



FACT SHEET: *k'əmcnitk*^w Floodplain Re-engagement Project *Post-construction Habitat Restoration & Monitoring*

Timeline & Activities:

Complete Phase III (Spring/Summer 2022), Phase IV (Fall/Winter 2022) & Phase V (Late Winter/Early Spring 2023) habitat restoration works through Experiential Education Opportunities for students & community volunteers including:

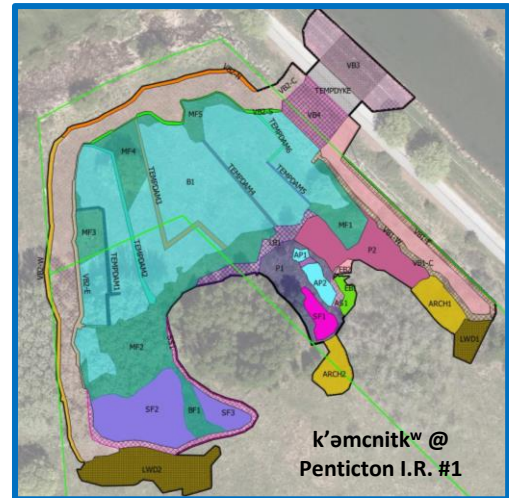
- Seasonal re-vegetation plantings of Indigenous plant seeds, cuttings & propagated plants.
- Biodiversity & project effectiveness monitoring.
- Invasive plant management (hand-pulling weeds; apply mulch).
- Other adaptive management activities as required.

Project Steering Committee Members:

- Penticton Indian Band
- En'owkin Centre
- Okanagan Nation Alliance

Advisory Committee Members:

- Environment & Climate Change Canada
- Department Fisheries & Oceans Canada
- BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development
- South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program



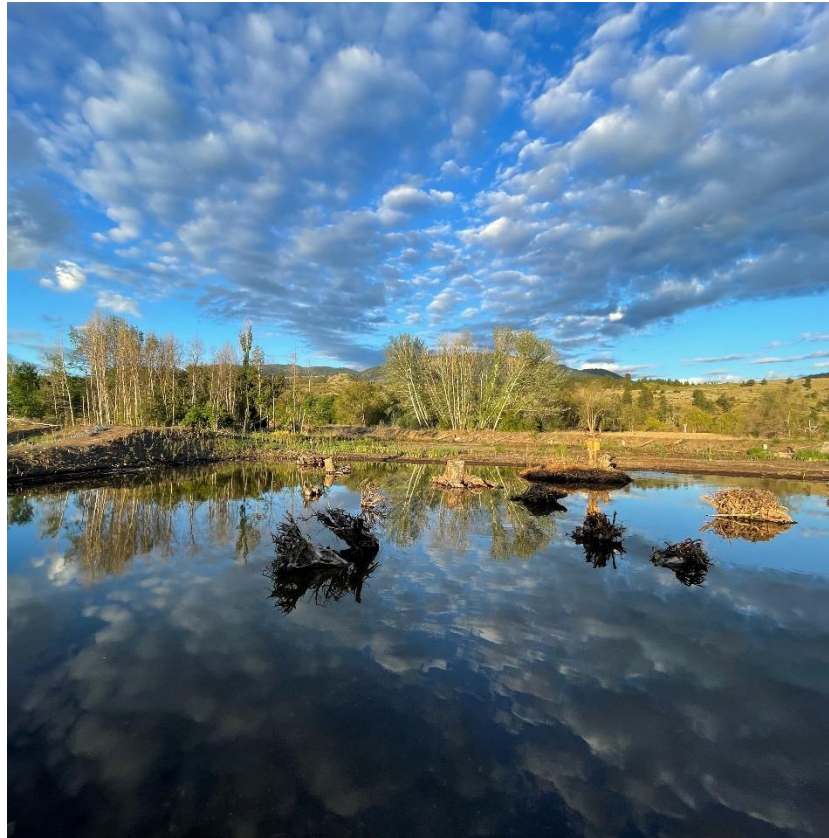
- City of Penticton
- University of British Columbia
- Newbury Hydraulics
- Friends of the Oxbows
- Okanagan Basin Water Board

Key Messages:

- *q'awsitk*^w (Okanagan River) channelization isolated the river from its floodplains and resulted in the loss of 50 % of the historic river length, and 93 % of the historic extent of riparian (streamside) habitat. Channelization also lowered the water table by ~3 m in the Penticton Channel portion of Okanagan River.
- This project re-engaged 8,800 m² of historical floodplain and riparian area for Chinook salmon, and multiple other culturally significant species, species at risk and indigenous species biodiversity.
- This project enacts the shared syilx (Okanagan People)'s vision, and guidance from the late Chief Albert Saddleman and Elders, to: "...put back the river, bring back the fish, and put back the people."
- The main construction works were complete in spring 2021; however, re-vegetation efforts and minor works will be ongoing as required based on effectiveness monitoring outcomes.



*This is a sensitive habitat area on the Penticton Indian Reserve n unceded syilx traditional territory.
Please remain on the channel walkway and keep dogs out of the culvert and floodplain.
Site access permitted by invitation only.*



For more information or to volunteer contact Michael Bezener, ECommunity Program Manager, En'owkin Centre
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