

Stop 8 Summerland Rock Slide 2019

Castanet Video: Slope still moving

[Music] *Casnet News Brief*

[00:05] *Dwayne Tennant (UBC Professor):* It's a constant um battle and threat to our highways in this province.

[00:12] *Alanna Kelly (Reporter):* UBC Okanagan engineering professor Dwayne Tennant says there's a potential for four times the amount of the rock that we've already seen come down still to fall.

[00:22] *Dwayne:* This size and maybe including down here as well. So, a much larger piece of our slope could be under motion right now.

[00:32] *Alanna:* About four thousand cubic meters of debris and boulders came crashing onto highway 97 on Saturday. Since then a new crack has been discovered spanning 50 meters on each side.

[00:44] *Dwayne:* So, this area has already fallen out, but these geological structures continue along the whole rock faces, upper ones, there's multiple essentially small faults. We could have 20 maybe 25 thousand cubic meters of rock that's moving. The people that are surveying that and monitoring the movement will be able to fine-tune that estimate.

[01:09] *Tom Kneale (Ministry of Transportation and Highways):* We're in the process right now of trying to determine the boundaries of the failure and this is you know every day we're seem to be faced with new movement and in different locations. We don't know exactly how large this thing is, but we're monitoring it and every day that we get information we're getting a better handle on the extent of it.

[01:25] *Dwayne:* They'll have to determine how much of that rock has to be removed to stabilize the slope. Not necessarily all of it'll have to be removed and your kind of hoping that we don't chase the mountain. So that when we remove a little bit of material it doesn't trigger yet another one higher up the slope and yet another higher one up the slope.

[01:40] *Alanna:* In the past in this same stretch of area there have been three other rock slides and crews will need to determine just how quickly this rock is moving.

[01:49] *Dwayne:* If it moves slowly there's less of a risk, but if it moves like we saw on that spectacular video imagery from Saturday that is, you know, we don't want to have people with anywhere near there.

[02:00] *Tom Kneale:* The monitoring equipment we have right now is survey hubs that are located on the slope so we can identify movement you know upwards of I think it's two millimeters or so.

[02:09] *Alanna:* Highway 97 remains closed with no estimated time of reopening for castanet news I'm Alanna Kelly in Kelowna

[02:17] [Music]