# Public Notice

Connected Coast Network on Federal Lands – Port Hardy, Chatham Point and Pulteney Point

# Public Comments Invited

**August 24, 2022** - The Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) must decide whether the proposed submarine 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 **September 24, 2022** to:

Adam Cochrane

E&I Engineering Manager

Canadian Coast Guard, Western

Address:

25 Huron Street

Victoria, BC

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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 4 and Block 3-P5.

The portion of the Project that involves federal lands entails the installation of a submarine fibre optic cable network between Port Hardy and Chatham Point.

The three Canadian Coast Guard sites are currently under review by the Canadian Coast Guard. The sites are under the jurisdiction of DFO and CCG, and as such, is on federal land.

The sites include:

Port Hardy Coast Guard Station

Chatham Point Lightstation

Pulteney 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 Location

| **Site Name** | **Latitude** | **Longitude** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Port Hardy | 50° 43.367'N | 127° 29.436'W |
| Chatham Point | 50° 19.970'N | 125° 26.676'W |
| Pulteney Point | 50° 37.826'N | 127° 9.307'W |