Welcome

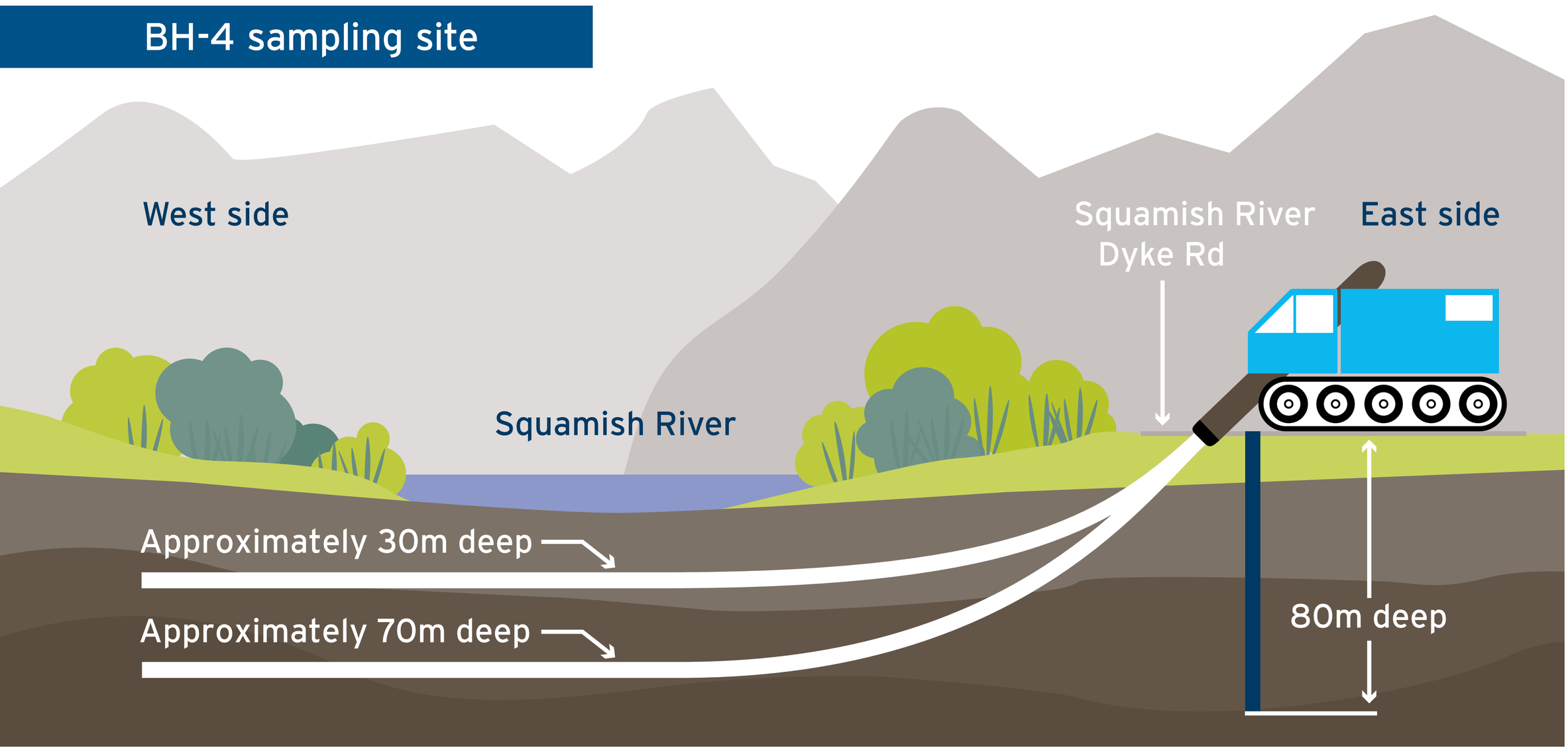
We've applied to perform soil sampling at two locations within the disturbed footprint of the Squamish River Dyke Road, and conduct non-invasive surface geophysical works within the Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

We're asking to do this work now so we can learn from the results and develop an optimal construction solution that addresses community concerns about the installation of our proposed natural gas pipeline underneath the estuary.

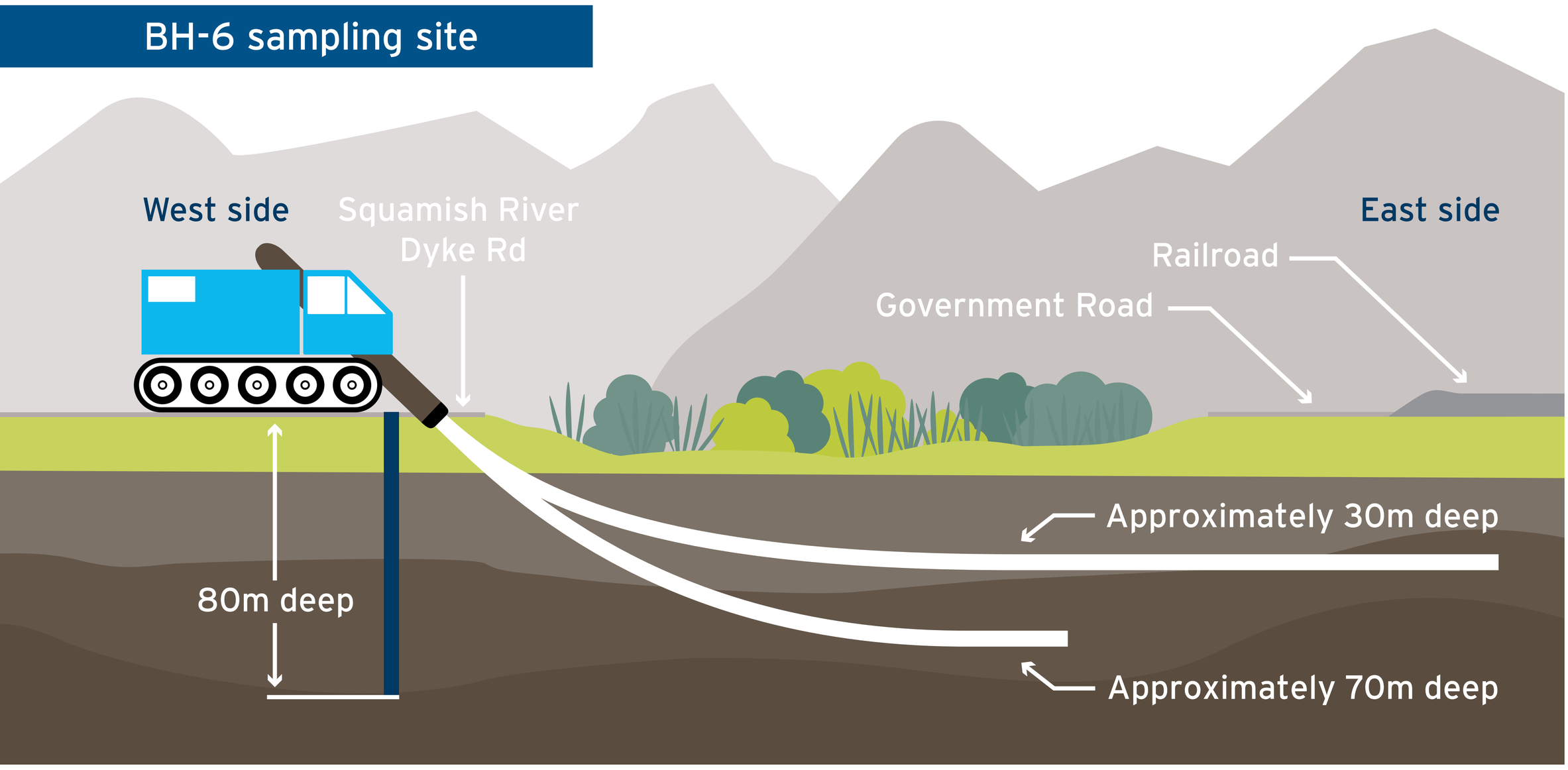
Soil sampling

At each location, we're proposing to take one vertical and two lateral soil samples. No further investigative testing will be required in the estuary if we get sufficient information from the program we're proposing in our application.

BH-4 sampling site



BH-6 sampling site



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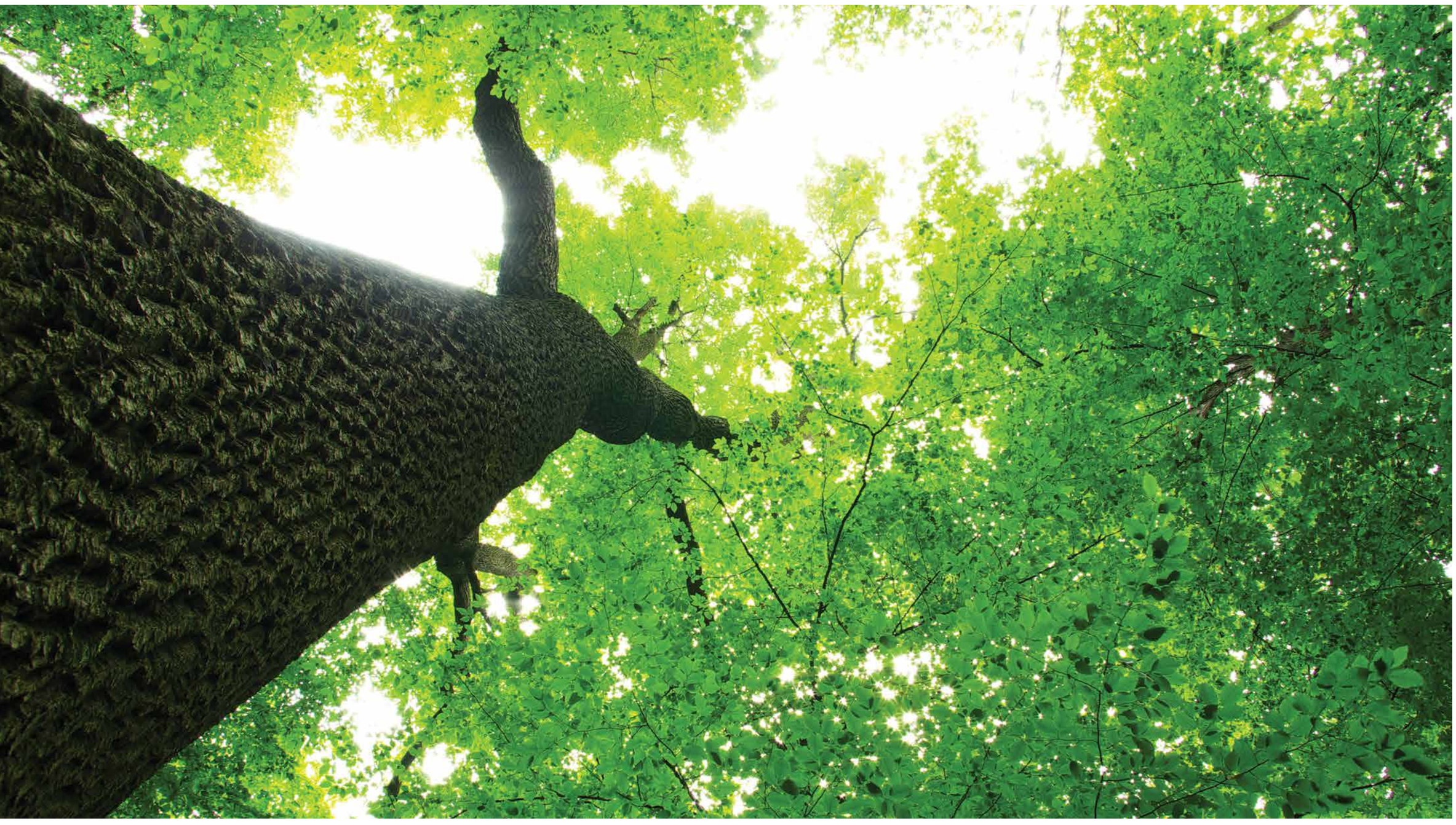
Minimizing impacts



We are committed to minimizing the impact of the testing work. The work we're proposing is limited to previously disturbed areas and avoids development in the Wildlife Management Area.

Squamish River Dyke Road

No clearing is required in these areas. The two soil sampling locations are accessible via existing roads.

Wildlife Management Area

Only minor trimming of vegetation to ensure safe passage of workers on foot would be required.

(15-027.16 04/2015)

Ground penetrating radar

Ground penetrating radar (GPR) equipment uses radio waves to probe subsurface objects. It is flexible and doesn't necessarily need to follow a straight line.

GPR work requires minimal hand clearing for the safety of the workers. Similar to what is required for land surveying. We will clear items such as plant limbs, brush and deadfall to allow safe passage for workers and movement of equipment.

(15-027.16 04/2015)

Electric resistance tomography

Electric Resistance Tomography (ERT) is geophysical technique that images sub-surface areas by measuring resistivity; the opposite of conductivity. Measurements can either be made with an alternating current or direct current.

ERT work also requires hand clearing of brush or limbing of deadfall, when necessary, to avoid snapping cables while setting up and taking down equipment, and ensure safe foot passage for workers.

(15-027.16 04/2015)

Multi-channel analysis of surface waves (MASW)

MASW is a seismic exploration method that has been used since the 1990s to evaluate ground stiffness. It measures the velocity of seismic surface waves generated from various sources (such as a sledge hammer).

MASW work also requires hand clearing of brush or limbing of deadfall, as needed for the worker safety.

MASW work will not impact aquatic life.

(15-027.16 04/2015)

Environmental management plan

The geotechnical and geophysical work required in Squamish and in the Squamish Estuary is accompanied by an Environmental Management Plan (EMP); a resource for FortisBC staff, contractors and consultants working in the Squamish Estuary.

The plan identifies and addresses environmental issues, and provides mitigation measures to minimize potentially adverse effects on the environment from geotechnical and geophysical investigation activities.

A qualified Environmental Monitor and an Archaeological Monitor will be onsite during the duration of the geotechnical program to ensure compliance with the EMP, permits, regulatory requirements and notification conditions as well as report any environmental, archaeological or heritage resource concerns or incidents.

The EMP provides mitigation to reduce or avoid potential environmental adverse effects of the geotechnical and geophysical investigations for the following:

- Archaeological and heritage resource management
- Tree and vegetation removal and protection
- Fire risk management
- Drilling waste management
- Hazardous materials and their management
- Waste management and disposal
- Air quality and noise management
- Environmental incidents and spills
- Restoration

(15-027.16 04/2015)