



## Eneas Creek FAQ

### Are Eneas Creek flows controlled?

Flows on Eneas Creek are controlled at the Garnet Lake Dam, the release rates are governed by the approved control plan for the Dam. The release rates are increased or decreased according to estimated snow pack levels and current forecasts. Once Garnet Lake fills water is released over the spillway and as a result flow control is not possible.

### Why are Eneas Creek flows controlled?

The District manages lake levels to ensure water is available for use throughout the year for use under water licences.

### I need to replace my driveway crossing, what size does my culvert or bridge need to be?

Whenever completing works such as this in or about the creek you must engage a Professional Engineer to size and orientate the proposed crossing. Typically design and construction of crossings are so it can flow the 1 in 200 year return period event. Based on current channel capacities the Ministry of Forests Lands Natural Resources and Rural Development (FLNRORD) often allows for crossings to be constructed to flow equivalent to or greater than the local channel capacity. In general, based on the results of the assessment it is recommended that the following minimum sizes be used in the future for budgeting purposes:

Culverts: 1500 to 1800mm

Bridges: 1800mm clear span, with 1500mm height from creek bottom, or width/depth of the creek at the location of installation.

### When can non-emergency work be completed on the creek?

The work window for Eneas Creek is August 7 to August 28<sup>th</sup>.

Within 50m of Eneas Creek in Okanagan Lake the work window is November 1 to April 1.

### What can be done as "maintenance" on the creek with out a permit?

Typically, minor works with non-power hand tools to remove debris, small growth, etc. can be completed, but it is recommended that prior to completing any works around the creek residents should call FLNRORD to discuss what works are to be completed and get their recommendation on if an approval is required. Typically, works are still required to be completed within approved work windows.

### What works need a notification/approval from FLNRORD prior to completing works?

Works that require equipment such as constructing bridges or culvert crossings, grading with the Riparian Setback, removal of large trees or stumps from with the Riparian Setback would require an approval. Approvals would be required through the District of Summerland and BC Water Sustainability Act (WSA) Section 11 (applications can be made through FrontCounter).

### What environmentally sensitive areas exist?

Protected Western Screech Owl Habitat exists along Peach Orchard Road. Protected Rocky Mountain Ridged Mussel habitat is at the mouth of the Creek in Okanagan Lake. Areas within 30m of the creek are protected and trigger the Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR).

### Can trees in or near the creek be removed to prevent damage to my property?

Generally, yes, but adherence to the District's RAR and a discussion with FLNRORD is required prior to proceeding. It is recommended that trees be topped at ~3m in height for bird nesting/habitat value. Root wads are typically useful to remain, as these often provide erosion protection, as well as habitat. Danger trees can be removed within a riparian area without a permit if they are a Certified Riparian Danger Tree Assessor. If trees need to be removed within the creek (below the High Water Mark), a BC Water Sustainability Act Section 11 notification is required to FLNR.

### As a resident, what can I do to help prevent flooding on my property?

It is recommended that a few times a year the creek be inspected for debris build up in the channel that could cause flows to back up. Additionally, bridge and culvert crossing should be inspected for deterioration, damage or debris jams, so issues can be managed before larger issues are caused.

### In the event of flooding occurring on my property what should my actions be?

First line of defence of installing protection on private properties should be taken by residents. The first priority after ensuring health and safety of people is to protect structures and other physical assets on the properties. The creek should be allowed as much room as possible to decrease the depth of the flood waters and decrease the force that come with increased depths. Protection measures to be utilized should be temporary in nature and removed after the flooding event has subsided.

Link for how to construct a sandbag dyke is located here:

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/preparedbc/preparedbc-guides/preparedbc\\_flood\\_information\\_for\\_homeowners\\_and\\_home\\_buyers\\_2018.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/preparedbc/preparedbc-guides/preparedbc_flood_information_for_homeowners_and_home_buyers_2018.pdf)

Here is some other good information for residents:

RDOS – Building Climate Resilience in the Okanagan – A Homeowner's Resource Guide

[http://www.rdosmaps.bc.ca/min\\_bylaws/PublicWorks/Building\\_Resilience\\_Guidebook/SOREBRDOS.pdf](http://www.rdosmaps.bc.ca/min_bylaws/PublicWorks/Building_Resilience_Guidebook/SOREBRDOS.pdf)

Front Counter contact information

<http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/contact/>

Best Management Practices for Instream Work

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/bmp/iswstdsbpsmarch2004.pdf>

Overview Details of the Section 11 Process.

<http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/guides/water/changes-in-about-stream/overview/>

Flood Recovery Information for Landowners

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/best-management-practices/okanagan/flood\\_recovery\\_information\\_for\\_waterfront\\_landowners.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/best-management-practices/okanagan/flood_recovery_information_for_waterfront_landowners.pdf)