

Public Notice

Connected Coast Network on Federal Lands – Quatsino, Estevan Point and Nootka Island Light Stations

Public Comments Invited

June 06, 2023 - The Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) must decide whether the proposed submarine fibre-optic network at the Quatsino, Estevan Point and Nootka Island Light Stations are likely to cause significant adverse effects.

To help inform this decision, DFO and CCG are inviting comments from the public on the project and its potential effects on the environment. All comments received will be considered public. For more information, individuals should consult the [Privacy Notice](#) on the Registry website.

Written comments must be submitted by **July 06, 2023** to:

Adam Cochrane
E&I Engineering Manager
Canadian Coast Guard, Western

Address:
25 Huron Street
Victoria, BC
V8V 4V9

Phone: (250) 413-2853
Email: Adam.Cochrane@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Assessment Summary

The Connected Coast Partnership was formed as a joint venture between City West and the Strathcona Regional District with public funding and a mandate to design, build and operate the Connected Coast subsea fibre-optic network in coastal British Columbia. The cable system will come ashore to connect to power infrastructure 159 landing sites. The fibre optic network will improve the access, capacity, affordability, and reliability of internet and other telecom services for residents in rural and remote communities. The Canadian Coast Guard requested the addition of their lifeboat and light stations across BC to enhance the emergency marine service capabilities. Due to the large geographical extent of the Project, the Project has been broken into. This assessment focuses on those landing sites on federal land in Block 5 and 6.

The proposed Quatsino, Estevan Point and Nootka Island Light station landing sites for the Connected Coast fibre optic cable (the Project) are designed to land within the Canadian Coast Guard Light stations. Therefore, DFO and CCG will be carrying out an assessment of the aforementioned sections of the Project. Works, undertakings, and activities at these locations consist of the landing and marine lay construction and will occur both above and below the high-water mark (HWM) as well as during in-water and out-of-water tidal conditions. Works to be performed include the installation of power infrastructure and vaults, vegetation clearing, and installation of conduit and split pipe.

CCG is the proponent of the proposed project, providing financial assistance to allow the project to proceed within the Light stations. The federal authority intend to make a determination of whether the carrying out of the project is likely to cause significant adverse effects.

Project Location

The cable landing site	Latitude	Longitude
Quatsino Light station	50.565556	-128.2825
Estevan Point Light station	49.385	-126.694444
Nootka Island Light station	49.385	-126.694444