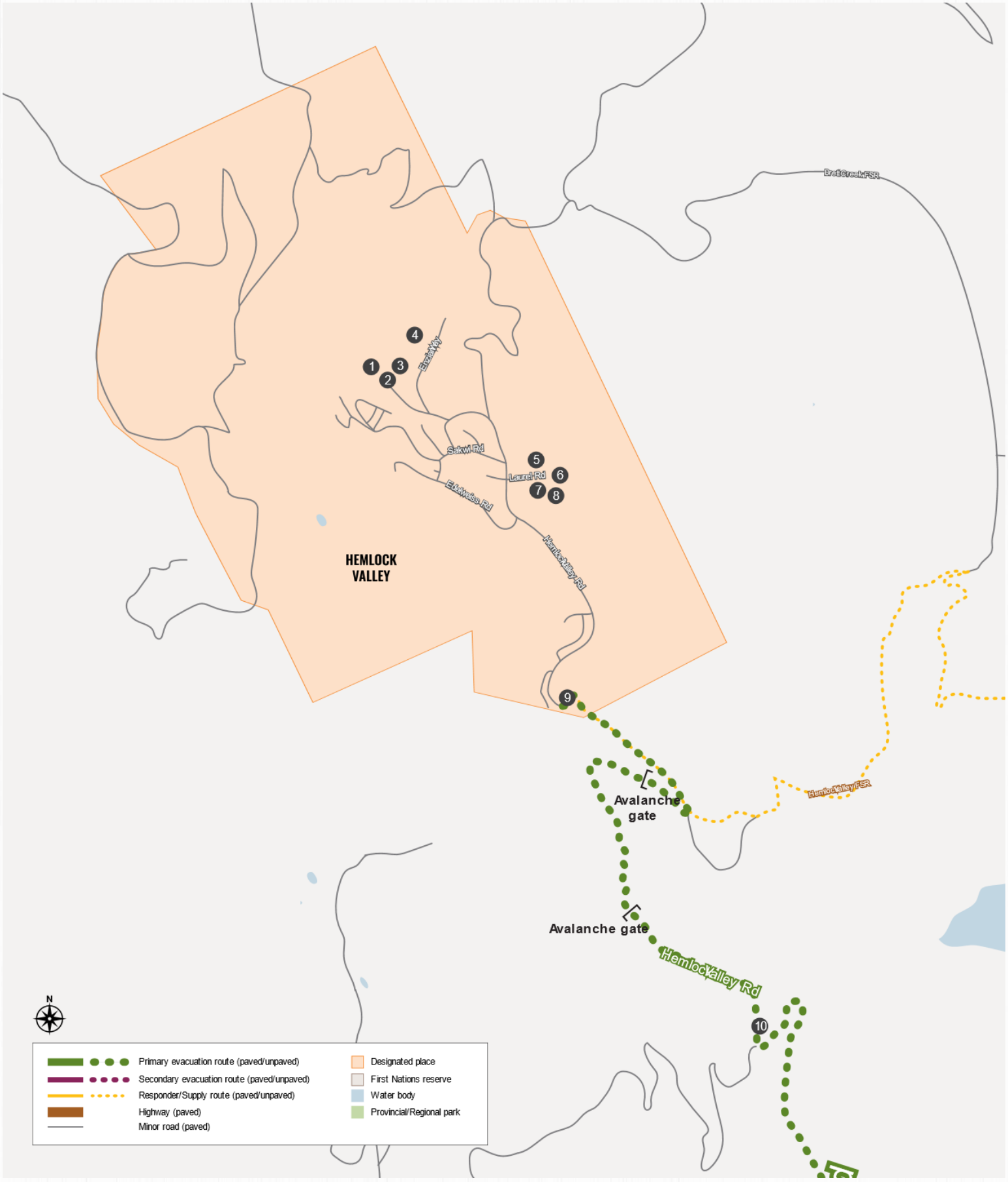
When vehicular routes are obstructed but there is no immediate threat to life, people are expected to be prepared to shelter in place. Local governments may provide isolation support if the emergency is prolonged. (See Shelter-in-Place Considerations).

If large-scale air evacuations are needed to protect life, multiple agencies must coordinate. An on-site incident commander (e.g. BC Wildfire Service, the RCMP, fire department) can order a tactical evacuation and escalate to the FVRD Emergency Management Duty Officer to activate the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), issue a State of Local Emergency (SOLE), and coordinate air evacuations and support services.

If no incident commander is present on-site, the public should call 9-1-1. Relevant agencies, such as BC Wildfire Service and the FVRD, will be alerted to initiate air evacuations, the FVRD will activate its EOC, and the agency having jurisdiction will coordinate air operations.

- Airspace within a minimum of 5 km of a wildfire is restricted and controlled by BC Wildfire Service via federal Notices to Airmen (NOTAM) procedures. All aircraft, including drones and private charters, must be coordinated through BC Wildfire Service.
- Depending on the emergency, mass air evacuations may require coordination with the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC), the Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC), BC Wildfire Service, the RCMP, Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR), the FVRD EOC, and Sasquatch Mountain Resort's General Manager of Operations.
- It may be necessary for the agency having jurisdiction to coordinate group transportation from the landing area to reception centres. It will be necessary for the FVRD, in partnership with any lead ministry or other agency authority having jurisdiction (AAHJ), to arrange for evacuees to return to collect abandoned vehicles as soon as possible.

MAP – VILLAGE


Bret Creek FSR
Eagle Way
Salkwi Rd
Laurel Rd
Edelweiss Rd
Hemlock Valley Rd
HEMLOCK VALLEY
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
Avalanche gate
Avalanche gate
Hemlock Valley FSR
Hemlock Valley Rd
N
Primary evacuation route (paved/unpaved)
Secondary evacuation route (paved/unpaved)
Responder/Supply route (paved/unpaved)
Highway (paved)
Minor road (paved)
Designated place
First Nations reserve
Water body
Provincial/Regional park

PLACES AND POPULATION

82
PERMANENT POPULATION

1,700+
POTENTIAL VISITOR POPULATION

Winter
PEAK VISITOR SEASON

Places and population summary

Hemlock Valley, a designated place in FVRD Area C, has approximately 200 dwellings—mainly vacation homes and short-term rentals—plus two condo buildings. Sasquatch Mountain Resort sits at the village's upper end, with staff housing and a works yard in the lower village.

Most of the ~200 private dwellings are not primary residences. Tourism drives population surges on weekends. Spring through fall attracts visitors for ATV riding, hiking, biking, aerial park activities, disc golf, and special events that can include hundreds of on-site campers. In peak winter ski season, the population of Hemlock Village can surge by up to 500 short-term rental guests, 1,700 day-visitors, and 90–120 resort staff.

Sts'ailes First Nation, Harrison Mills, and several institutional/recreational sites lie along the evacuation route and may be affected or share the same route in an emergency.

HEMLOCK VALLEY PLACES AND POPULATIONS:

» Hemlock Village (designated place)
» Sasquatch Mountain Resort

1
DESIGNATED PLACES

1
RECREATION SITES

0
INSTITUTIONS

Village permanent population

LOCATION	POPULATION	VFD COVERAGE AREA?	NOTES/COMPLEXITIES
Hemlock Village	Approximately 82	✓	» See community profiles section of the FVRD Emergency Management Plan

Village visitor population

SITE NAME AND LOCATION	POPULATION	VFD COVERAGE AREA?	NOTES/COMPLEXITIES
1 **Sasquatch Mountain Resort** 20955 Hemlock Valley Rd	» Spring thru fall sees surges of dozens of visitors on weekends » Peak winter ski season sees surges of 1,700+ visitors on weekends	✓	» Access controlled in winter for skiing operations » Access not controlled in other seasons for hiking, mountain biking, ATV use
8 **Sasquatch Mountain Resort Staff Accommodations** 49°22'27.2"N 121°55'21.1"W	90-120 residents in winter	✓	» Dormitory/camp style staff accommodations » Unoccupied spring/summer/fall
Various vacation rentals in private homes and condos	No data	✓	» Generally advertised on Airbnb, Booking.com, and VRBO

EVACUATION ROUTE PLACES OF NOTE:

- Sts'ailes First Nation community
- Harrison Mills
- Morris Valley Scout Camp
- Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC) Chehalis River Recreation Site
- Chehalis River Salmonid Enhancement Facility
- Sts'ailes Lhawathet Lalem Healing Retreat Centre, Sts'ailes First Nation
- Kwìkwèxwelhp Healing Village, Correctional Service Canada
- Sasquatch Crossing Eco Lodge
- Sandpiper Resort
- Sasquatch Inn

2 COMMUNITIES | **7** RECREATION SITES | **1** INSTITUTIONS

Additional recreation sites along the Chehalis FSR, Morris Valley, and West Harrison, which are not within the scope of this evacuation guide, may funnel onto the same evacuation route.

Evacuation route permanent population

SITE NAME AND LOCATION	POPULATION	VFD COVERAGE AREA?	NOTES/COMPLEXITIES
12 **Sts'ailes First Nation community**	489	✗	» Indigenous Governing Bodies (IGBs) have emergency management authority over its jurisdiction » Shared evacuation route with Hemlock Valley
17 **Kwìkwèxwelhp Healing Village** Correctional Service Canada	Up to 60 residents and staff	✓	» Shared evacuation route with Hemlock Valley
Harrison Mills (FVRD Designated Place)	589	✓	» See community profiles section of the FVRD Emergency Management Plan

Evacuation route visitor population

SITE NAME AND LOCATION	POPULATION	VFD COVERAGE AREA?	NOTES/COMPLEXITIES
11 **Morris Valley Scout Camp,** 17500 Morris Valley Rd	Cabins for up to 30, tent sites for up to 100	✗	» Site may have minors unaccompanied by their guardians, along with a lack of transportation
14 **RSTBC Chehalis River Recreation Site** 49°17'50.9"N 121°56'09.9"W	57 campsites and day use areas	✗	» Open year round » Site operator is Sts'ailes Development Corporation
15 **Chehalis River Salmonid Enhancement Facility** 16250 Morris Valley Rd	Day visitors, tour groups, and staff	✗	» Staff may need to access the site during emergencies to service critical infrastructure
13 **Sts'ailes Lhawathet Lalem Healing Retreat Centre** 16300 Morris Valley Rd	Conference and retreat centre that accommodates up to 150 people	✗	» Owned by Sts'ailes Development Corporation
18 **Sasquatch Crossing Eco Lodge** 15500 Morris Valley Rd	B&B with 6 rental rooms	✗	» Owned by Sts'ailes Development Corporation
19 **Sandpiper Resort** 14282 Morris Valley Rd	Inn, cabins, RV sites, day-use golf course	✓	» May host large events such as weddings and golf tournaments
21 **Sasquatch Inn** 46001 Lougheed Hwy	Overnight accommodation and pub	✓	» Located at junction with Lougheed Hwy

PARTNERS ON THE LANDSCAPE

2	5	7	6
LOCAL AUTHORITIES	OTHER AGENCY AUTHORITIES	RESPONSE ENTITIES	COMMUNITY GROUPS AND INSTITUTIONS

Coordination with partners on the landscape

Regional districts have limited authority, confined to provincially approved and taxpayer-funded services. They must collaborate with other agencies for jurisdiction over roads, infrastructure, and land outside their scope. In a State of Local Emergency (SOLE), regional districts gain additional powers such as ordering evacuations, restricting access, and using properties for emergency purposes, but jurisdictional responsibilities remain with the original authorities.

Local authorities

ENTITY	ROLE ON LANDSCAPE	INTERAGENCY RELATIONSHIP DURING EMERGENCIES	ENTITY RESOURCES
FVRD	» Emergency management authority over its jurisdiction » SOLE powers	**FVRD Emergency Management Department**	» Personnel, vehicles » Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)
Sts'ailes First Nation	» Emergency management authority over its jurisdiction » SOLE powers	**Informal, relationship based**	» Personnel, vehicles » Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)

Broadscale emergencies that impact FVRD communities may also impact Sts'ailes First Nation, requiring coordination between local authorities using the same evacuation route.

Other agency authorities

ENTITY	ROLE ON LANDSCAPE	INTERAGENCY RELATIONSHIP DURING EMERGENCIES	ENTITY RESOURCES
BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	Jurisdiction over all public roads within Area C, including Hemlock Valley, up to the Sasquatch Mountain Resort gates	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests** via Regional Transportation Management Centre	» Personnel » Maintenance contractor » Vehicles and equipment
Chilliwack Forest District	Jurisdiction over portions of Area E evacuation routes	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Inspection and engineering » Vehicles
Telus	Jurisdiction over communications infrastructure	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Vehicles
BC Hydro	Jurisdiction over electrical power infrastructure along the evacuation route to connection with Hemlock Valley Utilities	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Vehicles
Hemlock Valley Utilities Services Ltd.	Jurisdiction over utilities that service Sasquatch Mountain Resort and the community of Hemlock Village: hydro, water, wastewater, internet	**Interagency relationship yet to occur**	» Personnel » 72-hour backup generator » **Note:** water and wastewater treatment for 48 hrs only on backup power

Response agencies

ENTITY	ROLE ON LANDSCAPE	INTERAGENCY RELATIONSHIP DURING EMERGENCIES	ENTITY RESOURCES
Hemlock Valley Volunteer Fire Department (VFD)	Entity of the FVRD; fire protection services	**FVRD Fire Services Department**	» Fire hall with backup generator » Personnel on call » Response vehicles » Portable outdoor lighting
BC RCMP	Preventing and investigating crime; peace and order; enforcing laws; security	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests** RCMP are under provincial contract in electoral areas	» Personnel » Vehicles » Locating missing persons
BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) and Health Emergency Management BC	Emergency health services	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Ground and air ambulances » Disaster psychosocial support
GSAR	Ground, air, and swift water search and rescue	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Vehicles
BC Wildfire Service	Wildfire management services	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Vehicles and equipment » Aircraft
Natural Resource Officers	Enforcement of BC's resource management laws	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Vehicles
Conservation Officer Service	Law enforcement, human-wildlife conflict prevention and response	**Provincial protocols exist for resource requests**	» Personnel » Vehicles

Hemlock Valley VFD is the sole response agency located in Hemlock Valley. Hemlock Valley is a resort community and most VFD members live outside of the community. There are times when there may be no official responders in the community.

The off-site VFD members and other response agencies may have difficulty accessing Hemlock Valley if access is compromised.

Community and institutional groups

ENTITY	ROLE ON LANDSCAPE	INTERAGENCY RELATIONSHIP DURING EMERGENCIES	ENTITY RESOURCES
Hemlock Valley Homeowners Association (HVHA)	» Homeowners association, communicating/advocating for homeowners	**Informal, relationship based**	» Howler newsletter » Social media » Local knowledge
Hemlock Emergency Lookout Program (H.E.L.P.) volunteers	» A division of HVHA focused on community resilience during emergencies	**Informal, relationship based**	» Approx 30 volunteers, 9 core volunteers
Sasquatch Mountain Resort	» Responsible for guests on their property; may support broadscale community emergencies with resort infrastructure » Has a resort emergency response plan (ERP) which is on file with the FVRD Emergency Management department	**Interagency relationship yet to occur**	» ERP » Personnel » First aid attendants » Vehicles » Lodge and restaurant » Accommodation » Helicopter landing areas » Muster/assembly areas » Heavy equipment » 72-hour backup generator
Sts'ailes Lhawathet Lalem Healing Retreat Centre	» Retreat and conference centre operated by Sts'ailes First Nation; during emergencies, it may be activated by Sts'ailes as an emergency site	**Interagency relationship yet to occur**	» Personnel » Dining and accommodations for up to 150 people
Kwìkwèxwelhp Healing Village, Correctional Service Canada	» Security and supervision of residents, including evacuating the site » Has its own ERP	**Interagency relationship yet to occur**	» Personnel » Vehicles » Unimproved landing area
Chehalis River Salmonid Enhancement Facility	» Maintenance and operations of the hatchery and watershed interests » Has its own ERP	**Interagency relationship yet to occur**	» Personnel » ERP » Staff residence with a week's worth of food and water » Backup generator with 3 days of fuel » 2 jet boats » Unimproved landing area » Power out landline phone » Surface and ground water access

Due to the resort nature of the community, H.E.L.P. members have primary residences elsewhere and may not be present in the community when emergencies occur.

There are 90+ Sasquatch Mountain Resort staff during the ski season, and fewer than five the rest of the year.

Institutions located along the Hemlock Valley evacuation route that may be impacted are included in this list.

COMMUNICATIONS

1	0	1	157
FOLLOWERS REGISTERED FOR SMS TEXT ALERTS	FOLLOWERS REGISTERED FOR PHONE ALERTS	FOLLOWERS REGISTERED FOR EMAIL ALERTS	FOLLOWERS (DOWNLOADED MOBILE APP)

Communicating evacuation notices to the public

FVRD uses Alertable to communicate evacuation notices. Register on the FVRD website under "Fraser Valley C" to receive notifications via text, phone, email, or mobile app. Information is also posted at www.fvrd.ca.

Evacuation alerts, orders, and updates are listed on the FVRD Emergency Status Map.



Interagency communications during an incident or emergency

AGENCY	AGENCY RADIO CHANNEL(S)	EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE (EOC) ACCESS TO RADIO CHANNELS?	PHONE	OTHER COMMUNICATION METHODS
FVRD EOC and/or EM Duty Officer	» No radios	✗ EM truck has a radio but no radio contact with EOC or EM Duty Officer	» FVRD main phone: 604-702-5000 (24/7 call-taking service)	» E-Comm 9-1-1 relay » Duty Officer phone line
Sts'ailes EOC and/or Emergency Manager			» Main phone 604-796-2116	
Hemlock Valley Volunteer Fire Department	» Fire department simplex and duplex channels » BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) Combined Events » PEP SAR-1, PEP SAR-2, PEP EP-1, PEPCOORD-1 » PEPCOORD - 2 » FIRECOMMISSIONER-1	✓ Communication to EOC via cell where service exists or through E-Comm 9-1-1 relay where no cell service exists but radio does ✗ Radio coverage beyond Hemlock Village site is unreliable; radio antenna is on green chairlift and on firehall roof	» 9-1-1 » Non-emergency main phone: 604-797-4454	» E-Comm 9-1-1 relay » Base radio at fire hall » "Who's Responding" dispatch app for smartphones » DSL and wi-fi
Hemlock Valley Homeowners Assn and H.E.L.P. team	» No radios	✗ No	» N/A	» H.E.L.P. Whatsapp group » H.E.L.P.-designated communications lead during emergencies » infohvha@gmail.com » preshvha@gmail.com » HVHA Howler newsletter email distribution list to homeowners
Sasquatch Mountain Resort	» Resort VHF radio system with coverage that extends to resort and village site » Operations channel » Emergency channel	✗ No	» Main phone: 604-797-4411 » General Manager phoneline: 604-797-0236	» DSL and Wi-Fi with power back up
Hemlock Valley Utilities Services Ltd.	» None	✗ N/A	» For emergencies call: 604 314-7852 » Office phone: 604-455-5002	» Backup contact via Sasquatch Mtn Resort

Ground Search and Rescue	» PEP SAR-1, PEP SAR-2, PEP EP-1, PEPCORD-1	✓ VFD ✗ EOC EOC can request GSAR support through EMCR	» 9-1-1	» Emergency dialing from satellite phones: 1-800-663-3456
RCMP	» RCMP-CL » RCMP-A	✗ EOC must use E-Comm dispatch or phone All RCMP radio frequencies are encrypted	» 9-1-1 » Non-emergency line: 604-796-2211	» E-Comm 9-1-1 relay forwards to RCMP dispatch
BCEHS/BC Ambulance Service (BCAS)	» EHS Agassiz Mountain » BCAS Sim-1 » BCAS Sim-2	✓ VFD has radio access ✗ EOC must use E-Comm dispatch or phone	» 9-1-1 » Non-emergency line: 604-872-5151	» E-Comm 9-1-1 relay forwards to BCEHS dispatch
BC ministry responsible for roads and highways **Emil Anderson Maintenance (EAM)**	» MOTT radio network that is not publicized to other entities » EAM radio network: – Highway Maint 1 – Highway Maint 2	✗ EOC must use E-Comm dispatch or phone	» Ministry of Transport Chilliwack : 604-795-8211 » EAM 24-hr reporting line: 1-800-667-5122	» E-Comm 9-1-1 relay forwards to MOTT dispatch at Regional Transportation Management Centre » MOTT radio network directly informs DriveBC alerts; has radio to telephone dialing and conference abilities
Chilliwack Forest District	» NRS Repeaters: Orange T7 and Green T7 » Hemlock Valley FSR = RR-11 » Francis Lake FSR = RR-11 » Sts'ailes West FSR = RR-15	✗ No	» Chilliwack office main line: 604-702-5700	
BC Wildfire Service	» NRS Repeaters: Orange T7 and Green T7 » NRS Simplex channels	✗ No	» Landline Cultus Fire Base: 604 858-4742 » Landline Haig Fire Base: 778 359-0138	» Provincial reporting: 1-800-663-5555
RSTBC	» NRS Repeaters: Orange T7 and Green T7	✗ No	» Recreation Officer: 778-704-7056	» Site operator in Hemlock Valley is Sts'ailes Development Corporation 604-796-9832
Chehalis River Salmonid Enhancement Facility	» No radios	✗ No	» Main phone: 604-796-2281	» Power out landline telephone, cell coverage, wi-fi
Kwìkwèxwelhp Healing Village, Corrections Canada	» Regional radio network that allows inter-facility communication	✗ No	» 24/7 main phone: 604-796-1650	» Satellite phone

Providing intelligence to the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)

Quick, effective decisions depend on timely situation reports from the public and our partners on the landscape. To provide information:

- Site incident commanders can use the E-Comm 9-1-1 relay or the Emergency Management Duty Officer phone line. When the EOC has activated the Operations Section, all incident commanders can provide information to the EOC through EOC Operations and request support needs via EOC Operations Section.
- When the EOC activates, it may also activate a public EOC line 778-704-0400.
- The FVRD Emergency Status Map allows viewing and reporting of information and hazards.
- The EOC Liaison Officer is also a contact point for partners on the landscape. EOC Operations coordinates the efforts of emergency services response organizations active on the landscape.

POTENTIAL EMERGENCY SITES

3
POTENTIAL EVACUEE SUPPORT SITES

6
POTENTIAL LANDING AREAS

9
POTENTIAL ASSEMBLY/STAGING/INCIDENT COMMAND POST (ICP)

During a State of Local Emergency (SOLE), the FVRD has emergency powers to activate temporary emergency sites across the electoral areas. These can be public or private properties and include community buildings, recreation centres, churches, schools, camps, institutional properties, tourist sites, gravel pits, fields, and provincial public lands. These temporary emergency sites may be activated by the EOC as incident command posts, evacuee support and lodging sites, pet/livestock centres, supply distribution sites, staging areas, assembly areas, information stops, traffic control sites, and unimproved landing areas.

For more information on potential emergency sites, including how to have your business or facility onboarded, see the "Emergency Sites" section in the Master Evacuation Overview Guide.

Potential emergency sites

SITE	USE AGREEMENT	POTENTIAL USE	NOTES/COMPLEXITIES
7 **Hemlock Valley Fire Hall** 47100 Laurel Rd FVRD Protective Services	FVRD owned	Incident command post (ICP)	» Backup generator » Boardroom with base radio and workstations for ICP » Cell tower is adjacent to fire hall
1 **Sasquatch Mountain Resort Lodge and Restaurant** 20955 Hemlock Valley Rd Berezan Hospitality Group	✕	Assembly, warming centre, evacuee support site	» Backup power for 3 days, more if re-fueled » Heated but not air conditioned » Commercial kitchen with walk-in freezer and walk-in fridge
2 3 **Resort Parking Lots P1 and P2** 49°22'48.5"N 121°56'03.8"W Berezan Hospitality Group	✕	Assembly, staging, unimproved helicopter landing area	» May need to move parked vehicles to use as a landing area. Large propane tank in P1 » Up to heavy class helicopters
4 **Sasquatch Mountain Resort Skihill Helipad** 49°22'54"N 121°55'59"W Berezan Hospitality Group	✕	Designated helispot	» Up to medium class helicopters
8 **Staff Accommodation Helipad** 49°22'25"N 121°55'22"W Berezan Hospitality Group	✕	Designated helispot	» Up to medium class helicopters
5 **Sasquatch Mountain Resort Works Yard** 47106 Laurel Rd Berezan Hospitality Group	✕	Equipment staging	» Large building, works yard
6 **Sasquatch Mountain Resort Staff Accommodations** 49°22'27.2"N 121°55'21.1"W Berezan Hospitality Group	✕	Evacuee accommodation, responder accommodation	» Backup power for 3 days, more if re-fueled » Unoccupied outside of winter months » Up to 90 people
9 **Traffic control point** 49°21'45.6"N 121°55'14.8"W BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	✕	Traffic control point	» Road pullout just below the village site
10 **Road Works Yard** 49°20'42.8"N 121°54'18.1"W BC ministry responsible for roads and highways	✕	Equipment staging area	» On a hairpin corner

13	**Sts'ailes Lhawathet Lalem Healing Retreat Centre** 16300 Morris Valley Rd Sts'ailes First Nation	✕	Evacuee support site for up to 150 people, ICP	» May be occupied with guests » May also be serving as EOC or evacuee support site for Sts'ailes First Nation
17	**Kwìkwèxwelhp Healing Village** 16255 Morris Valley Rd Correctional Service Canada	✕	» Sports field for staging, unimproved helicopter landing area » Potential detour route that connects Morris Valley Rd to Chehalis FSR through gated route.	» Up to heavy class helicopters » Secure corrections facility; must coordinate with on-site staff prior to use
15 16	**Chehalis River Salmonid Enhancement Facility** 49°17'27.8"N 121°56'36.6"W Department of Fisheries and Oceans	✕	Assembly, unimproved landing area	» Gate at front of property that could be closed
20	**Sandpiper Resort Private Airstrip** 49°15'08.3"N 121°56'46.2"W Privately owned	✕	Aircraft staging area; fixed wing and helicopter landing area	» Up to heavy class helicopters and small planes » Runway length: approximately 1,800' x 50' » Runway orientation: north/south » Surface: hard gravel/grass » Normal operation: landing southbound (final approach over water) and take off northbound based on wind » If landing northbound (final approach over road) be aware of the power lines at the highway

Evacuation complexities

VISITOR COMPLEXITIES

The visitor population within the village site and along the evacuation route can significantly outnumber resident population and complicate evacuations.

BACKCOUNTRY EVACUATIONS

During ski season, resort access is controlled and there are ski patrol staff to sweep the trails. In all other seasons, access to resort recreation areas is not controlled and there is not sufficient resort staff to sweep the back country.

RESPONDER/VOLUNTEER SUPPORT AT THE VILLAGE SITE

Volunteers and their place of residence are fluid. Hemlock Valley is a resort community; as such, people pre-trained and affiliated with volunteer organizations may have a primary residence elsewhere and not be on the mountain when emergencies occur.

COMMUNICATION VULNERABILITIES

There is no cell service along Hemlock Valley Road, except in the village site itself. Although the road maintenance contractor has radio coverage along the entirety of Hemlock Valley Road, other first response agencies experience coverage gaps.

ROAD VULNERABILITIES

The main road is vulnerable to trees and power lines falling, flooding, landslides, avalanches, and wildfires. Road conditions can be challenging in good weather, and treacherous in bad weather. Evacuations may face delays, including congestion and bottle-necking. If the road is compromised, ground evacuation may not be possible.

SHARED EVACUATION ROUTE

The communities of Sts'ailes and Harrison Mills, as well as several Recreation Sites and Trails BC recreation sites, forest service road networks, the Morris Valley Scouts Camp, and private tourism sites all have evacuation routes that will funnel together on Morris Valley Road.

MORRIS VALLEY SCOUT CAMP

There may be groups of unaccompanied minors on scene requiring support during emergencies, such as transportation and/or special arrangements to evacuate.

STS'AILES FIRST NATION

Portions of both Hemlock Valley Road and Morris Valley Road transit through Sts'ailes reserve lands.

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE AREA

Includes the Hemlock Village site and Sasquatch Mountain Resort only. The Hemlock Valley Fire Department has provided incident stabilizations beyond their responsibility areas along Hemlock Valley Road, limited to task # support from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR).

HOST COMMUNITIES

The FVRD may need to rely on neighbouring municipalities as host communities. Confirm a host community's readiness before sending evacuees.

AUTHORIZING ACCESS TO EVACUATED AREAS

In both Hemlock Village and along the evacuation corridor, non-response entities may need to access, maintain, and repair critical infrastructure, including:

- Hemlock Valley Utilities fueling backup generators and maintaining or repairing electrical, water, wastewater, and communications infrastructure.
- Sasquatch Mountain Resort fueling backup generators.
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) staff to maintain facility infrastructure, unplanned fish releases, culling, or logistically extensive fish relocation. They have a staff residence with backup power and a helicopter landing area.
- Telus to service cellular tower essential to 9-1-1 service extending far beyond the community.

KWÌKWÈXWELHP HEALING VILLAGE (CORRECTIONAL SERVICE CANADA/CSC)

This secure facility has backup systems to shelter in place for several days. Evacuation decisions must balance public and resident safety. Early and frequent communication with the FVRD Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is essential. Pre-arranged evacuation sites exist within the CSC network. The FVRD may be able to coordinate assistance for evacuation support if requested.

Shelter-in-place considerations

If the evacuation route is compromised but the village site is safe, it may be necessary for residents and visitors to shelter in place while the road is sufficiently stabilized. This may take several days, and residents should maintain readiness for up to 14 days. Highlighted below is key information when considering an extended shelter-in-place situation.

HEMLOCK VALLEY UTILITIES

has emergency power backup to power most systems, but refueling support may be required. The water and wastewater treatment systems can only function for 48 hours on emergency backup power.

SASQUATCH MOUNTAIN RESORT

has emergency power back up and three days of fuel to keep systems running at both the lodge and at the staff accommodations. This includes heat, water, food services, and communications.

HEMLOCK VALLEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

has a propane generator for back-up power for their fire hall.

RESIDENTIAL BACKUP POWER AND HEAT

Most residences, including vacation rentals, have a secondary heat source and home generators, as power outages in Hemlock Valley are frequent.

DELIVERING ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES

Fuel to run backup generators, food, blankets, medications, baby formula, and pet food are all examples of essential supplies.

SEVERAL POTENTIAL LANDING AREAS

have been identified in this guide that could be used to provide supplies to the community by air.

THE RESPONDER ACCESS ONLY ROUTE

identified in this guide is an overland 4x4 option for delivering critical supplies (such as medications) if conditions will not allow for air operations.

RECEIVING AND DISTRIBUTING ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES

Sasquatch Mountain Resort has a large, heated venue with a commercial kitchen, walk-in fridge, and walk-in freezer. This is an ideal location for receiving, sorting, and distributing essential supplies.

SHELTERING VISITORS

Individuals without a primary address in the evacuation area are not automatically eligible for Evacuee Support Services. If the evacuation route is obstructed, short-term rental owners and Sasquatch Mountain Resort must communicate with the FVRD if stranded visitors require support that they are not able to provide. The FVRD may request additional provincial aid for visitors designated as extraordinary evacuees who require support to shelter in place.

VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Consider evacuating vulnerable people, especially vulnerable visitors, out of the community by air. If air operations are not possible, consider what essential supplies and support these vulnerable people may require to sustain a shelter-in-place situation.

EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATIONS

It may be necessary to billet visitors in private residences. Some residences operate as short-term vacation rentals or secondary residences, meaning homeowners may not be on site.

SASQUATCH MOUNTAIN RESORT

has dormitory/camp style accommodations for their staff. In non-ski season, these are largely vacant.

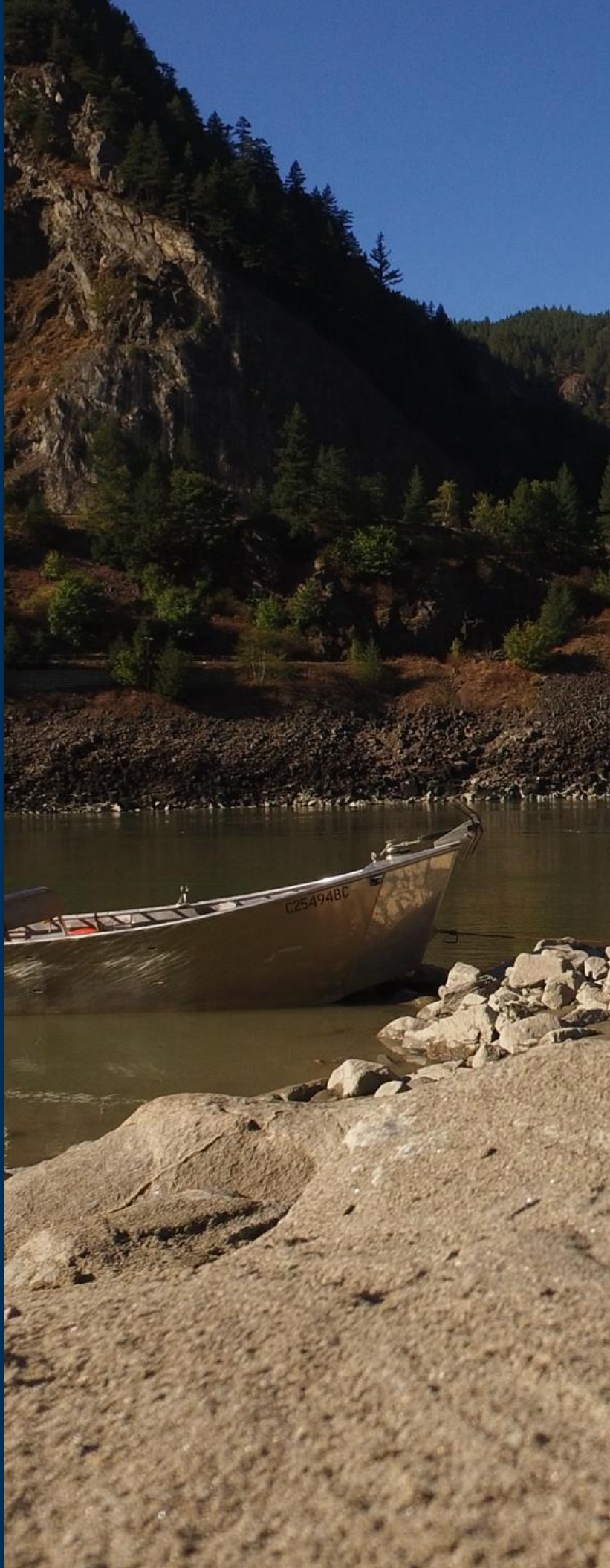
ACTIVATING ON SITE RESOURCE PEOPLE

If the community is cut off but members of the Hemlock Valley Fire Department, the H.E.L.P. team, and/or Sasquatch Mountain Resort staff are located in the village during a shelter-in-place situation, consider activating them through the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to perform operational support functions. Functions may include an evacuee inventory and identifying vulnerable people and critical needs. It may also include receiving, sorting, and distributing essential supplies, and providing information to stranded residents and visitors.



Water and wastewater systems that support the resort and all private residences will not function on backup power for more than 48 hrs. In a prolonged shelter-in-place, Hemlock Valley Utility Corporation may need to provide potable water and porta-potties. These should be mobilized within that timeframe to avoid a public health risk. The FVRD's support will be limited to what the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness(EMCR) authorizes due to the private nature of the Utility Corporation and its responsibilities.

HEMLOCK VALLEY OPPORTUNITIES



CLOSE COMMUNICATION GAPS

Consider opportunities to support other organizations that wish to implement emergency cellular service signs. Equip FVRD vehicles with Resource Road channels and designate an interagency emergency radio channel. Explore satellite devices for incident-to-EOC communication. The 2024 radio coverage assessment may identify further gaps and solutions.

USE-AGREEMENTS FOR POTENTIAL EMERGENCY SITES

Although regional districts have emergency powers to mandate land access for emergency response during States of Local Emergency (SOLE), it is wise to secure use-agreements beforehand. This helps inventory resources and align expectations with site owners.

INTERAGENCY RELATIONSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Distribute the Hemlock Valley Evacuation Guide to all listed partners. The FVRD may consider participating in events and/or mock evacuation tabletop exercises. Explore ways to activate partners through mutual aid agreements, shared maps, and other tools.

INVITE THE H.E.L.P. TEAM TO THE FVRD'S PREPAREDNESS, RESILIENCY AND EMERGENCY PROGRAM (PREP)

The H.E.L.P. volunteer team is proactive in building community resilience and could be formalized under the FVRD's PREP strategy. They can help raise safety awareness during all four phases of emergency management and help community members be evacuation ready. During Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) activations, they can become a trusted presence for community members and visitors, and a link to the community for the EOC.



FVRD.ca

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