

HMCS Quadra Forcemain Replacement Project Overview – April 2017

Beginning the week of April 17, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) will be undertaking the [replacement of a wastewater forcemain](#) that services HMCS Quadra, at the end of Goose Spit.

Project Background

Project planning has been underway since 2014 when the CVRD and Department of National Defence (DND) identified the need to replace the sanitary forcemain connecting the Comox waterfront to the HMCS Quadra base.

The existing pipe crosses the estuary, posing a risk to the marine environment. The new pipe will be re-routed inland to mitigate this risk going forward. It will also protect the area's sensitive eelgrass and Sand Verbena moth habitats by using already paved surfaces for the new route.

The reasons for moving forward with this project include:

- The existing asbestos concrete forcemain pipe was constructed in the 1960s and has reached the end of its operational life.
- The upgrade is part of a larger process to transfer operations and maintenance from DND to the CVRD.
- Funds from DND's capital assistance program are being used to fund 100 per cent of the construction costs.

Construction Zone/Schedule

Construction will occur along Goose Spit and Hawkins roads (through Goose Spit Regional Park), beginning at HMCS Quadra, and is estimated to last 6 weeks through May 31, 2017.

Earlier this year, the CVRD received clear feedback from area residents regarding the originally-proposed route, and was able to change the project plan to address those concerns. Rather than routing via Docliddle Road, the new HMCS Quadra forcemain will now follow Hawkins Road right to the Croteau intersection, where it will connect to the Town of Comox forcemain.

Expected Impacts/Road Closures

At a minimum, one-way alternating road access will be maintained throughout the project construction, recognizing the need for ongoing access to both HMCS Quadra and Goose Spit Park. However, there will be two construction phases where traffic impacts will be more significant. The dates for the disruptions are to be confirmed.



Revised Route – Mar. 2017

Closure 1

- A one-week full closure of Goose Spit Road to non-DND or K'ómoks First Nations vehicles, just below Bates Road.
- Residential access will not be impacted.

Closure 2

- A one-week pedestrian pathway closure on the west side of Hawkins Road, between Stafford Street entrances.
- One-lane vehicle traffic will be maintained, while pedestrians will be redirected along Stafford.

Funding/Budget

To fund the infrastructure service, DND's capital assistance program is providing \$1.6m for the planning and construction of the project. Once the project is complete, the CVRD will own and operate the forcemain and pump station.

Environmental Protection

Goose Spit is a unique and valuable natural habitat that is critical to protect during this construction project. An environmental management plan has been developed to assess the area and provide guidance on best plans moving forward.

Examples of ongoing mitigation work include:

- An environmental monitor will oversee construction activities for compliance with regulations and to assist in identifying protection measures during work.
- Fencing will be erected around work areas to protect 'no-go' zones.
- All equipment will have to stay within paved roadways, gravelled areas and maintained lawns.
- Erosion and sediment control measures will be put in place.
- Water quality monitoring will be ongoing.

Directional Drilling

To protect the sensitive habitat around Goose Spit, a specialized approach for installing the new forcemain pipe has been selected: horizontal directional drilling (HDD).

- Rather than digging a trench, HDD sees only small sections of road opened, with a drill then moving down and under the roadway, creating a tunnel below the still-intact road.
- Once a portion of tunnel is created, it is reinforced, and the pipe is hooked from one end and pulled through.
- The method is quick compared to open trench excavation.
- HDD reduces disturbance on the surface. Given the highly-constrained work area for the Goose Spit, this will be critical for successful completion.

Information/Questions

For more information, visit:

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