



West Bank Barrier Route Projections

July 2009



Area Affected

The Barrier's total length is 709 km, more than twice the length of the 1949 Armistice Line (Green Line) between the West Bank and Israel.

The total area located between the Barrier and the Green Line is 9.5 % of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and No Man's Land.

When completed, approximately 15% of the Barrier will be constructed on the Green Line or in Israel with 85 % inside the West Bank.

Populations Affected

If the Barrier is completed based on the current route:

Approximately 35,000 Palestinians holding West Bank ID cards in 34 communities will be located between the Barrier and the Green Line.

The majority of Palestinians with East Jerusalem ID cards will reside between the Barrier and the Green Line. However, Palestinian communities inside the current municipal boundary, Kafr Aqab and Shu'fat Camp, are separated from East Jerusalem by the Barrier.

Approximately 125,000 Palestinians will be surrounded by the Barrier on three sides. These comprise 28 communities; the Biddya and Biddu areas, and the city of Qalqilya.

Approximately 26,000 Palestinians in 8 communities in the Az Zawiya and Bir Nabala Enclaves will be surrounded on four sides by the Barrier, with a tunnel or road connection to the rest of the West Bank.

Barrier Route

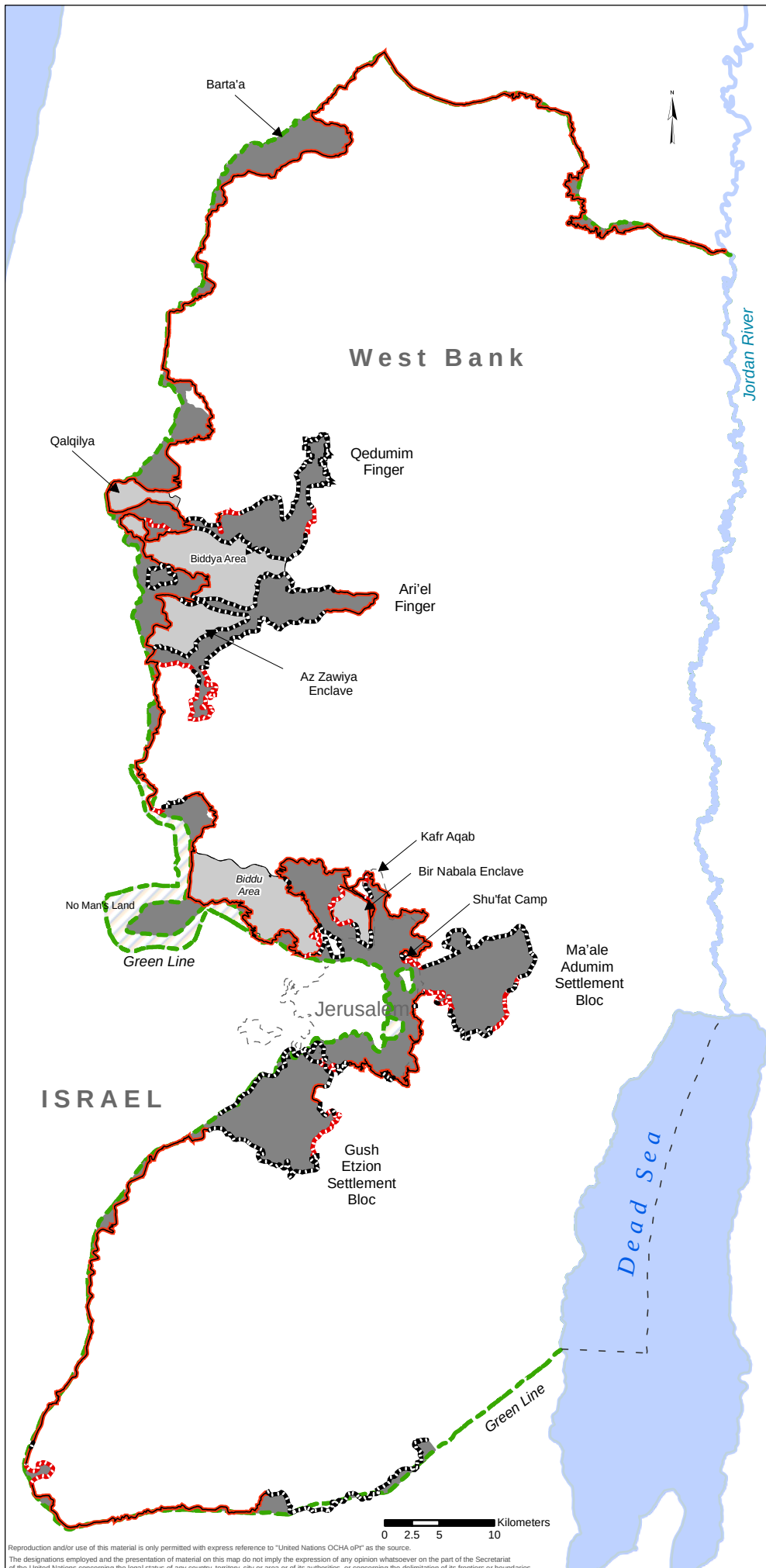
— Completed
(413 km or 58.3 %)

--- Under construction
(73 km or 10.2 %)

..... Planned
(223 km or 31.5 %)

Cartography and Barrier Themes: OCHA-oPt IMU
Map July 2009
Base data: MoPIC (2000) updates OCHA (2009)

For comments contact <ochaopt@un.org>
Tel. +972 (02) 582-9962 <http://www.ochaopt.org>





Access to East Jerusalem is of critical importance for the entire West Bank population, for specialized medical care, university education, work, social and family relationships and worship. For most Palestinians this access has been forbidden since 1993, unless they possess a difficult-to-obtain entry permit issued by the Israeli authorities. Since the Barrier was completed in the area, permit holders are allowed to enter East Jerusalem only through four of the 16 existing checkpoints to the city along the Barrier, and only by foot. Permits become invalid whenever a general closure is declared, usually during Jewish holidays and times of security alert.

Humanitarian Impact:

- The Barrier in Jerusalem weaves around and between East Jerusalem and nearby West Bank towns and villages, dividing communities and neighbourhoods from each other.
- Villages that were once closely connected to Jerusalem now lie on the West Bank side of the Barrier, physically separated from the city.
- The Barrier surrounds entire communities, such as the Bir Nabala enclave, with an inner barrier, with access channelled through 'Fabric of Life' roads.
- The Barrier cuts off West Bank Palestinians and care providers from specialist and tertiary health care in the six specialist hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- The Barrier divides entire families: husbands and wives are separated from each other, children and relatives.
- The Barrier delays school and university students and teachers from accessing educational services in Jerusalem.
- The Barrier cuts off Muslims and Christians from religious sites in Jerusalem.



The Bethlehem central-urban core is constricted by a combination of Israeli infrastructure, including the Barrier, settlements and settlement outposts. In the eastern governorate, administrative restrictions (Area C, closed military areas and nature reserves) also limit the potential for urban expansion, grazing and for planning and development at the governorate level. If Barrier construction goes ahead as planned in the western part of the governorate, the rural hinterland will be cut off, reducing access to land and water resources.

Humanitarian Impact:

- The Bethlehem governorate is 660 km². Only 13 percent of Bethlehem's land is available for Palestinian use, much of this fragmented
- The completed section of the Barrier in the north seals the separation of Bethlehem city from East Jerusalem, blocking its potential for residential and industrial expansion.
- Completion of the Barrier around the Gush Etzion settlement bloc will isolate approx. 64 km², including some of the most fertile land in the governorate.
- Nine Palestinian communities with approx. 21,000 residents, will face reduced access to Bethlehem City, the major centre for health, education, markets and trade.
- Bethlehem farmers who reside on the 'Palestinian side' of the Barrier will also face reduced access to their land behind the Barrier.
- Access to Road 60, the main route south to Hebron, will be blocked.



SALFIT GOVERNORATE AND THE 'FINGERS'

Construction of the Ariel and Qedumim 'Fingers' - the most intrusive routes of the Barrier into the West Bank - will dramatically impact the Salfit governorate, while further fragmenting what remains of the Qalqiliya governorate outside of the already constructed Barrier. The 'Fingers' will sever numerous rural roads and tracks and undermine access to land, water resources and markets, with severe implications for the agricultural economy of both northern governorates.

Approximately 12 percent of the land area of the Salfit governorate has already been seized by the Israeli authorities and allocated for the construction of settlements and industrial zones. An additional 10 percent has been declared a fire zone, used for military training. The underground water resources of Salfit are threatened by the continuous discharge of raw sewage from the settlements, in particular Ariel. According to the Israeli organization Peace Now, a plan for another 8,000 housing units for the future expansion of Ariel is in the status of 'pre-preparation', which would add 32,000 new settlers to the present population of 17,000. (Peace Now: Ministry of Housing's Plans for the West Bank, March 2009).

The Ariel 'Finger', a 22-kilometre-long corridor, and a separate corridor in the north, the Qedumim 'Finger', will link many settlements including Ariel, the Shomron bloc and Qedumim to Israel. As a consequence, close to 100 km², almost half of Salfit's land area, will be effectively cut off on the 'Israeli' side of the Barrier. The geographical contiguity of Salfit will be shattered into three disconnected pockets, affecting all of the governorate's population centres.

'Whilst the Court notes the assurance given by Israel that the construction of the wall does not amount to annexation and that the wall is of a temporary nature, it nevertheless cannot remain indifferent to certain fears expressed to it that the route of the wall will prejudice the future frontier between Israel and Palestine, and the fear that Israel may integrate the settlements and their means of access. The Court considers that the construction of the wall and its associated régime create a "fait accompli" on the ground that could well become permanent, in which case, and notwithstanding the formal characterization of the wall by Israel, it would be tantamount to de facto annexation"

ICJ, Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion of 9 July 2004, para. 121

SALFIT IN SHORT

Area: 205 km²
population: 59,464*
Settlements/Outposts:
- 17 settlements/industrial zones
- 7 outposts

* PCBS census 2007

BARRIER

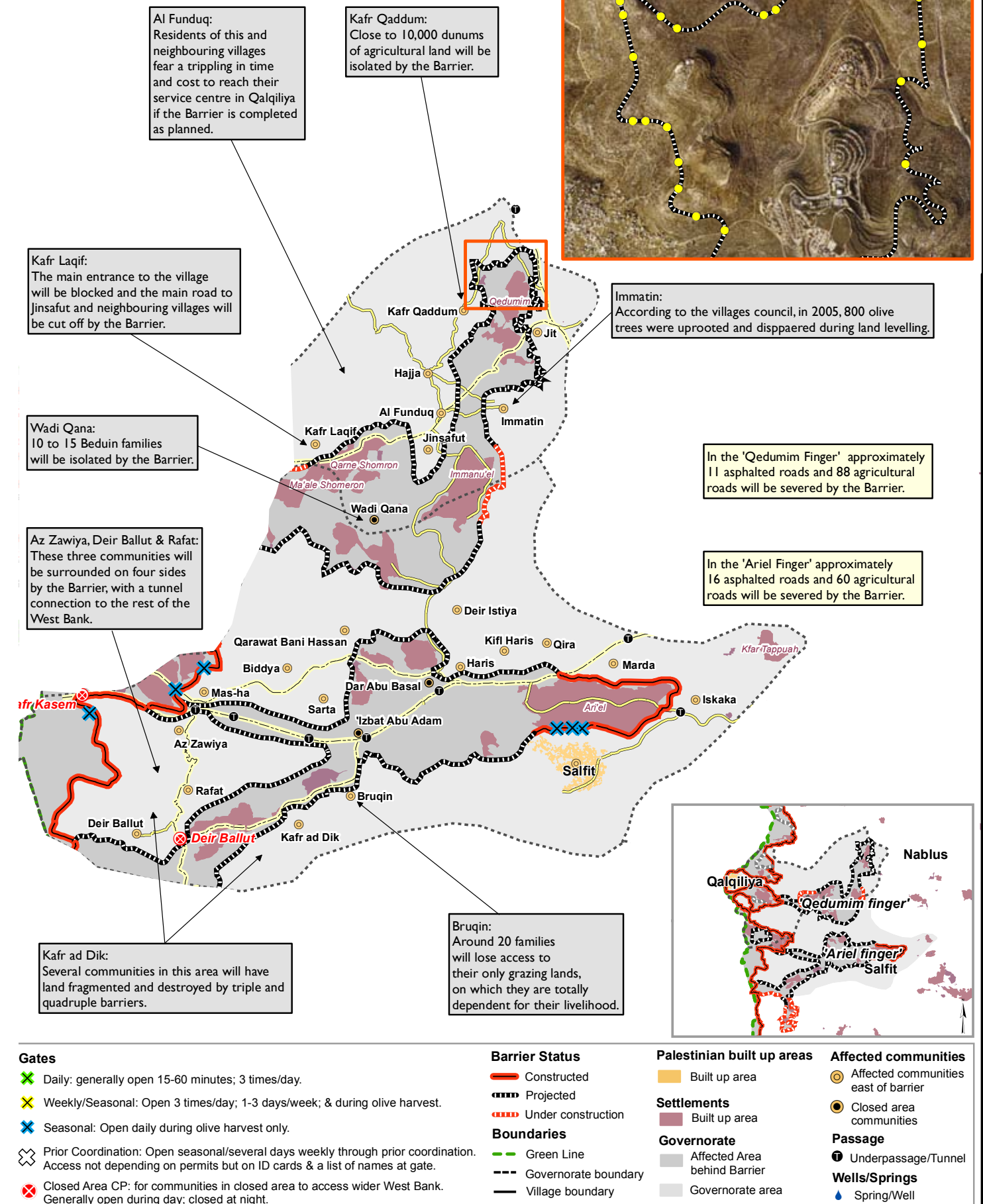
Length: 89.5 km
0 % on Green Line
100 % inside West Bank
22 kilometers at widest point
3 communities inside closed area/seam zone
(Izbat Abu Adam, Wadi Qana, Dar Abu Basal)

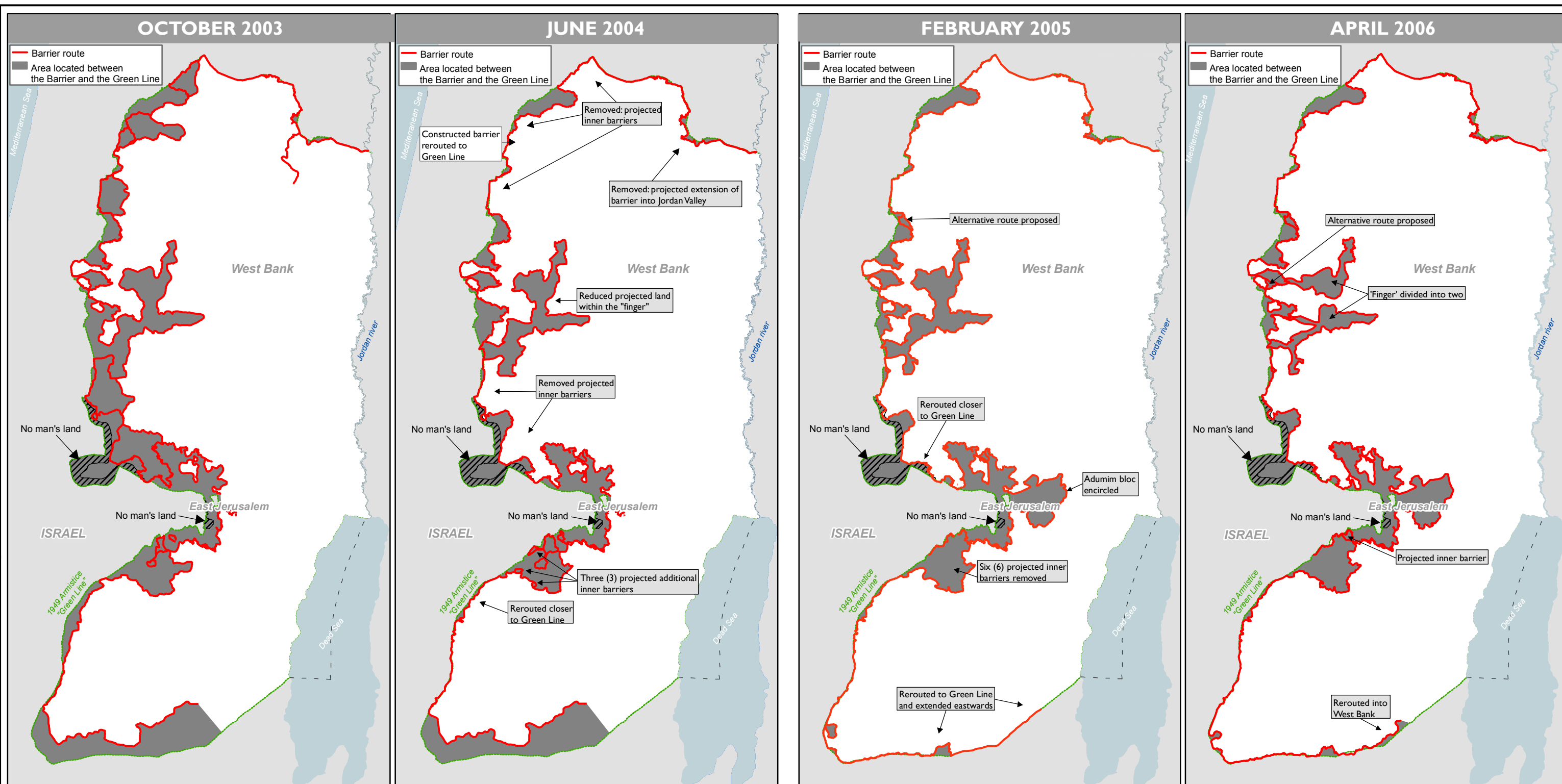
GATES

Total: 6
Seasonal: 2
Seasonal/weekly: 4
Daily: 0
Checkpoints: 3
(Tappuah, Deir Ballut, Kafr Kasem)

Eleven localities, four in Salfit and seven in Qalqilia, will be surrounded on three sides by the Barrier, squeezed between the two 'Fingers'. The Az Zawiya enclave of three communities, will be surrounded on four sides, with a tunnel link to the rest of the West Bank. A number of isolated Palestinian families will also be isolated, Wadi Qana in the Qedumim 'Finger', and Izbat Abu Adam and Dar Abu Basal in the Ariel 'Finger'. Most villages in the Salfit governorate will be forced to make even longer detours to reach the district capital, Salfit City, in the south of the governorate.

In its advisory opinion, the ICJ warned of the legal consequences should the Barrier route be determined not only for security reasons but also to facilitate settlement expansion:





MAIN FEATURES

Length: 638 kilometers
Jordan Valley Barrier begun
One Ariel/Qedumim 'Finger'
Inner barriers in Jenin, Tulkarm, Ramallah & Bethlehem governorates
Jerusalem area 'open'
Southern Hebron route far from Green Line

MAIN CHANGES

Length: 622 kilometres
Jordan Valley Barrier removed
Ariel/Qedumim Finger narrowed
Inner barriers removed in Jenin, Tulkarm & Ramallah
governorates.
Inner Barriers added in Bethlehem governorate.
Route moved towards Green Line in western Hebron

MAIN CHANGES

Length: 670 kilometres
Ariel/Qedumim Finger narrowed further
Inner barriers removed in Bethlehem.
Jerusalem; Ma'ale Adumim
'Bubble' added
Route moved towards Green Line in southern Hebron

MAIN CHANGES

Length: 703 kilometres
Ariel/Qedumim divided into two 'Fingers'
Inner barriers added to Bethlehem (al Walajah).