



Agricultural Land Reserve

Information Package



Planning Department
Regional District of Central Kootenay
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rdck.ca/ALR



What is the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)?

The ALR is a provincial land-use zone where agriculture is the priority use. The ALR comprises just 5% of BC's total land base and is the area with the greatest agricultural capacity.

As a finite and valuable resource, the land is protected for farming. On these lands, agriculture is recognized as the priority use. Farming is encouraged and non-agricultural uses are controlled.

What does it mean if my property is in the ALR?

Your property has been identified as having agricultural potential (even if it is not currently used for farming). There are regulations in place to protect your land as farmland into the future. These rules come from the ALR designation.

The ALR takes precedence over, but does not replace, other legislation and local bylaws. If you want to do development and your property is in the ALR, you may have to make applications to the RDCK as well as the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC).

What is the ALC?

The ALC is an independent provincial agency responsible for administering the Province's land use zone in favour of agriculture. The purpose of the Commission is to:

- Preserve agricultural land
- Encourage and enable farm businesses
- Oversee a provincial land reserve system that considers community interests

How do I know if my property is in the ALR?

You can check to see on the map here:

<https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alr-maps/>

What is allowed on my ALR property?

- Most agricultural activities like farming and ranching are permitted on ALR lands
- Farm uses in addition to agricultural activities like farm sales and storage of farm products are often permitted on ALR lands
- Non-farm uses like commercial and industrial activities are not often allowed on ALR lands
- Residential dwellings are limited on ALR lands
- In the ALR, you need to comply with the RDCK's and the ALC's requirements



How do I make an application?

You must make an application to the ALC through their website portal here: <https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/oatasp/list?execution=e1s1>

Once the ALC has accepted your application, they will send it to us to review. You do not need to send it to the RDCK yourself

Who can apply?

Property owners or their authorized agent

How long does it take?

Please consult the ALC for total time frames. At the RDCK, we do our best to ensure applications are dealt with in a prompt matter. Our part of the process usually takes three to four months.

How much does it cost?

RDCK fees vary depending on the application type

- Non-Farm Use \$750 (+\$750 to the ALC)
- Subdivision \$750 (+\$750 to the ALC)
- Non-Adhering Residential Use \$450 (+\$450 to the ALC)
- Inclusion \$0

Helpful Links

<https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/>

<https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alr-maps/>

<https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/oatasp/list?execution=e1s1>

www.rdck.ca/landusebylaws

www.rdck.ca/webmap

www.rdck.ca/planningproceduresbylaw

Contact Information

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What types of ALC applications are there?

There are 4 types of ALC applications that get sent to the RDCK. They are the following:

- Inclusion
- Non-Adhering Residential Use
- Non-Farm Use
- Subdivision

We do not accept exclusion applications

This information package reflects the background and process when this document was created. It may be subject to changes at any time. For details of all regulations, and to determine whether the process has changed, please consult the Agricultural Land Commission and the RDCK Planning Department.