

## Snapshots from the Sea-to-Sky . . .

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### Signs alert workers to sensitive areas

There are hundreds of water crossings along the Sea-to-Sky Highway, and prior to construction, environmental teams conducted an inventory and assessment of them. The presence of fish habitat is the most common reason a water crossing may be designated 'environmentally sensitive.' This information is included on design drawings, including those used by workers in the field. These signs indicate that utmost caution must be exercised both in-stream and in the adjacent vegetated areas. Environmental management plans are developed to manage or mitigate environmental impacts. Work takes place in 'fish windows' on approval by relevant federal and provincial agencies. Environmental monitors oversee all aspects of work at these sites ensuring sound environmental practices are followed.

**P.S.** 538 sites were visited during the environmental assessment field program, with 291 freshwater aquatic features identified. They included 67 roadside drainage ditches, 191 creeks, streams and rivers, 7 lakes and one pond, 24 wetlands and one estuarine tidal marsh. Of the 538 sites, 109 were confirmed or potential fish uses, and 77 of these were considered to provide year-round habitat for fish.



An extensive signage program identifying environmentally sensitive areas has been implemented to increase the level of awareness of construction personnel in areas requiring special management and protection.

**The Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project** *Improving safety, reliability and capacity*

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