From: <u>Carl, Clint</u>

To: <u>Englund, Krista TRAN:EX</u>

Cc: Patty Burt; Warren, Sandra; Richardson, Tessa

**Subject:** Meeting request to discuss timing windows and mitigation measures for Dewdney Bridge replacement project.

DFO File# 22-HPAC-01175

**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 10:49:04 AM

## [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Check email address, links, and attachments

Good Morning Krista and Patty,

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has reviewed McElhanney's June 7 2023 memorandum (the memorandum) requesting that DFO consider an extension to the timing window recommended in our letter of advice (LOA) issued on May 15, 2023 to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) regarding the works, undertakings or activities associated with construction of the proposed Dewdney Bridge Replacement Project (the Project), Nicomen Slough, Deroche, British Columbia (DFO File # 22-HPAC-01175).

As described in the memorandum, the MOTI has adjusted the Project schedule and is proposing to conduct instream works for 4-5 months between August 1 and February 28. The timing window in the LOA recommends that instream works be conducted during the Lower Mainland reduced risk instream work window of August 1 and September 1. Since the LOA provides recommendations on how to avoid and mitigate the potential for prohibited effects to fish and fish habitat based on the scope of the Project and does not have include enforceable conditions, an amendment to the recommended timing window letter is not necessary. The MOTI Proponent can choose whether to implement the advice as written in the LOA or not, provided that the Proponent MOTI remains in compliance with the Fisheries Act and the Species At Risk Act. That being said, if the MOTI is looking for DFO to formally review the proposed works and provide advice in consideration of the adjusted Project schedule, we ask that you submit a Request for Review form.

Section 2.5 of the memorandum (Risks Associated with the Project/Activities) suggests that the risks of working between August 1 and February 28 are limited, and no additional mitigations beyond those included in the LOA are proposed. However, the memorandum does not consider that the timing of instream works overlaps with the inbound migration of adult spawners traveling to high value spawning habitats located in Inch Creek and Norrish Creek via Nicomen Slough (migration typically occurs from October – December), and the outbound migration of smolts traveling to the Fraser River (e.g., chum, which can start to migrate through Nicomen Slough in February). If the MOTI chooses to work between August 1 and February 28, then mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to inbound adult spawners and outmigrating smolts should be developed and implemented.

Sandra Warren and myself are available for a discussion of the memo and how MOTI plans to address potential impacts to inbound and outmigrating fish at the following times.

Please let me know if any of these dates work for you and your team and I will send a meeting invite.

- Thursday, June 22, from 1 pm onwards; or
- Friday, June 23, from 2 pm 4 pm

- Monday, June 26, 9 am 12 pm or 2 pm -4 pm
- Tuesday, June 27, 9 am 12 pm or 2:30 pm 4 pm

Sincerely,

Clint Carl

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