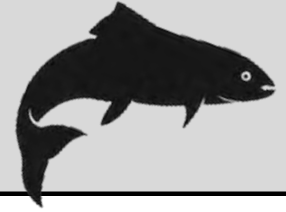


BIG BAR LANDSLIDE UPDATE

MAY 31, 2021



 Response Webpage  BC River Forecast

FROM PLANNING TO IMPLEMENTATION, PREPARATIONS FOR SUMMER OPERATIONS RAMP UP AT BIG BAR



TOP: Crews testing the concrete fish ladder pumps during the night shift.

BOTTOM: One of three “trap and transport” trucks that will carry fish from the concrete fish ladder and the fish wheel to a release point upstream.

In anticipation of the arrival of early-season salmon, the Big Bar landslide response efforts are ramping up onsite with assisted passage systems and the monitoring program coming online.

Last week, First Nations and DFO technicians met onsite to prepare for the “trap and transport”, fish wheel and monitoring operations. Following a site and safety orientation, the team re-acquainted itself with the work site, setting-up the fish transport trucks and organizing the necessary equipment. This preparation time, before the arrival of the first Chinook, is critical for reviewing operational plans developed over the winter and identifying areas for improvement to ensure a smooth work season ahead.

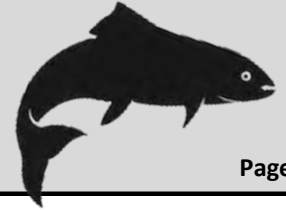


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The concrete fish ladder is nearing completion as crews put the final touches on the steel structure that will be used to collect fish for the “trap and transport” program. The work includes testing components such as the water pumps and the fish lift used to remove fish from the ladder, and installing a swing gate to direct fish between cells within the ladder. The first of three fish transport trucks arrived onsite on May 24 with the remaining two expected shortly after.

Fish monitoring remains key to understanding fish quantities, movement and health in near real time at Big Bar. As part of the expanded program in 2021, an array of cameras and sensors were installed along the path of the “nature-like” fishway to provide more detailed information about fish movement between June and the end of the migration in November. No fish have been detected at the slide site at this time although a Chinook was recently caught and released near Lillooet, 60 km to the south.

Rock protection work is ongoing with scaling and rock bolting happening daily above the rock fall canopy and along the south face of the cliff, West Beach and the Razorback.

TOP: A helicopter delivers cameras, sensors and cables for installation along the west face of the cliff.

BOTTOM: Cameras and sensors are mounted above the “nature-like” fishway to monitor fish movement this season.

