

North West Bank Barrier: New Buffer Zone |TUBAS| JENIN | TULKARM | QALQILIYA |

In early September 2004, the IDF issued military orders, with detailed maps, that prohibit new construction within a given area along the completed Barrier (See map). Generally, the orders prohibit construction 150 metres on each side of the Barrier; in some places up to 850 meters total -depending on the location. The orders do not apply to constructed buildings inside the buffer zone.

Currently, the new buffer zone orders apply only to the completed Barrier in the northern West Bank –from the Jordan River in the Tubas Governorate to 'Izbat Salman in the Qalqiliya Governorate. However, the orders do not apply to Israeli land behind the Green Line.

■ **The completed Barrier currently extends over 13,640 dunums (1,364 hectares) of West Bank land.**

■ **The Barrier buffer zone, including the Barrier covers 62,890 dunums (6,289 hectares) of West Bank land.**

The humanitarian implications of these orders are not yet evident. The orders do not currently affect Palestinian movement and access to agricultural land near and behind the Barrier. The buffer zone, however, infringes in urban areas, in particular in Tulkarm and Qalqiliya towns and 40 villages along the Barrier.

According to the Israeli DCL, the orders were primarily issued to prevent attacks on the Barrier, military patrols, and the infiltration of suicide bombers.

The orders also state that “those who wish to build in this area should apply for a building permit through the DCL in the area. The IDF commander has the authority to deny or agree to the permit.”

The orders indicate that copies of the buffer zone orders, with maps, will be available to the public in the DCL office and other official locations. However, only the Palestinian DCL has been given copies to date. The orders also state that they are valid from the date of issue until 31 December 2005.

ISRAEL

WEST BANK

Qalqiliya
Inset

Qalqiliya

Nablus

Tulkarm

Jenin

Armistice line (1949)
Green Line

- Completed Barrier
 - Barrier Buffer Zone
 - Palestinian Built-Up Area
 - Israeli Settlement
 - Main Road
 - Other Road
- 0 2.5 5 Kilometers

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



Cartography: OCHA-oPt, February 2005
Base data: PA MoPIC, July 2000; OCHA update 2004
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West Bank Barrier: planned and constructed



Qalqiliya Focus- Buffer Zone with Satellite Image

