

# HATZIC VALLEY

## EMERGENCY WORKS PROGRAM

Newsletter #3 • August 2024

### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The 2021 atmospheric river event (ARE) caused substantial sediment movement, flooding, and changes through BC's river and creek systems, resulting in extensive damage. In response, the Province of BC, led by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV), established a program to identify, prioritize, and address sites impacted by the ARE that pose risks to public safety, critical infrastructure, environmental, and cultural features.

As part of this program, emergency response work is currently underway in the Hatzic Valley to remove sediment and repair damage caused by the ARE. Repairs have been underway since 2022 and the remaining works are planned for 2024.

The latter part of 2023 was an impactful period for the program. Some of the achievements and outcomes include the following:

- Design work for several project sites.
- Construction on Lagace Creek was postponed until 2024 due to the presence of spawning salmon. This work will now start in the summer of 2024.

### WHAT'S BEEN DONE?

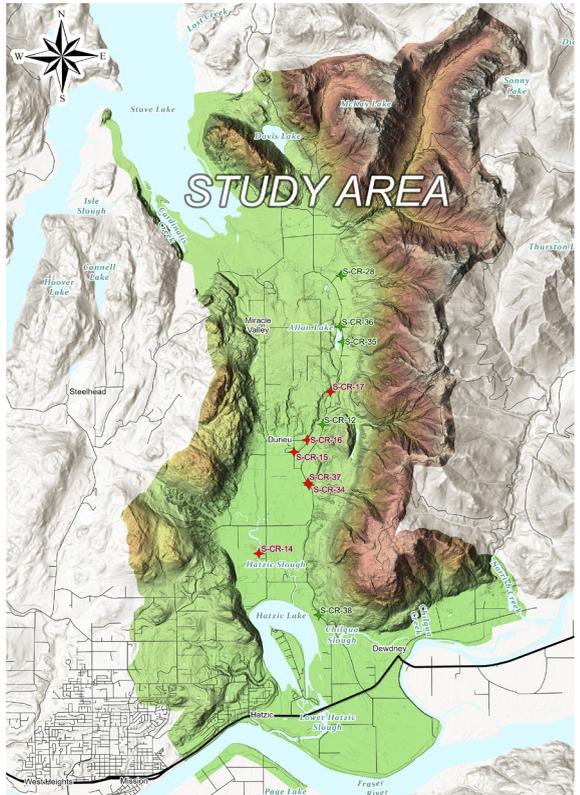
In total, 12 sites were previously identified in the Hatzic Valley for sediment removal and works. To date, the work has been completed at five sites (green stars on the map):

- ✓ Pattison Creek – near Sylvester Road (S-CR-12)
- ✓ Carratt Creek – upstream of Sylvester Road (S-CR-28)
- ✓ Davies Creek – east of Sylvester Road (S-CR-38)
- ✓ Eng Creek – near Sylvester Road (S-CR-35)
- ✓ McNab Creek – near Sylvester Road (S-CR-36)

### WHAT'S NEXT?

Since our last update in 2023, this is the construction work that will be transpiring (red stars on the map):

- North and South Herford Creek – near Sylvester Road (S-CR-34/37)
- Lagace Creek (select locations between Allan Lake to Pattison Creek) (S-CR-14/17)
- Lagace Creek (Pattison Creek to Farms Rd and Stave Lake Road Junction) (S-CR-15/16)



**MAP:** Map showing the Hatzic Valley project site locations to be completed (red stars) and completed sites (green stars).

## SEDIMENT REMOVAL SPOTLIGHT:

The sediment removal work at these locations is occurring in streams that often have other values that need to be protected. Lagace Creek, as well as North and South Herford Creeks, are fish-bearing watercourses that are home to various salmon and trout species during their life stages. The sediment removal process must be done at a certain time and measures must be carried out to protect the aquatic species that call Lagace Creek home.

Sediment removal works will begin early August and continue into the middle of September, during the permitted fisheries works window. This summer there will be large equipment at work in and around these creeks. Please be mindful and give space to equipment and workers.

Below, we are highlighting some of the work prescribed for 2 of the 3 project sites.

### Lagace Creek (Pattison Creek confluence to Farms Road)

Design elements have been incorporated where possible to enhance the habitat conditions, and these include the following:

1. Sediment removal in selected locations by creating pools and riffles to support fish during varying flow conditions.
2. Using erosion protection measures utilizing vegetation (bioengineering) will provide shade, water temperature variability, and nutrient and food sources (insects) that enhance fish habitat.

### North and South Herford Creek

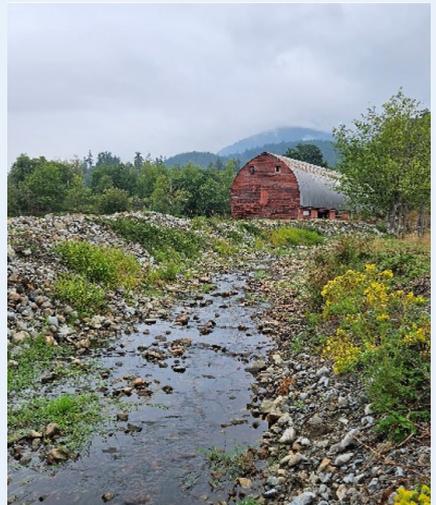
Sediment removal is also planned for North and South Herford Creeks. These two watercourses are located south of the Sylvester Road and Seux Road intersection.

The proposed work consists of:

1. Sediment and debris removal.
2. Repair of damaged stream banks at select locations.



▲ Lagace Creek sediment and woody debris to be removed in 2024



▲ Herford Creek sediment removal and repair to stream banks are works planned for 2024

## WHO IS DOING THIS WORK?

A Task Force has been put together, including elected officials, community partners, and rights and title holders and is co-led with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. This team is focused on putting priority plans together and accessing permits and permissions to support emergency response efforts.



## MORE INFORMATION?

For more information, project updates, and answers to frequently asked questions, please visit [bit.ly/SedimentProjectUpdates](https://bit.ly/SedimentProjectUpdates).