



Blasting Operation Information Bulletin



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Scaling crews are continuing to remove dangerous rocks on the face of the landslide to provide safe working conditions and to avoid a landslide from occurring in the future. Rock scalers are also preparing to remove a larger piece of overhanging rock for blasting operations, which is scheduled to take place in the afternoon of Monday, July 22, 2019. Controlled detonations are deemed necessary as scaling crews are unable to detach the hazardous rock with hand tools and entry below is dependent on the removal of this rock.

Blasting preparation consists of the rock scaling crew carefully drilling 50 holes into the unstable rock that are 20 feet deep and two and a half inches in diameter in predetermined locations, as per the detailed instructions of blasting specialists. The holes that house the non-toxic detonators have been tactically placed to restrict the size of rocks that will detach, which prevents harming fish that may be below.

The blasting team consists of qualified experts who specialize in executing controlled detonations in a safe and contained manner, while only removing the minimum amount rock required to preserve as much of the natural land as possible. Furthermore, First Nations are continuing to assess the worksite for archeological values. The consideration of potential impacts to aboriginal interests remains a priority.

Please keep in mind that the controlled detonations will emit a noise that may be heard in nearby areas. In addition, all boating and air operations will be restricted within the surrounding blasting zone for the interest of public safety. Fishery officers will be located both upstream and downstream of the blasting location to ensure that there is no vessel traffic in the restricted areas. Once blasting has commenced and a safe working area has been established beneath, personnel can enter the area. This access will allow personnel to continue implementing tactics that will bring us closer towards achieving the main goal of getting all fish past the partial blockage to continue their migration upstream.