

Cache Creek Crossing Restoration Project

Welcome

We respectfully acknowledge that the Cache Creek Crossing Restoration Project is taking place on the territory of Bonaparte First Nation.

Cache Creek Crossing Restoration Project Public Information Session

This Public Information Session is being held to provide you with information regarding the Cache Creek Crossing Restoration Project and the opportunity to ask questions to project team members.

To provide your feedback or submit enquiries to the project team, contact Reid Drummond, Project Manager, at:



Email: Cache.Creek@gov.bc.ca



Phone: **250-299-1494**



Website: gov.bc.ca/cachecreek



The culvert that runs under Highway 97. Photo taken in June 2023.

Cache Creek Crossing Restoration Project

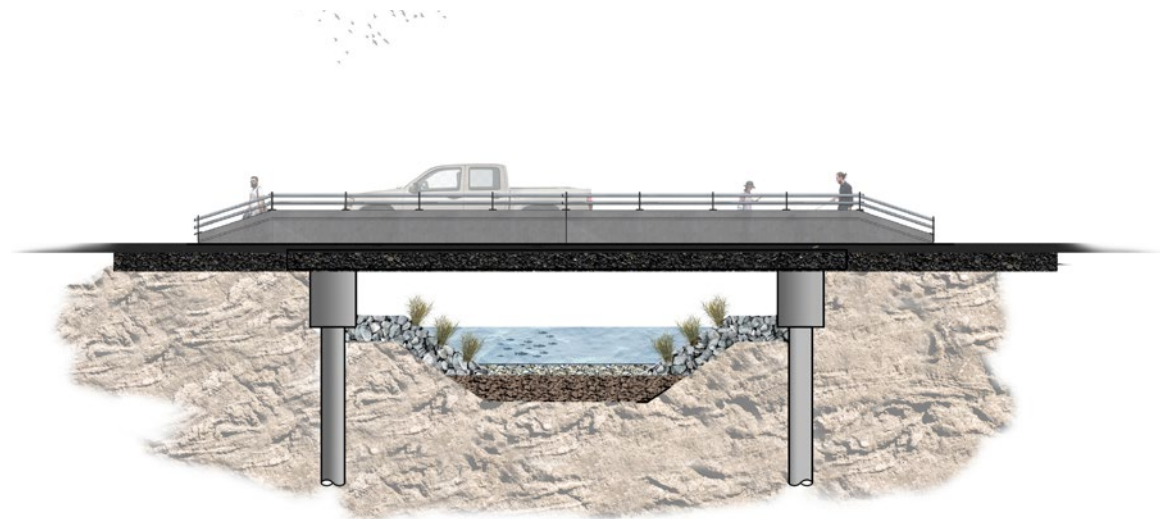
Project Overview

Cache Creek has experienced multiple floods in recent years, partially a result of changing weather patterns as well as wildfire impacts which made conditions worse. The existing culvert under Highway 97 does not have the capacity to handle peak river flows and debris specifically during spring freshet.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) is moving forward with the installation of a bridge to replace the culvert at the Highway 97-Cache Creek crossing. The bridge will be designed to accommodate increases in water flows due to climate change and be built to ensure structure stability against erosion in the future.

Benefits of this project are expected to include:

- Improved safety for road users, adjacent businesses and residents, and service providers
- Access reliability and confidence, supporting the local and regional economy
- A design that allows for fish passage, enhancement of riparian habitat and replanting of trees



Rendering of the proposed new bridge, which would be approximately 13 metres long and built to have a 75-year life span. Details are subject to change.

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Project Overview

Upstream of Highway 97 are two additional crossings of Cache Creek that also experienced flooding in 2023. Both are identified in red in the graphic to the right.

While this project is focused on a new Highway 97 crossing, the Province and Village recognize there can be several benefits achieved through an integrated approach to the work on the two other locations.

Indigenous Consultation

Consultation with local First Nations is ongoing. Bonaparte First Nation is working closely with the project team.



Aerial view of the new Highway 97 crossing as well as two additional crossings of Cache Creek.

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Construction Approach

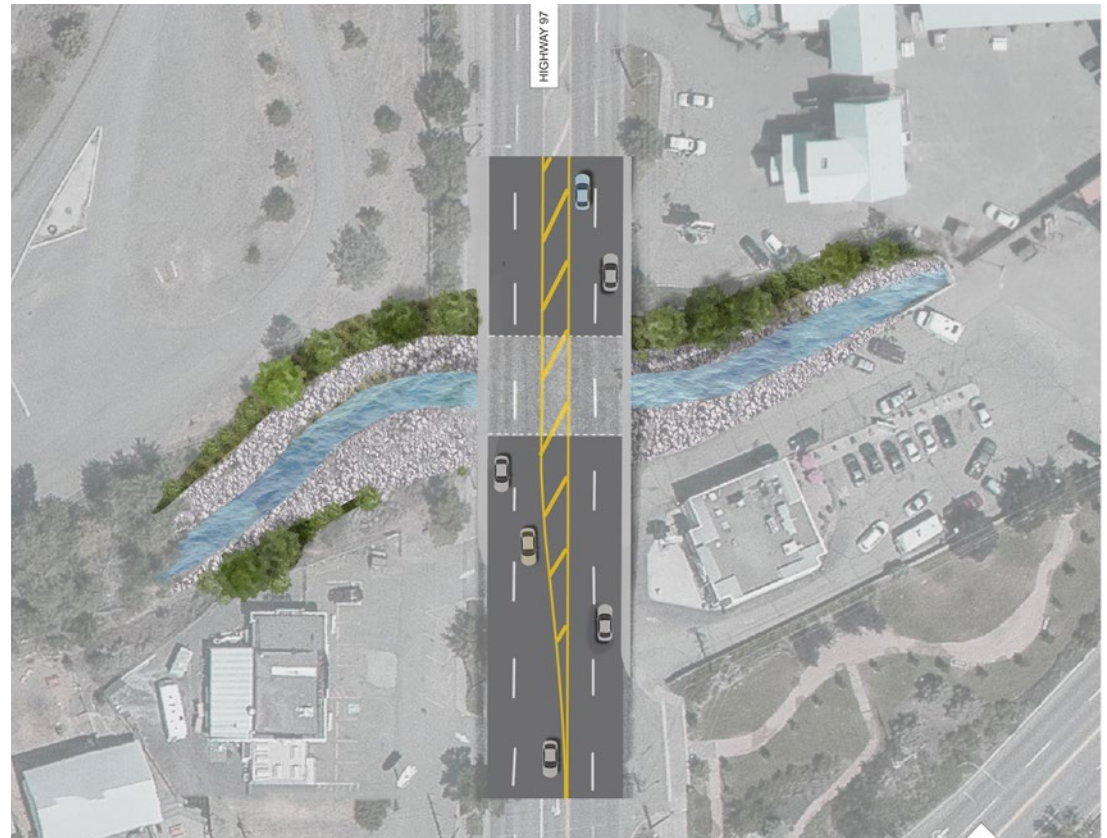
The project team is working on an accelerated schedule to reduce the risk of impacts due to future flooding. Detailed design, permitting, and contract tender and award are expected to be complete this fall. Preconstruction activities may be seen on the highway as early as this fall. Construction of the bridge is anticipated to start in early 2024 and last for one construction season.

The project team is planning to use a three-staged approach to construction:

1. Utilities relocation
2. Construction of two lanes of the new bridge and full channel construction under the bridge
3. Construction of the remaining two lanes of the bridge and completion of remaining project scope

Bridge construction will maintain the current elevation and access points to the highway. During construction there may be some temporary access and traffic interruptions.

New sidewalks in each direction will connect to existing sidewalks.



Aerial view of the new four-lane crossing with the creek running underneath. Details are subject to change.

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Environmental Considerations

Environmental design is a priority and enhancements to the environment within the project limits will be maximized to the extent possible. The final design will include riparian habitat – fish and wildlife habitat in the transition zone between water and land – and replanting of trees.

The project team is working with partners to look at a potential to increase to fish habitat by removing infrastructure within the project area that prevents fish migration. Other elements of the fish habitat design are expected to include:

- Creating riffle pools, which are small pond-like bodies of water that would provide resting area for fish
- Placing large woody debris to provide fish habitat and protection
- Planting in the riparian area to restore the creek channel
- Restoring fish habitat lost from past flooding through the addition of fisheries gravels

Environmental assessments are underway for fish species, bird nesting and endangered species and species at risk in the area.



Enhancements to Cache Creek will include the addition of plants and trees to the riparian area and clean up of debris in the creek.

Project Updates and Traffic Management During Construction

Construction of the new bridge will likely require the closure of a single lane of traffic in each direction for the majority of the project. Drivers can expect lane configurations to change as the project progresses. Access for pedestrians, including students, will be maintained.



Traffic control will be provided during construction, to minimize delays through the work zone.



Business access will be maintained.

During construction, a variety of tools will be used to inform road users of potential impacts to traffic, including the following:



Email notifications



Changeable message signs



Website notifications



Social media posts

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Thank You for Attending

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Project details continue to be refined and confirmed. For the latest information or to learn more about the project, scan the QR code.

