

Media Release

August 12, 2024 For immediate release 8:00 AM PST

Evacuation Order downgraded to an Evacuation Alert for Nemo Creek wildfire

Nelson, BC: On the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has downgraded the Evacuation Order for one address and 20 parcel identifiers (PIDs) on the west shore of Slocan Lake in Electoral Area H due to the Nemo Creek wildfire, part of the Slocan Lake Complex. The area has been on Evacuation Order since July 19. See a map and impacted addresses below.

ADDRESS ON EVACUATION ALERT (1)

600 Slocan Lake

PARCELS ON EVACUATION ALERT (20):

031-885-551	014-040-590	017-075-530	014-039-877	014-040-638	014-040-646	014-039-923
014-040-859	017-493-552	005-896-215	024-636-002	007-629-966	014-040-620	
017-493-536	007-700-326	008-541-612	014-040-484	017-493-544	012-162-850	

Residents that have been downgraded to an Evacuation Alert are returning to a community where the surrounding area was affected by a wildfire. Unseen dangers may linger when returning to their homes and properties, ranging from gas leaks and weakened foundations to danger trees, and exposed wires and power lines. Using caution can help reduce potential injuries. When in doubt, consult an expert for help.

Burned forests have significant hazards. This will remain for years. The fire has left behind danger trees – those are trees which can fall without warning even without a wind, due to roots being burned out. As well, watch for ash pits and mark them for safety. Ash pits are holes full of hot ashes, created by burned trees and stumps. You can be seriously burned by falling into ash pits or landing in them with your hands or feet. Warn your family and neighbours to keep clear of the pits.

The RDCK advises all residents to read through the information in this <u>re-entry document</u> on what to do when you return home after a wildfire.

The Slocan Lake Complex includes the Aylwin Creek wildfire, Komonko Creek wildfire, Mulvey Creek wildfire, Nemo Creek wildfire, and Ponderosa wildfire. A complex is created when multiple wildfires are managed by a

single Incident Management Team, and resources and equipment are shared between all incidents in the complex.

The Nemo Creek wildfire was first discovered on July 18 and the suspected cause is a lightning strike.

Updates or changes to the Evacuation Alert or Order will be provided via the <u>RDCK website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>X</u> as more information becomes available. 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 or 1.866.522.7701 (toll free).

For up to date information on current wildfire activity, conditions and prohibitions, call 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 or call 250.352.7701
- Sign up for RDCK Emergency Notification System to receive notifications
- RDCK web map
- Public weather alerts for BC from Environment Canada
- 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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For further information, and media enquiries please contact:

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