

From: [Mark Angelo](#)
To: [Minister, ENV ENV:EX](#); [Heyman.MLA, George LASS:EX](#)
Subject: 313578 - update to previous note - three river-related issues including the Heart of the Fraser and other
Date: January 31, 2018 4:18:26 PM

The Hon. George Heyman

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Dear Minister Heyman,

I hope everything is well. I just wanted to send you a quick follow-up to my earlier note (attached below) to elaborate on a couple of the points that were mentioned.

Regarding the Heart of the Fraser and the recent clearing that has taken place on both Herrling and Carey Islands, if the Province opts not to allow the bridge (which we hope will be the case), we would be very keen to discuss options by which we can protect these particular islands that are both critical to the functioning of the Heart of the Fraser. This may entail land acquisition, or the purchase of conservation covenants, or a mix of both. ^{s.13}

s.13

In addition, we have also long endorsed the need for a new Watershed Sustainability Fund as you know. One way of achieving this may be to broaden and re-align the goals and objectives of the Forest Enhancement Fund (which currently sits at 150 million) to coincide with the broader needs of watersheds. We would welcome the opportunity to explore this further. In any event, I look forward to discussing the points outlined in my letter from January 18 when it fits with your schedule in the weeks ahead. Thank you again.

Sincerely, Mark Angelo

Rivers Chair, Outdoor Recreation Council of BC.

s.22

From: Mark Angelo ^{s.22}
Sent: January-18-18 12:00 PM
To: 'ENV.minister@gov.bc.ca'; 'Heyman.MLA, George'
Subject: three river-related issues including the Heart of the Fraser and other

The Hon. George Heyman

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Dear Minister Heyman,

I hope you're doing well. I'm writing to request the opportunity to meet again in the near future to discuss three major river-related issues now unfolding, all of which you're familiar with. These include;

- the Heart of the Fraser and issues around Herrling and Carey Islands, which is a major concern to a very large coalition of conservation and recreation groups.
- The interior Fraser steelhead issue which is both important and time sensitive.
- And the need for a new Watershed Sustainability Fund aimed at supporting a host of conservation, restoration, and data gathering initiatives, and which remains a high priority to many groups as well.

I look forward to discussing these with you sometime soon and I wish you the very best in

2018.

Sincerely, Mark Angelo

Rivers Chair, Outdoor Recreation Council of BC.

s.22

<http://vancouver.sun.com/opinion/op-ed/opinion-we-must-act-now-to-save-the-heart-of-a-mighty-river>

From: [Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX](#)
To: [Graeme, Ian IRR:EX](#); [Berardinucci, Julia F ENV:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Your Advice Appreciated:::Incoming Cliff Due April 6th
Date: March 14, 2018 7:53:37 AM

Hi Julia –

We don't have a specific briefing note on the Water Sustainability Fund that I'm aware of (at least I haven't written anything specifically on the fund). We've been referencing it in various notes related to the BC Freshwater Legacy Initiative primarily.

I believe the most recent reference to the Fund is in the note for MGH for his [Oct 6 meeting with the Legacy Initiative](#). The paragraph is below.

Water Sustainability Fund

The Legacy Initiative identifies that leadership and a long-term provincial commitment to freshwater management could be demonstrated by establishing a Water Sustainability Fund. Past examples of similar funds include the Park Enhancement Fund supporting the ongoing management of BC's parks, and the Forest Stand Management Fund supporting the longevity of BC's forests. Such a fund could support long-term watershed health and sustainability and could be financially supported in a number of ways, among them, partnership funding and changes (e.g., increases) in water fees and rentals. The 'Sustainable Watershed Governance Funding Task Force' of which ENV is a part, is currently testing funding mechanisms with local watershed groups to support their activities in two areas of the province, the Cowichan and the Nechako. Lessons learned from this initiative will enable knowledge transfer to other communities and watershed groups across the province.

I also support Lynn on the Sustainable Watershed Governance Task Force as needed. If you need anything more, let me know.

Thanks.

Jennifer.

From: Graeme, Ian ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 7:49 PM
To: Berardinucci, Julia F ENV:EX
Cc: Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX
Subject: RE: Your Advice Appreciated:::Incoming Cliff Due April 6th

Hi Julia,

This is one of those letters that involves FLNR functions as well as ENV.

Mark Angelo is a very well-known and respected conservationist...supporter and validator of WSA when it was introduced in 2014. He was/is Chair of the ORC and founder and Chair of BC and [World Rivers Day](#). Regarding topics in his letter/meeting request:

- Carey and Herrling Island – relates to authorization of two bridge crossings (FLNR SC region)

...the scope of issue from a conservation viewpoint is likely captured in [Watershed Watch's recent letter](#)

- Fraser Steelhead – [emergency assessment launched last December](#) - I suggest connecting with Jeff Morgan in FLNR F&W Branch for key messages/latest info
- Watershed Sustainability Fund – a number of conservation organizations especially BC Wildlife Fed have been promoted this idea for several years. I am scratching my head for a briefing note on the topic and have CC'd Jennifer Vigano. She may be able to put her finger on some potential content.

Old [Meeting Info Note](#) to support MMP meeting with Angelo in 2013...pretty dated now but might help get things started.

Hope this helps!

Ian

From: Berardinucci, Julia F ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 4:06 PM
To: Graeme, Ian ENV:EX
Subject: Your Advice Appreciated:::Incoming Cliff Due April 6th

Hi Ian

Part of my transition training...these are all new topics to me ~ do you have more context to help me learn what we have already touched and options?

- Heart of the Fraser and issues around Herrling and Carey Islands,
- The interior Fraser steelhead issue
- need for new Watershed Sustainability Fund

Julia

Briefing Note requested by ADMO.

From Marnie,

"Over to you, Julia as Acting ED. Cliff 313578/eApps 9554 DUE ADMO APRIL 6th"

From: [Smith, Malissa FLNR:EX](#)
To: [Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX](#)
Subject: Carey and Herrling applications
Date: April 6, 2018 11:35:37 AM
Attachments: [2018-04-04 - FLNRORD Letter to Klassen Farm-Herrling Bridge - 2005299-24....pdf](#)
[2018-04-04 - FLNRORD Letter to Carey Island Farm - 2005591-2411959.pdf](#)

Hi Jennifer!

Sorry I forgot to send this information sooner. We just sent letters to the applicants the other day. Here is a copy of those letters for both Carey and Herrling Island.

Please let me know if you require additional information.

Thank you!

Malissa

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**Malissa Smith** | MRM | RPBio | PAg  
Senior Licenced Authorizations Officer - Water  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Address: 200-10428 153rd Street, Surrey, BC, V3R 1E1

Phone: 604-586-5634

Email: [Malissa.Smith@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Malissa.Smith@gov.bc.ca)



April 4, 2018

WSA Approval File: 2005299  
Crown Lands File: 2411899

Klassen Farms  
s.22

Sent via email to: [properties@klassengroup.com](mailto:properties@klassengroup.com)

Attention: Jake Klassen

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**Re: Application for Roadway/Bridge purposes to Herrling Island including Statutory Right-of-Way and approval to make changes in and about the Fraser River**

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Our Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) office has received your request for an extension of our previously stated January 31, 2018 deadline. We will extend this request for response date to **July 3, 2018** and provide you with the following letter to outline our expectations for application submissions with respect to works in and about the Fraser River and development of works on Crown Land. This advice is specific to the project application at Herrling Island on the Fraser River, within the Fraser Valley Regional District of BC.

For clarity in communicating the environmental importance of this area of the Fraser River, the Director of Resource Management has provided the following information for your consideration.

The current biggest threat to the Lower Fraser White Sturgeon population is an observed decrease in the recruitment of juvenile fish into the population. Therefore, the focus of conservation efforts has been to better understand, protect and improve spawning and early rearing success wherever possible. The channels adjacent to Herrling Island represent the only long-term confirmed staging and spawning areas for White Sturgeon in the lower Fraser River. The Herrling Side Channel is the most important spawning habitat for the lower Fraser River White Sturgeon population. The loss of this habitat could result in catastrophic impacts to the population. FLNRORD and our partners have recently confirmed other spawning locations in channels within the gravel reach of the Fraser River, that are associated with similar river islands. The long-term stability and integrity of all of these sturgeon spawning habitats is considered essential to the recovery and sustainability of the lower Fraser sturgeon population. The regularly flooded portions of these islands and the associated channels are also very important spawning and rearing areas for a number of other species including trout, char and salmon.

It is anticipated that increasing agricultural activity on Herrling Island will include an increase in capital investment in the upland areas. This will result in a lower tolerance of natural changes in river morphology, inundation or flooding; and an increase in more aggressive river management such as river bank armouring or dyking. These types of river training activities will negatively impact the natural morphology of the sturgeon spawning areas.

We also acknowledge that recreational activity associated with Herrling Island (and other similar islands on the Fraser River) is or previously has been extraordinarily high. These areas are well known and highly used as public angler river access for fishing; particularly during salmon openings in the summer and fall. At times these areas contain amongst the highest densities of river anglers in the province. The Ministry (FLNRORD) is also working with the angling community to reduce fishing pressure on Fraser River White Sturgeon during their critical spawning periods. If you would like more information on those efforts, please connect directly with the FLNRORD Resource Management Program.

If you are interested in continuing with your application for the construction of a permanent access bridge to Herrling Island, please provide our office with a revised application package that includes the following:

1. The assessment of project impacts should follow the Provincial Environmental Mitigation Policy (EMP): <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/policy-legislation/environmental-mitigation-policy>. The EMP outlines a process for making well-informed, sound decisions about how to use or develop B.C.'s natural resources. The first step is to clearly outline the environmental values and components of concern.

**Environmental values:** Elements of the natural environment that are important for assuring the integrity and well-being of B.C.'s ecological systems over time.

**Environmental components:** Attributes of a natural resource system (e.g. wildlife habitat supply and condition, wildlife population size and distribution, connectivity of habitats and ecosystems across landscapes) that are measured, managed or maintained to ensure the integrity and well-being of environmental values (e.g., threatened and endangered species, wetlands).

Once environmental values are identified, an environmental impact assessment determines the nature and extent of environmental impacts from a proposed development. Consideration of applicable mitigation measures is critical to making informed and durable natural resource decisions. The Environmental Mitigation Hierarchy provides the following series of principles to consider during project review. It is imperative that the project review team, including the proponent and their Qualified Environmental Professionals, consider all feasible options before moving to the next step in the hierarchy.

- **Avoid:** provide clear rationale why and where avoidance of instream and riparian impacts is not possible. At this stage, the proponent should be considering a range of possible options to access the island with an assessment of each option.
- **Minimize:** outline how your project team will minimize those impacts that cannot be avoided. Minimization options should be considered for all possible project options.
- **Restore on-site:** For example, activities required to restore temporarily impacted areas.
- **Off-set:** the scope of impacts that may require off-setting should include both construction-impacts and long-term consequences of a permanent instream structure including, but not limited to the impacts associated with bank hardening (riprap). The type and amount of offsetting needed is calculated using ecological equivalency – the similarity between the environmental values and components that will be impacted. Calculating an offset amount (area-based or financial) is based on the consideration of "true costs" to undertake similar action(s) if they were completed by the proponent (e.g. market values, cost of restoration, cost of securing land, etc.). Offsetting is the responsibility of the person whose project or activity impacts environmental values and associated components. The offset must be "additive" – incremental to activities already planned or underway – and must also first consider like-for-like and on-site or in-proximity offsetting.

**Mitigation monitoring** is then recommended as a best practice for managing uncertainty of mitigation measures or outcomes. Monitoring commitments should be clearly outlined as follows:

- Implementation monitoring is done to determine if mitigation measures were implemented as planned or proposed;
  - Effectiveness monitoring determines whether mitigation measures function as intended or predicted; and
  - Compliance monitoring refers to the assessment of the mitigation against a legal environmental standard.
2. The Environmental Impact Assessments provided to FLNRORD to date have not considered the full range of alternative options for accessing the island. For example, due consideration of a clear span bridge option may be relevant to help determine the least risk option to the natural resources in the proposed Project area.
  3. The Crown Lands File No. 2411899 application is currently on hold as the file review is occurring concurrently with the Water file. Alternative access options or bridge design options as mentioned above will also need to be provided to the Crown Land file lead.
  4. The assessment of project impacts to the aquatic and riparian environment should consider the full-scope of construction-related impacts to the natural environment, including both temporary



and permanent impacts. The assessment of construction related impacts must clearly outline impact area (for example in a habitat balance table) and propose offset measures that are commensurate with the high ecological values in the area (i.e., Fraser River White Sturgeon and other species including trout, char and salmon).

5. A construction sequence plan should be provided in order to allow assessment and verification of the potential effects. This plan should include a description of each proposed works, undertaking or activity and the time it would take to complete each component.
6. Assessment of project impacts must also consider the long-term impacts of the permanent instream structure(s), including but not limited to:
  - a. The associated changes in channel geomorphology. For example, via a detailed hydraulic assessment by an appropriately qualified professional. This detailed assessment should consider the anticipated type, extent and/or duration of hydraulic change. For example, potential changes in flow patterns around the bridge pilings, channel structure, backwatering effects, lateral migration of the channel, gravel movement, sediment deposition and erosion patterns both upstream and downstream of the bridge. Robust and scientifically defensible methods should be incorporated into these assessments. Consider annotating the predicted effects/footprints onto design drawings to accompany the above analyses.
  - b. An assessment of flood consequences to the bridge structure and surrounding environment. For example, consideration of potential impacts to downstream properties resulting from potential changes to channel geomorphology.
  - c. A description of regular freshet debris movement through the channel and risk of subsequent impacts to the bridge structure.
  - d. Consideration of potential maintenance works required to maintain the Transport Canada clearance heights (e.g., would dredging be required) and the associated environmental impacts associated with any potential maintenance activities. Note that the attachment to this letter includes a QEP Questionnaire for “large debris and sediment removal” that should be submitted to accompany consideration of long term maintenance activities.
  - e. Consideration of the requirements to maintain a stable bridge structure over time and the environmental impacts associated with those works. For example, riprap may be required to address potential channel instabilities resulting from long term presence of instream bridge pilings. Riprapping the banks of the river may also be required as a general part of bridge construction. Regardless of when it is installed, riprapping in this area will likely inhibit the natural process of lateral channel migration and the redistribution of gravel within the reach. It is our understanding that natural erosion is quite active at the lower end of Herrling Island, near the proposed bridge landing location on the Herrling Island side. This natural process of channel migration facilitates the renewal of aquatic habitat and fish productivity. These environmental consequences (i.e., loss of lateral channel migration capabilities) must be fully considered as part of the Environmental Assessment. Please also submit the appended QEP Questions list for “bank erosion protection” with your Environmental Assessment Report.
  - f. An assessment of how the potential changes in channel geomorphology may impact sturgeon habitat both upstream and downstream of the bridge structure. Note, these questions were asked in a set of QEP Questions for “key lower Fraser Sturgeon habitat”

- but answers provided did not consider the full scope of potential impacts to sturgeon. This set of QEP questions are again provided as an attachment to this letter for QEP's revised consideration.
- g. It is currently known that flow is a critical trigger for sturgeon spawning locations. The location of piers within the channel will result in flow pattern changes. It is uncertain what the impacts of these changes would be but, they could result in an abandonment of the side channel for sturgeon spawning, which would likely be catastrophic to the population. Please provide an assessment of how the potential changes to flow patterns associated with instream piling structures and hardened banks may influence sturgeon spawning behaviour and what post-construction monitoring would be conducted to address this. The QEP assessing these potential impacts should be appropriately qualified, as outline in the above-mentioned QEP Questionnaire for sturgeon.
  - h. An offsetting plan to address the construction and long-term residual impacts to sturgeon and other relevant fish species present in this section of the Fraser River. The offsetting plan should include a quantitative assessment of residual effects that explicitly considers the severity of effects to each species (change in habitat quality, duration of the effect, change in utilization of the area, etc) and any post-construction monitoring components.
7. Should a revised Environmental Impact Assessment be submitted and be deemed sufficient by our Ministry, we would then require two separate Irrevocable Letters of Credit for: (1) the costs associated with construction environmental monitoring and (2) the costs associated with off-setting, including a post-construction mitigation monitoring program. We would also request that the Project QEP provide an estimate for each of these costs. Our Ministry will also seek third party input on the costs to verify the estimates provided are fair and adequately reflect the true costs to undertake the above-mentioned actions.

Our FLNRORD office has placed both the WSA Approval and Crown Land File reviews on hold and provides you an extension of time to **July 3, 2018**, approximately **90 days from the date of this letter**, to provide the required information as stated above. If the required information is provided before this date, we will review the material submitted to determine if the information meets the initial request.

Please note that submission of the information requested does not guarantee that a WSA Approval or Crown Land Tenure will be issued as further questions may arise as the review continues. Also, the file may not automatically be removed from the hold process with the receipt of the required information if the information provided is insufficient to address the concerns and information gaps identified.

If more time is needed, you may request one additional extension. Extension requests must include an explanation of why additional time is needed, specify the requested extension timeline, and indicate steps that will be taken to collect the information. Alternately, you may wish to consider voluntarily withdrawing your application, then re-applying once the information is ready.

If the above-mentioned information is not submitted within the requested timeframe, your application may be refused. You would then require a new application to seek authorization for your plans.

Please send your response to our general surface water authorizations email at [WaterActReferrals.LowerMainland@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WaterActReferrals.LowerMainland@gov.bc.ca) with a copy to the Water and Land Officers working on the file. Please include the WSA Approval and Crown Land File Numbers in your subject line of the email so we may identify the application. Again, the deadline for your response is **July 3, 2018.**

At this time, you are reminded that **no work in and about a stream shall proceed until such time as a WSA Approval is issued to you from this office.**

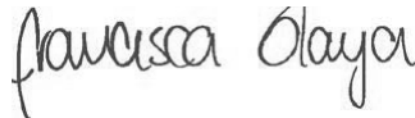
If you have any questions or would like to schedule a meeting with our office, please contact Surface Water Authorizations at 604-586-4400 or the undersigned Water and/or Land Officers.

Sincerely,



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Malissa Smith  
Senior Licensed Authorizations Specialist – Water  
[Malissa.Smith@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Malissa.Smith@gov.bc.ca)



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Francisca Olaya  
Authorizations Specialist – Lands  
[Francisca.Olaya@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Francisca.Olaya@gov.bc.ca)

**pc:** [Francisca.Olaya@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Francisca.Olaya@gov.bc.ca) – Land Officer  
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[Erin.Stoddard@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Erin.Stoddard@gov.bc.ca) – Sturgeon Biologist  
**s.22** · Ken Stenerson – Agent for Klassen Farms  
[bfg@novapacific.net](mailto:bfg@novapacific.net) - Bruce F. Wright - Nova Pacific Environmental Ltd.  
[sschoenberger@novapacific.net](mailto:sschoenberger@novapacific.net) - Stefanie Schoenberger - Nova Pacific Environmental Ltd.

Attachments:

- QEP Questionnaires:
  - Bank Erosion Protection
  - Large Debris and Sediment Removal (by heavy machinery)
  - Stream Crossing (non-clearspan)
  - Key Lower Fraser Sturgeon Habitat Questions
- Figure: Stewardship Baseline Objective Tool - White Sturgeon
- Reports outlining the importance of Herrling Island as Sturgeon habitat:
  - Lower Fraser White Sturgeon Spawning Habitat Confirmation Project. 2017/2018 Interim Report. Dated December 2017, prepared by Erin Stoddard, FLNRORD Sturgeon Biologist.
  - Most other reports have already been provided to Nova Pacific but, may again be made available upon request.

Page 13 of 50 to/à Page 19 of 50

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

NR

**From:** [Llewellyn-Thomas, Marnie ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX](#); [Berardinucci, Julia F ENV:EX](#); [Kriwoken, Lynn ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Final Meeting Materials: 313578/9554 - Outdoor Recreation Council - April 13 11am  
**Date:** April 12, 2018 11:09:40 AM  
**Attachments:** [313578\\_IN\\_Outdoor Recreation Council.docx](#)

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Hello All,

Please find attached the DMO approved IN for your files/records.

~Marnie

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**From:** Carroll, Deborah ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 10:56 AM  
**To:** Neilson, Kirsten ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX; Xia, Eveline ENV:EX; Lo, Reamick ENV:EX; Kennedy, Karla ENV:EX; Gooderham, Coleen E ENV:EX; Drew, Ashley ENV:EX; Llewellyn-Thomas, Marnie ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Final Meeting Materials: 313578/9554 - Outdoor Recreation Council - April 13 11am

Good morning,

Please see attached materials for the following briefing:

Topic: Meeting with the Outdoor Recreation Council  
Attendees: Mark Zacharias, Jennifer McGuire  
Date: April 13, 11am

Thank you,

**Deborah Carroll**  
A/Administrative Coordinator  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy  
778-698-0436  
[deborah.carroll@gov.bc.ca](mailto:deborah.carroll@gov.bc.ca)

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY  
INFORMATION NOTE**

March 29, 2018

File:

CLIFF/tracking #: 313578

**PREPARED FOR:** The Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

**ATTENDEES:** Mark Angelo, Rivers Chair, Outdoor Recreation Council of BC

**ISSUE:** Meeting with Outdoor Recreation Council of BC

**BACKGROUND:**

The Outdoor Recreation Council (ORC) was founded in 1976 and works to protect outdoor recreation in BC. Its vision “...is for British Columbia to be the world-leader in the conservation and enjoyment of outdoor places. Our vision is for all British Columbians to have access to diverse and abundant opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation experiences.”

Mark Angelo is a long standing advocate for the health and sustainability of BC’s rivers. He is the founder and chair of BC Rivers Day and World Rivers Day, now celebrated in more than 60 countries. BC Rivers Day, the last Sunday of September (September 23rd, 2018), provides a positive opportunity for diverse groups to show why BC waterways are important. In addition to his work on BC and World Rivers Day, Mark is also working on the Heart of the Fraser campaign to protect the ecological integrity of the Fraser River between Mission and Hope.

Mark has raised three issues for discussion:

- the Herrling and Carey Islands developments,
- the interior Fraser steelhead returns and species assessment, and
- the need for a new Water Sustainability Fund.

**DISCUSSION:**

***Herrling and Carey Islands***

Herrling and Carey Islands are two islands within the lower stretch of the Fraser River in the Chilliwack/Agassiz area. Most of the land on the two islands is privately owned. They are surrounded by prime sturgeon and salmon spawning grounds and are habitat for species at risk. Both islands have a long history of extensive forest harvesting, including recent harvesting to top of bank, resulting in removal of riparian vegetation.

The landowner has applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR) to build two bridges, one to each island, with the intent to convert both islands to agriculture. Both islands fall within the Agricultural Land Reserve. The land clearing and subsequent agricultural proposal is allowed under the *Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act*. A number of conservation and recreation

groups have expressed concern both in the media and in writing to ministers about this proposal<sup>1</sup> and its potential impacts.

FLNR staff are currently reviewing the bridge construction applications and have requested more information from the applicant, including an environmental assessment (i.e., smaller scale than a formal environmental assessment). Both FLNR and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) are monitoring for ecosystem impacts (e.g., siltation) from forest harvesting. Further to its monitoring, DFO has launched an investigation of the impact of the harvesting activities to assess any statutory non-compliance; the details and status of the investigation are unknown.

### ***Interior Fraser Steelhead***

In 2017 less than 200 steelhead trout returned to the Thompson River, with fewer than 50 returning to the Chilcotin River. Reasons for the decline are thought to be continued poor marine survival and excessive by-catch in non-target fisheries.

On February 13, 2018 the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada requested an emergency endangered listing under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) legislation to protect Thompson and Chilcotin steelhead (Interior Fraser steelhead). While the decision to list may take up to 36 months, it is federal policy to consider the species as listed as endangered until the decision is made.

If listed under SARA, the province must demonstrate effective protection of critical habitat and individuals within the steelhead population. If effective protection is not demonstrated, the federal government may apply a “safety net order” to protect the species. The Province is examining land and water uses that may affect habitat that is identified as critical, as well as recreational and First Nations fisheries that could be suggested to “harm” potentially listed steelhead.

### ***Water Sustainability Fund***

A number of organizations assert that leadership and long-term provincial commitments to freshwater management could be demonstrated by establishing a Water Sustainability Fund. Past examples of similar funds include the Park Enhancement Fund supporting the ongoing management of BC’s parks, and the Forest Stand Management Fund supporting the longevity of BC’s forests.

Watershed groups see such a Fund as supporting long-term watershed health and sustainability. Activities related to watershed governance and planning, land purchase for the protection of drinking water and ecosystems (e.g., protect spawning grounds), conservation and restoration or data gathering initiatives could be supported. A Fund could be financially supported through partnerships or changes (e.g., increases) in water fees and rentals for example.

Work under the ‘Sustainable Watershed Governance Funding Initiative’ of which ENV is a part, is currently testing funding mechanisms (e.g., local government service delivery) with watershed groups to support watershed governance. Work in the Cowichan and the

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.watershed-watch.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/WW-letter-re-proposed-bridges-on-Fraser-River-Chilliwack-Jan-2018-FINAL.pdf>



Nechako watersheds is underway with the intent to apply learnings from these cases across BC. Changes to water fees and rentals are not under consideration.

#### **SUGGESTED RESPONSE:**

The Province congratulates the ORC for its work on water conservation and ecosystem protection in BC.

##### ***Herrling and Carey Islands***

Staff have received the applications for the bridge construction and have requested additional information. No decision on the application has yet been made. The timing for the decision is dependent on the responsiveness of the applicant. FLNR (and DFO) staff are monitoring the impacts of the current forest harvesting.

##### ***Interior Fraser Steelhead***

The province is communicating with the federal government about the assessment and about our ongoing action in helping to protect Steelhead. Staff continue to work with First Nations and the Federal government in managing Steelhead and to identify new actions that can be taken in their protection.

##### ***Water Sustainability Fund***

The Province has discussed development of a Water Sustainability Fund; however, development has not been initiated at this time. The current priorities for WSA implementation are bringing groundwater users into the water licensing system and the development of priority regulations and policies. As government reviews WSA implementation in the coming years, the potential for development of a fund could be considered.

##### **Contact:**

*Jennifer McGuire  
Environmental Sustainability  
and Strategic Policy Branch  
778.698.8521*

##### **Alternate Contact:**

*Lynn Kriwoken  
Water Protection and  
Sustainability Branch  
778.698.4044*

##### **Prepared by:**

*Jennifer Vigano  
Water Protection and  
Sustainability Branch  
250.565.6424*

| <b>Reviewed by</b> | <b>Initials</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| DM                 | MZ              | 04/12/18    |
| DMO                | KK              | 04/10/18    |
| ADM                | JLM             | 04/10/18    |
| Dir./Mgr.          | JB/LK           | 03/29/18    |
| Author             | JV              | 03/29/18    |

**From:** [Carroll, Deborah ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Llewellyn-Thomas, Marnie ENV:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Westley, Rebecca ENV:EX](#); [Gooderham, Coleen E ENV:EX](#); [Kennedy, Karla ENV:EX](#); [Gilliland, Lori K ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Materials Request: 328337/12160 - MGH meeting Mark Angelo re rivers, fish and Heart of the Fraser - Due to DMO Nov 9/noon  
**Date:** October 19, 2018 12:06:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [328337 FW upcoming meeting.msg](#)  
[FW Heart of the Fraser.msg](#)

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Hi Marnie,

As per below and the attached incoming, please provide materials (bullets) for an MGH meeting with Mark Angelo to discuss rivers, fish, and the Heart of the Fraser, on November 15 at 11:15am.

Jennifer has been sent a calendar invite – please advise of any additional attendees.

Materials due to DMO November 9 by noon. ESSP previously produced IN 313578 for a meeting with Mark Angelo in April 2018. I have included this note in eapprovals as reference.

| <b>Meeting Request (MR)</b>                                               |                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Red = MO fills in; Blue = DMO fills in; Grey = MO/DMO both fill in</i> |                                                                                                                      |
| Accept/Regrets                                                            | A                                                                                                                    |
| Meeting Requested by/for                                                  | MGH                                                                                                                  |
| Meeting Purpose                                                           | General discussion – Rivers, Fish, update on the Heart of the Fraser River (particularly Herrling and Carey Islands) |
| Staff Attendees: Y/N/Who                                                  | Y – Mark, Jennifer                                                                                                   |
| Materials: Y/N                                                            | Y                                                                                                                    |
| Date/Time                                                                 | Nov 15, 11:15am                                                                                                      |
| Meeting Duration                                                          | 30                                                                                                                   |
| Location                                                                  | VCO                                                                                                                  |
| Cliff Log #                                                               | 328337                                                                                                               |
| eApprovals #                                                              | 12160                                                                                                                |
| Materials due to DMO                                                      | November 9/noon                                                                                                      |
| Materials due to MO                                                       | November 13                                                                                                          |
| Additional Info/Comments:                                                 |                                                                                                                      |

Thanks,

**Deborah Carroll**

Administrative Coordinator

Deputy Minister's Office

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

778-698-0436

[deborah.carroll@gov.bc.ca](mailto:deborah.carroll@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** Neilson, Kirsten ENV:EX []  
**To:** Minister, ENV ENV:EX [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca]  
**Subject:** 328337\_FW: upcoming meeting  
**Date:** Monday, September 17, 2018 09:02:36

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**From:** Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2018 10:02 AM  
**To:** Neilson, Kirsten ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: upcoming meeting

**From:** Mark Angelo s.22  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2018 2:30 PM  
**To:** Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX  
**Subject:** upcoming meeting

Hi Caelie, Hope you're doing well. Just wanted to follow-up to see if you had a tentative date yet re/meeting with the Minister to discuss the Heart of the Fraser (ie. Herrling and Carey islands) further and any potential upcoming decisions. Happy to have others there if you think that's appropriate. We could touch on other issues as well. Also, as you know, both BC and World Rivers Day are set for Sunday, September 23 in case of interest. Have a great weekend and thanks for all your help. Cheers, Mark

**From:** Neilson, Kirsten ENV:EX []  
**To:** Minister, ENV ENV:EX [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca]  
**Subject:** FW: Heart of the Fraser  
**Date:** Monday, August 13, 2018 09:40:57

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**From:** Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 10, 2018 11:37 AM  
**To:** Neilson, Kirsten ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Heart of the Fraser

Another meeting for the fall.

**From:** Heyman, George ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 1, 2018 3:43 PM  
**To:** Xia, Eveline ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX; Zacharias, Mark ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: Heart of the Fraser

I'd like to meet with Mark Angelo after the fall session ends for a general discussion of his ideas. Please discuss timing in September

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Mark Angelo" s.22  
**Date:** July 31, 2018 at 2:24:18 PM PDT  
**To:** "George Heyman" s.22  
**Cc:** <[george.heyman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:george.heyman@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Heart of the Fraser

Thanks so much George and yes, I'll send any emails relating to environmental matters to your Ministry office (or thru Caelie). Also, not sure if you saw this new Heart of the Fraser website so just forwarding FYI. Perhaps we'll cross paths in the run up to BC/World Rivers Day. Wish you the best over the rest of summer. Cheers, Mark  
<https://www.heartofthefraser.ca/>

**From:** George Heyman s.22  
**Sent:** July-24-18 3:39 PM  
**To:** Mark Angelo  
**Cc:** [george.heyman@gov.bc.ca](mailto:george.heyman@gov.bc.ca)  
**Subject:** Re: Heart of the Fraser

Hi Mark. Nothing I've heard about. Unless casual-personal it's best to communicate thru my ministry address copied above (or thru Caelie) for transparency reasons.

On Jul 15, 2018, at 8:42 PM, Mark Angelo <[markangelo@shaw.ca](mailto:markangelo@shaw.ca)> wrote:

Thanks George for your note – Also, just heard that the bridge announcement re/Herrling Island will be made either this coming week, or the next. Just wondering if you think any of our groups might get a possible heads up? All the best, Mark

s.22

**From:** George Heyman

**Sent:** July-13-18 6:49 AM

**To:** Mark Angelo

**Subject:** Re: Sun op-ed on need for new funding mechanism for Fraser and other rivers

Thanks Mark

On Jul 12, 2018, at 10:46 PM, Mark Angelo<sup>s.22</sup>

› wrote:

Hi George, Just wanted to forward this for your information. All the best over the summer. Cheers, Mark  
<https://vancouversun.com/opinion/op-ed/mark-angelo-new-funding-needed-to-protect-and-restore-b-c-waterways>

**From:** [Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: \*ALERT: Incoming Assignment - eApprovals item 12160  
**Date:** October 23, 2018 7:45:19 AM

---

Hi Heike –

I've just sent you this eApproval for some bullets for the minister. [This note](#) was completed earlier this year. You can just use this to prepare the bullets. You'll need to find the current status of the Carey and Herrling Island project – contact Malissa Smith at South Coast Region and she can provide you with an update. The Minister knows Mark and met with him earlier this year on these same issues...so please keep the bullets high level. In particular focus on any updates or changes that he may need to know about.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you!

Jennifer

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**From:** ENV eApprovals <DoNotReply@SP2010.gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 22, 2018 9:35 AM  
**To:** Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX <Jennifer.Vigano@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** \*ALERT: Incoming Assignment - eApprovals item 12160

You have been sent an eApprovals Item by Conder, Geoffrey ENV:EX.

Cliff Number: 328337

Other Number:

TRIM Number:

Topic: Materials request for MGH meeting Mark Angelo re rivers, fish, Heart of the Fraser

Date Final Due: 11/9/2018 12:00:00 AM

Last Action: Item Sent To

Comments:

**Assigning to you as requested**

eApprovals Link:

<https://enveapprovals.gov.bc.ca/prod/SitePages/activeItems.aspx>

Super User Link:

<https://enveapprovals.gov.bc.ca/prod/SitePages/superUser.aspx>

Cliff Link:

<https://env.cliff.gov.bc.ca/log/upd/tl/570930/link>

**From:** [Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 328337\_Bullets\_MGH meeting Mark Angelo re Heart of the Fraser\_Nov 15.docx  
**Date:** October 30, 2018 10:33:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [328337\\_Bullets\\_MGH meeting Mark Angelo re Heart of the Fraser\\_Nov 15.docx](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Hi Jennifer,

I added a bullet regarding the Steelhead as I was able to get an update from Trevor Davies who has been working with Jeff Morgan on Steelhead. In an email from a DFO scientist sent last week, she stated that the SAR report would be posted “very shortly”, so with the meeting on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, it could be that the report will already be posted, but I’m hopeful that (slow) government processes mean that “very soon” (as per the bullet) will still be accurate by the time of the meeting. There is a chance the report will already have been posted by that point.

While I sent an email to both Malissa and her supervisor (she’d CC’d him on an earlier email), both are out of the office, so I don’t think we’ll get a response back in time. I amended the text to reflect unknown timelines for a decision on the bridge applications.

Hope your travel to Merritt went well and that the on-the-land tour goes well!

Kind regards,

Heike

---

**From:** Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 30, 2018 9:21 AM  
**To:** Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX <Heike.Lettrari@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** 328337\_Bullets\_MGH meeting Mark Angelo re Heart of the Fraser\_Nov 15.docx  
**Importance:** High

Hi Heike – The bullets look good! Just a few comments in the attached. Can you check in with Jeff Morgan at FLNR for an update on steelhead...lets just include a bullet about steelhead and whether there have been any changes.

If you update these, send back to me, I’ll update them in the eApproval.

Thanks so much!

J.

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY  
BULLETS**

October 30, 2018

File: 280-20

CLIFF/eApprovals #: 328337/12160

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

**SUBJECT:** Meeting with Mark Angelo, Chair of Outdoor Recreation Council of BC (ORC) regarding Heart of the Fraser and general issues surrounding fish and rivers on November 15, 11:15am.

**BULLET RESPONSE:**

- The Province thanks the ORC for its continued work on water conservation and ecosystem protection in BC.
- Since last meeting with ORC in March 2018, FLNRORD and DFO staff have continued their work on the Fraser River.
- Regarding applications to build two bridges, one to each of Herrling and Carey islands to facilitate intensive agriculture operations, FLNRORD has not yet made a decision. The applications remain under review, and timelines for a decision are unknown.
- The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) had launched a separate investigation earlier in the year regarding impacts of harvesting activities and statutory non-compliance; the investigation is still underway.
- DFO has notified the applicants of non-compliance with the Fisheries Act (federal), and DFO fishery protection program staff are drafting remediation plans that must be undertaken by the applicants. The applicants are cooperative and keen to become compliant with the Fisheries Act as soon as possible.
- DFO and FLNRORD continue to monitor for ecosystem impacts from forest harvest activities.
- Regarding the emergency endangered species listing of the Interior Steelhead Trout in February 2018: DFO and provincial government scientists have continued to work to document advice and information from the science peer review and advisory process, which is gathered in the first of three formal publications regarding the listing (Science Advice Report). The report is anticipated to be published by DFO very soon.
- ENV continues to focus on supporting *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA) implementation, such as bringing groundwater users into the water licensing system and the development of priority regulations and policies. A Water Sustainability Fund is not in development at this time.

**Contact:**

*Jennifer McGuire, ADM  
Environmental  
Sustainability and Strategic  
Policy Division  
250-387-9997*

**Alternate Contact:**

*Jennifer Viganò  
Water Protection and  
Sustainability Branch  
ESSPD  
250-565-6424*

**Prepared by:**

*Heike Lettrari  
Water Protection and  
Sustainability Branch,  
ESSPD  
778-698-4394*



| ENV Approvals |          |              |
|---------------|----------|--------------|
| Reviewed by   | Initials | Date         |
| DM            |          |              |
| DMO           |          |              |
| ADM           |          |              |
| Dir./Mgr.     |          |              |
| Author        | HGL      | Oct 30, 2018 |

**From:** [Smith, Malissa FLNR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX](#); [Robinson, Bryan FLNR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Information Request: Current Status of Carey and Herrling Island Project for Minister's Meeting  
**Date:** November 1, 2018 12:24:16 PM

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Hi Heike,

Sorry, I do not have any specific information on the timelines. When I spoke with DFO last, it sounded like they had requested additional information – thus, the project is still within the initial review period. So I believe they still have another 90 days at least?

Based on the information provided by DFO, I will likely need to reach out to the applicant again for some additional clarification.

Cheers,  
Malissa

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**From:** Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 30, 2018 9:38 AM  
**To:** Smith, Malissa FLNR:EX; Robinson, Bryan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Information Request: Current Status of Carey and Herrling Island Project for Minister's Meeting  
**Importance:** High

Hi Bryan and Malissa,

Is there any sense of timeline for when a decision about the application files may be made? Thank you,

Heike

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**From:** Smith, Malissa FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, October 26, 2018 4:50 PM  
**To:** Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX <[Heike.Lettrari@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Heike.Lettrari@gov.bc.ca)>; Robinson, Bryan FLNR:EX <[Bryan.Robinson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bryan.Robinson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Information Request: Current Status of Carey and Herrling Island Project for Minister's Meeting

Hello Heike,

I have attached some correspondence from the DFO Fisheries Officer here regarding the DFO incident investigation. Based on my knowledge to date, the activities are still under investigation – however, it does sound like DFO is working with the landowner on remediation measures.

From the attached DFO email:

“I wish to advise you that the developers of both Herrling and Carey Islands are anxious to begin remediation works to bring them back into compliance with the Fisheries Act (Canada). They will be

completing works recommended by DFO's fishery protection program (habitat) staff which are being drafted at this time. Conservation and Protection Branch (C&P) staff will be monitoring the progress of these works and failure complete the corrective measures will result in the recommendation of charges under the Fisheries Act (Canada).s.13

s.13

Our FLNRO Surrey office is still working through the review of the application files.

I will be in meetings all day Monday and Tuesday Oct 29-30. You may be able to reach my supervisor, Bryan Robinson (cc'd here) if you have any follow-up questions.

Thank you,  
Malissa

~~~~~

Malissa Smith | MRM | RPBio | PAg
Senior Licenced Authorizations Officer - Water
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Address: 200-10428 153rd Street, Surrey, BC, V3R 1E1
Phone: 604-586-5634
Email: Malissa.Smith@gov.bc.ca

From: Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 3:31 PM
To: Smith, Malissa FLNR:EX
Subject: Information Request: Current Status of Carey and Herrling Island Project for Minister's Meeting

Hi Malissa,

I'm staff in the Water Protection and Sustainability Branch of ENV, preparing some meeting materials for Minister George Heyman. Mark Angelo, the Rivers Chair for the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC has requested a follow-up meeting from earlier this year. I suspect there is interest in an update on bridge construction applications and environmental assessments requested for the Carey and Herrling Islands, and FLNR and DFO were undertaking monitoring for ecosystem impacts from forest harvesting on the islands. DFO has also launched an investigation of the impact of harvesting activities to assess any statutory non-compliance, though details an the status of the investigation were unknown in late March. Do you have any follow-up information on that project?

If you're able to provide a response by Thursday at noon, Oct. 25th, that would be great.

Thank you, and let me know if you have any questions,

Heike

Heike Lettrari

Water Policy Advisor | Watershed Sustainability Section
BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

T: 778-698-4394

Acknowledging, with gratitude, the territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

From: [Llewellyn-Thomas, Marnie ENV:EX](#)
To: [Lettrari, Heike ENV:EX](#); [Vigano, Jennifer ENV:EX](#); [Kriwoken, Lynn ENV:EX](#); [Conder, Geoffrey ENV:EX](#)
Subject: FW: Final Materials: 328337/12160 - MGH meeting Mark Angelo - Nov 15, 11:15am
Date: November 15, 2018 3:17:48 PM
Attachments: [328337 Bullets MGH meeting Mark Angelo re Heart of the Fraser Nov 15.docx](#)

Hello All,

Please find attached the DMO approved materials for your files/records.

Thank you,
Marnie

From: Carroll, Deborah ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 10:12 AM
To: Neilson, Kirsten ENV:EX
Cc: Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX; Lo, Reamick ENV:EX; Xia, Eveline ENV:EX; Gooderham, Coleen E ENV:EX; Kennedy, Karla ENV:EX; Drew, Ashley ENV:EX; Llewellyn-Thomas, Marnie ENV:EX; Westley, Rebecca ENV:EX
Subject: Final Materials: 328337/12160 - MGH meeting Mark Angelo - Nov 15, 11:15am

Good morning,

Please find attached materials for the following briefing:

Topic: MGH meeting Mark Angelo to discuss the Heart of the Fraser
ENV Staff Attendees: Jennifer McGuire
Date: November 15, 11:15 am

Thank you,

Deborah Carroll
Administrative Coordinator
Deputy Minister's Office
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
778-698-0436
deborah.carroll@gov.bc.ca

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

DUPLICATE

From: govwordpress@gov.bc.ca
To: [FOI Requests CITZ:EX](#)
Subject: New submission from FOI Request
Date: January 20, 2019 1:56:04 AM

Request Records

Specific Records Requested:

All records relating to a bridge crossing proposal application for Herring Island proposed by Klaassen Farms. This would include the environmental assessments by proponent consultants, but would not be exclusive to that and may include emails between and among the agencies (Provincial, Federal), the Proponent, and its Consultants.

From:

05/01/2017

To:

01/20/2019

Please specify any reference or file number(s) if known:

FLNRORD WATER STEWARDSHIP DIV. SURREY 2005299

Preferred method of access to records:

Via Email

Ministry or Agency

Select Ministry or Agency

- **Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

Your Contact Information

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