



Highland Valley Copper 2040 Fact Sheet: Cultural Heritage



About Highland Valley Copper 2040

Teck's **Highland Valley Copper Operations (HVC)** is proposing the **Highland Valley Copper 2040 Project (HVC 2040)** to extend the life of the operation to at least 2040, through an extension of the existing site infrastructure. HVC 2040 allows for the continuation of social and economic benefits, while also helping to meet the growing demand for copper driven by the transition to a low-carbon future. HVC 2040 would yield approximately 1.95 million tonnes of additional copper over the life of the Project.

Teck recognizes and respects the rights, cultures, interests, and aspirations of Indigenous Peoples.

Protection of Cultural and Archeological Heritage at HVC

British Columbia's *Heritage Conservation Act* protects any physical evidence of human activity that predates 1846.

To support the protection of cultural heritage from both before and after 1846, HVC works collaboratively with local Indigenous Governments and Organizations to undertake an annual cultural heritage program including cultural heritage assessments for any new disturbance. These assessments focus on above-ground searches for evidence of cultural use, such as artifacts and culturally modified trees, identification of areas of high archaeological potential, and below-ground shovel-testing to uncover cultural material evidence such as artifacts, food caches, or hearths. All cultural heritage assessments are conducted under the direction of a professional archaeologist.

HVC works with the Nlaka'pamux and Secwepemc Nations on these assessments, including technical community representation from Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly, Lower Nicola Indian Band, Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council, and Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation.

Through collaboration with these Indigenous Governments and Organizations, HVC has developed a Cultural Heritage Program Guide. These guidelines outline how HVC respects and protects cultural heritage, and complies with the *Heritage Conservation Act* and obligations to Indigenous Governments and Organizations. One such way that HVC protects cultural heritage is through an Archaeological Chance Find Procedure that provides direction to HVC employees and contractors as to the appropriate response in the event that undocumented cultural heritage is discovered on site.

HVC 2040 Cultural Heritage

HVC 2040 is proposing to add 804 hectares to the existing HVC site. HVC initiated cultural heritage assessments specific to HVC 2040 in 2018 with a focus on identifying areas of archaeological potential or above-ground evidence of cultural use. This work has continued through subsequent years, with some areas progressing to below-ground shovel-testing. HVC expects to continue this work over the next several years. HVC will continue to work closely with the Nlaka'pamux and Secwepemc Nations on this work.

Engage with Us

We want to hear from you about the future of HVC. Email HVC2040.feedback@teck.com or call 1.855.523.3429 to share your feedback, and visit hvc2040.teck.com to learn more.