

## **Media Release**

**Date:** August 17, 2021 For immediate release 9:30 AM

## **Evacuation Alert issued for Octopus Creek Wildfire**

Nelson, BC: On the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) has issued an Evacuation Alert for 4 properties and 2 recreation sites between Pebble Beach and Twobit Creek, on the east shore of Lower Arrow Lake in Electoral Area J due to activity on the south end of the Octopus Creek wildfire (N51800). See map of Evacuation Alert below.

At this time residents or visitors within the area are not required to evacuate, however the RDCK advises people 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 was first discovered on July 10 and is estimated at 21,097 hectares. The BCWS has determined the cause to be lightning.

Updates or changes to the Evacuation Alert will be provided via the <u>RDCK website</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> as more information becomes available. 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 (1888-336-7378) or visit <a href="https://www.bcwildfire.ca">www.bcwildfire.ca</a>.

## Additional information:

- 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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