



News Release No. 68

Date: August 1, 2009

Time: 9:15 a.m.

KELOWNA: The Emergency Operations Centre thanks residents for their cooperation in making for yet another smooth, but large evacuation.

An estimated 2,500 residents from the Fintry/Muirallen Estates area along north Westside Road down the Trader's Cove were forced from their homes by increased activity by the Terrace Mountain wildfire late yesterday. Emergency Social Services says 400 people were processed at the reception centre set up at Mount Boucherie Senior Secondary School, 2751 Cameron Road. Approximately 120 of them were provided with group lodging at Trinity Baptist Church and at the UBC Okanagan campus. While some people slept in vehicles and campers at the school, evacuees are reminded that they must register in person for food and accommodation assistance. As hotel rooms become available for evacuees, ESS will make necessary arrangements for those residents in group lodging facilities.

Residents with pets or animals are able to receive in person assistance from representatives of the Canadian Disaster Animal Rescue Team (CDART) at the reception centre or by calling 250-809-7152. CDART is asking for donations of large dog leashes and small cat litter containers. Anyone able to help with these items is asked to visit the CDART representative at the reception centre.

There has been a region-wide response from Central Okanagan fire departments to assist North Westside Fire Rescue with structural fire protection in these evacuation areas. More than 60 fire fighters and a dozen pieces of equipment are being supplied by Lake Country, City of Kelowna, District of Peachland, District of West Kelowna, Joe Rich and Ellison paid-on call departments.

Even though BC Hydro advised last night that power lines serving the estimated 2,163 people in the Killiney, Westshore-Beau Park Evacuation Alert area might be de-energized, there were no disruptions in electrical service. Residents in these areas are reminded that they remain on Evacuation Alert and must be prepared to leave their homes on short notice.

At this time there are approximately 2,500 residents on Evacuation Order from the following areas:

- Caesar's Landing
- Nahun
- Shelter Cove
- District lots off South Terrace Main
- Wilson's Landing
- Trader's Cove
- Bear Creek Main to Kilometer 13 marker
- Bear Creek Provincial Park
- Fintry Provincial Park
- Upper Fintry
- Fintry Delta/Muirallen Estates
- Valley of the Sun
- La Casa resort

Overnight thermal imaging mapping for the Ministry of Forests indicates the Terrace Mountain wildfire has consumed 7,025 hectares of forest some of that includes fuel that has been burned off by the Ministry fire specialists as conditions allowed. Today the Ministry is allocating ground and air attack crews along the eastern flank of the fire.

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