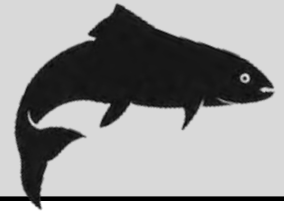


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BIG BAR TRANSFORMATION UNDERWAY



TOP: Aerial view of the Big Bar work site, February 20, 2021. **BOTTOM:** Drilling rig being assembled.

The Big Bar work site is evolving as pile driving for the permanent fishway structure and preparations for a work camp are underway.

Crews assembled the large drilling rig after key components were hoisted into place by a heavy-lift helicopter. Pile driving then started last week at the north end of the permanent fishway. Two of the seven piles have been assembled but more work is required to complete their installation. Drilling has begun for the third pile and the remaining piles are expected to be in place in the coming days.



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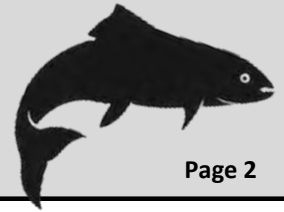


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BIG BAR TRANSFORMATION UNDERWAY (CONT'D)



PICTURED: The work camp at KM 96, located 15 km from the Big Bar worksite, is expected to house up to 70 crew members during peak operations.

Rock fall prevention work continued over the past two weeks, with crews extending the protective mesh further north. Although rock scaling was halted on some days due to frozen ropes and high afternoon winds (40 to 65 km/h), prime contractor, Peter Kiewit Sons ULC, adjusted shift times to ensure scaling operations could continue.

Preparations for a work camp at the 96-kilometre mark of the West Pavilion Road (KM 96) are


progressing. Additional archeological and environmental surveys were completed prior to clearing the footprint. The camp will house approximately 70 workers less than 15 km from the work site, significantly reducing the commute for those currently staying in Clinton. The camp will also eliminate the crews' reliance on boat transport to get across the Fraser River.

UPDATE CONTINUES ON PAGE 3



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CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT PLANNING MEETING IN LILLOOET

On February 17, DFO and First Nations technical partners, St'at'imc Eco Resources and Splitrock Environmental, met in Lillooet to review options for the 2021 emergency conservation enhancement operations. Together with Sekw'el'was and T'it'q'et representatives, the team explored potential collection sites, offloading access points, fresh water sources and other logistical considerations for brood stock collection in the area.

This year, the Big Bar task groups recommended the collection of brood stock from Early Stuart sockeye, and possibly early-timed Chinook, in Lillooet instead of the slide site due to past challenges. These obstacles included the remoteness of Big Bar, the significant infrastructure required and the travel time to enhancement facilities. Capturing brood stock downstream at Lillooet will resolve many of these issues.



PICTURED: First Nations technical partners and representatives, and DFO staff met in Lillooet to review 2021 enhancement plans.

Once the proposed plans have been reviewed, the task groups will submit a recommendation for the optimal transport and enhancement approach to the Joint Executive Steering Committee and the First Nations Leadership Panel to seek their endorsement.

Planning is also underway for the release of 2020 Chinook fry in late spring. The enhancement team is exploring suitable locations for their release and will connect with local First Nations once further details are known.

