

Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC) Interface Fire Situation Overview – July 26, 2006; 1630 hrs

OVERVIEW

Progress on the Galiano Island fire (#V60335) in the Vancouver Island Region remains good and the CRD has rescinded the Evacuation Order for the remaining residents that were out of their homes. All residents in the area of the fire remain on an Evacuation Alert.

Central Region is closely monitoring a 50 hectare fire (Tuktakamin #K40587) south of Highway 97 in the Falklands area, 72 km east of Kamloops and 42 km west of Vernon on Hwy 97. The fire is burning 700 metres from a major telecommunications site on Tuktakamin Mountain. An EOC in Salmon Arm has been activated by the Columbia Shuswap Regional District.

CURRENT INFORMATION

CENTRAL REGION

The Columbia Shuswap Regional District has activated their EOC in Salmon Arm and 7 homes remain on evacuation alert. There is concern over the telecommunications structures on Tuktakamin Mountain and MoF is actioning this fire, building a primary and a secondary fire guard as well as a retardant ring around the site.

MoF is hosting a public information meeting at the Falkland Community Hall tonight at 19:00.

VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION

The Capital Regional District Declaration of a State of Local Emergency remains in effect for Galiano Island and residents in Zone 12 remain on evacuation alert. The EOC on Galiano is now stood down and all CRD coordination activities will be handled by the EOC in Victoria. MoF and local fire fighters will continue to action the fire until it is completely extinguished.

Current Information about significant fires can be obtained from the Ministry of Forests website:
<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/pScripts/Protect/WildfireNews/Situation.asp>

OUTLOOK

The long-term weather forecast for the Central Region indicates a cooling trend by Friday. Forecast across the Okanagan is for unsettled weather, with gusting winds and thunderstorm activity. For the North Okanagan, the thunderstorms should bring some precipitation, however, the southern Okanagan is not expected to receive significant rain and dry lightning will be a concern.