# Public Notice

Connected Coast Network on Federal Lands – Oona River to Port Hardy

# Public Comments Invited

**November 19, 2021 -** The Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) must decide whether the proposed subsea fibre-optic network at the DFO/CCG landing sites is likely to cause significant adverse effects.

To help inform this decision, Fisheries and Oceans Canada is inviting comments from the public on the project and its potential effects on the environment. All comments received will be considered public. For more information, individuals should consult the [Privacy Notice](https://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/evaluations/Protection?culture=en-CA) on the Registry website.

Written comments must be submitted by **December 19, 2021** to:

Adam Cochrane

E&I Engineering Manager

Canadian Coast Guard, Western

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# Assessment Summary

The Connected Coast Partnership was formed as a joint venture between CityWest and the Strathcona Regional District with public funding and a mandate to design, build and operate the Connected Coast subsea fibre-optic network in coastal British Columbia (the Project).

The entire cable system will come ashore to connect to power infrastructure at over 139 landing sites. The fibre optic network will improve the access, capacity, affordability, and reliability of internet and other telecom services for residents in rural and remote communities. The Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) also requested the addition of their lifeboat and light house stations across BC. Due to the large geographical extent of the Project, it has been broken into blocks, and packages, of which this assessment focuses on those landing sites on federal land in Block 3 Package 2 and 5 (B3P2, B3P5).

The portion of the Project that involves federal lands entails the installation of a submarine fibre optic cable network between Oona River and Addenbroke with two branches extending to Kitimat and McInnes Island. There are 15 landing sites on route, 9 of which are on Canadian Coast Guard sites.

The 9 Canadian Coast Guard sSites between Oona River to Port Hardy (B3P2 and B3P5) are currently under review by the Canadian Coast Guard and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The sites are on federal land, and as such, under the jurisdiction of CCG and DFO.

The sites include:

* Boat Bluff Lightstation
* Ivory Island Lightstation
* McInnes Island Lightstation
* Dryad Point Lightstation
* Addenbroke Island Lightstation
* Bella Bella (Denny Island) Search and Rescue Station
* Egg Island Lightstation
* Pine Island Lightstation
* Scarlett Point Lightstation

Works, undertakings, and activities at these locations consist of the landing and marine lay construction and will occur both above and below the high water mark (HWM) as well as during in-water and out-of-water tidal conditions. Works to be performed include the installation of power infrastructure and vaults, potential vegetation clearing, installation of conduit and split pipe and installation of marine cable.

# Project Locations

# Location

| **Site Name** | **Latitude** | **Longitude** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Boat Bluff CCG (Light House Station) | 52° 38.573'N | 128° 31.413'W |
| Bella Bella (Denny Island) CCG  Search and Rescue Life Boat Station | 52° 9.216'N | 128° 7.398'W |
| Dryad Point CCG (Light House Station) | 52° 11.107'N | 128° 6.733'W |
| Ivory Island CCG (Light House Station) | 52° 16.187'N | 128° 24.374'W |
| McInnes Island CCG (Light House Station) | 52° 15.680'N | 128° 43.383'W |
| Addenbroke Island CCG (Light House Station) | 51°36'12.25"N | 127°51'50.27"W |
| Egg Island CCG (Light House Station) | 51°14'58.35"N | 127°50'3.82"W |
| Pine Island CCG (Light House Station) | 50°58'32.47"N | 127°43'41.51"W |
| Scarlett Point CCG (Light House Station) | 50°51'37.26"N | 127°36'44.00"W |