



News Release No. 81

Date: August 9, 2009

Time: 10:45 a.m.

KELOWNA: All Evacuation Orders and Alerts remain in effect as a result of the ongoing Terrace Mountain forest fire.

An estimated 2,150 people remain on Evacuation Order and approximately 2,526 residents remain on Evacuation Alert and must be prepared to leave their homes on short notice.

The status of all Evacuation Orders and Alerts is reviewed each day by the Emergency Operation Centre based on information and recommendations from the Fire Incident Command. At this time, all Evacuation Orders and Alerts remain in place.

The Ministry of Forests reports that residents of the Central Okanagan will clearly see a large column of smoke today as a result of a planned burn-off. Fire management specialists using aerial ignition are conducting the burn this morning on the north flank of the Terrace Mountain fire, while winds are light and the risk of spot fires is reduced. During today's burn off, firefighters and air support are standing by. The Ministry adds today's action will bring the fire down to the south side of Short's Creek since the fire has been burning down the slope in steep terrain that is too dangerous for fire fighters to work. As well, the slope could flare up under windy conditions resulting in an uncontrolled spread.

Yesterday, a Restricted Area Order went into effect for roads and area access around the Terrace Mountain wild fire. The Ministry of Forests says the closure applies to the entire area between Whiteman Creek Forest Service Road and Bear Creek Forest Service Road. No one may enter or remain in the Restricted Area unless they receive written authorization to travel to or from their residence or are involved in fire fighting activities. For more information on the Restricted Area Order please contact the Kamloops Fire Centre at 250-554-5532.

The Emergency Social Services reception centre at Mount Boucherie Senior Secondary School is open at 2751 Cameron Road in West Kelowna today (Sunday) through Thursday, August 13th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. If referral extensions are required Friday, August 14th, centre volunteers will be available from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. Evacuees requiring assistance must visit the centre in person.

An estimated 2,150 residents remain on Evacuation Order between and including the following areas:

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

An estimated 2,526 residents living in the following areas remain on Evacuation Alert and must be prepared to leave on little notice:

- Ewings Landing
- Estamont
- Summersands
- Aspen Shores
- Killiney Beach
- Marchbank
- Wainman Cove
- Westshore-Beau Park
- Evely Forest Recreation site
- Traders Cove
- North end of Bear Creek Road with addresses from 524 to 1075 Bear Creek Road north
- Bear Creek Provincial Park

Boaters are reminded to keep their activities on Okanagan Lake from the middle to the eastern shoreline. As required, air support involved in fighting the Terrace Mountain fire will be using the area from the middle of the lake to the western shoreline to pick up water.

Westside Road is closed at the intersection of Bear Lake Main, including the forest service road to the 13 kilometre marker. The northern boundary of the Evacuation area remains at Baziw Orchards, just south of Ewings Landing.

For the latest Emergency Operation Centre news releases, detailed maps and other information regarding the Terrace Mountain forest fire, visit the Regional District website www.regionaldistrict.com and click on the Terrace Mountain Fire icon.

For more information on other forest fires in the Province visit www.bcwildfire.ca or call 1-888-3 FOREST (1-888-336-7378)

Anyone looking for any information on the Terrace Mountain or any other major fires in the Province should now phone 1-888-350-6070. This call centre is based out of the Red Cross BC Disaster Response Centre in Burnaby and is now staffed between 7:00 am and 9:00 pm.

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