

## **Media Release**

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## **Evacuation Alert removed for Fauquier and Applegrove**

Nelson, BC: On the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is removing the Evacuation Alert for 170 properties in the area from Fauquier to Applegrove due to the Octopus Creek wildfire. BCWS advises imminent danger of wildfire to life and properties has diminished at this time. The Alert will remain in place for four properties and two recreation sites between Pebble Beach and Twobit Creek on the south end of the Octopus Creek wildfire.

The Octopus Creek wildfire was first discovered on July 10 and the BCWS determined the cause to be lightning. For over a month the two communities of Fauquier and Applegrove have been on either an Evacuation Alert or an Evacuation Order.

"This has been an unprecedented wildfire season and thanks to great work by the firefighting crews and favourable weather conditions over the last number of days, we are able to remove the Alert," said Chris Johnson, RDCK Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Director. "We would like to thank the communities affected by these wildfires for their patience and understanding over the past month and for living under these Alerts and Orders."

Fire season appears to becoming to a close, however, the RDCK encourages residents to remain prepared for unexpected events or emergencies by making a plan and having a household emergency kit and a grab and go bag. For more information check out the Prepared BC Emergency Guides and Resources.

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 <u>www.bcwildfire.ca</u>.

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 <a href="https://www.rdck.ca">www.rdck.ca</a>.

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