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August 6, 2010 – **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Evacuation Alert Issued for Lillooet River Valley Floodplain - Mt Meager Landslide**

PEMBERTON, BC – The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District ["SLRD"], the Village of Pemberton and Lil'wat Nation issued an Evacuation Alert today, Friday, August 6, 2010 at 1730 hours for the Lillooet River Valley Floodplain. The Evacuation Alert is in effect for the following areas:

- The Lillooet River valley floodplain downstream of the confluence of Meager Creek and the Lillooet River to Lillooet Lake, including land within the Village of Pemberton and Mount Currie IR1, 2, 3, 8, 10 and the lower levels of IR 6. Refer to the Map attached for Specific Evacuation Alert Area

At approximately 0530 hrs on Friday, August 6, 2010, a large rock and debris landslide occurred from Mt. Meager through Capricorn Creek, flowing into and damming Meager Creek and partially blocking the Lillooet River.

The province mobilized geotechnical specialists and other engineering professionals to assess the situation and advise of the threat level. The province has reported to the SLRD that the immediate threat is the potential of a rapid leak or release from the lake formed behind the dam area.

A Declaration of State of Local Emergency for Electoral Area C and A was issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District. The Village of Pemberton also issued a Declaration of State of Local Emergency.

The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, in coordination with the Village of Pemberton and Lil'wat Nation is actively planning for the safety of residents in the area.

The SLRD, Village of Pemberton and Lil'wat Nation are alerting everyone to stay off the Lillooet River and away from all immediate areas along the river.

It is important that residents stay on alert and prepare for the possibility of an evacuation order depending on developing information. If an evacuation order becomes necessary, the SLRD is coordinating with the Village of Pemberton, Lil'wat Nation, the RCMP and other agencies for notification to residents.

Further information will be released as it becomes available. [www.slrd.bc.ca](http://www.slrd.bc.ca)

Issued by: Ryan Wainwright, SLRD EOC Director

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Geotechnical information, contact Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Forests and Range 250.213.2302

Information regarding people evacuated from the Meager Creek landslide area, contact RCMP 604.698.7330

