

**Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC)  
Interface Fire Situation Overview – July 24, 2006; 1300 hrs**

***General Overview***

For more on wildland fires, refer to the Ministry of Forests and Range, Protection Program

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/pScripts/Protect/WildfireNews/News.asp>

There are no reported road closures at this time. For updated road reports, refer to Ministry of Transportation Drive BC

<http://www.drivebc.ca/>

BC Ferries <http://www.bcferrries.com/news/>

**Capital Region District**

The Vancouver Island Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre is activated to level 2 to support local authorities and coordinate provincial ministries and agencies. There is one Emergency Operations Centre and one Reception Centre activated. An evacuation order has been issued – see below.

**Galiano Island Capital Region District**

The Capital Regional District has declared a State of Local Emergency on Galiano Island. The CRD will be limiting non-essential people traveling to the island.

Approximately 120 people have been evacuated after a fire broke out near the south end of Galiano Island Sunday afternoon, July 23.

The Galiano Island fire department and Ministry of Forests Protection Program crews and aircraft are fighting the fire. No injuries or structural damage has been reported. There are a number of homes in the area and the fire is approximately 200 metres from the nearest residence. BC Hydro is on site to evaluate the status of their distribution lines and has a contingency plan to deal with any damage that may occur.

The fire is currently estimated to be approximately 61 hectares.

A reception centre for evacuees was established by Emergency Social Services volunteers at Lions Hall. The evacuation was complete by 3 a.m. Approximately 120 evacuees have registered at the reception centre and are getting short-term assistance if required.

The Vancouver Island Health Authority is working closely with BC Ambulance Service to ensure all health concerns are met. Air quality will be closely monitored.

## ***Definitions***

### **Evacuations**

**Evacuation Alert:** Local authorities issue a warning in the form of an Evacuation Alert about an imminent threat to life and property, and people are asked to be ready to leave on short notice. When people choose to leave an area before or during the issuing of an alert, this is referred to as a voluntary evacuation.

**Evacuation Order:** Local authorities issue an Evacuation Order when the population is determined to be at imminent risk, and people must leave the area immediately. Local police or RCMP enforce Evacuation Orders.

**Evacuation Rescind:** An Evacuation Order or Alert is rescinded or lifted by local authorities when it is determined to be safe for residents to return home. An Evacuation Order may be reinstated if a threat returns.