

HIGHWAY 1 COLQUITZ BRIDGES PROJECT INFORMATION & UPDATES

June 10, 2024



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Highway 1-Colquitz River Bridges Widening project will widen and seismically retrofit both existing two-lane bridges over Burnside Road on Highway 1 in Victoria, as well as establish a dedicated bus-on-shoulder lane. Widening the Colquitz River bridges will make for a more reliable, efficient commute for south Islanders while protecting local waterways and ecosystems. The Project will provide environmental enhancements by planting native trees, removing invasive species and treating highway runoff via a rain garden before discharging into the Colquitz River. Pomerleau Inc was awarded the construction contract in March 2024 for the project.



PROJECT UPDATES

The contractor received the notice of assignment letter from the Ministry to proceed with construction works. An environmental kickoff meeting was held onsite on May 30th between the Ministry and the contractor. Tree protection fencing and silt fencing was installed by the contractor and inspected by the WSP auditor. Prior to any tree removals, a bird nest survey was conducted to ensure no nests were found in the trees. The Peninsula Streams Society will be removing their Smolt Trap from the Colquitz River in early June after being installed in March. The Smolt Trap was used to count out-migrating salmon smolts and track their movements. Understanding where the salmon spend their time at different life stages will help inform further restoration efforts and will contribute towards a better understanding of coho and cutthroat within the river system.

1 MONTH LOOKAHEAD

The following construction activities are anticipated to begin/continue over the next month:

- Median Crossover Initiation along Highway 1
- Traffic Control along Highway 1
- Demolition and Construction of the South Bridge
- Temporary Crosswalk and Traffic Control along Burnside Rd
- Equipment and Material Mobilization
- Installation of Water Treatment Granular Pad & Temporary Drainage
- Water Treatment Plant Mobilization



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Figure 1: Tree Protection Fencing Around Trees in the Median



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Figure 2: Silt Fence Established to Prevent Mitigation of Sediments into the Colquitz River



Figure 3: Smolt Trap Operated by Peninsula Streams Society