

Project Completion Memo

TO:	City of Merritt- Flood Mitigation	REPORT DATE:	December 16, 2024
PROJECT:	C-EPA-N – Public Works Dike	SITE MANAGER:	Darcy Schenkeveld
LOCATION:	Public Works Coldwater River	WORKFORCE:	12

1. Project Overview

1.1 Purpose:

The Project is to construct a 300-meter-long flood protection dike along the bank of the Coldwater River. Dike protects critical infrastructure (wastewater treatment plant).

The C-EPA North dike is a riverside dike that is positioned along the City’s Public Works yard. The yard contains the City’s wastewater treatment plant. Even though the plant was undamaged from the ARE, the wastewater system had to be shut down, which contributed to the need to evacuate the community. Protecting this critical infrastructure is a key mitigation measure to mitigating the impact from future flood events.

Dike will comprise part of the City’s active transportation network along the dikes.

One of the benefits of a comprehensive dike network is that it provides an active transportation and recreation network along the river.

Dike reduces risk of potential downstream water contamination from effluent overflow in a flood scenario

One of steps taken during the ARE was the emergency discharge of partially treated water into the Coldwater River to bypass the damaged Rapid Infiltration Basin. C-EPA North will protect one of the key components of the wastewater treatment system, thereby reducing the risk of uncontrolled effluent discharge into the Coldwater River that could impact downstream communities and impact the fish and fish habitat.

2. Environmental and Cultural Considerations

2.1 Environmental Impact and Mitigation:

This project was located along the bank of the Coldwater River in Merritt, making this project very environmentally sensitive. During the design phase the team worked with the Community and Regulators to ensure the appropriate measures were taken to protect the environment, and all necessary permits were obtained. Significant efforts were exhausted to ensure that the fish in the area were not impacted. A large isolation structure was created during the fish window to keep fish from the work area. The area was monitored daily as construction progressed along the toe of the bank to ensure that changing conditions were captured. Temporary sunshades were placed along the south bank to provide reprieve as the fish migrated through the construction area. As construction progressed later in the summer, additional efforts were made to ensure the fish were continuing upstream to spawn, including diversions to ensure water levels remained high enough to promote migration. Water temperatures, water levels, and sediment levels were monitored in real time to ensure that the construction area as well as the areas downstream along the Coldwater and Nicola Rivers were not negatively impacted. Construction was completed behind schedule due to efforts to ensure that there were no negative impacts to the fish and environment during construction.

2.2 Cultural Monitor Reports:

The cultural monitor from STC was on site daily while sensitive works were occurring. This included the clearing of the project area, excavation activities, while working in the Coldwater River, as well as placement of any materials along the riverbank. During the construction of the Dike there were no findings, concerns, or requests to stop work from the on-site cultural monitor.

3. Reporting and Documentation

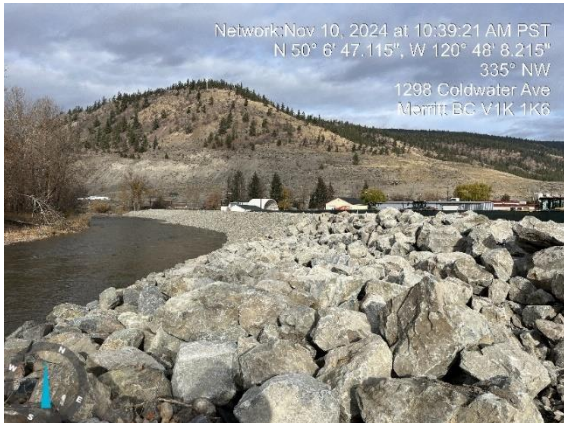
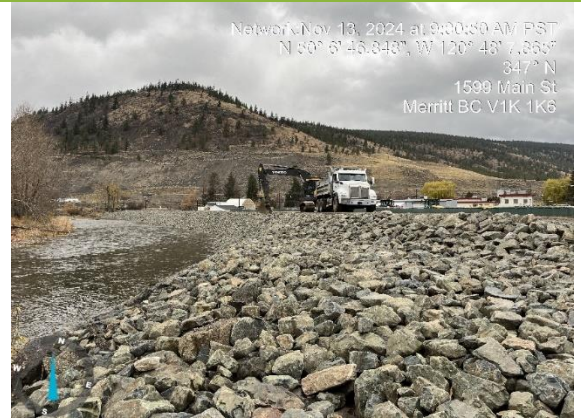
Construction Progress Updates:

3.1

[Construction Updates](#)

See all on website link above.

4. Project Photos- Attach photos of the completed project to showcase results.



5. Administrative Information

5.1 Contact Information:

Charlene Joe – Indigenous Engagement Manager – cjoe@merritt.ca or (778) 921-0412

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
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Indigenous Bands (IEM)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Website/Social Media (CE)

**MERRITT FLOOD
MITIGATION
DISTRIBUTION:**



Community Engagement (CE)



Flood Mitigation Files