



# Media Release

**Date:** July 2, 2021

For immediate release

2:15 pm

## Evacuation Alert issued for one property due to Merry Creek Wildfire

### Crews make progress to stabilize wildfire

Nelson, BC: Based on the recommendation from BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has issued an Evacuation Alert for 1473 Meadowbrook Drive due to the Merry Creek Wildfire (N51165). 31 properties will remain under an Evacuation Order. Please refer to the map below outlining the area.

The RDCK EOC originally issued an Evacuation Order on Thursday, July 1 as the result of the Merry Creek Wildfire, 8 kilometres SW of Castlegar. The Evacuation area covers residential addresses on 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Fernwood Drive, Highway 3, Killough Road, Lucas Ave, Lucas Road, Mason Road, and Merry Creek Forest Service Road.

“Extensive resources have been deployed on the Merry Creek wildfire,” said Nora Hannon, EOC Director and RDCK Regional Fire Chief. “Crews have made good progress on the fire and with the deployment of structural protection resources.”

The City of Castlegar also has six areas under Evacuation Alert. For more information visit the [City of Castlegar website](#).

The Merry Creek Wildfire was discovered on Thursday July 1, and is now an estimated 15 hectares. BC Wildfire Service considers it out of control. For more information on the wildfire, please visit [the BCWS Wildfire of Note Page](#).

Updates or changes to the Evacuation Order/Alert will be provided via the [RDCK website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) as more information becomes available.

The RDCK advises people to remain vigilant and be on alert in the area. It is recommended to prepare an emergency kit and ensure preparedness, including moving pets and livestock to a safe area, in the event the situation worsens and an Evacuation Order is enforced.

For more information:

- Current RDCK Evacuation Alerts, Orders and Rescinds: [www.rdck.ca/eocinfo](http://www.rdck.ca/eocinfo) or call 250-352-7701
- Sign up for RDCK Emergency Notification System to receive notification of Evacuation Orders. Go to [www.rdck.ca/emergencynotification](http://www.rdck.ca/emergencynotification) and select “Emergency Alerts” from the home page, or go to the notification system sign-up page at [https://vovent-alert.com/community/?page\\_id=217](https://vovent-alert.com/community/?page_id=217)
- BC Wildfire – Interactive Map of Current Fires: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status> - Emergency Contact Number 1-800-663-5555 or \*5555
- Public weather alerts for BC from Environment Canada: [https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index\\_e.html?prov=bc](https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index_e.html?prov=bc)
- Highway closures and conditions from DriveBC: <http://www.drivebc.ca/>
- For the BC Air Quality Health Index: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/bcairquality/readings/aqhi-table.xml>
- Emergency preparedness information and tips from the Prepared BC website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc>

For more information about evacuations and emergency preparedness, along with other resources, please visit [www.rdck.ca/eocinfo](http://www.rdck.ca/eocinfo). The RDCK EOC **public inquiry line is 250-352-7701**.

*Incorporated in 1965, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is a local government that serves 60,000 residents in 11 electoral areas and nine member municipalities. The RDCK provides more than 160 services, including community facilities, fire protection and emergency services, grants, planning and land use, regional parks, resource recovery and handling, transit, water services and much more. For more information about the RDCK, visit [www.rdck.ca](http://www.rdck.ca).*

-30-

**For further information, please contact:**

EOC Information Officer  
Regional District of Central Kootenay  
Tel: 250.352-7701  
Email: [eocinfo@rdck.bc.ca](mailto:eocinfo@rdck.bc.ca)

