# **ECOmmunity Place Locatee Lands (EPLL) Floodplain Re-engagement**

## **FACT SHEET**

## **PROJECT TEAM:**

- En'owkin Center
- Penticton Indian Band
- Okanagan Nation Alliance

#### **ONA CONTACT:**

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## **KEY MESSAGES:**

- Okanagan River channelization resulted in 50 % loss of length, 93 % loss of riparian habitat, and isolation from floodplains.
- The EPLL site is the only remaining portion of floodplain in snpintktn (Penticton) area restorable without major infrastructure changes.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVE:**

- Protect and enhance the EPLL Floodplain in perpetuity, under Syilx stewardship, and to:
  - Re-connect Penticton Channel to the floodplain, to allow for backwater flooding as per the natural hydrological cycle (no flow, just water rising and falling in the floodplain with river levels).
  - o Provide seasonal rearing habitat for native fish, especially sk'lwist/ntitiyx (Chinook salmon).
  - o Provide a range of fish-free wetlands for other species, such as frogs, salamanders, and turtles.
  - o Retain and enhance grassland habitat for dryland species.



#### CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR THE EPLL FLOODPLAIN RE-ENGAGEMENT



Green: shoreline (3:1 or shallower slope)

Blue: wetted area

- All ponds ephemeral (wet March October, dry over winter
- Chinook pond
  - o > 200 m2 area
  - o 20 120 cm deep
  - Logs and boulders
  - Overhanging vegetation
  - o Silt and gravel bottom
- Amphibian ponds
  - o 30 100 cm deep
  - o Fish-free

Grey: "dike"/maintenance road

Red: introduced invasive vegetation to prioritize for impacted areas and/or removal

Black lines: pond contour lines representing 3 to 5 m wide by 1 m deep

Yellow lines: topographic elevation lines

Non-shaded areas: areas left as dryland

<sup>\*\*</sup> Note: actual pond and river/floodplain connection placement and shape may vary.