

For Immediate Release | August 9, 2013

## **UPDATE: Slocan Valley Fuel Spill – All Remaining Restrictions Lifted**

Residents of the area impacted by the July 26 jet fuel spill at Lemon Creek are advised of the latest health update.

**All remaining Do Not Use water restrictions on the Slocan River north of the Winlaw Bridge and Lemon Creek have been removed. This means that water drawn from this area may be consumed, and that it is now safe for recreational purposes from a health perspective.** All of the water sample data provided by the Ministry of Environment and agencies contracted by Executive Flight Centre meet the Canadian Guidelines for Drinking Water. As well, visual assessments of the containment booms and shorelines have not detected levels of fuel that pose health concerns.

Residents in this area are encouraged to thoroughly flush their drinking water and irrigation water systems as there will be stagnant water in the lines. Domestic Water System Flushing Procedures are now available on the Interior Health website ([www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca)). If, after flushing, residents have any concerns or detect odours of fuel, please contact IH Health Protection at 250-420-2220. Residents should not use well water if there is a fuel smell in the well or at any tap.

Crews will continue to work in the area to ensure all remaining fuel residues are removed and containment booms will remain in place while this occurs. The public and recreational users of the Slocan River and Lemon Creek are asked to remain clear of crews and containment booms.

**Anyone with specific health questions or concerns should contact their family physician.** Residents with questions or concerns regarding drinking water and food safety should contact IH Health Protection at 250-420-2220 for more information.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT