

Work progressing smoothly: project schedule on track

Buildings and facilities are starting to take shape on the Comox Valley Regional District's new Water Treatment Project now that clearing and excavation is complete. Walls are growing taller at the treatment plant and the raw water pump station is edging closer to connecting with its water source.

Work planned to be complete this year includes:

- Construction at Comox Lake (pump station + marine intake)
- Construction of water pipelines

Construction on the water treatment plant, located on Lake Trail Road, is planned to be complete in Spring 2021, with commissioning of the new system in Summer 2021.

The new treatment plant will use filtration, ultra-violet treatment and chlorination to remove bacteria, parasites and viruses from the water and eliminate the need for boil water notices.

What's Happening Now

Raw Water Pump Station Site



Preparation – Crews are now preparing for tunnelling work to begin – the marine pipeline and microtunnel boring machine are on site.



Excavation – Excavation for the wet well/tunnelling shaft is complete and the floor slab is poured.



Construction – The electrical building is starting to take form: the electrical conduit has been placed and the foundation walls are complete.

Water Treatment Plant Site



Excavation – Excavation of the clearwell, a large reservoir which feeds the pipeline connected to the existing distribution system, is complete and the floor slabs are being poured.



Construction – Foundations and supporting structures for the treatment plant are now underway: sludge holding tank walls have been poured, the pipe gallery area has been backfilled, and the administration building lower floor walls have been poured.



Tunnelling equipment has arrived at the pump station site. This is the microtunnel boring machine that will create a tunnel into the lake for the intake pipe.

Giving Back to the Comox Valley Community



Project Watershed and AECON volunteers planting at Mallard Creek.

On top of solid work as design-builder on the project, AECON is doing good work in the local community through several volunteer initiatives.

Earlier this year, in collaboration with Project Watershed, AECON volunteers planted over 100 native species along a section of Mallard Creek. This work was in an effort to restore the area and improve the habitat for fish and wildlife.

The AECON team is also making regular donations to the local food bank – an initiative that is especially appreciated during these times – and working with the local 'broombusters' to clear invasive scotch broom from pre-determined areas. Thanks all for your hard work!



What's Next?

Here's what crews are working on through June/July:

- ▶ Setting up the microtunnel boring machine (MTBM) and drilling the intake pipe into the lake.
- ▶ Pouring the base slab for the electrical building at the Raw Water Pump Station site.
- ▶ Completing foundation work for the water treatment plant and supporting structures like the sludge holding tank, flocculation tanks, pipe gallery and clearwell.
- ▶ Installing steel pipe for the treated water pipeline between the treatment plant and the existing distribution system.
- ▶ Installing pipe for the raw water transmission main between Comox Lake and the water treatment plant.

New Project Video



The project team has installed a timelapse camera at the water treatment plant site. Find the latest video at the project page (comoxvalleyrd.ca/watertreatment) or on social media (Facebook/Twitter).

Construction Progress Photos

Two important construction sites for this project are the raw water pump station and the treated water pipeline. See below for photos highlighting the progress made at each site.

Raw Water Pump Station



Formwork for the electrical building started earlier this year. (Mar. 2020)



Concrete for the foundation wall of the electrical building was poured. (Apr. 2020)



The foundation area was backfilled in preparation for the base slab to be poured. (May 2020)

Treated Water Pipeline



Steel pipe arrived – it will move water from the treatment plant to the existing distribution system. (May 2020)



Pipe ready to be installed alongside the existing BC Hydro penstocks. (May 2020)



Pipe is installed in the trench. (May 2020)

For more information

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