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**CITY OF KELOWNA**  
**MEMORANDUM**

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**Date:** September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
**File No.:** 5280-14  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Environment and Solid Waste Manager  
**Subject:** **Sensitive Habitat Inventory and Mapping (SHIM)**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council receive, as information, the Sensitive Habitat Inventory and Mapping overview and presentation.

**BACKGROUND:**

Within the City of Kelowna boundaries, there are twenty-seven creeks which are included in the Official Community Plan. The location of some of the creeks is not accurately reflected in the current mapping system. The Environment Division would like to ensure accurate location of these creeks as the creek location is important as it determines which properties are affected by the Natural Environment / Hazardous Condition Development Area Permit Designation. The City recognizes the importance of this mapping to identify, inventory, and locate the creeks, their associated riparian habitats and fisheries-related attributes.

SHIM aspects that are collected include the following:

- Stream centreline
- Stream Cross Section
- Stream attributes including:
  - Outfalls
  - Waterbody features including tributaries and natural springs
  - Culvert attributes
  - Obstruction attributes
  - Erosion features
  - Stream discharge attributes
  - Fish habitat attributes
  - Wildlife observations
  - Wildlife tree attributes
  - Wetland attributes

In 2005, Mill and Bellevue Creeks were inventoried using the Sensitive Habitat Inventory and Mapping (SHIM) methodology. This mapping is available to City staff including Works and Utilities, Planning and Parks.

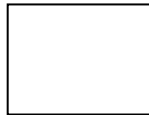
In 2006, the City of Kelowna received \$25,000 of carry-over budget from Drainage as well as \$25,000 of external funding from the Okanagan Basin Water Board to map additional creeks. The following creeks will also be inventoried through SHIM:

- Fascieux Creek (both arms)
- Brandt's Creek (both arms)
- Wilson Creek
- Priest Creek
- Mill Creek tributaries including Scotty Creek, Whelan Creek and Francis Brook
- Bellevue Creek tributaries
- Rembler Creek
- Lebanon Creek
- Cedar Creek
- Leon / Thompson Creek
- Rumohr Creek

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, Kelowna's Environment Division believes that SHIM is a valuable tool for multiple uses and departments, in order to build a sustainable Kelowna. SHIM is also placed on the Community Mapping Network of BC, where the public has access to it. The Central Okanagan Regional District has done similar mapping for creeks within their jurisdiction.

Works to complete the mapping of the remainder of Kelowna's creeks as well as Kelowna's wetlands will be requested in the 2007 budget.



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Mark Watt  
Environment and Solid Waste Manager

Approved for inclusion:  
John Vos  
Director of Works & Utilities

cc: Parks Manager  
Urban Forestry Supervisor