

COMMUNICATION PLAN

Statement of Cooperation on

PROTECTION OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS

Between

The State of Alaska Departments of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Game and Natural Resources

And

The Province of British Columbia Ministries of Environment, and Energy and Mines

Goal

The goal of this communication plan is to enhance transparent communication related to significant natural resource projects that could impact watersheds and marine waters in the Transboundary Region, including the Alsek, Stikine, Taku and Unuk watersheds and marine waters. This plan will describe how the parties to the Statement of Cooperation (SoC), will enhance communication with all interested parties in the region.

Objectives

1. Establish transparent and accessible communication tools.
2. Provide access to timely and relevant information pertaining to the established SoC.
3. Ensure stakeholders understand their opportunities to participate in both proposed and ongoing projects in the Transboundary Region.
4. Ensure that the effectiveness of this SoC is communicated to stakeholders.

Audience

- Nisga'a Nation
- First Nations
- Tribes
- Federal and local governments
- Industry
- Organizations and other interested parties

Communication Tools

The following five communication tools will be utilized to ensure timely and relevant information pertinent to the SoC is shared between the Province of British Columbia and the State of Alaska.

| Tools | Feature Highlight | Frequency |
|---|--|---|
| Bilateral Working Group on the Protection of Transboundary Waters ¹ | Meeting agendas and minutes shared online | After meetings by both AK and BC. |
| Technical Working Group on Monitoring | Meeting agendas and minutes shared online | After meetings by both AK and BC. |
| Province of British Columbia: Transboundary Website State of Alaska: Transboundary Website | 1. SoC information 2. Active projects 3. Proposed projects | Updated monthly by both AK and BC. |
| Transboundary Newsletter | Timely updates on relevant emerging topics | Regularly, as determined by the Bilateral Working Group |
| Alaska Stakeholder Distribution List | Alaska to distribute relevant information | As required |

Province of British Columbia: Transboundary Website State of Alaska: Transboundary Website

This tool will be used to educate stakeholders on the MOU and SoC, provide transparent information on active projects in the Transboundary Region and communicate projects entering into environmental assessment. This platform may also be leveraged to provide notification of relevant and emerging issues in the region. This tool will serve as a one-stop shop, linking to other relevant BC or Alaska resources where appropriate.

| Topic | Content | Objective | Deliverable |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| SoC Information | | | |
| AK-BC SoC | What is it? Why is it important? | Education | Article |
| Governance Structure | MOU, SoC | Transparency | Article, Diagram |
| Bilateral Working Group | Role and who they are Quarterly meeting schedule | Transparency | Pictures, Agendas, Minutes, |
| Technical Working Group on Monitoring | Role and who they are. Monitoring plan | Transparency | Pictures, Agendas, Minutes |
| Water Monitoring and Reporting | Reports | Transparency Regional impacts | Reports by TWG-M |

¹ Refer to *Statement of Cooperation* for details on Bilateral Working Group (BWG)

| Topic | Content | Objective | Deliverable |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Active Projects | | | |
| Transboundary Region: Mining in BC | Profiles on active mine sites Annual mine reports Regional maps | Education | Overview of active sites and companies. Overview of region. |
| Highlights of Projects Entering EA | EA overview Public Comment Periods Process diagram Projects and updates | Education Transparency Regional impacts | Article Diagram Linkage to BC Environmental Assessment Office |
| Compliance | Compliance Reports Inspection Reports | Regional impacts | BC MEMPR |
| Proposed Projects | | | |
| Proposed Projects | Profiles on proposed mine sites Regional maps | Education | Company websites Map images BC EAO information |
| Permitting Process | Process overview Process diagram Project updates | Education Transparency Regional impacts | Article Diagram Updates Relevant BC MEM and EAO links |

Province of British Columbia: The Transboundary Newsletter

BC will provide the newsletter to Alaska for distribution through their stakeholder list.

| Topic | Content | Objective | Deliverable |
|------------------------------|--|--------------|-------------|
| Relevant topics of interest. | Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transboundary updates • Information on SoC • Permitting • Environmental Assessments • Upcoming workshops | Transparency | Newsletter |

Alaska Stakeholder Distribution List

The State of Alaska will maintain and manage a distribution list to ensure interested parties are presented with timely and relevant information in regards to the SoC.

Public Inquiries and Communications

The Province of British Columbia will manage inquiries and communication with citizens and stakeholders of BC. Avenues to submit stakeholder comments will be highlighted on website.

The State of Alaska will manage inquiries and communications with citizens and stakeholders of Alaska. Avenues to submit stakeholder comments will be highlighted on website.