



**News Release No. 48**

**Date: July 23, 2009**

**Time: 5:00 p.m.**

**KELOWNA:** The Terrace Mountain fire remains uncontrolled and the evacuation orders and alerts announced Thursday morning remain in place.

B.C. Forest Service reports that the fire is burning aggressively but remains at 4,000 hectares.

“The Terrace Mountain fire is our top priority at this time,” says Tim Neal, Forest Service Information Officer. “Some big winds last night came through there and pushed the fire and down the valley it went.”

Neal said the Forest Service is working on the Terrace Mountain fire 24 hours a day on the ground, with air support during daylight hours. He said the safety of firefighters and equipment operators working on the fire is paramount to the operation.

RCMP report that the evacuation of 2,200 people along North Westside Road went smoothly. Const. Dan Moskaluk says police are patrolling the evacuated area, including along the shores of Lake Okanagan.

“Once people are evacuated, they must stay out of the area. Anyone found in the public spaces of the evacuated area will be challenged by RCMP and requested to leave,” says Moskaluk.

Anyone refusing to leave is subject to fines under the Forest Protection Act.

The Emergency Social Services reception centre in the Vernon Community Centre can accommodate 2,400 people. As of Thursday afternoon, 240 people had registered at the ESS in Vernon, 3310 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The ESS in West Kelowna remains on duty and had received 12 evacuees by 4 p.m. The number of people at both centres is expected to increase as people leave their jobs and report and register for assistance with food, clothing and accommodation.

The Evacuation Order applies to North Westside Road areas between Caesar’s Landing in the south and Killiney Beach in the north. This order indicates approximately 2,200 residents must immediately leave the following areas:

- Caesar’s Landing
- Ewing’s Landing
- Nahun
- Valley of the Sun
- Muirallen Estates
- Estamont

- Aspen Shores
- Summersands
- La Casa
- Fintry Provincial Park and campground and Fintry Delta
- Killiney Beach

An Evacuation Alert applies to the following areas:

- Westshores
- Cinnibar Creek
- Cottages at Secret Point
- Shelter Cove
- Lake Okanagan Resort
- Jenny Creek
- Wilson's Landing
- Pine Point subdivision
- Traders Cove
- Bear Creek Provincial Park
- District lots off South Terrace Mountain

The Emergency Operations Centre is unable to determine how long Evacuation Orders and Alerts will remain in place and assesses the need daily.

Until an Evacuation Order is issued, it is not necessary to evacuate – only to be on alert and ready to leave if an Evacuation Order is given. Should there be any change in that status residents will be advised through regular media channels.

We encourage residents as part of their emergency planning and preparedness to ensure they have a battery powered or wind up radio.

Inquiries may be directed to the Emergency Social Services Call Centre at 250-469-8490.

A full listing of properties on Evacuation Order and Alert and updated maps regarding the Terrace Mountain fire is attached and will be posted on the Regional District website at [www.regionaldistrict.com](http://www.regionaldistrict.com).

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Media Contacts  
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