



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY



MEDIA RELEASE

Nelson, BC
For Immediate Release

July 14, 2014

Be Safe on the Slocan River

Nelson—The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) and the Slocan Riverwatch Society are urging recreational users of the Slocan River to be safe this summer.

Please keep the following in mind when canoeing, kayaking, boating or floating on the river:

- Always wear a personal flotation device (pfd) that fits you properly
- Do not drink alcohol and recreate on the river
- Do not stand up in moving water - your feet can get stuck or lodged between rocks or other objects on the bottom of the river and as the water keeps moving it can push you and hold you down. This is called 'foot entrapment' and is very dangerous. Float with your feet high in the water.
- Respect log jams, fallen trees and wood pilings. They are called 'strainers' - the water goes through strainers but people don't. Wood in the river is very dangerous and must be avoided.
- Use a sturdy and dependable craft.
- Know where to put in and take out, and be prepared for the length of your trip.

Slocan Riverwatch has posted signs at certain access points along the river. Please refer to this signage for general safety instructions, access and pull out points and to indicate where hazardous log jams and wood pilings exist on the river.

If in doubt about whether or not you can go on the river safely, then it is best to be cautious and stay off the water.

Have a safe summer!

-30-

For more information:
Anitra Winje, Manager of Administrative Services
250.352.8166