

For immediate release:

Mountain View County Assists in Wildfire Emergency Response

July 24, 2024: Mountain View County – Mountain View County is actively monitoring and responding to an out-of-control wildfire located approximately 20km west of Water Valley, Alberta, within the Municipal District of Bighorn. The Municipal District of Bighorn has issued an Area of Closure, as outlined in the map below, mandating immediate evacuation for all residents within the affected area.

Update 1 – July 24th 2:00 pm: The Calgary Forestry Office has been able to establish that the size of the footprint of the active fire is approximately 73 hectares and has not experienced significant growth since the last update. The wildfire remains out of control at this time. Alberta Wildfire continues to actively fight the fire with both ground forces and air support and will continue to throughout the day. Mountain View County remains outside of the area of concern with no immediate risk to County residents at this time.

Update 2: - July 24th 9:00 pm: The wildfire remains out of control but has not experienced any significant growth since the earlier update. Alberta Wildfire crews deployed air support throughout the day and will look to transition to heavy equipment throughout the night to continue to establish fire guards. Mountain View County remains outside of the area of concern with no immediate risk to County residents at this time. A second wildfire has been identified further west of the existing fire. This wildfire is relatively small and received immediate fire suppression. It is not expected to pose any impact on Mountain View County.

Reception Centre Established:

In collaboration with the Municipal District of Bighorn, Mountain View County has established a reception centre at the Water Valley Community Hall. The centre is fully operational and staffed to assist evacuated community members. It will remain open for the following hours:

- Thursday July 25th 2024 from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm

The County, in collaboration with the Municipal District of Bighorn, will analyze the necessity for further reception centre hours for the coming days and communicate those appropriately.

Mutual Aid Agreement:

Mountain View County maintains a mutual aid agreement with the Municipal District of Bighorn to ensure coordinated response efforts during emergencies. While **there is no current threat to or evacuation order for Mountain View County, its residents or businesses**, we stand ready to support our neighbours and provide assistance as needed.

Stay Informed:

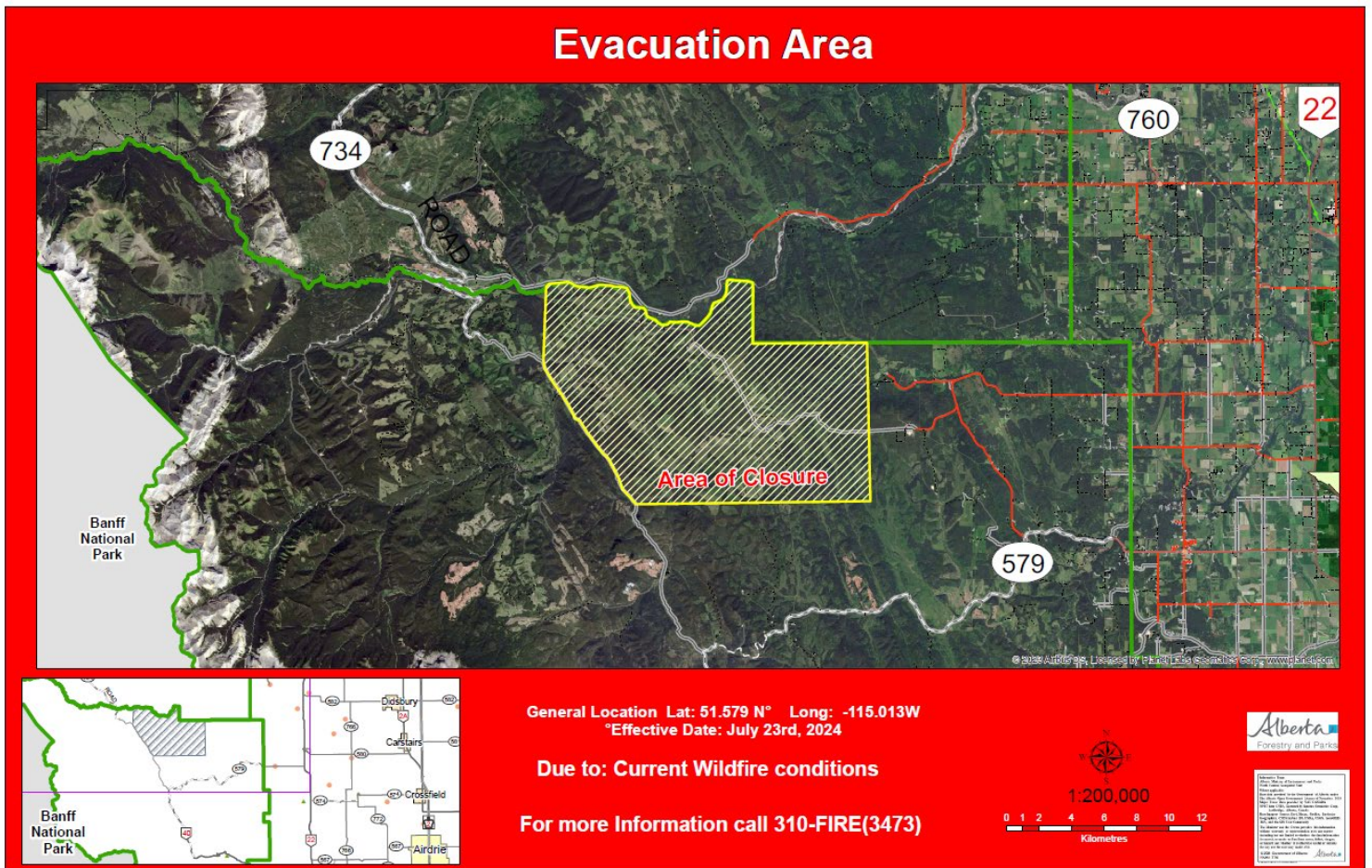
Residents are encouraged to stay tuned to Mountain View County's official communication channels for updates and further instructions. These channels include the County's website, social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, and X – formerly known as Twitter), and the Mountain View County Mobile App, available for download on app stores under "Mountain View County."

Contact Information:

For inquiries related to the wildfire emergency, residents can email emergency@mvcounty.com or contact:

- For evacuation assistance: 403-673-3611
- For livestock assistance: 403-493-4821

Area of Closure Map:



Media inquiries may be directed to
Ryan Morrison
Director of Emergency Management
emergency@mvcounty.com