

## **Media Release**

**Date:** August 22, 2022 For immediate release 2:00 pm

## **Evacuation Alert removed for Kaslo Creek South Fork Road Community**

Nelson, BC: On the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has removed the Evacuation Alert for 14 properties along Kaslo Creek South Fork Road. At this time, the Briggs Creek wildfire in Electoral Area D, is no longer threatening the Community of Kaslo Creek South Fork Road.

The Briggs Creek wildfire, west of Kaslo, was first discovered at high elevation on Mount Kemp on August 1 and is estimated to be 2,160 hectares. The cause of the fire is believed to be lightning. The majority of this fire has burned in incredibly steep and mountainous terrain. The RDCK issued an Evacuation Alert on August 1 for 14 properties on Kaslo Creek South Fork Road.

"This has been a stressful month for residents along Kaslo Creek South Fork Road and we appreciate their patience and understanding through this process," said Stephane Coutu, RDCK EOC Deputy Director. "The BC Wildfire Service has done an outstanding job to keep our communities safe and while this Alert has been removed, it is imperative for residents to maintain awareness by monitoring the BC Wildfire Dashboard and make informed decisions."

The RDCK advises people to remain vigilant as conditions could change and an Evacuation Alert may be reissued. It is recommended to prepare an emergency kit and ensure preparedness, including making plans to relocate your pets and livestock to a safe area, in the event of an emergency.

The RDCK EOC will continue to monitor the situation, but will no longer be providing bi-weekly information bulletins for the Briggs Creek wildfire. For the most up to date information on current wildfire activity, conditions and prohibitions, call 1.888.336.7378 or visit <a href="https://www.bcwildfire.ca">www.bcwildfire.ca</a>.

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 evacuation and emergency preparedness, along with other resources, please visit <u>www.rdck.ca/eocinfo</u>. The RDCK EOC public inquiry line is 250.352.7701.

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

- Current RDCK Evacuation Alerts, Orders and Rescinds or call 250.352.7701
- Sign up for RDCK Emergency Notification System to receive notifications
- RDCK web map
- BC Wildfire Interactive Map of Current Events
- Fortis BC Outage Map or call 1.866.436.7847
- BC Hydro outage map or call 1.800.224.9376
- Nelson Hydro 1.877.324.9376
- Drive BC for highway closures and road conditions
- For BC Air Quality Health Index
- **Prepared BC**

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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