



**Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy (LMFMS):**

- **Flood Modeling and Mapping Tool** – The RFP closed Dec. 15/17 and Northwest Hydraulic Consultants was selected and notified. A project start-up meeting was set for Jan. 10/18.
- **Online Atlas** – FBC staff continue review the best available and applicable datasets, meeting with partners and advisors to advance development of an online atlas to support the Flood Strategy. Examples include:
  - Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance regarding mapping and modeling projects to explore potential synergies, overlap, gaps, and potential coordination.
  - Community Mapping Network regarding atlas functionalities, metadata framework, and sourcing datasets.
  - Bird Studies Canada on relevant data for display such as “Important Bird Areas” and other survey data.
  - Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (MFLNRORD) regarding up-to-date flood infrastructure datasets for the Lower Mainland.
  - Communications with Metro Vancouver regarding Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory dataset, and Port of Vancouver and Fisheries and Oceans Canada regarding river training structures dataset.
- **BC Storm Surge Forecast Model** – Operation continues. Additional funding is required for the period of January through March. FBC is following up with potential funders.
- **Dikes with No Local Authority (NOLA)** – A draft RFP has been prepared to advise on an appropriate risk assessment methodology for assessing the NOLA dikes across BC. It will be finalized and issued to retain a consultant by February. Potential local government advisors for the project have been identified and will be approached about their participation.
- **Digital Elevation Model** – Progress continues on development of a digital elevation model (DEM) to support flood modeling and floodplain mapping. The draft river channel DEM has been received and reviewed. The consultant is revising the DEM and draft report, aiming for completing in early February.
- **Seismic Vulnerability of Dikes** – Planning and scoping for seismic vulnerability of dikes continues. The project will include an initial scoping study, geotechnical investigations, professional practice guidelines, & recommendations related to the provincial seismic guidelines. Meetings with MFLNRORD discussed scope and budget. An advisory committee was met Dec. 19 to obtain input on scope of the initial scoping study and geotechnical investigations. A draft RFP is being prepared to retain a consultant for the initial scoping study.
- Upcoming meetings include:
  - Joint Program Committee will meet Feb. 14, and the Environmental Advisory Committee will meet Feb. 7;
  - A Leadership Committee and an inaugural meeting, date to come.
- FBC staff launched an online survey in September to solicit flood mitigation priorities from local governments, First Nations and other organizations. The online link is <https://cs.createsurvey.com/publish/survey?a=UTDNpX>

**Cultus Lake Aquatic Stewardship Strategy (CLASS)**

- FBC staff supported University of BC researchers in arranging interviews with Cultus Lake residents and stakeholders for Phase I of the economic analysis of Cultus Lake to determine what values they ascribe to the lake. This information will form the basis for surveys in Phase II of the study. Phase I concludes at the end of February 2018, with a report due within a few weeks; FBC Fraser Valley staff seek funds for the larger two-year Phase II of the economic analysis, possibly in 2018.

**Fraser Valley Illegal Dumping:**

- FBC Fraser Valley staff will meet with Fraser River Keepers’ new water literacy co-ordinator – Megan Reich of Chilliwack – to determine any collaborative opportunities for preventing illegal dumping. Reich will discuss preventative actions with high school students, in particular Gr. 12 grads to engage them in work study opportunities, and to encourage them to leave their traditional grad party camp sites, (Harrison Lake, Jones Lake, etc.,) pristine and clean.

**Barn owl and rodenticide initiative:**

- FBC obtained \$20,000 from the Investment Agriculture Foundation, and \$7,000 from the farm sector, to produce educational videos on identifying vole damage to blueberry and other crops, best ways to use rodenticide, and options such as attracting the threatened Western Barn Owl to farm sites to control vole numbers. The team will also work with pest control agencies to develop standard protocols to identify voles, vole damage, and sustainable responses. The six-month project will conclude in summer 2018.

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