



INCIDENT NAME

Big Bar Landslide

INCIDENT LOCATION

North of Big Bar on the Fraser River

DATE PREPARED

July 28, 2019



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada



UPDATES

- Radio tagging and relocation operations are ongoing. Chinook and Sockeye are being tagged and relocated upstream via helicopter, past the obstruction. Radio tagging allows fish biologists to monitor upstream movement and the impact helicopter transport may have.
- A pilot program involving truck transport of up to 200 Early Stuart Sockeye to a rearing facility at the Cultus Lake Salmon Lab is ongoing. This pilot program is intended to preserve some portion of this year class for the Early Stuart population, while natural migration is being re-established. For more information regarding this pilot enhancement strategy, an Information Bulletin that was released yesterday can be read [here](#).
- Engineers, geologists and scaling personnel continue to work together to manipulate boulders found on the edges of the river, in order to create a natural fish passage. The goal is to allow salmon to bypass the obstruction, avoid strong currents and continue their migration. The size of the large-scale boulders can be seen while undergoing manipulation in the images below. The boulder pictured is approximately four metres (13 feet) high. This was accomplished by rock scaling personnel utilizing hydraulic jacks and inflatable air bags. These intentionally-placed boulders will create shorter drops for salmon to swim through, and back eddies which will provide calmer waters where salmon can rest between bursts, before continuing upstream.
- The section of river where rock manipulation is needed is only accessible by professionals who are highly-trained to scale down the 125 metre (410 feet) cliff face. Accessing the area via boat is not an option due to the extremely erratic and swift-moving current.



Before and after pictures of a rock that was manipulated by the rock scaling crew.