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Comment: Investigate Potential Cold-Water Spring Influence Between BBC05.2, BBC04.3, and BBC03.4

I request that the Burnt Bridge Creek Alternative Restoration Plan include a targeted field investigation of perennial cold-water spring and seep inputs in the reach between BBC05.2, BBC04.3, and BBC03.4, including the Arnold Park / Hidden Falls area and the Bosco Farm / Bosco Farms spring area.

Ecology's existing fixed-network sampling map identifies the main monitoring points in this part of the creek, but those sample stations are not the same as a detailed GPS inventory of individual spring inputs, seep faces, small tributary flows, or localized cold-water refuges. This matters because cold-water inputs can be localized and may not be fully captured by broad reach-scale sample stations.

Ecology's groundwater study already supports the need for this investigation. It found that lower Burnt Bridge Creek receives water from seeps and small springs associated with perched aquifers and canyon-wall discharge. The same study documented a significant gaining reach between the P4 and P5 area, approximately the BBC04.3 to BBC05.2 reach, during summer low-flow conditions.

Based on years of boots-on-the-ground field observation, I have documented perennial spring/flow systems in this corridor, including Arnold Park / Hidden Falls and the Bosco Farm area. These appear to be persistent freshwater inputs below the approximate 200-foot contour, with flow continuing through dry periods. These features may provide localized cooling, thermal refuge, or baseflow support that is important to understand before finalizing restoration priorities.

I am asking Ecology to field-verify whether these perennial inputs have a measurable temperature, flow, or habitat benefit. The investigation should include GPS mapping of spring/seep entry points, summer low-flow temperature measurements, short-term continuous temperature loggers upstream and downstream of the inputs, simple flow estimates, and comparison with existing BBC03.4, BBC04.3, and BBC05.2 monitoring data.

See Attachment LIDAR map - SR500 and ST Johns/St James interchange is at the Bottom Middle of the map

The ARP should specifically identify, protect, and where possible enhance cold-water inputs and cold-water refuges in this reach. Restoration should not rely only on general shade modeling or broad sample stations if important unmapped cold-water sources exist between them.

