## **Public Notice**

Inch Creek Hatchery Modernization: Construction of Tub Module

## Public Comments Invited

**February 9, 2024** - The Fisheries and Oceans Canada must decide whether a rearing capacity expansion by constructing a Circular Tub Module, located at Inch Creek Hatchery, B.C. is likely to cause significant adverse effects.

To help inform this decision, Fisheries and Oceans Canada is inviting comments from the public on the project and its potential effects on the environment. All comments received will be considered public. For more information, individuals should consult the <u>Privacy Notice</u> on the Registry website. Written comments must be submitted by **March 11, 2024** to:

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## Assessment Summary

As part of the Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative (PSSI), the Inch Creek Hatchery was selected to receive funding to expand the aquaculture capacity onsite in order to meet specific conservation enhancement targets for salmonid populations. To facilitate the required program expansion, the overall rearing capacity of the hatchery must be expanded.

First, to prepare the area for the new infrastructure existing asphalt, and organic and non-structural soil will need to be stripped. Some stripped soils will be stockpiled onsite where possible, asphalt and soils that cannot be distributed onsite will be removed. Material requiring offsite disposal will be recycled where possible. Following stripping, suitable granular fill will need to be imported in order to achieve the grading required for construction. Then, all required underground services including electrical, water supply and drainage piping, and air lines to support the fiberglass rearing tubs can be installed. Following the installation of underground utilities, 28 circular fiberglass rearing tubs ranging from 1.80 m to 6.20 m in diameter will be installed and connected to new and existing underground services. Next, a fence will be constructed around the new infrastructure to delineate a bio-security zone, and to keep wildlife from interfering with hatchery operations. Finally, the newly constructed area will be paved to ensure the area is easily navigated by staff and visitors.

The construction period will be from March 18, 2024 to March 31, 2026, pending weather delays.

No in-water works are anticipated for this project. There will be no tree or vegetation removal as part of the associated works, as the project is occurring within an already developed lot.

## **Project Locations**

Inch Creek Hatchery is located approximately 11 kilometers east of the town of Mission, BC. The 5.77 ha site consists mainly of active hatchery footprint, surrounded by various grassy and wooded areas. The site is under jurisdiction of DFO, and as such is on federal land.

Site Address: 38620 Bell Road, Dewdney, BC.

Site Access: Public road

Latitude: 49° 17' 58. 33"N

Longitude: -122°15'47.22"W