



**Ministry of Forests, Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations**

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**ARCHAEOLOGY BRANCH – FAX COVER SHEET**

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**Date:** July 10, 2012

**TOTAL PAGES:** 2 (including cover sheet)

**From:** Ewan Anderson, Archaeologist

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If all pages are not received, please call (250) 953-3334.*

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**SUBJECT: Ground Alterations at Grace Islet (DfRu-9) near Ganges on Saltspring Island**

<b>REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING:</b>	<b>FAX NUMBER</b>	<b>SD #</b>	<b>✓</b>
Semiahmoo First Nation, Attn: Don Welsh	(604) 536-6116	161	✓
Tsawwassen First Nation	(604) 943-9226	210	✓
Stz'uminus First Nation, Attn: Referrals Coordinator	(250) 245-3012	Gp 1	✓
Cowichan Tribes, Chief and Council, Attn: Archaeology Permits	(250) 748-1233	Gp 1	✓
Halalt First Nation, Chief and Council, Attn: Referrals	(250) 246-2330	Gp 1	✓
Lake Cowichan First Nation, Chief and Council, Attn: Referrals	(250) 749-4286	Gp 1	✓
Lyackson First Nation, Chief and Council, Attn: Referrals	(250) 246-5049	Gp 1	✓
Penelakut Indian Band, Chief and Council, Attn: Referrals	(250) 246-2725	Gp 1	✓
Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, Attn: M.J. Churchill, GIS Specialist	(250) 245-4668	Gp 1	✓
Pauquachin First Nation	9 (250) 656-6134	Gp 7	✓
Tsartlip First Nation	9 (250) 652-3788	Gp 7	✓
Tsawout First Nation	9 (250) 652-9114	Gp 7	✓
Tseycum Indian Band	9 (250) 656-0868	Gp 7	✓



July 10, 2012

Chief and Council  
(See distribution list on fax cover sheet)

Dear Chief and Council:

**RE: Ground Alterations at Grace Islet (DfRu-9) near Ganges on Saltspring Island**

The Archaeology Branch has recently learned that development-related activities have commenced on Grace Islet in Ganges Harbour without a qualified professional archaeologist present to monitor them. Although the property owner was issued a *Heritage Conservation Act*, Section 12 Alteration Permit which authorises specific ground-disturbing activities at that location, all ground alterations were to be monitored by a qualified professional. We followed up on this report by visiting the site with the property owner, his agent and professional archaeologists on Monday, July 9, 2012.

During our site visit, we observed that trees had been cleared and soils excavated, likely by a machine excavator. No soils appear to have been moved from Grace Islet and all previously recorded archaeological features (petroforms) have been avoided (although not by the prescribed 2 m buffer). There is the potential for the recently disturbed soils to contain human remains, but none were observed on the ground surface.

The Archaeology Branch has notified the property owner and his agent that no development activities on the Islet are to continue until the Branch has determined how to address the breach of Permit.

In order to resolve this matter in a timely manner, please contact me (250-953-3341; [ewan.anderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ewan.anderson@gov.bc.ca)) with your comments by Tuesday, July 31, 2012.

Sincerely,

Ewan Anderson  
Archaeologist, Archaeology Branch

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