



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

MEDIA RELEASE

August 12, 2019
For immediate release

Evacuation Alert removed for Morley Creek

Nelson, BC: Upon recommendation by subject matter experts (SMEs) from the Province, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is removing the Evacuation Alert issued yesterday for properties in the Morley Creek area at 10 Mile, north of Nelson on Highway 3A, effective immediately. The Evacuation Alert had been issued for about 30 properties in the area due to a debris flood.

“We issued the Evacuation Alert as a precaution yesterday, since the weather didn’t allow us to do a thorough assessment of Morley Creek at the time, and we wanted to make sure we could properly assess any remaining risk to area residents,” said Chris Johnson, the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Director. “Today, a flight over the entirety of the Creek was completed by SMEs and it was determined that it was unlikely an event of similar or greater size is imminent.”

Water access was affected for water license holders in the area. Nine properties have been identified as being damaged due to the debris flood, but no structural damage or injury to persons has been reported. Debris on Highway 3A and roads in the area is being addressed by highway maintenance contractors.

“This kind of event is a natural occurrence for steep creeks in our region, and residents should remain aware of their surroundings and prepared to act when an emergency occurs,” continued Mr. Johnson. “We would like to thank area residents for their cooperation and patience. We also recognize the work of first responders and highway crews for all their efforts in dealing with this event.”

For more information on these types natural hazards, please refer to the *Debris Flow Hazard Awareness* brochure on the RDCK website:

https://rdck.ca/assets/Services/Emergency~Management/Documents/2016-02-19-Debris%20Flow%20Hazard%20Brochure_FINAL.pdf

Other helpful resources:

- Current RDCK Evacuation Alerts, Orders and Rescinds: <https://rdck.ca/EN/main/services/emergency-management/evacuation-order-and-alert-page.html>
- Sign up for RDCK Emergency Notification System: <https://rdck.ca/EN/main/services/emergency-management/emergency-alerts.html>
- Highway conditions and events at Drive BC: <https://drivebc.ca>
- Report flooding emergencies by calling 911
- Report any new hazards, such as potential flooding or debris flows, to the 24-hour toll-free provincial emergency number at 1-800-663-3456

- Public weather alerts for BC from Environment Canada:
https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index_e.html?prov=bc
- Emergency preparedness information and tips from the Prepared BC website:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc>

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:

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