

Media Release

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9:30 AM

Evacuation Alert rescinded for Akokli Creek wildfire

Nelson, BC: On the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is rescinding the Evacuation Alert for the remaining 81 properties from Lockhart Beach Provincial Park south to include 12490 Highway 3A due to the Akokli Creek wildfire. The Evacuation Alert has been lifted completely and there are no longer any properties under Alert.

"This has been a stressful month for residents and we appreciate their patience and understanding through this process," said Nora Hannon, RDCK Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Director and Regional Fire Chief. "The BC Wildfire Service has done an outstanding job, in tough conditions, to keep our communities safe. We thank them for their hard working battling this wildfire over the last month."

The RDCK originally issued an Evacuation Alert on July 16 for the communities of Boswell and Sanca due to the Akokli Creek wildfire. On August 2 the Alert was reduced to 160 properties from Lockhart Beach Provincial Park south to 11721 Highway 3A. A further reduction to the Alert occurred on August 9, as 79 properties were removed from the Alert area, leaving just 81 properties in the area under Alert.

The RDCK advises people to remain vigilant in the event that conditions change and an Evacuation Alert or Order may be re-issued and the evacuation process will recommence. It is recommended to prepare an emergency kit and ensure preparedness, including moving pets and livestock to a safe area, in the event of another emergency.

Information about Evacuation Orders and Alerts in the RDCK can be found on the <u>RDCK website</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. For details about evacuations and emergency preparedness, along with other resources, please visit <u>www.rdck.ca/eocinfo</u>.

For up to date information on current wildfire activity, conditions and prohibitions, call 1 888 3-FOREST (1 888-336-7378) or visit www.bcwildfire.ca.

For more information about evacuations and emergency preparedness, along with other resources:

- Current RDCK Evacuation Alerts, Orders and Rescinds: www.rdck.ca/eocinfo or call 250-352-7701
- Sign up for RDCK Emergency Notification System to receive notifications
- BC Wildfire Interactive Map of Current Fires
- Public weather alerts for BC from Environment Canada
- Highway closures and conditions from DriveBC

- For the BC Air Quality Health Index
- Emergency preparedness information and tips from the Prepared BC website

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.

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For further information, please contact:

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