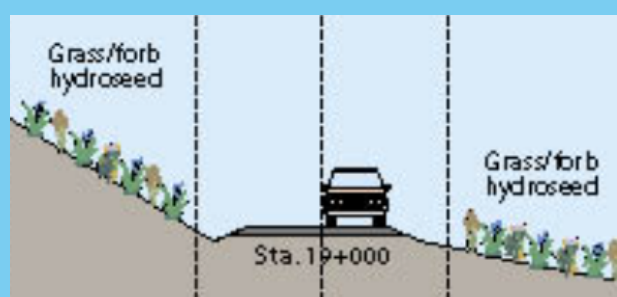


DEVELOPMENT NEAR STORMWATER DITCHES

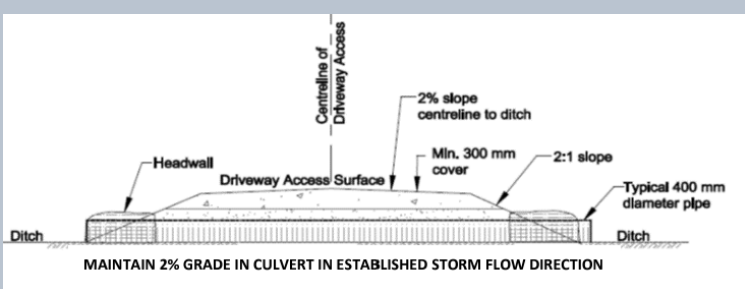
Many of the ditches on Bowen Island are channelized streams, or are tributary to fish bearing waterbodies. As such, they may be included in the Watershed, Aquifer, and Stream Protection Development Permit areas. In addition to the Watershed, Aquifer, and Stream Protection Development Permit area, both the federal Fisheries Act and/or the Water Sustainability Act may apply to ditches.



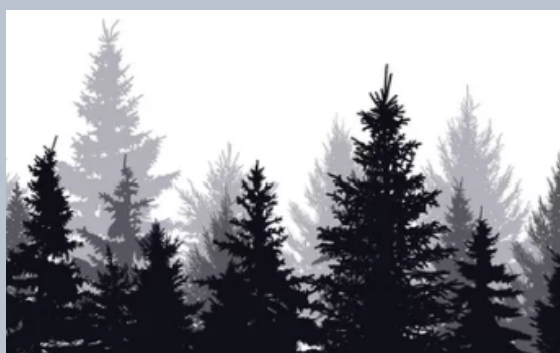
Therefore, if your project is a residential, commercial or industrial activity within 30 metres of a ditch, and you are planning any of the following:

- altering vegetation
- disturbing soils
- constructing buildings and structures
- creating hard surfaces, such as driveways,
 - installing a driveway culvert, or
 - subdividing land

An environmental assessment, conducted by a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP), and a municipal Development Permit may be required.



Works performed below the high water mark of a ditch may require review by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and if the “ditch” meets the definition of a stream under the Water Sustainability Act, an approval is required from the Province. This legislation helps you conduct your activities responsibly to avoid degrading valuable stormwater functions, thereby protecting downstream fish habitat.



Some activities may be exempt such as maintaining existing uses such as mowing a lawn, renovations on an existing footprint, or removal of hazard trees and invasive species under the guidance of a QEP.

HAVE A QUESTION? CONTACT MICAELE FLORENDO, QEP, RPBO, PRINCIPAL BIOLOGIST AT 604.838.2321 OR MICAELE@MADDISON-CONSULTANTS.COM

