

# BIG BAR LANDSLIDE UPDATE

AUGUST 28, 2020



## SOCKEYE ARRIVING IN GREATER NUMBERS



**PICTURED:** An aerial of the Whooshh Passage Portal™ tubes, the hanger, and the “nature-like” fishway.

The majority of fish arriving at Big Bar this week are sockeye, with the occasional chinook still being observed. Fish continue to migrate past the slide site naturally and to date, over 117,000 salmon have been detected via the ARIS SONAR upstream of the slide at Churn Creek. With natural passage being the primary mode of movement past the slide, Whooshh™ operations are slowing down.

As of August 27, the monitoring team has applied approximately 523 radio tags: 292 chinook and 231 sockeye.

## ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

This past week, the enhancement team completed most of the egg takes at the hatcheries. At the Cultus Lake Research Lab, technicians collected approximately 240,000 eggs from Early Stuart sockeye and 19,500 from Bowron sockeye. Over 160,000 eggs were also collected from chinook being held at the Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre. These eggs have now been moved to recently installed incubation facilities at the Quesnel River Research Station, operated by the University of Northern BC.

With adult fish collection at the slide site concluded, the team is working to demobilise and winterize the operations at the French Bar Creek Fish Holding Facility. However, work is now underway with the



**PICTURED:** Enhancement efforts at French Bar Creek Fish Holding Facility.

Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance on the next phase of the emergency conservation enhancement efforts for this season – the natal stream collection of Fraser River sockeye and chinook.

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## ONGOING ONSITE OPERATIONS

An additional tube for the Whooshh Passage Portal™ arrived onsite this week. Once in place, this tube will release fish about 120 metres further upstream of the slide site than the others. Preparations for this extension included the installation of new anchor points, mounting of over 400 metres of tension cables, modifications to the termination beam, creation of a new release system, grouting, and strength testing.

Crews continue routine maintenance on the Whooshh™ system, including the water misters and sensors, and ongoing upgrades to the water filtration system.


Ensuring site safety remains a high priority throughout the operating season. This week was no exception, with work continuing on the West Beach slope stabilization curtain. Here, crews hung additional mesh and checked the scaling above the access platform to the Whooshh™ tubes.

**TOP:** Crews drill anchors for the new high tension cable that will support the additional Whooshh Passage Portal™ tubing.

**BOTTOM:** Installation of decking at the location of the new north anchors, which will support the high tension cables for the tubing.



## BIG BAR SALMON COUNTS

	SALMON RADIO TAGGED BELOW BIG BAR LANDSLIDE	SALMON USING ALTERNATIVE FISH PASSAGE		SALMON 40 KM UPSTREAM OF BIG BAR LANDSLIDE
		WHOOSH H PASSAGE PORTAL™	TRUCK AND TRANSPORT	
TOTAL TO DATE	523	8262	1527	117392

[Daily updated counts online](#)

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