

# Five hectares of old Mine covered

Six hectares of the old Mt. Washington Copper Mine has now been covered with a heavy membrane, after leveling of the old open pit mine had taken place and the under-drains installed. The work (shown at right) was done by Victoria's Quantum Consulting.

Next spring, as early as July the over drains will be installed, then covered with till, topsoil, and then planted with grasses, hedges and small shrubs. It is expected that even later this fall there will be a drop in copper loading in the Tsolum River and by next fall a great reduction in loading. Recently it was reported that this year some 800 steelhead will enter the Fraser/Thompson watershed. At one time the Tsolum River (before the pollution from the old mine) had runs of 3,500 steelhead. It is the hope that with the covering of the Mt. Washington mine site, once again the Tsolum River will be returned to the great steelhead fishery it once enjoyed.

