

# Natural Resource Permitting Improvements for B.C. Wetlands & Changes In and About a Stream

## Agenda

July 16, 2026

### Opening & Context

**Time:** 9:00am – 9:15am

This engagement session builds on proposed changes to improve natural resource permitting introduced in Fall 2025 and incorporates feedback received through previous engagement activities.

Each section includes one or more short presentations, followed by time for questions and discussion.

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### Section 1:

**Time:** 9:15am – 9:45am

#### Updates to Best Management Practices for Changes in and about a Stream

*Scott Barrett, Michael Currie & Kristen Endacott*

Updates to the [Requirements and Best Management Practices for Making Changes In and About a Stream in British Columbia](#) (Section 11 of the Water Sustainability Act) that include new information to improve clarity on how water managers and engineers review and adjudicate decisions.

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### Section 2:

**Time:** 9:45am – 10:25am

#### Wetland Delineation Guidance

*Lora Nield & Karen Stefanyk*

Update on the draft [British Columbia Wetland Identification and Delineation Manual](#) launched fall 2025 to enable consistent, efficient wetland delineation under the Water Sustainability Act using standardized, science-based indicators (vegetation, soils, hydrology).

#### Wetland Ecosystems Services Protocol-BC

*Lora Nield & Karen Stefanyk*

Standardized method to rapidly assess both wetland functions (what wetlands naturally do) and benefits (why the wetland matters to people and ecosystems) for non-tidal wetlands in B.C.

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**BREAK (10 mins)**

**Time:** 10:25am – 10:35am

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**Section 3:**

**Time:** 10:35am – 11:20am

**Presentations:**

**Standard Procedure for Applying the Environmental Mitigation Policy**

*Lora Nield & Mark Philippotts*

Provides direction on demonstration of all steps of the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, minimize, restore on-site, offset) for wetland-related applications under the WSA.

**Wetland Mitigation Guidance**

*Mark Philippotts & Amanda J. Miller*

Provides detailed information, best management practices, techniques, and recommended plan/monitoring/reporting formats for application of the environmental mitigation hierarchy for wetlands across activities.

**Wetland Data Submission, Management and Access**

*Deepa Filatow & Corey Erwin*

Overview of recent improvements to wetland data submission, management and access to support Natural Resource Permitting. Seeking input on data and applications needs for implementing policy, procedures, practices, guidelines and protocols described in previous sections.

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**Closing Remarks & Next Steps**

**Time:** 11:20am – 11:30am

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