

**2003 – 2004 Highway Maintenance Contracts
Frequently Asked Questions
Last Update October 24, 2003**

Service Area 10 (Central Kootenay)

- Q1. I understand there is a bench that has been built in the Kootenay Pass that acts as a snow avalanche catchment device. How long and wide is the bench, how often does it have to be cleared of snow avalanche deposits, and what type of equipment would be required to clear this bench?
- A. **There are actually three benches built on the west side of Kootenay Pass called A, B, and C. Bench A is 800 meters long by 8 meters wide; bench B is 300 meters long by 8 meters wide; and bench C is 1000 meters long by 8 meters wide. Depending on avalanche activity in that area (natural and man made) in an average winter the benches would have to be cleared 10 times. Clearing frequency is based on snow deposit depth on the benches exceeding the ability of the bench to stop avalanche material from reaching the highway. Suitable equipment to clear these benches would include a dozer with a snow blade or an excavator with a landscape bucket. Based on the existing snow deposit level on the benches and the long range weather forecast the Avalanche Technician would give advance notice that the benches required clearing.**
- Q2. Report 2-8 Inventory Summary – Contract – 10-SEP-03 Contract Area: 10 shows no units against Inventory Item Reflector Roadway yet in my travels in that service area I have seen centreline reflectors. Why don't they appear in the summary sheet and what is the maintained inventory of centreline reflectors in Service Area 10?
- A. **The Ministry is moving from our traditional RFI and LKI systems to a geo-spatial referencing system for landmark and feature inventories. As you can imagine this is a monumental task that in the future will be an asset for both the Ministry and the maintenance contracting community. As this stage of the process we know there are some inventory item data elements that have not been collected.**

The inventory and general locations of centreline reflectors in Service Area 10 are as follows:

Highway 3 – Kootenay Pass – approximately 45 km

Highway 3A – Beasley Bluffs (Taghum Area) – approximately 2 km

Highway 3A – Nelson North Shore – approximately 30 km
Highway 3A – North of Creston from Wynndel to Sanca Creek – approximately 40 km
Highway 31–Coffee Creek to north of Kaslo (intermittent)–approximately 9km
Highway 6–Cape Horn to New Denver (intermittent) – approximately 22 km
Other short installations at various locations within Service Area 10.

- Q3. Report 2-8 Inventory Summary – Contract – 10-SEP-03 Contract Area: 10 shows 3 border crossings in Service Area 10 but I can only find 2. Where is the third one?
- A. **This is an error on the summary sheet. There are only two border crossings in Service Area 10 at Creston (Rykerts) and Salmo (Nelway), one on Highway 6 and one on Highway 21. The third location is a data entry error and has been removed from the report. There is no cost associated with this error however we will include the revised report in an amendment to the RFP.**