PARKS & TRAILS DIVISION



IMPORTANT NOTICE

October 13, 2023

Cowichan Valley Trail – Sherman Road Trailhead to Agira Road – CLOSURE UPDATE

COWICHAN VALLEY, BC – The Cowichan Valley Trail corridor at Bings Creek (from the Sherman Road Trailhead to Agira Road) continues to remain closed as a result of extensive storm damage following the November 2021 Atmospheric River Rainfall Event.

In July 2023, the CVRD received confirmation that its application for significant financial assistance was approved through the Provincial Disaster Financial Assistance Program, in order to restore critical infrastructure along the Cowichan Valley Trail between Agira Road and Sherman Road. For additional information about this update, please see the <u>CVRD News Release</u>.

The CVRD has now obtained all necessary funding and approvals to proceed with the major repair work to the regional trail and is proceeding with a tendering process to engage a qualified contractor to complete the works. It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded in late 2023 / early 2024 and work will commence to complete the major repairs to the trail, inclusive of fabrication of a large, single span arch-culvert for installation over Bings Creek to support the trail. Instream works to complete the project need to occur within the designated environmental regulatory fisheries window between June 15 – September 15 (when the risk to resident and migrating fish, wildlife species and habitat is at its lowest). It is, therefore, anticipated that the project will be complete in late summer / early fall 2024, allowing this section of the regional trail to be reopened at that time.

In the interim, the trail corridor continues to remain closed between Sherman Road and Agira Road for safety reasons (see <u>map</u>). Nearby alternate trail access routes to bypass the regional trail closure include Agira Road and Skinner Road.

Further updates, as they become available, will be posted on the CVRD website at: <u>https://www.cvrd.ca/96/About-Parks-Trails</u>.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as the CVRD endeavours to address the significant atmospheric storm damage to re-establish the Cowichan Valley Trail between Sherman Road and Agira Road, and connecting communities across the region.

For more information, please contact:

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