



**CANADA – BRITISH COLUMBIA
SPECIFIED RISK MATERIAL (SRM)
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
Subprogram F**



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SURVEY

In accordance with the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*, all projects that receive federal funding must ensure that there is a careful and reasonable consideration of the environmental effects associated with physical works and activities. In some situations the implementation of mitigative measures may need to be put in place.

The Canada – British Columbia Agreement Establishing the Facilitation of the Disposal of Specified Risk Materials (SRM) Program, the broad agreement that outlines the funding parameters for the subsequent provincially-managed *Canada – British Columbia Specified Risk Material (SRM) Management Program*, specifies that a CEAA-consistent process must be followed to ascertain whether an environmental assessment is triggered. This survey requests information necessary to make this decision. The terms “exclusion”, “inclusion”, and “class screening” in the sections below parallel terminology used in specific regulations under CEAA and within screening tools used to interpret parts of the *Act*.

NOTE: Many of the questions in this Survey refer to a *water body*. A *water body* can be a creek, canal, reservoir, ocean, irrigation ditch, or wetland, up to the high-water mark. A wetland includes a swamp, marsh, bog, fen or other land that is covered by water during at least three consecutive months of the year. It does not include a sewage or water treatment lagoon or mine tailings pond.

If you are unsure of which questions you need to answer, please contact John Luymes of the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands at 604.556.3114.

I. EXCLUSION QUESTIONS

Answer the following building, road and fence questions. If any of Sections A, B, or C do not apply to your proposed project, check these in the “Not Applicable” check boxes.

A. BUILDINGS	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
1. Will the construction, installation, expansion or modification of <u>all structures</u> (including uncovered hard surfaces with associated permanent equipment) within the scope of your proposed project result in the following?	
• a footprint area of 25 m ² (~270 ft ²) or greater	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
• location within 30 m (~100 ft) of a water body	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
• the potential to release any polluting substance, including sediment, into a water body	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
2. Will the construction or installation of <u>all proposed building(s)</u> or combinations thereof result in the following?	
• a total footprint area of 500 m ² (~5400 ft ²) or greater	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
• buildings or structural features greater than 5 m (~16 ft) in height	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
• location within 30 m (~100 ft) of a water body	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
• the potential to release any polluting substance, including sediment, into a water body	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

3. Will the proposed expansion or modification of an existing building, including uncovered hard surfaces with associated permanent equipment, result in the following?

- an increase in footprint area or building height by more than 10% YES NO
- location within 30 m (~100 ft) of a water body YES NO
- the potential to release any polluting substance, including sediment, into a water body YES NO

B. ROADS Not Applicable

4. Will alterations made to an existing road result in the following?

- widening of the road by more than 15% YES NO
- associated activities within 30 m of a water body YES NO
- the likely release of a polluting substance into a water body YES NO

C. FENCES Not applicable

5. Will the expansion, or modification, of an existing fence meet the following?

- an increase the length or height of the fence by more than 10% YES NO

II. INCLUSION QUESTIONS

While the Exclusion Questions above relate primarily to physical structures, the Inclusion Questions below are intended to capture physical activities which in and of themselves could trigger the need for an environmental assessment. All applicants need to answer questions 6 through 12.

6. Will any component of your project take place in a National Park, National Nature Reserve, National Historic Park, designated Wildlife Area or other areas officially designated for protection?

- YES NO

7. Will any part of your project require the clearing or spraying of any type of vegetation that could result in sediment or other substances entering nearby streams?

- YES NO

8. Will any part of your project require the clearing of native vegetation OR result in threats to biological populations?

- YES NO

9. Will your project involve the dumping of any deleterious substances in areas other than in licensed facilities?

- YES NO

10. Will any component of your proposal involve the remediation of contaminated land? YES NO

11. Will any part of your project require dredging or fill operations within a waterway?

- YES NO

12. Will any part of your project take place on lands in an Indian Reserve?

- YES NO

NOTE: IF: You answered NO to all of Questions 1 through 12;
 THEN: You may skip the remaining questions and proceed to the *Declaration by Applicant* section at the end of the document.

IF: You answered YES to any parts of Questions 1 through 12;
 THEN: You are required to answer Class Screening Questions 13 through 18.

III. CLASS SCREENING QUESTIONS

13. Will your project include building a non-hazardous material storage facility? YES NO

NOTE: SRM and non-SRM slaughter plant waste tissues are considered non-hazardous materials.

14. Is your project an undertaking on land that has been previously disturbed?

NOTE: Previously disturbed land refers to areas that have been cleared, cultivated, or paved. YES NO

15. Will your project observe all provincial and local setback distances prescribed in regulations and guidelines?

YES NO

16. Will construction of new works be in and about a water body that may contribute to the direct deposit of materials, sediments, or water into the water body?

YES NO

17. Will your project have an adverse effect on species at risk or their habitat (including species recognized by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), or those recognized provincially or territorially, or those species or habitats identified under the Species at Risk Act (SARA)?

YES NO

18. Will your project implement the mitigation measures, where relevant, as outlined in the “Mitigation Strategies for Ecosystem Protection” Table below?

YES NO

Circle in the Table below any specific mitigation strategies that will likely need to be implemented for your project.

MITIGATION STRATEGIES FOR ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION

Ecosystem Component	Potential Environmental Effects	Mitigation Strategies
Soils	Increased soil exposure resulting in erosion or slope instability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep site clearing to a minimum to maintain vegetative cover and wind breaks. • Stabilize slopes as appropriate for local site conditions. • Avoid activities on areas with steep and/or sensitive slopes. • Install erosion controls prior to work and keep them maintained until the site has been stabilized. • Phase work to minimize duration of exposure of disturbed areas. • Divert runoff and overland flow away from working areas and areas of exposed or susceptible soils, where feasible. • Avoid work during excessively wet site conditions. • Restore disturbed areas as soon as possible, to minimize duration of soil exposure.
	Reduced soil capability/productivity through compaction, and topsoil and subsoil mixing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore disturbed areas as soon as possible to minimize duration of soil exposure. • Conserve topsoil by removal and stockpiling prior to construction. • Avoid stripping of topsoil in frozen conditions, where feasible. • Maintain a one meter separation distance between stockpiled topsoil, subsoil, and overburden to minimize mixing and replace them in a manner that ensures replacement with like materials. • Salvage the topsoil stripped and disturbed during project and replace as quickly as possible to allow natural re-vegetation. • Avoid work during excessively wet site conditions.

Ecosystem Component	Potential Environmental Effects	Mitigation Strategies
Surface Water Hydrology	Changes to surface drainage patterns, and rate and volume of runoff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site facilities where they are unlikely to be impacted by high waters or floods, and in compliance with municipal, provincial/territorial and federal requirements. • Ensure earthworks do not exacerbate flood hazards or create undesirable obstructions to drainage into natural water bodies. • Restore riparian areas to pre-construction conditions to the extent possible. • Minimize disturbance to ground surface and vegetation that affect infiltration and runoff characteristics.
Surface Water Quality	Reduced water quality due to increased sediment loads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid work during excessively wet site conditions. • Stabilize slopes as appropriate for local site conditions. • Install effective long-term erosion and sediment controls prior to work and keep them maintained until the site has been stabilized. • Remove accumulated sediments prior to removal of controls, where feasible. • Restore or re-vegetate work site to pre-construction conditions, to the extent possible. • Divert runoff and overland flow away from working areas and areas of exposed or susceptible soils, where feasible. • Maintain construction equipment to prevent leaks and spills of fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or coolants. • Store, handle and dispose of fuel, wastes and hazardous waste materials properly and in accordance with all relevant municipal, provincial, and federal legislation. • Re-fuel and/or service mobile construction equipment and store hazardous materials at a construction site at a distance greater than 100m from a water body. • Undertake fuelling and/or servicing of immobile construction equipment within 100m of a water body in a manner such that any spillage will not enter the water body. • Capture, contain, and clean up spills and leaks immediately. • Ensure that contractor has spill cleanup materials on site (e.g. 25 kg of suitable commercial sorbent, 30 m² of 6 mil polyethylene, a shovel and an empty fuel barrel for spill collection and disposal). • Notify appropriate provincial/territorial authorities in the event of any reportable spills of petroleum products or hazardous materials. Ensure emergency contact numbers are available on site.
Aquatic Habitat and Species	Disturbance or destruction of vegetation and fish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize disturbance to the ground surface and vegetation that affect infiltration and runoff characteristics. • Restore or re-vegetate riparian areas to pre-construction conditions to the extent possible. • Minimize the extent and duration of work within channel and bank area. • Schedule activities to avoid disturbance to fish and fish habitat during sensitive periods (i.e. spawning). Comply with applicable “no construction” timing windows. • Keep any disturbance to the approach to any watercourse related to the project and associated activities to a minimum, provide immediate stabilization, and reclaim approaches to pre-construction conditions. • Ensure that, if riprap is used, it is clean, free of fine materials, and of sufficient size to resist displacement during peak flood events. • Ensure earthworks do not exacerbate flood hazards or create undesired obstructions to drainage into natural water bodies.
Terrestrial Habitat and Species	Disturbance or destruction of vegetation and habitat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep site clearing to a minimum to maintain vegetative cover and windbreaks. • Use existing roads and trails for site access. • Re-vegetate disturbed areas and exposed soils with species that existed prior to construction or re-vegetate with suitable native species. • Salvage the topsoil stripped and disturbed during the project and replace it as quickly as possible to allow natural re-vegetation. • Avoid vegetation clearing during the sensitive breeding and nesting periods until fledglings have left parental territories to minimize impacts on migratory birds and help comply with the Migratory Birds Convention Act.
	Introduction of non-native species and opportunistic species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean all machinery and equipment prior to transport to new construction areas. • Re-vegetate disturbed areas and exposed soils with species that existed prior to construction or replace with suitable native species.
Cultural & Heritage Resources	Disruption to wildlife nesting and rearing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey area for nests or dens prior to clearing. Avoid disturbing any active nests or dens. • Avoid construction activities during sensitive nesting/rearing periods if migratory birds or other wildlife are found in the project area.
	Loss or disruption to cultural or heritage resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cease construction in the event that any cultural or heritage resources are discovered, and notify the appropriate provincial authority immediately. If this occurs, construction will occur as directed by the appropriate provincial authority.

IV. DECLARATION BY APPLICANT

I hereby certify that the answers provided to the questions in this document are true and correct in every respect to the best of my knowledge and I understand that giving false or misleading information is an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada.

Applicant's Signature

Printed Name of Applicant

Date

PLEASE MAIL, COURIER OR FAX TO:

**Resource Management Branch
Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada V3G 2M3**

Phone: 604-556-3114
Fax: 604-556-3099