City of Penticton ($8,000)

Project Title: Ellis Creek Irrigation System Flow Monitoring Station

Project Contact: Brent Edge, City of Penticton

In 2008 the City of Penticton was awarded grant funding in the amount of $8,000 to install a flow measurement station on the Ellis Creek Irrigation System. This project is substantially complete.

The purpose of this project is to provide the City and the Ministry of Environment with historical data on water quantity and usage in Ellis Creek. The City operates a licensed irrigation system supplied by a diversion from Ellis Creek. With the onset of anticipated climate change and the arrival of the Mountain Pine Beetle, it is vital that the City has historical flow data in order to effectively manage the water source and the irrigation system. The installation of this flow station will provide the City and others with data that will be useful in monitoring agricultural water usage. This project is directly linked to our Ellis Creek flow monitoring project that was completed in 2007.

It was anticipated that this project would commence in March of 2008 and would be complete by mid May of 2008. Unfortunately due to manpower issues and capital projects, we did not meet our anticipated timelines and the majority of the project is just now being completed. The irrigation system has been shut down for the winter season and will restart in May of 2009. The functionality of the completed system will be reviewed at that time.

Methodology:
- Installation of an instrumentation kiosk complete with vandal proof lid. (Complete)
- Main line tap suitable for insertion of a flow meter. (Complete)
- Purchase of electronic flow monitoring equipment. (Complete)
- Installation of City power source to the kiosk. (Complete)
- Purchase of Radio equipment allowing for a link to the City Water Treatment SCADA system. (Complete)
- Programming of Water Treatment SCADA system to allow for data trending and alarm outputs. (Ongoing and to be completed once system starts in May of 2009)