Construction Memo

TO:	City of Merritt	**REPORT DATE:**	2026-10-08
PROJECT:	Merritt Fir Avenue Coldwater Riverbank Stabilization	**CONTRACT 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 of work includes channel widening, re-sloping the channel including the installation of robust riprap to protect the bank, and installation of 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

1.1	Sept 12 – Oct 9 – RSI is no longer actively working within 10 m of the Coldwater River, so the Environmental Monitor (EM) has reduced their full time onsite presence. During the EM monitoring visits they are ensuring that the permit conditions/work procedures are followed to ensure that the environmental values are being protected. Chinook Salmon have been observed daily since Sept 9 throughout the project area. A large number of smaller fish have been observed in and around the constructed wood structures and individual CWD installations including Pacific Lamprey, Chinook Salmon, Longnose Sucker and Redside Shiner. Members of the public have been seen walking through the river within the project site and have been informed that they are causing damage to the salmon spawning area. Flows in the Coldwater remained low and ranged between 0.30-0.89 m3/sec during the reporting period
1.2	Next Month–All instream works have now been completed but the EM will continue to oversee environmental compliance for the project. Work will focus on installing the cellular erosion protection on the left bank, site cleanup and restoration, and securing planting stock for planting activities in the fall.

2. Heritage Update

2.1	Sept 12 – Oct 9 – September 14, Associated and Scw'exmx Tribal Council discussed that periodic Cultural Monitor visits are acceptable due to the nature and speed of the work. Associated is to provide updates regarding the excavation progress daily or as needed to Scw'exmx. No items of cultural significance have been identified.
2.2	Next Month – The Cultural Monitor will be kept appraised of all construction activity and will determine when they are needed onsite. When the Cultural Monitor is not onsite the chance find procedure remains in place.

3. Construction Update

3.1	Sept 12 – Oct 9 – RSI started riprap placement at the downstream tie in. RSI continued with the installation of Cellular Erosion Protection. Works related to Cellular Erosion Protection include: cutting the WGB bank to grade, excavating the anchor trench and the toe trench, installing the anchor pipe, the cells, and the tendons. RSI has continued to backfill and compact the cells with sand and gravel material. RSI ran out of cellular erosion protection and ordered more resulting in a pause in construction works. Associated identified several damaged cellular erosion protection cells to RSI and requested they uncover them to verify the extent of the damage and verify repair

3. Construction Update

procedures with the supplier. RSI started work on the access path from the downstream side of the site onto the flat riprap bench.

3.2 Next Month – RSI will continue to install the Cellular Erosion Protection, carry out site restoration works, construct the chain link fencing along Fir Avenue, secure the vegetative stock material for planting. It is anticipated that the work will continue Monday - Friday. However, RSI has noted that they may work some Saturdays If the works require.

4. Schedule Update

4.1 Overall progress has been positive except for delays resulting from waiting for materials.

- The installation of the remaining cellular erosion protection and topsoil is anticipated to require approximately 1 week for completion including topsoil. However, this timing is dependent on the cellular erosion protection arriving onsite.
- Restoration of the properties is expected to take approximately 3 weeks following the cellular erosion protection.
- Planting is expected to take approximately 1 week.

Current milestone dates include the following:

- Cellular erosion installation- Oct 13-16
- Private land restoration works and fence installation- Oct 19-Nov 6
- Restoration works Oct 19-Oct 23
- Planting works Nov 9-13

5. Project Contacts

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6. Project Photos

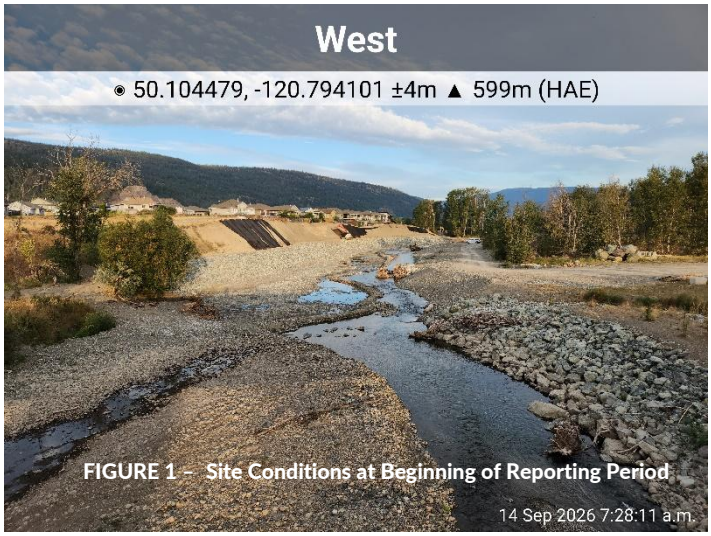

FIGURE 1 – Site Conditions at Beginning of Reporting Period

FIGURE 2 – Tying Cellular Erosion Protection Tendons

FIGURE 3 – Anchor Trench Install

FIGURE 4 – Spawning Chinook Salmon

FIGURE 5 – Waste Material to be Exported

FIGURE 6 – General Public Walking in the River

6. Project Photos

FIGURE 7 – Downstream Riprap Tie In

FIGURE 8 – Cellular Erosion Protection Installation

CA Signature	Name: Paul Hague		Date: October 8, 2026	
Submission	If required Monthly, last Friday by noon		If required weekly, Friday by noon	
CONTRACTOR DISTRIBUTION:	☒	Site Manager	☒	Indigenous Engagement Manager (IEM)
	☒	Design Team	☒	Internal Files
MERRITT FLOOD MITIGATION DISTRIBUTION:	☒	Indigenous Bands (IEM)	☒	Website/Social Media (CE)
	☒	Community Engagement (CE)	☒	Flood Mitigation Files