

April 28, 2023

Connie Chapman P.Ag.
Director and Comptroller of Water Rights
Ministry of Forests
PO Box 9340 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1

Dear Ms. Chapman:

**Re: Coquitlam - Buntzen Project Water Use Plan
Monitoring Programs and Physical Works Annual Report 2023**

Your letters approving the Coquitlam – Buntzen Water Use Plan monitoring program and physical works Terms of Reference state that BC Hydro is required to submit an annual report as well as individual monitoring program reports in April of each year.

Please find enclosed the 2023 Coquitlam – Buntzen Water Use Plan Annual Report for the implementation period April 2022 to March 2023. As per our submission dated April 30, 2022, recognizing that the Lower Coquitlam River Fish Productivity Index (COQMON-7) is the only project remaining in implementation, and that the Lower Coquitlam River Fish Habitat Requirements Study (COQMON-2) required a final update, the annual report for 2023 is provided via this letter.

COQMON-2 Lower Coquitlam River Fish Habitat Requirements Study

The objective of this monitoring program is to report on the fish stranding impacts in the lower Coquitlam River associated with the implementation of the interim ramping rate protocol for the Coquitlam Dam. This monitoring program has been in place since 2006 and was expected to complete in 2017. However, in early 2018 BC Hydro received approval from the CWR to extend this monitoring program for an additional three years, to 2021, with a particular focus on the annual spring (June) rampdowns. The COQMON-2 project as an Ordered WUP program was completed in 2021 as management questions have been answered. BC Hydro is continuing to implement COQMON-2 independently to monitor and mitigate ongoing fish stranding risk pending the outcome of the Coquitlam WUPOR.

The Year 16 report (2020-2021) marks the last year of the study under the WUP and is attached. This project is complete.

COQMON-7 Lower Coquitlam River Fish Productivity Index

This program was initiated in 2006 and was scheduled to conclude in 2017. A study extension, for a three-year term, was approved in 2018. The objective of this monitoring program is to measure the change in fish productivity that occurs between two test flow regimes for the Lower Coquitlam River (Treatments 1 & 2). Program results will inform the flow regime for the Lower Coquitlam River.

Data collection during the first test flow regime was completed between 2000 and 2008. Data collection during the second test flow regime began in 2009 and was scheduled to be complete after the 2020 field season. Analysis of the long-term data set in 2020 suggested that not all management questions have been answered, so the program was extended for an additional three years. The 2023 field season is the final year for this monitoring program.

The Year 16 (2021) and Year 17 (2022) reports are in draft and will be submitted with the following annual report.

The updated financial information is in Table 1 below

Monitoring Programs	Costs approved by CWR	Life to Date Actuals (LTD)	Estimated to Complete (Forecast)	Total Forecast (LTD and Forecast)	Variance Total to Approved	Explanation	Corrective Action
Coquitlam WUP Annual Report	\$32,353	\$20,179	\$350	\$20,529	\$11,824		
COQM01A Access to Streams	\$26,582	\$20,615		\$20,615	\$5,967	Project complete	
COQM01A Access to Streams - OR DM	\$16,322	\$8,434		\$8,434	\$7,888		
COQM01A Access to Streams - OR Imp	\$10,260	\$12,181		\$12,181	(\$1,921)		
COQM02A Dam Flow Release R	\$233,913	\$210,989		\$210,989	\$22,924	Project complete	
COQM02A Dam Flow Release R - OR DM	\$46,009	\$77,171		\$77,171	(\$31,162)		
COQM02A Dam Flow Release R - OR Imp	\$187,904	\$133,819		\$133,819	\$54,085		
COQM03A Fish Habitat Suitabil	\$115,374	\$107,160		\$107,160	\$8,214	Project complete	
COQM03A Fish Habitat Suitabil - OR DM	\$31,018	\$31,052		\$31,052	(\$34)		
COQM03A Fish Habitat Suitabil - OR Imp	\$84,356	\$76,109		\$76,109	\$8,247		
COQM04A Pink Salmon Passage	\$70,698	\$53,106		\$53,106	\$17,592	Project complete	
COQM04A Pink Salmon Passage - OR DM	\$32,947	\$15,355		\$15,355	\$17,592		
COQM04A Pink Salmon Passage - OR Imp	\$37,751	\$37,751		\$37,751			
COQM05A Periphyton & Benthic	\$268,770	\$239,911		\$239,911	\$28,859	Project complete	
COQM05A Periphyton & Benthic - OR DM	\$29,883	\$15,437		\$15,437	\$14,446		
COQM05A Periphyton & Benthic - OR Imp	\$238,887	\$224,473		\$224,473	\$14,414		
COQM06A Lower COQ River Temp	\$62,539	\$62,128		\$62,128	\$411	Project complete	
COQM06A Lower COQ River Temp - OR DM	\$12,969	\$12,547		\$12,547	\$422		
COQM06A Lower COQ River Temp - OR Imp	\$49,570	\$49,580		\$49,580	(\$10)		
COQM07A Fish Productivity Ind	\$4,888,122	\$4,571,305	\$223,153	\$4,794,458	\$93,664	Efficiencies found during project implementation	
COQM07A Fish Productivity Ind - OR DM	\$205,140	\$221,295	\$13,039	\$234,333	(\$29,193)		
COQM07A Fish Productivity Ind - OR Imp	\$4,682,982	\$4,350,011	\$210,114	\$4,560,125	\$122,857		
COQM08A Substrate Quality Ass	\$416,664	\$416,664		\$416,664	\$0	Project complete	
COQM08A Substrate Quality Ass - OR DM	\$80,392	\$49,619		\$49,619	\$30,774		
COQM08A Substrate Quality Ass - OR Imp	\$336,272	\$367,045		\$367,045	(\$30,773)		
COQW01A Mod COQ Dam Release	\$867,977	\$867,979		\$867,979	(\$2)	Project complete	
COQW01A Mod COQ Dam Release - OR DM	\$9,279	\$57,185		\$57,185	(\$47,906)		
COQW01A Mod COQ Dam Release - OR Imp	\$858,698	\$810,794		\$810,794	\$47,904		

OR - Ordered Remissible
 ONR - Ordered Non-Remissible

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,



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Encl.

C:

Jeffrey Walker, BC Hydro
 Manjit Kerr-Upal, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship
 Dan Sneep, Fisheries and Oceans Canada