



## Media Release

August 9, 2011

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### **Baikie Island restoration well underway**

People will be able to see for themselves the restoration work on Baikie Island later this month.

*“The site has been cleared, with many truck loads of undesirable material removed and topsoil brought in, placed and contoured to replace it,”* says Jim VanTine, Contract Administrator, for the project.

Lynn Wark, City of Campbell River Parks Project Supervisor, walked the site with VanTine recently and was impressed with the efforts to create habitat.

*“Jim has been providing regular direction to Wacor (the earthworks contractor), and so far they have created a pond area and erected many wildlife trees around it that will support a variety of bird, reptile and amphibian species,”* Wark says.

Baikie Island will continue to be closed until the earthworks portion of the work is complete, expected to be at the end of August. After that, the island will reopen for foot traffic, and visitors will be able to see the tree planting crew in action this fall when more than 5,000 native trees and shrubs will be put in the ground. There will also be an opportunity for the public to get involved in some of the planting.

The creation of riparian forest zone habitat was a very important element in the grant application for the BC Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program. BC Hydro supported the application and contributed \$50,000 towards the project. The project has also received financial backing from Tree Canada, the City, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Community Works Fund and a variety of other funders.

The City of Campbell River began the final phase of restoration work at Baikie Island, in the Campbell River estuary, on July 13.

For more information please call Lynn Wark, Parks Project Supervisor, at 250-286-7275.

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Photos: Aerial and on-the-ground images of Baikie Island restoration work