BC ENVIRONMENT
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Summary of Stream Restoration Activities at Site 3 in the Kitseguekla River South Sub-Basin to March, 1999

Prepared for the **Gitsegukla Band Council**

by Glenn Grieve, R.P. Bio. BioLith Scientific Consultants Inc. Terrace, B.C.

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Introduction

BioLith Scientific Consultants Inc. was contracted by the Gitsegukla Band Council to prepare a summary of Stream Restoration activities as per Schedule A of the Standards Agreement with the Ministry of Environment. The following summary is based on first hand information derived from BioLith's involvement and on the information provided by the Band.

As a result of a Level I Overview Assessment of the Kitsegukla River watershed (Wild Stone 1995) and a subsequent Level I Detailed Field Assessment of the South Sub-Basin of the system (Giesbrecht and Grieve 1998), restorative works in and around the streams were prescribed for a number of sites, including Prescription Site 3 on Tributary 1 of the Kitseguekla River (see Figure 1).

This report summarizes the restorative works that were implemented by the Gitsegukla Band Council at those three sites in the 1998-1999 fiscal year.

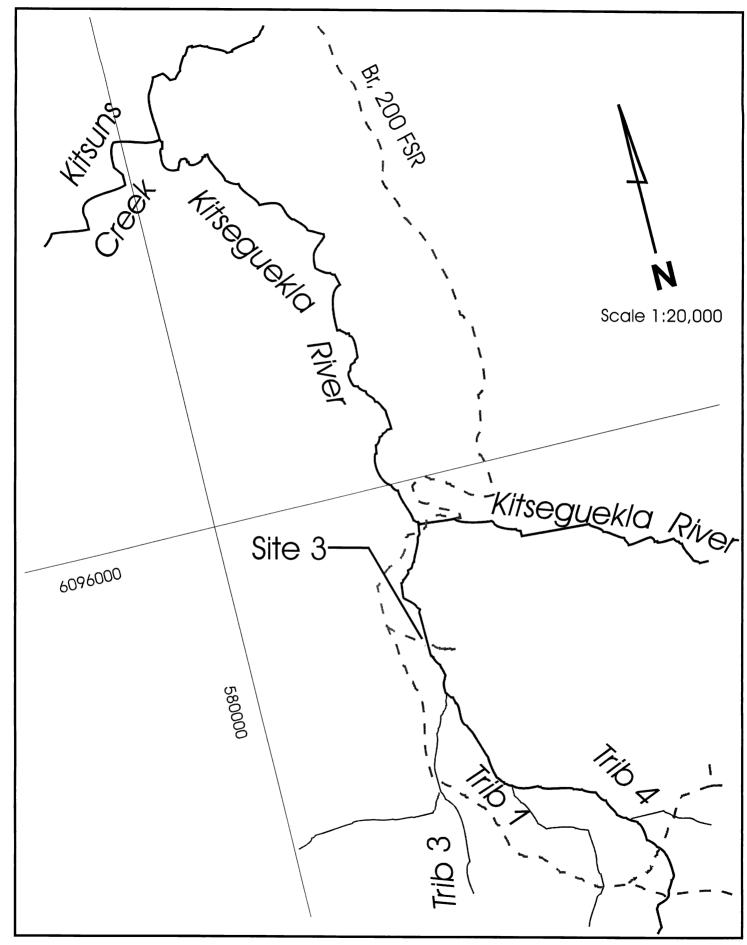


Figure 1. Map showing the location of Prescription Site 3 in the Kitseguekla River South Sub-Basin.

Final Summation for Site 3

Instream Work

Prescription Site 3 was located on Tributary 1 of the Kitseguekla River South Sub-Basin. The work involved a 100 m section of this stream around a collapsed bridge site. The bridge had been removed and the bridge approaches had been pulled back prior to the start of the work described in this summary.

The stream at this site featured

- significant bank erosion,
- channel instability,
- a general lack of LWD, habitat variety and cover, and
- there was evidence of more erosion associated with the previously pulled back bridge approach on the northeastern side (see Photos 1 and 2).



Photo 1. Looking upstream from the former road crossing on Site 3. Note that the road material on the far side was eroding despite earlier pull back of the slope.



Photo 2. Looking downstream from Photo Point 1.

The site was more than 50 m in length and was considered a Type II project. This site was visited by the Senior Biologist from BioLith and the Senior Fisheries Technician. The site was surveyed using a tape measure, clinometer and compass (see Appendix A) and labeled flagging was hung where restorative measures were prescribed. This information was used to produce a construction plan and drawing. The plan prescribed

- placement of one channel spanning log weir set into the stream bed,
- placement of approximately 14 complete trees with root wads and branches intact in various locations along the side of the channel. The primary purpose of these placements was to dissipate energy, protect banks and incipient vegetative growth on the bars and to incidentally produce more variety in habitat through scour.

Prior to construction, a site visit was scheduled for September 23, 1998 and local field, regional MoELP and DFO personnel were invited to attend this field trip one week in advance. This was attended by Glenn Grieve, from BioLith Scientific Consultants (BioLith) and Pat Walsh, from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). The construction plans were discussed in detail during this meeting. The DFO representative suggested the inclusion of 'debris catchers', wooden pegs driven into the bank that point upstream. The purpose of these structures was to catch woody debris that would then help to protect the eroding northern bank from further erosion. This suggestion was incorporated into the revised construction plan (see Figure 2). The revised construction plans were sent to the concerned regulatory agencies and no comments were received prior to construction.

The construction plan was then implemented. Construction work was carried out under the supervision of the Gitsegukla WRP Project Manager, BioLith's senior biologist and the Senior Fisheries Technician on October 14 and 15, 1998, with assistance from two labourers and an excavator operator (see Photos 3, 4 and 5).



Photo 3. View looking downstream from Photo Point 1 after placement of LWD.



Photo 4. Looking southeast from Photo Point 1. Note the post placed in the bank to stabilize the LWD with root wad.



Photo 5. Looking upstream and southeast during transport of the logs and pullback of the bank.

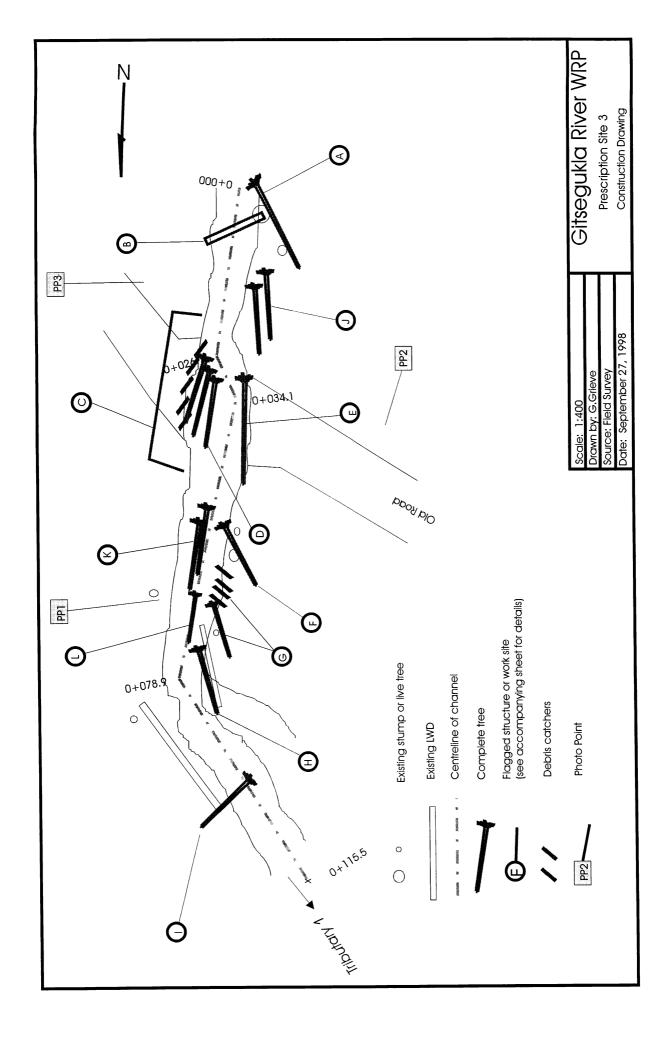
After construction, the site was surveyed using a total station (see Appendix B). The locations of the restorative structures and modifications of the stream channel were determined and permanent photo points were established. A spike was driven into each end of each piece of LWD for use as reference points during the survey. A labeled metal tag was nailed to each piece in a position near the root wad so that it was not likely to be removed during movement of the LWD. The purpose of these tags was to uniquely identify each installed piece so that its origin could be determined if more than one piece moved downstream. This information was used to produce an 'as-built' drawing of the site (see Figure 3).

Riparian Assessment

The riparian area around Site 3 was assessed by Oikos Ecological Services Ltd. Their report (Recknell 1998) recommended treatment of the area immediately surrounding the former bridge site to accelerate the restoration the lost riparian function. The treatment recommended involved planting the floodplain area with willow whips and establishing a nurse tree shelterwood on the upland portions of the site. Suggested monitoring involved walking through the area after treatment once each month and standard regeneration survey methods.

Hydrological Assessment

Dr. Alan Gilchrist, from Hydroglyphic Terrain Analysts, conducted an assessment of Site 3 after the construction described above was finished. His report (Gilchrist 1998) contains verification of stability of the system, suitability for restoration, location and cause of sediment wedges and recommendations on the weight of the ballast/m of log length for various sizes of logs that should be used to anchor LWD in the stream. It further suggests that boulder clusters using boulders with a b dimension of at least 65 cm might be considered for the area.



Other Assessments

Jeff Lough and Darren Fillier, from the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks (MoELP), visited the site on November 12, after construction was complete. They have summarized their assessment of the work done at the site in the form of a letter dated March 8, 1999 (see attached copy). In this letter they expressed concern regarding the stability of the debris catchers, an inadequate silt fence and the lack of planted trees. They further observed that the LWD was placed parallel to the stream and that there were no rock weirs and that the LWD used was of good quality. They suggested that the LWD be anchored.

Site 3 was also visited during late September of 1998 before construction, by Jeff Lough and Darren Fillier from the MoELP, and Glenn Harkleroad, a Fisheries Biologist working with the U.S. Forest Service. In a summary of his observations (see attached copy), Mr. Harkleroad suggested that there was too much fine sediment from the former bridge approaches still present within the channel and that the rip rap used on the west side was too small.

Modifications During Implementation to Original Plans at Site 3

- A wood post was driven vertically into the western stream bank near the water's edge and downstream from the root wad of LWD Structure F on the construction plan. The purpose of this post was to stabilize the end of Structure F to prevent it from moving downstream.
- Since more LWD pieces were available than were required by the prescription, the two extra trees were placed along and on the tree specified in the construction plan as LWD Structure E. The purpose of these pieces was to add weight to the planned structures to make the entire structure more stable. A third, shorter tree was placed between the eastern end of prescribed log B and the upstream end of the prescribed debris catchers. The purpose of this piece was to further protect the previously eroding bank on the east side.
- Extra LWD pieces that resulted from some trimming of trees that were too long, were placed in the interstitial spaces of the LWD clusters.

Preliminary Monitoring Plan

The efficacy of the restorative treatments implemented can only be assessed through quantitative comparisons of parameters measured before and then after construction (see also Gilchrist 1998). The two most significant parameters to measure are changes to fish populations and changes to fish habitat. Only limited data on each of these characteristics is available from the Level I assessment, as that process involved sampling of representative parts of a much larger portion of the watershed. A reasonably valid assessment of efficacy will require a more intensive program of measurements. In particular, the construction site should be the subject of an intensive topographic survey of the stream's channel to determine its characteristics over time, along with an intensive fishing program to determine changes in the fish population over time.

Fish Habitat

The physical characteristics of samples of the stream, and the pre-construction and post-construction surveys provide some 'before' data. The as-built survey data is valid as 'before' data because there have not been any habitat-altering floods between the time of construction and the as-built survey. It is recommended that the stream channel should be the subject of an intensive topographic survey, using a total station, to quantify the shape of the channel before the spring freshet produces the first significant alterations. The Fish Habitat Assessment Procedure (FHAP) should be applied to this site and compared with similar data gathered during the original FHAP. A photographic record of the site should also be compiled over time using the photo points that were established during construction. In view of the concerns raised by others who visited the site, the stability of the installed structures should be monitored carefully through site visits every two weeks as the spring snow melt progresses. If there are signs of movement of the LWD then boulder anchors should be installed.

Fish

Fish data too is limited to that provided by sampling of the stream during the Level I field assessment. The site should be fished intensively to determine species composition, micro-distribution, and relative abundance. Relative abundance could best be determined through a mark-recapture program at each site. This work should be done before the spring freshet to get as much 'before' data as is possible.

Similarly intense repetitions of the methods used should be implemented each year, beginning after the spring freshet in 1999, and continuing for at least four years, in order to produce reasonably valid assessments of the efficacy of the treatments.

Recommendations

The design and placement of LWD was considered appropriate for this site. Many of the LWD pieces with root wads and branches were bound together and oriented such that they should resist movement. Their orientations, roughly parallel to and along the side of the stream were chosen to mimic a natural situation in an energetic stream. Bundling together and placing some on top of others was an attempt to increase their stability by increasing their above-flood-water mass, so that they were less likely to float, and thereby avoid the necessity of less natural anchoring means. The potential to experiment with this anchoring and placement method presented little risk at this very degraded site and was considered an excellent opportunity if monitored appropriately.

It is recommended that, if significant movement is observed during future monitoring, the LWD installed should be anchored to imported boulders >65 cm in their b axis, using steel cable >1.5 cm in diameter epoxied into 15 cm holes drilled into the rock using the Hilti system. Such boulders may be available along the Branch 400 FSR or along the Br. 200 FSR northeast of the Kitseguecla River bridge at ~ 16 km.

It is recommended that the left (southeast) bank at the old road crossing, be made more resistant to erosion at high water by placement of larger shot rock than is currently there.

References

- Fillier, D. and J. Lough. 1999. Letter to Bill Fell. A copy is attached to this report as Appendix C.
- Giesbrecht, S. and G. Grieve 1998. Level I detailed assessment of fish and fish habitat in the south Kitseguecla River and its tributaries. Report for the Gitsegukla Band Council, available at the Regional Library, Ministry of Environment, 3726 Alfred Ave., Smithers, B.C.
- Gilchrist, A. 1998. Kitwanga River and Kitseguecla River Watershed Restoration Program: Hydrological and channel stability assessments of specific impact sites. Prepared for the Gitsegukla Band Council.
- Harkleroad, G.R. 1998. British Columbia Stream Restoration Project Review Report, 1998. A copy is attached to this report as Appendix D.
- Recknell, G. 1998. Riparian assessment and prescription development for selected sites on the south Kitseguecla River and south Kitwanga River. Draft, December 14, 1998. Prepared for the Gitsegukla Band Council.
- Wildstone Resources Ltd. 1995. Level I Assessment of the Kitseguecla River Watershed. Prepared for Skeena Cellulose Inc. Available in the library, Ministry of Environment, 3726 Alfred Ave., Smithers, B.C., V0J 2N0

Summary of Stream Restoration Works at Site 3 on the Kitseguecla River Appendix A. Pre-Construction survey data MoLith Scientific Consultants Inc.

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Summary of Stream Restoration Works at Site 3 on the Kitseguecla River

Appendix B. As-Built survey data

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26 bole log 12 on e	345	9 9	04 '	345.311	24.20	2 14	1 517	1.48	-7.131	20.103	-2.177
27 bole log 13 on w	340	28	Ω (c	340.400	10.48	-1.54	1.517	1.48	-5.910	18.562	-1.577
<u>log</u>	342	207	27	342.339	12.40	-1.25	1.517	1.48	-8.515	9.490	-1.287
29 root wad log 13	318	و و	Ω Ç	310.101	11 87	-0.87	1.517	1.48	-7.891	898.8	-0.907
30 root wad 12	318	2 5	2 9	310.330	0.0	17	1516	1.48	-0.081	9.660	-1.146
31 bole log 14	359	33	2 2	358.518	9.00	-0.5	1.516	1.48	-0.472	6.804	-0.866
1	320	- 1	20 20	11 200	4 62	-0 14	1.516	1.48	0.905	4.531	-0.176
33 bole cross log 16	- 1	_ 2	67	045.872	0.02	-0.94	1.516	1.48	-8.415	-3.769	-0.976
34 root wad cross log 16	242	25	0 0	230.012	90.0	-0.89	1.516	1.48	-7.858	-4.550	-0.926
35 root wad log 14	738	2 2	5 7	237.250	0 18	-0.88	1.516	1.48	-7.501	-5.293	-0.916
36 root wad log15	724	7 0	3 5	224.1.50	10.24	-0.55	1.516	1.48	-7.167	-7.314	-0.586
37 dc 4	777	C7 L	2 4	240 251	11.87	-0.57	1.516	1.48	-7.510	-9.192	-0.606
38 dc 5	218	2 2	0 5	218.231	14 07	-0.61	1.516	1.48	-8.352	-11.323	-0.646
39 dc 6	710	74	5 6	214 592	15.58	-0.6	1.516	1.48	-8.845	-12.826	-0.636
40 dc 7	214	50	5 4	217.535	17.61	-0.66	1.516	1.48	-9.471	-14.846	969.0-
41 dc 8	717	12	2 2	211 224	19 66	-0.63	1.516	1.48	-10.191	-16.812	-0.666
42 dc 9	117	ر د	22	210 803	18.82	-0.8	1.516	1.48	-9.663	-16.150	-0.836
43 bole log 17	210	3 3	200	207 525	25.25	-0.56	1.516	1.48	-11.678	-22.410	-0.596
44 root wad log 17	707	2 6	3 5	20.102	25.07	-0.78	1.516	1.48	-11.966	-23.049	-0.816
45 e end cross log 18 weir	207	07 t	2 8	247.430	28.83	-0.76	1.516		-15.669	-24.200	-0.796
_	1	ဂ္ဂ	207	202.212	37.39	-0.51	1.516		-16.845	-33.381	-0.546
47 w.wetted edge u/s d/s	1	0 1	200	203.1.0	36.75		_	1.48	-14.702	-33.135	-0.736
48 c/l	203	2	5 4	210.020	32.50	1	1.516	1.48	-16.387	-28.170	-0.986
49 w. edge	210	= {	0 1	207 732	32.03		-		-14.909	-28.360	-1.196
50 c/l	207	243	ဂ္ဂ	243 350	27.27		1		-14.964	-22.738	-1.196
51 w. edge below stump	213	7	2 6	240.607	26.85		-	1.48	-13.671	-23.109	-1.496
	4.	200	27	240.001	_		1	1.48	-14.929	-25.141	-1.386
53 channel bottom u/s weir	_	47	2 9	200.012	1	1	_		-13.918	-24.824	-1.426
	209	10	04	208.270		1			-13.408	-24.398	-1.316
		7 4	5 4	244 768	_	1	1.516	1.48	-14.347	-23.168	-1.386
56 channel bottom d/s of we			2 5	700 844	\perp	1	l	1.48	-12.989	-22.639	-1.386
57	209	20	40	209.844	70	-1.35					

			9	12.1	011 610	27 25	-124	1516	1.48	-13.844	-20.032	0/4:1-
.w 85	58 w.wetted edge			22	214.043	4.500 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1 22	1516	1.48	-12.150	-10.100	-1.616
29	" at point			t 2	230.203	15.76	1 74	1 516	1.48	-10.873	-10.990	-1.776
l/o 09			41	40	460.477	1.0	1 00 4	1 516	1 48	-16.321	-8.344	-1.856
61 w.edge	edge		22	20	242.922	10.00	1 82	1.5.16	1 48	-17.069	-6.315	-1.856
62 ""			41	25	249.097	7.01	4 70	7.0	1 48	-11.455	-6.519	-1.816
63 c/l			21	15	240.354	13.18	1.70	1.0.0	4 48	-11 483	-3.271	-1.906
64 c/l		254	9	9	254.103	11.94	1.07	0.0.4	7 4	-13 408	4.797	-2.026
65 W.	65 w.edge at bole end of log	289	41	<u>-</u>	289.686	14.24	-1.33	2. t 5. t 6. t 7. t	1.48	000.0	14.610	-0.036
, 99 M	66 w edge below notch	-	:	- (0.000	14.01	200	1516	1 48	-13.203	1.230	-2.266
/2 C/	67 c/l by logs 5,6	275	19	207	275.277	13.44	2 23	1 516	1.48	-11.719	6.581	-2.266
68 c/	68 c/l u/s of rock weir	299	<u>ي ر</u>	Ω	204 083	13.06	-25	1.516	1.48	-11.562	7.823	-2.536
69	S	304	Ω;	5 L	304.000	15.33	1 00	1516	1.48	-14.045	5.599	-2.026
70 w	70 w. edge d/s of notched lo	291	44	Ω Ç	291.733	10.12	2000	1.516	1.48	-13.190	10.518	-2.316
71 w	71 w. edge	308	34	2 5	300.303	20.00	2 4	1516	1 48	-13.037	15.351	-2.436
72 w	72 w. edge	319	33	35	319.000	20.14	7 82	1,516	1 48	-9.713	28.933	-2.856
73 W	73 w. edge d/d of dc 2	341		32	341.445	20.00	-2.04	1.516	148	0.000	0.000	-0.036
74 w	74 w. edge @ rootwad of log	0	ot gra	i ve	0.000	20 07	3.06	1.516		-9.348	37.832	-3.096
75 g	75 gravel bar w. edge	346	_ (ر ر	340.121	10.00 17.7	3.00	1516		-9.421	44.514	-3.246
92	- 1	348	20	ا د	040.000	1,0.0	2.60	1 516		-11.877	53.190	-3.726
77 W	77 w. edge opposite log 10	347	24	45	347.413	0.4.0 EA EE		1516		-10.203	53.587	-3.976
78 C	78 c/l " " " "	349	5	2	349.419	56.7 76.7		1 516		-9.671	55.869	-3.886
79 E	E edge below log 10	350	2 9	04	252 811	53.12		1.516		-5.727	52.810	-3.436
80 E	80 E. edge	353	φ σ	0 1 0	254 164	44.24	'	1.516		-4.498	44.011	-3.346
81		354	D 6	2 5	250 444	35.28				-5.857	34.790	-2.986
82 """"	шш	320	97	2 6	248 008	_			_	-7.387	34.835	-3.326
83 C/L	C/L	348	- 6	5 6	341.656		-		1.48	-7.576	22.847	-2.706
84 E	84 E. edge	34	က္က	7 4	330 138		1_		1.48	-8.846	23.211	-2.826
85 C/L	C/L	339	o ç	2 6	220 275					-9.457	15.912	-2.496
98	E.edge	329	2	2	225.21.3				<u>. </u>	-10.605	16.269	-2.746
87 C/L	C/L	326	ζ,	2	344 067			_	1	-9.686	9.375	-2.236
88	E.edge	314	4 (2	204.007	_	, ,	_		-10.046	6.780	-2.206
- 68		304	> ¢	ψ C	260.281	4		1		-10.192	-1.746	-1.876
. 06	нин	260	9 9	2	244 181	-				-7.053	-3.881	-1.746
			2	2 2	241.101	-				-7.755	-6.056	-1.646
			D	3 4	208.01	(1.516	3 1.48	-11.762	-21.981	-1.196
93	E edge S end of silt tend		יו מ	2 7	206.788			1	3 1.48	-13.529	-26.798	-1.016
94	94 E edge	200	4	2	400.100	_		1				

96			L	200 5/1	45.64	?	1.516	4.0	C7C.71-	00.00-	0.00
96	200	34	<u>က</u> မ	200.37	22.60	0.77	1516	1 48	-13.568	-30.837	-0.806
	203	44	22	203.749	50.03	1 5	2 2 4	7 40	1 053	-20 823	2.434
07 × coct & E edge of road	177	9	20	177.106	20.85	7.41	010.1	54.	200.	24.0.45	2 844
- 1	178	42	0	178.700	21.25	3.88	1.516	1.48	0.482	C47.17-	0.044
98 Photo Point # 3	2 5	10	0 0	192 133	18.33	0.11	1.516	1.48	-3.853	-17.921	0.074
99 X sect	132	٥	2 1	205.133	17 24	90 0	1.516	1.48	-7.480	-15.533	0.024
100	502	747	2	203.713	10 71	0.36	1516	1.48	-18.780	-5.983	-0.396
101	252	<u>5</u>	40	074 770	21 98	0.37	1.516	1.48	-21.969	0.682	0.334
102 """"	27.1	40	40	202 022	24 99	4.38	1.516	1.48	-23.015	9.737	4.344
103 Photo point # 2	787	200	3 0	284.167	17.56	0.32	1.516	1.48	-17.228	3.401	0.284
104 Post L 1	187	2 8	ם על	252 303	19 66	-0.34	1.516	1.48	-18.739	-5.947	-0.376
105 Post L 2	727	3 8	3 5	202.333	26.75	0 12	1.516	1.48	-10.301	-24.687	0.084
106 Post # 4	202	χ,	20	247.206	10.66	-1 22	1.516	1.48	-2.343	10.399	-1.256
107 Peg # 3	347	20	2 2	347.300	22.00	2 43	1516	1 48	-2.085	33.826	-2.466
108 Peg # 5	356	87	27	44 004	24.45	1 38		1.48	5.042	23.924	0.512
109 PP		4 6	טןנ	11.30	10.13	-0 03	_	1.48	-8.718	-5.725	-1.836
110 1M u/s rootwad	236	47	S C	230.7 10	10.43	-0.77	2 508	1.48	-9.291	-4.607	-1.798
111 1M u/s rootwad	243	37	3	243.020	20.01	0	237	1.48	-9.499	-3.252	-1.790
112 """""	251	9	2 6	251.103	0.01	0.50	2 37	1 48	-8.504	-1.836	-1.810
113 1 M out and d/s	257	48	3	418.762	0.77	0.02	2.37	1 48	-9.481	-1.299	-1.780
114 edge of island	262		4 1	202.130	0.0	7 7	237	1 48	-5.586	2.323	-1.990
115 C/L of distrubution chann	292	34	35	010.282	0.03	1 20		1 48	-4.561	7.232	-2.180
116 """"	327	45	40	321.103	10.00	-1 52		1.48	-4.571	8.995	-2.410
117 """"	333	ارد	049	333.001	10.02	138		1 48	-2.066	19.531	-2.270
118 """"	353	2	40	333.301	20.00	-1.35		1.48	-0.753	29.280	-2.760
119 """"	358	3	က္သ	330.320	28.48	1_			-5.798	38.041	-3.120
120 confluence	351	22	>	331.333	P		_	-			

Summary of Stream Restoration Works at Site 3 on the Kitseguecla River

Appendix C. Fillier and Lough Letter



March 8, 1999

BCE File: 36780-30/Kitseguecla WRP

36780-30/Kitwanga WRP

Your File: Annual Agmt. 0000128

Activity 101462 Activity 12395

Bill Fell, Cedarvale Resources Ltd. WRP Coordinator Gitseguecla Band Council 36 Cascade Avenue South Hazelton, BC V0J 2R0

Dear Bill Fell:

As stated in the letter dated 02/16/99, a technical review of instream rehabilitation work in the Kitwanga and Kitseguecla Watershed Restoration Program (WRP) projects were pending draft report submissions (not received to date). We are providing these preliminary comments in lieu of the draft report submissions. The purpose of this letter is to facilitate an estimate of percentage of work completed in the Kitseguecla and Kitwanga watersheds stream rehabilitation (SR) activities for 1998/99.

Site visits to the Kitseguecla and Kitwanga stream rehabilitation activity areas were conducted on November 12, 1998. In attendance for these field visits were both Jeff Lough and Darren Fillier. We delayed our comments until draft document changes for prescription alteration approval requests, "As-Builts" with supporting documentation, and Compendium Report submissions were submitted for our review.

Both Kitseguecla and Kitwanga Standard Agreements for WRP SR activity, and respective Schedule "A"s, outlined a pertinent course of action in dealing with substantive prescription changes. Specifically, Section 4.1 of the Aquatic Habitat Rehabilitation (Works) Schedule "A" delineates that changes to the prescription, stemming from a pre-work review, were to be incorporated, in writing, into the design and then submitted to the Technical Monitor for approval. This clearly did not occur.

Activity Number 12395 - SR - Restoration Prescription Implementation for Prescription Sites 14 and 15 Kitwanga River South Sub-Basin

Site 14 - Our first concern with this project is in regard to the pull back of the banks. This activity was not initially prescribed nor approved for work at the site. The pull back that was undertaken is of concern given its proximity to the highway and, specifically, within the road right of way. Was the Ministry of Highways consulted regarding this change?

Prescription implementation was to be as per the BioLith's 1997-98 report as delineated within the Water Act Regulations Section 9 Letter of Notification. Such prescription alteration and associated pull back to the suggested angle of repose must have been submitted for consideration by the Technical Monitor, or designate, prior to any work commencing at this site. Adherence with Section 4.1 of the Schedule "A" for Site 14 is paramount. Deviation from the prescription must follow the process as outlined within the Standard Agreement and the respective Schedule(s). Regardless of holding a Letter of Notification for specific in stream "timing windows" for work to be undertaken, the prescription alteration must be submitted for review and incorporation into a revised Letter of Notification. Clearly work should not have commenced without fulfilling all these requirements and, as such, violates Section 4.2 of the Schedule "A" and that is unacceptable to the Ministry.

Construction of the step pool system at Site 14 does not appear to be adequate to meet the goal of better facilitating fish access through the culvert. We are also concerned about the size and orientation of the materials used to construct the weirs (their long term stability is questionable). Close monitoring of this site at various flow levels, and associated modifications, will be required to fulfil the goal of creating long term fish access through the culvert.

Finally, the loss of the riparian low shrub and herb cover at Site 14 associated with the work undertaken last fall has increased surface erosion and will continue to deliver sediment into the Kitwanga River until inevitable revegitation takes place. On that note, the grass seeding that was planted seemed sporadic. In addition this surface erosion will not be mitigated by the silt fence given that its' installation was done incorrectly. This will require correction if not already done so. Again monitoring of this aspect of the project will be conducted this Spring after snowmelt.

Given the problems outlined above, no quality certificate will be issued until the site is monitored and appropriate changes are completed this Spring.

Site 15 - The Recipient provided a good source of Large Woody Debris (LWD) by species and by size. Root wad presence was good but it would be advantageous, in future, to leave branches and tops attached to the LWD pieces to increase their stability. If the objective of using rope to tie the structures together was to increase their stability, then we suggest rock anchoring would help better achieve your objective.

Sincerely,

Darren J. Fillier, RPF, RPBio.

Forest Ecosystem Specialist

Kispiox Forest District

8.9.7 For

Jeff Lough

WRP Fisheries Specialist

Skeena Region, MELP

DJF& JL/djf & jl

attachments

cc: Doug Johnston, WRP Coordinator, Skeena Region, MELP
Dionys deLeeuw, Senior Habitat Protection Biologist, Skeena Region, MELP
Brian Fuhr, Habitat Protection Section Head, Skeena Region, MELP
Bob Purdon, Skeena-Bulkley Region, Forest Renewal BC
Bert Mast, Skeena-Bulkley Region, Forest Renewal BC
Eero Karanka, Habitat Biologist, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Smithers, BC
Darlene Morgan, Gitsegukla Band Council

Summary of Stream Restoration Works at Site 3 on the Kitseguecla River

Appendix D. Harkleroad Letter

Pail Nov 12/98

British Columbia Stream Restoration Project Review Report 1998

USFS Contact: Glenn R. Harkleroad, Fisheries Biologist

BC Contact: Jeff Lough, Fisheries Specialist

This report will be divided into two parts. The first part will be a review of the projects Jeff and I, as well as other Ministry personnel, reviewed while I was visiting in British Columbia the week of September 21 - 25, 1998. The second part of this report will be an overview of potential monitoring activities that could be used to evaluate instream restoration activities.

Photos of sites that were reviewed in the field have been forwarded to Jeff Lough.

Project Reviews

River System: Kitwonga Stream system: Tea Creek

Site review by: Jeff Lough, Darren Fillier, and Glenn Harkleroad

Project Background: This project consisted of 10 to 12 channel spanning weirs created by cement "lock-blocks" below a 1.5 meter culvert. The "lock-blocks" were placed to raise the level of the streambed with the intent of helping pass fish through the upstream highway culvert. The "lock-blocks" had been placed and re-enforced by rock riprap ranging in size from 15 to 60 cm. The "lock-block" weirs were placed approximately 4 to 5 meters apart and were placed perpendicular to the stream channel. The local highway authority had completed this work.

Stream Conditions: The stream passed through a 1.5 meter culvert below highway 16. The structures began immediately below the culvert and continued down stream approximately 30 meter. The stream was bordered on the right by a small access road. When this road was constructed the road cut/base material had been sidecast into the floodprone and bankfull stream channel. Most of the immediate stream side vegetation in the local area had been removed during highway and access road construction. Some vegetative recovery had occurred.

Restoration Design Concerns: While reviewing this site a number of project design concerns surfaced. These concerns included the following:

- 1) "Lock-block" weirs appeared to be placed too close together. The plunge created by the upstream weirs may have a scouring effect on weirs immediately downstream resulting in design failure.
- 2) The perpendicular placement of the weirs may result in channel widening, thereby increasing the localized channel width to depth ratio. This may eventually result in bank erosion and "end cutting" around the weir structures.

One other item that was discussed at this site was the alteration of road design to reduce channel diversion potential associated with culvert plugging. As the road is currently designed, if the culvert plugs, water will be diverted out the left side of the channel, down the road and will eventually cross the road approximately 25 meters from the stream channel (Figure 1). This would result in the loss of road fill and the potential to deliver road fill associated sediment to Tea Creek. Altering the road grade in the vicinity of the culvert could mitigate this concern. The creation of a dip above the culvert, would allow water and debris to pass over the road and directly back onto Tea Creek in the event the culvert became plugged. This would minimize potential sediment delivery to Tea Creek as well as reduce road repair cost since only the fill immediately above the culvert would have the potential to be lost. If this fill was made of primarily of large rock with a driving surface cap, fine sediment delivery and repair cost could be kept to a minimum.

River System: Kitwonga Stream system: un-named tributary #1 (kitwonga Pres. site #15.)

Site review by: Jeff Lough, Darren Fillier, and Glenn Harkleroad

Project Background: This project site was an approximate 90 to 100 meter length of stream below a highway culvert that fed directly into the Kitwonga River. This area had been identified for large wood placement in order to improve juvenile salmonid rearing habitat. This relatively small project would also serve as a trial run project for a new contractor.

The proposed wood placement locations had been flagged and consisted primarily of placing single logs in more or less and alternating pattern down the length of the channel. The logs would be anchored to streamside trees with cable. Boulders and rootwads currently present within the stream would also be used to help stabilize the placed wood.

Project Comments: While in the field at this site we talked about a number of different design options. The first of these options was to consider experimenting with log anchoring techniques. The option of cable anchoring some logs, while just using channel features and streamside trees to stabilize other logs was discussed. If this is done during the project implementation, this project could serve as an area to compare the effectiveness of both techniques.

We also discussed specific project designs for the lower 20 to 25 meters of the stream channel. Figure 2 displays the project design that was discussed for this location in the field. The idea was to direct the water toward the right side of the channel with the idea of reducing the bank cutting / mass wasting which was occurring along the left bank. There would be some bank cutting expected along the right bank, but it would be expected to be fairly minor and well within the range of natural channel adjustment. The placement of a log complex along the left bank was recommended to further discourage cutting along this bank. The use of log complexes, instead of just single logs, was suggested to more closely mimic natural wood accumulation within the channel.

Recommendations: While at this site, we also discussed some potential monitoring items. These included photo points, topographic surveys of the channel, and sketching desired post-project channel conditions. Since this project would be completed by a relatively inexperienced contractor, I would recommend having him take photo points and having him sketch what he envisions the post-project channel will look like.

River System: Kitwonga

Site review by: Jeff Lough, Darren Fillier, and Glenn Harkleroad

Stream system: un-named tributary #2 Kitwanga Pies Site #14

Project Background: This project was similar to the project proposed for un-named tributary #1 in that it was an approximate 30 to 35 meter length of stream below a highway culvert which fed directly into the Kitwonga River. This area had been identified for large wood placement in order to improve juvenile salmonid rearing habitat. This relatively small project would also serve as a trial run project for a new contractor. However the stream channel in this area was much higher gradient and lacked the channel diversity seen in the first tributary.

This project also involved trying to create a series of step pools for trying to raise the streambed, in order to pass fish through the highway culvert. Channel conditions and available habitat above the culvert were unknown.

Project Comments: The stream channel below the culvert was relatively steep and appeared to provide little fish habitat. Placing wood in this channel would be expected to have low chance of success for meeting the goal of increasing fish habitat. This is because the natural condition of this channel does not lend itself to providing good spawning or rearing habitat.

Passage at the culvert should be delayed until fish habitat values above the culvert are determined. Without this information, it is possible that time and money could be spent providing fish access to an area with very little habitat value.

Recommendations: I would recommend determining if there are other higher priority areas where work could be done. Initial field review of this project would suggest that it would be low priority.

River System: Kispiox

Stream system: un-named tributary #1 (Lake cle).

Site review by: Jeff Lough, Darren Fillier, and Glenn Harkleroad

Project Background: This project consisted of two rows of "lock blocks" which were placed in a small tributary of the Kispiox River with the intent of raising the streambed level below two culverts. This was done in order to help facilitate fish passage through the culverts. We were reviewing this project because the design used was not authorized by Ministry fisheries personnel and was going to be changed.

The "lock block" weirs were placed approximately 6 to 7 meters apart and were arranged perpendicular to the stream flow. There were concerns that this design would increase the stream channel width to depth ratio and result in end cutting around the weirs. Excessive fine sediment deposition had already begun above the upper weir. This was resulting in the filling of the jump pool necessary for fish passage through the culverts. There was also a concern that the weirs were too placed close together and that the scour created by the upper weir would undermine the lower one.

While reviewing the project we also discovered that the inlets of both culverts were blocked by a log that had backed up sediment. making tish passage difficult during most flows..