

Fossil Impact Assessment (FIA) Report - Template

Title Page

- Report title with project name and location, called a Fossil Impact Assessment (FIA) Report
- Prepared for – Name and address of the proponent for which the report was prepared
- Prepared by – Name and address of paleontology consulting company
- Date

Credit Sheet

- Includes names, addresses and professional affiliations of the contributors to the FIA: Lead Paleontologist, supporting personnel and reviewer

Executive Summary

- Key points of the report stating its purpose, results and recommendations

Table of Contents

- Includes List of Maps and/or Figures, List of Tables, Appendices

Introduction

- Project overview
- Project history
- FIA objectives and scope
- Dates and duration of the study

Project Description

- Provide a summary of proposed project plans and site, including a location map showing boundaries of the proposed project site(s)
- Describe projected extent and level of land alteration or disturbance
- Explain project designs or locations that differ from original project design
- Describe access and terrain
- Describe past land uses or previous FIAs
- Include project scheduling details

Study Area and Geological Setting

- Provide overview of the geological setting
- Identify sedimentary unit(s) or deposits affected by the proposed development
- Include a map showing the units

- Indicate the fossil resource potential and fossil occurrences in proximity to the project

Methodology

- Inventory
 - list known fossil occurrences by geological unit, including fossil types, age, lithological unit, locations, and information sources that were reviewed (this may refer to the Preliminary Study Report)
 - describe how sites for field assessment were selected
- Site Evaluation
 - describe the survey area, outcrop exposure and access
 - list the types of data and information recorded in the field
 - explain fossil collecting and recording procedures
 - identify the B.C. fossil repository for the curation of collected fossils
- Impact Identification and Assessment – explains how project impacts are identified
 - describe the process used to assess impacts on fossil resources, including categories of fossil resource potential (Table 1)
 - describe significance criteria used in the evaluation of importance of fossil resources or fossil sites
 - predict the risk level associated with adverse effects to fossil resources, using the risk matrix (Table 2)

Results

Content may be arranged by each area of the project footprint examined to describe results using the suggested headings:

- Fossil Resource Inventory and Evaluation
 - description of each site, nature of the sedimentary exposure (good or poor)
 - list of fossil sites recorded (also prepare a separate standardized data collection spreadsheet to submit to FMO)
 - maps showing areas examined (or if areas were exempt from the study), with waypoints and recorded fossil localities in relation to the project footprint
 - discussion of fossil resource evaluation including site-specific significance assessment and comments on fossil sites with high, medium, or low significance within the project footprint
 - include field photographs (may be arranged into Plates within Appendices)
- Impact Identification and Assessment

- discuss potential impacts on fossils related to significance and project actions
- Impact Mitigation Recommendations
 - discuss recommendations for managing adverse impacts to fossil resources

Summary and Conclusions

- Summarize the impact assessment results and recommendations to reduce adverse impacts on fossils encountered during ground disturbance, such as monitoring of excavation by a qualified paleontologist during development activities.
- Make updates to the initial Chance Find Protocol, if one was submitted with the Preliminary Study Report, and include as an Appendix (also submit a separate Chance Find Protocol to FMO)

References – List of sources cited

Appendices – Append relevant items to the report including:

- Maps
- Photographs of stratigraphy, fossil sites and fossils
- Chance Find Protocol