



Beaver Stop® Installation

Location

Alexis Creek, BC

Owner

Ministry of Forests

Contractor

Dale Toutant, Dale's Trucking

Site Supervisor

Sam Elkins

District Engineering Technician
Chilcotin Forest District

Engineers from the Ministry of Forests were concerned with a dramatic rise in the water level at Spain Lake Creek, which was due to beaver activity on the downstream side of a culvert. The water level on the upstream side had risen five feet above the culvert and was nearing the road base on a mainline Forest Service Road. To remedy this potentially costly and time-consuming situation, the Chilcotin Forest District decided to install a second culvert and attach a Beaver Stop® to each one.

Project Details

The primary concern of the engineer in charge was compliance with environmental regulations. Since there had not been a recent fish stock survey at this location, it was unknown whether or not this creek was fish bearing. Because of this, regulations required that the stream be treated as fish bearing.

The installation of the Beaver Stop® was completed with little excavation around the inlet and outlet ends of the culvert to avoid damaging possible fish habitat. Total installation time for the two Beaver Stops was approximately six hours with a two man crew using a loader/backhoe.

The flexibility of the Beaver Stop® design allows for some creativity to suit the many varying conditions of British Columbia's waterways. In this case, the Beaver Stop® had to be offset to the right hand side when installed to avoid extremely thick weeds on the upstream end. Since installed, the beaver activity at this location has ceased and the water levels have returned to normal.

The Beaver Stop® does not restrict fish migration and installation can be adapted to meet riparian conditions and preserve natural habitats. This makes the low-maintenance Beaver Stop® the best economical decision, as well as the most environmentally-friendly choice for dealing with beaver activity.

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