

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



July 13, 2022

Public meeting for Cowichan Lake Shoreline Assessment to be held Thursday, July 14

DUNCAN, BC – With the completion of a new weir design for Cowichan Lake, a shoreline assessment has now been completed to understand how a raised weir could impact the shoreline and properties surrounding the lake. An overview of that work will happen via a virtual presentation during a public meeting on Thursday, July 14 at 6 p.m.

The new weir has been designed to be 70cm higher than the existing weir, as per the recommendations of the 2018 Water Use Plan developed in partnership by the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD), Cowichan Tribes, the Cowichan Watershed Board and Catalyst Paper. With increased storage capacity, more water can be captured in early spring and released throughout the dry summer and fall months, improving the health of aquatic habitat for fish and vegetation as well as supporting ongoing recreation and economic development. Storing more water will result in fewer extreme low water events and the reduced need to pump water out of the lake to support base flows of the Cowichan River.

As part of the presentation, the project team will be previewing a ‘Property View Tool’ which will enable property owners to see a map of their property and how different lake levels may affect their property. These levels will include the low-water mark, property title boundaries, existing weir elevation, new weir elevation, average high-water mark, a 1-in-200-year flood line, the present natural boundary. A modelled future natural boundary based on both additional water storage in the spring and summer as well as impacts from climate change.

This meeting has been rescheduled from the public meeting previously scheduled for June 16. Anyone interested in attending this virtual meeting can visit www.cowichanlakeweir.ca to access the login link and call-in details.

– 30 –

For more information, please contact:

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