## Sensitive Fish and Wildlife Habitat

### Please do not disturb.

Riparian areas (land adjacent to a watercourse) are the most biologically diverse zones in BC and they provide several essential functions that support fish and fish habitat, including:

### Shade

Vegetation provides shade to the watercourse which helps keep water cold, alleviating thermal stress on fish.

# Leaf Litter & Insect Fall

Leaves and insects fall out of the vegetation, providing nutrients and food for fish and aquatic species.

## **Woody Debris**

Fallen branches and logs increase aquatic and terrestrial habitat diversity, providing essential refugia (hiding places) for juvenile fish and amphibians.

### Flow Control

Vegetation and soil absorb stormwater, which helps maintain natural water volumes and water quality downstream.



