

Water Engagement Initiative Meeting 16 – Southside Update

February 10, 2021



Non-Flow Recommendations Report

The Report is a culmination of:

- Non-flow related interests identified during the WEI Process to date
- Information gathering efforts
- Review and feedback from Southside focus group
- Southside Workshop → **Identified Pathways** to begin addressing interests

Pathways: Erosion

- The Technical Working Group to prepare an erosion control Best Management Practices summary for landowners.
- The Technical Working Group to conduct a background information review on erosional effects and factors, amalgamate existing information on known erosion areas (with input from Rio Tinto), and, if necessary, conduct site visits to address data gaps.

Pathways: Livestock

- The Technical Working Group will research potential fencing options and reach out to organizations such as the Cattlemen's Association to see if there are any existing programs or Best Management Practices that can be shared.
- EDI will work with Rio Tinto to amalgamate information related to ditches and hazards around Rio Tinto's Bear Lake Saddle Dam No 2.

Pathways: Water Pumps and Intakes

- The Technical Working Group will work with Rio Tinto to investigate a water pump/intake design specific for reservoirs and include the approximate costs to implement.

Pathways: Water Quality

- The Technical Working Group to connect with Northern Health regarding water quality standards and monitoring requirements and incorporate information into the standard design for water intakes.
- The Technical Working Group to connect with the Cattlemen's Associations to gather information on Best Management Practices for managing livestock near water sources.

Pathways: Navigation

- Designated participants from the Southside Workshop will reach out to their respective contacts to get information, support, and a contact person for the “Navigation Table”. EDI will amalgamate the information and set up the Navigation Table.

Pathways: Recreation

- Rio Tinto will contact BC Parks about upgrades to the Wisteria boat launch.
- Rio Tinto will investigate the status of the interpretive driving map/brochure and outline next steps.
- Southside Workshop participant will contact the Francois Ootsa Sportsman's Association to see if they want to help promote recreational activities/tourism.

Pathways: Wildlife

- The Technical Working Group coordinator will connect with Southside resident to gather local wildlife knowledge.
- The Technical Working Group will assess the osprey interest.
- The Technical Working Group will add moose, cormorants, loons, and wood ducks to the comprehensive list of interests

Pathways: Wildfire

- Rio Tinto will ensure their properties are FireSmart.

Pathways: Communication & Power

- The Regional District of Bulkley Nechako will update the WEI on status of Three Phase discussions with BC Hydro.

Pathways: Funding

→ The WEI process will first identify the best recommendations or pathways to follow, and the funding can be addressed afterwards when the costs have been defined.

Pathways: Continuous Improvement

- EDI will draft a potential Reservoir-specific process for the Nechako Reservoir for the Main Table to review, which will also establish a “Reservoir Advisory Group”

Southside - Next Steps

- Follow through on Action Items
- Workshops to identify next steps
- Updates to Main Table