

West Bank: Access and Closure

December 2007

Physical Closures

- Jerusalem Checkpoint¹
- Checkpoint
- Green Line Checkpoint²
- Partial Checkpoint
- Road Gate
- Observation Tower²
- Earthmound
- Roadblock
- Tunnel²
- Planned Tunnel
- Earth Wall
- Road Barrier
- Trench

West Bank Barrier

- Constructed
 - Under Construction
 - Planned Route
 - Agricultural Gate²
 - Military Gate²
- ¹Planned Barrier - path based on Israeli Government map, published April 2006 and IDF land seizure orders. (Ministry of Defence - Seam Zone Authority)
- ²Forty-five of the eighty-seven Barrier gates are open to Palestinians with appropriate permits.

Access

Closed and Restricted Areas

- Israeli military base
Access is prohibited
- Israeli closed military area
Access is prohibited
- Existing and projected 'closed areas' behind the Barrier
Access is limited to permit holders

Israeli Settlements

- Outpost
- Land cultivated by settlers
- Settlement municipal area
- Settlement built-up and outer limit

Palestinian Areas

- Built-up
- < 500 Residents symbol"/> < 500 Residents
- 500 - 20,000
- > 20,000 symbol"/> > 20,000

Roads

- Prohibited or Restricted Palestinian vehicle use
- Main road
- Other Road

Oslo Agreement

- Area A¹
 - Area B²
 - Special Case (H2)³
 - Intended Nature Reserve
 - Area C⁴
- ¹ - Full Palestinian civil and military control (Effective in Jericho only)
- ² - Full Palestinian civil control and joint Israeli-Palestinian military control
- ³ - Hebron Agreement
- ⁴ - Full Israeli civil and military control

Analysis: Closed and Settler Corridors

The majority of roadblocks (see main map) prevent Palestinian access on to primary roads in the West Bank. Effectively these roads serve as corridors for Israeli settlers commuting to and from Israel.

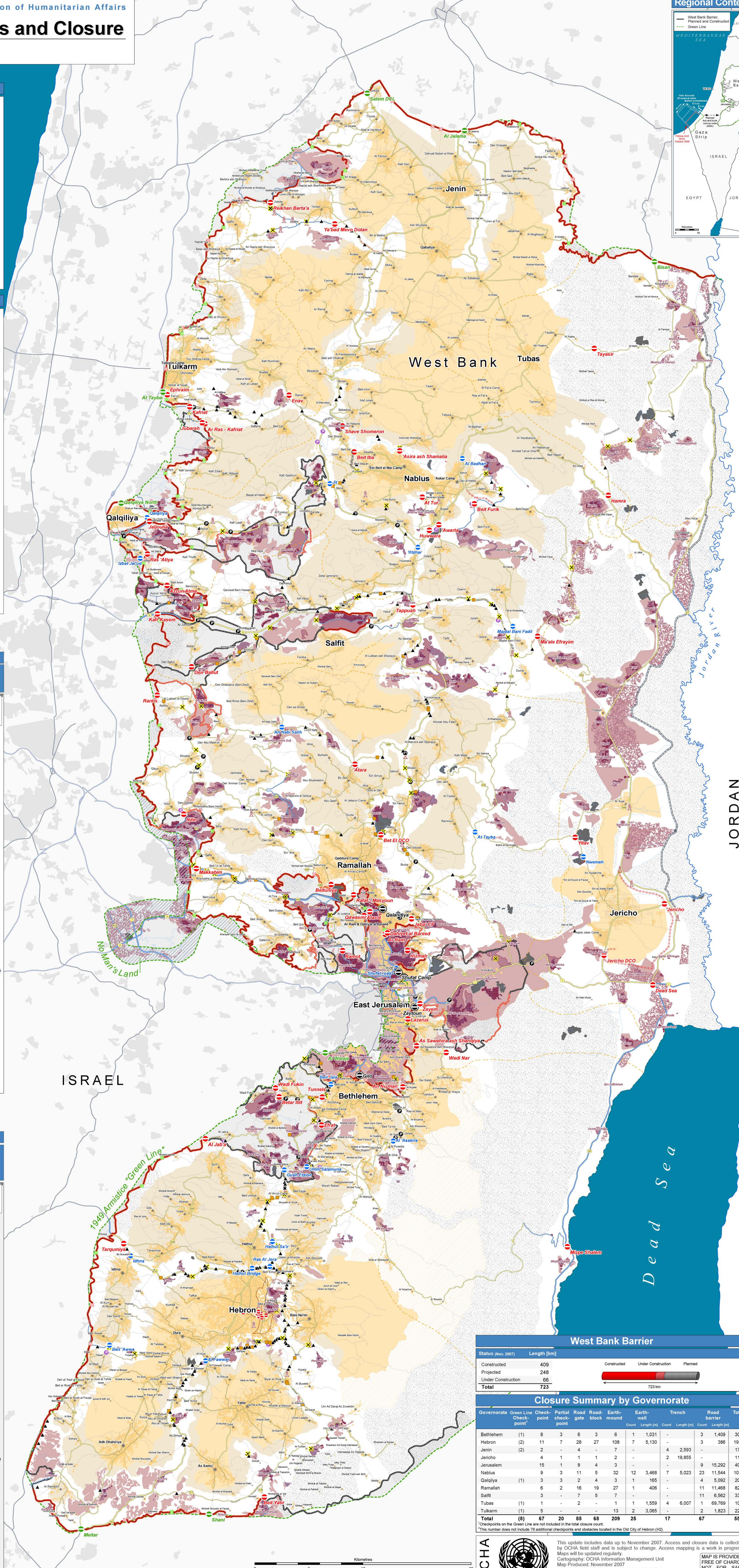
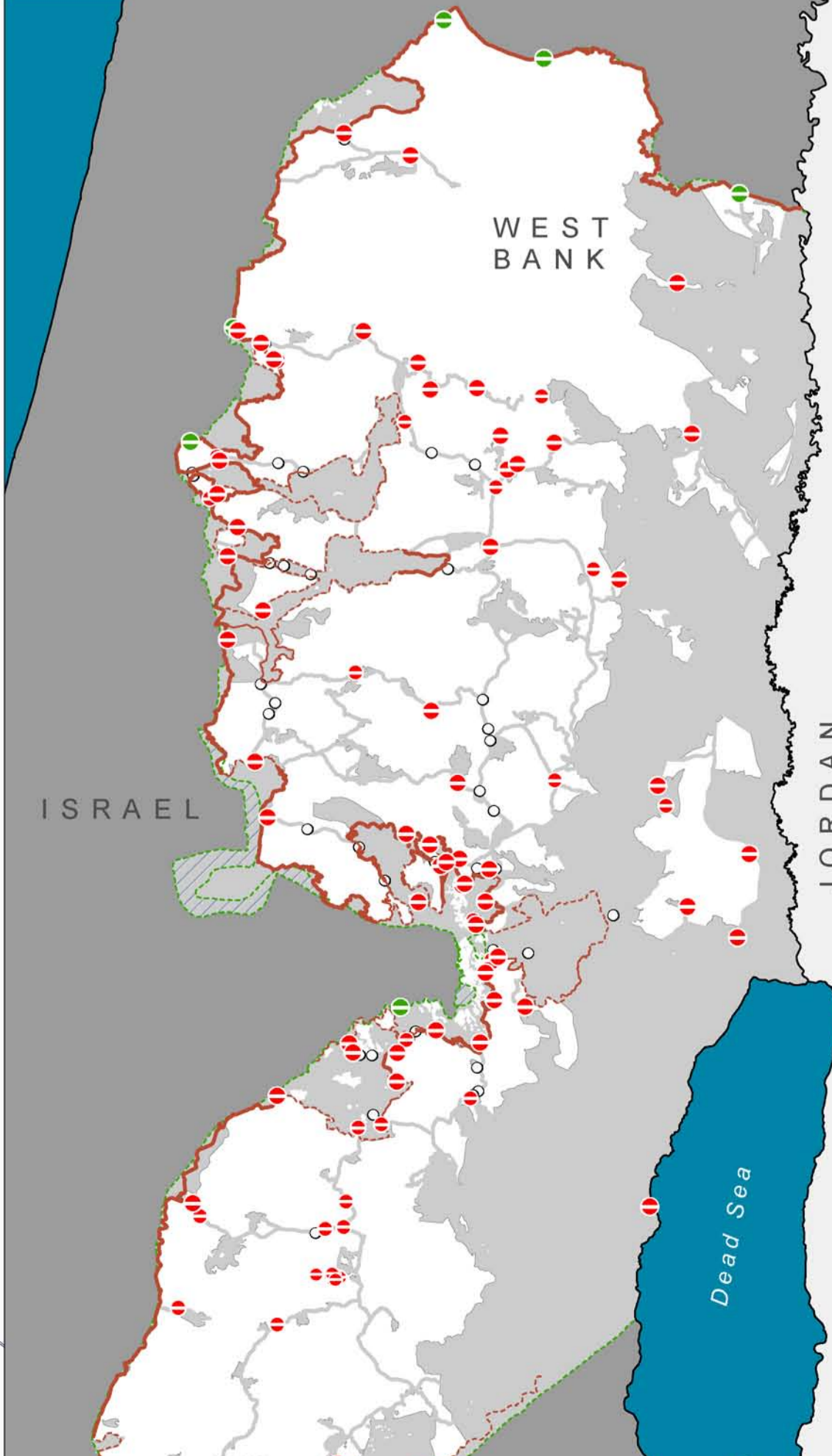
- Barrier constructed by November 2007
- Barrier under construction in November 2007
- Barrier planned route
- Barriers to movement - The alignment of closures
- Roads subject to permit restrictions
- Areas inaccessible to Palestinians or subject to restrictions



Fragmentation of the West Bank

Israeli settlements, roads primarily for settler use, closed military zones and other measures fragment the West Bank. Checkpoints, underpasses and permits regulate much of Palestinian movement.

- Barrier constructed by March 2007
- Barrier under construction in March 2007
- Barrier planned route
- Checkpoints
- Tunnels and underpasses
- Areas inaccessible to Palestinians or subject to restrictions



The West Bank Barrier

A complex series of concrete walls, electronic fences, observation towers, trenches, patrol roads and razor wire, used to control Palestinian pedestrian and vehicular movement.



Barrier Gate - Allows restricted movement through the West Bank Barrier to Palestinian lands and to Israel. Permits are required for Palestinians to pass through a gate.

Closure

A policy of physical barriers and permit requirements used to control Palestinian pedestrian and vehicular movement.



Checkpoint - A barrier manned by IDF and/or Border Police with observation towers and other physical blocks used to control pedestrian and vehicular access.

Partial Checkpoint - An established checkpoint operating periodically.



Observation Tower - An elevated military tower to monitor/control Palestinian pedestrian and vehicular access.



Earth Mound - A mound of rubble, dirt and/or rocks used to obstruct vehicle access.



Tunnel - An underpass beneath roads that are primarily for settler use.



Roadblock - A series of 1 metre concrete blocks used to obstruct vehicle access.



Trench - A ditch used to prevent vehicle crossing.

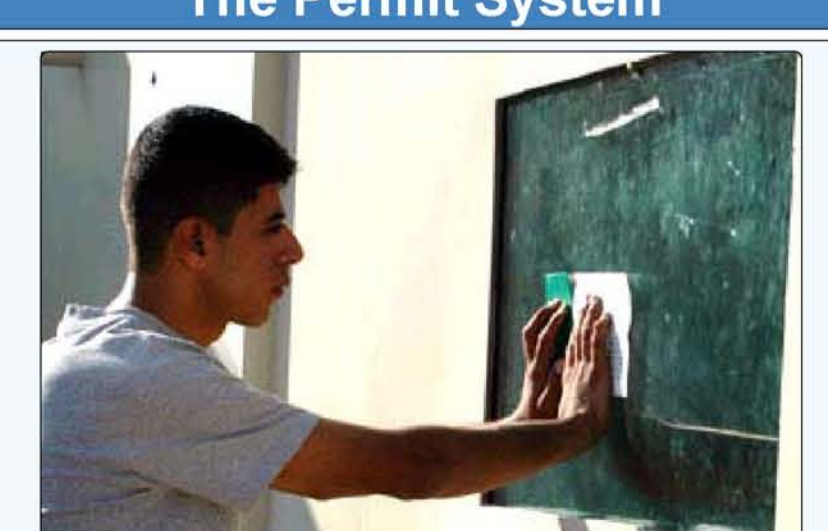


Road Gate - A metal gate, often manned by IDF, used to control movement along roads.



Road Barrier - Secures the passage of Israeli settlers on restricted roads. These fences impede Palestinians from traveling over major roads leading to the main cities.

The Permit System



The permit system is complex and applied differently from region to region. A permit eases travel and reduces the risk of being turned back at a checkpoint. Permits are necessary for crossing specific checkpoints, accessing the Jordan Valley, the 'closed area' between the Green Line and the Barrier and for entering East Jerusalem.

West Bank Barrier	
Status (Nov. 2007)	Length [km]
Constructed	409
Projected	248
Under Construction	66
Total	723

Closure Summary by Governorate											
Governorate	Green Line Check-point ¹	Partial Check-point	Road-block	Earth-mound	Earth-wall		Trench		Road-barrier		Total
					Count	Length [m]	Count	Length [m]	Count	Length [m]	
Bethlehem	(1)	8	3	6	3	6	1	1,031	-	3	1,409
Hebron	(2)	11	7	28	27	108	7	5,130	-	3	386,191
Jenin	(1)	2	-	4	-	7	-	4,259	-	1	17
Jericho	(2)	4	1	1	1	2	-	2,18,855	-	11	11,292
Jerusalem	(1)	15	1	8	4	3	-	-	-	9	15,292
Nablus	(1)	9	3	11	5	32	12	3,468	7	5,023	23
Ramallah	(1)	3	3	2	4	3	1	165	-	4	5,092
Ramallah	(1)	6	2	16	19	27	1	406	-	11	11,468
Salfit	(1)	3	-	7	5	7	-	-	-	11	6,562
Tubas	(1)	1	-	2	-	1	1	1,559	4	6,007	10
Tulkarm	(1)	5	-	-	-	13	2	3,065	-	2	1,823
Total	(6)	67	20	65	68	209	25	17	67	67	558

¹Checkpoints on the Green Line are not included in the total closure count. This number does not include 73 additional checkpoints and closures located in the Old City of Hebron (H2).

OCHA

This update includes data up to November 2007. Access and closure data is collected by OCHA field staff and is subject to change. Access mapping is a work in progress. Maps will be updated regularly. Cartography: OCHA Information Management Unit. Map Produced: November 2007. Base data and statistics: OCHA, JRC, PA-MOPIC. For comments contact: ocha@un.org or tel +972 (0)2 582-9962 - www.ochaopt.org