

## 12.3 HYDE CREEK

The Hyde Creek area is roughly bounded by Port McNeill to the west and the Nimpkish River to the east. The Spring Hill portion of the community is found just east of the Nimpkish River. The Hyde Creek community area is separated by access into sections, being Hyde Creek, Nimpkish Heights, Spring Hill and the Twin Peaks light industrial area. The area has a population of approximately 550.

### 12.3.1 Emergency Services

- Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Port McNeill Detachment 9-1-1
- British Columbia Ambulance Service – Port McNeill 9-1-1
- Hyde Creek Volunteer Fire and Rescue – 9-1-1
- Hyde Creek Volunteer Fire Department non-emergency – 250-956-4731
- Nearest Hospital – Port McNeill 250-956-4461

### 12.3.2 Access

Access is via Highway 19 with paved roads throughout most of the community except for gravel roads in Spring Hill and Twin Peaks light industrial area.

### 12.3.3 Communications

Communications for this community is via regular telephone, cell phone and internet service. A community resource survey indicates that satellite telephones and a Ham Radio Operator are also available.

### 12.3.4 Schools

There are not any schools in the Hyde Creek area.

### 12.3.5 Contact Information

See Index 5

### 12.3.6 Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Analysis

A Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Analysis (HRVA) has been completed for the entire Regional District of Mount Waddington, which includes Hyde Creek. The purpose of a HRVA is to help a community make risk based choices to address vulnerabilities, mitigate hazards and prepare for response to and recovery from hazard events.

The objective of a HRVA is to anticipate problems and possible solutions to:

- save lives;
- reduce damage; and
- speed community recovery.

Hazards which Hyde Creek may be subject to are:

- critical facility failure
- earthquake
- fire – interface or wildfire
- flood
- landslide
- storm surges
- transportation accident – air, land, or marine
- dangerous goods spill
- epidemic – human flu
- fire – urban
- infrastructure failure
- severe weather
- major criminal event
- tsunami

Hazard Response Plans have been developed for these types of emergencies and are included as part of the North Island Regional Emergency Plan.

### **12.3.7 Hyde Creek Evacuation Rally Site**

The evacuation and community rally site for Hyde Creek is the Community Hall at 1105 Hyde Creek Road.

### **12.3.8 Hyde Creek Evacuation Plan**

Primary evacuation will be to the Hyde Creek Community Hall. Further evacuation action will be coordinated with the Regional Emergency Program.

Travel will be along Highway 19 to Port McNeill and the alternate route is via Twin Peaks Road.

### **12.3.9 Hyde Creek Tsunami Warning and Evacuation Plan**

12.3.9.1 Tsunamis are caused by earthquakes. It is important to remember that tsunamis are rare events and that not all earthquakes generate a tsunami.

12.3.9.2 Hyde Creek, although not exposed to the west coast of Vancouver Island, may still be affected by tsunamis generated by offshore earthquakes with waves entering Queen Charlotte Strait and mainland inlets.

- 12.3.9.3 On the advice of Emergency Management British Columbia and the Canadian Hydrographic Service, the “safe zone” for the Queen Charlotte Strait and mainland inlets (including Hyde Creek) is land situated at least 6 metres above sea level.
- 12.3.9.4 A tsunami hazard map has been prepared showing the threatened and safe zones for this community. The map is appended to this plan and this plan should be used only as a basic planning tool.
- 12.3.9.5 Tsunami Warnings and Watches are provided by the National Tsunami Warning Center of Palmer, Alaska who in turn notifies Emergency Management British Columbia in Victoria.
- 12.3.9.6 For Hyde Creek residents, tsunami warnings may come from the following sources:
- Hyde Creek Volunteer Fire Department (via 9-1-1 Fire Dispatch);
  - Canadian Coast Guard radio – channel 16 and Weather (WX);
  - Royal Canadian Mounted Police;
  - Regional Emergency Coordinator;
  - commercial media broadcasts; or
  - Interactive Voice Recording System (IVR).
- 12.3.9.7 If there is sufficient time to react, the Chair of the Board of Directors, Regional District of Mount Waddington may declare a State of Local Emergency and issue and Order to evacuate those properties lying below 6 metres above sea level. If a declaration is issued, it will be published and broadcast to local media outlets as well as the Emergency Coordination Centre for transmission to the affected community.
- 12.3.9.8 Managing and directing community evacuations are the responsibility of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Policing jurisdiction for Hyde Creek is held by the RCMP in Port McNeill as there are no full time police officers posted to this community.
- 12.3.9.9 In the event of a short notice evacuation, there is some likelihood that a police officer from Port McNeill may not be available to direct and manage a full or partial evacuation of this community. In this case, Incident Command will devolve to the Chief of the Hyde Creek Volunteer Fire Department. A communication link by telephone or radio between the Port McNeill RCMP and the Hyde Creek Volunteer Fire Department will be set up to keep all parties informed of actions being taken.
- 12.3.9.10 The local plan involves the Hyde Creek Volunteer Fire Department personnel visiting each dwelling in the identified hazard area to issue the evacuation warning, *provided it is safe for them to do so*. This will include a brief check of beach access points for vehicles indicating persons in potential danger on the beach.

- 12.3.8.11 In the event of a *strong* earthquake – one that lasts several minutes and makes it hard to stand:
- a) Protect yourself by ducking beneath sturdy furniture, beside a solid inside wall or inside inner hallway and avoid windows, woodstoves, cupboards or any furniture that could tip over. If you are outside, get away from power lines and outbuildings.
  - b) All residents living below 6 metres above sea level should prepare to evacuate your home immediately after the shaking has stopped. Be prepared for aftershocks. Depending on the epicenter of the earthquake, the first wave could hit in 15 minutes or over 15 hours. An evacuation order phone call *may not* be issued so *do not wait!*
  - c) Go immediately to a High Ground Evacuation Site: Hyde Creek Community Hall, 1105 Hyde Creek Road.
  - d) If the roads are blocked along the way by trees or downed power lines, beware of live power lines, park well off the side of the road and continue on foot. Once at the evacuation site, monitor your radio or Marine VHF Channel 16 for information and updates.
  - e) Tsunami Warning Broadcast:
    - Tsunami Warning – a tsunami is confirmed, residents should evacuate.
    - Tsunami Watch – a tsunami MAY have been generated but there is not sufficient evidence to confirm if there is one or not.
    - Tsunami Advisory – No significant inundation is expected but strong currents dangerous to those in or very near the ocean are possible.
    - Tsunami All Clear – it is now safe to return to your homes.
  - f) Have a plan of action if your family is separated when an earthquake occurs (children at school, spouse in town, etc.) or if you need assistance to evacuate (no vehicle). Pre-arrange an out of area telephone contact person for family members to check in and keep in touch.
  - g) Depending on the extent of damage caused by an earthquake or tsunami, we should plan to be on our own for a minimum of four days but logistically we should each carry enough supplies for one week or more.
  - h) When the tsunami “ALL CLEAR” is announced we will return to our homes or, if necessary, prepare for full evacuation.

