



Fisheries and
Oceans Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

DFO's Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program

Community Meeting Baker Lake, NU – February 2020

Photograph by Paul Vecsei



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OVERVIEW

- DFO's Mandate and Legislation
- DFO's Role in NWB process
- Overview of Findings
- Questions?

DFO – FFHPP– Mandate

- Amended Fisheries Act came into force on August 28, 2019
- The mandate of the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program is to conserve and protect fish and fish habitat



DFO – FFHPP– Legislation

- **Fisheries Act**
 - **Sections 34.4 and 35**
 - **Prohibit “death of fish” and “harmful alteration, disruption or destruction” of fish habitat (HADD)**
 - **Allow for authorization of impacts with conditions**
 - **Allow authorization amendments under HADD**



YK OFFICE REGULATORY REVIEW – NWT AND NUNAVUT

- We review project proposals
- We review Offsetting Plans and resulting monitoring reports
- We continuously engage with Proponents and consult with Indigenous communities
- We provide proponents with Fisheries Act Authorizations
- We intervene when conditions of Authorization are not met





DFO's Role in the Nunavut Water Board

- We take part in hearings, and discussions
- We provide expert advice to the Boards
- DFO may also make recommendations to the board:
 - Information the board may need
 - Potential conditions for water license



Photograph by Paul Vecsei





Whaletail Expansion: Overview of Findings

- DFOs comments are focused on the three followings areas:

1. Fish Passage

- Impacts of road widening to watercrossings

2. Water Use

- Water use volume requirements and source lakes

3. Downstream Environment

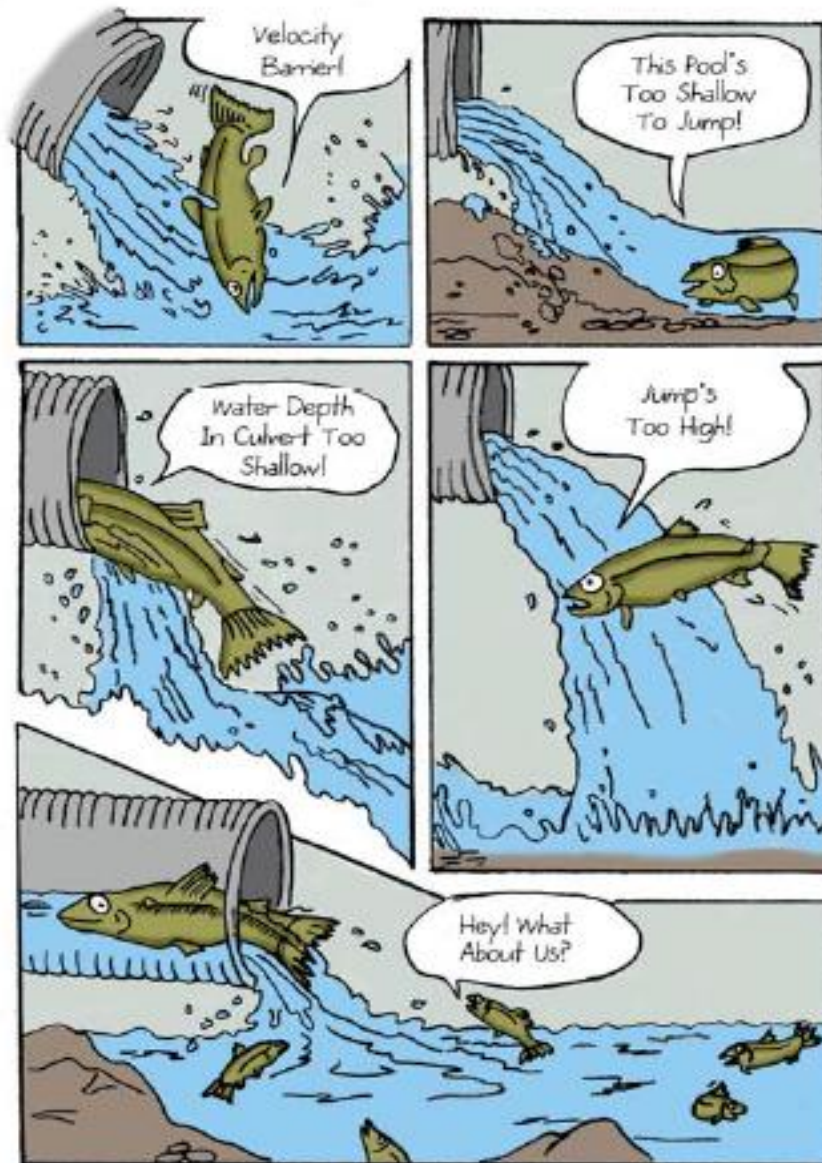
- Accounting for changes in fish habitat





Fish Passage

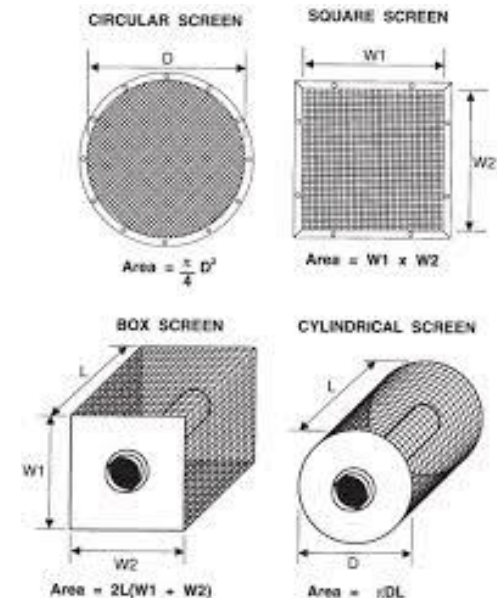
- The mine's haul road may impact fish passage at some stream crossings.
- Fish passage can be maintained with proper construction methods.
- AEM has provided DFO with information about their crossings, and DFO has no further concerns.
- DFO will continue to work with Agnico Eagle Mines Limited to ensure that all watercourse crossings with fish allow for proper fish passage



**WSDOT-Redrawn from Fish Passage
Short Course, John Runyon**

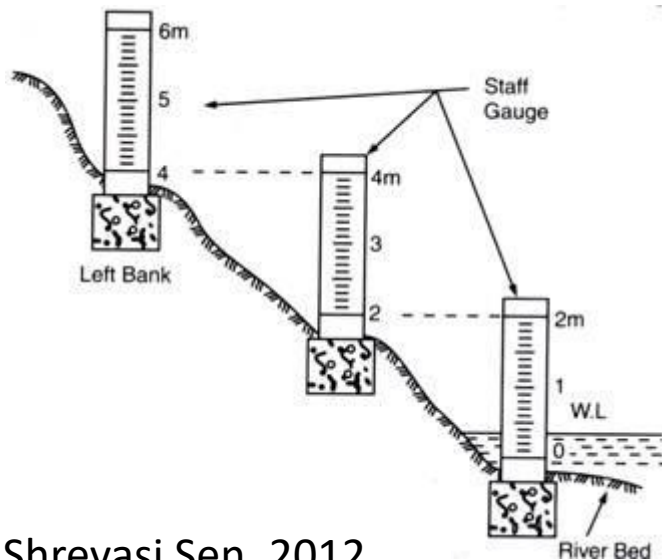
Water Use

- Taking too much water from lakes and streams in the winter can harm or kill fish.
- Taking water can be done safely, and DFO had provided advice to the board and AEM on how to be as safe as possible, including monitoring to make sure everything is working how it is expected to.
- AEM has provided DFO with additional information about the road crossings.
- DFO will continue to discuss with AEM regarding fish-outs and data requirements.
- DFO has no further concerns at this time.



Downstream Environment

- It is important to measure changes in water levels to downstream waterbodies to determine potential impacts to fish and fish habitat
- Monitoring helps to determine if there are changes to these downstream environments



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ፈለግዎት? Questions?