

Indigenous Engagement Plan (IEP) Construction Memo

TO:	City of Merritt	REPORT DATE:	2026-04-10
PROJECT:	Merritt Fir Avenue Coldwater Riverbank Stabilization	CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATOR:	Evan Andjelic, P.Eng Water Resources Engineer
LOCATION:	Coldwater River Left Bank below Fir Avenue, Merritt BC	WORKFORCE:	3

Project Overview

The Fir Avenue Bank Stabilization Project focuses on protecting and stabilizing the Coldwater River's Left Bank below Fir Avenue to ensure environmental habitat sustainability, reduce property loss, and prevent continued degradation. The scope includes channel widening, the removal of Type D material, and the installation of robust Class 500kg riprap and bioengineered solutions like large woody debris habitat structures and engineered root wad clusters. The project will also feature riparian planting and live staking to restore the natural habitat. The project is being undertaken by Rock Solid Industries Inc (RSI).

1. Environmental Update

April 6 – April 10 - RSI continued to work within 10 m of the river so Bailey Environmental remains onsite and monitoring. RSI has completed the excavation, grading, and habitat structure work along the right bank. As such, the isolation berm has been stripped of organics, poly sheeting removed and minimum granular material left in place. The intent with leaving the isolation berm in place is to promote settlement of sediment within the isolated pond (inundated by groundwater), reducing possible turbidity. The turbidity in the right bank isolation has equalized with the river turbidity levels. Over freshet, the berm will be washed away naturally, with the goal that the river re-aligns itself with flows meandering to the right bank allowing the bank stabilization work to occur on the left bank in dry conditions. The fourth large woody fish habitat structure was constructed on the left bank, and the associated sediment was removed in isolation from the flowing Coldwater River. River flows have remained stable throughout the week flowing between 12-16 m³ /sec.

1.1
Week of April 13th – RSI will largely be completed work around water. RSI will be developing a planned diversion plan for when the second phase of the project kicks on in July after freshet. Sediment stockpiled next to the excavated channel will be moved to the Voght St. laydown area for storage until July for reuse during the bank stabilization works.

2. Heritage Update

2.1
April 6 – April 7 - A Cultural Monitor has been onsite from the Scw'exmx Tribal Council to monitor ongoing excavation. Nothing has been identified to date. April 8 – April 10 - No Cultural Monitors from the Scw'exmx Tribal Council were available for these dates. The outstanding area to be excavated was swept and inspected prior to this, and permission obtained to continue works. Crews remain extra vigilant during this time, and chance find procedures are still in place.

2.2
Week of April 13 – No excavation works will be occurring so cultural monitoring is not necessary, but Chance Find Procedure remains in place.

3. Construction Update

3.1
April 6 – April 10 – RSI have completed the fish habitat structures along the right bank, along with all associated excavation and grading works. Following this, they performed site cleanup and moved equipment and necessary material over to the Walnut Ave laydown area. The work in this area included preparation & construction of the final log habitat structure, channel widening, bar scalping and staking along the left riverbank.

3. Construction Update

- 3.2 April 13th Week – material will continue to be screened and moved to the Voght Street laydown area for use after freshet. Material not needed for the project will be exported and disposed of safely offsite.

4. Schedule Update

- 4.1 April 13th Week – RSI's presence onsite will be reduced, completing miscellaneous tasks and cleanup, such as material screening and left bar staking. They are nearing substantial completion for this first phase of the project and will return in the summer following freshet to begin work on the left bank protection.

5. Project Contacts

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6. Project Photos

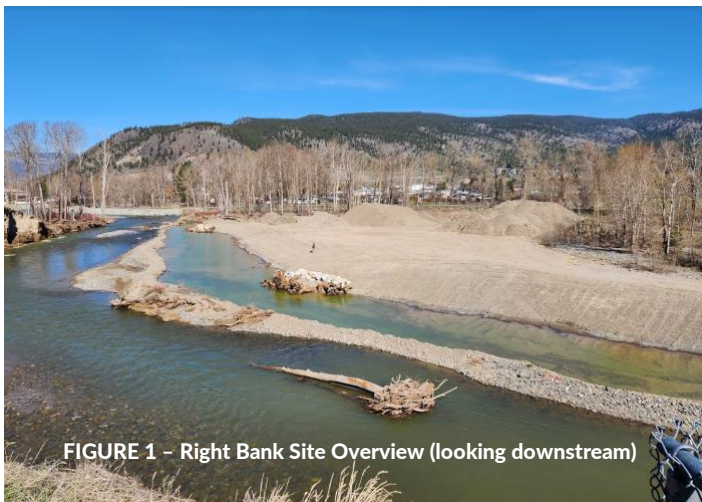


FIGURE 1 – Right Bank Site Overview (looking downstream)



FIGURE 2 – Right Bank Site Overview (looking upstream)

6. Project Photos



CA Signature	Name:	Date:
Submission	If required Monthly, last Friday by noon	If required weekly, Friday by noon
CONTRACTOR DISTRIBUTION:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Engagement Manager (IEM)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Design Team	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal Files
MERRITT FLOOD MITIGATION DISTRIBUTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Bands (IEM)	<input type="checkbox"/> Website/Social Media (CE)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Engagement (CE)	<input type="checkbox"/> Flood Mitigation Files