

Media Release

Date: August 7, 2021 For immediate release

2:45PM

Evacuation Order downgraded for Octopus Creek wildfire

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. Properties south of Taite Creek, including 5 address points, will remain on Evacuation Order. See the map below for the specific details. Currently, 163 properties north of Taite Creek remain on Evacuation Alert. This reduction to an Alert means residents can return to their properties.

Unseen dangers may linger and the RDCK is advising residents to be cautious when re-entering their homes and properties. Residents are advised to read through the <u>Returning Home After a Wildfire document</u> prior to returning to their residences.

ADDRESSES STILL ON EVACUATION ORDER:

<u>House Number</u>		Street Name
	1500	APPLEGROVE RD
	1320	APPLEGROVE RD
	1530	APPLEGROVE RD
	1710	APPLEGROVE RD
PID 014-74	47-383	APPLEGROVE RD

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.

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.

An area restriction remains in place for the Octopus Creek wildfire area. <u>Visit BCWS Information Bulletin for more information</u>.

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.

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For further information, please contact:

EOC Information Officer Regional District of Central Kootenay Tel: 250.352.7701

Email: eocinfo@rdck.ca

