



August 8, 2016

Approval File: 2004412

City of Chilliwack  
8550 Young Road  
Chilliwack BC V2P 8A4

Attention: Frank Van Nynatten

**Re: Application for Approval to make changes in and about Vedder River and Vedder Canal**

An approval for the proposed changes in and about the Vedder River and Vedder Canal has been granted, subject to the conditions noted on the attached Approval document 2004412.

As part of the six year Section 11 Change Approval authorization, all specified reports required within the terms and conditions of the Approval must be submitted to Sandra Jensen, Authorizations Specialist, within the timelines established.

For each year of construction, the following persons, holders of water licences downstream, are to be advised 5 days prior to commencement of construction: 1) C031376 - Yarrow Waterworks District; 2) C065404 - Fisheries & Oceans Canada for Conservation (Construct Works); 3) F019953 and F020104 – Fraser Valley Duck & Goose for Irrigation; and 4) F019954 – Hooge Bruno for Domestic on Woodroffe Creek near Peach Creek Bar.

The holder of this Approval shall also advise the Southern Railway of British Columbia, 5 days prior to commencement of construction.

The holder of this Approval will also submit the DFO Authorization for the 2018 and 2020 proposed gravel removal years with the necessary reports required by May 30 of that biennial year.

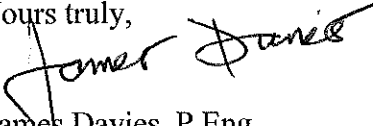
Please be advised that applications for an approval can take up to 140 days to process. To improve our ability to review your application in a timely manner, please consider submitting information outlined in the South Coast Approval Guidelines available at:  
[http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/water\\_rights/licence\\_application/section9/approval\\_application\\_guidance\\_water\\_act\\_sec-9-south\\_coast\\_feb-2013.pdf](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/water_rights/licence_application/section9/approval_application_guidance_water_act_sec-9-south_coast_feb-2013.pdf).

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The holder of this Approval shall retain an independent, appropriately qualified professional to conduct environmental monitoring of all in-stream works authorized under this Approval. The Environmental Monitor is responsible and accountable for ensuring that all the works approved under this Approval are conducted according to all applicable legislations and Best Management Practices. The Environmental Monitor is to seek advice from FLNR, or any other agency, when appropriate.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Water Information Technician at 604-586-4400.

Yours truly,



James Davies, P.Eng  
Assistant Water Manager

Enclosure

pc: Bruce Wright, Nova Pacific Environmental Ltd.  
Stella Chu, City of Abbotsford  
John Pattle, FLNRO  
Seabird Island  
Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation  
Skawahlook  
Sto:lo Nation  
Sto:lo Tribal Council  
Soowahlie First Nation  
People of the River Referral Office  
Sumas First Nation  
Shxwha:y Village  
Squiala First Nation  
Yakwekwioose Band  
Aitchelitz First Nation  
Skowkale First Nation  
Tzeachten First Nation  
Leq'a:mel First Nation

JS/ bgs



# **Water Sustainability Act**

Approval File: 2004412

## **APPROVAL**

WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT - Subsection 11(1) and 11(2)  
(Changes in and about a stream)

### **District of Chilliwack**

is hereby authorized to make changes in and about a stream as follows:

(a) The name of the stream is Vedder River and Vedder Canal, herein referred to as “the stream”.

(b) The changes to be made in and about the stream are:

To remove approximately 100,000 cubic meters of sediment and construct offsetting measures at specified gravel bars within the reaches of the Vedder River and Vedder Canal in the area bounded between the Vedder Crossing Bridge downstream to the Highway 1 Bridge, every two (2) years commencing with the 2016 fisheries window and concluding with the 2020 fisheries window. Works within the foreshore and the bed of the Vedder River and Vedder Canal may be within land owned by the City of Abbotsford, the City of Chilliwack or the Crown, held under Land Act Reserve R162023, held under Crown Land File 2411740. Sediment will be transported to a designated stockpile site that is held by the City of Abbotsford, the City of Chilliwack or the Crown.

(c) This Approval does not authorize entry on privately held land or Crown land.

(d) This Approval does not constitute authority of any other agency. The holder of this Approval shall have the necessary permits from other agencies concerned prior to the commencement of the works authorized herein.

(e) The holder of this Approval must have permits or other written consent from any affected right-of-way holders before commencing work that could affect utilities or other structures within the right-of-ways.

(f) This Approval does not authorize the alteration or removal of any works held under a water licence.

(g) The holder of this Approval shall take reasonable care to avoid damaging any land, works, trees, or other property and shall make full compensation to the owners for any damage or loss resulting from the exercise of rights granted hereunder.

(h) The holder of this Approval has been provided a six year authorization in order to remove an approximate biennial quantity of 100,000 cubic meters of gravel from 2016 to 2020.

- i) The holder of this Approval must notify the Water Manager immediately if there are significant changes to the proposed works from the biyearly Hydraulic Report and Proposed Vedder River Sediment Removal Project Report submitted to FLNR for the gravel removal;
  - ii) Significant changes may need to be authorized by FLNR prior to construction.
  - iii) The work authorized shall be completed on or before December 31, 2020, and the holder of this Approval shall advise the Water Information Technician (604-586-4400) when the changes have been completed.
- (i) A copy of this Approval (and associated plans/drawings listed on this Approval) must be available for inspection, upon request, at any location where the authorized changes in and about a stream are being undertaken.
- (j) Work in the stream channel shall occur only during the period of July 15 to September 30, so that the fisheries interests are protected.
- (k) Work must be carried out during favourable weather and low flow.
- (l) Upon commencement of the project, the work shall be pursued to completion as quickly as possible.
- (m) Equipment and machinery used in or near the stream channel must be in good operating condition and free of leaks, excess oil and grease.
- (n) Care shall be exercised during all phases of the work to prevent the release of silt, sediment, sediment-laden water, raw concrete, concrete leachate or any deleterious substances.
- (o) All proposed work shall be completed in isolation of the stream flows.
- (p) Vegetation along the banks of the stream shall be disturbed as little as possible. Vegetation removed for the purposes of temporary access must be replanted using native species that are suitable for the site conditions.
- (q) All excavated material and debris shall be removed from the site or placed in a stable area above the high water mark of the stream and mitigative measures to protect the excavated material and debris from erosion and reintroduction into the watercourse shall be used, such as, but not limited to, covering the material with erosion blankets or seeding and planting with native vegetation.
- (r) Sediment removal boundaries must be clearly delineated prior to commencement of work. All sediment excavation for removal purposes shall be completed in isolation of the stream flows.
- (s) Discharge and runoff water from the site into any watercourses may not exceed 25 mg/L above suspended solid levels of the receiving waters during normal dry weather



operation and 75 mg/L above suspended solid levels of receiving waters during storm events.

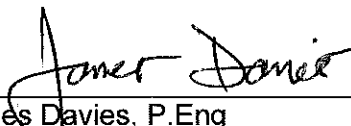
- (t) If dewatering or isolation of flow will be conducted, and the stream is known or suspected to contain fish and/or amphibians, the holder of this Approval will designate an appropriately qualified environmental professional to salvage any fish and amphibians present, prior to commencement of work in the stream channel. It is the responsibility of the holder of this Approval to obtain any permits needed prior to the salvage.
- (u) Large woody debris and the stubs of large diameter trees must be left in place or retained on-site where it is safe to do so.
- (v) All temporary works (including a ford, stream crossing and flow bypass) shall be removed on completion of the project, and the stream channel restored to its natural condition.
- (w) A spill containment kit must be readily accessible on-site and no equipment or machinery refueling shall take place within 30 meters of any watercourse.
- (x) The works shall be designed and installed so as not to restrict fish passage and/or lead to fish stranding.
- (y) All works shall comply with the information provided in the Vedder River and Canal Flood Protection Method Statement provided with the application and all works shall comply and be located as shown in the drawings submitted on the Proposed Biennial Year Vedder River Sediment Removal Project report, prepared by Nova Pacific Environmental Ltd.
- (z) Archeological sites (both recorded and unrecorded) are protected under the Heritage Conservation Act and must not be altered or damaged without a permit from the Archeology Branch. The holder of this Approval must advise everyone who will be involved in ground-disturbance and construction that if archeological materials are encountered, activities must be halted and the Archeology Branch contacted at 250-953-3334 for direction.
- (aa) All work shall be carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Environment's "Standards and Best Practices for In-stream Works". The Ministry's guidance can be found at the following link: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/bmp/iswstdsbpsmarch2004.pdf>
- (bb) The holder of this Approval must hire an appropriately Qualified Professional to conduct Environmental Monitoring on all in-stream works authorized under this Approval.
  - i) The Environmental Monitor shall attend the site prior to conducting any instream works to complete salvages and assist in the isolation of the stream, implementation of erosion and sediment control measures and perform environmental monitoring to ensure there is minimal environmental impact on the land and potentially fish and fish habitat of the stream.

- ii) The Environmental Monitor is responsible for observing the methods of construction and preparing information and reports on the compliance of the construction activities.
- (cc) The Environmental Monitor is hereby granted authority to stop the work authorized under this Approval if deemed necessary by the Environmental Monitor to address risks to the environment.
- (dd) The Environmental Monitor shall inspect the extraction area for fish stranding at least once during the fall, winter and spring after water levels have declined.
- (ee) The holder of this Approval must provide a brief post-construction report within 60 days of completion of the works.

That report shall include a signed statement from the Environmental Monitor summarizing: the in-stream works undertaken, the timing of those works, the total in-stream area directly affected, the frequency of monitoring; whether or not they observed or were otherwise aware of any non-compliance with the terms and conditions of this Approval; and a description of any environmental incidents, non-compliance or other difficulties, and how these were addressed and reported. The report shall be provided as a hard copy addressed to Sandra Jensen, Authorizations Specialist, labelled with the file number of this Approval.

- (ff) The holder of this Approval must provide a Monitoring Plan [Vedder River Gravel Excavation Habitat Changes and Environmental Impacts report] to Sandra Jensen, Authorizations Specialist, by May 30 of the next proposed biennial, labelled with the file number of this Approval.
- (gg) The holder of this Approval must submit an Offsetting and Mitigation Plan to Sandra Jensen, Authorizations Specialist, by May 30 for each biennial in which gravel removal is proposed for review and comment. The report shall be labelled with the file number of this Approval.
- (hh) The holder of this Approval must submit the Sediment Removal Plan [Proposed Biennial Vedder River Sediment Removal Project report] to Sandra Jensen, Authorizations Specialist, by May 30 for each biennial in which gravel removal is proposed for review and comment. The report shall be labelled with the file number of this Approval.
- (ii) The holder of this Approval must submit the Hydraulic Analysis report to Sandra Jensen, Authorizations Specialist, by May 30 for each biennial in which gravel removal is proposed for review and comment. The report shall be labelled with the file number of this Approval.
- (jj) The holder of this Approval shall advise the following holders of water licences downstream, 5 days prior to commencement of construction: 1) C031376 - Yarrow Waterworks District; 2) C065404 - Fisheries & Oceans Canada for Conservation (Construct Works); 3) F019953 and F020104 – Fraser Valley Duck & Goose for Irrigation and 4) F019954 – Hooge Bruno for Domestic on Woodroffe Creek near Peach Creek Bar.

- (kk) The holder of this Approval shall protect the Yarrow Waterworks District water licence works located on the Wilson Road stockpile site with appropriate fencing, a 30 meter setback and additional mitigative measures, as specified in the July 22, 2016 email response from Chilliwack to FLNR, when the stockpile site will be utilized during sediment removal.
- (ll) The holder of this Approval shall advise the Southern Railway of British Columbia, 5 days prior to commencement of construction.
- (mm) The holder of this Approval shall protect all the wildlife of the Blue Heron Nature Reserve and shall take all measures to avoid any impact or disturbance to the wildlife.

  
James Davies, P.Eng  
Assistant Water Manager

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Approval File: **2004412**      Date Issued: **August 08, 2016**      Approval No.: **2004412**  
Precinct: **20C - Chilliwack**

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