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Subject
Objet

DFO's scope of project for Sechelt Carbonate Mine project

Pan Pacific Aggregates Limited is proposing to develop a carbonate mine on the Sechelt Peninsula, north of Vancouver. The project is expected to extract between 4,000,000 and 6,000,000 tons of product per year which will be processed (crushed and washed) on site and transported via a conveyor to a marine terminal to be loaded onto ships for export.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) will likely be required to exercise regulatory decision-making authority in regard to components of the proposed Sechelt Carbonate Mine project. Therefore, DFO will be a responsible authority (RA) pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) and is required to ensure that a federal environmental assessment is conducted prior to making its regulatory decisions. DFO's responsibility to ensure an environmental assessment is conducted relates to the issuance of a permit, licence or other approval that is included in the *Law List Regulations* of the CEAA.

DFO's responsibilities under the CEAA arise from the anticipated requirement for *Fisheries Act* section 35(2) authorizations for the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat required for the draining of fish-bearing watercourses in the area of the proposed quarries and the covering of intertidal and subtidal ocean bed by the pier structures of the marine terminal.

Transport Canada (TC) has confirmed that it will have a CEAA responsibility for the marine load-out facility as this will require approval under paragraph 5(1)(a) of the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* for crossings of navigable watercourses. TC has confirmed that it will be required to conduct a Comprehensive Study level assessment.

DFO's principal projects with respect to the Sechelt Carbonate Mine are the construction, operation and decommissioning of the marine terminal and the draining of fish-bearing watercourses in the area of the proposed quarries. The scope of project should also include the construction and operation of diversion structures and channels required to divert watercourses around the area of the proposed quarries.



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A Comprehensive Study level environmental assessment would be conducted as the marine terminal is on the *Comprehensive Study List Regulations* (section 28(c)).