



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT
REGIONAL DISTRICT

News Release #4

For Immediate Release

Wednesday 16:30 hrs, July 8, 2015

Wildfire and Smoke Advisory Update

A **Local State of Emergency and an Evacuation** remains in effect for the Dog Mountain cabins. The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Emergency Operations Centre has expanded to a Level Two to provide resources for advanced emergency planning and continue to support the BC Fire Service.

FIRE ACTIVITY – A staged ignition on this fire is taking place this afternoon. An ignition specialist will burn off areas in small stages if conditions are favourable. The public will see a helicopter equipped with a heli-torch dropping on the fire. The residents will then experience smoky conditions for two to three days after which, the smoke should start to dissipate. Stirling Main (the logging road along the southern shore of Sproat Lake) will be closed in support of Dog Mountain fire operations. This road closure is necessary in order to support public safety.

ACRD Chairperson Josie Osborne and ACRD Directors Penny Cote and Mike Ruttan toured the area by boat yesterday. Chairperson Osborne said “Viewing the Dog Mountain fire on Tuesday allowed me to see first-hand not only what an incredible job the firefighting crews are doing, but also what residents and neighbours are doing to support each other during this stressful time. I urge everyone to reach out to their friends and neighbours to see what assistance they might need, from a few words of support and reassurance to help with shopping and chores for those who can’t spend time outside in the smoky air.”

The ACRD Board of Directors has authorized the Fire Chief’s of its three (3) Fire Departments – Bamfield, Beaver Creek and Sproat Lake to respond to any fire situation that requires their services. The SLVFD has been making patrols thru the district over the last few days. The members are on heightened awareness and are ready to respond to protect the residents and property.

The ACRD Board of Directors has ordered the closure of regional parks and trails. The Log Train Trail and Inlet Trail are closed until further notice.

SAFETY – Keep off the land and away from the shores of Dog Mountain.

AIR QUALITY – varies throughout the Alberni Valley based on air flow and fire activity. Island Health continues to have an air advisory in place.

Information specific to the Dog Mountain Fire is available from the BC Wildfire Service website:

<http://bcwildfire.ca/hprscripts/wildfirenews/OneFire.asp?ID=543>

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