# Riparian Area

Quick Fact Sheet



Land Development Department 604-793-2902 development@chilliwack.com

## Before commencing work, consider if you are within a Riparian Area

#### What is a Riparian Area?

A riparian area is the land beside streams, creeks, lakes, ditches and wetlands. The area between the water and the land is an important transition zone that protects fish and wildlife, slows rainwater runoff, and helps stabilize banks by reducing erosion.



Any time you alter land within 30 meters of a watercourse, a Development Permit and Riparian Area Protection Regulation Assessment is likely required – even if the watercourse is not on your property. For more information about Development Permit Area 3, please call the Land Development Department at 604-793-2902 or visit <a href="mailto:chilliwack.com/DPAs">chilliwack.com/DPAs</a>.



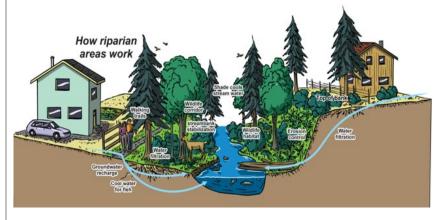
Bell Slough. Source: City of Chilliwacl

### For the protection of:

- · Natural Environment
- · Fish and Fish Habitats
  - Riparian Habitats
    - Ecosystems
  - · Biological Diversity

#### What is Land Alteration?

- Removal or altering plants and trees
- Disturbance of soils or placement of fill
- Subdivision and construction of buildings or structures
- Creation of hard surfaces such as pavement and decks
- Creation of roads, trails, docks, and wharves
- Development of drainage systems or utility corridors



**Disclaimer:** This fact sheet is not a legal document and does not include all applicable regulations. For further details, the applicable provincial law, City bylaws, plans, and policies should be referenced.