



JUNE 2024

WOODFIBRE LNG & FORTIS BC EAGLE MOUNTAIN GAS PIPELINE PROJECTS

Update from Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw Rights & Title and Environmental Working Group

NEW

FortisBC EGP Community Conduct Line

To learn more visit:
<https://talkingenergy.ca/contact-us>

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw Indigenous Monitors are tracking environmental, cultural and archaeological areas of interest at the Woodfibre LNG and Eagle Mountain Gas Pipeline Projects to enforce Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw conditions of approval and associated management plans.

Road improvements continue on the Ray Basin, Stawamus and Mamquam Forest Service Roads (FSR) with public access restricted at Ray Basin and past 9.5km on Stawamus FSR. Any Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw members wanting access past the security gate can contact swiyat@squamish.net to make arrangements.

WOODFIBRE LNG RESTORATION



The liquefied natural gas export facility at Swiyát (“Woodfibre”) started construction in 2023 and should be completed by about 2027. While this means building new infrastructure at the site, the project also means removing some of the decaying infrastructure and reversing impacts left behind from previous owners and compensating for the impacts created by the project itself. Staff from Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw have been involved with various aspects of site restoration. Some of this was completed before construction started, and some remains under way. We are excited about the overall habitat improvements that will eventually be completed. Four examples are outlined here.

Landfill:

- Pulp & paper mill operations had a long-running landfill (garbage dump) on the slope overlooking the oceanfront
- The landfill still had active permits and was at one point considered for ongoing use
- Landfill was in disrepair, with big challenges to prevent polluted water
- Several years of work completed in 2023 to get new vegetation and water management – monitoring continues but the site does not require hands-on management and can now be left to gradually regenerate.

Marine Infrastructure:

- Lots of crumbling old docks and buildings removed around 2017 and 2018, and most notably about 3,000 creosote-treated piles.
- Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw representatives participated in the environmental monitoring plans, including marine mammals and fish, and on-site monitoring while demolition happened in 2018.
- Creosote is a type of tar and was once commonly used on wood for marine construction. You probably know the smell!
- Fish that like hard surfaces – like herring (slhawt') – will lay eggs on these but very few can survive. It was great to get that material removed from Átl'ka7tsem.

Mill Creek:

- This salmon-supporting creek runs directly through Swiyát but is highly impacted from historical activities on site. It lacks vegetation on the stream banks and has concrete walls in sections.
- A steering committee of Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw members is working in 2024 to define a restoration vision, including in-stream habitat for fish, streamside vegetation, and cultural artwork.
- Work ahead includes moving from a “concept vision” to detailed design, budgeting, and then active restoration work, probably in 2027 or 2028.
- In addition to Mill Creek, Woodfibre LNG will also be responsible for restoring 16,000 m2 of streamside (riparian) vegetation along the marine boundary and smaller creeks in the area.

Marine Habitat:

- The intertidal and sub-tidal area around Swiyát is damaged habitat from historical activities on site.
- Woodfibre LNG is responsible for restoring or improving about 22,000 m2 of marine habitat around the site.
- Habitat improvements have focused on easier use for herring and for juvenile salmon leaving local creeks or Squamish River, and many more forms of marine life will benefit.
- The marine habitat restoration will be completed in late 2027 or early 2028.
- Monitoring must then show that the habitat restoration is working – Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw participates in the decision-making committee that decides if the work was successful. Reports will be publicly posted.



Cresote treated piles that were removed during restoration
Photo by: Keystone Environmental Consultants



Old marine infrastructure that was removed during restoration
Photo by: Keystone Environmental Consultants

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have you been impacted as a result of the current construction activities that are taking place? Please report to:

Whitney Joseph, Squamish Nation:
swiyat@squamish.net or 778-966-1117

FortisBC EGP:
egp@fortisbc.com or 1-855-380-5784

Woodfibre LNG:
info@wlng.ca or 1-888-801-7929