

Page 001 of 630 to/à Page 011 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.21

From: Michelle Pressman (Michelle.Pressman@cvrd.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Cc: Jeff Moore (Jeff.Moore@cvrd.bc.ca); Kate Miller (Kate.Miller@cvrd.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary - Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh restoration project
Sent: 09/09/2022 23:40:57
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png
Message Body:

Hi Thomas,

The information that you have provided is sufficient to show that this project is being lead by the Province and multiple government partners and will not require Development Permits or any other land use approvals, and I have confirmed this with the General Manager of Land Use Services. Please let me know if you require this in a separate letter format and I would be happy to provide that.

Regards,

Michelle Pressman, RPP, MCIP, MPlan

Manager, Development Services

Land Use Services

Cowichan Valley Regional District

175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC V9L 1N8

email: michelle.pressman@cvrd.bc.ca

Tel: 250.746.2632 / Toll Free: 1.800.665.3955

I acknowledge that for thousands of years the Quw'utsun, Malahat, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Halalt, Penelakut, Stz'uminus, Lyackson, Pauquachin, Ditidaht & Pacheedaht Peoples have walked gently on the unceded territories where I now work and live.

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: September 7, 2022 4:42 PM
To: Michelle Pressman <Michelle.Pressman@cvrd.bc.ca>
Cc: Jeff Moore <Jeff.Moore@cvrd.bc.ca>; Kate Miller <Kate.Miller@cvrd.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary - Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh restoration project

Hi Michelle,

Myself and Wil Hilsen provided a presentation yesterday to the Cowichan diking working group regarding the overall project. We probably can arrange a similar presentation to Land Use Services etc. and the overall committee following the election.

In advance of these potential meetings and presentations I am hoping to receive clarification from the CVRD regarding the approval letter(?) that was discussed with Stefan during our meeting June 2nd as outlined below.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Michelle Pressman [<mailto:Michelle.Pressman@cvrd.bc.ca>]

Sent: September 7, 2022 4:14 PM

To: Thomas Reid

Cc: Jeff Moore; Kate Miller

Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary - Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh restoration project

Hi Thomas,

I'm not sure if you have anything set up already with Environmental Services, but I shared the information with other Land Use Services and Parks/Operations Managers. We wondered about setting up a meeting with us to discuss the timeline for this process – including transitioning the park and trail use – how it will be communicated to the public, as well as coordinating with the project partners to provide a presentation to a Committee of the Whole Meeting after the election?

Regards,

Michelle Pressman, RPP, MCIP, MPlan

Manager, Development Services

Land Use Services

Cowichan Valley Regional District

175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC V9L 1N8

email:

Tel: 250.746.2632 / Toll Free: 1.800.665.3955

I acknowledge that for thousands of years the Quw'utsun, Malahat, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Halalt, Penelakut, Stz'uminus, Lyackson, Pauquachin, Ditidaht & Pacheedaht Peoples have walked gently on the unceded territories where I now work and live.

From: Thomas Reid <>

Sent: September 2, 2022 1:36 PM

To: Michelle Pressman <>

Subject: FW: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary - Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh restoration project

Hi Michelle,

I see that Stefan no longer works for the CVRD. Forwarding this on to you.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: September 2, 2022 1:32 PM

To: 'Stefan Cermak'

Cc: 'Jeff Moore'

Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary - Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh restoration project

Hi Stefan,

I hope you have been enjoying the summer.

As a follow up to the email below regarding CVRD request for the submission of letters of support/approval for our proposed project please find attached:

1. Letter of support from Cowichan Tribes; and,
2. Approval from the CEEMC.

These letters are in addition to the information provided below regarding the 'project leads'.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: June 13, 2022 1:34 PM

To: 'Stefan Cermak'

Subject: FW: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary - Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh restoration project

Hi Stefan,

I hope this email finds you well.

As a follow up to our meeting on June 2nd, can you confirm what information you were looking for in terms of whether or not the CVRD would be requiring permits etc for this project?

My notes indicate that you would provide a letter of support/notification for the project upon receipt of the following:

1. Approval from CEEMC
2. Clarification of 'property/project leads' (more on this below)
3. Letter of support from CT (?).

Let me know if I have missed anything.

In terms of # 2 the following applies to the properties in question:

1. The Nature Trust of BC and Ducks Unlimited Canada are the fee simple owners of the land.
2. This land has been leased to the Province of BC for 99 years for management purposes; in effect becoming an 'administered conservation land' with all applicable Provincial statutes/regulations applying.
3. Under the Land Act, "Crown land" means land, whether or not it is covered by water, or an interest in land, vested in the government. Also under the Land Act, "interest" in reference to land includes a right or estate in that land. A lease is an estate in land.
4. These administered lands are managed via my partner program which includes: the Province, DFO, ECCC, NTBC, DUC and Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation. Management decisions/actions are consensus based. For example this restoration project has full support by all of the partners.
5. While this project is being delivered as a partner project, the legal framework in place as identified above via the lease remains in effect. As such the project is being led by the Province via our partner program.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: May 30, 2022 11:08 AM

To: 'Kate Miller'; 'Jeff Moore'; 'Stefan Cermak'

Cc: Steven Henstra

Subject: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary - Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh restoration project

Hi Kate, Jeff and Stefan

Kate - thanks for the discussion regarding the status of our Cowichan/Koksilah restoration project and for connecting me to both Jeff and Stefan.

In terms of the next steps of engagement with the CVRD Stefan and I are planning to discuss the project this week and Jeff and I have looked at options with the Cowichan Flood Management Working Group as well (note: I won't be able to attend the June 1st meeting unfortunately).

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s.13 ; s.21

DECISION NOTE

To: WCCLMP Steering Committee
Prepared by: Thomas Reid, Conservation Land Manager, WCCLMP
Date: May 2nd, 2022
RE: **Future of Dinsdale Farm – S/C Decision**

Dear Committee Members,

Please treat this decision note as confidential only to be used for internal agency communications as required.

Reason for Decision Note:

This decision note is for the WCCLMP Steering Committee (S/C) to formally review the options and approve the future management direction of Dinsdale Farm in the Cowichan Estuary. This review is required as the management of this property is at a critical juncture due to the current condition of the dike and challenges facing the overall health and integrity of the estuary: 1) reinforce/repair existing diking system to *Dike Maintenance Act* (DMA) standards and continue with status quo land use; or 2) implement large scale restoration project to enhance estuary resilience to sea level rise and provide additional fish/wildlife habitat.

Key points:

- The Dinsdale Dike (#49) and the Koksilah Dike (#88) are regulated under the *DMA*, and together protect the low-lying lands east of Cowichan Bay Road.
- Dinsdale and Koksilah dike structures do not meet Provincial Standards for flood protection and require significant upgrades to meet Provincial standards as they are at risk of overtopping, erosion and potentially breaching during severe storm events.
- Existing Dinsdale and Koksilah dike structures do not provide flood protection during either the 10 year or 200 year flood events.
- PECP 2019 Estuary Ranking – Cowichan Estuary is a Class 1 system in terms of biological importance.
- Analysis completed as part of BCSRIF project indicates that sea-level will rise by 28 cm by 2050 and 76 cm by 2100 (without an Antarctic ice sheet collapse – with collapse this will rise to over 140 cm); this is equivalent to 2-5 mm/year up to 10 mm/year or faster
- Results of Surface Elevation Table (SET) monitoring along with analysis of sediment cores indicates that SLR is expected to far outpace the rate of accretion.
- Without the removal of existing barriers to estuary migration inland, the estuary – and the southern portion in particular – will experience significant coastal squeeze and loss of habitat
- Based on these rates the habitable range for the estuary marsh (e.g. *Carex*, *Salicornia* etc.) vegetation class will decline by 47% by mid-century. The habitable zone for vegetation overall (marsh and meadow) will decline by 59% in the Cowichan estuary by 2100. **This estimate includes the restoration of Dinsdale Farm to a natural estuary in the next 3 years.**
- This habitat loss will substantially impact the estuaries ability to continue to support healthy populations of fish and wildlife.
- WCCLMP has earmarked \$2M to fund the restoration implementation, and the project could be completely paid for under the BC SRIF project.

DECISION NOTE

Background Information:

<i>Management Regime</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinsdale Farm is 2 parcels; approximately 100acres Title held by TNT (72%), DUC (28%) Parcels leased to Province for 99 years via standard lease agreement for management (including dike management) Managed by WCCLMP HCTF O&M funding eligible and utilized for land management activities PECP eligible property – farm revenues utilized for management as needed (e.g. culverts, fences, dike maintenance) DUC protocol agreement for the management of a water control structure in diking system
<i>Farm Lease</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm leased to Sunnyvale Farms Operating period May 1st – October 15th Annual rent \$10,000 Crops: corn, rye grass, reed canary grass, winter cover crops
<i>License Agreement with CVRD Parks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maple Grove area licensed to CVRD Parks as a community park License agreement expires June 1, 2033
<i>Public use</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking on Dinsdale dike CAGO hunting with permission on farm property; 3 targeted seasons Waterfowl hunting in Koksilah Marsh Wildlife viewing from Dinsdale dike viewing platform Retriever dog trials
<i>Dike Maintenance Act</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dike is a provincially recognized diking system and is subject to all requirements of the Dike Maintenance Act
<i>Current Land Management Issues</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive disturbance to wildlife caused by off leash dogs and walkers Recreational user conflicts – hunting vs. no hunting Vandalism of interpretive signs and viewing platform; control structure Invasive species; Garbage/debris Questions regarding existence of farm, farm practices Annual dike maintenance; erosion; flooding Sea level rise; coastal squeeze
<i>Fish, wildlife values</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No fish values on Dinsdale Farm; some riparian habitat on dike adjacent to southern edge of property Overwintering waterfowl use of farm fields; raptor foraging Breeding bird habitat for swallows; nest boxes on farm SAR species use: Short-eared owl use of hedgerows
<i>Cowichan Tribes' Opinion and Views</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not support continued farming in estuary

Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd.: Review of Potential Restoration Project Options

In FY 2021/22 Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd (NHC) was hired to support scoping, design, construction and regulatory approvals for three potential projects within the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary south of Westcan Terminal Road to address the key concerns identified above (see attached brochure). The complete report is available in the

DECISION NOTE

following drive (2022 Meeting Materials>Restoration Monitoring Inventory>BCSRIF) ¹:
s.15

These projects include:

1. **Dinsdale Farm dike removal and marsh restoration.** Prior to diking and agricultural usage, the Dinsdale Farm was estuarine marsh habitat. Removal of approximately 1,700 lineal meters (m) of existing diking and naturalization of the farmlands to estuarine marsh would restore and reintroduce approximately 49 hectares (ha) of lost estuary habitat. A critical factor for project completion is the successful decommissioning of the Dinsdale Dike (Dike #49), which connects to the Koksilah Dike (Dike #88) on its north end; both dikes are currently regulated under the *DMA*, but do not conform to modern standards¹. *DMA* approval to decommission a regulated dike requires a thorough assessment of existing any future potential risks associated with the project, among other requirements¹.

As part of this assessment both full removal and partial removal scenarios were assessed along with measures that can be implemented to mitigate risk.
2. **Remnant agricultural dike removal south of the Westcan Terminal Causeway.** This project involves the removal of approximately 1,600 lineal m of existing agricultural dikes that surround Koksilah Marsh. The remnant dike would be excavated to a final elevation equivalent to that of the surrounding marsh to improve tidal and freshwater flows to the Koksilah Marsh and potentially improve fish and wildlife access.
3. **Sediment augmentation in a low-lying portion of the eastern Koksilah Marsh.** The eastern portion of the Koksilah Marsh (formerly CN Rail lands) has not re-established as the rest of the marsh has. The elevation is lower and marsh plants have not colonized the bench fully. This project involves augmenting the approximately 3.5 ha area with sediment to raise the ground to a more suitable elevation for marsh growth. The target elevation is ~1.2 m CGVD2013, representing an average fill depth of 0.6 m.

The three projects will involve moving significant volumes of material; the feasibility and costs of the projects are tied to the ability to beneficially re-use excavated material from the two dike removal projects to construct mitigation measures and undertake the sediment augmentation in a phased manner¹.

Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd – Dinsdale Farm Investigation:

The focus of the Dinsdale Farm assessment included:

- Identifying regulatory requirements/processes under the *DMA* including engagement with Deputy Inspector of Dikes in the West Coast Region
- Defining key characteristics of the study region, including physical processes and reviewing information collected by via the BCSRIF project and other projects to inform recommended course of action
- Outline key characteristics of Dinsdale Farm dike and adjacent infrastructure
- Define historic and existing levels of protection provided by the Dinsdale Farm dike including reviewing the dike in terms of the Dike Maintenance Act
- Define potential design options for the Dinsdale Farm marsh restoration and full removal or partial removal of the Dinsdale Farm dike

¹ NHC (Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Inc). 2022. Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration Project: Assessment of Physical Processes and Restoration Opportunities. Prepared for The Nature Trust of British Columbia. 170 pp.

DECISION NOTE

- Summarize changes in flood or erosion/sedimentation risk related to the removal or partial removal of the Dinsdale Farm dike
- Define measures that may be required to mitigate any increased risk

Key findings:

Existing Conditions:

- Two DMA regulated dikes in South Cowichan estuary
 - Koksilah Dike #88
 - Dinsdale Dike #49
- Dinsdale Dike #49 owned by NTBC and DUC; leased to Province of BC who is responsible entity for dike
- Koksilah Dike #88 protects two adjacent private properties
- Both dikes do not conform to DMA standards
- Dinsdale Dike #49
 - Approx. ½ dike is rip rap – does not extend to dike crest
 - Unprotected portions show erosion/slumping
 - If dike is to be relied upon for flood mitigation it is recommended that it undergo significant repair.
- In order to decommission the existing Dinsdale Dike, Deputy Inspector of Dikes (DIOD) requires that mitigative measures maintain either the existing level of protection or protect against flooding with a 10 year return period – whichever is more stringent.
- Current conditions allow for inundation of the diking system at ocean levels with a higher frequency than a 10 year return period
- Mitigation measures associated with the 10 year return period flood event have been considered in the report as it provides more stringent protective measures.

Modelling of existing flood protection for 10 year hydraulic flood event.

Item	Existing Conditions
Wave exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waves are depth limited Seaward of dikes waves are dissipated by existing marshlands; wave heights not expected to exceed 0.3m within diked areas
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding is expected to overtop Cowichan Bay Road to a depth of 0.3m Flooding is expected to inundate adjacent private parcels to a depth of 1.1m Dinsdale Farm inundated to approximately 1.3m
Erosion, Deposition, Sediment Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion potential highest on north side; velocities 1.5m/s Within Dinsdale Farm and adjacent private lands velocities do not generally exceed 0.5m/s
Transference of Flood and Erosion Risk	N/A

Modelling of flood protection for 10 year hydraulic event with restoration project and mitigative measures:

Item	Full Removal	Partial Removal
Wave exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dike removal results in wave height increase between 0.0 – 0.2m Nominal increase in wave exposure for both present day and future SLR conditions 	
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding on private parcels reduced due to increased flow conveyance and reduced ponding Flooding levels decreased for parcels upstream 	

DECISION NOTE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration of extreme flooding decreased
Erosion, Deposition, Sediment Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Velocities within private parcels reduced between 0.0 and 0.5m/s Velocities increased within Dinsdale Farm due to increased flow conveyance
Transference of Flood and Erosion Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominal increase in wave run-up and wave erosion on bank of south distributary channel (construction of dike on unnamed road mitigates risk) Removal results in decreased flooding depths through South Cowichan Bay Estuary area Removal results in decreased flow velocities with private parcels Increased flow velocities near unnamed road can be mitigated through construction of small dike Construction of flap gate through unnamed road dike further reduces flood duration/depth

Options for consideration

Option #1 Fix Dinsdale dike system to DMA standards and continue to farm

- Repair dike to DMA standards for both 10 year and 200 year flood events; will require significant rip-rap armouring of dike.
- Maintain current land use patterns – farming, public access on dike, hunting

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing revenue collection from farm Diking system will be upgraded Will not cause public outcry regarding loss of walking trail or access to hunting opportunities Maintain winter waterfowl habitat on farm
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not address key issues of estuary resilience Contributes to coastal squeeze and nearshore ecosystem collapse Impacts to fish and wildlife populations and habitat due to construction of larger dike structure Likely to cause public outcry due to hardening of foreshore Expected expensive repairs to diking system that are not covered by any current funding source and will require partner investment Will likely undermine positive relationship being built with Cowichan Tribes for estuary monitoring, restoration and stewardship.

Option #2 Implementation of restoration project(s) including mitigation measures

- Proceed with restoration projects including the full removal of Dinsdale Dike along with mitigation measures
- Cancellation of CVRD License for Community Park (note: CVRD is aware of this potential and is supportive)
- Cancellation of farm lease agreement with Sunnyside Farms
- Remove viewing platform on farm dike and relocate to Westcan Terminal Causeway
- Closure of project area for recreational use
- Agreement by NTBC/DUC/Province to construct small DMA approved set back dike to minimize transference of risk to adjacent lands; dike would be managed via WCCLMP under current management regime

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of 49 ha of estuarine habitat for fish/wildlife Improved habitat conditions for many species that rely on estuaries (plants, fish, shellfish, birds, marine mammals etc) Demonstrates partner commitment to enhancing the resilience of the Cowichan Estuary in face of sea-level rise; significantly reduces influence of coastal squeeze
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WEST COAST CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



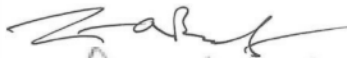
DECISION NOTE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction/elimination of land management issues associated with user conflicts, vandalism, garbage Reduced flooding risk to neighboring private properties Cowichan Tribes and public support for project Eliminates issues with farm management (e.g. fertilizer inputs etc.) No increase in operational budget needs and potential reduction of land management costs Cost of restoration completely covered by BC SRIF funding – unique and timely opportunity
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to cause public outcry due to loss of hiking trail, bird watching area, and hunting Loss of agricultural land and ability to plant beneficial crops for waterfowl Loss of revenue

WCCLMP Staff Recommendation = Option #2

Approved by WCCLMP S/C May 10th, 2022

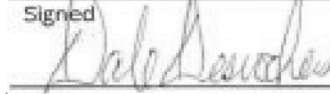
Environment and Climate
Change Canada

 Manager, Protected Areas and Stewardship

Signed

Name/Title


Fisheries and Oceans Canada

 Manager, Resource Restoration

Signed

Name/Title


Province of BC

 Jesse Patterson, Ecosystems Section Head

Signed

Name/Title


The Nature Trust of BC

 Director of Conservation Land Management

Signed

Name/Title


Ducks Unlimited Canada

 Sarah Nathan, Manager of Provincial Operations

Signed

Name/Title

Habitat Conservation Trust
Foundation

 Karen Barry, Manager Biology and Evaluation

Signed

Name/Title



July 27, 2022

Re. Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects

To whom it may concern,

Cowichan Tribes has been working in partnership with Nature Trust British Columbia for the past 4 years; though we have worked alongside for many years prior. Through this work and other projects, we aim to contribute to the management of our traditional territory through habitat restoration, monitoring and evaluating of the climatic impact on these important ecosystems to our peoples.

Supporting this proposal aligns with the purpose of our Lulumexun Department:

Lulumexun are caregivers and guardians - preserving, reclaiming and protecting Quw'utsun tumuhw, waters and all beings. We work with our community to advance self-governance, assert Quw'utsun Mustimuhw inherent rights and title, and keep our territory safe and thriving for future generations.

My staff has met several times to speak on the potential sites of a large scale restoration in the Cowichan estuary; this includes the Dinsdale farm. We are excited to hear that the data and partners support such a project at this site as it will complement other work we have completed down in the estuary. We support this project and confirm adequate consultation has occurred; we do not believe this project will infringe upon our rights and title.

Sincerely,

Larry George
Director of Lulumexun
Cowichan Tribes

LULUMEXUN DEPARTMENT OF COWICHAN TRIBES

5762 Allenby Road
Quw'utsun Tumuhw
Duncan, BC
V9L 5J1

Phone: 236.800.4023 (24 HOURS)
Fax: 778.422.0811
lands@cowichantribes.com
cowichantribes.com/lands



File: 39000-01/LOS

September 2, 2022

VIA EMAIL: treid@naturetrust.ca

West Coast Conservation Lands Management Program - Nature Trust of BC
2080A Labieux Road
Nanaimo, BC
V9T 6J9

Re: Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Letter of Support for Major Restoration Works in Koksilah/Cowichan Estuary

Dear Thomas Reid,

I am writing to confirm the support of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee (the Committee) for the proposed Major Restoration Works in Koksilah/Cowichan Estuary (the Project).

The Committee met on August 23, 2022 and discussed the proposal after reviewing relevant materials and a presentation provided by the Proponent. The relevant materials included a letter to the Committee summarizing key background information and key findings from a qualified professional. The professional report documented the existing condition of various diking in the estuary and expected impacts of sea level rise and future storm events. The existing dike structures do not meet Provincial Standards for flood protection and require significant upgrades. Furthermore, the existing dike structures do not provide flood protection during modelled 10-year or 200-year flood events. The Project proposes to remove approximately 1,700 lineal meters (m) of existing diking, thereby leading to the naturalization of approximately 49 hectares (ha) of estuary habitat.

The Committee recognizes that loss and degradation of saltmarsh habitat has resulted from extensive diking for agriculture and other uses. A primary objective of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan is to “support rehabilitation of presently degraded habitat in the estuary.” The Project as proposed will make great strides in achieving this objective, and the Project is deemed to be consistent with the objectives of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan.

Page 1 of 2

The Committee wishes you the best of success with this Project and looks forward to seeing it completed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Jesse Patterson, RPBio, PhD

Chair, Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee

Section Head, Ecosystems, West Coast Region
Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship

cc:

Tracy Fleming, Cowichan Tribes
Eamon Gaunt, Cowichan Tribes
Kate Miller, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Mike Tippet, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Anne Kjerulf, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Vince Harper, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Dave Preikshot, Municipality of North Cowichan

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s.13 ; s.21 ; s.22

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s.13 ; s.21

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Epps, Brian FOR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca); Wil Hilsen (WHilsen@nhcweb.com)
Subject: Dike Maintenance Act Approval Application - Cowichan/Koksilah Restoration Project
Sent: 10/06/2022 23:19:29
Attachments: image008.png, image010.png, image011.png,
Dike_maintenance_act_approval_application_NatureTrust of BC.pdf
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

October 6th, 2022

Attention: Brian Epps

Deputy Inspector of Dikes

West Coast Region, Nanaimo

Hi Brian,

Please find attached the Dike Maintenance Act Approval Application for the West Coast Conservation Land Management Programs (WCCLMP) Cowichan/Koksilah estuary restoration project.

This project is focused on restoring critical estuarine habitat for fish and wildlife while addressing the immediate and future challenges of climate change/sea level rise by promoting/enhancing ecosystem and estuary resilience. The project has the full support of Cowichan Tribes, the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee, all the partners of the WCCLMP and the CVRD.

In support of the attached application we have also created a google drive that contains several documents in support of this application and as required by the DMA.

s.15

Within this drive you will find the following folders:

s.21

We look forward to hearing from you and to working with the Province in restoring critical fish and wildlife habitat in the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary and building resilience of the overall ecosystem and wider community to the threats of climate change and sea level rise.

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom Reid, Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVAL - APPLICATION FORM

PART 1. CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant: The Nature Trust of British Columbia		Applicant File Number (if applicable):
Name of Applicant Contact or Agent: Tom Reid, West Coast Conservation Land Manager		
E-mail Address of Contact: treid@naturetrust.bc.ca		
Home Phone: s.22	Business Phone: (250) 714-9808	Fax Number: ()
Mailing Address for Correspondence from Ministry of Environment: 500-888 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver BC		
		Postal Code: V6C 3K4
Applicant or Agent's Signature(s): 		Date: October 6th , 2022

NOTE: The purpose of this form is to highlight this application's major points to allow Ministry staff to both understand the key aspects of the project and to prioritize the application accordingly. For more information on the processing of this application, please read the preceding **Approval Process**.

PART 2. PROPOSED WORKS

Location of Proposed Works Chainage specified on dike maps at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/dike-management/flood-protection-structures/dike-inventory or UTM Coordinates Dike Name: Dinsdale Farm Dike Dike Number 49 UTM Northing: 5399838 UTM Easting: 451810
Project Name and/or Identifier: Cowichan/Koksilah Marsh Restoration Project

DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVAL - APPLICATION FORM

<p>Briefly describe your proposed works:</p> <p>This project is focused on the restoration of estuarine habitat in the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary. The proposed project includes the alteration/decommissioning of the majority of Dike 49; removal of remnant agricultural berms in the Koksilah Marsh; sediment augmentation to build the marsh platform. Included in the project is the construction of works to ensure there is no transference of risk to adjacent property owners and that flood conditions/protection is improved.</p> <p>See attached detailed reports prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd.</p>		
<p>Provide a proposed construction schedule & note any constraints/milestones if important:</p> <p>Proposed construction start date: Summer 2023.</p>		
<p>Briefly describe your approach to ensure the integrity of existing flood protection system(s) is not compromised by the installation of the works:</p> <p>This project will not transfer risk to adjacent property owners. Through detailed assessments/modelling conditions will be improved for adjacent property owners in terms of flooding and will include a new set back dike to enhance protection.</p> <p>See attached detailed reports prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd.</p>		
<p>Have you referred to the 'Provincial Design and Construction Guide' in your design?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes or <input type="checkbox"/> No (circle one)</p>	<p>Are there any exceptions to this guide?</p> <p>Yes or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (circle one)</p>	
<p>If yes, how and why have you deviated?</p>		
<p>Land Ownership</p> <p>Please check one of the following:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The applicant is the owner of the property</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The property is Crown land. Tenure/License Number:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The property is owned by the following Landowner (i.e., Landowner is different from applicant):</p> <p>Landowner's Name: The Nature Trust of British Columbia and Ducks Unlimited Canada</p> <p>Address:</p>		
<p>City:</p>	<p>Province:</p>	<p>Postal</p>
<p>Phone:</p>	<p>e-mail:</p>	
<p>Do you have the landowner's written approval to enter the lands(s) to complete the works?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><small>Note: a) Ownership of all parcels of land on which the proposed works will occur must be identified, b) do not attach the written approval with the application, but keep it for your files as you may be asked to provide it during an inspection or audit</small></p>		

DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVAL - APPLICATION FORM

PART 3. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Check off attachments to this application form:

- ✓ General Location Plan
- ✓ Detailed Site Plan
- ✓ Preliminary Design Drawings and Specifications
- ✓ Design Brief
- ✓ Previous correspondence regarding this site from the Ministry

If any required attachments are not included, please explain why.

Have you included attachments not listed above? Please list them below.

Letter of support from Cowichan Tribes

Approval of project from Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee

Approved decision note from the partners of the West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

Email from CVRD Development Services

Please confirm whether an Environmental Assessment (EA) certificate is required for this project. Yes or **No** (circle one).

If yes, attach a copy of the EA-certificate.

If no, is there a pending approval? Yes or **No** (circle one).

If yes, please note that DMA approval cannot be granted until a copy of the EA-certificate has been submitted as a part of DMA application.

Note: Please forward a copy of this application to the appropriate Deputy Inspector of Dikes office as specified at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/dike-management> and to the Diking Authority responsible for the dike's operation and maintenance (see database: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/dike-management/flood-protection-structures>)

- ✓ Please confirm that a copy of this application has been forwarded to the Diking Authority

Diking Authority contact information

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Epps, Brian FOR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: NHC Field Review Report
Sent: 10/18/2022 02:03:27
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian,

See note below regarding contact information for Dike 88. s.22
s.22 – contact information below.

Cheers,,

Tom

From: Lucas Dunbar [mailto:LDunbar@nhcweb.com]
Sent: October 14, 2022 5:18 PM
To: Thomas Reid; Steven Henstra
Cc: Wil Hilsen; Evan Arbuckle; Graham Hill
Subject: NHC Field Review Report

Good afternoon,

Please find attached NHC's field review report summarizing the observations of the site assessment completed on October 4, 2022.

An update on the Lot 2 contact info:s.22
s.22

Have a great weekend,

Lucas Dunbar, EIT | Hydrotechnical Engineer

Pronouns: he / him

northwest hydraulic consultants

400 - 495 Dunsmuir Street | Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9 | Canada

Tel: (250) 754-6425 x3309

LDunbar@nhcweb.com | www.nhcweb.com

This email and any attached files are confidential and intended for the use of the addressee. If you believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender, delete it, and destroy any copies. Check this email and attachments for viruses; NHC accepts no liability for virus damage caused by email.

From: Epps, Brian FOR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Cc: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX (Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca); Sung, Rudy FOR:EX (Rudy.Sung@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Dike Decommissioning discussion
Sent: 07/15/2022 23:53:39
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png
Message Body:

Hi Tom,

Thanks for the opportunity to review and provide comment regarding your summary of the "comprehensive physical processes report" prepared by NHC. As Deputy Inspector of Dikes, my comments have been included and are marked in **red** below (in your original message). We are encouraged by the amount of work including comprehensive designs and stakeholder involvement that has been completed to date in support of the proposed decommissioning of the Dinsdale Dike. At this point in time, we do not see any information gaps and believe that you will eventually submit a well supported DMA application for Adjudication.

Thanks,

Brian Epps
Deputy Inspector of Dikes
Ministry of Forests
West Coast Sub-Region

Tel. (250) 739-8213
Mobile (250) 668-3576

E-Mail: Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca

Web Site:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/laws-rules/water-sustainability-act>

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: May 19, 2022 1:31 PM
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Dinsdale Farm discussion

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian,

Thanks for the discussion last week regarding the status of our Cowichan/Koksilah restoration project.

As discussed we have now received a comprehensive physical processes report as well as preliminary drawings completed by NHC.

s.13; s.21

Key findings:

s.13; s.21

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s.13 ; s.21

We have also received a Preliminary Design Basis package including drawings as well as an project summary brochure. These documents can be accessed via the following google drive:

s.15

Please keep these documents confidential as they have not been distributed to a wider audience and are intended for internal and discussion purposes only.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Cheers,

Tom

Tom Reid

West Coast Conservation Land Manager

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

Decommissioning of a Regulated Dike

1.0 Introduction

On occasion, a diking authority may no longer have need for an existing regulated dike and may want to decommission it so that it's no longer responsible for its operation and maintenance. This may occur in instances such as a new dike is built to replace the existing dike, or there is a desire by all stakeholders to return the protected area back to a natural floodplain.

1.1 Purpose and Limitations

These procedural guidelines have been developed to assist diking authorities in the *Dike Maintenance Act* (DMA) approval process for the decommissioning of regulated dikes and assist Inspectors in making statutory decisions on such applications.

Numerous criteria and issues must be considered in the decision-making process. These may vary from case to case and no specific step by step procedure covering all details of an individual case are established here. However, these guidelines provide logical steps that can be followed which should provide enough documentation to the Inspector for the basis of their decision.

These guidelines do not replace the discretion of the Inspector in making their decision. These guidelines do not replace the judgement of a professional engineer designing for or overseeing the decommissioning the dike, however the decision to approve an application rests with the Inspector per the DMA.

1.2 Definitions

The definitions of dike, Inspector, improvement district, municipality, order, private dike and diking authority shall be as defined in the *Dike Maintenance Act*.

The term “decision” and “Order” under the *Dike Maintenance Act* are used interchangeably.

Regulated dike – A dike regulated under the *Dike Maintenance Act*.



1.3 Legislation and Regulation

Regulatory controls on changes to existing dikes and related maintenance are fundamentally within the purview of the DMA. Per section 2 (4)(a) of the DMA, a person or diking authority must not lower or cause or allow to be lowered the elevation of a dike or decrease, or cause or allow to be decreased, the width or cross section of a dike unless it is done either with the prior written approval of the Inspector or in accordance with the regulations made under section 8 (2).

Local bylaws and various other Provincial and Federal legislation and or regulation may also apply to the decommissioning of a dike including (but not limited to):

- *Water Sustainability Act*
- *Land Act*
- *Emergency Management Act*
- *Environmental Assessment Act*
- *Canada Fisheries Act*

It is the responsibility of the agency and/or contractor undertaking the work to identify and obtain all necessary approvals prior to undertaking the work to decommission a dike.

The undertaking of works contained within the DMA approval is contingent on the diking authority having all necessary approvals in place. Undertaking work without having all necessary approvals is in contravention of the *Dike Maintenance Act*.

Lowering a dike without a *Dike Maintenance Act* approval is a serious offence and carries significant penalties.

2.0 Application Documentation

To allow for an efficient review process by the Inspector, the following documentation, as appropriate, should be included in an application for *Dike Maintenance Act* approval.

2.1 Design Brief

The design brief, prepared and sealed by a Professional Engineer registered in the Province of BC, shall provide a comprehensive summary of parameters and criteria (with appropriate reference to standards or codes) and any special conditions that apply to the proposed project. The report should include the following:

- Map showing the area of protection provided by the existing dike(s) and location of critical infrastructure.
- List of properties (legal lot names, PID, and addresses) corresponding to the map above.
- Sediment management plan.
- Details on proposed method(s) of removal, breach, or lowering of dike.
- Rationale for the request for decommissioning backed by engineering reports supporting such rationale.

- Assessment of the change in risk to all impacted properties and critical infrastructure.
- Additional mitigation proposed to offset new or higher risk imposed on properties or critical infrastructure (eg. construction of private dike, raising of land, etc.)
- Resolution in council or by the board to decommission the dike.
- Where the diking authority is not the owner of the land that the dike resides on, written consent to enter any lands for the construction work must be submitted.

2.2 Hydrologic/Hydraulic Report

- Modelling results that provide for the current level of protection (expressed as an Annual Exceedance Probability) provided by the existing works and the proposed level of protection (for lowering of dikes). **Note for decommissioning a lowered dike, the level of protection remaining must be for 1:10 year or less.** Please refer to the general guidelines for hydrologic/hydraulic design reports [here](#).
- In some circumstances critical flood levels may result from ice-related flooding, not a specified discharge frequency, and the level of flood protection must be accepted by the Inspector.
- The removal of an existing flood protection system must not transfer flood risk to third parties without their written consent (see 2.6). The hydraulic analysis shall be undertaken to specifically show where risk-transfer would occur.
- The hydrologic/hydraulic analysis shall evaluate the need for erosion control features for any remaining structure which may be threatened by wind, and water generated waves, stream or surface flows, to ensure any remaining structures do not pose a risk.
- The hydrologic/hydraulic analysis shall evaluate the need for erosion control features for any newly exposed properties or structures as a result of the removal/breach/lowering of the dike under the design flood.
- Once the specific details of the application are known the Inspector can provide further guidance on the requirements of a hydrologic/hydraulic report.

2.3 Design Drawings

- Design drawings (key plan, plan, and section) showing the areas of breach or height reduction, landside erosion protection of any remaining structure.
- A longitudinal profile of the dike showing existing crest elevations, proposed crest elevations, and a line showing the new flood level of protection elevation (for lowered dikes) and the 1 in 200 year (or other design flood specified by the Inspector) design flood elevation versus the new reduced height.
- Details on protection of any remaining structures (if required).
- Drawings for the DMA application must be signed and sealed by a qualified Professional Engineer.

2.4 Professional Letter of Commitment

- All designs and construction methods shall be certified by a qualified professional engineer, registered in BC, knowledgeable in the discipline they are sealing design/drawings or providing field review for.
- Please refer to our [website](#) under Approval Process, for the Professional Letter of Commitment template.

2.5 Records of Notification and Comment

- Record of notification and invitation to comment to all property owners currently protected by the structure and a consolidated copy of impacted property owners' comments.
- Record of notification and invitation to comment to appropriate agencies owning or controlling critical infrastructure currently protected by the existing structure and a consolidated copy of impacted the agencies' comments.
- The requirements for submission of the above records of notification and comment may be waived by the Inspector when the dike to be decommissioned has been replaced by a new dike providing an equal or greater level of flood protection to impacted third parties.
- **Note the Inspector may use the above information, or their discretion, to determine if a formal hearing is required prior to decision, the cost of which shall be borne by the applicant.**
- Note – it is recommended that property and critical infrastructure owners be given a minimum of 10 business days to respond to notification.

2.6 Written Consent for Transfer of Risk

- The removal of an existing flood protection system must not transfer flood risk (either an increased probability of flooding or increase in damages from flooding) to third parties' properties without their written consent.
- The requirement for written consent is not required when the dike to be decommissioned has been replaced by a new dike providing an equal or greater level of flood protection.

2.7 First Nations Engagement

- The Province will undertake the appropriate First Nations engagement as identified in their regional engagement plans.
- Engagement may be carried out as part of an application under the *Water Sustainability Act* for the same work.
- Note - Applicants should allow for a minimum of 30 days for Provincial/First Nations engagement and be prepared to provide additional information as required.

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s.14

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.21

From: [Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX](#)
To: [Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Sediments in a estuary question
Date: February 3, 2023 4:14:22 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Chantelle,

Great question.

I have been briefed on the Dinsdale Dike removal project in the Cowichan Estuary previously so I am familiar with the proposed work plan and objectives.

As I understand, the primary goal of the project is to build back estuarine wetlands that will be resilient to sea-level rise while also creating much needed fish habitat. The current site has been degraded from land-use activities including flood protection and conversion to agriculture, which has reduced the connectivity to natural sediment sources.

In these estuarine marsh restoration projects, significant additional sediment inputs are required to recover lost elevation in order to create suitable habitat. Key metrics of successful estuarine ecosystem restoration efforts include sediment characteristics like accretion rate and elevation. If sufficient sediment supply and tidal exchange are available, then restoration success (recover lost grade, allow growth of desired marsh vegetation, mitigate sea level rise) is likely.

Controlling or mitigating against sediment inputs in these types of projects could jeopardize their likelihood of success.

Adult coho and chum salmon are known to migrate upstream through the Cowichan estuary, and estuaries provide shelter, forage, and rearing habitats for juvenile salmon as they migrate back to sea. Salmon are not spawning in these brackish channels. Sedimentation is a concern in upstream freshwater environments because sediment can smother eggs and larvae; however, this is *not* a concern in the estuary. I don't believe that this project poses any risk to these fish populations if the work is carried out during the low-risk timing window defined by Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Happy to discuss this issue further should you have any questions or require additional input.

Cheers,

Jesse Patterson, PhD, RPBio
Section Head, Ecosystems
West Coast Region
Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship
2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9
778-974-6346

I acknowledge the deep and profound connection between Indigenous peoples and the land, and am grateful to work together to build better relationships with fish, wildlife and habitats for future generations.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 1, 2023 3:28 PM

To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Sediments in a estuary question

Hi Jesse,

I am helping out the Nanaimo office with a Dike decommission but I am unfamiliar with construction concerns near the ocean. The Dinsdale Dike decommission occurs alongside a stream in a estuary, and the goal of the project is to actually bring sediment in to reestablish it. I see that there have been chum salmon caught near the site, so I'm wondering how you folks approach sedimentation concerns. Is this still an issue in estuary? Jessica Doyle referred me your way, thanks ahead of time :-)

Cheers,



Chantelle Grafton
Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety
Ministry of Forests
North Area

Phone: 778-693-2766
5th Floor – 499 George Street
Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

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s.13 ; s.21



175 Ingram Street
Duncan, BC V9L 1N8
www.cvr.bc.ca

Office: 250.746.2500
Fax: 250.746.2513
Toll Free: 1.800.665.3955

November 7, 2022

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program
2080 Labieux Road
NANAIMO BC V9T 6J9

via email: treid@naturetrust.ca

Attention: Thomas Reid, Manager

Re: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Project

Dear Thomas Reid:

Thank you for contacting the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) and sharing information regarding proposed flood mitigation and habitat restoration activities within the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary. I am writing to confirm that the proposed activities as presented, which will be led by the Province of BC, do not require permits or other land use approvals from the CVRD.

You have indicated that the Province of BC with Cowichan Tribes and other partners, intends to lead a major restoration of the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary, involving the removal of existing dikes from "administered conservation lands", in order to mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, restore ecosystems, enhance habitat for fish and wildlife, and provide for greater flood protection.

The proposed activities are consistent with the [CVRD Official Community Plan for the Electoral Areas](#), which includes numerous statements supporting the restoration of the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary. The CVRD Board:

Recognizes the international importance of the marine foreshore areas for fisheries, food, social, cultural, security, tourism and marine wildlife.

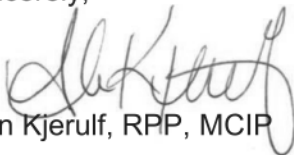
Supports recognition of ecologically sensitive areas by identifying and conserving special wildlife, plant and marine shore environments in their natural state. Modifications to environmentally sensitive areas that assist in building resilience to the effects of sea level rise will be permitted.

Recognizes the cultural significance of the Cowichan Estuary and foreshore to First Nations and will consult with Cowichan Tribes and Malahat on development proposals and other land use matters concerning the estuary and foreshore

I note that the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan Committee endorsed the project on August 23, 2022, and that Cowichan Tribes, who have worked extensively in partnership with Nature Trust BC toward the restoration of habitat within Cowichan Tribes' traditional territory, have also expressed support for this project.

I would like to invite you to make a presentation to the CVRD Board, who will be interested to learn more about the project and understand the timeline for the work, including transitioning the park and trail use, and how this will be communicated to the broader public. Please do not hesitate to contact me at ann.kjerulf@cprd.bc.ca or 250.746.2601 to discuss this opportunity.

Sincerely,



Ann Kjerulf, RPP, MCIP
General Manager, Land Use Services

\\AK

cc:

Jesse Patterson, Chair, Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan Committee (jesse.patterson@gov.bc.ca)
Larry George, Director of Lulumexun, Cowichan Tribes (larry.george@cowichantribes.com)
Danielle Myles Wilson, Chief Administrative Officer, CVRD
Michelle Pressman, Manager, Development Services, CVRD
Kate Miller, Manager, Environmental Services, CVRD
Coralie Breen, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, CVRD

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s.13 ; s.21

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s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21

Thank you,
Chantelle



Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: [Thomas Reid](#)
To: [Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX](#)
Subject: Fw: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project
Date: March 28, 2023 1:13:13 PM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Please see below for confirmation from MOTI that they support this project. I provided them with an update on the Dike 88 alignment as you will note below as well.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 1:08 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: Fw: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

From: Haley, Shawn TRAN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:29 PM
To: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX
Cc: Pearson, Michael TRAN:EX; Price, Amanda TRAN:EX
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Hi Tom,

I'm emailing you to confirm MoTI is in support of this project moving forward with the conditions you've outlined below. Specifically: the understanding that MoTI is not the Diking Authority, and the responsible party for Dike 88 is the owner of Lot 1.

Kind regards,

[BC_TRAN_V_CMYK_pos]<<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/transportation-and-infrastructure>>

Shawn Haley B.Sc.

Operations Manager

South Vancouver Island

240-4460 Chatterton Way

Saanich BC V8X 5J2

(778) 974-2627

Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca<mailto:Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca>

Current Conditions: DriveBC.com<<http://www.drivebc.com/>>

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From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:13 PM
To: Haley, Shawn TRAN:EX <Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Hi Shawn,

As discussed earlier today we have continued to move our Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project through the permitting process with the Inspector of Dikes. Through this process it has been confirmed that:

1. Dike 88 is a regulated dike under the Dike Maintenance Act.

2. Dike 88 extends from the connection with Dike 49 (the dike we are proposing to decommission as part of this project) to Cowichan Bay Road.
3. This Dike 88 alignment includes Lochmanetz Road.
4. The responsible party for Dike 88 is Brian Sales (owner of Lot 1) with MOTI having a Right of Way for the road.

s.13; s.21

In discussion with the Deputy Inspector of Dikes, they have requested:

1. An email from MOTI indicating support for the work being completed on Lochmanetz Road in accordance with MOTI design/permitting standards. Note: we are committed to following all of the design standards and submitting as built surveys as required as part of the process.

If possible can you send me a follow up email indicating your support for the work being completed on the road with the understanding that MOTI is not the Diking Authority for Dike 88?

Let me know if you have any questions or if any of this is unclear.

Thanks again,

Tom

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s.3

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s.22

Application Information

	Parties	Date Initiated	Completion Date	Notes
Consultation?				
Referrals?				

Progress notes

Look into creation of new Dike

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s.16 ; s.18

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s.18



April 13, 2023

File: 3057-23/DIOD/COWICHAN

The Nature Trust of British Columbia
C/O Thomas Reid
500 – 888 Dunsmuir Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6C 3K4

VIA EMAIL: Thomas Reid, treid@naturetrust.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Reid:

Re: Dike Maintenance Act Application for Decommission of Dike #49 & Upgrade of Dike #88 – Estuary Restoration Project

1.0 Introduction

This is regarding an application made by the Nature Trust of British Columbia, dated March 14, 2023, requesting Approval under Section 2 (4) of the *Dike Maintenance Act* (DMA) to decommission Dinsdale Dike (Dike #49), and upgrade Koksilah Dike (Dike #88) to mitigate the transfer of risk as a result of decommissioning Dike #49.

2.0 Reference Materials

We have reviewed your DMA Application together with submitted correspondence and the following:

- Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration Project: Assessment of Physical Processes and Restoration Opportunities (P. 1 – 170), prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd. March 9, 2022;
- Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration: Preliminary Design Basis (P. 1 – 68), prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd. June 23, 2022;
- Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration Project: Overview of Raising Lochmanetz Road Final Rev. 2 (P. 1 – 9), prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd. March 16, 2023;

- Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration Project: Summary of the Transfer of Flood Risk Final, Rev. 1 (P. 1 – 8), Prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd., March 16, 2023;
- RE: Future of Dinsdale Farm – S/C Decision (P. 1 – 6), Prepared by Thomas Reid, Conservation Land Manager, WCCLMP May 2, 2022;
- Professional Letter of Commitment signed and sealed by Graham Hill, P.Eng, for Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd., March 16, 2023;
- Letter of Support from Larry George, Director of Lulumexun, Cowichan Tribes, “RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects”, July 27, 2022;
- Letter of Support from the Cowichan Valley Regional District, “RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Project”, November 7, 2022;
- Letter of Support from Robert Sales (Dike #88 Dike Authority), “RE: Nature Trust of British Columbia (the “Nature Trust”) Application for Removal and Replacement of Dinsdale Farm Dike”, March 31, 2023; and
- Letter of Support from Jesse Patterson, Section Head Ecosystems West Coast Region (Dike #49 Dike Authority), “RE: Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Letter of Support for Major Restoration Works in Koksilah/Cowichan Estuary”, September 2, 2022.

3.0 Project Description

The Nature Trust of British Columbia, with the services of Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd. (NHC), will be decommissioning Dike #49 and upgrading Dike #88 as a result of a project to restore the estuary habitat in the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary. The purpose of the decommissioning of Dike #49 is to allow tidal waters to re-enter the marsh platform with sediment augmentation to re-establish the estuary habitat. As a result of the decommission, transfer of flood risk would occur without mitigation to lot description LOT 2 SECTION 10 RANGE 2 AND DISTRICT LOT 690 COWICHAN DISTRICT PLAN VIP70020, referred to as “Property 2”, as described in the application. To prevent this transfer of flood risk, Dike #88 will be raised by approximately 0.5 m along the section of Lochmanetz Road, and a private road “Unnamed Road” will also be raised to function as a private dike.

Work will commence within the spring/summer of 2023 and must be completed by March 31, 2025. All construction impacting the Dikes will be maintained and controlled by an on-site field engineer with experience in geotechnical engineering, preferably with experience in flood protection. The Nature Trust of British Columbia, as soon as is reasonably practicable after completion of the work impacting the Dike, will restore the surface of the work area of Dike #88 and surrounding areas to the preconstruction conditions.

This letter constitutes approval under the *Dike Maintenance Act* for the above noted works subject to the terms and conditions set forth below:

General

1. The Approval shall remain valid from the date received until March 31, 2025.
2. Approval of the works shall be obtained from the Province of British Columbia and Robert Sales, the local Diking Authorities responsible for the long-term operation and maintenance of Dikes #49 and #88 respectively.
3. The Inspector of Dikes Office shall be notified prior to the commencement of construction as well as at project completion.
4. **Before construction may begin, engineered drawings prepared by a suitably qualified Professional Engineer must be provided to the Deputy Inspector of Dikes regarding upgrades to Dike #88 as per section 2.0 of the British Columbia Provincial Guidelines ‘New Dikes & Upgrades to Existing Dikes’.**
5. **As per the British Columbia Dike Maintenance Act Guideline ‘Decommissioning of a Regulated Dike’, there must be no transfer of flood risk as a result of the decommission of Dike #49 to third party properties without their written consent.**

Design and Construction

6. The design and construction standards for the works affecting Dike #88 must conform, where possible, to the British Columbia Dike Maintenance Act Guidelines ‘New Dikes & Upgrades to Existing Dikes’.
7. The design and construction standards for the works affecting Dike #49 must conform, where possible, to the British Columbia Dike Maintenance Act Guidelines ‘Decommissioning of a Regulated Dike’.
8. The design and construction standards for the works should conform, where possible, to the ‘Dike Design and Construction Guide – Best Management Practices for British Columbia July 2003¹’, and the ‘Riprap Design and Construction Guide March 2000².’
9. The public road known as ‘Lochmanetz Road’, considered part of Dike #88, must be confirmed in writing by the suitably qualified Professional Engineer as capable of functioning with the current level of traffic it was designed for as well as provide adequate

¹ A downloadable copy is available from the Flood Hazard Management webpage
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/integrated-flood-hazard-mgmt/dike_des_cons_guide_july-2011.pdf

² A downloadable copy is available from the Flood Hazard Management webpage
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/integrated-flood-hazard-mgmt/riprap_guide.pdf

flood protection as described in the application. This letter will be included in the post-construction reporting.

10. The construction shall be done in accordance with the design, drawings, and specifications that were prepared by the Professional Engineer for the works. The works shall be carried out under the supervision and guidance of a suitably qualified Professional Engineer.
11. All material shall be approved on site by a suitably qualified Professional Engineer with experience in geotechnical engineering.

Quality Control and Assurance

12. The quality control and assurance (QA/QC) monitoring of the construction shall be done under the supervision of a suitably qualified Professional Engineer with experience in geotechnical engineering.
13. Any damage to Dike #88 (ancillary or otherwise) caused by the construction shall be restored to equal to or better than its former or original state. This will include reconciliation for the removal of surficial material that contained organics, recognition of key-in volumes removed and replaced for structural support of the Dike, and wear-and-tear of surfaces during the use of the Dike during the Project timeline. The repair of damage that could affect the structural integrity of the dike must be approved under section 2(4) of the *Dike Maintenance Act*. Provided the suitably qualified Professional Engineer confirms that damages do not affect the structural integrity of the dike then approval of the repairs would not be required.

Record Drawings

10. Within 60 days after project completion, a suitably qualified Professional Engineer shall prepare and submit an electronic copy in PDF format to the Inspector of Dikes Office the following:

- a. Record Drawings: A digital copy of the works record drawings in pdf format. NOTE: **The drawings shall be georeferenced and accompanied by survey baseline layout information and GIS data per the documents referenced below:**
 - [dma_survey-gis_data_requirements.pdf \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/integrated-flood-hazard-mgmt/dma_survey-gis_data_requirements.pdf)
 - https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/integrated-flood-hazard-mgmt/dma_survey-gis_data_submission_template.xlsx

Important Note: The gradation specifications for all imported fill material used for this project must be added to the record drawings and clearly identified in the geotechnical section of the construction completion report.

- b. Construction Completion Report: A completion report signed and sealed by the suitably qualified Professional Engineer responsible for the project. NOTE: the completion report shall include a summary of onsite testing and inspections carried out and shall provide certification that the completed works will provide safe long-term flood protection.
- c. The Diking Authority for Dike #88 will be provided documentation of any and all changes made to the dike as a result of this project.

Note: The Inspector of Dikes office shall receive written notification of a proposed schedule to complete the works if the works are not substantially complete by the approval expiry date. The Inspector of Dikes office, at its discretion, may grant a time extension and/or may initiate a further review of the project. This may result in amendments to approval requirements or require a new application and approval.

Please note that the above approval pertains only to the *Dike Maintenance Act* and does not apply to any approvals that may be required by other approving agencies.

If you require further information, please contact me at 778-693-2766 or Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,



Chantelle Grafton,
Deputy Inspector of Dikes
Ministry of Forests

cc:

Larry George, Cowichan Tribes
lands@cowichantribes.com

Jesse Patterson, Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship
Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca

Ann Kjerulf, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Ann.kjerulf@cprd.bc.ca

Shawn Haley, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure
Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca

Dike Maintenance Act Approval Review

Decommission: Dike 49 (Dinsdale Dike)

Diking Authority: Ministry of Forests

Dike Upgrade: Dike 88 (Koksilah)

Diking Authority: Robert Sales (private)

Project Name/Identifier: **Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration Project**

Application Information

Diking Authority Approval
<p>Decommission of 49</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– letter received from Jesse Patterson, section head of ecosystems West Coast Region Of Ministry Of Forests dated September 2, 2022 confirming support for the project. Acknowledges full removal of 1700 lineal metres of existing dike.– Letter signed by nature trust acknowledging NHC as consultant <p>Upgrade of 88</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– letter of support provided for upgrading Dike 88 on March 31, 2023. s.22 <p>s.22</p>

Professional Letter of Commitment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Are all applicable fields of engineering represented? Civil & hydrotechnical- Is the seal valid (BC, signed, date)? Yes- Is the consulting company a registered firm? Yes- What are the Engineers' self-reported areas of practice (from EGBC website)? Civil – hydraulics, river engineering, & water resources- What documents is each professional providing upon completion? Certified as built drawings

Dike Structure
<p>Project Description</p> <p>Decommission of dike 49 & the upgrade of dike 88 are part of the estuary restoration project. The primary goal is to restore natural processes to southern estuary by removing anthropogenic barriers to estuary Marsh development. The removal of Dinsdale dike will involve removing 1600 lineal metres of regulated Dike, followed by the raising of “unnamed</p>

road” and Lochmantz Road in order to offset “transfer of risk” as required by the Dike Maintenance Act. Lochmantz Road is a part of dike 88, which will constitute the “upgrade” portion of the Dike Maintenance Act Review.

- **Review of the existing record drawings?** no existing as built drawings, however plan view, profile, and typical section engineered drawings provided.
- **Survey of existing features?** Yes
- **Closure, or a strategy to achieve closure of the overall diking system?** Not applicable – intent of the project is to restore the estuary which requires flooding access
- **Does the project conform to the requirements set out in the guidelines?** Yes, see Excel document for project. All guidelines requirements have been met with the exception of providing engineered drawings for the upgrade to dike 88. These drawings will be required as part of the authorization before construction can begin.

s.13; s.14

Consultation
s.13; s.16

Reports

- **Design brief**
s.13; s.16

Background Information

Geotechnical Investigation and Design Report

- Overall description of the diking system

Page 429 of 630 to/à Page 430 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16

s.13; s.16

Drawings

- *Are the design drawings signed & sealed?*
- *Plan view drawings, showing the dike and all proposed improvements*
 - o *Adjacent property lines*
 - o *Limits of proposed or existing ROWs (details of property ownership should be clearly indicated)*
 - o *Adjacent utilities*
 - o *Turnarounds*
 - o *Access ramps (grade shall not be steeper than 10%, min width shall be 4m, ramp shall be progressively widened toward the dike crest)*
 - o *All other relevant features*
- *Longitudinal profile of the dike showing:*
 - o *Existing crest elevations*
 - o *Proposed crest elevations*
 - o *A line showing the 1:200 year design dike crest elevation, including freeboard*
- *Representative cross sections (at natural scale) through the dike at each improvement location showing:*
 - o *Existing and proposed side slopes*
 - *Landside slopes without seepage control measures shall be no steeper than 3H:1V; landside slopes with adequate seepage control no steeper than 2H:1V*
 - *Waterside slope no steeper than 2.5H:1V, and may be steepened to 2H:1V with erosion control*
 - *Dikes between 2-3.5m high shall be no steeper than 3H:1V*
 - o *Existing and proposed crest widths (standard crest width is 4m)*
 - o *Design flood elevation*
 - o *Existing and/or proposed measures for control of seepage under and through the dike (refer to as-built drawings if upgrading an existing dike)*
 - o *Proposed riprap, filter layer (including thickness)*
- *If applicable:*
 - o *Spillway locations*
 - o *Floodproofing elevations*

Material Specifications

- o *Filters (material, gradation, size distribution)*
 - *Retention criteria to prevent loss of the foundation or core material*

- *Permeability criteria to reduce hydraulic gradients across the layer*
- *Internal stability criterion to prevent loss of the finer fraction of the filter layers itself*
- *Thickness*
- *Recommended sizing criterion: $D_{15c} / D_{85f} < 5 < D_{15c} / D_{15f} < 40$ (refers to the 15% and 85% sieve passing sizes, and coarse and finer layers)*
- *Drainage materials*
- *General fill materials to be placed within the footprint of the dike (for soils, the limits should include the percent passing the #200/0.075mm sieve)*
 - *Running surface on crest: 19mm sand & gravel or road mulch; 25mm crushed limestone; 19mm clean crushed gravel. Min thickness of surfacing material is typically 150mm*
 - *Dike fill: particle size less than 100mm, and shall not contain materials greater than 150mm. To limit seepage, fill is typically between 15-30% fines (silts & clays) passing the #200 sieve. If fill has less than 10% fines, an impervious clay layer (25% fines) is placed on the waterside of the dike.*
 - *Pervious drainage layers on landside: shall contain <5% fines passing a #200. If local material not available: 75mm well graded sand and gravel fill*
- *Specific instructions for placement and compaction of materials*
 - *Lift thickness*
 - *Impervious/semipervious material is commonly placed in 150-200mm loose lift thickness and compacted with 6-8 passes of a sheepsfoot roller*
 - *Pervious material (<10% fines)m placed in 300mm loose lift thickness and compacted with 4-5 passes of a vibratory steel-wheel rollers*
 - *Minimum density criterion for compactions (common min is 95% of the Standard Proctor Maximum Dry Density)*
- *Riprap*
 - *Size distribution*
 - *Thickness*
 - *Upstream end must be keyed in or physically connected to a relatively permanent structure*
 - *Apron should be 1.5x riprap thickness*
 - *Ice & debris jams*
 - *Increasing the safety factor for is suggested, particularly for revetments <0.45m thick*
 - *Recommendation: Increase the thickness by 15-30cm, with a corresponding increase in the median rock size*
 - *Limit slopes to 2.5H:1V*
- *Comment on local sources for dike construction materials*
- *Fill placed against the landside slope of a dike shall be to the same standards as dike fill*
- *Grass/vegetation comments*

Seepage Control Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>If the thickness of an existing surficial impervious layer, underlain by pervious soils, is greater than the expected reservoir head, seepage generally isn't an issue</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>In all other cases, both underseepage and through seepage shall be assessed. Simple analysis required for dikes <1.5m high.</i> - <i>Foundation soils underseepage control measures include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Cutoff trench</i> o <i>Waterside impervious layer</i> o <i>Landside seepage berm</i> o <i>Landside filter blanket</i> o <i>Pervious toe trench</i> o <i>Pressure relief well</i> - <i>Seepage through dike (the most effective control of through seepage is progressively increasing permeability from the core out toward the landside slope):</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Impervious layer/clay core (0.5-1.0m thick and extends across the entire waterside slope)</i> o <i>Pervious drainage layers (or toe)/landside filter (0.5-1.0m thick and extends across the entire landside slope)</i> o <i>Horizontal toe drain (typically 500mm thick)</i> - <i>Pipe or conduit crossings</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>If possible, pipes should be configured to cross over the top of the dike</i> o <i>If the pipe must cross through or underneath a dike or dike ROW:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Pipe shall cross perpendicular to the alignment of the dike</i> ▪ <i>Clear means to retain and prevent the migration of soils along the path of the pipe surface? This requirement is to provide a redundant safeguard against any loose zones, voids, or other preferred seepage path that may be created through the pipe installation process</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Granular filter zones to retain and prevent the migration of soils</i> • <i>Seepage collars are no longer accepted unless they are used in conjunction with a granular filter zone</i> ▪ <i>Cut & cover is the preferred method of pipe installation. Installations by directional drilling and/or pipe jacking are problematic since they disturb surrounding soils and make it difficult to obtain a watertight seal along the conduit</i> ▪ <i>Measures taken to protect against internal erosion/piping caused by preferential seepage paths developing especially at the soil-structure interface?</i> ▪ <i>Pipe Bedding (well graded 25mm ø silty sandy GRAVEL)</i>

Appurtenances
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o No appurtenances

Utilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No utilities affected

Records

Record drawings in hard copy/digital format
- To be requested with post-construction reporting

O&M Manual
- Dike 88 manual to be updated with new dimensions post-construction

Vegetation Management Plan
Decommission
- land to be encouraged to regrow into estuary
Upgrade 88
- will include an authorization that slopes be planted with native grasses

Sediment Management Plan
- No sediment management required. See note from habitat biologist

From: [Erickson, Kelly FOR:EX](#)
To: [Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support
Date: April 13, 2023 1:20:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi Chantelle,

I think we are good to move forward with notifications. ^{s.13; s.16}
s.13; s.16

Regards,

Kelly

Kelly R Erickson | Advisor, Indigenous Relations
West Coast Region
2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9
Tel: (250) 739-8538
Email: Kelly.Erickson@gov.bc.ca

With respect and gratitude, I acknowledge that I live, work and play on the beautiful lands of the Coast Salish Peoples.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 12:35 PM
To: Erickson, Kelly FOR:EX <Kelly.Erickson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

Hey Kelly, looks like Bethany did not have anything to add. Are we okay with moving forward on Tracy's opinion from before?



Chantelle Grafton
Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety
Water Management | North Area
Phone 778-693-2766 |
Ministry of Forests

From: Bethany Coulthard <Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 11:16 AM
To: Tracy Fleming <Tracy.Fleming@cowichantribes.com>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

I would defer to Tracy on this, cc'd.

Huy ch q'u

Bethany Coulthard, PhD

Marine Projects Supervisor

COWICHAN TRIBES

LULUMEXUN Lands and Self Governance Department

5762 Allenby Road, Duncan BC, V9L 5J1

Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com

Direct: 250-732-0103

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>>> "Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX" <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca> 4/12/2023 3:00 PM >>>

Hi Bethany, thank you for the quick response! s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

Please let me know your thoughts, thank you again.



Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Bethany Coulthard <Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 2:25 PM

To: Tracy Fleming <Tracy.Fleming@cowichantribes.com>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Huy tseep q'u for connecting with me Tracy and Chantelle.

s.16

Huy ch q'u

Bethany Coulthard, PhD

Marine Projects Supervisor

COWICHAN TRIBES

LULUMEXUN *Lands and Self Governance Department*

5762 Allenby Road, Duncan BC, V9L 5J1

Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com

Direct: 250-732-0103

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>>> "Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX" <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca> 4/12/2023 1:26 PM >>>

Thank you very much Tracy, that is helpful and much appreciated. Bethany do you have anything to add to Tracy's response?



Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Tracy Fleming <Tracy.Fleming@cowichantribes.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 10:45 AM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Bethany Coulthard <Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com>

Subject: Re: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Thanks for reaching out. I am copying Bethany Coulthard whose team is more involved in this particular project
s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

Huy ch q'u (Thank you)

*Tracy Fleming, M.Sc.
Lead Referrals Coordinator
Lands and Self-Governance ~ Lulumexun
Cowichan Tribes
5762 Allenby Road
Duncan, BC V9L 5J1
P: 250-800-4023 (reception)*

*Mukw' stem 'i' utunu tumuhw, 'o' huliitun tst, mukw' stem 'i' utunu tumuhw 'o' shiilhukw 'ul
Everything on this Earth is what sustains us, everything on this Earth is connected together.
(Qw'utsun Teaching)*

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>>> "Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX" <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca> 4/11/2023 10:23 AM >>>

Hi Tracy,

I work with flood authorizations and am helping out the West Coast region with a Dike Maintenance Act authorization as their flood authorization staff just retired. I am reviewing an authorization for the decommission of the Dinsdale Dike and it looks like we received a letter of s.16

Due to their grant funding for the project, they have tight timelines to receive the authorization. Apologies for the rush, but it would be great if you could respond early this week if possible. Please feel free to call me as well if you would like to discuss.

Thank you,



Chantelle Grafton
Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety
Water Management | North Area
Phone 778-693-2766 |
Ministry of Forests

From: [Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX](#)
To: [Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Decommission & Upgrade of 88 – Review & Draft Authorization
Date: April 4, 2023 9:32:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Chantelle, I gave this a high level read through and noted one thing. I didn't see a documented acceptance and acknowledgement of the decommissioning/any risk from Lot 2. It may be prudent to request some document to support this, even if the applicant states there is not transfer of risk (If everyone is onboard with the project, this shouldn't be a big ask).

Thanks for your hard work on this file. Feel free to reach out to Rudy if there is something time sensitive, also worst case you can text my cell personal cell and I'll do my best to help remotely.

I hope you have a great long weekend!

Regards,
Yannic.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 9:34 AM
To: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Dinsdale Decommission & Upgrade of 88 – Review & Draft Authorization

Hey Yannic,

Thanks for taking the time to review this, I know you're busy. With their grant funding and larger scope of project they are hoping for a quick turnaround on the decision. Might be worth a short discussion after your review. The attached excel sheet is a checklist against the guidelines, the links will not work for you.

s.13; s.16

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton
Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety



Water Management | North Area
Phone 778-693-2766 |
Ministry of Forests

From: [Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX](#)
To: ["Thomas Reid"](#)
Cc: ["lands@cowichantribes.com"](#); [Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX](#); ["Ann.kjerulf@cvrd.bc.ca"](#); ["Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca"](#)
Bcc: [Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX](#); [Doyle, Jessica FOR:EX](#); [Melnechenko, Cali FOR:EX](#)
Subject: Dinsdale Dike Decommission Authorization
Date: April 13, 2023 3:19:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Dinsdale Authorization Final.pdf](#)

Hi Tom,

Please find attached the Dike Maintenance Act authorization for The Nature Trust of BC to complete works to Dike 49 and 88.

A few important things to note about this authorization:

- You will need to provide engineered drawings to me regarding the upgrade work to Dike 88 before construction may begin.
- as part of the authorization, a suitably qualified engineer will provide reporting regarding dike 88 confirming its ability to function for both traffic and flood mitigation when completed. This will be provided in your post construction reporting to me.

s.13

Please notify us when you begin the project, for now you can send to myself and I will connect you with the new Deputy Inspector of Dikes for that area when they come on board. If there are any issues or corrections to be made with this authorization document please let me know as soon as possible. Best of luck with the project!



Chantelle Grafton
Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety
Water Management | North Area
Phone 778-693-2766 |
Ministry of Forests

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: carole@lcfm.ca
Subject: Notification regarding Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project (MR 2221)
Sent: 04/13/2023 22:22:06
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

Hello,

My name is Chantelle Grafton and I work with Water and Dike Safety for the Province, based out of Prince George. I have been helping out the West Coast with their dike authorizations, including an authorization looking to decommission the Dinsdale Dike in the Cowichan estuary.

I am reaching out to see if you had received and reviewed a referral package provided by Nature Trust BC back in fall of 2022 for Cowichan Estuary Project (MR2221). The decommission is looking to begin August 1, 2023 and we welcome any feedback and engagement you may have towards the decommission before then.

The Dinsdale Dike (49) is proposed to be removed entirely to allow the estuary to reclaim agricultural lands. It currently only protects 2 houses and these properties have provided consent for the project to move forward. To mitigate flood risk from this project, a road will be raised to function as a private dike and the Koksilah Dike (88) which provides protection to the 2 houses will be raised 0.5 m as well. There are no negative downstream impacts predicted to result from this project as it is seen as a positive to restore the estuary to its natural state.

Nature Trust has received grant funding to complete this work and have received the Dike Maintenance Act authorization to proceed.

Please feel free to call me as well if you would like to discuss this further, or email any feedback you may have.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: referrals@coastsalishdevcorp.com
Subject: Notification regarding Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project (MR 2221)
Sent: 04/13/2023 22:21:55
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

Hello,

My name is Chantelle Grafton and I work with Water and Dike Safety for the Province, based out of Prince George. I have been helping out the West Coast with their dike authorizations, including an authorization looking to decommission the Dinsdale Dike in the Cowichan estuary.

I am reaching out to see if you had received and reviewed a referral package provided by Nature Trust BC back in fall of 2022 for Cowichan Estuary Project (MR2221). The decommission is looking to begin August 1, 2023 and we welcome any feedback and engagement you may have towards the decommission before then.

The Dinsdale Dike (49) is proposed to be removed entirely to allow the estuary to reclaim agricultural lands. It currently only protects 2 houses and these properties have provided consent for the project to move forward. To mitigate flood risk from this project, a road will be raised to function as a private dike and the Koksilah Dike (88) which provides protection to the 2 houses will be raised 0.5 m as well. There are no negative downstream impacts predicted to result from this project as it is seen as a positive to restore the estuary to its natural state.

Nature Trust has received grant funding to complete this work and have received the Dike Maintenance Act authorization to proceed.

Please feel free to call me as well if you would like to discuss this further, or email any feedback you may have.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: denisej@penelakut.ca
Subject: Notification regarding Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project (MR 2221)
Sent: 04/13/2023 22:21:42
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

Hello,

My name is Chantelle Grafton and I work with Water and Dike Safety for the Province, based out of Prince George. I have been helping out the West Coast with their dike authorizations, including an authorization looking to decommission the Dinsdale Dike in the Cowichan estuary.

I am reaching out to see if you had received and reviewed a referral package provided by Nature Trust BC back in fall of 2022 for Cowichan Estuary Project (MR2221). The decommission is looking to begin August 1, 2023 and we welcome any feedback and engagement you may have towards the decommission before then.

The Dinsdale Dike (49) is proposed to be removed entirely to allow the estuary to reclaim agricultural lands. It currently only protects 2 houses and these properties have provided consent for the project to move forward. To mitigate flood risk from this project, a road will be raised to function as a private dike and the Koksilah Dike (88) which provides protection to the 2 houses will be raised 0.5 m as well. There are no negative downstream impacts predicted to result from this project as it is seen as a positive to restore the estuary to its natural state.

Nature Trust has received grant funding to complete this work and have received the Dike Maintenance Act authorization to proceed.

Please feel free to call me as well if you would like to discuss this further, or email any feedback you may have.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: referrals@lyackson.bc.ca
Subject: Notification regarding Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project (MR 2221)
Sent: 04/13/2023 22:21:32
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

Hello,

My name is Chantelle Grafton and I work with Water and Dike Safety for the Province, based out of Prince George. I have been helping out the West Coast with their dike authorizations, including an authorization looking to decommission the Dinsdale Dike in the Cowichan estuary.

I am reaching out to see if you had received and reviewed a referral package provided by Nature Trust BC back in fall of 2022 for Cowichan Estuary Project (MR2221). The decommission is looking to begin August 1, 2023 and we welcome any feedback and engagement you may have towards the decommission before then.

The Dinsdale Dike (49) is proposed to be removed entirely to allow the estuary to reclaim agricultural lands. It currently only protects 2 houses and these properties have provided consent for the project to move forward. To mitigate flood risk from this project, a road will be raised to function as a private dike and the Koksilah Dike (88) which provides protection to the 2 houses will be raised 0.5 m as well. There are no negative downstream impacts predicted to result from this project as it is seen as a positive to restore the estuary to its natural state.

Nature Trust has received grant funding to complete this work and have received the Dike Maintenance Act authorization to proceed.

Please feel free to call me as well if you would like to discuss this further, or email any feedback you may have.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: referrals@halalt.org
Subject: Notification regarding Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project (MR 2221)
Sent: 04/13/2023 22:21:16
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

Hello,

My name is Chantelle Grafton and I work with Water and Dike Safety for the Province, based out of Prince George. I have been helping out the West Coast with their dike authorizations, including an authorization looking to decommission the Dinsdale Dike in the Cowichan estuary.

I am reaching out to see if you had received and reviewed a referral package provided by Nature Trust BC back in fall of 2022 for Cowichan Estuary Project (MR2221). The decommission is looking to begin August 1, 2023 and we welcome any feedback and engagement you may have towards the decommission before then.

The Dinsdale Dike (49) is proposed to be removed entirely to allow the estuary to reclaim agricultural lands. It currently only protects 2 houses and these properties have provided consent for the project to move forward. To mitigate flood risk from this project, a road will be raised to function as a private dike and the Koksilah Dike (88) which provides protection to the 2 houses will be raised 0.5 m as well. There are no negative downstream impacts predicted to result from this project as it is seen as a positive to restore the estuary to its natural state.

Nature Trust has received grant funding to complete this work and have received the Dike Maintenance Act authorization to proceed.

Please feel free to call me as well if you would like to discuss this further, or email any feedback you may have.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

Page 453 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22

From: Erickson, Kelly FOR:EX (Kelly.Erickson@gov.bc.ca)
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support
Sent: 04/13/2023 20:20:16
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png
Message Body:

Hi Chantelle,

I think we are good to move forward with notifications. s.13; s.16
s.13; s.16

Regards,

Kelly

Kelly R Erickson | Advisor, Indigenous Relations

West Coast Region

2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: (250) 739-8538

Email: Kelly.Erickson@gov.bc.ca

With respect and gratitude, I acknowledge that I live, work and play on the beautiful lands of the Coast Salish Peoples.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 12:35 PM
To: Erickson, Kelly FOR:EX <Kelly.Erickson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

Hey Kelly, looks like Bethany did not have anything to add. Are we okay with moving forward on Tracy's opinion from before?

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Bethany Coulthard <Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 11:16 AM

To: Tracy Fleming <Tracy.Fleming@cowichantribes.com>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

I would defer to Tracy on this, cc'd.

Huy ch q'u

Bethany Coulthard, PhD

Marine Projects Supervisor

COWICHAN TRIBES

LULUMEXUN Lands and Self Governance Department

5762 Allenby Road, Duncan BC, V9L 5J1

Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com

Direct: 250-732-0103

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>>> "Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX" <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca> 4/12/2023 3:00 PM
>>>

Hi Bethany, thank you for the quick response!^{s.13; s.16}
s.13; s.16

Please let me know your thoughts, thank you again.

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Bethany Coulthard <Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 2:25 PM
To: Tracy Fleming <Tracy.Fleming@cowichantribes.com>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Huy tseep q'u for connecting with me Tracy and Chantelle.

s.16

Huy ch q'u

Bethany Coulthard, PhD

Marine Projects Supervisor

COWICHAN TRIBES

LULUMEXUN Lands and Self Governance Department

5762 Allenby Road, Duncan BC, V9L 5J1

Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com

Direct: 250-732-0103

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>>> "Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX" <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca> 4/12/2023 1:26 PM
>>>

Thank you very much Tracy, that is helpful and much appreciated. Bethany do you have anything to add to Tracy's response?

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Tracy Fleming <Tracy.Fleming@cowichantribes.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 10:45 AM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Bethany Coulthard <Bethany.Coulthard@cowichantribes.com>

Subject: Re: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Projects – Project Support

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Thanks for reaching out. I am copying Bethany Coulthard whose team is more involved
s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

Huy ch q'u (Thank you)

Tracy Fleming, M.Sc.

Lead Referrals Coordinator

Lands and Self-Governance ~ Lulumexun

Cowichan Tribes

5762 Allenby Road

Duncan, BC V9L 5J1

P: 250-800-4023 (reception)

Mukuw' stem 'i' utunu tumuhw, 'o' huliitun tst, mukw' stem 'i' utunu tumuhw 'o' shiilhukw 'ul

Everything on this Earth is what sustains us, everything on this Earth is connected together.

(Quw'utsun Teaching)

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>>> "Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX" <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca> 4/11/2023 10:23 AM >>>

Hi Tracy,

I work with flood authorizations and am helping out the West Coast region with a Dike Maintenance Act authorization as their flood authorization staff just retired. I am reviewing an authorization for the decommission of the Dinsdale Dike and it looks like we received a letter of
s.16

Due to their grant funding for the project, they have tight timelines to receive the authorization.

Apologies for the rush, but it would be great if you could respond early this week if possible. Please feel free to call me as well if you would like to discuss.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project
Sent: 04/06/2023 15:59:30
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Just Cowichan.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 8:58 AM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Hey Thomas, do you have any other documentation of support or conversation with other First Nations groups? Or is it just the Cowichan Tribes?

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 2:22 PM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks Chantelle. Just checking if there is an update?

Cheers,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 12:22 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Okay, I will make it for March 31, 2025. If an extension is needed just make sure to let the DIOD know before it expires, as it should remain a simple letter at that point.

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 12:19 PM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Ideally the approval could include next fiscal year as well (e.g. up to March 31st 2025).

s.21

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 12:09 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Hi Tom, thank you for the letter from^{s.22} Question for you – what is your estimated project completion date if it were to begin spring/summer 2023 as you included in the application? I need a date to include for the expiration of the approval if granted.

The decision process may stay with me, or it may go to another senior Deputy Inspector of dikes such as Yannic. It will be ready to submit for decision by end of day today and if it is not me I will make sure the decision-maker is aware of the tight timelines. However I cannot guarantee that the decision will be ready during that week.

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 10:28 AM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Do you still expect the decision the week of April 10th? Also - my understanding from previous communications was that you were the delegated decision maker but I assume based on your email that this is not the case. Is there a new DIOD in West Coast Region or is the decision going to Yannic?

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2023 10:08 AM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Hey Tom, if it's not possible I'll propose to the decision-maker that this be written into the authorization as well. If there is any aspect or detail NHC can provide in the meantime, more is better. But I understand they may be hesitant to sign unless there is geotechnical testing beforehand. The decision-maker may decide that they need to see the drawings before hand, but we can keep moving forward for now.

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 1:12 PM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

We do not have this information.

I have spoken with NHC and they have indicated that the information you are requesting in bullet points 2 and 3 below -s.21

s.21

not to the level of detail required below.

Given it is the end of our fiscal year we will need to be reissuing contracts in the coming weeks to continue with this work and will need to go through the permitting process with MOTI for geotech drilling etc.. NHC has indicated that a reasonable timeline for completion of the work to provide the information requested could be up to 8 weeks.

Is it possible to have this request as a condition of the permit as well?

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 11:59 AM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Unfortunately not, here is an excerpt of what we are looking for, signed and sealed. Again, s.13; s.16
s.13; s.16

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 11:44 AM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Does the attached report contain enough information?

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 11:16 AM

To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

s.13; s.16

information missing for the decision, the review can move to decision once we have this information. There might be a bit of back-and-forth during decision, but this should be the last request until then.

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 11:06 AM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

To clarify: are you asking for engineered drawings of the Lochmanetz Road raise prior to making a decision?

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 10:58 AM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

We could write that in as a condition for the approval that you have received landowner and Dike authority permission, and our approvals always require post construction reporting where you could include documentation.

Could you ask NHC for a QP to provide engineered drawings for the raising of Lochmanetz Road? Use section 2.0 of this guideline: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/integrated-flood-hazard-mgmt/app_reqs_newdikes_upgrades2011.pdf

s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 10:29 AM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Ideally we could have a decision as soon as possible but understand the process. Plus with the most recent curve ball with land title it does give us some time to sort that out. Is it an option to have a decision with a condition of landowner support if we are delayed in getting that in hand? This would allow us to make some important decisions in terms of budgets/phasing.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 8:52 AM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

At the latest I would like to have it submitted by end of next week, so a decision would be made the week of April 10. How does that align with your scheduling?

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 8:49 AM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks Chantelle. When are you hoping to make the decision?

Cheers,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 8:46 AM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Of course there's been a change in title! Oh geez. Yes we will continue moving forward, thank you for the update. As long as we have permission at the time of decision it is all good.

Cheers,

Chantelle

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <<lang="EN-US">treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 8:41 AM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <<lang="EN-US">Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

s.22

Thanks,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 1:56 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Perfect! Okay, all we are missing I believe is the permission from the DA of dike 88 to do the work. I'm still working on the review but it is on track.

Thanks again,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 1:13 PM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fw: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Please see below for confirmation from MOTI that they support this project. I provided them with an update on the Dike 88 alignment as you will note below as well.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 1:08 PM

To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Subject: Fw: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

From: Haley, Shawn TRAN:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 12:29 PM
To: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX
Cc: Pearson, Michael TRAN:EX; Price, Amanda TRAN:EX
Subject: RE: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Hi Tom,

I'm emailing you to confirm MoTI is in support of this project moving forward with the conditions you've outlined below. Specifically: the understanding that MoTI is not the Diking Authority, and the responsible party for Dike 88 is the owner of Lot 1.

Kind regards,

[BC_TRAN_V_CMYK_pos]<<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/transportation-and-infrastructure>>

Shawn Haley B.Sc.

Operations Manager

South Vancouver Island

240-4460 Chatterton Way

Saanich BC V8X 5J2

(778) 974-2627

Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca<<mailto:Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca>>

Current Conditions: DriveBC.com<<http://www.drivebc.com/>>

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From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:13 PM
To: Haley, Shawn TRAN:EX <Shawn.Haley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Lochmanetz Road - Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project

Hi Shawn,

As discussed earlier today we have continued to move our Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project through the permitting process with the Inspector of Dikes. Through this process it has been confirmed that:

1. Dike 88 is a regulated dike under the Dike Maintenance Act.
2. Dike 88 extends from the connection with Dike 49 (the dike we are proposing to decommission as part of this project) to Cowichan Bay Road.
3. This Dike 88 alignment includes Lochmanetz Road.
4. The responsible party for Dike 88 is Brian Sales (owner of Lot 1) with MOTI having a Right of Way for the road.

s.13; s.21

In discussion with the Deputy Inspector of Dikes, they have requested:

1. An email from MOTI indicating support for the work being completed on Lochmanetz Road in accordance with MOTI design/permitting standards. Note: we are committed to following all of the design standards and submitting as built surveys as required as part of the process.

If possible can you send me a follow up email indicating your support for the work being completed on the road with the understanding that MOTI is not the Diking Authority for Dike 88?

Let me know if you have any questions or if any of this is unclear.

Thanks again,

Tom

S

Page 475 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.21

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX (Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: Re: Additional questions – Dinsdale decommission
Sent: 03/28/2023 00:38:14
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, COVENANT
Message Body:

EP1547.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Apologies for the delay. Please find attached the covenant that is registered on the title for both Lot 1 and Lot 2 with respect flood construction levels and indemnities for the Province and the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

I spoke with MOTI today and they will be reconfirming their support via email tomorrow.

In terms of the permits we are required to follow for works on Lochmanetz Road these include:

1. H20 permit - this is for any works within the right of way (vegetation removal, Geotech, survey work); and,
2. H1080 permit - this is required specifically for Geotech work.

We have also been provided the engineering specifications for any road work that our project will need to conform to. This area is deemed to be a single lane road designed to a 50km/h criteria. Our project will be subject to submitting an as built drawing to MOTI and having an onsite inspection upon completion.

Will forward MOTI email as soon as I receive it.

Thanks again,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 3:52 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Cc: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Additional questions – Dinsdale decommission

Hey Tom,

Thanks for finding the time in what sounds like a very crazy day to talk to me. Just following up, if you could send me the following I believe we have everything to move forward to decision with this file:

- Communications from MO TI indicating that they support work being done to Lochmantz Road. Please include any mention of permitting they are requesting.
- Property titles for affected lots with covenants related to flooding (historic)

If this authorization is granted, it will be required that a suitably qualified engineer sign off that Lochmantz Road be capable of withstanding its current expected traffic as well as function effectively as flood protection.

s.13; s.16

I will connect with you next week and will hopefully move this towards decision within the next 2 weeks, understanding that fiscal and is next week which tends to slow things down a little bit.

Thank you, hope you have a relaxing weekend!

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Sent: March 24, 2023 1:16 PM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Additional questions – Dinsdale decommission

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks for the msg. My cell phone is s.22 I will also be available after 3pm too if that is better as I will be in Nanaimo and not rushing for boarding a flight.

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From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 1:04:37 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Additional questions – Dinsdale decommission

Thanks for answering my questions, and I don't think the road question needs to hold the project. I
s.13; s.16

If you send me your cell phone number I can give you a quick call at 115, but it is also fine to wait until Monday if you are out and about.

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: March 24, 2023 12:11 PM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Additional questions – Dinsdale decommission

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Thanks for the email. Would 1pm work? I have a connecting flight to Nanaimo that boards at 2pm.

With regards to the questions regarding the Dinsdale Farm:

s.13; s.21

Let me know if 1pm works. If not perhaps we can chat early Monday?

Cheers

Tom

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From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 11:35:19 AM

To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Subject: Additional questions – Dinsdale decommission

Hey Tom,

A couple more questions moving on with the decommission:

s.13; s.16

Regarding the raising of Lochmantz Road:

1. Will need a written approval from Diking Authority for dike 88 to raise the road as a dike upgrade (the Sales household)
2. Geotechnical confirmation that work proposed to Road will be able to withstand traffic use without hindering its ability to function as flood protection.
3. Ensure permission to access lands for construction works. I am assuming this is a MO TI Road, I looking into what that entails now.

I am still available to talk on the phone today, perhaps around 2:00 PM work for you?

Thank you,

Chantelle

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

Page 482 of 630 to/à Page 487 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.3

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.21

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX (Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Doyle, Jessica FOR:EX (Jessica.Doyle@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Background information on Dike 88 alignment and proposed next steps
Sent: 03/20/2023 20:57:14
Attachments: image001.png, image002.jpg
Message Body:

Hi Thomas,

Thank you for supplying that information, it is great to see a path forward was found that looks agreeable and still protect public safety interests. Please let me know if you agree with the following bullets:

s.13; s.16

Essentially my understanding is that these details will not change the original scope of your proposed project, but rather what type of work it falls under within the DMA guidelines. If there are changes from this original application please let me know. Otherwise there is no need to submit a new DMA application. Moving forward, after receiving that info, I will review the project based on the "Dike Decommissioning" guidelines for Dike 49 and the "[New Dikes & Upgrades to Existing Dikes](#)" guidelines for Dike 88.

If we have the same understanding please let me know, and I will move forward with the review.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: March 13, 2023 12:07 PM
To: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Doyle, Jessica FOR:EX <Jessica.Doyle@gov.bc.ca>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Background information on Dike 88 alignment and proposed next steps

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Yannic,

Thanks for the email and phone call this morning.

I have a couple of questions (**in bold**) below that I am seeking some clarification on.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: March 13, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Cc: Doyle, Jessica FOR:EX <Jessica.Doyle@gov.bc.ca>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Background information on Dike 88 alignment and proposed next steps

Hi Thomas, Thanks for your patience with this file. The approach you've laid out for this seems logical and we don't have any additional immediate questions at this point. I should note that while we have strived to provide the best support we can, Chantelle, as the Deputy Inspector of Dikes covering for this region, will still need to independently review the applications for decommissioning of Dike 49 and raising of a portion of Dike 88 once submitted. We cannot advise on an outcome beforehand or risk fettering of a decision.

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s.13 ; s.16

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s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21

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s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21 ; s.22

Tom Reid

West Coast Conservation Land Manager

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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s.21

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager


West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVAL - APPLICATION FORM

PART 1. CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant: The Nature Trust of British Columbia – West Coast Conservation Land Management Program		Applicant File Number (if applicable):
Name of Applicant Contact or Agent: Tom Reid, West Coast Conservation Land Manager		
E-mail Address of Contact: treid@naturetrust.bc.ca		
Home Phone: ()	Business Phone: (250) 714-9808	Fax Number: ()
Mailing Address for Correspondence from Ministry of Environment: 500-888 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver BC		
		Postal Code: V6C 3K4
Applicant or Agent's Signature(s): 		Date: March 14 th , 2023
<p>NOTE: The purpose of this form is to highlight this application's major points to allow Ministry staff to both understand the key aspects of the project and to prioritize the application accordingly. For more information on the processing of this application, please read the preceding Approval Process.</p>		

PART 2. PROPOSED WORKS

<p>Location of Proposed Works</p> <p>Chainage specified on dike maps at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/dike-management/flood-protection-structures/dike-inventory or UTM Coordinates</p> <p>Dike Name: Dinsdale Farm Dike</p> <p>Dike Number: 49</p> <p>UTM Northing: 5399838</p> <p>UTM Easting: 451810</p> <p>Dike Name: Koksilah Dike</p> <p>Dike Number: 88</p>
<p>Project Name and/or Identifier:</p> <p>Cowichan/Koksilah Marsh Restoration Project</p>

DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVAL - APPLICATION FORM

<p>Briefly describe your proposed works:</p> <p>This project is focused on the restoration of estuarine habitat in the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary. The proposed project includes the alteration/decommissioning of the majority of Dike 49; removal of remnant agricultural berms in the Koksilah Marsh; sediment augmentation to build the marsh platform. Included in the project is the construction of works to ensure there is no transference of risk to adjacent property owners and that flood conditions/protection is improved. This includes working with the owner of Dike 88 to raise a small portion of Lochmanetz Road.</p> <p>Dike 49 will be removed utilizing the following methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use hydraulic excavators to remove the riprap, load into tandem axle gravel trucks and haul it off site. 2. Use hydraulic excavators to excavate the dike fill, load into tandem axle gravel trucks and haul it off site. 3. Scarify the surface of the dike footprint and allow natural processes to re-establish at the site. <p>See previously submitted detailed reports prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd.</p>		
<p>Provide a proposed construction schedule & note any constraints/milestones if important:</p> <p>Proposed construction start date: Summer 2023.</p>		
<p>Briefly describe your approach to ensure the integrity of existing flood protection system(s) is not compromised by the installation of the works:</p> <p>This project will not transfer risk to adjacent property owners. Through detailed assessments/modelling conditions will be improved for adjacent property owners in terms of flooding and will include a new set back private dike to enhance protection as well as working with the owner of Dike 88 to conduct a small upgrade.</p> <p>See attached detailed reports prepared by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd.</p>		
<p>Have you referred to the 'Provincial Design and Construction Guide' in your design?</p> <p>Yes or No (circle one)</p>	<p>Are there any exceptions to this guide?</p> <p>Yes or No (circle one)</p>	
<p>If yes, how and why have you deviated?</p>		
<p>Land Ownership</p> <p>Please check one of the following:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The applicant is the owner of the property</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The property is Crown land. Tenure/License Number:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The property is owned by the following Landowner (i.e., Landowner is different from applicant):</p>		
<p>Landowner's Name: The Nature Trust of British Columbia and Ducks Unlimited Canada, leased to the Province of BC</p>		
<p>Address:</p> <p>Same as applicant address.</p>		
<p>City:</p>	<p>Province:</p>	<p>Postal</p>

DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVAL - APPLICATION FORM

Phone:	e-mail:
Do you have the landowner's written approval to enter the lands(s) to complete the works? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Note: a) Ownership of all parcels of land on which the proposed works will occur must be identified, b) do not attach the written approval with the application, but keep it for your files as you may be asked to provide it during an inspection or audit	

PART 3. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Check off attachments to this application form:

- ✓ General Location Plan
- ✓ Detailed Site Plan
- ✓ Preliminary Design Drawings and Specifications
- ✓ Design Brief
- ✓ Previous correspondence regarding this site from the Ministry
- ✓ Summary of communications with adjacent landowners (Lot 1 and Lot 2)

If any required attachments are not included, please explain why.

Note: A sediment management plan is not required for this project as per communications with DIOD – Chantelle Grafton and confirmed by the Province of BC West Coast Region Ecosystems Section Head.

Formal letters of acknowledgement from adjacent landowners. Communications with landowners indicate support for the overall project. Letters are anticipated to be received April 15th.

Have you included attachments not listed above? Please list them below.

Letter of support from Cowichan Tribes
 Approval of project from Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee
 Approved decision note from the partners of the West Coast Conservation Land Management Program
 Email from CVRD Development Services
 Letter of support from Cowichan Valley Regional District

Please confirm whether an Environmental Assessment (EA) certificate is required for this project. Yes or **No** (circle one).

If yes, attach a copy of the EA-certificate.

If no, is there a pending approval? Yes or **No** (circle one).

If yes, please note that DMA approval cannot be granted until a copy of the EA-certificate has been submitted as a part of DMA application.

Note: Please forward a copy of this application to the appropriate Deputy Inspector of Dikes office as specified at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/dike-management> and to the Diking Authority responsible for the dike's operation and maintenance (see database: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/integrated-flood-hazard-management/dike-management/flood-protection-structures>)

- ✓ Please confirm that a copy of this application has been forwarded to the Diking Authority

DIKE MAINTENANCE ACT APPROVAL - APPLICATION FORM

Diking Authority contact information

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s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21

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s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21 ; s.22

Cheers,

Tom

Tom Reid

West Coast Conservation Land Manager

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

-

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s.21

West Coast Conservation Land Manager

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.21 ; s.22

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16

2.6 Written Consent for Transfer of Risk

- The removal of an existing flood protection system must not transfer flood risk (either an increased probability of flooding or increase in damages from flooding) to third parties' properties without their written consent.
- The requirement for written consent is not required when the dike to be decommissioned has been replaced by a new dike providing an equal or greater level of flood protection.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Cc: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX (Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca); Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale conversation
Sent: 02/27/2023 23:16:47
Attachments: image001.png, image002.jpg, image003.png
Message Body:

s.13; s.16

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: February 27, 2023 12:19 PM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>; Steven Henstra <shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale conversation

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle and Yannic,

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s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21

I will try to get back to you soon as I can. Thanks again

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Water Management | North Area

Phone 778-693-2766 |

Ministry of Forests

From: Lucas Dunbar (LDunbar@nhcweb.com)
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca); Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX (Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Wil Hilsen (WHilsen@nhcweb.com); Graham Hill (GHill@nhcweb.com); Tom Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); shenstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: 2023-02-22 Meeting Notes
Sent: 02/27/2023 17:31:26
Attachments: image001.png, 20230224 3006733 NHC Meeting Summary Notes R0.pdf
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Yannic and Chantelle,

I've attached the notes I prepared from last week's meeting for your reference.

Regards,

Lucas Dunbar, EIT | Hydrotechnical Engineer
Pronouns: he / him

northwest hydraulic consultants
400 - 495 Dunsmuir Street | Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9 | Canada
Tel: (250) 754-6425 x3309
LDunbar@nhcweb.com | www.nhcweb.com

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s.13 ; s.21

From: Patterson, Jesse L WRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca)
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Sediments in a estuary question
Sent: 02/04/2023 00:14:21
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

Hi Chantelle,

Great question.

I have been briefed on the Dinsdale Dike removal project in the Cowichan Estuary previously so I am familiar with the proposed work plan and objectives.

As I understand, the primary goal of the project is to build back estuarine wetlands that will be resilient to sea-level rise while also creating much needed fish habitat. The current site has been degraded from land-use activities including flood protection and conversion to agriculture, which has reduced the connectivity to natural sediment sources.

In these estuarine marsh restoration projects, significant additional sediment inputs are required to recover lost elevation in order to create suitable habitat. Key metrics of successful estuarine ecosystem restoration efforts include sediment characteristics like accretion rate and elevation. If sufficient sediment supply and tidal exchange are available, then restoration success (recover lost grade, allow growth of desired marsh vegetation, mitigate sea level rise) is likely.

Controlling or mitigating against sediment inputs in these types of projects could jeopardize their likelihood of success.

Adult coho and chum salmon are known to migrate upstream through the Cowichan estuary, and estuaries provide shelter, forage, and rearing habitats for juvenile salmon as they migrate back to sea. Salmon are not spawning in these brackish channels. Sedimentation is a concern in upstream freshwater environments because sediment can smother eggs and larvae; however, this is *not* a concern in the estuary. I don't believe that this project poses any risk to these fish populations if the work is carried out during the low-risk timing window defined by Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Happy to discuss this issue further should you have any questions or require additional input.

Cheers,

Jesse Patterson, PhD, RPBio

Section Head, Ecosystems

West Coast Region

Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship

2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

778-974-6346

I acknowledge the deep and profound connection between Indigenous peoples and the land, and am grateful to work together to build better relationships with fish, wildlife and habitats for future generations.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: February 1, 2023 3:28 PM

To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Sediments in a estuary question

Hi Jesse,

I am helping out the Nanaimo office with a Dike decommission but I am unfamiliar with construction concerns near the ocean. The Dinsdale Dike decommission occurs alongside a stream in a estuary, and the goal of the project is to actually bring sediment in to reestablish it. I see that there have been chum salmon caught near the site, so I'm wondering how you folks approach sedimentation concerns. Is this still an issue in estuary? Jessica Doyle referred me your way, thanks ahead of time :-)

Cheers,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests

North Area

Phone: 778-693-2766

5th Floor – 499 George Street

Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)

Subject: Sediment mgmt plan discussion

Sent: 02/01/2023 23:00:26

Attachments: image002.png, image004.png, image005.png, image006.jpg, Patterson_CEEMC_LOS_CowichanEstuaryMarshRestoration_020922.pdf, 2022-11-07 Cowichan Koksilah Estuary Restoration.pdf, Dinsdale Farm Decision Note_FINAL_Signed_All partners.pdf

Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Just wanted to follow up with you with regards to the sediment management plan and fisheries concerns/habitat/ecosystems (pasted your comment below for reference).

s.21

In addition to the submission of our permit application under the DMA this project was also subject to a regulatory environmental assessment review as per OIC 1652 (https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/oic/arc_oic/1652_1986). This OIC establishes that any project occurring within the Cowichan Estuary Management Area be reviewed/approved by a committee made up of representatives from: Province of BC (represented by Ecosystems Section Head), Cowichan Valley Regional District (represented by Environment Manager, Planning Manager), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (represented by the Section Head for Coastal Watershed Operations – Regulatory Review Unit of Fish and Fish Habitat Protection), Municipality of North Cowichan and Cowichan Tribes. This project was submitted for review in accordance to the OIC and a subsequent meeting was held to respond to questions. Following this review/meeting we received the letter of approval from this committee (attached and previously submitted) and no concerns were raised about sediment into the estuary and/or impacts to habitat.

Similarly this project also needed to be approved and signed off by the West Coast Conservation Lands Program Partners (previous decision note distributed but attached again) – which includes Dale Desrochers Regional Manager for Restoration of Fisheries & Oceans Canada and the West Coast Region Ecosystems Section Head (Jesse Patterson).

As mentioned the goal of this overall project is to allow for natural processes of sediment movement to occur in the estuary in order to build resilience to climate change and to restore the critical intertidal marsh habitats which directly support salmonids, migratory birds etc. With the

regulatory reviews and support we have received from Provincial Ecosystems and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and in discussions with Brian Epps on this item, it is unclear if a comprehensive sediment management plan is still required as we are working primarily within an intertidal landscape.

s.13; s.21

Will follow up with a call later this afternoon or on Friday.

Thanks for your efforts helping us navigate the DMA approval process!

Cheers,

Tom

Tom Reid, Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878



File: 39000-01/LOS

September 2, 2022

VIA EMAIL: treid@naturetrust.ca

West Coast Conservation Lands Management Program - Nature Trust of BC
2080A Labieux Road
Nanaimo, BC
V9T 6J9

Re: Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Letter of Support for Major Restoration Works in Koksilah/Cowichan Estuary

Dear Thomas Reid,

I am writing to confirm the support of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee (the Committee) for the proposed Major Restoration Works in Koksilah/Cowichan Estuary (the Project).

The Committee met on August 23, 2022 and discussed the proposal after reviewing relevant materials and a presentation provided by the Proponent. The relevant materials included a letter to the Committee summarizing key background information and key findings from a qualified professional. The professional report documented the existing condition of various diking in the estuary and expected impacts of sea level rise and future storm events. The existing dike structures do not meet Provincial Standards for flood protection and require significant upgrades. Furthermore, the existing dike structures do not provide flood protection during modelled 10-year or 200-year flood events. The Project proposes to remove approximately 1,700 lineal meters (m) of existing diking, thereby leading to the naturalization of approximately 49 hectares (ha) of estuary habitat.

The Committee recognizes that loss and degradation of saltmarsh habitat has resulted from extensive diking for agriculture and other uses. A primary objective of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan is to “support rehabilitation of presently degraded habitat in the estuary.” The Project as proposed will make great strides in achieving this objective, and the Project is deemed to be consistent with the objectives of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan.

Page 1 of 2

The Committee wishes you the best of success with this Project and looks forward to seeing it completed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Jesse Patterson, RPBio, PhD

Chair, Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee

Section Head, Ecosystems, West Coast Region
Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship

cc:

Tracy Fleming, Cowichan Tribes
Eamon Gaunt, Cowichan Tribes
Kate Miller, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Mike Tippet, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Anne Kjerulf, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Vince Harper, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Dave Preikshot, Municipality of North Cowichan



175 Ingram Street
Duncan, BC V9L 1N8
www.cvr.bc.ca

Office: 250.746.2500
Fax: 250.746.2513
Toll Free: 1.800.665.3955

November 7, 2022

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program
2080 Labieux Road
NANAIMO BC V9T 6J9

via email: treid@naturetrust.ca

Attention: Thomas Reid, Manager

Re: Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary Restoration Project

Dear Thomas Reid:

Thank you for contacting the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) and sharing information regarding proposed flood mitigation and habitat restoration activities within the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary. I am writing to confirm that the proposed activities as presented, which will be led by the Province of BC, do not require permits or other land use approvals from the CVRD.

You have indicated that the Province of BC with Cowichan Tribes and other partners, intends to lead a major restoration of the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary, involving the removal of existing dikes from "administered conservation lands", in order to mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, restore ecosystems, enhance habitat for fish and wildlife, and provide for greater flood protection.

The proposed activities are consistent with the [CVRD Official Community Plan for the Electoral Areas](#), which includes numerous statements supporting the restoration of the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary. The CVRD Board:

Recognizes the international importance of the marine foreshore areas for fisheries, food, social, cultural, security, tourism and marine wildlife.


Supports recognition of ecologically sensitive areas by identifying and conserving special wildlife, plant and marine shore environments in their natural state. Modifications to environmentally sensitive areas that assist in building resilience to the effects of sea level rise will be permitted.

Recognizes the cultural significance of the Cowichan Estuary and foreshore to First Nations and will consult with Cowichan Tribes and Malahat on development proposals and other land use matters concerning the estuary and foreshore

I note that the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan Committee endorsed the project on August 23, 2022, and that Cowichan Tribes, who have worked extensively in partnership with Nature Trust BC toward the restoration of habitat within Cowichan Tribes' traditional territory, have also expressed support for this project.

I would like to invite you to make a presentation to the CVRD Board, who will be interested to learn more about the project and understand the timeline for the work, including transitioning the park and trail use, and how this will be communicated to the broader public. Please do not hesitate to contact me at ann.kjerulf@cprd.bc.ca or 250.746.2601 to discuss this opportunity.

Sincerely,



Ann Kjerulf, RPP, MCIP
General Manager, Land Use Services

\\AK

cc:

Jesse Patterson, Chair, Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan Committee (jesse.patterson@gov.bc.ca)
Larry George, Director of Lulumexun, Cowichan Tribes (larry.george@cowichantribes.com)
Danielle Myles Wilson, Chief Administrative Officer, CVRD
Michelle Pressman, Manager, Development Services, CVRD
Kate Miller, Manager, Environmental Services, CVRD
Coralie Breen, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, CVRD

DECISION NOTE

To: WCCLMP Steering Committee
Prepared by: Thomas Reid, Conservation Land Manager, WCCLMP
Date: May 2nd, 2022
RE: **Future of Dinsdale Farm – S/C Decision**

Dear Committee Members,

Please treat this decision note as confidential only to be used for internal agency communications as required.

Reason for Decision Note:

This decision note is for the WCCLMP Steering Committee (S/C) to formally review the options and approve the future management direction of Dinsdale Farm in the Cowichan Estuary. This review is required as the management of this property is at a critical juncture due to the current condition of the dike and challenges facing the overall health and integrity of the estuary: 1) reinforce/repair existing diking system to *Dike Maintenance Act* (DMA) standards and continue with status quo land use; or 2) implement large scale restoration project to enhance estuary resilience to sea level rise and provide additional fish/wildlife habitat.

Key points:

- The Dinsdale Dike (#49) and the Koksilah Dike (#88) are regulated under the *DMA*, and together protect the low-lying lands east of Cowichan Bay Road.
- Dinsdale and Koksilah dike structures do not meet Provincial Standards for flood protection and require significant upgrades to meet Provincial standards as they are at risk of overtopping, erosion and potentially breaching during severe storm events.
- Existing Dinsdale and Koksilah dike structures do not provide flood protection during either the 10 year or 200 year flood events.
- PECP 2019 Estuary Ranking – Cowichan Estuary is a Class 1 system in terms of biological importance.
- Analysis completed as part of BCSRIF project indicates that sea-level will rise by 28 cm by 2050 and 76 cm by 2100 (without an Antarctic ice sheet collapse – with collapse this will rise to over 140 cm); this is equivalent to 2-5 mm/year up to 10 mm/year or faster
- Results of Surface Elevation Table (SET) monitoring along with analysis of sediment cores indicates that SLR is expected to far outpace the rate of accretion.
- Without the removal of existing barriers to estuary migration inland, the estuary – and the southern portion in particular – will experience significant coastal squeeze and loss of habitat
- Based on these rates the habitable range for the estuary marsh (e.g. *Carex*, *Salicornia* etc.) vegetation class will decline by 47% by mid-century. The habitable zone for vegetation overall (marsh and meadow) will decline by 59% in the Cowichan estuary by 2100. **This estimate includes the restoration of Dinsdale Farm to a natural estuary in the next 3 years.**
- This habitat loss will substantially impact the estuaries ability to continue to support healthy populations of fish and wildlife.
- WCCLMP has earmarked \$2M to fund the restoration implementation, and the project could be completely paid for under the BC SRIF project.

DECISION NOTE

Background Information:

<i>Management Regime</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinsdale Farm is 2 parcels; approximately 100acres Title held by TNT (72%), DUC (28%) Parcels leased to Province for 99 years via standard lease agreement for management (including dike management) Managed by WCCLMP HCTF O&M funding eligible and utilized for land management activities PECP eligible property – farm revenues utilized for management as needed (e.g. culverts, fences, dike maintenance) DUC protocol agreement for the management of a water control structure in diking system
<i>Farm Lease</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm leased to Sunnyvale Farms Operating period May 1st – October 15th Annual rent \$10,000 Crops: corn, rye grass, reed canary grass, winter cover crops
<i>License Agreement with CVRD Parks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maple Grove area licensed to CVRD Parks as a community park License agreement expires June 1, 2033
<i>Public use</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking on Dinsdale dike CAGO hunting with permission on farm property; 3 targeted seasons Waterfowl hunting in Koksilah Marsh Wildlife viewing from Dinsdale dike viewing platform Retriever dog trials
<i>Dike Maintenance Act</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dike is a provincially recognized diking system and is subject to all requirements of the Dike Maintenance Act
<i>Current Land Management Issues</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive disturbance to wildlife caused by off leash dogs and walkers Recreational user conflicts – hunting vs. no hunting Vandalism of interpretive signs and viewing platform; control structure Invasive species; Garbage/debris Questions regarding existence of farm, farm practices Annual dike maintenance; erosion; flooding Sea level rise; coastal squeeze
<i>Fish, wildlife values</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No fish values on Dinsdale Farm; some riparian habitat on dike adjacent to southern edge of property Overwintering waterfowl use of farm fields; raptor foraging Breeding bird habitat for swallows; nest boxes on farm SAR species use: Short-eared owl use of hedgerows
<i>Cowichan Tribes' Opinion and Views</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not support continued farming in estuary

Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd.: Review of Potential Restoration Project Options

In FY 2021/22 Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd (NHC) was hired to support scoping, design, construction and regulatory approvals for three potential projects within the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary south of Westcan Terminal Road to address the key concerns identified above (see attached brochure). The complete report is available in the

DECISION NOTE

following drive (2022 Meeting Materials>Restoration Monitoring Inventory>BCSRIF) ¹:

s.15

These projects include:

1. **Dinsdale Farm dike removal and marsh restoration.** Prior to diking and agricultural usage, the Dinsdale Farm was estuarine marsh habitat. Removal of approximately 1,700 lineal meters (m) of existing diking and naturalization of the farmlands to estuarine marsh would restore and reintroduce approximately 49 hectares (ha) of lost estuary habitat. A critical factor for project completion is the successful decommissioning of the Dinsdale Dike (Dike #49), which connects to the Koksilah Dike (Dike #88) on its north end; both dikes are currently regulated under the *DMA*, but do not conform to modern standards¹. *DMA* approval to decommission a regulated dike requires a thorough assessment of existing any future potential risks associated with the project, among other requirements¹.

As part of this assessment both full removal and partial removal scenarios were assessed along with measures that can be implemented to mitigate risk.
2. **Remnant agricultural dike removal south of the Westcan Terminal Causeway.** This project involves the removal of approximately 1,600 lineal m of existing agricultural dikes that surround Koksilah Marsh. The remnant dike would be excavated to a final elevation equivalent to that of the surrounding marsh to improve tidal and freshwater flows to the Koksilah Marsh and potentially improve fish and wildlife access.
3. **Sediment augmentation in a low-lying portion of the eastern Koksilah Marsh.** The eastern portion of the Koksilah Marsh (formerly CN Rail lands) has not re-established as the rest of the marsh has. The elevation is lower and marsh plants have not colonized the bench fully. This project involves augmenting the approximately 3.5 ha area with sediment to raise the ground to a more suitable elevation for marsh growth. The target elevation is ~1.2 m CGVD2013, representing an average fill depth of 0.6 m.

The three projects will involve moving significant volumes of material; the feasibility and costs of the projects are tied to the ability to beneficially re-use excavated material from the two dike removal projects to construct mitigation measures and undertake the sediment augmentation in a phased manner¹.

Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd – Dinsdale Farm Investigation:

The focus of the Dinsdale Farm assessment included:

- Identifying regulatory requirements/processes under the *DMA* including engagement with Deputy Inspector of Dikes in the West Coast Region
- Defining key characteristics of the study region, including physical processes and reviewing information collected by via the BCSRIF project and other projects to inform recommended course of action
- Outline key characteristics of Dinsdale Farm dike and adjacent infrastructure
- Define historic and existing levels of protection provided by the Dinsdale Farm dike including reviewing the dike in terms of the Dike Maintenance Act
- Define potential design options for the Dinsdale Farm marsh restoration and full removal or partial removal of the Dinsdale Farm dike

¹ NHC (Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Inc). 2022. Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration Project: Assessment of Physical Processes and Restoration Opportunities. Prepared for The Nature Trust of British Columbia. 170 pp.

DECISION NOTE

- Summarize changes in flood or erosion/sedimentation risk related to the removal or partial removal of the Dinsdale Farm dike
- Define measures that may be required to mitigate any increased risk

Key findings:

Existing Conditions:

- Two DMA regulated dikes in South Cowichan estuary
 - Koksilah Dike #88
 - Dinsdale Dike #49
- Dinsdale Dike #49 owned by NTBC and DUC; leased to Province of BC who is responsible entity for dike
- Koksilah Dike #88 protects two adjacent private properties
- Both dikes do not conform to DMA standards
- Dinsdale Dike #49
 - Approx. ½ dike is rip rap – does not extend to dike crest
 - Unprotected portions show erosion/slumping
 - If dike is to be relied upon for flood mitigation it is recommended that it undergo significant repair.
- In order to decommission the existing Dinsdale Dike, Deputy Inspector of Dikes (DIOD) requires that mitigative measures maintain either the existing level of protection or protect against flooding with a 10 year return period – whichever is more stringent.
- Current conditions allow for inundation of the diking system at ocean levels with a higher frequency than a 10 year return period
- Mitigation measures associated with the 10 year return period flood event have been considered in the report as it provides more stringent protective measures.

Modelling of existing flood protection for 10 year hydraulic flood event.

Item	Existing Conditions
Wave exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waves are depth limited Seaward of dikes waves are dissipated by existing marshlands; wave heights not expected to exceed 0.3m within diked areas
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding is expected to overtop Cowichan Bay Road to a depth of 0.3m Flooding is expected to inundate adjacent private parcels to a depth of 1.1m Dinsdale Farm inundated to approximately 1.3m
Erosion, Deposition, Sediment Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion potential highest on north side; velocities 1.5m/s Within Dinsdale Farm and adjacent private lands velocities do not generally exceed 0.5m/s
Transference of Flood and Erosion Risk	N/A

Modelling of flood protection for 10 year hydraulic event with restoration project and mitigative measures:

Item	Full Removal	Partial Removal
Wave exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dike removal results in wave height increase between 0.0 – 0.2m Nominal increase in wave exposure for both present day and future SLR conditions 	
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding on private parcels reduced due to increased flow conveyance and reduced ponding Flooding levels decreased for parcels upstream 	

DECISION NOTE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration of extreme flooding decreased
Erosion, Deposition, Sediment Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Velocities within private parcels reduced between 0.0 and 0.5m/s Velocities increased within Dinsdale Farm due to increased flow conveyance
Transference of Flood and Erosion Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominal increase in wave run-up and wave erosion on bank of south distributary channel (construction of dike on unnamed road mitigates risk) Removal results in decreased flooding depths through South Cowichan Bay Estuary area Removal results in decreased flow velocities with private parcels Increased flow velocities near unnamed road can be mitigated through construction of small dike Construction of flap gate through unnamed road dike further reduces flood duration/depth

Options for consideration

Option #1 Fix Dinsdale dike system to DMA standards and continue to farm

- Repair dike to DMA standards for both 10 year and 200 year flood events; will require significant rip-rap armouring of dike.
- Maintain current land use patterns – farming, public access on dike, hunting

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing revenue collection from farm Diking system will be upgraded Will not cause public outcry regarding loss of walking trail or access to hunting opportunities Maintain winter waterfowl habitat on farm
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not address key issues of estuary resilience Contributes to coastal squeeze and nearshore ecosystem collapse Impacts to fish and wildlife populations and habitat due to construction of larger dike structure Likely to cause public outcry due to hardening of foreshore Expected expensive repairs to diking system that are not covered by any current funding source and will require partner investment Will likely undermine positive relationship being built with Cowichan Tribes for estuary monitoring, restoration and stewardship.

Option #2 Implementation of restoration project(s) including mitigation measures

- Proceed with restoration projects including the full removal of Dinsdale Dike along with mitigation measures
- Cancellation of CVRD License for Community Park (note: CVRD is aware of this potential and is supportive)
- Cancellation of farm lease agreement with Sunnyvale Farms
- Remove viewing platform on farm dike and relocate to Westcan Terminal Causeway
- Closure of project area for recreational use
- Agreement by NTBC/DUC/Province to construct small DMA approved set back dike to minimize transference of risk to adjacent lands; dike would be managed via WCCLMP under current management regime

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of 49 ha of estuarine habitat for fish/wildlife Improved habitat conditions for many species that rely on estuaries (plants, fish, shellfish, birds, marine mammals etc) Demonstrates partner commitment to enhancing the resilience of the Cowichan Estuary in face of sea-level rise; significantly reduces influence of coastal squeeze
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WEST COAST CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



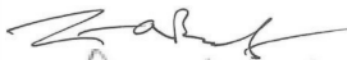
DECISION NOTE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction/elimination of land management issues associated with user conflicts, vandalism, garbage Reduced flooding risk to neighboring private properties Cowichan Tribes and public support for project Eliminates issues with farm management (e.g. fertilizer inputs etc.) No increase in operational budget needs and potential reduction of land management costs Cost of restoration completely covered by BC SRIF funding – unique and timely opportunity
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to cause public outcry due to loss of hiking trail, bird watching area, and hunting Loss of agricultural land and ability to plant beneficial crops for waterfowl Loss of revenue

WCCLMP Staff Recommendation = Option #2

Approved by WCCLMP S/C May 10th, 2022

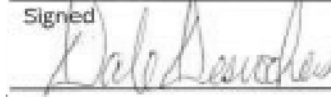
Environment and Climate
Change Canada

 Manager, Protected Areas and Stewardship

Signed

Name/Title

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

 Manager, Resource Restoration

Signed

Name/Title

Province of BC



Jesse Patterson, Ecosystems Section Head

Signed

Name/Title

The Nature Trust of BC



Director of Conservation Land Management

Signed

Name/Title

Ducks Unlimited Canada

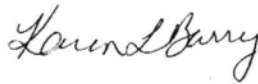


Sarah Nathan, Manager of Provincial Operations

Signed

Name/Title

Habitat Conservation Trust
Foundation



Karen Barry, Manager Biology and Evaluation

Signed

Name/Title

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale dike decommission – follow-up & questions
Sent: 01/31/2023 23:26:46
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle – yes NHC will be joining the call. I will send the memo to you as soon as we receive it.

Thanks.

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: January 31, 2023 10:37 AM
To: Thomas Reid
Subject: RE: Dinsdale dike decommission – follow-up & questions

Hey Tom, that sounds great. If possible I would like to have some time to review the report before the meeting, if timelines allow. Will NHC be joining the call?

Cheers,

Chantelle

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: January 30, 2023 5:21 PM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale dike decommission – follow-up & questions

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Thanks for the email and follow up. I have been working with NHC on several of the items below with a focus on the highlighted portion below.

NHC will be issuing another technical report/opinion on the structures and applicability of the DMA tomorrow afternoon. Once received I will forward on to you.

Are you available to meet after 3pm on Wednesday?

Cheers,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [<mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: January 27, 2023 11:51 AM
To: Thomas Reid; THOMAS REID
Subject: Dinsdale dike decommission – follow-up & questions

Hi Tom,

Thank you again for meeting with us yesterday to review the decommission. The updated final report that I received off of the Google Drive did have the drawings I was looking for, so thanks again for that as well. A couple more questions for you and/or NHC:

s.13; s.16

Let me know if you have any questions, and I look forward to talk more about this next week with possibly yourself and NHC.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests

North Area

Phone: 778-693-2766

5th Floor – 499 George Street

Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

Page 543 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

NR

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (chantelle.grafton@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); THOMAS REID (thomasreid@shaw.ca)
Subject: Dinsdale dike decommission – follow-up & questions
Sent: 01/27/2023 19:51:04
Attachments: eng_cert_form_jul_2016.pdf, image002.png
Message Body:

Hi Tom,

Thank you again for meeting with us yesterday to review the decommission. The updated final report that I received off of the Google Drive did have the drawings I was looking for, so thanks again for that as well. A couple more questions for you and/or NHC:

s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

Let me know if you have any questions, and I look forward to talk more about this next week with possibly yourself and NHC.

Thank you,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests

North Area

Phone: 778-693-2766

5th Floor – 499 George Street

Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

Professional Letter of Commitment*

*This relates to the design and/or field review¹ of dike² works subject to approval under the *Dike Maintenance Act*

To: The Deputy Provincial Inspector of Dikes (DIOD)³

Name and address of DIOD

Re: _____

Project Name and/or Identifier

1.0 Mark off the field(s) of expertise listed below that will apply to the undersigned Professional Engineer.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil | <input type="checkbox"/> Structural |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geotechnical | <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrotechnical | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | |

All disciplines will not necessarily be employed on every project

2.0 The undersigned hereby commits to:

- 2.1 Undertake responsibility for any design within his/her field of expertise that impacts the dike, and carry out all related field construction reviews necessary to ensure that the dike will be safe for the intended use of flood protection.
- 2.2 Obtaining prior-written approval from the Deputy Inspector of Dikes for any subsequent changes and/or modifications to a project already approved under the *Dike Maintenance Act*.
- 2.3 Unless differently specified by the *Dike Maintenance Act* Approval issued for the project, within 60 days after project completion providing the Deputy Inspector of Dikes the following:
- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| (a) <input type="checkbox"/> Certified as-built drawings | (d) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| (b) <input type="checkbox"/> Operation and Maintenance Manual(s) | (e) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| (c) <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Management Plan | (f) <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
- 2.4 Submitting a written report, certified by the Professional Engineer, stating that the approved works, and any related or effected portion of the dike and components, will be safe for the intended use of flood protection within 60 days after project completion.

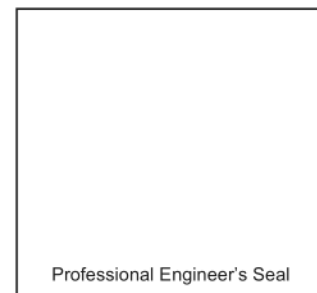
3.0 The undersigned also agrees to notify the Deputy Inspector of Dikes and the Diking Authority in writing as soon as possible if the undersigned's work on the project is terminated, and upon receipt of such notice, shall be released from any obligations arising after the date of termination.

Name

Address

Phone Number

email address



¹ Field Reviews are defined as those reviews of work at a project site or fabrication location necessary to ascertain whether the work substantially conforms to the design of the works prepared by the registered professional and issued approval under the *Dike Maintenance Act*.

² As defined in the *Dike Maintenance Act*

³ Please refer to Provincial List of Deputy Inspectors at the following link: http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/public_safety/flood/pdfs_word/dike_safety_contacts_jan-2016.pdf

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project
Sent: 01/25/2023 23:53:53
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle – just following up on this regarding tomorrow. Thanks, Tom

From: Thomas Reid
Sent: January 25, 2023 11:52 AM
To: 'Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX'
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Hi Chantelle,

I spoke with NHC regarding their availability to participate in the discussion and the only opening they have is tomorrow between 9-10. Not too sure if it is necessary that they attend but if there are questions regarding engineering/hydrology assessments it may be good.

If 9-10 does not work on your end we should still plan to chat at 3:30 and can arrange further meetings with NHC as appropriate.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid
Sent: January 24, 2023 3:48 PM
To: 'Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX'
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Thanks. Look forward to it!

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [[span lang="EN-US">mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)]
Sent: January 24, 2023 3:41 PM
To: Thomas Reid
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Let's tentatively scheduled for 330 on Thursday, I will confirm with you tomorrow morning after checking with my coworker but regardless we will chat this week.

Thank you,

Chantelle

From: Thomas Reid <[span lang="EN-US">treid@naturetrust.bc.ca](mailto:treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)>
Sent: January 24, 2023 3:14 PM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <[span lang="EN-US">Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Thanks for the reply. I have the following times available on Thursday

- 9-10am
- 1-2pm
- 3:30-4:30pm

I will also see if I can have one of our NHC engineers be available as well to provide an overview of the work completed to date.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [[span lang="EN-US">mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)]
Sent: January 24, 2023 2:25 PM
To: Thomas Reid
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Hey Tom, thank you for answering my questions. Do you have time on Thursday for a call? I am hoping to wrangle 1 of our southern dike inspectors to join as well if you are available and we can go over the file. Do you have a copy of the email you referred to from Brian that ^{s.16}
s.13; s.16

smooth as possible. Please let me know some times you could be available on Thursday if that works for you.

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests

North Area

Tel. 1-778-693-2766

499 George St.

Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

From: Thomas Reid <[span lang="EN-US">treid@naturetrust.bc.ca](mailto:treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)>
Sent: January 24, 2023 1:41 PM
To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <[span lang="EN-US">Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

Apologies for the numerous messages.

s.21

Can you please advise as soon as possible on the official interpretation of this option?

Answers to your other questions in **bold**.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid
Sent: January 23, 2023 3:36 PM
To: 'Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX'
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Hi Chantelle,

Thanks for the reply. Do you have some time this week for a quick discussion? May be easier to navigate some of the questions/documents as there are a lot of them going around.

s.21

Thanks,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [[span lang="EN-US">mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)]
Sent: January 23, 2023 2:51 PM
To: Thomas Reid
Cc: Henstra, Steven FOR:EX; Wil Hilsen; Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Hi Tom,

Thank you for your patience while I get caught up with this file. I have some questions and hopefully they aren't too redundant for you. If you look at your previous email below I have answered your questions in orange, so please let me know if you have questions about that as well. But this will get us started!

s.13; s.16

Thanks again,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests

North Area

Tel. 1-778-693-2766

499 George St.

Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Sent: January 14, 2023 3:49 PM

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>;
Henstra, Steven FOR:EX <Steven.Henstra@gov.bc.ca>; Wil Hilsen
<WHilsen@nhcweb.com>; Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <<span
lang="EN-US">Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks Chantelle.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [[span lang="EN-US">mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)]

Sent: January 13, 2023 1:40 PM

To: Thomas Reid; Henstra, Steven FOR:EX; Wil Hilsen; Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Hi Tom,

Yannic and I will be working together with you for the remainder of this decommission project. I have received your questions, I would like to follow up with you later next week if possible. Brian has been filling me in on where you are at so I just need a couple days to review and finish getting caught up. Thank you for your patience if you hear from me next week.

Sincerely,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests

North Area

Tel. 1-778-693-2766

499 George St.

Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Sent: January 9, 2023 3:16 PM

To: Henstra, Steven FOR:EX <Steven.Henstra@gov.bc.ca>; Wil Hilsen <WHilsen@nhcweb.com>; Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Happy New Year Yannic and Chantelle,

Given that s.22 I wanted to write to you both with regards to the email/memo received December 31st 2022. Specifically I want to: 1) directly respond to the questions/comments within Brian's memo regarding the outstanding items; and, 2) request clarification from your office with regards to some outstanding questions and requests made to Brian.

1. Response to December 31st, 2022 memo:

a. Decommissioning Policy 2.2 –

s.21

Page 555 of 630 to/à Page 556 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.21

Page 557 of 630 to/à Page 564 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)

To: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX (Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)

Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

Sent: 01/24/2023 00:23:54

Attachments: image003.jpg, image004.png, Dinsdale Farm Decision Note_FINAL_Signed_All partners.pdf

Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Chantelle,

s.21

Thanks,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca]

Sent: January 23, 2023 2:51 PM

To: Thomas Reid

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s.13; s.16

Thanks again,

Chantelle Grafton

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<WHilsen@nhcweb.com>; Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX <<span
lang="EN-US">Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

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Cheers,

Tom

From: Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX [[span lang="EN-US">mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)]

Sent: January 13, 2023 1:40 PM

To: Thomas Reid; Henstra, Steven FOR:EX; Wil Hilsen; Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Dinsdale Dike #49 - Decommissioning Project

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Sincerely,

Chantelle Grafton

Sr. Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests

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Prince George, BC V2L 1R5

From: Thomas Reid <[span lang="EN-US">treid@naturetrust.bc.ca](mailto:treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)>

Sent: January 9, 2023 3:16 PM

To: Henstra, Steven FOR:EX <[span lang="EN-US">Steven.Henstra@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Steven.Henstra@gov.bc.ca)>; Wil Hilsen <[span lang="EN-US">WHilsen@nhcweb.com](mailto:WHilsen@nhcweb.com)>; Brugman, Yannic FOR:EX

<[span lang="EN-US">Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Yannic.Brugman@gov.bc.ca)>; Grafton, Chantelle FOR:EX <[span lang="EN-US">Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chantelle.Grafton@gov.bc.ca)>

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1. Response to December 31st, 2022 memo:

a. Decommissioning Policy 2.2 –

s.21

Page 569 of 630 to/à Page 570 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.21

Page 571 of 630 to/à Page 578 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

DECISION NOTE

To: WCCLMP Steering Committee
Prepared by: Thomas Reid, Conservation Land Manager, WCCLMP
Date: May 2nd, 2022
RE: **Future of Dinsdale Farm – S/C Decision**

Dear Committee Members,

Please treat this decision note as confidential only to be used for internal agency communications as required.

Reason for Decision Note:

This decision note is for the WCCLMP Steering Committee (S/C) to formally review the options and approve the future management direction of Dinsdale Farm in the Cowichan Estuary. This review is required as the management of this property is at a critical juncture due to the current condition of the dike and challenges facing the overall health and integrity of the estuary: 1) reinforce/repair existing diking system to *Dike Maintenance Act* (DMA) standards and continue with status quo land use; or 2) implement large scale restoration project to enhance estuary resilience to sea level rise and provide additional fish/wildlife habitat.

Key points:

- The Dinsdale Dike (#49) and the Koksilah Dike (#88) are regulated under the *DMA*, and together protect the low-lying lands east of Cowichan Bay Road.
- Dinsdale and Koksilah dike structures do not meet Provincial Standards for flood protection and require significant upgrades to meet Provincial standards as they are at risk of overtopping, erosion and potentially breaching during severe storm events.
- Existing Dinsdale and Koksilah dike structures do not provide flood protection during either the 10 year or 200 year flood events.
- PECP 2019 Estuary Ranking – Cowichan Estuary is a Class 1 system in terms of biological importance.
- Analysis completed as part of BCSRIF project indicates that sea-level will rise by 28 cm by 2050 and 76 cm by 2100 (without an Antarctic ice sheet collapse – with collapse this will rise to over 140 cm); this is equivalent to 2-5 mm/year up to 10 mm/year or faster
- Results of Surface Elevation Table (SET) monitoring along with analysis of sediment cores indicates that SLR is expected to far outpace the rate of accretion.
- Without the removal of existing barriers to estuary migration inland, the estuary – and the southern portion in particular – will experience significant coastal squeeze and loss of habitat
- Based on these rates the habitable range for the estuary marsh (e.g. *Carex*, *Salicornia* etc.) vegetation class will decline by 47% by mid-century. The habitable zone for vegetation overall (marsh and meadow) will decline by 59% in the Cowichan estuary by 2100. **This estimate includes the restoration of Dinsdale Farm to a natural estuary in the next 3 years.**
- This habitat loss will substantially impact the estuaries ability to continue to support healthy populations of fish and wildlife.
- WCCLMP has earmarked \$2M to fund the restoration implementation, and the project could be completely paid for under the BC SRIF project.

DECISION NOTE

Background Information:

<i>Management Regime</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinsdale Farm is 2 parcels; approximately 100 acres Title held by TNT (72%), DUC (28%) Parcels leased to Province for 99 years via standard lease agreement for management (including dike management) Managed by WCCLMP HCTF O&M funding eligible and utilized for land management activities PECP eligible property – farm revenues utilized for management as needed (e.g. culverts, fences, dike maintenance) DUC protocol agreement for the management of a water control structure in diking system
<i>Farm Lease</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm leased to Sunnyvale Farms Operating period May 1st – October 15th Annual rent \$10,000 Crops: corn, rye grass, reed canary grass, winter cover crops
<i>License Agreement with CVRD Parks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maple Grove area licensed to CVRD Parks as a community park License agreement expires June 1, 2033
<i>Public use</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking on Dinsdale dike CAGO hunting with permission on farm property; 3 targeted seasons Waterfowl hunting in Koksilah Marsh Wildlife viewing from Dinsdale dike viewing platform Retriever dog trials
<i>Dike Maintenance Act</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dike is a provincially recognized diking system and is subject to all requirements of the Dike Maintenance Act
<i>Current Land Management Issues</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive disturbance to wildlife caused by off leash dogs and walkers Recreational user conflicts – hunting vs. no hunting Vandalism of interpretive signs and viewing platform; control structure Invasive species; Garbage/debris Questions regarding existence of farm, farm practices Annual dike maintenance; erosion; flooding Sea level rise; coastal squeeze
<i>Fish, wildlife values</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No fish values on Dinsdale Farm; some riparian habitat on dike adjacent to southern edge of property Overwintering waterfowl use of farm fields; raptor foraging Breeding bird habitat for swallows; nest boxes on farm SAR species use: Short-eared owl use of hedgerows
<i>Cowichan Tribes' Opinion and Views</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not support continued farming in estuary

Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd.: Review of Potential Restoration Project Options

In FY 2021/22 Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd (NHC) was hired to support scoping, design, construction and regulatory approvals for three potential projects within the Cowichan/Koksilah Estuary south of Westcan Terminal Road to address the key concerns identified above (see attached brochure). The complete report is available in the

DECISION NOTE

following drive (2022 Meeting Materials>Restoration Monitoring Inventory>BCSRIF) ¹:

s.15

These projects include:

1. **Dinsdale Farm dike removal and marsh restoration.** Prior to diking and agricultural usage, the Dinsdale Farm was estuarine marsh habitat. Removal of approximately 1,700 lineal meters (m) of existing diking and naturalization of the farmlands to estuarine marsh would restore and reintroduce approximately 49 hectares (ha) of lost estuary habitat. A critical factor for project completion is the successful decommissioning of the Dinsdale Dike (Dike #49), which connects to the Koksilah Dike (Dike #88) on its north end; both dikes are currently regulated under the *DMA*, but do not conform to modern standards¹. *DMA* approval to decommission a regulated dike requires a thorough assessment of existing any future potential risks associated with the project, among other requirements¹.

As part of this assessment both full removal and partial removal scenarios were assessed along with measures that can be implemented to mitigate risk.
2. **Remnant agricultural dike removal south of the Westcan Terminal Causeway.** This project involves the removal of approximately 1,600 lineal m of existing agricultural dikes that surround Koksilah Marsh. The remnant dike would be excavated to a final elevation equivalent to that of the surrounding marsh to improve tidal and freshwater flows to the Koksilah Marsh and potentially improve fish and wildlife access.
3. **Sediment augmentation in a low-lying portion of the eastern Koksilah Marsh.** The eastern portion of the Koksilah Marsh (formerly CN Rail lands) has not re-established as the rest of the marsh has. The elevation is lower and marsh plants have not colonized the bench fully. This project involves augmenting the approximately 3.5 ha area with sediment to raise the ground to a more suitable elevation for marsh growth. The target elevation is ~1.2 m CGVD2013, representing an average fill depth of 0.6 m.

The three projects will involve moving significant volumes of material; the feasibility and costs of the projects are tied to the ability to beneficially re-use excavated material from the two dike removal projects to construct mitigation measures and undertake the sediment augmentation in a phased manner¹.

Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd – Dinsdale Farm Investigation:

The focus of the Dinsdale Farm assessment included:

- Identifying regulatory requirements/processes under the *DMA* including engagement with Deputy Inspector of Dikes in the West Coast Region
- Defining key characteristics of the study region, including physical processes and reviewing information collected by via the BCSRIF project and other projects to inform recommended course of action
- Outline key characteristics of Dinsdale Farm dike and adjacent infrastructure
- Define historic and existing levels of protection provided by the Dinsdale Farm dike including reviewing the dike in terms of the Dike Maintenance Act
- Define potential design options for the Dinsdale Farm marsh restoration and full removal or partial removal of the Dinsdale Farm dike

¹ NHC (Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Inc). 2022. Cowichan Estuary Marsh Restoration Project: Assessment of Physical Processes and Restoration Opportunities. Prepared for The Nature Trust of British Columbia. 170 pp.

DECISION NOTE

- Summarize changes in flood or erosion/sedimentation risk related to the removal or partial removal of the Dinsdale Farm dike
- Define measures that may be required to mitigate any increased risk

Key findings:

Existing Conditions:

- Two DMA regulated dikes in South Cowichan estuary
 - Koksilah Dike #88
 - Dinsdale Dike #49
- Dinsdale Dike #49 owned by NTBC and DUC; leased to Province of BC who is responsible entity for dike
- Koksilah Dike #88 protects two adjacent private properties
- Both dikes do not conform to DMA standards
- Dinsdale Dike #49
 - Approx. ½ dike is rip rap – does not extend to dike crest
 - Unprotected portions show erosion/slumping
 - If dike is to be relied upon for flood mitigation it is recommended that it undergo significant repair.
- In order to decommission the existing Dinsdale Dike, Deputy Inspector of Dikes (DIOD) requires that mitigative measures maintain either the existing level of protection or protect against flooding with a 10 year return period – whichever is more stringent.
- Current conditions allow for inundation of the diking system at ocean levels with a higher frequency than a 10 year return period
- Mitigation measures associated with the 10 year return period flood event have been considered in the report as it provides more stringent protective measures.

Modelling of existing flood protection for 10 year hydraulic flood event.

Item	Existing Conditions
Wave exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waves are depth limited Seaward of dikes waves are dissipated by existing marshlands; wave heights not expected to exceed 0.3m within diked areas
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding is expected to overtop Cowichan Bay Road to a depth of 0.3m Flooding is expected to inundate adjacent private parcels to a depth of 1.1m Dinsdale Farm inundated to approximately 1.3m
Erosion, Deposition, Sediment Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion potential highest on north side; velocities 1.5m/s Within Dinsdale Farm and adjacent private lands velocities do not generally exceed 0.5m/s
Transference of Flood and Erosion Risk	N/A

Modelling of flood protection for 10 year hydraulic event with restoration project and mitigative measures:

Item	Full Removal	Partial Removal
Wave exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dike removal results in wave height increase between 0.0 – 0.2m Nominal increase in wave exposure for both present day and future SLR conditions 	
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding on private parcels reduced due to increased flow conveyance and reduced ponding Flooding levels decreased for parcels upstream 	

DECISION NOTE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration of extreme flooding decreased
Erosion, Deposition, Sediment Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Velocities within private parcels reduced between 0.0 and 0.5m/s Velocities increased within Dinsdale Farm due to increased flow conveyance
Transference of Flood and Erosion Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominal increase in wave run-up and wave erosion on bank of south distributary channel (construction of dike on unnamed road mitigates risk) Removal results in decreased flooding depths through South Cowichan Bay Estuary area Removal results in decreased flow velocities with private parcels Increased flow velocities near unnamed road can be mitigated through construction of small dike Construction of flap gate through unnamed road dike further reduces flood duration/depth

Options for consideration

Option #1 Fix Dinsdale dike system to DMA standards and continue to farm

- Repair dike to DMA standards for both 10 year and 200 year flood events; will require significant rip-rap armouring of dike.
- Maintain current land use patterns – farming, public access on dike, hunting

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing revenue collection from farm Diking system will be upgraded Will not cause public outcry regarding loss of walking trail or access to hunting opportunities Maintain winter waterfowl habitat on farm
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not address key issues of estuary resilience Contributes to coastal squeeze and nearshore ecosystem collapse Impacts to fish and wildlife populations and habitat due to construction of larger dike structure Likely to cause public outcry due to hardening of foreshore Expected expensive repairs to diking system that are not covered by any current funding source and will require partner investment Will likely undermine positive relationship being built with Cowichan Tribes for estuary monitoring, restoration and stewardship.

Option #2 Implementation of restoration project(s) including mitigation measures

- Proceed with restoration projects including the full removal of Dinsdale Dike along with mitigation measures
- Cancellation of CVRD License for Community Park (note: CVRD is aware of this potential and is supportive)
- Cancellation of farm lease agreement with Sunnyside Farms
- Remove viewing platform on farm dike and relocate to Westcan Terminal Causeway
- Closure of project area for recreational use
- Agreement by NTBC/DUC/Province to construct small DMA approved set back dike to minimize transference of risk to adjacent lands; dike would be managed via WCCLMP under current management regime

Pros:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of 49 ha of estuarine habitat for fish/wildlife Improved habitat conditions for many species that rely on estuaries (plants, fish, shellfish, birds, marine mammals etc) Demonstrates partner commitment to enhancing the resilience of the Cowichan Estuary in face of sea-level rise; significantly reduces influence of coastal squeeze
-------	--

WEST COAST CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



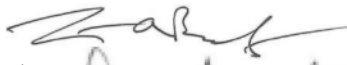
DECISION NOTE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction/elimination of land management issues associated with user conflicts, vandalism, garbage Reduced flooding risk to neighboring private properties Cowichan Tribes and public support for project Eliminates issues with farm management (e.g. fertilizer inputs etc.) No increase in operational budget needs and potential reduction of land management costs Cost of restoration completely covered by BC SRIF funding – unique and timely opportunity
Cons:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to cause public outcry due to loss of hiking trail, bird watching area, and hunting Loss of agricultural land and ability to plant beneficial crops for waterfowl Loss of revenue

WCCLMP Staff Recommendation = Option #2

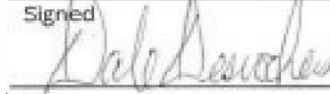
Approved by WCCLMP S/C May 10th, 2022

Environment and Climate
Change Canada

 Manager, Protected Areas and Stewardship


Signed _____ Name/Title _____

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

 Manager, Resource Restoration


Signed _____ Name/Title _____

Province of BC

 Jesse Patterson, Ecosystems Section Head


Signed _____ Name/Title _____

The Nature Trust of BC

 Director of Conservation Land Management


Signed _____ Name/Title _____

Ducks Unlimited Canada

 Sarah Nathan, Manager of Provincial Operations

Signed _____ Name/Title _____

Habitat Conservation Trust
Foundation

 Karen Barry, Manager Biology and Evaluation

Signed _____ Name/Title _____

From: Jessica Wilson (JWilson@nhcweb.com)
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Neil Peters (NPeters@nhcweb.com); Wil Hilsen (WHilsen@nhcweb.com); Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Dike Discussions - Meeting Times
Sent: 08/12/2021 16:07:05
Attachments: 20210812 3006733 s.13; s.21
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning Brian,

Please find attached a memo outlining background information on the project, some key expected issues, next steps, and a preliminary set of questions for our meeting this afternoon.

Greatly appreciate you taking the time to discuss the project with us.

Best,

Jessica Wilson, P.Eng | Coastal Engineer
jwilson@nhcweb.com | Tel: (250) 754-6425, Ext. 3315

Page 586 of 630 to/à Page 593 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.21

From: Jessica Wilson (JWilson@nhcweb.com)
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca); Neil Peters (NPeters@nhcweb.com); Wil Hilsen (WHilsen@nhcweb.com)
Subject: Dinsdale Farm Dike - Background Data Request
Sent: 08/16/2021 22:28:22
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon Brian,

Thanks again for meeting with us last week – it was exceptionally helpful and informative.

To help support prioritization of available data related to Dinsdale Farm Dike, we have compiled a list of data that you may have access to and would be helpful for our upcoming assessments. Please see the below data request (if available):

- Years (and precise dates, if possible) of historical coastal or riverine flooding in the area (including across Cowichan Bay Rd– and location of where the flow crossed the road, if known)
- Data (photos, videos, anecdotal accounts, economic losses, reports, etc.) associated with historical flooding
- Historical records about the ‘purpose’ for Dike #49 and #88
- Historical studies (for example, geotechnical or hydrogeological information) and design basis for Dike #49 and #88
- As-built records for Dike #49 and #88, as well as Cowichan Bay Rd and the ‘unnamed rd’ (if any)
- Any information on Dike #49 floodbox (diameter, material, length, when installed, flapgate etc.)
- Confirmation that Dike #88 has no floodbox or drainage works (i.e. confirm the info in the provincial dike database).
- Inspection reports for Dike #49 and #88
- Maintenance records for Dike #49 and #88, as well as Cowichan Bay Rd and the ‘unnamed rd’ (if any)
- Historical topographic/survey data
- Dike authority and land ownership history

Please don’t hesitate to give me a call if you need me to clarify/elaborate on any of the above items.

Best,

Jessica Wilson, M.A.Sc., P.Eng | Coastal Engineer
northwest hydraulic consultants
405 – 495 Dunsmuir Street | Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9 | Canada
Tel: (250) 754-6425, Ext. 3315
jwilson@nhcweb.com | www.nhcweb.com

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If you believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender, delete it, and destroy any copies.
Check this email and attachments for viruses; NHC accepts no liability for virus damage caused by email.*

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Jessica Wilson (JWilson@nhcweb.com); Epps, Brian FLNR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Neil Peters (NPeters@nhcweb.com); Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca); Wil Hilsen (WHilsen@nhcweb.com)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Part 2 Follow-Up
Sent: 09/27/2021 23:53:27
Attachments: s.13; s.21
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Not too sure if this has already been received but I found the attached cross section (as built survey) from the Dinsdale Farm dike.

From: Jessica Wilson [mailto:JWilson@nhcweb.com]
Sent: September 22, 2021 3:01 PM
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX
Cc: Neil Peters; Thomas Reid; Steven Henstra; Wil Hilsen
Subject: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Part 2 Follow-Up

Hello everyone,

Just to follow-up on yesterdays meeting, here are the action items in my notes:

- Brian to follow-up with requirements/additions to 'Procedural Guidelines for Decommissioning of a Regulated Dike' in writing, with particular reference to the standard of protection that will be required for any replacement flood protection structures.
- Brian and Tom to review historical documents for information related to Dike 49 prior to late 1960s, and any information related to Dike 88 (Koksilah).
- Following receipt of any additional documents, Neil to follow-up with Don Finlay to help fill data gaps.

Cheers,

Jessica Wilson, M.A.Sc., P.Eng | Coastal Engineer
northwest hydraulic consultants
405 – 495 Dunsmuir Street | Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9 | Canada
Tel: (250) 754-6425, Ext. 3315
jwilson@nhcweb.com | www.nhcweb.com

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Page 596 of 630 to/à Page 598 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.21

From: Jessica Wilson (JWilson@nhcweb.com)
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Decommissioning Guideline Requirements Specific to Dinsdale Dike
Sent: 10/07/2021 18:34:00
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning Brian,

Thank you – this would be great.

405 – 495 Dunsmuir Street.

Please phone S.22 (Kathryn) who will come down and meet you, as our front buzzer isn't working at the moment.

Thanks again,

Jessica Wilson, P.Eng | Coastal Engineer

jwilson@nhcweb.com | Tel: (250) 754-6425, Ext. 3315

From: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>;

Sent: October 7, 2021 9:06 AM

To: Jessica Wilson <JWilson@nhcweb.com>;

Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Decommissioning Guideline Requirements Specific to Dinsdale Dike

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of NHC. Do not open links or attachments before verifying sender.

Good Morning Jessica,

I have completed a more thorough search through our Dike files and have found some additional information that may be of value.

I have since found:

Dinsdale Dike #49:

- Cross-section drawings
- More detailed Plan and Longitudinal Profile (Geodetic Elevations)
- More detailed cross-sections

Koksilah Dike #88:

- Some dike construction information
- No as built drawings
- No paperwork regarding project rationale
- Some information about flood boxes and culvert repair work

I can volunteer to deliver this to you today (your office) as I realize this task has taken me awhile to compile. The terms would be similar to before, ... a few day to review and copy and then return to FLNRORD.

Let me know as I have time today to deliver in person.

Brian Epps

Senior Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

From: Jessica Wilson <JWilson@nhcweb.com>
Sent: October 6, 2021 4:52 PM
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Decommissioning Guideline Requirements Specific to Dinsdale Dike

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks Brian – I will review these in detail and let you know if there are any further questions/clarifications.

Regardless, thanks so much for your time and input so far in this process!

Jessica Wilson, P.Eng | Coastal Engineer

jwilson@nhcweb.com | Tel: (250) 754-6425, Ext. 3315

From: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 5, 2021 3:29 PM
To: Jessica Wilson <JWilson@nhcweb.com>
Cc: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Decommissioning Guideline Requirements Specific to Dinsdale Dike

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of NHC. Do not open links or attachments before verifying sender.

Hi Jessica,

Sorry for the delay in responding.

Subsequent to our recent discussions surrounding a proposal to decommission the Dinsdale Dike, I can provide you with a preliminary list of application requirements, most of which are identified on the ministries “Integrated Flood Hazard” website. In situations where the province’s decommissioning guidelines may not be specifically relevant, the DMA application and supporting reports should provide supporting rationale. The following supporting documentation will allow the ministry to properly adjudicate an application under the DMA and provide the applicant the best chance of successfully obtaining an approval:

1. Design Brief

The design brief, prepared and sealed by a Professional Engineer registered in the Province of BC, shall provide a comprehensive summary of parameters and criteria (with appropriate reference to standards or codes) and any special conditions that apply to the proposed project. The report should include the following:

- Map showing the area of protection provided by the existing dike(s) and location of critical infrastructure.
- List of properties (legal lot names, PID, and addresses) corresponding to the map above.
- Sediment management plan or if deemed not necessary statement providing explanation why sediment management plan is not required
- Details on proposed method(s) of removal, breach, or lowering of dike.
- Rationale for the request for decommissioning backed by engineering/biological reports supporting such rationale.
- Assessment of the change in risk to all impacted properties and critical infrastructure. A closure strategy for adjacent Koksilah Dike #88, a strategy to achieve closure of the overall diking system. The proposal should indicate any flood protection works that would be required to maintain

- an equivalent level of flood protection for the lands currently protected by Koksilah Dike #88.
- Additional mitigation proposed to offset new or higher risk imposed on properties or critical infrastructure (eg. construction of private dike, raising of land, etc.)
- Letter of support from the Cowichan Valley Regional District, indicating their support for the project.
- Where the diking authority is not the owner of the land that the dike resides on, written consent (FLNRORD, Fish & Wildlife Branch) to enter any lands for the construction work must be submitted.

2. **Hydrologic/Hydraulic Report**

- Modelling results that provide for the current level of protection (expressed as an Annual Exceedance Probability) provided by the existing works and the proposed level of protection (for lowering of dikes). Note for decommissioning a lowered dike, the level of protection remaining must be for 1:10 year or less. If the final dike decommissioning plan includes a level of flood protection less than 1:10 year, please provide the rationale to support the required exemption.
- The removal of an existing flood protection system must not transfer flood risk to third parties without their written consent (see 2.6). The hydraulic analysis shall be undertaken to specifically show where risk-transfer would occur.
- The hydrologic/hydraulic analysis shall evaluate the need for erosion control features for any remaining structure which may be threatened by wind, and water generated waves, stream or surface flows, to ensure any remaining structures do not pose a risk.
- The hydrologic/hydraulic analysis shall evaluate the need for erosion control features for any newly exposed properties or structures as a result of the removal/breach/lowering of the dike under the design flood.
- Once the specific details of the application are known the Inspector can provide further guidance on the requirements of a hydrologic/hydraulic report.

3. **Design Drawings**

- Design drawings (key plan, plan, and section) showing the areas of breach or height reduction, landside erosion protection of any remaining structure.
- A longitudinal profile of the dike showing existing crest elevations and the proposed post decommissioning elevations. The ministry has recently completed dike crest surveys including Dinsdale Dike # 49.
- Details on protection of any remaining structures (if required).
- Drawings for the DMA application must be signed and sealed by a qualified Professional Engineer.

4. **Professional Letter of Commitment**

- All designs and construction methods shall be certified by a qualified professional engineer, registered in BC, knowledgeable in the discipline they are sealing design/drawings or providing field review for.
- Please refer to our website under Approval Process, for the Professional Letter of Commitment template.

The requirements for submission of the above records of notification and comment may be waived by the Inspector when the dike to be decommissioned has been replaced by a new dike providing an equal or greater level of flood protection to impacted third parties.

- Note the Inspector may use the above information, or their discretion, to determine if a formal hearing is required prior to decision, the cost of which shall be borne by the applicant.
- Note – it is recommended that property and critical infrastructure owners be given a minimum of 10 business days to respond to notification.
- 2.6 Written Consent for Transfer of Risk
 - The removal of an existing flood protection system must not transfer flood risk (either an increased probability of flooding or increase in damages from flooding) to third parties' properties without their written consent.
 - The requirement for written consent is not required when the dike to be decommissioned has been replaced by a new dike providing an equal or greater level of flood protection.

5. **Records of Notification and Comment**

- Record of notification and invitation to comment to all property owners currently protected by the structure and a consolidated copy of impacted property owners' comments.
- Record of notification and invitation to comment to appropriate agencies owning or controlling critical infrastructure currently protected by the existing structure and a consolidated copy of impacted the agencies' comments.

6. **Evidence of newly acquired legal property ownership of subject property.**

7. **First Nations (Cowichan Tribes) letter of support with statements that indicate that adequate consultation has been completed and that the proposed project does not infringe upon their rights and title.**
8. **Please refer to the Procedural Guidelines for Decommissioning of a Regulated Dike for additional guidance details. [Dike Decommissioning \(PDF\)](#)**

Thanks for the opportunity to provide comment. Please contact me if you have any comments or questions.

Brian Epps

Deputy Inspector of Dikes
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
West Coast Sub-Region
Tel. (250) 739-8213
Mobile (250) 668-3576
E-Mail: Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca

From: Jessica Wilson <JWilson@nhcweb.com>
Sent: October 4, 2021 1:15 PM
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Part 2 Follow-Up

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian,

Sorry to pester, but any chance you had time to work on the two tasks (i.e. The requirements for decommissioning in writing and the historical documents for Koksilah Dike) last week?

Let me know if you need anything from me to help move this along?

Best,

Jessica Wilson, P.Eng | Coastal Engineer
jwilson@nhcweb.com | Tel: (250) 754-6425, Ext. 3315

From: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 22, 2021 3:22 PM
To: Jessica Wilson <JWilson@nhcweb.com>
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Part 2 Follow-Up

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of NHC. Do not open links or attachments before verifying sender.

Hi Jessica,

Thanks for hosting yesterday's meeting and tracking the action items on behalf of the participants.

I plan to work on this tasks next week. Let me know if this presents a problem!

Cheers,

Brian

Brian Epps

Senior Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
West Coast Sub-Region
Tel. (250) 739-8213
Mobile (250) 668-3576
E-Mail: Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca

Web Site: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/laws-rules/water-sustainability-act>

From: Jessica Wilson <JWilson@nhcweb.com>

Sent: September 22, 2021 3:01 PM

To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Neil Peters <NPeters@nhcweb.com>; Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>; Steven Henstra <shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca>; Wil Hilsen <WHilsen@nhcweb.com>

Subject: Dinsdale Farm Marsh Restoration Discussions - Part 2 Follow-Up

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello everyone,

Just to follow-up on yesterdays meeting, here are the action items in my notes:

- Brian to follow-up with requirements/additions to 'Procedural Guidelines for Decommissioning of a Regulated Dike' in writing, with particular reference to the standard of protection that will be required for any replacement flood protection structures.
- Brian and Tom to review historical documents for information related to Dike 49 prior to late 1960s, and any information related to Dike 88 (Koksilah).
- Following receipt of any additional documents, Neil to follow-up with Don Finlay to help fill data gaps.

Cheers,

Jessica Wilson, M.A.Sc., P.Eng | Coastal Engineer

northwest hydraulic consultants

405 – 495 Dunsmuir Street | Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9 | Canada

Tel: (250) 754-6425, Ext. 3315

jwilson@nhcweb.com | www.nhcweb.com

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From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Epps, Brian FOR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm discussion
Sent: 07/06/2022 18:57:49
Attachments: image001.jpg
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian,

Just checking in with you on this.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX [mailto:Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: May 19, 2022 4:43 PM
To: Thomas Reid
Cc: Doyle, Jessica FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: Dinsdale Farm discussion

Thanks Tom, ... I'll review early next week and provide comments and hopefully a path forward!

Cheers,

Brian

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: May 19, 2022 1:31 PM
To: Epps, Brian FLNR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Dinsdale Farm discussion

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian,

Thanks for the discussion last week regarding the status of our Cowichan/Koksilah restoration project.

As discussed we have now received a comprehensive physical processes report as well as preliminary drawings completed by NHC.

The focus of the Dinsdale Farm assessment included:

s.21

Page 606 of 630 to/à Page 608 of 630

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s.21

Cheers,

Tom

Tom Reid

West Coast Conservation Land Manager

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

-

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX (Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca)
To: Epps, Brian FOR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Doyle, Jessica FOR:EX (Jessica.Doyle@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Quick question re: Old Mine Rd in Englishman Estuary
Sent: 08/08/2022 17:21:08
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

Thanks Brian. No worries on delayed responses! Gives me time to think....

A few more questions for you:

s.21

Cheers,

Tom

From: Epps, Brian FOR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: August 4, 2022 8:58 PM
To: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Doyle, Jessica FOR:EX <Jessica.Doyle@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quick question re: Old Mine Rd in Englishman Estuary

Hi Tom,

I guess you've come to expect delayed responses from me now that we have been doing business together for a few years ?☺?

I have provided a snapshot of the dike details below that will hopefully answer your question. Yes it's an Orphan structure (no local authority claiming responsibility) and yes it is regulated under the DMA.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Brian Epps

Senior Regional Specialist, Water and Dike Safety
Ministry of Forests
West Coast Sub-Region

Tel. (250) 739-8213
Mobile (250) 668-3576

E-Mail: Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca

Web Site: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/laws-rules/water-sustainability-act>

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: August 3, 2022 9:17 AM
To: Epps, Brian FOR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Quick question re: Old Mine Rd in Englishman Estuary

Hi Brian,

I hope this email finds you well.

s.21

Thanks,

Tom

Page 612 of 630

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s.21

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)

To: Epps, Brian FOR:EX (Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca)

Subject: RE: Dike Maintenance Act Approval Application - Cowichan/Koksilah Restoration Project

Sent: 11/15/2022 22:12:55

Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, image004.png

Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian,

Just wanting to check in on the status of the review and to see if you have any further questions.

Also – there are a couple of questions that have arisen recently the we may need some input from you on in relation to the adjacent dike and roadway.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Epps, Brian FOR:EX [mailto:Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca]

Sent: October 12, 2022 1:22 PM

To: Thomas Reid

Cc: Henstra, Steven FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Dike Maintenance Act Approval Application - Cowichan/Koksilah Restoration Project

Hi Tom/Steve,

Thanks for putting together this information into one package, much appreciated!

I have downloaded all the documents including the DMA application from the Google Drive and now have them saved on our local server.

I will review the application for completeness and determine if I have all the necessary information to fairly adjudicate the application. Kind of sounds like a statement you might hear from your high school teacher ?☺?. Once I have reviewed, I will advise you accordingly.

Cheers,

Brian Epps

Deputy Inspector of Dikes
Ministry of Forests
West Coast Sub-Region

Tel. (250) 739-8213
Mobile (250) 668-3576

E-Mail: Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca

Web Site:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/laws-rules/water-sustainability-act>

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Sent: October 12, 2022 12:48 PM

To: Epps, Brian FOR:EX <Brian.Epps@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Dike Maintenance Act Approval Application - Cowichan/Koksilah Restoration Project

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian – just wanted to confirm that you received the application. Can you also let me know when you have downloaded the files as well?

Thanks,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: October 6, 2022 4:19 PM

To: 'Epps, Brian FOR:EX'

Cc: Steven Henstra; Wil Hilsen

Subject: Dike Maintenance Act Approval Application - Cowichan/Koksilah Restoration Project

October 6th, 2022

Attention: Brian Epps

Deputy Inspector of Dikes

West Coast Region, Nanaimo

Hi Brian,

Please find attached the Dike Maintenance Act Approval Application for the West Coast Conservation Land Management Programs (WCCLMP) Cowichan/Koksilah estuary restoration project.

This project is focused on restoring critical estuarine habitat for fish and wildlife while addressing the immediate and future challenges of climate change/sea level rise by promoting/enhancing ecosystem and estuary resilience. The project has the full support of Cowichan Tribes, the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee, all the partners of the WCCLMP and the CVRD.

In support of the attached application we have also created a google drive that contains several documents in support of this application and as required by the DMA.

s.15

Within this drive you will find the following folders:

s.21

We look forward to hearing from you and to working with the Province in restoring critical fish and wildlife habitat in the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary and building resilience of the overall ecosystem and wider community to the threats of climate change and sea level rise.

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom Reid, Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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Page 623 of 630 to/à Page 625 of 630

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Page 626 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14 ; s.22

Page 627 of 630 to/à Page 630 of 630

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

From: Thomas Reid(treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca
To: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/08/2023 22:15:32
Attachments: image001.png

Message

Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon everyone,

Writing to you all to provide an update with regards to the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project and request partner review/input to communications materials that have been developed.

Summary:

s.21

s.21

Let me know if you have any questions and want to schedule a further call with your respective agencies to discuss.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Thomas Reid(treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca
To: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/08/2023 22:43:43
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

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Further to this note I forgot to ask if the partners would like an in person event to make the announcement or are happy with the press release approach.

Thanks

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: May 8, 2023 3:16 PM

To: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca; Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Sarah Nathan ; Jason Emery ; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra

Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

Good afternoon everyone,

Writing to you all to provide an update with regards to the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project and request partner review/input to communications materials that have been developed.

Summary:

s.21

S.21

S.21

Let me know if you have any questions and want to schedule a further call with your respective agencies to discuss.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

From: Jason Emery(jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca);
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca
To: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/09/2023 16:03:56
Attachments: image003.png, image001.jpg
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi

I am fine either way. Given the phased approach it may make sense, at this stage, to go with the press release approach and plan for in-person at the second phase (we'll have learned a few things by then /gained increased awareness of potential sensitivities in community etc.).

Jason

Jason Emery, M.Sc., RBTech

Director of Conservation Land Management

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

500 – 888 Dunsmuir Street | Vancouver BC V6C 3K4

Tel: 604.924.9771 ext. 224 | Direct: 604.969.3242 | 1.866.288.7878

jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 3:44 PM

To: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca; Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Sarah Nathan ; Jason Emery ; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Further to this note I forgot to ask if the partners would like an in person event to make the announcement or are happy with the press release approach.

Thanks

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: May 8, 2023 3:16 PM

To: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca ; Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca ; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Sarah Nathan >; Jason Emery >; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca ; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca ; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

Good afternoon everyone,

Writing to you all to provide an update with regards to the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project and request partner review/input to communications materials that have been developed.

Summary:

s.21

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s.21

s.21

Let me know if you have any questions and want to schedule a further call with your respective agencies to discuss.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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From: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX(Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca)
Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca
To: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/09/2023 16:20:10
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png
Message Body:

I am also OK with either approach. Jason's suggestion makes sense.

Also, just want to make sure that if Yulu is using the Province's logo that they are using the correct one(s)? The briefing materials show the old FLNRORD logo. I can provide an updated logo(s) if needed.

From: Jason Emery

Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 9:04 AM

To: Thomas Reid ; Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX ; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Sarah Nathan ; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Hi

I am fine either way. Given the phased approach it may make sense, at this stage, to go with the press release approach and plan for in-person at the second phase (we'll have learned a few things by then /gained increased awareness of potential sensitivities in community etc.).

Jason

Jason Emery, M.Sc., RBTech

Director of Conservation Land Management

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

500 – 888 Dunsmuir Street | Vancouver BC V6C 3K4

Tel: 604.924.9771 ext. 224 | Direct: 604.969.3242 | 1.866.288.7878

jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca

From: Thomas Reid >

Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 3:44 PM

To: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca ; Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca ; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Sarah Nathan >; Jason Emery >; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca ; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca ; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Further to this note I forgot to ask if the partners would like an in person event to make the announcement or are happy with the press release approach.

Thanks

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: May 8, 2023 3:16 PM

To: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca ; Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca ; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Sarah Nathan >; Jason Emery >; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca ; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca ; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

Good afternoon everyone,

Writing to you all to provide an update with regards to the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project and request partner review/input to communications materials that have been developed.

Summary:

s.21

s.21

Let me know if you have any questions and want to schedule a further call with your respective agencies to discuss.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

From: Thomas Reid(treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca);
To: Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca
To: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/09/2023 16:22:03
Attachments: image003.jpg, image004.png
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

That would be great if you could send along the logos Jesse. Thanks.

From: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX

Sent: May 9, 2023 9:20 AM

To: Jason Emery ; Thomas Reid ; Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX ; Sarah Nathan ; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

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From: Jason Emery >

Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 9:04 AM

To: Thomas Reid >; Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Sarah Nathan >; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca ; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca ; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Jason

Jason Emery, M.Sc., RBTech

Director of Conservation Land Management

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

500 – 888 Dunsmuir Street | Vancouver BC V6C 3K4

Tel: 604.924.9771 ext. 224 | Direct: 604.969.3242 | 1.866.288.7878

jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca

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West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX(Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/09/2023 18:21:00
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png
Message Body:

Thanks Jesse.

Mike are you close to having a draft note ready? I still feel we need to build some awareness of this project. It may also be wise to have GCPE in direct contact with Yulu PR if this is considered a shared announcement. Their lead time is often 3 weeks. GCPE is also lead on any quotes or media requests from the Province.

Since I am already talking to them about the Koksilah press release on Friday, I will ask GCPE what they think.

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division

2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

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From: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX

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Cc: Steven Henstra

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Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Jason

Jason Emery, M.Sc., RBTech

Director of Conservation Land Management

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

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jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca

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Cc: Steven Henstra >

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Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Karen Barry(Karen.Barry@hctf.ca)
Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX
(Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A
To: WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX
(Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Dale.Desrochers@dfo-
mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca
To: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/10/2023 15:30:47
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png
Message
Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Tom,

Thanks for the update and related communications materials. I need a little time to review and will seek some input from Dan and Barb too. I'll aim to get back to you Friday. Hope that timing is OK.

Cheers,

Karen

Karen Barry, MSc, RPBio

Manager, Biology and Evaluation

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation

#102-2957 Jutland Rd, Victoria, BC

(250) 940-9785

www.hctf.ca

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 9:22 AM

To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Jason Emery ; Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX ; Sarah Nathan ; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen Barry

Cc: Steven Henstra

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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Sent: May 9, 2023 9:20 AM

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Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Jason

Jason Emery, M.Sc., RBTech

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500 – 888 Dunsmuir Street | Vancouver BC V6C 3K4

Tel: 604.924.9771 ext. 224 | Direct: 604.969.3242 | 1.866.288.7878

jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca

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Importance: High

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Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Desrochers, Dale (DFO/MPO)(Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)
Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX
(Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca);
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca);
Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca
Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca); Sutherst, Jennifer (Jennifer.Sutherst@dfo-
mpo.gc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/10/2023 19:37:04
Attachments: image001.png
Message
Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Afternoon Tom,

No edits to the wording for DFO. Linda Higgins can be noted as statement author. Below is her signature block.

Linda Higgins, South Coast Area Director

Fisheries and Oceans Canada/Government of Canada

3225 Stephenson Point Rd, Nanaimo, BC V9T 1K3

Linda.Higgins@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

I do believe that Jennifer Sutherst will be or has reached out to you regarding an internal briefing for the project.

Dale

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 3:16 PM

To: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca; Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ;
Sarah Nathan; Jason Emery ; Desrochers, Dale ; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca;
Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra

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Importance: High

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West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

From: Thomas Reid(treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Desrochers, Dale (DFO/MPO) (Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A
WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX
To: (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Sarah
Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca);
Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca
To: Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca); Sutherst, Jennifer (Jennifer.Sutherst@dfo-
mpo.gc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/10/2023 19:41:57
Attachments: image001.png
Message
Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Great thanks Dale. Will look for Jennifer's email.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Desrochers, Dale (DFO/MPO)

Sent: May 10, 2023 12:37 PM

To: Thomas Reid ; Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca; Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca; Patterson, Jesse
WLRS:EX ; Sarah Nathan ; Jason Emery ; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra ; Sutherst, Jennifer

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Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX(Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/10/2023 20:32:57
Attachments: image001.png
Message
Body:

Hi Tom

Thanks for sharing. I am in the midst of even planning for the Koksilah ceremony on Friday so have not had much opportunity to solicit feedback on this.

I would say that generally it looks good but I would like to get a WLRS government communications person on it to review, provide the appropriate logos, confirm quote, and provide any additional comment on content and strategy. I will send this to them and see if I can get an assignment to a public affairs advisor. I am not sure how long that will take but hopefully it aligns with your timelines.

s.13

I cant figure out how to download the materials from Google. Can they be shared via email so I can send to communications?

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division

2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

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From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 3:16 PM

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To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/10/2023 21:43:23

s.21

Attachments:

Message

Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks for the follow up Arlette.

Jesse has sent along the correct logos and we have provided them to the communications team to update across all information.

Attached is the information that is on the google document shared drive. There will be changes made to logos/quotes as they are received. Quotes with names attached have been approved. Other quotes are drafts written by comms consultants.

Let me know if you need more info or would like to discuss further.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX

Sent: May 10, 2023 1:33 PM

To: Thomas Reid

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Page 033 of 173 to/à Page 044 of 173

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX(Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/10/2023 22:00:41
Attachments: image001.png
Message
Body:

Thanks Tom. I will let you know what I hear back.

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division

2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

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From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 2:43 PM

To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Thanks for the follow up Arlette.

Jesse has sent along the correct logos and we have provided them to the communications team to update across all information.

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Let me know if you need more info or would like to discuss further.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX >

Sent: May 10, 2023 1:33 PM

To: Thomas Reid >

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

Hi Tom

Thanks for sharing. I am in the midst of even planning for the Koksilah ceremony on Friday so have not had much opportunity to solicit feedback on this.

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s.13

I cant figure out how to download the materials from Google. Can they be shared via email so I can send to communications?

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area - West Region

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division

2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that my office is within the territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

From: Thomas Reid >

Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 3:16 PM

To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Sarah Nathan >; Jason Emery >; Dale.Desrochers@dfo-mpo.gc.ca ; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca ; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca

Cc: Steven Henstra >

Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Summary:

s.21

S.21

S.21

Let me know if you have any questions and want to schedule a further call with your respective agencies to discuss.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Thomas Reid(treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/16/2023 21:00:13
Attachments: image001.png

Message

Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Arlette,

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Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX(Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/16/2023 21:13:36
Attachments: image001.png
Message
Body:

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Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 2:00 PM

To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Thomas Reid(treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/16/2023 21:48:15
Attachments: image001.png

Message

Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Great. Thanks Arlette!

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX

Sent: May 16, 2023 2:14 PM

To: Thomas Reid

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

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Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 2:00 PM

To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX >

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/16/2023 23:01:32

s.21

Attachments

Message

Body:

Hi Tom

The nudge helped. Please find documents attached. I believe the only content amended was on the quote for the press release – please note that attribution will be to our Minister.

One request – if there are any public facing kickoff event contemplated could you please provide me with at least a 10 day notice? Our communications team would like enough lead time to coordinate invites to Parliamentary Secretaries – if appropriate.

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Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division

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Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

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From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 2:48 PM

To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

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Page 065 of 173 to/à Page 072 of 173

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16 ; s.21

From: Thomas Reid(treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/16/2023 23:13:38
Attachments: image001.png

Message

Body:

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Thanks Arlette!

Definitely will give you plenty of notice regarding public facing kick off events. I don't believe there is a public facing event being planned at this time. There has been some discussion about doing an event when the actual physical works commence with the removal.

One question that has come up is whether or not the Provincial communications team would like to meet with the communications consultant working on this project to coordinate efforts. What are your thoughts on this?

Mike – can we expect anything from MoF on this? Will need something by Friday.

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX

Sent: May 16, 2023 4:02 PM

To: Thomas Reid

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon everyone,

Writing to you all to provide an update with regards to the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project and request partner review/input to communications materials that have been developed.

Summary:

S.21

Let me know if you have any questions and want to schedule a further call with your respective agencies to discuss.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX(Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/16/2023 23:50:45
Attachments: image001.png
Message
Body:

Hi Tom

Since there isn't an event where the Minister needs to be present, our government communication team does not see a need to coordinate with the consultant at this time. They generally only get involved where there is a Ministry announcement, quote for Minister, or an event to be attended in person.

If there is a gathering/tour of some sort contemplated for when the major works start we can touch base with them again. Based on recent experience the heavy lift would be on briefing executive and the PS's in advance of their attendance at an event.

Have a good one!

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division

2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that my office is within the territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 4:14 PM

To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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One question that has come up is whether or not the Provincial communications team would like to meet with the communications consultant working on this project to coordinate efforts. What are your thoughts on this?

Mike – can we expect anything from MoF on this? Will need something by Friday.

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX >

Sent: May 16, 2023 4:02 PM

To: Thomas Reid >

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >

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Hi Tom

The nudge helped. Please find documents attached. I believe the only content amended was on the quote for the press release – please note that attribution will be to our Minister.

One request – if there are any public facing kickoff event contemplated could you please provide me with at least a 10 day notice? Our communications team would like enough lead time to coordinate invites to Parliamentary Secretaries – if appropriate.

Thanks!

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I shared the content with our government communications team as its their purview to review information for news releases and quotes. I will poke them and note the tight turnaround on

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Stay tuned

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Hi Arlette,

Just wanted to touch base on this again to see if you have any questions/edits. We are hoping to have all public facing materials signed off by the 19th if possible.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: May 10, 2023 2:43 PM

To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX >

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Thanks for the follow up Arlette.

Jesse has sent along the correct logos and we have provided them to the communications team to update across all information.

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Let me know if you need more info or would like to discuss further.

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Sent: May 10, 2023 1:33 PM

To: Thomas Reid >

Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

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Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Pendergast, Sean FOR:EX(Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)
To: Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/17/2023 16:59:38
Attachments: image001.png
Message
Body:

Mike – any expectations on this one?

Sean Pendergast RPBio

Section Head | Fish & Wildlife

From: Thomas Reid

Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 4:28 PM

To: Pendergast, Sean FOR:EX

Subject: FW: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

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Fyi. Can you also give Mike a nudge on this too?

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West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

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Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Henderson,Darcy (ECCC) (Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca);
To: Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Matthew Christensen (m_christensen@ducks.ca); Jasper Lament (jlament@naturetrust.bc.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Karen Barry (Karen.Barry@hctf.ca); dan.buffett@hctf.ca
To: Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu (cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com); Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
Subject: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials
Sent: 06/01/2023 23:36:17
Attachments: image001.png, Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project_ Press release (SHARED).pdf
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon everyone,

The Cowichan Restoration project will be formally announced on Tuesday June 6th. On Monday June 5th I am going to be meeting with some media on site to discuss the project in advance of the release happening on the 6th. The shared folder (click link) contains the press release along with several documents for the partners to utilize (e.g. fact sheet, media resources etc). I have attached the pdf version of the press release. As previously mentioned on our partner calls Yulu PR (<https://yulupr.com/>) has been retained to assist with managing the communications of the project launch and follow up. You will note they have created a Cowichan project specific email address (cc'd here) that is included on the press release along with their contact information. If you have any questions regarding the materials please feel free to reach out directly to them with a cc to myself/Steve.

A key question for all of you in advance of the June 6th release is for you to identify:

1. If you want to include a boilerplate statement at the end (noting we have included one from DUC, HCTF and NTBC); and,
2. A contact person who can discuss the project from your respective organizations should a request be made. The default will be for me and/or Yulu to send any immediate follow up to you directly and then have you sort out who will be best to respond.

Thanks everyone and let me know if you have any questions.

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

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Ministry of
Forests



Ministry of
Water, Land and
Resource Stewardship



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada
Pêches et Océans
Canada



Environment and
Climate Change Canada



NATURE TRUST
BRITISH COLUMBIA



Largest Estuary Restoration Project on Vancouver Island starts work to revitalize crucial estuarine habitat

The project will restore over 70 hectares of natural estuarine marshlands, a vitally important habitat for wild Pacific salmon and the interconnected ecosystems that rely on them.

June 6 2023, Cowichan BC, Canada - Today, The Nature Trust of British Columbia (NTBC), in partnership with Cowichan Tribes, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, Ministry of Forests, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation announced plans to restore and revitalize 70 hectares of estuarine marshlands along the Cowichan River Estuary on Vancouver Island.

The Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project is the largest estuary restoration project to ever occur on Vancouver Island, aiming to restore vitally important estuary habitat and enhance estuary resilience against rising sea-levels. The project will rejuvenate habitat crucial for the survival of key fish and wildlife species, including wild Pacific Salmon, migratory and breeding birds as well as species-at-risk.

The project will involve the combined removal of over 2 km of dikes at Dinsdale Farm and Koksilah Marsh, the creation of intertidal channels and salt marsh habitat, the restoration of marine riparian and flood fringe forests, and the reconnection of areas that have been historically cut off from tidal influence.

Estuaries are incredibly diverse ecosystems that thrive in a narrow band of elevation and represent the critical areas where the nutrients from the marine and terrestrial environments mix. This nutrient rich environment plays a crucial role in the life cycle of fish, crabs, shellfish, migratory and breeding birds. Estuaries are also powerful carbon sinks with sediments capable of capturing carbon ten times as quickly as forest soils. Local communities benefit from ecosystem services that estuaries provide, such as pollutant filtration and storm surge mitigation.

This project is the culmination of a rich legacy of partnerships amongst conservation agencies and Cowichan Tribes. Beginning in 1985, NTBC, DUC, and partners in the Pacific Estuary Conservation Program, began a campaign to set aside, manage and restore as much of the estuary landscape as possible and have worked closely with Cowichan Tribes and other community partners in stewarding these lands and implementing several restoration and monitoring projects.

Since 2018, the partners have collaborated in implementing an in-depth monitoring program to assess the resilience of the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary to sea level rise, and have worked with consultants on extensive modeling and assessments of the impacts of the historic dike and river training within the estuary. Based on the results of this work, a decision was made by all of the partners to implement the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project to focus on overall ecosystem health and resilience of the estuary.

The Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project is funded by the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BC SRIF), a contribution program funded jointly by DFO and the Province of BC, DFO's Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration Fund (AERF), and Cowichan Tribes through the Aquatic Habitat Restoration Fund (AHRF). Thank you to our funders and partners for their dedication and commitment to conservation. We are honoured and grateful for your collaboration and support. The project's development has also included a Technical/Scientific Advisory Committee composed of leading nearshore scientists from British Columbia and the United States National Estuary Research Reserve System (NERRS).

For more information on the project, visit EstuaryResilience.ca to learn more.

QUOTES

Thomas Reid, West Coast Conservation Land Management Program Manager shares, "Estuaries are the heart of our coastal landscape and are among the most productive ecosystems on earth. Although they only make up 2.3% of B.C.'s coastline, they support more than 80% of our wildlife, birds, and fish. Sadly, the climate crisis and human activities are threatening their vital processes putting habitat and surrounding communities at risk. This project is an essential step towards restoration of the Cowichan Estuary to conserve biodiversity and protect local communities, now and in the future."

Partner Quotes

Larry George (Smaalthun) Director Lulumexun - Lands and Self Governance Department, Cowichan Tribes shares, "The Quw'utsun Mustimuhw (Cowichan People) have long been stewards of the lands and waters. We have witnessed the changes in our estuary over time, which have had a dramatic impact on our resources. Cowichan Tribes aims to contribute to the management of our traditional territory through habitat restoration and monitoring of this important ecosystem. We look forward to seeing this important work continue, and to keep our territory thriving for future generations."

Dr. Jasper Lament, Chief Executive Officer at The Nature Trust of BC shares, "We are grateful to be working with our partners on this crucial restoration project. Estuaries are environmental and ecological powerhouses and the wellbeing of our coastal ecosystems and wildlife depend on them. Our collective work will restore salt marsh habitats and estuarine processes which will not only benefit the species within the estuary, but nearby communities. Collaboration is key and together we can revitalize the Cowichan Estuary to ensure that it is able to flourish in perpetuity, for the benefit of fish, wildlife, and people."

Nathan Cullen, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship shares, "We are delighted to collaborate on this project to restore the natural estuarine marshlands in the Cowichan Estuary. Our government is committed to the sustainable management and protection of water resources in B.C.,

, and this project aligns perfectly with our goals. By restoring the natural marshland, we are enhancing the ecological health of this important ecosystem and improving the water quality of the surrounding areas. This project will set an excellent example for the preservation of Canada's aquatic ecosystems, and we are proud to be a part of it. We look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts and seeing the positive impact of this project on the Cowichan Estuary and the communities that rely on it."

Sarah Nathan, Manager, Provincial Operations, B.C. at Ducks Unlimited shares, "At Ducks Unlimited Canada we have been conserving wetlands and other natural spaces for waterfowl, wildlife, and people for 85 years. The restoration efforts at the Cowichan Estuary will ensure vital habitat can continue to support waterfowl as they rest over winter on their migratory path, a large range of fish and other wildlife for generations to come, while also advancing local climate resilience against rising sea-levels. We are proud to work with our partners to protect these essential ecosystems and the species that depend on them."

Linda Higgins, South Coast Area Director Fisheries and Oceans Canada shares, "The importance of estuaries for the health of our oceans cannot be overstated. We are thrilled to partner with local organizations and communities to restore over 70 hectares of natural estuarine marshlands in the Cowichan Estuary. This project aligns with our commitment to protect and restore Canada's aquatic ecosystems, and we are proud to contribute to the preservation of this vital habitat for a diverse range of marine species. Through collaborative efforts, we believe this project will not only restore the estuary's ecological balance but also provide long-lasting benefits for the communities that rely on it. We look forward to seeing the positive impact of this project on the Cowichan Estuary and the surrounding areas."

Darcy C. Henderson PhD, Head, Stewardship Unit Canadian Wildlife Service Environment & Climate Change Canada shares, "Climate change and environmental degradation are some of the greatest challenges of our time, and it is essential that we work together to protect our natural habitats and the biodiversity they support. The revitalization of estuaries in British Columbia is critical to providing a habitat for animals, aiding in climate change adaptation, and offering environmental benefits. Climate change and biodiversity loss are tightly entwined and by restoring these essential ecosystems, we are not only mitigating the effects of climate change but also protecting the region's diverse wildlife and ensuring their survival. We believe this project is a significant step towards a more sustainable future, and we are proud to be a part of it."

Dan Buffett, CEO, Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation shares, "At the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, we invest in the future of British Columbia's fish, wildlife, and their habitats. With over 80% of BC's coastal fish and wildlife dependent on estuaries for their survival, the protection and restoration of these vital ecosystems are critical. Through partnership and collaborative projects such as the Cowichan estuary, we support improving estuary resilience against climate change and other negative impacts."

Cowichan Valley Regional District Board shares, "The CVRD is excited to see this important restoration work commencing in the Cowichan Estuary. Not only will this project restore critical fish and wildlife habitat, it will also build resiliency to adapt to our changing climate and extreme weather events. This project is key to assisting the Cowichan region in meeting Cowichan Watershed Board

targets for the health of this estuary and contributes to the overall regional vision of a vibrant economy and diverse natural environment. We recognize the efforts of Nature Trust, the Province of BC, Cowichan Tribes and partners who have worked diligently in the design and implementation of this project and will work closely with them to ensure its long term success.”

NOTE TO EDITORS:

History of the project

- Beginning in 1985, the Nature Trust of BC, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and partners in the Pacific Estuary Conservation Program launched a campaign to set aside and restore as much of the Cowichan Estuary landscape as possible. Through a combination of land purchases, donations, and covenants, and with the support of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan, much of the estuary is now protected.
- The areas of the Cowichan Restoration Project (Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh) were acquired between 1985 and 1990. The management focus for these lands was to actively manage agriculture for the benefit of migratory waterfowl.
- Since 2018, the partners have collaborated in implementing an in-depth monitoring program to assess the resilience of the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary to sea level rise, and have worked with consultants on extensive modeling and assessments of the impacts of the historic dike and river training within the estuary. Based on the results of this work, a decision was made by all of the partners to implement the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project to focus on overall ecosystem health and resilience of the estuary.

About partners

About The Nature Trust of British Columbia

The Nature Trust of British Columbia is a leading non-profit land conservation organization with over 50 years of success protecting and caring for B.C.'s most critical habitats. Since 1971, The Nature Trust of BC and its partners have acquired more than 73,000 hectares (180,000 acres) of ecologically significant land to save vulnerable wildlife, fish and plants.

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF)

For over 40 years, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) has provided grants to a large network of recipients who undertake conservation projects each year. With support from HCTF, a wide range of nonprofit organizations, First Nations and Indigenous communities, Provincial ministries, and community groups implement projects that protect and restore B.C.'s wildlife, freshwater fish, and their habitats. Since 1981, the HCTF has funded over 3,550 projects representing an investment of over \$215 million for conservation in B.C.

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC)

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) is a leading conservation organization committed to conserving wetlands and associated habitats across Canada. Founded in 1938, DUC has a rich history and a

deep understanding of the vital role that wetlands play in maintaining biodiversity, mitigating climate change, and providing essential ecosystem services. With a science-based approach and a collaborative mindset, DUC works tirelessly to protect, restore, and manage wetlands, ensuring they continue to support waterfowl, wildlife, and communities. Through strategic land acquisition, habitat restoration projects, and partnerships with various stakeholders, DUC has conserved millions of acres of wetlands, contributing to the overall health and resilience of Canada's natural landscapes. With a strong emphasis on education, research, and community engagement, DUC strives to inspire and empower individuals to take action in conserving wetlands, making a lasting impact for generations to come.

CONTACT:

Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project
cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com
604-558-1656

From: Jayney Davidson(jayne.davidson@yulupr.com)
Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca); Jason Emery (jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca); Henderson,Darcy (ECCC)
To: (darcy.henderson@ec.gc.ca); Matthew Christensen (m_christensen@ducks.ca); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Sarah Nathan (s_nathan@ducks.ca); Jasper Lament (jlament@naturetrust.bc.ca); dan.buffett@hctf.ca; Karen Barry (karen.barry@hctf.ca); Steven Henstra (shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu (cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com)
Subject: Re: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials
Sent: 06/06/2023 00:22:45
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi all,

We hope you are well. It is great to be connected. My name is Jayney Davidson and I am part of the Yulu Public Relations team.

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Jayne

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We would really appreciate your support in sharing this post to spread the word about the Cowichan Estuary Restoration project and our mission to #RestoreBCEstuarines for #OurCoastOurFuture. Click here to learn more about this project.

Twitter:

It is with gratitude for the support of our partners and allies that we announce the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project which will work to restore 70 hectares of crucial estuarine habitat. Together we can #RestoreBCEstuarines for #OurCoastOurFuture. [insert link here]

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Want to learn more about the project? Check out the link in our bio.

#RestoreBCEstuarines #BCEstuarines #CowichanEstuary #OurCoastOurFuture

Jayne Davidson (she/ her) | Senior Account Manager

Yulu Public Relations

O: 604.558.1656 | M: 604.928.9419

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Thanks everyone and let me know if you have any questions.

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX(Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
To: Jayney Davidson (jayney.davidson@yulupr.com); Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX (Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca)
To: Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu (cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX (Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Norris, Katie GCPE:EX (Katie.Norris@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials
Sent: 06/06/2023 16:05:44
Attachments: ~WRD0000.jpg, image001.png
Message Body:

Good morning Jayney

Glad to hear the media tour went well. The media response person for the Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship is Katie Norris.

katie.norris@gov.bc.ca

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division

2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that my office is within the territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

From: Jayney Davidson

Sent: Monday, June 5, 2023 5:23 PM

To: Thomas Reid ; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX ; Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX ; Jason Emery ; Henderson, Darcy (ECCC) ; Matthew Christensen ; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX ; Sarah Nathan ; Jasper Lament ; dan.buffett@hctf.ca; Karen Barry ; Steven Henstra

Cc: Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu

Subject: Re: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials

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Please let us know if you have any questions — we can be reached at cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com.

Many thanks,

Jayne

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Twitter:

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#OurCoastOurFuture.

Want to learn more about the project? Check out the link in our bio.

#RestoreBCEstuaries #BCEstuaries #CowichanEstuary #OurCoastOurFuture

Jayne Davidson (she/ her) | Senior Account Manager

Yulu Public Relations

O: 604.558.1656 | M: 604.928.9419

www.YuluPR.com | Vancouver // New York City

Named one of Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers

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Thanks everyone and let me know if you have any questions.

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Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

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To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX (Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca)
Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca); Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX
(Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca); Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu
To: (cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com); Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX
(Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca); Norris, Katie GCPE:EX (Katie.Norris@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: Re: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials
Sent: 06/06/2023 18:57:18
Attachments: ~WRD0000.jpg, image001.png
Message
Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Morning Arlette,

Thank you for sending. We will be sure to reach out to Katie directly if any interview requests come in for the Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship.

Kind regards,

Jayne

Jayne Davidson (she/ her) | Senior Account Manager

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On Tue, Jun 6, 2023 at 9:06 AM Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX > wrote:

Good morning Jayney

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katie.norris@gov.bc.ca

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region

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Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

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From: Jayney Davidson >

Sent: Monday, June 5, 2023 5:23 PM

To: Thomas Reid >; Patterson, Jesse WLRs:EX >; Malcolm, Arlette A WLRs:EX >; Jason Emery >; Henderson, Darcy (ECCC) >; Matthew Christensen >; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX >; Sarah Nathan >; Jasper Lament >; dan.buffett@hctf.ca ; Karen Barry >; Steven Henstra >

Cc: Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu >

Subject: Re: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials

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Tom Reid, Program Manager

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2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878

Created with a trial version of Syncfusion PDF library.

From: [Alicia Arruda](#)
To: [Thomas Reid](#); [Patterson, Jesse W](#)LR5:EX; [Malcolm, Arlette A](#) WLR5:EX; [Henderson, Darcy \(ECCC\)](#); [Jasper Lament](#); [Jason Emery](#); [Sarah Nathan](#); [Chantelle Abma](#); [Matthew Christensen](#); [Stalberg, Mike X](#) FOR:EX; [Karen Barry](#); [dan.buffett@hctf.ca](#)
Cc: [Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu](#); [Steven Henstra](#)
Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project | Times Colonist article
Date: June 13, 2023 5:54:10 PM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi all,

We are pleased to share that a Times Colonist article, featuring Tom's interview with Pedro Arrais, has been published about the Cowichan Estuary Restoration project.

Times Colonist, Pedro Arrais: [Project seeks to restore 70 acres of Cowichan marshlands](#)

- The article is positive in tone and captures the key elements of the announcement and the benefits of the project.
- The piece includes a rendering of what the estuary will look like once the project has been completed.
- The story begins by highlighting that two dikes will be removed along the Cowichan River Estuary to restore 70 acres of marshland.
- Pedro states that the dikes removal will create intertidal channels and salt marsh habitat to reconnect the estuary which has been cut off from tidal action due to human activity.
- Strong soundbites are included from Tom's interview that capture both the benefits of the project and its history, noting that it is a collaboration that is years in the making.
- The article links to the website which is beneficial in terms of search engine optimization and addressing any remaining questions readers might have.
- Times Colonist reaches an audience of 650.3K unique readers per month.

We hope you enjoy reading this strong and positive piece and recommend sharing it across social channels to amplify its reach. We will continue to monitor coverage and social media sentiment and will keep you updated.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Have a great day!

Many thanks,
Alicia

On Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 3:07 PM Alicia Arruda <alicia.arruda@yulupr.com> wrote:

Hi all,

I hope you are well! As we end the week, we wanted to share another coverage update for the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project. We are pleased to share 7 pieces of coverage, with highlights including [Global News](#), [CTV](#), the [Cowichan Valley Citizen](#), [Lake Cowichan Gazette](#), and [National Observer](#). These pieces are strong and positive and capture the key elements of the press release and announcement. As of now, the coverage (including syndications) has reached an audience of 200.1M.

We will continue to keep you updated on all results. We are pleased to share that the sentiment, in the media and on social media, is mostly positive.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Have a great day!

Many thanks,

Alicia

—

Wire coverage: 123 pieces

Highlights:

- [The Canadian Press](#), [Financial Post](#), [National Post](#), [Vancouver Sun](#), [The Province](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [Edmonton Journal](#), [NationTalk](#), [Shoreline Beacon](#), [Daily Herald-Tribune](#), [Ontario Farmer](#), [Today's Farmer](#), [Canoe](#), [Regina Leader-Post](#), [Calgary Herald](#), [Winnipeg Sun](#), [Peace RiverRecord Gazette](#)

Potential reach: 3.4B

Coverage: 7 pieces

Reach: 200.1M

- **Cowichan Valley Citizen, Robert Barron:** [Restoration project at Cowichan River estuary announced](#)

- **Syndicated in:** [Lake Cowichan Gazette](#)

- **The article is positive and captures the importance and benefits of this project, as well as its scale.**

- **Strong quotes from Tom Reid and Linda Higgins are**

included from the press release.

- The journalist captures the urgency of the project by including Tom's quote on what will happen if the project isn't completed.

- - *"If we don't do something now, we'll likely lose 50 per cent of the marsh area by 2050 and 100 per cent by 2100. It's a massive task but the money is now in place to do it."*

- The article includes a photo of Tom that Robert captured during the media tour.

- **National Observer**, Rochelle Baker: [Saving the Cowichan Estuary from drowning in a climate-fed 'coastal squeeze'](#)

- This piece is very positive in tone and makes a compelling case for this project and its environmental and ecological importance.
- The article contains images from the media kit and a photo of Tom captured during the media tour.
- Rochelle links to [government reports](#) that capture that some of the largest estuaries in BC's south coast have been lost to development, including shipping, forestry, and agriculture.
- The article illustrates the tremendous carbon capture potential of estuaries and links to a [2021 University of Victoria study](#) on blue carbon capture in the estuary.
- Rochelle captures the impact this project will have on habitat which supports biodiversity.

- The piece ends on a poignant note with a quote from Tom that expresses the urgency of this project.
 - *“If we don't do this intervention, we're looking at losing 50 per cent of the marsh habitat in the Cowichan by 2050 and almost 100 per cent by 2100.”*
- 182K unique readers per month.
- **Global News**, Simon Little: Massive project launched to protect Vancouver Island estuary from sea level rise
 - Syndicated in: MSN
 - This piece is very strong and positive in tone and emphasizes the urgency and importance of this project.
 - Impactful quotes are included from Tom Reid and Nathan Cullen that highlight the need for action and why this project is critical.
 - The article highlights the importance of estuaries and the benefits they provide to plant and animal species.
 - We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.
- **CTV News Vancouver Island**, Todd Harmer: Vancouver Island's largest estuary restoration project to begin

- **Syndicated in: iHeartRadio**

- **The article is very strong and positive in tone, highlighting the incredible environmental, ecological, and community benefits of this project.**
- **The piece includes compelling quotes from both Tom and Larry George of the Cowichan Tribes.**
- **The piece captures the magnitude of this project, in terms of execution and its environmental impact.**
- **We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.**

- **My Cowichan Valley Now, Eric Richards: New project will see complete reimagining of the Cowichan Estuary**

- The article is positive in tone and captures the benefits of the project while also noting that the project will result in the removal of the dike.
- The piece includes photos captured from the tour and quotes pulled from Tom's Q&A with the journalists.
- A strong quote from Tom highlights the urgency of this project and the fact that, if this project isn't completed, 50% of the marsh will be lost by 2050 and 100% will be gone by 2100.

- **89.7 Juice FM, Eric Richards (radio segment)**

-

Unfortunately, we were unable to listen to the radio segment. We have reached out to Eric to see if we are able to obtain a copy of the audio.

- **CHEK News**, Skye Ryan: Threat from rising sea levels leads to vital 'intervention' in Cowichan Estuary
 - The article is positive in note and highlights the ecological and environmental benefits of this project.
 - Video footage of the television segment accompanies the article, which features an interview with a Cowichan resident named Steve Alphonse.
 - Strong quotes from Tom are included that emphasize the importance and benefits of this project.

Pending coverage:

- **Times Colonist**, Pedro Arrais

Declined the story:

- **The Tyee**, Paul Willcocks: Paul thanked us for sharing the press release with him but noted that they are unable to cover the story at this time.
- **Nanaimo News Bulletin**, Chris Bush: He politely declined this request and shared that he thought it would be a better fit for the Cowichan Valley Citizen.

Other:

- **The Weather Network**, Mia Gordon: Mia thanked us for sharing the press release with her and noted that she is currently on vacation and that, next week, she will be at capacity with wildfire stories. She shared that she would love to circle back and potentially cover this story in the upcoming weeks. We will follow up with Mia next week to gauge a sense of whether there is capacity to cover this news.

Social Media

Allies

Twitter

- [Jonathan Moore \(Salmon Watersheds Lab\)](#) - 3,456 followers
 - **Sentiment:** positive

Facebook

- [Watershed Watch Salmon Society](#) - 14K followers
 - **Sentiment:** positive

Partners

Twitter

- [The Nature Trust of BC](#) - 4,739 followers
- [Tom Reid \(West Coast Conservation\)](#) - 652 followers
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Facebook

- [The Nature Trust of BC](#) - 5.9K followers

Public

- [Ocean Decade](#) - 442 followers
 - **Sentiment:** positive
- [JoAnn Mulhern](#) - 235 followers
 - **Sentiment:** positive

- **Erik Piikkila** - 1,337 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Media

- **Rochelle Baker** - 1,273 followers

- **Sentiment:** Positive

- **Richard Barron** - 14 followers

- **Sentiment:** Positive

- **CTV Vancouver Island** - 73K followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

- **Eric Richards (89.7 Juice FM)** - 84 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

On Tue, Jun 6, 2023 at 6:06 PM Alicia Arruda <alicia.arruda@yulupr.com> wrote:

Hi all,

I hope you are well! It is great to meet you virtually - I am Alicia and a part of the Yulu Public Relations team.

We wanted to provide you with a coverage update following the publication of the press release [on the wire](#) and our pitching efforts this morning. We have shared

the press release with our media contacts across Cowichan, Vancouver Island, the lower mainland, and BC. We have included a recap of the responses we have received below. The announcement has earned 5 pieces, including top-tier coverage from [Global](#), [CHEK](#) and [CTV](#).

We recommend sharing the strong and positive articles from [CTV](#) and [Global](#) on social media to amplify their reach. They are great pieces that highlight the importance and benefits of this project.

We have dedicated time tomorrow morning to following up with the media we pitched today and we will keep you updated on all results. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Have a great day!

Many thanks,
Alicia

—

Wire coverage: 122 pieces

Highlights:

- [The Canadian Press](#), [Financial Post](#), [National Post](#), [Vancouver Sun](#), [The Province](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [Edmonton Journal](#), [NationTalk](#), [Shoreline Beacon](#), [Daily Herald-Tribune](#), [Ontario Farmer](#), [Today's Farmer](#), [Canoe](#), [Regina Leader-Post](#), [Calgary Herald](#), [Winnipeg Sun](#), [Powell River Record Gazette](#)

Potential reach: 123.5M

Coverage: 5 pieces

- **Global News**, Simon Little: [Massive project launched to protect Vancouver Island estuary from sea level rise](#) ***NEW**
 - **This piece is very strong and positive in tone and emphasizes the urgency and importance of this project.**
 - **Impactful quotes are included from Tom Reid and Nathan Cullen that highlight the need for action and why this project is critical.**
 - **The article highlights the importance of estuaries and the benefits**

they provide to plant and animal species.

- We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.

- **CTV News Vancouver Island**, Todd Harmer: Vancouver Island's largest estuary restoration project to begin ***NEW**

- Syndicated in: iHeartRadio
- The article is very strong and positive in tone, highlighting the incredible environmental, ecological, and community benefits of this project.
- The piece includes compelling quotes from both Tom and Larry George of the Cowichan Tribes.
- The piece captures the magnitude of this project, in terms of execution and its environmental impact.
- We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.

- **My Cowichan Valley Now**, Eric Richards: New project will see complete reimagining of the Cowichan Estuary ***NEW**

- The article is positive in tone and captures the benefits of the project while also noting that the project will result in the removal of the dike.
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fact that, if this project isn't completed, 50% of the marsh will be lost by 2050 and 100% will be gone by 2100.

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Pending coverage:

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- **Times Colonist**, Pedro Arrais

Declined the story:

- **Nanaimo News Bulletin**, Chris Bush: He politely declined this request and shared that he thought it would be a better fit for the Cowichan Valley Citizen. ***NEW**

Social Media

Note: We have not yet observed any negative comments about the project on Facebook or Twitter. We have not seen any posts on Instagram but we will continue to monitor and keep you updated.

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Alicia Arruda (she/her) | Account Manager
Yulu Public Relations



O: 604.558.1656 | M: 778.836.8460
www.YuluPR.com | Vancouver // New York City

Named one of Canada's Top Small & Medium Employers

Check out our 2022 Benefit Report, [here](#).



I acknowledge that where I live and work in Vancouver is on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səliwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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From: [Alicia Arruda](#)
To: [Thomas Reid](#); [Patterson, Jesse W](#)[LRS:EX](#); [Malcolm, Arlette A](#)[W](#)[LRS:EX](#); [Henderson, Darcy \(ECCC\)](#); [Jasper Lament](#); [Jason Emery](#); [Sarah Nathan](#); [Matthew Christensen](#); [Stalberg, Mike X](#)[FOR:EX](#); [Karen Barry](#); [dan.buffett@hctf.ca](#)
Cc: [Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu](#); [Steven Henstra](#)
Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project | Coverage Update (June 6)
Date: June 6, 2023 6:10:05 PM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi all,

I hope you are well! It is great to meet you virtually - I am Alicia and a part of the Yulu Public Relations team.

We wanted to provide you with a coverage update following the publication of the press release [on the wire](#) and our pitching efforts this morning. We have shared the press release with our media contacts across Cowichan, Vancouver Island, the lower mainland, and BC. We have included a recap of the responses we have received below. The announcement has earned 5 pieces, including top-tier coverage from [Global](#), [CHEK](#) and [CTV](#).

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Strong quotes from Tom are included that emphasize the importance and benefits of this project.

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- **Cowichan Valley Citizen**, Robert Barron
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***NEW**

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◦

Sentiment: positive

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From: [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#)
To: [Patterson, Jesse W LRS:EX](#); [Thomas Reid](#); [Malcolm, Arlette A W LRS:EX](#)
Cc: [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: West Coast Region - Conservation Land Management Program discussion/check in
Date: April 26, 2023 9:30:01 AM

Hi Jesse,

Can we schedule this meeting to be exclusively on the Cowichan Estuary project? We are getting close to the time when there will be a push to make a public announcement and it would be good to have everyone fully briefed on the project – including F&W section (Sean included) as there are some potential impacts to the upcoming waterfowl hunting season specifically on Dinsdale Farm and Koksilah Marsh.

Also not too sure if you want to potentially invite RED's to the meeting as well.

Note: I am having a meeting with CT on Wednesday, CVRD board on Thursday next week. NTBC/DUC are going to be fully briefed this week.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Patterson, Jesse L WRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 2:27 PM
To: Patterson, Jesse L WRS:EX; Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX; Thomas Reid; Malcolm, Arlette A L WRS:EX
Cc: Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX
Subject: West Coast Region - Conservation Land Management Program discussion/check in
When: May 5, 2023 9:00 AM-10:00 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Now that summer is over, let's get these meetings back up and running....

Teams meeting link included

Microsoft Teams meeting
s.15; s.17

From: [Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX](#)
To: [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#); [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project
Date: January 25, 2023 11:17:08 AM

Tom, Mike,

I can find some time tomorrow morning or late afternoon, or Friday morning. Mike it would be good to get you up to speed on the diking-related issue here, although perhaps we also now need to involve Ross (is Jessica still reporting to you?)

Thanks,
Jesse

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 24, 2023 10:21 AM
To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project

s.13; s.16; s.21

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX
Sent: January 20, 2023 12:24 PM
To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Cowichan estuary restoration project

Hi Jesse and Mike,

Can we find a time to meet to discuss the Cowichan Estuary restoration project? Mike - I believe Jesse has provided a brief up date on this project but given some recent Provincial feedback I would like to discuss a few things with you both.

Let me know what your availability is over the next week and hopefully we can find a time that works (either in person or virtually).

Thanks.

Tom

From: [Thomas Reid](#)
To: [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#); [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#)
Subject: Re: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Date: May 26, 2023 11:19:22 AM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Yup. A briefing and to get a quote for use in press release. At this point we have dropped MOF from providing a quote as we didn't hear back. We have a quote from Min Cullen and all other partners.

Project is going to be announced June 6th.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2023 11:02:13 AM
To: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Hey Tom,

I can't remember what I was supposed to do regarding this project. I think I was supposed to write a briefing note but I am not %100 sure.

Thanks,
Mike

From: [Alicia Arruda](#)
To: [Thomas Reid](#); [Patterson, Jesse W](#)LR5:EX; [Malcolm, Arlette A](#) WLR5:EX; [Henderson, Darcy \(ECCC\)](#); [Jasper Lament](#); [Jason Emery](#); [Sarah Nathan](#); [Chantelle Abma](#); [Matthew Christensen](#); [Stalberg, Mike X](#) FOR:EX; [Karen Barry](#); [dan.buffett@hctf.ca](#)
Cc: [Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu](#); [Steven Henstra](#)
Subject: Re: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project | Times Colonist article
Date: June 14, 2023 10:10:00 AM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi all,

We are pleased to share that the Times Colonist article has syndicated **15 times**, bringing the article's total reach to **5.1M unique readers** per month.

It is great to see this positive piece, and the vital benefits of this project, amplified widely.

Times Colonist, Pedro Arrais: [Project seeks to restore 70 acres of Cowichan marshlands](#)

Syndicated in: [Coast Reporter](#), [Vancouver is Awesome](#), [Alaska Highway News](#), [Head Topics](#), [The Squamish Chief](#), [North Shore News](#), [Prince George Citizen](#), [Pique News Magazine](#), [Bowen Island Undercurrent](#), [The Peak](#), [Delta Optimist](#), [Tri-City News](#), [New Westminster Record](#), [Burnaby Now](#), [Richmond News](#) ***NEW**

- The article is positive in tone and captures the key elements of the announcement and the benefits of the project.
- The piece includes a rendering of what the estuary will look like once the project has been completed.
- The story begins by highlighting that two dikes will be removed along the Cowichan River Estuary to restore 70 acres of marshland.
- Pedra states that the dikes removal will create intertidal channels and salt marsh habitat to reconnect the estuary which has been cut off from tidal action due to human activity.
- Strong soundbites are included from Tom's interview that capture both the benefits of the project and its history, noting that it is a collaboration that is years in the making.
- The article links to the website which is beneficial in terms of search engine optimization and addressing any remaining questions readers might have.
- Times Colonist reaches an audience of 650.3K unique readers per month.

We will continue to monitor for additional pick-up. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Many thanks,
Alicia

On Tue, Jun 13, 2023 at 5:50 PM Alicia Arruda <alicia.arruda@yulupr.com> wrote:

Hi all,

We are pleased to share that a Times Colonist article, featuring Tom's interview with Pedro Arrais, has been published about the Cowichan Estuary Restoration project.

Times Colonist, Pedro Arrais: [Project seeks to restore 70 acres of Cowichan marshlands](#)

- The article is positive in tone and captures the key elements of the announcement and the benefits of the project.
- The piece includes a rendering of what the estuary will look like once the project has been completed.
- The story begins by highlighting that two dikes will be removed along the Cowichan River Estuary to restore 70 acres of marshland.
- Pedro states that the dikes removal will create intertidal channels and salt marsh habitat to reconnect the estuary which has been cut off from tidal action due to human activity.
- Strong soundbites are included from Tom's interview that capture both the benefits of the project and its history, noting that it is a collaboration that is years in the making.
- The article links to the website which is beneficial in terms of search engine optimization and addressing any remaining questions readers might have.
- Times Colonist reaches an audience of 650.3K unique readers per month.

We hope you enjoy reading this strong and positive piece and recommend sharing it across social channels to amplify its reach. We will continue to monitor coverage and social media sentiment and will keep you updated.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Have a great day!

Many thanks,
Alicia

On Fri, Jun 9, 2023 at 3:07 PM Alicia Arruda <alicia.arruda@yulupr.com> wrote:

Hi all,

I hope you are well! As we end the week, we wanted to share another coverage update for the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project. We are pleased to share 7 pieces of coverage, with highlights including [Global News](#), [CTV](#), the [Cowichan Valley Citizen](#), [Lake Cowichan Gazette](#), and [National Observer](#). These pieces are strong and positive and capture the key elements of the press release and announcement. As of now, the coverage (including syndications) has reached an audience of 200.1M.

We will continue to keep you updated on all results. We are pleased to share that the sentiment, in the media and on social media, is mostly positive.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Have a great day!

Many thanks,
Alicia

—

Wire coverage: 123 pieces

Highlights:

- [The Canadian Press](#), [Financial Post](#), [National Post](#), [Vancouver Sun](#), [The Province](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [Edmonton Journal](#), [NationTalk](#), [Shoreline Beacon](#), [Daily Herald-Tribune](#), [Ontario Farmer](#), [Today's Farmer](#), [Canoe](#), [Regina Leader-Post](#), [Calgary Herald](#), [Winnipeg Sun](#), [Peace RiverRecord Gazette](#)

Potential reach: 3.4B

Coverage: 7 pieces

Reach: 200.1M

- **Cowichan Valley Citizen, Robert Barron:** [Restoration project at Cowichan River estuary announced](#)

- **Syndicated in:** [Lake Cowichan Gazette](#)
- **The article is positive and captures the importance and benefits of this project, as well as its scale.**
- **Strong quotes from Tom Reid and Linda Higgins are included from the press release.**

The journalist captures the urgency of the project by including Tom's quote on what will happen if the project isn't completed.

- - *"If we don't do something now, we'll likely lose 50 per cent of the marsh area by 2050 and 100 per cent by 2100. It's a massive task but the money is now in place to do it."*
 - The article includes a photo of Tom that Robert captured during the media tour.
- **National Observer**, Rochelle Baker: [Saving the Cowichan Estuary from drowning in a climate-fed 'coastal squeeze'](#)

 - This piece is very positive in tone and makes a compelling case for this project and its environmental and ecological importance.
 - The article contains images from the media kit and a photo of Tom captured during the media tour.
 - Rochelle links to [government reports](#) that capture that some of the largest estuaries in BC's south coast have been lost to development, including shipping, forestry, and agriculture.
 - The article illustrates the tremendous carbon capture potential of estuaries and links to a [2021 University of Victoria study](#) on blue carbon capture in the estuary.
 - Rochelle captures the impact this project will have on habitat which supports biodiversity.
 -

The piece ends on a poignant note with a quote from Tom that expresses the urgency of this project.

- *“If we don’t do this intervention, we’re looking at losing 50 per cent of the marsh habitat in the Cowichan by 2050 and almost 100 per cent by 2100.”*

- 182K unique readers per month.

- **Global News, Simon Little:** Massive project launched to protect Vancouver Island estuary from sea level rise

- Syndicated in: **MSN**

- This piece is very strong and positive in tone and emphasizes the urgency and importance of this project.
- Impactful quotes are included from Tom Reid and Nathan Cullen that highlight the need for action and why this project is critical.
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shared the press release with our media contacts across Cowichan, Vancouver Island, the lower mainland, and BC. We have included a recap of the responses we have received below. The announcement has earned 5 pieces, including top-tier coverage from [Global](#), [CHEK](#) and [CTV](#).

We recommend sharing the strong and positive articles from [CTV](#) and [Global](#) on social media to amplify their reach. They are great pieces that highlight the importance and benefits of this project.

We have dedicated time tomorrow morning to following up with the media we pitched today and we will keep you updated on all results. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Have a great day!

Many thanks,
Alicia

—

Wire coverage: 122 pieces

Highlights:

- [The Canadian Press](#), [Financial Post](#), [National Post](#), [Vancouver Sun](#), [The Province](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [Edmonton Journal](#), [NationTalk](#), [Shoreline Beacon](#), [Daily Herald-Tribune](#), [Ontario Farmer](#), [Today's Farmer](#), [Canoe](#), [Regina Leader-Post](#), [Calgary Herald](#), [Winnipeg Sun](#), [Powell River Record Gazette](#)

Potential reach: 123.5M

Coverage: 5 pieces

- **Global News**, Simon Little: [Massive project launched to protect Vancouver Island estuary from sea level rise](#) ***NEW**
 - **This piece is very strong and positive in tone and emphasizes the urgency and importance of this project.**
 - **Impactful quotes are included from Tom Reid and Nathan Cullen that highlight the need for action and why this project is critical.**
 - **The article highlights the importance of estuaries and the**

benefits they provide to plant and animal species.

- We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.

- **CTV News Vancouver Island**, Todd Harmer: Vancouver Island's largest estuary restoration project to begin ***NEW**

- Syndicated in: iHeartRadio
- The article is very strong and positive in tone, highlighting the incredible environmental, ecological, and community benefits of this project.
- The piece includes compelling quotes from both Tom and Larry George of the Cowichan Tribes.
- The piece captures the magnitude of this project, in terms of execution and its environmental impact.
- We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.

- **My Cowichan Valley Now**, Eric Richards: New project will see complete reimagining of the Cowichan Estuary ***NEW**

- The article is positive in tone and captures the benefits of the project while also noting that the project will result in the removal of the dike.
- The piece includes photos captured from the tour and quotes pulled from Tom's Q&A with the journalists.

A strong quote from Tom highlights the urgency of this project and the fact that, if this project isn't completed, 50% of the marsh will be lost by 2050 and 100% will be gone by 2100.

- - **89.7 Juice FM**, Eric Richards (radio segment) ***NEW**
 - **Unfortunately, we were unable to listen to the radio segment. We have reached out to Eric to see if we are able to obtain a copy of the audio.**
- **CHEK News**, Skye Ryan: Threat from rising sea levels leads to vital 'intervention' in Cowichan Estuary
 - **The article is positive in note and highlights the ecological and environmental benefits of this project.**
 - **Video footage of the television segment accompanies the article, which features an interview with a Cowichan resident named Steve Alphonse.**
 - **Strong quotes from Tom are included that emphasize the importance and benefits of this project.**

Pending coverage:

- **Cowichan Valley Citizen**, Robert Barron
- **National Observer**, Rochelle Baker
- **Times Colonist**, Pedro Arrais

Declined the story:

- **Nanaimo News Bulletin**, Chris Bush: He politely declined this request and shared that he thought it would be a better fit for the Cowichan Valley Citizen. ***NEW**

Social Media

Note: We have not yet observed any negative comments about the project on Facebook or Twitter. We have not seen any posts on Instagram but we will continue to monitor and keep you updated.

Allies

Twitter

- **Jonathan Moore (Salmon Watersheds Lab)** - 3,456 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Facebook

- **Watershed Watch Salmon Society** - 14K followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Partners

Twitter

- **The Nature Trust of BC** - 4,739 followers

Facebook

- **The Nature Trust of BC** - 5.9K followers

Public

- **Ocean Decade** - 442 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Media

- **CTV Vancouver Island** - 73K followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

--

Alicia Arruda (she/her) | Account Manager



Yulu Public Relations

O: 604.558.1656 | M: 778.836.8460

www.YuluPR.com | Vancouver // New York City

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I acknowledge that where I live and work in Vancouver is on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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From: [Alicia Arruda](#)
To: [Thomas Reid](#); [Patterson, Jesse W](#)[LRS:EX](#); [Malcolm, Arlette A](#)[WLR](#)[S:EX](#); [Henderson,Darcy \(ECCC\)](#); [Jasper Lament](#); [Jason Emery](#); [Sarah Nathan](#); [Matthew Christensen](#); [Stalberg, Mike X](#)[FOR:EX](#); [Karen Barry](#); [dan.buffett@hctf.ca](#)
Cc: [Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu](#); [Steven Henstra](#)
Subject: Re: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project | Coverage Update (June 6)
Date: June 9, 2023 3:10:25 PM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi all,

I hope you are well! As we end the week, we wanted to share another coverage update for the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project. We are pleased to share 7 pieces of coverage, with highlights including [Global News](#), [CTV](#), the [Cowichan Valley Citizen](#), [Lake Cowichan Gazette](#), and [National Observer](#). These pieces are strong and positive and capture the key elements of the press release and announcement. As of now, the coverage (including syndications) has reached an audience of 200.1M.

We will continue to keep you updated on all results. We are pleased to share that the sentiment, in the media and on social media, is mostly positive.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Have a great day!

Many thanks,

Alicia

—

Wire coverage: 123 pieces

Highlights:

- [The Canadian Press](#), [Financial Post](#), [National Post](#), [Vancouver Sun](#), [The Province](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [Edmonton Journal](#), [NationTalk](#), [Shoreline Beacon](#), [Daily Herald-Tribune](#), [Ontario Farmer](#), [Today's Farmer](#), [Canoe](#), [Regina Leader-Post](#), [Calgary Herald](#), [Winnipeg Sun](#), [Peace RiverRecord Gazette](#)

Potential reach: 3.4B

Coverage: 7 pieces

Reach: 200.1M

- **Cowichan Valley Citizen, Robert Barron:** [Restoration project at Cowichan River estuary announced](#)

- Syndicated in: [Lake Cowichan Gazette](#)
- The article is positive and captures the importance and benefits of this project, as well as its scale.
- Strong quotes from Tom Reid and Linda Higgins are included from the press release.
- The journalist captures the urgency of the project by including Tom's quote on what will happen if the project isn't completed.
 - *"If we don't do something now, we'll likely lose 50 per cent of the marsh area by 2050 and 100 per cent by 2100. It's a massive task but the money is now in place to do it."*
- The article includes a photo of Tom that Robert captured during the media tour.
- **National Observer**, Rochelle Baker: [Saving the Cowichan Estuary from drowning in a climate-fed 'coastal squeeze'](#)
 - This piece is very positive in tone and makes a compelling case for this project and its environmental and ecological importance.
 - The article contains images from the media kit and a photo of Tom captured during the media tour.
 - Rochelle links to [government reports](#) that capture that some of the largest estuaries in BC's south coast have been lost to development, including shipping, forestry, and agriculture.

- The article illustrates the tremendous carbon capture potential of estuaries and links to a [2021 University of Victoria study](#) on blue carbon capture in the estuary.
- Rochelle captures the impact this project will have on habitat which supports biodiversity.
- The piece ends on a poignant note with a quote from Tom that expresses the urgency of this project.
 - *“If we don’t do this intervention, we’re looking at losing 50 per cent of the marsh habitat in the Cowichan by 2050 and almost 100 per cent by 2100.”*
- 182K unique readers per month.
- **Global News**, Simon Little: [Massive project launched to protect Vancouver Island estuary from sea level rise](#)
 - Syndicated in: [MSN](#)
 - This piece is very strong and positive in tone and emphasizes the urgency and importance of this project.
 - Impactful quotes are included from Tom Reid and Nathan Cullen that highlight the need for action and why this project is critical.
 - The article highlights the importance of estuaries and the benefits they provide to plant and animal species.

- We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.
- **CTV News Vancouver Island**, Todd Harmer: [Vancouver Island's largest estuary restoration project to begin](#)
 - **Syndicated in: [iHeartRadio](#)**
 - The article is very strong and positive in tone, highlighting the incredible environmental, ecological, and community benefits of this project.
 - The piece includes compelling quotes from both Tom and Larry George of the Cowichan Tribes.
 - The piece captures the magnitude of this project, in terms of execution and its environmental impact.
 - We recommend sharing this strong piece across your social channels to amplify its reach.
- **My Cowichan Valley Now**, Eric Richards: [New project will see complete reimagining of the Cowichan Estuary](#)
 - The article is positive in tone and captures the benefits of the project while also noting that the project will result in the removal of the dike.
 - The piece includes photos captured from the tour and quotes pulled from Tom's Q&A with the journalists.
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A strong quote from Tom highlights the urgency of this project and the fact that, if this project isn't completed, 50% of the marsh will be lost by 2050 and 100% will be gone by 2100.

- - **89.7 Juice FM**, Eric Richards (radio segment)
 - Unfortunately, we were unable to listen to the radio segment. We have reached out to Eric to see if we are able to obtain a copy of the audio.
- **CHEK News**, Skye Ryan: Threat from rising sea levels leads to vital 'intervention' in Cowichan Estuary
 - The article is positive in note and highlights the ecological and environmental benefits of this project.
 - Video footage of the television segment accompanies the article, which features an interview with a Cowichan resident named Steve Alphonse.
 - Strong quotes from Tom are included that emphasize the importance and benefits of this project.

Pending coverage:

- **Times Colonist**, Pedro Arrais

Declined the story:

- **The Tyee**, Paul Willcocks: Paul thanked us for sharing the press release with him but noted that they are unable to cover the story at this time.
- **Nanaimo News Bulletin**, Chris Bush: He politely declined this request and shared that he thought it would be a better fit for the Cowichan Valley Citizen.

Other:

- **The Weather Network**, Mia Gordon: Mia thanked us for sharing the press

release with her and noted that she is currently on vacation and that, next week, she will be at capacity with wildfire stories. She shared that she would love to circle back and potentially cover this story in the upcoming weeks. We will follow up with Mia next week to gauge a sense of whether there is capacity to cover this news.

Social Media

Allies

Twitter

- [Jonathan Moore \(Salmon Watersheds Lab\)](#) - 3,456 followers

◦

Sentiment: positive

Facebook

- [Watershed Watch Salmon Society](#) - 14K followers

◦

Sentiment: positive

Partners

Twitter

- [The Nature Trust of BC](#) - 4,739 followers
- [Tom Reid \(West Coast Conservation\)](#) - 652 followers
- [Tom Reid \(West Coast Conservation\)](#) - 652 followers
- [Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation](#) - 885 followers

Facebook

- [The Nature Trust of BC](#) - 5.9K followers

Public

- [Ocean Decade](#) - 442 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive
- **JoAnn Mulhern** - 235 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive
- **Erik Piikkila** - 1,337 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Media

- **Rochelle Baker** - 1,273 followers
- **Sentiment:** Positive
- **Richard Barron** - 14 followers
- **Sentiment:** Positive
- **CTV Vancouver Island** - 73K followers
- **Sentiment:** positive
- **Eric Richards (89.7 Juice FM)** - 84 followers
- **Sentiment:** positive

On Tue, Jun 6, 2023 at 6:06 PM Alicia Arruda <alicia.arruda@yulupr.com> wrote:

Hi all,

I hope you are well! It is great to meet you virtually - I am Alicia and a part of the Yulu Public Relations team.

We wanted to provide you with a coverage update following the publication of the press release [on the wire](#) and our pitching efforts this morning. We have shared the press release with our media contacts across Cowichan, Vancouver Island, the lower mainland, and BC. We have included a recap of the responses we have received below. The announcement has earned 5 pieces, including top-tier coverage from [Global](#), [CHEK](#) and [CTV](#).

We recommend sharing the strong and positive articles from [CTV](#) and [Global](#) on social media to amplify their reach. They are great pieces that highlight the importance and benefits of this project.

We have dedicated time tomorrow morning to following up with the media we pitched today and we will keep you updated on all results. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Have a great day!

Many thanks,
Alicia

—

Wire coverage: 122 pieces

Highlights:

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[The Canadian Press](#), [Financial Post](#), [National Post](#), [Vancouver Sun](#), [The Province](#), [Toronto Sun](#), [Edmonton Journal](#), [NationTalk](#), [Shoreline Beacon](#), [Daily Herald-Tribune](#), [Ontario Farmer](#), [Today's Farmer](#), [Canoe](#), [Regina Leader-Post](#), [Calgary Herald](#), [Winnipeg Sun](#), [Powell River Record Gazette](#)

Potential reach: 123.5M

Coverage: 5 pieces

-

Global News, Simon Little: [Massive project launched to protect Vancouver Island estuary from sea level rise](#) ***NEW**

-

This piece is very strong and positive in tone and emphasizes the

urgency and importance of this project.

- Impactful quotes are included from Tom Reid and Nathan Cullen that highlight the need for action and why this project is critical.
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while also noting that the project will result in the removal of the dike.

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- **89.7 Juice FM**, Eric Richards (radio segment) ***NEW**

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- **Video footage of the television segment accompanies the article, which features an interview with a Cowichan resident named Steve Alphonse.**
- **Strong quotes from Tom are included that emphasize the importance and benefits of this project.**

Pending coverage:

- **Cowichan Valley Citizen**, Robert Barron
- **National Observer**, Rochelle Baker
-

Times Colonist, Pedro Arrais

Declined the story:

- **Nanaimo News Bulletin**, Chris Bush: He politely declined this request and shared that he thought it would be a better fit for the Cowichan Valley Citizen.

***NEW**

Social Media

Note: We have not yet observed any negative comments about the project on Facebook or Twitter. We have not seen any posts on Instagram but we will continue to monitor and keep you updated.

Allies

Twitter

- **Jonathan Moore (Salmon Watersheds Lab)** - 3,456 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Facebook

- **Watershed Watch Salmon Society** - 14K followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Partners

Twitter

- **The Nature Trust of BC** - 4,739 followers

Facebook

- **The Nature Trust of BC** - 5.9K followers

Public

- **Ocean Decade** - 442 followers

- **Sentiment:** positive

Media

-

CTV Vancouver Island - 73K followers

o

Sentiment: positive

--



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From: [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#)
To: [Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX](#); [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project
Date: January 30, 2023 1:34:40 PM

Hi Mike/Jesse – summary note is on hold as we are working towards a better solution with our engineers and Inspector of Dikes.

Tom

From: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 25, 2023 4:35 PM
To: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project

OK, perfect, thanks Tom!

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 25, 2023 11:43 AM
To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project

Hi Jesse,

Mike and I spoke yesterday afternoon regarding the project and the potential issues.

I will be preparing a summary (email and/or memo) regarding the project and potential concerns and will be sending it along to yourself, Mike, Arlette and Ross. My intention is to wait to do this until after some follow up meetings I have with DIOD and MOTI this week as that will inform the direction this will need to go.

Cheers,

Tom

From: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 25, 2023 11:17 AM
To: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project

Tom, Mike,

I can find some time tomorrow morning or late afternoon, or Friday morning. Mike it would be good

to get you up to speed on the diking-related issue here, although perhaps we also now need to involve Ross (is Jessica still reporting to you?)

Thanks,
Jesse

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 24, 2023 10:21 AM
To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project

s.13; s.16; s.21

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX
Sent: January 20, 2023 12:24 PM
To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Cowichan estuary restoration project

Hi Jesse and Mike,

Can we find a time to meet to discuss the Cowichan Estuary restoration project? Mike - I believe Jesse has provided a brief up date on this project but given some recent Provincial feedback I would like to discuss a few things with you both.

Let me know what your availability is over the next week and hopefully we can find a time that works (either in person or virtually).

Thanks.

Tom

From: [Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX](#)
To: [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#); [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project
Date: January 25, 2023 4:34:48 PM

OK, perfect, thanks Tom!

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 25, 2023 11:43 AM
To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
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s.13; s.16; s.21

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Thanks.

Tom

From: [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#)
To: [Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX](#); [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project
Date: January 25, 2023 11:42:57 AM

Hi Jesse,

Mike and I spoke yesterday afternoon regarding the project and the potential issues.

I will be preparing a summary (email and/or memo) regarding the project and potential concerns and will be sending it along to yourself, Mike, Arlette and Ross. My intention is to wait to do this until after some follow up meetings I have with DIOD and MOTI this week as that will inform the direction this will need to go.

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Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project

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s.13; s.16; s.21

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Thanks.

Tom

From: [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#)
To: [Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX](#); [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Cowichan estuary restoration project
Date: January 24, 2023 10:20:58 AM

s.13; s.16; s.21

From: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX
Sent: January 20, 2023 12:24 PM
To: Patterson, Jesse LWRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
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Thanks.

Tom

From: [Thomas Reid](#)
To: [Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX](#); [Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX](#)
Subject: RE: call friday afternoon re estuary
Date: June 1, 2023 4:29:28 PM

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Sending an email to all partners that will contain the information you are looking for stand –by.
Project is to be announced June 6th.

From: Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 1, 2023 4:23 PM
To: Reid, Thomas G FOR:EX <Thomas.Reid@gov.bc.ca>; Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: call friday afternoon re estuary

Hey Tom,

I there a time between 1 and 3 when we can talk about the estuary project. I am struggling with the note because I can't remember what we talked about last time.

Thanks,
Mike

Page 162 of 173

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Pendergast, Sean FOR:EX (Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials
Sent: 06/02/2023 18:10:40
Attachments: image001.png, Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project_ Press release (SHARED).pdf
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Fyi. Not too sure if Mike forwarded this to you or not.

From: Thomas Reid
Sent: June 1, 2023 4:36 PM
To: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>; Henderson, Darcy (ECCC) <Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca>; Jason Emery <jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca>; Sarah Nathan <s_nathan@ducks.ca>; Matthew Christensen <m_christensen@ducks.ca>; Jasper Lament <jlament@naturetrust.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>; Karen Barry <Karen.Barry@hctf.ca>; dan.buffett@hctf.ca
Cc: Cowichan Restoration Project - Yulu <cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com>; Steven Henstra <shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Subject: Cowichan project announcement and communications materials

Good afternoon everyone,

The Cowichan Restoration project will be formally announced on Tuesday June 6th. On Monday June 5th I am going to be meeting with some media on site to discuss the project in advance of the release happening on the 6th. The §.15 (click link) contains the press release along with several documents for the partners to utilize (e.g. fact sheet, media resources etc). I have attached the pdf version of the press release. As previously mentioned on our partner calls Yulu PR ([](https://yulupr.com/)) has been retained to assist with managing the communications of the project launch and follow up. You will note they have created a Cowichan project specific email address (cc'd here) that is included on the press release along with their contact information. If you have any questions regarding the materials please feel free to reach out directly to them with a cc to myself/Steve.

A key question for all of you in advance of the June 6th release is for you to identify:

1. If you want to include a boilerplate statement at the end (noting we have included one from DUC, HCTF and NTBC); and,
2. A contact person who can discuss the project from your respective organizations should a request be made. The default will be for me and/or Yulu to send any immediate follow up to you directly and then have you sort out who will be best to respond.

Thanks everyone and let me know if you have any questions.

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager
West Coast Conservation Land Management Program
2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9
Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878



Ministry of
Forests



Ministry of
Water, Land and
Resource Stewardship



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada
Pêches et Océans
Canada



Environment and
Climate Change Canada



NATURE TRUST
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Largest Estuary Restoration Project on Vancouver Island starts work to revitalize crucial estuarine habitat

The project will restore over 70 hectares of natural estuarine marshlands, a vitally important habitat for wild Pacific salmon and the interconnected ecosystems that rely on them.

June 6 2023, Cowichan BC, Canada - Today, The Nature Trust of British Columbia (NTBC), in partnership with Cowichan Tribes, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, Ministry of Forests, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation announced plans to restore and revitalize 70 hectares of estuarine marshlands along the Cowichan River Estuary on Vancouver Island.

The Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project is the largest estuary restoration project to ever occur on Vancouver Island, aiming to restore vitally important estuary habitat and enhance estuary resilience against rising sea-levels. The project will rejuvenate habitat crucial for the survival of key fish and wildlife species, including wild Pacific Salmon, migratory and breeding birds as well as species-at-risk.

The project will involve the combined removal of over 2 km of dikes at Dinsdale Farm and Koksilah Marsh, the creation of intertidal channels and salt marsh habitat, the restoration of marine riparian and flood fringe forests, and the reconnection of areas that have been historically cut off from tidal influence.

Estuaries are incredibly diverse ecosystems that thrive in a narrow band of elevation and represent the critical areas where the nutrients from the marine and terrestrial environments mix. This nutrient rich environment plays a crucial role in the life cycle of fish, crabs, shellfish, migratory and breeding birds. Estuaries are also powerful carbon sinks with sediments capable of capturing carbon ten times as quickly as forest soils. Local communities benefit from ecosystem services that estuaries provide, such as pollutant filtration and storm surge mitigation.

This project is the culmination of a rich legacy of partnerships amongst conservation agencies and Cowichan Tribes. Beginning in 1985, NTBC, DUC, and partners in the Pacific Estuary Conservation Program, began a campaign to set aside, manage and restore as much of the estuary landscape as possible and have worked closely with Cowichan Tribes and other community partners in stewarding these lands and implementing several restoration and monitoring projects.

Since 2018, the partners have collaborated in implementing an in-depth monitoring program to assess the resilience of the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary to sea level rise, and have worked with consultants on extensive modeling and assessments of the impacts of the historic dike and river training within the estuary. Based on the results of this work, a decision was made by all of the partners to implement the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project to focus on overall ecosystem health and resilience of the estuary.

The Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project is funded by the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BC SRIF), a contribution program funded jointly by DFO and the Province of BC, DFO's Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration Fund (AERF), and Cowichan Tribes through the Aquatic Habitat Restoration Fund (AHRF). Thank you to our funders and partners for their dedication and commitment to conservation. We are honoured and grateful for your collaboration and support. The project's development has also included a Technical/Scientific Advisory Committee composed of leading nearshore scientists from British Columbia and the United States National Estuary Research Reserve System (NERRS).

For more information on the project, visit EstuaryResilience.ca to learn more.

QUOTES

Thomas Reid, West Coast Conservation Land Management Program Manager shares, "Estuaries are the heart of our coastal landscape and are among the most productive ecosystems on earth. Although they only make up 2.3% of B.C.'s coastline, they support more than 80% of our wildlife, birds, and fish. Sadly, the climate crisis and human activities are threatening their vital processes putting habitat and surrounding communities at risk. This project is an essential step towards restoration of the Cowichan Estuary to conserve biodiversity and protect local communities, now and in the future."

Partner Quotes

Larry George (Smaalthun) Director Lulumexun - Lands and Self Governance Department, Cowichan Tribes shares, "The Quw'utsun Mustimuhw (Cowichan People) have long been stewards of the lands and waters. We have witnessed the changes in our estuary over time, which have had a dramatic impact on our resources. Cowichan Tribes aims to contribute to the management of our traditional territory through habitat restoration and monitoring of this important ecosystem. We look forward to seeing this important work continue, and to keep our territory thriving for future generations."

Dr. Jasper Lament, Chief Executive Officer at The Nature Trust of BC shares, "We are grateful to be working with our partners on this crucial restoration project. Estuaries are environmental and ecological powerhouses and the wellbeing of our coastal ecosystems and wildlife depend on them. Our collective work will restore salt marsh habitats and estuarine processes which will not only benefit the species within the estuary, but nearby communities. Collaboration is key and together we can revitalize the Cowichan Estuary to ensure that it is able to flourish in perpetuity, for the benefit of fish, wildlife, and people."

Nathan Cullen, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship shares, "We are delighted to collaborate on this project to restore the natural estuarine marshlands in the Cowichan Estuary. Our government is committed to the sustainable management and protection of water resources in B.C.,

, and this project aligns perfectly with our goals. By restoring the natural marshland, we are enhancing the ecological health of this important ecosystem and improving the water quality of the surrounding areas. This project will set an excellent example for the preservation of Canada's aquatic ecosystems, and we are proud to be a part of it. We look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts and seeing the positive impact of this project on the Cowichan Estuary and the communities that rely on it."

Sarah Nathan, Manager, Provincial Operations, B.C. at Ducks Unlimited shares, "At Ducks Unlimited Canada we have been conserving wetlands and other natural spaces for waterfowl, wildlife, and people for 85 years. The restoration efforts at the Cowichan Estuary will ensure vital habitat can continue to support waterfowl as they rest over winter on their migratory path, a large range of fish and other wildlife for generations to come, while also advancing local climate resilience against rising sea-levels. We are proud to work with our partners to protect these essential ecosystems and the species that depend on them."

Linda Higgins, South Coast Area Director Fisheries and Oceans Canada shares, "The importance of estuaries for the health of our oceans cannot be overstated. We are thrilled to partner with local organizations and communities to restore over 70 hectares of natural estuarine marshlands in the Cowichan Estuary. This project aligns with our commitment to protect and restore Canada's aquatic ecosystems, and we are proud to contribute to the preservation of this vital habitat for a diverse range of marine species. Through collaborative efforts, we believe this project will not only restore the estuary's ecological balance but also provide long-lasting benefits for the communities that rely on it. We look forward to seeing the positive impact of this project on the Cowichan Estuary and the surrounding areas."

Darcy C. Henderson PhD, Head, Stewardship Unit Canadian Wildlife Service Environment & Climate Change Canada shares, "Climate change and environmental degradation are some of the greatest challenges of our time, and it is essential that we work together to protect our natural habitats and the biodiversity they support. The revitalization of estuaries in British Columbia is critical to providing a habitat for animals, aiding in climate change adaptation, and offering environmental benefits. Climate change and biodiversity loss are tightly entwined and by restoring these essential ecosystems, we are not only mitigating the effects of climate change but also protecting the region's diverse wildlife and ensuring their survival. We believe this project is a significant step towards a more sustainable future, and we are proud to be a part of it."

Dan Buffett, CEO, Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation shares, "At the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, we invest in the future of British Columbia's fish, wildlife, and their habitats. With over 80% of BC's coastal fish and wildlife dependent on estuaries for their survival, the protection and restoration of these vital ecosystems are critical. Through partnership and collaborative projects such as the Cowichan estuary, we support improving estuary resilience against climate change and other negative impacts."

Cowichan Valley Regional District Board shares, "The CVRD is excited to see this important restoration work commencing in the Cowichan Estuary. Not only will this project restore critical fish and wildlife habitat, it will also build resiliency to adapt to our changing climate and extreme weather events. This project is key to assisting the Cowichan region in meeting Cowichan Watershed Board

targets for the health of this estuary and contributes to the overall regional vision of a vibrant economy and diverse natural environment. We recognize the efforts of Nature Trust, the Province of BC, Cowichan Tribes and partners who have worked diligently in the design and implementation of this project and will work closely with them to ensure its long term success.”

NOTE TO EDITORS:

History of the project

- Beginning in 1985, the Nature Trust of BC, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and partners in the Pacific Estuary Conservation Program launched a campaign to set aside and restore as much of the Cowichan Estuary landscape as possible. Through a combination of land purchases, donations, and covenants, and with the support of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Plan, much of the estuary is now protected.
- The areas of the Cowichan Restoration Project (Dinsdale Farm, Koksilah Marsh) were acquired between 1985 and 1990. The management focus for these lands was to actively manage agriculture for the benefit of migratory waterfowl.
- Since 2018, the partners have collaborated in implementing an in-depth monitoring program to assess the resilience of the Cowichan/Koksilah estuary to sea level rise, and have worked with consultants on extensive modeling and assessments of the impacts of the historic dike and river training within the estuary. Based on the results of this work, a decision was made by all of the partners to implement the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project to focus on overall ecosystem health and resilience of the estuary.

About partners

About The Nature Trust of British Columbia

The Nature Trust of British Columbia is a leading non-profit land conservation organization with over 50 years of success protecting and caring for B.C.'s most critical habitats. Since 1971, The Nature Trust of BC and its partners have acquired more than 73,000 hectares (180,000 acres) of ecologically significant land to save vulnerable wildlife, fish and plants.

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF)

For over 40 years, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) has provided grants to a large network of recipients who undertake conservation projects each year. With support from HCTF, a wide range of nonprofit organizations, First Nations and Indigenous communities, Provincial ministries, and community groups implement projects that protect and restore B.C.'s wildlife, freshwater fish, and their habitats. Since 1981, the HCTF has funded over 3,550 projects representing an investment of over \$215 million for conservation in B.C.

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC)

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) is a leading conservation organization committed to conserving wetlands and associated habitats across Canada. Founded in 1938, DUC has a rich history and a

deep understanding of the vital role that wetlands play in maintaining biodiversity, mitigating climate change, and providing essential ecosystem services. With a science-based approach and a collaborative mindset, DUC works tirelessly to protect, restore, and manage wetlands, ensuring they continue to support waterfowl, wildlife, and communities. Through strategic land acquisition, habitat restoration projects, and partnerships with various stakeholders, DUC has conserved millions of acres of wetlands, contributing to the overall health and resilience of Canada's natural landscapes. With a strong emphasis on education, research, and community engagement, DUC strives to inspire and empower individuals to take action in conserving wetlands, making a lasting impact for generations to come.

CONTACT:

Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project
cowichanrestorationproject@yulupr.com
604-558-1656

From: Thomas Reid (treid@naturetrust.bc.ca)
To: Pendergast, Sean FOR:EX (Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Sent: 05/16/2023 23:28:14
Attachments: image001.png
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Fyi. Can you also give Mike a nudge on this too?

From: Thomas Reid
Sent: May 16, 2023 4:14 PM
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>;
Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>;
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Thanks Arlette!

Definitely will give you plenty of notice regarding public facing kick off events. I don't believe there is a public facing event being planned at this time. There has been some discussion about doing an event when the actual physical works commence with the removal.

One question that has come up is whether or not the Provincial communications team would like to meet with the communications consultant working on this project to coordinate efforts. What are your thoughts on this?

Mike – can we expect anything from MoF on this? Will need something by Friday.

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca/A>;
Sent: May 16, 2023 4:02 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca/A>;
Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca/A>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca/A>;
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Hi Tom

The nudge helped. Please find documents attached. I believe the only content amended was on the quote for the press release – please note that attribution will be to our Minister.

One request – if there are any public facing kickoff event contemplated could you please provide me with at least a 10 day notice? Our communications team would like enough lead time to coordinate invites to Parliamentary Secretaries – if appropriate.

Thanks!

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region
Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division
2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9
Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that my office is within the territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>;
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 2:48 PM
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>;
Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>;
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Great. Thanks Arlette!

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>;
Sent: May 16, 2023 2:14 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>;
Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>;
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Hi Tom

I shared the content with our government communications team as its their purview to review information for news releases and quotes. I will poke them and note the tight turnaround on materials.

Stay tuned

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region
Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division
2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9
Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that my office is within the territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>;
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 2:00 PM
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>;
Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>;
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Arlette,

Just wanted to touch base on this again to see if you have any questions/edits. We are hoping to have all public facing materials signed off by the 19th if possible.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Thomas Reid
Sent: May 10, 2023 2:43 PM
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>;
Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>;

Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Thanks for the follow up Arlette.

Jesse has sent along the correct logos and we have provided them to the communications team to update across all information.

Attached is the information that is on the google document shared drive. There will be changes made to logos/quotes as they are received. Quotes with names attached have been approved. Other quotes are drafts written by comms consultants.

Let me know if you need more info or would like to discuss further.

Thanks,

Tom

From: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: May 10, 2023 1:33 PM
To: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Cc: Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th
Importance: High

Hi Tom

Thanks for sharing. I am in the midst of even planning for the Koksilah ceremony on Friday so have not had much opportunity to solicit feedback on this.

I would say that generally it looks good but I would like to get a WLRS government communications person on it to review, provide the appropriate logos, confirm quote, and provide any additional comment on content and strategy. I will send this to them and see if I can get an assignment to a public affairs advisor. I am not sure how long that will take but hopefully it aligns with your timelines.

s.13

I cant figure out how to download the materials from Google. Can they be shared via email so I can send to communications?

Arlette Malcolm, MES

Director Resource Stewardship Operations, Coast Area – West Region
Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship | Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystems Division
2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9
Phone: 250-713-2477 | Email: Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that my office is within the territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

From: Thomas Reid <treid@naturetrust.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 3:16 PM
To: Malcolm, Arlette A WLRS:EX <Arlette.Malcolm@gov.bc.ca>; Stalberg, Mike X FOR:EX <Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca>; Patterson, Jesse WLRS:EX <Jesse.Patterson@gov.bc.ca>; Sarah Nathan <s_nathan@ducks.ca>; Jason Emery <jemery@naturetrust.bc.ca>; Dale.Desrochers@dfp-mpo.gc.ca <Dale.Desrochers@dfp-mpo.gc.ca>; Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca <Darcy.Henderson@ec.gc.ca>; Karen.Barry@hctf.ca <Karen.Barry@hctf.ca>

Cc: Steven Henstra <shenstra@naturetrust.bc.ca>

Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project Update - May 8th

Importance: High

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon everyone,

Writing to you all to provide an update with regards to the Cowichan Estuary Restoration Project and request partner review/input to communications materials that have been developed.

Summary:

s.21

s.21

s.15; s.21

Let me know if you have any questions and want to schedule a further call with your respective agencies to discuss.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Reid, Program Manager

West Coast Conservation Land Management Program

2080 Labieux Road | Nanaimo BC, V9T 6J9

Tel: 250.751.3100 | Direct: 250.739.8458 | 1.866.288.7878