

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Evacuation ORDER Expanded to Irish Creek Road due to White Rock Lake Fire

Based upon recommendation from the BC Wildfire Service, the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) has expanded the **Evacuation ORDER** for a portion of Electoral Area B above Westside Road. The Order now includes properties located on the west side of Irish Creek Road and Beatrice Road due to the White Rock Lake wildfire (#K61884).

The Evacuation Order previously issued for properties along Bouleau and Pinaus Lake as well as properties south of Six Mile Creek Road remain in effect.

Because of the immediate danger to life safety, the Evacuation Order includes the following areas:

South of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District southern boundary, west of the Okanagan Indian Band Reserve #1, north and east of Six Mile Creek Road, Pinaus Lake FSR and Pinaus-Square Lake FSR

This includes all properties on the west side of Irish Creek Road and Beatrice Road and not within the OKIB #1

Addresses include:

304, 396, 398, 424, 570, 576, 590, 610, 614, 620, 640, 644, 664, 668, 678, 257, 280, 300, 306 of Irish Creek Road

Members of the local police department and other applicable agencies will be expediting the Evacuation Order. Evacuees will not have access to their houses while the Order is in place; therefore, bring your pets and important items with you. **See Evacuation Order area map attached.**

IF YOU ARE IN THIS AREA, YOU MUST LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY.

What you should do:

- If you have a functioning, self-contained RV, and time permits, residents are encouraged to bring their RVs with them as accommodations are limited.
- Shut off all gas and electrical appliances, other than refrigerators and freezers.
- Close all windows and doors.
- Close gates (latch) but do not lock.

CITY OF VERNON

- Take critical items (medicine, purse, wallet, and keys) only if they are immediately available. Take pets in pet kennels or on leash.
- Gather your family and, if you have room, take a neighbour or someone needing transportation. Do not use more vehicles than you have to.
- Do not use the telephone unless you need emergency services.
- Follow the evacuation route provided as follows:
 - o Travel north on Irish Creek Road, then east and south onto Hwy 97 to Vernon.
 - If you are travelling south on Irish Creek Road, follow it to Westside Road, then east to Hwy 97 and south to Vernon.
 - o If you are travelling on Beatrice Road, head north to Irish Creek Road, then east and south to Westside Road, east to Hwy 97 and south to Vernon.
 - To register with Emergency Support Services on August 4 Go to the ESS Reception Centre located at the OKIB Hall at 12420 Westside Road.
 - To register with Emergency Support Services on August 5 Go to the ESS Reception Centre located at the Dogwood Gym, Vernon Recreation Centre located at 3310 37 Ave, Vernon.
 - Evacuees can also register online at https://ess.gov.bc.ca/. Important: leave the area before registering.

The White Rock Lake wildfire spans through the Thompson-Nicola Regional District, Regional District of Central Okanagan, Columbia Shuswap Regional District, and the Okanagan Indian Band. Please visit their websites for local information.

The RDNO thanks the Okanagan Indian Band and the City of Vernon for their support in providing space for the ESS reception, and also thanks the City of Armstrong and the Township of Spallumcheen for their collaboration and support.

Further information will be issued as updates are received from the BC Wildfire Service. Residents are encouraged to visit www.rdno.ca, the RDNO Facebook page, and listen to local radio for more information.

