

Media Release

Date: August 6, 2021 For immediate release

3:45PM

Evacuation Order reduced to Evacuation Alert for area in Applegrove

Nelson, BC: On the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is reducing a portion of the area currently under Evacuation Order to an Evacuation Alert. 15 properties south of approximately the 15.8KM mark on Applegrove Road will remain on Evacuation Order (please see map). Currently, 153 properties remain on Evacuation Alert. This reduction to an Alert means residents can return to their properties, but must be prepared to leave on short notice should conditions change. See the map below for the specific details.

ADDRESSES STILL ON EVACUATION ORDER:

TODINESSES STILL	011 217 (007 1110)
House Number	Street Name
784	Applegrove RD
1210	Applegrove RD
802	Applegrove RD
780	Applegrove RD
685	Applegrove RD
620	Applegrove RD
1320	Applegrove RD
612	Applegrove RD
604	Applegrove RD
1500	Applegrove RD
504	Applegrove RD
1530	Applegrove RD
430	Applegrove RD
1710	Applegrove RD
920	Applegrove RD

"This is a positive step forward," said Nora Hannon, the RDCK Emergency Operations (EOC) Director. "BCWS continues their work on the wildfire and assessing the areas for any hazards that may pose a threat to residents. Our primary concern is to ensure the area is safe before we let residents return home."

The Octopus Creek wildfire (N51800) is being managed as part of the Arrow Lake Complex fires. It was first discovered on July 11 and is currently estimated at 18,447 hectares. The BCWS has determined the cause to be lightning. BCWS is still actively responding to the fire with firefighting crews, aviation support and heavy equipment. According to the Wildfires of Note webpage, control lines continue to be reinforced and structure protection is being maintained and monitored by dedicated firefighters on properties that are threatened.

For residents who remain on Evacuation Order, a reminder to register online with Emergency Support Services (ESS) at https://ess.gov.bc.ca/. If you do require ESS support, please report to the Nakusp & District Sports Complex (200 8th Ave NW, Nakusp, BC). Short-term assistance for immediate needs of food, shelter, and clothing may be provided by ESS volunteers following registration at the above website. For further assistance you can call the RDCK EOC public inquiry line 250-352-7701.

For those who have been under Evacuation Order for longer than 10 consecutive days during the 2021 wildfire season, the BC government has teamed up with the Red Cross to provide financial support. Visit the Red Cross website for more information.

The RDCK advises residents on Evacuation Alert to remain vigilant and be prepared to leave the area at a moment's notice. 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. Part of your plan should include where you can go if evacuated.

Updates or changes to the Evacuation Order and Alert will be provided via 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.

EOC Information Officer Regional District of Central Kootenay Tel: 250.352.7701

Email: eocinfo@rdck.ca

