

Item 12.1

**INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - AUGUST 9, 2021**

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Building Department - Building Statistics - July 2021   | N |
| 2. | Building Department - Building Permits - Yearly Statistics  | N |
| 3. | D. McGregor - email dated July 21, 2021 - Stopping the semi trucks from running red lights on the Trans Canada - Enough is enough!  | A |
| 4. | J. McEwan, Salmon Arm Fair GM - letter dated July 19, 2021 - Noise Bylaw  | A |
| 5. | P. Wright, President, the Salmon Arm and Shuswap Lake Agricultural Association - letter dated July 23, 2021 - Lighting on the South Fair Grounds  | A |
| 6. | S. Milne, Administrative Club Director, Salmon Arm Snowblazers Snowmobile Club - email dated July 28, 2021 - SA Snowblazers Club Seeking Support: UBCM Resolutions                                    | A |
| 7. | Shuswap Watershed Council - 2020 Water Quality Report   | N |
| 8. | P. Kusack, Deputy Corporate Officer, City of Langley to Honourable Premier J. Horgan and Honourable A. Dix, Minister of Health - letter dated July 29, 2021 - Improvement to Pre-Hospital Care System | N |
| 9. | M. LoVecchio, Director Indigenous Relations and Government Affairs, Canadian Pacific - letter dated August 3, 2021 - CP's Interim Extreme Weather Fire Risk Mitigation Plan                           | N |

N = No Action Required  
A = Action Requested

S = Staff has Responded  
R = Response Required

## CITY OF SALMON ARM BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT JULY 2021

LAST YEAR (2020)
CURRENT YEAR (2021)  
CURRENT MONTH    YEAR-TO-DATE
CURRENT MONTH    YEAR-TO-DATE

		NO.	VALUE	NO.	VALUE	NO.	VALUE	NO.	VALUE
1	New Single Family Dwellings	3	860,000	28	10,140,785	5	2,250,000	36	13,645,000
2	Misc. Additions etc. to SFD's	14	893,775	61	3,001,609	6	156,000	59	3,225,910
3	New Single Family Dwellings with suites	2	675,000	5	1,780,000	-	-	10	4,455,000
4	New Secondary/Detached Suites	-	-	10	396,200	1	300,000	10	1,200,000
5	New Modulars/MH's (Factory Built)	3	553,033	13	2,471,633	3	385,649	8	1,326,149
6	Misc. Additions etc. to Modulars/MH's	2	284,030	10	331,615	-	-	6	90,192
7	MFD's (# Units)	-	-	2 (41)	6,750,000	-	-	5 (14)	2,950,000
8	Misc. Additions etc. to MFD's	-	-	7	101,309	1	130,630	3	253,382
9	New Commercial	-	-	1	120,960	-	-	-	-
10	Misc. Additions etc. to Commercial	-	-	7	277,000	1	150,000	12	870,600
11	New Industrial	-	-	1	100,000	2	925,000	5	2,525,000
12	Misc. Additions etc. to Industrial	1	18,200	4	1,023,200	-	-	-	-
13	New Institutional	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Misc. Additions etc. to Institutional	-	-	1	5,000	-	-	3	2,410,000
15	Signs	2	8,015	9	28,380	1	550	27	166,806
16	Swimming Pools, Pool Buildings	2	125,000	3	230,000	2	200,000	4	410,000
17	Demolitions	2	-	9	-	3	-	13	-
18	Temporary Trailers, A & B Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
19	Misc. Special Inspections, etc.	1	-	12	-	2	-	16	-
	<b>TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3,417,053</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>26,757,691</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4,497,829</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>33,528,039</b>

MFD's - Apartment, Row, Duplex, Strata (# of dwelling units created)  
Farm building values not included

**BUILDING PERMITS - YEARLY**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
2001	585,500	11,938,550	12,265,250	12,842,790	13,534,790	14,712,550	16,330,650	17,717,625	19,031,075	19,895,255	21,318,855	21,458,195
2002	585,500	1,952,500	3,340,850	3,821,240	5,455,840	6,411,690	8,844,690	10,932,510	15,780,890	16,705,600	17,738,200	17,923,700
2003	130,110	920,780	2,974,020	4,486,120	5,993,320	13,294,120	15,555,250	17,937,005	20,318,920	22,000,340	24,005,740	24,782,360
2004	430,700	1,506,500	5,903,780	8,379,104	10,122,768	12,086,319	14,779,343	21,598,763	30,371,023	33,614,173	34,957,458	35,881,343
2005	1,072,000	2,269,650	4,344,750	6,806,152	12,110,482	28,031,457	29,985,585	34,743,645	37,600,445	42,915,856	45,525,611	47,576,746
2006	815,550	3,224,468	8,012,449	11,501,929	16,084,809	20,066,533	23,714,194	26,370,890	36,479,806	37,278,358	42,332,995	43,077,170
2007	1,531,087	3,901,669	16,148,674	22,413,118	27,232,134	32,401,472	35,657,297	42,829,750	51,945,799	55,703,387	65,885,802	66,289,555
2008	1,797,604	4,203,429	12,947,058	27,647,379	33,857,533	36,582,025	39,759,375	42,395,454	45,412,474	50,699,301	53,383,541	53,522,880
2009	409,369	864,839	2,039,460	5,207,311	6,763,615	7,800,085	9,677,455	11,579,746	18,882,737	20,713,554	23,523,664	24,337,664
2010	1,518,563	2,708,062	5,931,546	10,081,816	12,260,236	13,526,546	16,597,121	18,790,511	19,848,804	21,174,632	22,953,692	27,249,702
2011	568,645	2,003,976	5,063,837	7,449,773	9,471,416	11,761,850	12,794,028	14,222,970	18,194,801	19,682,061	30,563,013	31,934,415
2012	2,189,660	3,128,562	4,794,040	6,337,260	10,000,544	12,120,246	17,883,185	24,375,078	26,118,787	26,493,820	28,130,500	28,666,430
2013	881,740	1,440,110	13,907,060	15,814,195	17,433,454	20,194,778	23,204,628	24,180,485	26,567,302	29,195,224	30,890,086	31,231,349
2014	665,304	2,806,404	8,075,941	20,789,869	27,574,834	29,877,686	33,456,523	41,971,923	42,784,769	44,804,191	46,460,471	47,707,993
2015	1,172,285	1,853,539	3,894,754	6,750,389	8,575,425	18,388,180	20,475,407	26,442,225	29,143,303	31,248,595	35,417,465	37,368,595
2016	1,268,865	2,298,280	4,987,625	8,904,610	12,253,660	16,279,464	19,265,124	23,811,029	29,823,014	36,084,949	40,154,959	41,418,659
2017	1,183,280	2,841,725	7,219,495	11,761,657	18,136,656	23,823,576	30,793,243	36,066,891	52,130,226	59,858,542	63,366,686	64,675,041
2018	1,970,104	3,943,104	10,028,787	14,363,122	20,252,322	30,488,747	37,540,412	40,421,060	55,689,215	59,634,580	64,988,531	66,797,572
2019	6,060,645	6,835,345	10,699,845	18,074,843	22,220,523	26,015,593	31,103,281	45,971,877	48,902,359	52,267,409	56,765,409	58,511,534
2020	2,218,950	4,293,250	6,900,060	9,289,060	12,891,318	23,340,638	26,757,691	32,516,960	37,062,215	46,505,927	51,472,227	54,065,527
2021	3,180,132	5,500,747	9,538,939	14,603,678	21,402,310	29,030,210	33,528,039					

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 10:21 AM  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Mayor and Council

Mayor and Council

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First Name                      Debbie

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Last Name                      McGregor

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Address:                      [REDACTED]

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Return email address:        [REDACTED]

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Subject:                      Stopping the semi trucks from running red lights on the Trans Canada - Enough is enough!

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Body

Last night, while sitting on the Barley Station's patio (corner of Trans Canada & Shuswap) I witnessed two (that's right, two) semi's run through complete red lights. The first time, there were 2 semi's "speeding" east on the Trans Canada, the first went through the light as it was changing to yellow and the second went through a completely red light. I actually called the RCMP because it was crazy to me how many semi's were speeding through that intersection. Five minutes later, I watched '3' semi's speeding east...one went through a green, one went through a yellow, and the last one went through a completely red. We clearly do not have enough law enforcement in this area, so what's the City's plan? I understand Red-Light camera's work, because the semi drivers share the info that there are red light camera's so then they go slow. I already spoke to MOT and they think this is an enforcement issue that has nothing to do with them. They told me it's a RCMP and CVSE issue. Perhaps it's the City's issue since we clearly do not have enough police in this City... Do I need a petition signed to get something done? Can the City set up a "Traffic Team" to address this? What can I help do on this? You all know this is a major problem, so what's the plan; just wait until another person is killed?

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Would you like a response:    Yes

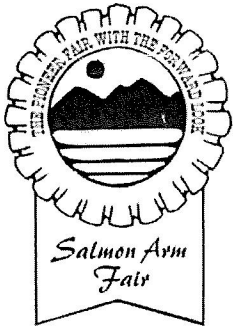
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**Disclaimer**

*Written and email correspondence addressed to Mayor and Council may become public documents once received by the City. Correspondence addressed to Mayor and Council is routinely published within the Correspondence Section of Regular Council Agendas.*

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Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



The Salmon Arm and Shuswap Lake Agricultural Association  
**SALMON ARM FAIR**

351 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW, Salmon Arm BC V1E 1V4 Ph. 250-832-0442 [www.salmonarmfair.com](http://www.salmonarmfair.com)

July 19, 2021

Marcel A. Bedard  
Bylaw Enforcement Officer  
City of Salmon Arm  
Box 40 500-2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE  
Salmon Arm, BC. V1E 4N2

RE: NOISE BYLAW

Dear Mr. Bedard:

The Salmon Arm Fair is planning the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Barn Dance to be staged at Pole Barn of the Salmon Arm fairgrounds. The Fair organizers will be partnering once again with Rotary on this adult event.

The location is the north end of the south fairgrounds; south of 5th St. where there are existing barricades in place that affected ends of 5th Street.

We will have live music and respectfully request an extension to the noise bylaw until 12:00 a.m. (midnight) each night of the dance for Friday September 10, 2021 and Saturday, September 11, 2021.

Live music would play from 8pm to 12:00am both nights; the DJ would be directed to reduce the noise and play quiet "wind down" music while patrons make their way out of the fairgrounds from 12:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m..

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

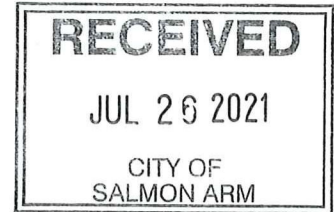
Jim McEwan  
Salmon Arm Fair GM  
[fair@salmonarmfair.com](mailto:fair@salmonarmfair.com)



## The Salmon Arm and Shuswap Lake Agricultural Association

351 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW, Salmon Arm BC V1E 1V4 Ph. 250-832-0442 www.salmonarmfair.com

July 23, 2021



Erin Jackson

Acting Chief Administrative Officer/ Director of corporate Services

Dear Erin,

One of the recommendations from the January 20, 2021, Vulnerable Populations Meeting was to improve lighting on the South Fair Grounds. This initiative would improve security for the user groups and discourage antisocial behaviour from a small group of individuals.

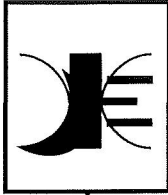
Subsequently two electrical contractors were invited to walk the grounds with Association representatives to review the current lighting and to suggest upgrades and/or new locations for improved lighting of buildings and surrounds.

Inskip Electric has submitted a quote while Dancor has given suggestions for improvements but has not submitted a quote due to his current workload.

The Association requests that the City provide funds in the order of \$40,000.00 for this lighting upgrade to assist the regular users of the property namely: Roots and Blues, 4H clubs, the public including the dog walkers and the Agriculture Association.

Yours truly,

Phil Wright (president)



## INSKIP ELECTRIC LTD.

ALL PHASES OF WIRING



189 Kault Hill Road NW  
Salmon Arm, B.C.  
V1E 3A3

CLASS "A" CONTRACTOR

**Bruce Inskip**

PHONE: 250-832-8132

FAX: 250-832-8802

EMAIL: [admin@inskip.ca](mailto:admin@inskip.ca)

Salmon Arm & Shuswap Lake Agricultural Association  
351 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW  
Salmon Arm, BC  
V1E 1V4  
[admin@salmonarmfair.com](mailto:admin@salmonarmfair.com)

July 21, 2021

Attention: Phil & Colleen

Re: South Fairgrounds  
lighting upgrades/improvements

### **Re: Old Ford Building**

Electrical permit for required work.  
Replace 2 existing exterior lights  
Supply and install 1 - 12watt led light complete with photo cell on east side of building.  
Supply and install 1 - 28-watt motion light on south side of building.

### **Re: Wood pole by Ford building**

Electrical permit for required work.  
Replace 2 existing 400-watt metal halide lights.  
Supply and install 2 - 128-watt Night Falcon lights complete with 7 pin photo cell for future lighting control.

### **Re: Memory Lane**

Electrical permit for required work  
Supply and install new circuit for existing led lights to be on independent feed from panel.

### **Re: Horse Barn**

Electrical permit for required work  
Supply and install 1 - 18 watt led Crosstour light complete with photo cell.  
Re feed existing led exterior light to be on photo cell control from new light.

### **Re: Grand Stand North - East - South exterior**

Electrical Permit for required work

Replace 4 existing lights and add one new on east side  
Supply and install 5 - 18-watt Crosstour led lights complete with photocell

### **Re Grandstand Seating area**

Electrical permit for required work  
Supply and install 2- Cooper RPGC lights complete with motion detector and wire guards.

### **Re Grandstand Riding area**

Electrical permit for required work  
Replace 3 existing Flood lights  
Supply and install 3 - 128-watt Night Falcon lights complete with 7 pin photocell for future lighting control

### **Re Pole Lighting by Riding Arena**

Electrical permit for required work  
Disconnect electrical to existing wood light poles for removal.  
Remove existing lights from poles.

Note all digging, back filling and tamping by others.

Supply and install 4 concrete precast light bases.  
Supply and install 1" conduit complete with x-link wire and required fittings.  
Supply and install 4 - 25' metal light poles complete with Bull horn fittings for 2 Light mounting  
Supply and install 8- 128-watt Night Falcon lights complete with 7 pin photo cell for future lighting control

Note conduit size could be upgraded to allow for electrical outlets to be installed on base of poles.

### **Re Cow Barn new interior lights**

Electrical permit for required work  
Supply and install circuit for new interior lights  
Supply and install 5- Cooper RPGC lights complete with motion detector and wire guards.

### **Re Cow Barn exterior lights**

Electrical permit for required work  
Replace 3 existing exterior lights  
Supply and install 3-128-watt Night Falcon lights complete with 7 pin photo cell for future lighting control.  
Supply and install 2 -18-watt cross tour lights 1 on north entry to barn and 1 on east entry to barn.



Note 18-watt exterior led lights could be upgraded to larger size if impact to neighboring properties wasn't a concern at light locations

Total Labour, Bucket Truck, Material & Electrical Permit	\$ 39,045.53
G.S.T. 5%	\$ <u>1,952.27</u>
<b>Total for this Quote</b>	<b>\$ <u>40,997.80</u></b>

Thank you for the opportunity to quote your electrical.

**From:** Snow Blazers

**Sent:** July 28, 2021 1:55 PM

**To:** Alan Harrison; Debbie Cannon; Chad Eliason; Kevin Flynn; Tim Lavery; Sylvia Lindgren; Louise Wallace-Richmond

**Cc:** Snow Blazers; Donegal Wilson-BCSF Executive Director

**Subject:** SA Snowblazers Snowmobile Club Seeking Support: UBCM Resolutions

July 28, 2021

Salmon Arm Snowblazers Snowmobile Club

Box 2919

Salmon Arm BC

V1E 4P8

Dear Mayor Harrison and Council,

The BC Snowmobile Federation and the Salmon Arm Snowblazers Snowmobile Club are writing to you today to seek support from Salmon Arm for two UBCM Resolutions that are being sponsored by the District of Sicamous. Please see the following hyperlinked documents:

[BCSF Resolution # 1](#) changes to the Forest Range Practices Act to support all recreation

[BCSF Resolution #2](#) changes to the specific objectives of registered snowmobile trails in BC

A copy of the [letter sent from the District of Sicamous](#) that our community should already have received directly from Sicamous.

There is also a [Press Release from the BCSF](#) which outlines the proposed changes and why we need your support for these resolutions. If you have any questions, please reach out to me on behalf of Salmon Arm Snowblazers Snowmobile Club or contact the BCSF Executive Director, Donegal Wilson, at [office@bcsf.org](mailto:office@bcsf.org) or 250-499-5117.

Please acknowledge that you have received this email.

Respectfully,

Sandy Milne

Salmon Arm Snowblazers Snowmobile Club

Administrative Club Director

[salmonarmsnowblazers@gmail.com](mailto:salmonarmsnowblazers@gmail.com)

250-833-4833

<http://www.SaSnowblazers.com>

**We thank our Major Sponsors:**

<http://www.shuswapxtreme.com>

<http://www.backusracing.com>

<https://www.bannerrec.com>

<http://www.trademarkglassworks.com>

N A Morris Heating & AC 250-833-6601



## **British Columbia Snowmobile Federation**

PO Box 277, Keremeos, BC V0X 1N0

P: 250.499.5117 | F: 250.499.2103 | TF: 877.537.8716

[office@bcsf.org](mailto:office@bcsf.org) | [www.bcsf.org](http://www.bcsf.org) | [www.LetsRideBC.com](http://www.LetsRideBC.com)

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### **FRPA Recreation Resource Value Objective (all recreation in BC)**

#### **Background**

The BC Government brought the Forest Range & Practice Act (FRPA) into force in 2004. This legislation outlines parameters for how public lands and resources are managed within the province. Specifically, FRPA serves to align government, private, and public interests by defining values such as biodiversity, cultural heritage, and timber. These land 'values' are then assigned 'objectives' detailing how land users must work together and apply meaningful strategies to protect and retain these resources. Of the eleven FRPA values, recreation remains the only one for which the Ministry of Forests has never assigned 'objectives'. Without declared objectives, industrial licensees currently have no requirement to consider, consult, or coordinate their activities on registered public trails or around public recreational resources in the province.

We believe that FRPA land use objectives should encompass the values which are important to BC residents, our communities, and to the outdoor recreation sector with at least equal consideration.

Therefore, the BC Snowmobile Federation would like to propose the following regulatory change:

#### **Proposed Objective**

The objective set by government for recreation is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to avoid or mitigate any adverse impacts to any recreation site, trail or facility that exists on Crown land.

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#### **Community | Integrity | Engagement | Leadership**

**MISSION STATEMENT** "The British Columbia Snowmobile Federation is dedicated to provide strong leadership and support to member clubs to establish, maintain and protect quality opportunities for organized snowmobiling in British Columbia and to promote the safe and environmentally responsible use of these opportunities."

## **Draft Resolution #1**

Title: Protection for Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in BC

Sponsor: District of Sicamous

WHEREAS many local governments and communities rely on meaningful outdoor recreation for economic stability and development and, at the same time, those local governments and communities care about maintaining existing Recreation Sites and Trails Management and/or Partnership Agreements with the Province of British Columbia for respectful stewardship of the lands.

AND WHEREAS Government has established broad Forest Range Practices Act (FRPA) objectives under the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) for ten of the eleven FRPA values. They have not established an objective for recreation. Which makes recreation the only value without a FRPA objective and leaves recreation out of planning processes.

AND WHEREAS only the BC Government can set Objectives within the Forest Range Practices Act.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Union of BC Municipalities asks the BC Government to allocate the necessary resources to create the following objective under the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation Part 2 Division 1:

The objective set by government for recreation is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to avoid or mitigate any adverse impacts to any recreation site, trail or facility that exists on Crown land.



## **British Columbia Snowmobile Federation**

PO Box 277, Keremeos, BC V0X 1N0

P: 250.499.5117 | F: 250.499.2103 | TF: 877.537.8716

[office@bcsf.org](mailto:office@bcsf.org) | [www.bcsf.org](http://www.bcsf.org) | [www.LetsRideBC.com](http://www.LetsRideBC.com)

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# **Section 56 Individual Sites & Trails Objectives (snowmobile specific)**

## **Background:**

Section 56 of the Forest Ranges and Practices Act (FRPA) allows the government to establish or disestablish recreation sites, trails and interpretive forest sites. It also allows the government to establish Site Level objectives for these sites or trails at the time they are established or by amendment at anytime. This can easily be done by the authorized designated decision maker which is often the Recreation Sites and Trails BC District Manager.

Snowmobile Clubs across BC enter into Partnership Agreements with the Government to ensure the provision of safe, sanitary, socially acceptable and environmentally sound recreation sites and trails for public use. This is done through the investment of many volunteer hours, user fees and fundraising by BC Snowmobile Federation (BCSF) Member Clubs to support trail maintenance efforts. However, under the current FRPA Framework, snowmobile clubs are not even assured that the services and recreation sites they are responsible for managing will not be disrupted by industrial forest activity. Licensees are not currently obligated to consider, communicate, or mitigate any snowmobile trail disruption in their Forest Stewardship Planning. The BCSF has been told that Industry must only plan for and consider sites where a government registered objective is set and where their operations might impact that established objective.

For the snowmobile sector many snowmobile trails have been established under FRPA Section 56 but in a recent study completed by the BC

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### **Community | Integrity | Engagement | Leadership**

**MISSION STATEMENT** "The British Columbia Snowmobile Federation is dedicated to provide strong leadership and support to member clubs to establish, maintain and protect quality opportunities for organized snowmobiling in British Columbia and to promote the safe and environmentally responsible use of these opportunities."

Snowmobile Federation it is clear that almost all have no site specific objectives set. The only sites that have objectives were established prior to 2004 when FRPA was enacted. These have vague objectives that have little meaning in today's working forest and do not properly reflect the tourism value of snowmobile trails today.

Also, many of our registered snowmobile trails have sections that overlap Forest Service Roads/Wilderness Roads in the winter months. They essentially carry a dual status depending on whether they are plowed or not. If the road is unplowed it is a registered snowmobile trail and when it is plowed it becomes an industry road. Without an objective the registered snowmobile trail can be plowed out at any time with industry not being currently obligated to consider, communicate, or mitigate this snowmobile trail disruption to the club that has the registered snowmobile trail on the same road.

Therefore, the BC Snowmobile Federation would like all existing and new snowmobile recreation sites or trails to have the following standard government registered objectives established:

## **Proposed Objectives**

Section 56 - Recreation Site Level Objective (snowmobile specific) -  
All snowmobile trails

- 1. The alpine and coniferous forest features along recreation sites or trails will be retained to preserve the outdoor recreation experience and prevent early season melt on snowmobile trails.*
- 2. Forest planning will include safety considerations for recreational access during the winter months and after harvesting is complete. This will include harvest planning consideration above and below a*

*recreation site or trail to ensure that new exposures and avalanche paths are not created. Or that any new avalanche paths are mitigated by terrain modifications such as deflection berms.*

- 3. This recreation site or trail is part of the working forest, and as such, activities that are likely to impact access or the recreation experience need to be communicated with the Designated Partner on the trail at least six months in advance.*

### Section 56 - Recreation Site Level Objective (snowmobile specific) - “High Value” Snowmobile Trails

Furthermore, in British Columbia we have areas that have a high recreation value for the snowmobile community that represent significant tourism and community benefit. These trails are designated as high value forest recreation sites and trails, by Recreation Sites and Trails BC or identified as an important recreational area by the FLNR Regional Executive Director. The BC Snowmobile Federation would additionally like the following objectives to be established to these sites or trails.

- 1. Opportunities for snowmobiling, viewing and exploring must be provided on this designated snowmobile trail (site) during the snowmobile operating season of December 1 to March 31.*

## **Draft Resolution #2**

Title: Protection for Established Snowmobile Recreational Sites or Trails

Sponsor: District of Sicamous

WHEREAS many local governments and communities rely on the 299 million dollars the snowmobile industry provides to rural communities in British Columbia for economic stability and development.

AND WHEREAS, local governments, communities and snowmobile clubs care about maintaining existing meaningful Recreation Sites and Trails Partnership Agreements with the Province of British Columbia for respectful stewardship of the lands.

AND WHEREAS, BC Snowmobile Federation member Snowmobile Clubs are the largest partner of established Recreation Sites and Trails in BC.

AND WHEREAS, Site level objectives under Section 56 of FRPA have not been established for snowmobile trails in BC resulting in a lack of communication or need to include consideration in Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP).

AND WHEREAS only a Government authorized designated decision maker can set Individual Recreation Objectives for an established recreation trail (site).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Union of BC Municipalities asks the BC Government to allocate the necessary resources to establish the following site level objectives on all new and existing established snowmobile sites under Section 56 of FRPA



- 1. The alpine and coniferous forest features along recreation sites or trails will be retained to preserve the outdoor recreation experience and prevent early season melt on snowmobile trails.*
- 2. Forest planning will include safety considerations for recreational access during the winter months and after harvesting is complete. This will include harvest planning consideration above and below a recreation site or trail to ensure that new exposures and avalanche paths are not created. Or that any new avalanche paths are mitigated by terrain modifications such as deflection berms.*
- 3. This recreation site or trail is part of the working forest, and as such, activities that are likely to impact access or the recreation experience need to be communicated with the Designated Partner on the trail (site) at least six months in advance.*

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED the Union of BC Municipalities asks the BC Government to allocate the necessary resources to establish the following site level objectives on all new and existing snowmobile sites that are established under Section 56 of FRPA and that are considered to be high value forest recreation sites and trails, by Recreation Sites and Trails BC or identified as an important recreational area by the FLNR Regional Executive Director.

*Opportunities for snowmobiling, viewing and exploring must be provided on this designated snowmobile trail (site) during the snowmobile operating season of December 1 to March 31.*

District of Sicamous  
446 Main Street  
PO Box 219  
Sicamous, BC  
VOE 2V0  
T: 250 836 2477  
F: 250 836 4314  
E: info@sicamous.ca  
www.sicamous.ca



July 15, 2021

Member Municipalities

Sent via email.

**Re: Protection of outdoor recreation opportunities and established snowmobile Recreational Sites or Trails in B.C.**

---

To Whom It May Concern,

District of Sicamous (DOS) Council is seeking support from fellow municipalities to support two resolutions the DOS has agreed to sponsor from the BC Snowmobile Federation (BCSF) concerning the Forest Range & Practice Act (FRPA) objectives and site-level objectives for snowmobile trails.

Currently there are 70 non-profit snowmobile organizations across the province who hold partnership agreements with Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC) to maintain trails in return for operating on Crown land. Many of these non-profit organizations exist in rural communities and largely contribute to the local economies—\$299M annually according to the BCSF.

The BCSF notes that of the 11 values within the FRPA, recreation is the only value without declared objectives, and that without these declared objectives industrial licensees have no requirement to consider, consult, or coordinate activities with recreation groups who hold partnership agreements with RSTBC. Within the existing FRPA framework, recreation organizations are legally required to maintain trails without communication from industry and are not guaranteed the very trails they are responsible for managing are not disrupted by industrial forest activity.

As these resolutions address issues impacting rural communities across B.C. and a disparity within the provincial legislation of the FRPA, DOS Council endorses the resolutions presented by the BCSF and asks for support from member municipalities at the 2021 UBCM Convention.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Rysz".

Mayor Terry Rysz,  
DISTRICT OF SICAMOUS

Encl. Protection for Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in BC  
Protection for Established Snowmobile Recreational Sites or Trails



# For Immediate Release

Contact: Donegal Wilson, Executive Director  
BC Snowmobile Federation  
Ph: 250-499-5117  
Email: [dwilson@bcsf.org](mailto:dwilson@bcsf.org)

## **Protection for Outdoor Recreation Opportunities and Established Snowmobile Trails in BC**

BCSF receives support from the District of Sicamous to submit resolutions to the Union of BC Municipalities

**Keremeos, BC (July 19, 2021)** -- The BC Snowmobile Federation (BCSF) presented two resolutions to the District of Sicamous (DOS) Council on June 23, 2021 seeking support for inclusion at the 2021 Union of BC Municipalities Convention. British Columbia has proudly earned its spot as one of the leading outdoor destinations in the world, celebrating a diverse landscape that defines both our people and culture. Access to recreation amenities has proven an important value and determinant for choice of employment or residence in BC. Snowmobiling is one such recreational asset and organized snowmobiling in BC provides \$299 million dollars to the winter rural economy.

The first resolution presented relates to changes required in the Forest Range Practices Act (FRPA). FRPA has eleven established Values listed within, but recreation remains the only Value that has no associated objective. This results in recreation being omitted from land planning and there is no requirement for industry to communicate, consult, or coordinate their activities with recreation groups. The BCSF Resolution is to establish an objective in FRPA that ensures all recreation groups are included in land planning processes going forward.

The second resolution is specific to snowmobile club operations in BC. For many communities, especially small rural towns, recreation and outdoor tourism is growing as a leading economic driver. The 70 non-profit snowmobile clubs in BC are creating this economic benefit largely on crown land under partnership agreements with Recreation Sites and Trails BC. Our clubs manage these trails on the government's behalf, to ensure the provision of safe, environmentally responsible, and vibrant snowmobile opportunities for the public to get out and enjoy the outdoors. The second BCSF Resolution establishes site specific snowmobile objectives relating to safety, quality of experience, and timing considerations.



"The District of Sicamous supports these resolutions to help address issues impacting rural communities across BC and the disparity within the provincial legislation of the Forest Range Practices Act (FRPA). We are asking municipalities across B.C. to support these resolutions at the 2021 UBCM Convention." -Mayor Terry Rysz, District of Sicamous

"Snowmobile Clubs across the province have worked hard to create great working relationships with Industry. With good planning and communication, we have found many companies willing to adjust harvest schedules or operational plans to accommodate our short snowmobile season. With these Resolutions the BCSF is working to establish these great working relationships as the standard for all operations in BC. The snowmobile sector has four months to generate 299 million dollars and we all need to work together to ensure that our communities receive all the economic benefits available to them from recreation and industry." Peter Doyle, President BC Snowmobile Federation

The BC Snowmobile Federation is a non-profit society created in 1965 to establish, maintain and protect quality opportunities for organized snowmobiling in BC. The BCSF collectively represents 60 snowmobile clubs and 44,000 riders in the Province of BC. On the ground, our member clubs are non-profit societies maintained by caring volunteers who promote safety, stewardship, and responsible backcountry snowmobile recreation.

###

If you would like more information about this release please contact:

Donegal Wilson, Executive Director  
BC Snowmobile Federation  
(250) 499-5117  
Email [dwilson@bcsf.org](mailto:dwilson@bcsf.org)

# WATER QUALITY REPORT

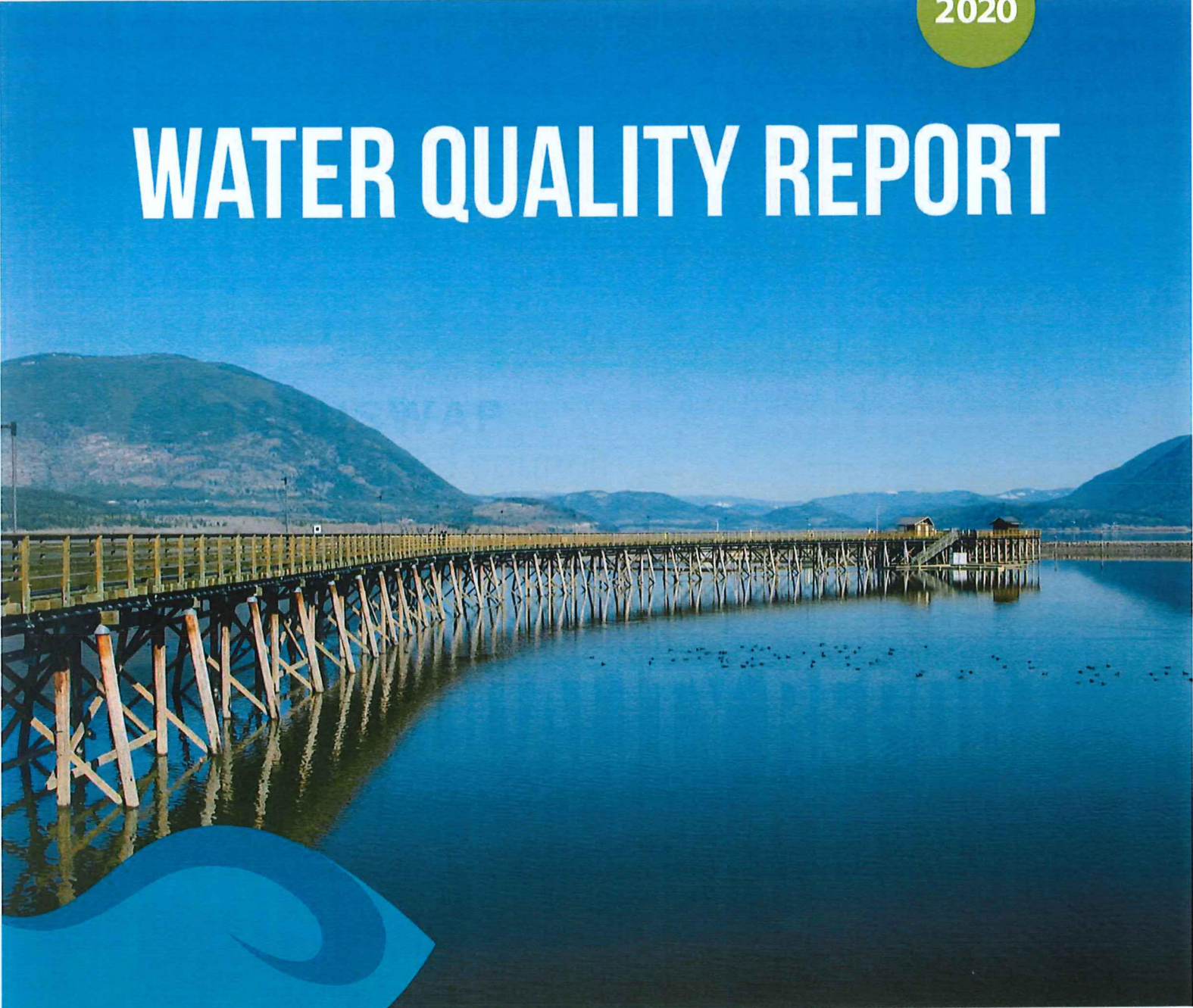


Photo Credit: Darren Robinson Photography





Photo Credit: Darren Robinson Photography / Shuswap Tourism

Water quality is monitored at several locations in the Shuswap watershed, at different times of year, and by different organizations for different reasons.

There are many reasons for monitoring water quality:

- To observe and record water quality, repeatedly over a period of time, to create a baseline—a set of conditions against which future measurements can be compared
- To protect public health and manage risk by ensuring water is safe for drinking and recreation
- To identify change, trends, and existing or emerging water quality problems
- To identify sources of pollution
- To ensure compliance with pollution regulations or permit requirements
- To gather information so that pollution prevention or remediation programs can be designed
- To measure how goals or targets for water quality are being met
- To understand how specific activities affect water quality.



The Shuswap Watershed Council (SWC) is a **partnership of many organizations** with a responsibility for or an interest in **monitoring and enhancing water quality.**

The SWC is pleased to present a summary of water quality monitoring results and water quality protection projects in the Shuswap watershed on behalf of its partners for 2020.

In this fifth annual report on water quality from the SWC, you'll find results and information about:

- Shuswap Lake, Mara Lake, Adams Lake, Mabel Lake, and Sugar Lake
- Salmon River
- Popular beaches
- Algal blooms and cyanobacteria
- Aquatic invasive species, and how to prevent their spread
- The SWC's new Water Quality Grant Program, and its work with farms in the Shuswap to protect water quality
- Shuswap watershed trivia
- Tips for how residents and home owners can reduce their impact on water quality.

## The Shuswap watershed

A watershed is an area of land defined by where water flows. Watersheds receive precipitation—rain or snow—and over time, water drains through creeks, rivers, and lakes to the single lowest point in the watershed.

The Shuswap watershed is much more than the lake: it is all the land and bodies of water that drain to the outlet of Little Shuswap Lake. It includes forests, fields, hillsides, wetlands, meadows, creeks, rivers, and lakes from the Okanagan Highlands in the south, to the Monashee mountains in the north and east, to the Shuswap Highlands in the northwest.

The Shuswap watershed is within **Secwepemcū'ecw**, the traditional territory of the Secwepemc Nation; part of the watershed in the south, around the Salmon River, is within the traditional territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) Nation.

The Shuswap watershed forms part of the larger Thompson and Fraser watersheds.

This is a simplified map of the Shuswap watershed. It shows the large lakes and rivers, and the water quality monitoring locations that are reported on the following pages.

### Select Water Quality Sample Locations

1. Sugar Lake
2. Mabel Lake—South End
3. Mabel Lake—Tsuius Creek
4. Mara Lake—Fossette
5. Shuswap Lake—Tappen
6. Shuswap Lake—Canoe Point
7. Shuswap Lake—Marble Point
8. Shuswap Lake—Broken Point
9. Shuswap Lake—Encounter Point
10. Shuswap Lake—Armstrong Point
11. Shuswap Lake—W. Sorrento
12. Adams Lake



### SHUSWAP TRIVIA

**How long is the shoreline of Shuswap Lake?**

- A. 1,120 km
- B. 1,430 km
- C. 1,810 km

Check page 15 for trivia answers!

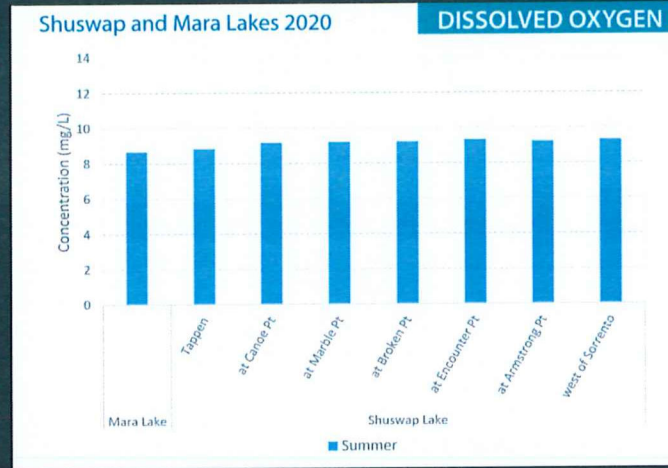
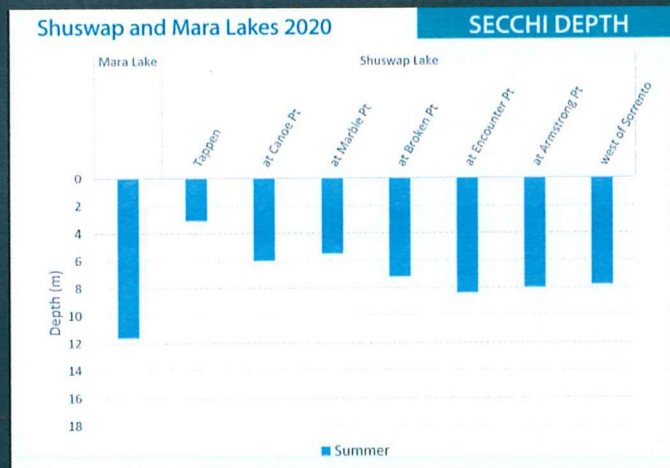
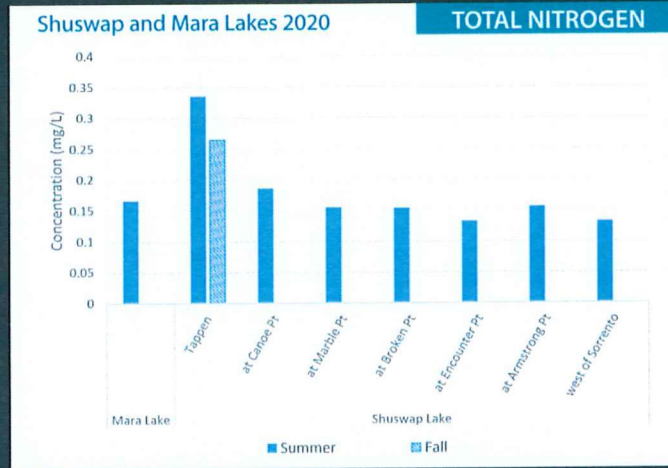
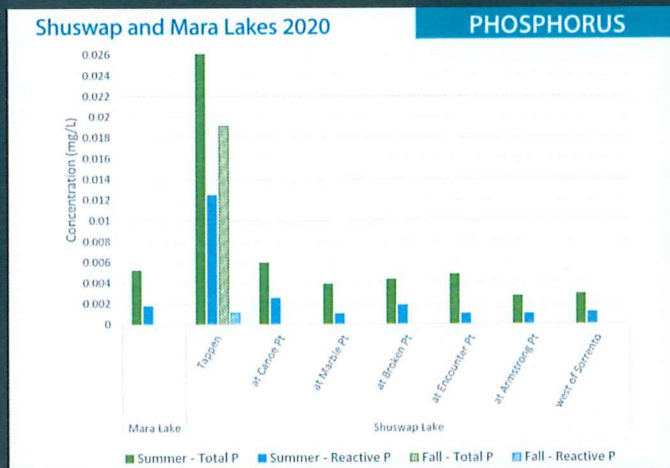


# Shuswap and Mara Lakes

The BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy monitored water quality at the lakes covered in this report. Here is a snapshot of water quality monitoring results from 2020.



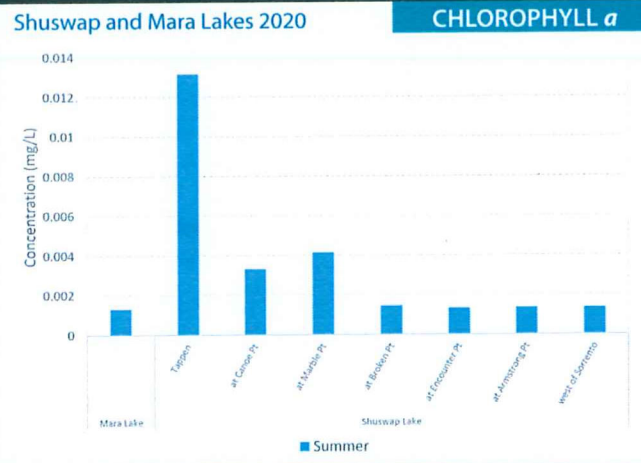
If you've read earlier editions of the SWC's annual water quality summary reports, you may notice that less data is being reported for 2020 than previous years. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic prevented field staff from collecting a full set of water quality data in 2020. Consequently, data for the late season (fall) is presented, but early season (spring) is missing for many of the sites.



## Why monitor nutrients?

Did you know that Phosphorus (P) and Nitrogen (N) are vital nutrients in an aquatic ecosystem? That's one of the reasons why they're routinely monitored. Aquatic life such as algae, invertebrates, and fish need these nutrients to grow and reproduce. Aquatic ecosystems are defined, in part, by the amount of nutrients in them. Limnologists (lake biologists) refer to this as **"trophic condition"**. In a healthy ecosystem, the give-and-take of nutrients is balanced. But, excessive nutrients in an aquatic ecosystem can upset the balance and lead to algae growth, odours, reduced water quality, and it can compromise the quality of water for drinking and recreation.

There are two types of P reported: **Reactive P** and **Total P**. Reactive P is a form of phosphorus that's immediately available (also known as "bioavailable") to plant life, such as algae and aquatic plants. Therefore, Reactive P is the form of P that has the potential to trigger an algal bloom.



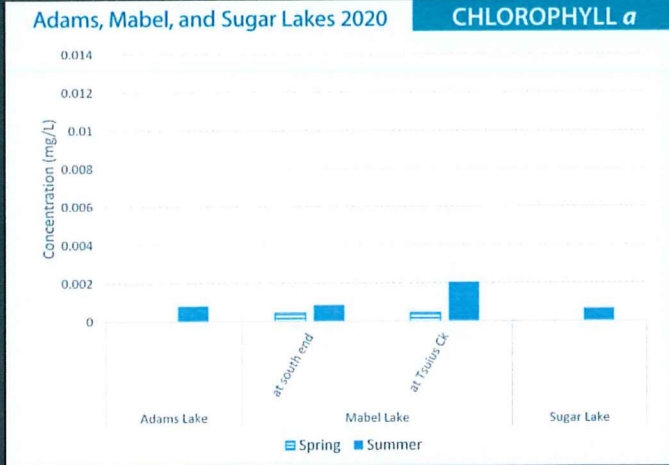
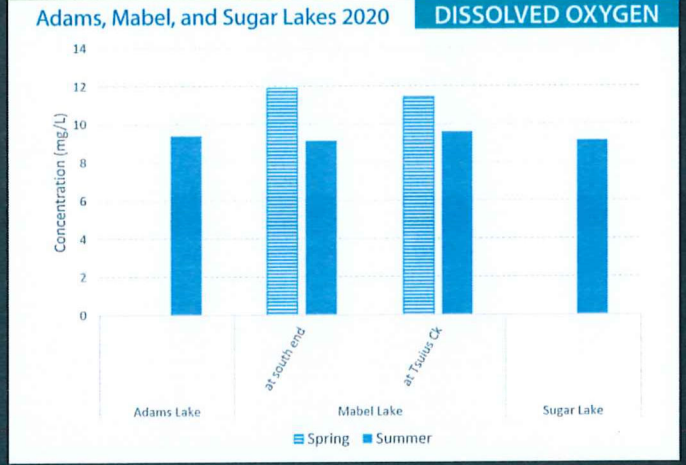
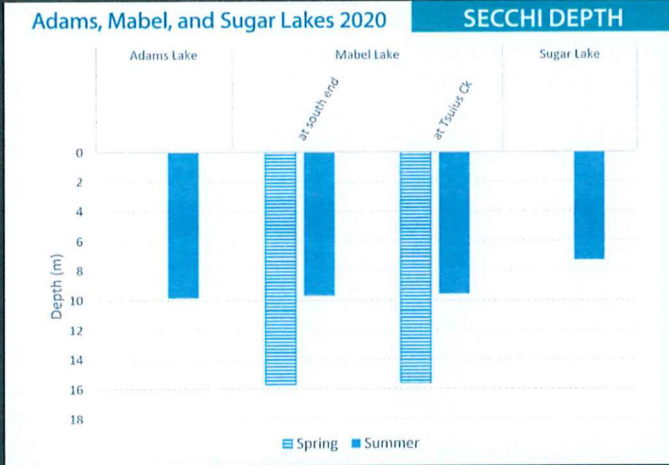
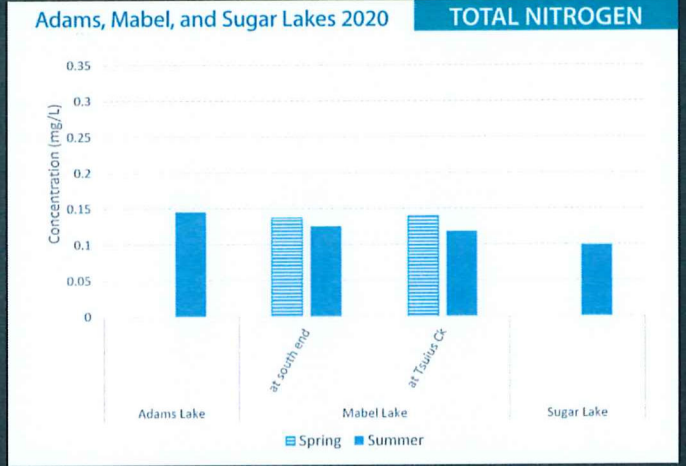
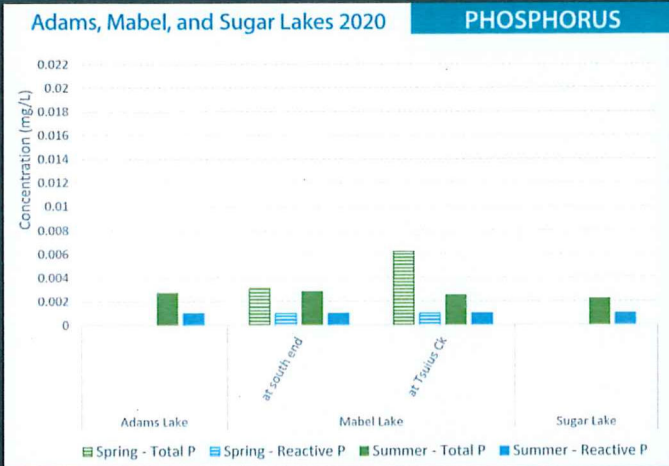


**True or False: A Secchi Disk is a device for measuring water quality**

**True!** A Secchi Disk is a flat, circular device with alternating black and white wedges. It is lowered into the water on a rope until the contrasting wedges are no longer visible beneath the surface. The depth of the disk at this point is the Secchi depth measurement. It is a low-tech, relative measurement of water clarity: the higher the depth, the clearer the water.

Generally speaking, a lake's water clarity can be reduced by a number of factors such as fine silt, algae, or dissolved compounds in the water such as tannins. Shuswap and Mara Lake typically have high Secchi depth measurements in most locations. The spring measurements tend to be smaller due to the influence of spring run-off on water clarity, particularly at the Tappen site which is relatively shallow and heavily influenced by the Salmon River.

## Adams, Mabel, and Sugar Lakes



Are you wondering where these sites are located? See the map on page 4 to find out.



**Natural vs. anthropogenic nutrient sources**

In a watershed there can be many sources of nutrients. Some are natural, and some are anthropogenic (created by people). Of the latter, these include municipal wastewater effluent, septic drain fields, domestic and commercially used fertilizers, such as those in agriculture, horticulture and forestry, and agricultural wastes. Nutrients from these sources can enter the lakes directly through pipes and outfalls, or indirectly by seeping through soils or groundwater until they reach a river or lake.

Notice the differences in phosphorus and chlorophyll *a* between the lakes reported on this page, and Shuswap and Mara Lakes reported on the previous page. The values are lower for Mabel Lake, Sugar Lake and Adams Lake—this is indicative of the naturally very low-nutrient water quality in the upper reaches of the Shuswap watershed.



## An explanation of the lakes monitoring programs

### Shuswap and Mara Lakes

The BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy (MOE) routinely monitors several locations in the Shuswap watershed twice per year—spring and late summer/fall—to identify long-term water quality trends in the lakes. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic prevented field staff from collecting water quality data from many of the monitoring sites in the spring; however, the lakes were monitored in the fall.

The water quality parameters reported here—nutrients, chlorophyll *a*, dissolved oxygen, and Secchi depth—all relate to lake productivity (essentially, the ability of a lake to support the growth plankton, plants, and animals). MOE's monitoring program also includes a suite of water chemistry parameters to support data interpretation and provide a comprehensive record of water quality trends over time. Some of these parameters include pH, temperature, turbidity, total suspended solids, hardness, sulphate, and alkalinity.

Which of these lakes has the deepest point?

- A. Mabel Lake
- B. Shuswap Lake
- C. Adams Lake

SHUSWAP TRIVIA

Which of these lakes is at the highest elevation?

- A. Mabel Lake
- B. Adams Lake
- C. Sugar Lake

Check page 15 for trivia answers!

## The importance and impacts of nutrients in a lake ecosystem

### What is trophic condition?

Did you know that lakes' condition is classified according to its productivity, or ability to support plant growth? This is referred to as its 'trophic status' or 'trophic condition'. Trophic condition ranges from oligotrophic (low levels of nutrients and productivity) to mesotrophic (moderate levels of nutrients and productivity) to eutrophic (high levels of nutrients and productivity). 'Eutrophication' is the progress of a lake toward a higher trophic condition, which can naturally occur very slowly over time, and can also be sped up by anthropogenic activities (people-caused) such as settlement and agriculture.

### An assessment of Shuswap Lake

—by Kym Keogh, Senior Environmental Impact Biologist, BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

Shuswap Lake is predominantly oligotrophic, which means it is characterized by relatively low biological productivity, clear water, and low nutrient concentrations. Water chemistry data demonstrates low primary productivity (i.e., phytoplankton growth) and dilute nature of this large, deep lake. Periodic increases in nutrient inputs in the Salmon Arm reach (see map, p. 4) of the lake have resulted in primary productivity that indicates a mesotrophic condition.

Water levels in the lake between 2015–2019 were at times well below the average and at other times were much higher than the average, such as in 2017 and 2018. These water levels were a key factor driving nutrient loading and nutrient availability in the lake during growing season. This is because the large rivers in the watershed are, by far, the biggest sources of nutrients to the lake. The influence of high water was especially apparent in the Sicamous and Salmon Arm reaches which are influenced by the Shuswap River, Eagle River, and Salmon River. Nutrient loading during flood events appears to be an important factor influencing lake conditions in the Salmon Arm reach, which remains in the mesotrophic range although total phosphorus, total nitrogen, and possibly chlorophyll *a* are showing an increasing trend since 2005.

Despite the variability in lake levels in recent years, there has been no change in water quality in the Main arm, which generally is in the oligotrophic range. The Sicamous reach shows some variability and some increasing trends in chlorophyll *a* although it, too, remains in the oligotrophic range for water quality.

*A full water quality assessment report for Shuswap Lake will be available from the BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy later this year.*

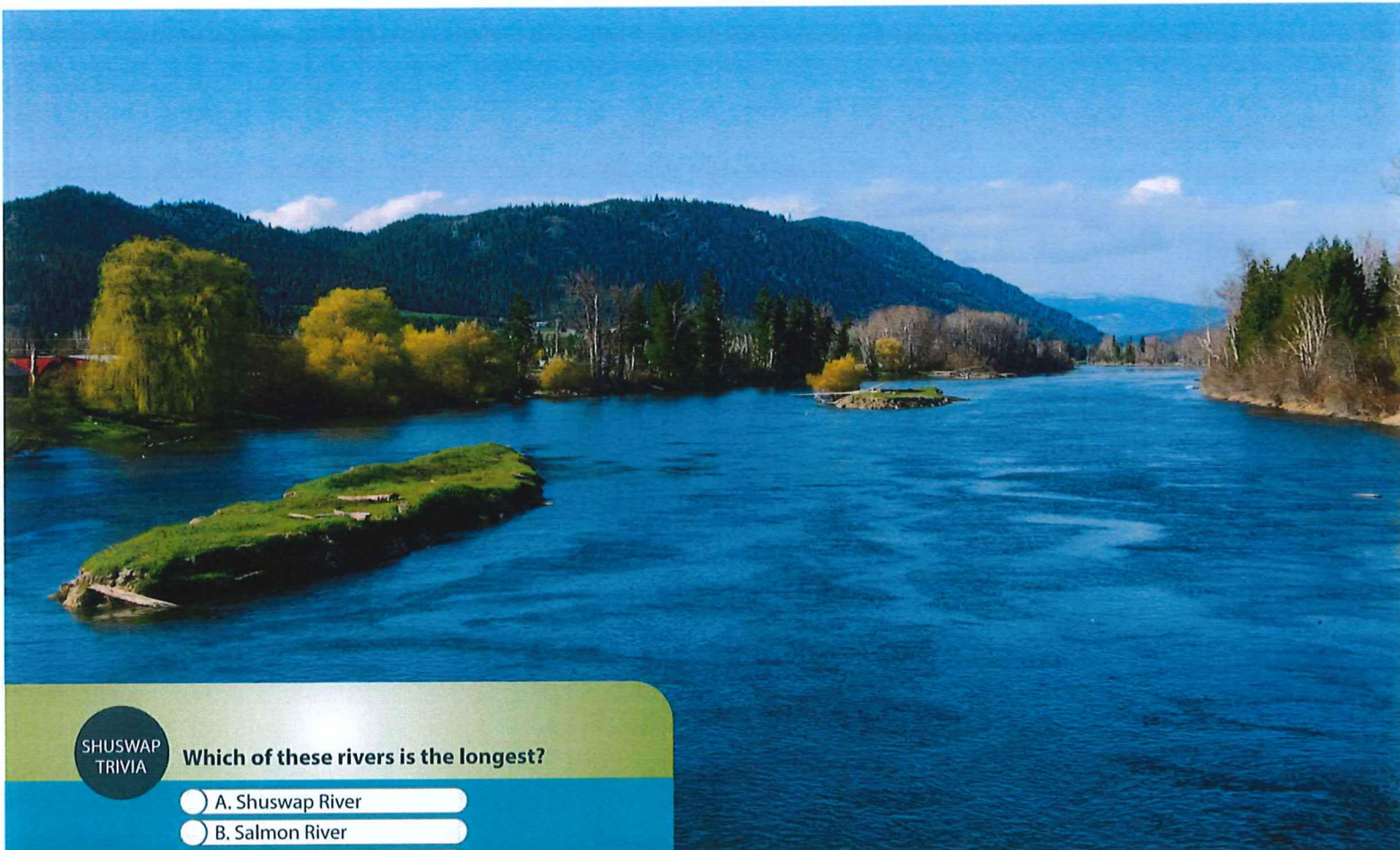


Photo Credit: Darren Robinson Photography

SHUSWAP TRIVIA

Which of these rivers is the longest?

- A. Shuswap River
- B. Salmon River
- C. Adams River

Check page 15 for trivia answers!

## Coming soon... a detailed report on the Salmon River

From 2016–2018, the SWC and BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy (MOE) worked together to conduct a thorough monitoring program on the Salmon River that involved collecting water quality samples at five sites on a monthly basis for the duration of the three-year monitoring program. This served two key purposes:

- To assess if the water quality is meeting water quality objectives that were set by the MOE for the Salmon River in 1998. This type of monitoring program is called **attainment monitoring**.
- To provide support for the nutrient research partnership with UBC-Okanagan that was carried out on the river during the same time period (see p. 14 for more information).

The results of the attainment monitoring program are being assessed by MOE staff, and an attainment report describing how well the monitoring results met water quality objectives will be available from the MOE later this year.

**Where are the river data?** If you've been reading the SWC's water quality summary reports since 2016 when it published its first summary report, you might have noticed that this year's summary is missing data for the Salmon River and the Shuswap River. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic prevented field staff from monitoring sites on these rivers for most of the year.



### Did you know?

The lakes and rivers of the Shuswap watershed are important migration, spawning, and juvenile rearing habitat for four species of Pacific salmon: sockeye, chinook, coho, and pink.

Sécwepemctsin (Shuswap language) words for the Shuswap:

séwllkwe ... water      peséwllkwe ... lake  
setétkwe ... river      sqlélten ... salmon

Find the SWC's previous water quality summary reports for 2019, 2018, 2017, and 2016 on their website.

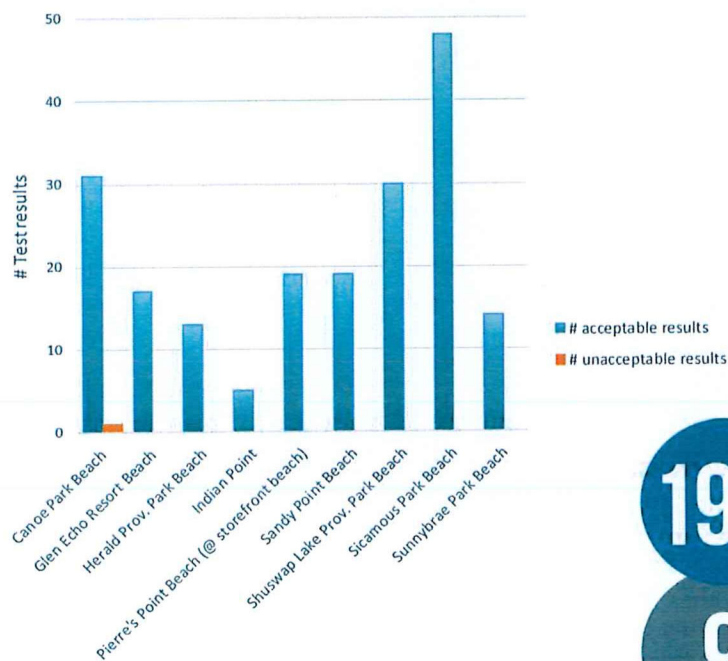
[shuswapwater.ca](http://shuswapwater.ca)



Photo Credit: Victoria Haack / Shuswap Tourism

## Swimming Beaches

Interior Health and First Nations Health Authority are the regulatory agencies that oversee water quality monitoring at popular swimming beaches in the Shuswap. Water samples are collected and tested throughout the summer months for *E. coli*, a type of bacteria that is an indicator of water contamination. Here are the results from their beach monitoring programs in 2020.



### ? What is an acceptable or unacceptable result?

There are federal guidelines for water quality for swimming and recreation (these are different from guidelines for aquatic life or for drinking water). They recommend that a safe bacteria level is less than 400 *E. coli* in a 100 mL sample, or an average of less than 200 *E. coli* in five consecutive 100 mL samples collected on a weekly basis. If results are above these, a swimming advisory may be issued.

196  
9  
1

Some beaches are tested more frequently than others. **Out of 196 water quality samples collected from these nine popular beaches in 2020, all but one met the federal water quality guideline for swimming and recreation.**

SHUSWAP TRIVIA

What is the surface area of Shuswap Lake?

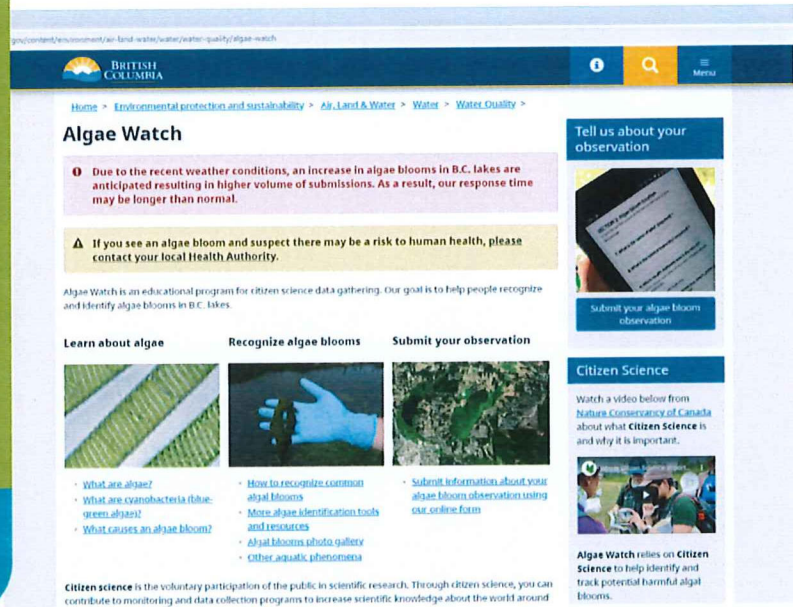
- A. 31 sq. km
- B. 310 sq. km
- C. 3100 sq. km

Check page 15 for trivia answers!



If you've spotted an algal bloom, submit your observations via the **BC Algae Watch** website. Your submission will go directly to staff at the BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy.

[www.gov.bc.ca/algaewatch](http://www.gov.bc.ca/algaewatch)



## About algae and algal blooms

Algae are a diverse group of simple plants that live in freshwater and marine environments. Algae provide important ecosystem functions, including providing food for fish and supplying oxygen into the environment.

When conditions for algae are favourable, algae reproduction and growth can be prolific resulting in a dense mass of algae called a bloom. It is difficult to predict algae growth or to pinpoint exact causes for it, but sunlight, water temperature, nutrients, and stable weather (i.e., little to no wind or wave action) can all contribute to algal blooms. Sometimes these favourable conditions occur naturally, other times they are caused by people through land use activities such as agriculture and horticulture, or by industrial or domestic waste waters.

It's not uncommon for small isolated pockets of algae to occur in Shuswap Lake or any of the smaller lakes in our region, especially in spring and early summer when a fresh supply of nutrients enters the lakes during spring run-off and there is more sunlight. That time of year there can also be organic debris in the lakes, which can make identifying algae a challenge.

You can learn more about algae and how to recognize an algal bloom from a new provincial website, Algae Watch: [www.gov.bc.ca/algaewatch](http://www.gov.bc.ca/algaewatch).

### What are cyanobacteria?

Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, are microscopic bacteria that occur in lakes across BC and beyond. Similar to algae, when conditions for their growth and reproduction are favourable they can form a bloom. Cyanoblooms are of particular concern because there are some species of cyanobacteria that are capable of producing toxins harmful to humans, pets, and livestock. Not all cyanobacteria are toxic, and even toxic species do not always produce toxins.

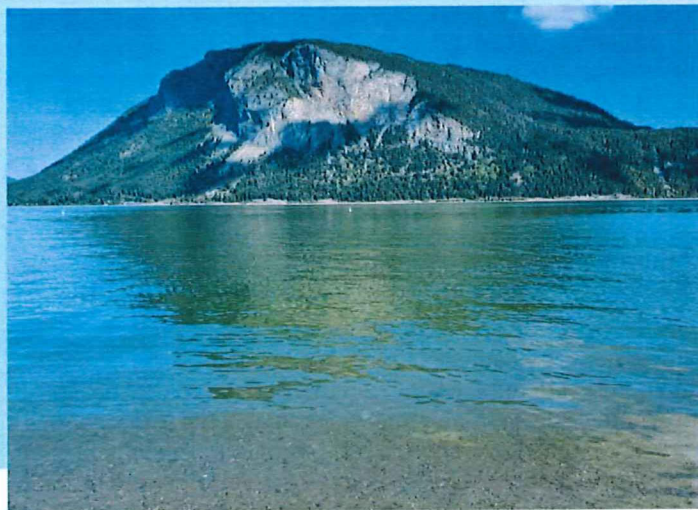
In BC, there is a provincial protocol for monitoring and testing water quality for cyanobacteria, for both drinking and recreational purposes. The protocol describes maximum acceptable concentrations of microcystin, a toxin that can be associated with cyanobacteria. In the event of a cyanobloom, the local health authority may recommend or require a public notification. If a notification is required, the drinking water provider or beach owner/operator will post public notifications.

In the Shuswap, cyanoblooms are rare but they can happen. You can reduce your risk of becoming exposed to cyanobacteria toxins by never drinking untreated water from lakes or ponds, and never swimming or recreating in water with a visible bloom. When needed, Interior Health posts up-to-date information about cyanoblooms online: [www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/RecreationalWater](http://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/RecreationalWater).

## The Salmon Arm Bay algal bloom of 2020

Shuswap Lake experienced a large, prolonged algal bloom from June to September 2020, in the Salmon Arm Bay and Tappen Bay areas of the lake and downstream to Sunnybrae, Canoe and Herald (see map, p. 4). Understanding the cause of an algal bloom can be difficult in most circumstances, but the 2020 bloom was uniquely challenging because COVID-19 prevented the collection of early-season water quality data which, if available, would've given insight to the conditions in the lake at the time leading up to the bloom.

Even in the absence of early-season water quality data, there are several factors that likely contributed to the 2020 algal bloom. The amount of rain, water-saturated soils, and high water levels in the Salmon River, White Creek, Tappen Creek, and other nearby creeks meant that nutrients were being flushed out of soils and carried downstream to Salmon Arm Bay. Agricultural soils can be an especially rich source of nutrients, including phosphorus, which contributes to algal growth. Septic systems near the lake and the Salmon Arm wastewater treatment plant effluent also contribute nutrients to Salmon Arm Bay, although past water quality monitoring and analysis has shown that these are a much smaller source of nutrients than rivers and creeks. In addition to nutrient inputs, the depth of Salmon Arm Bay is also a factor in the algal bloom. The bay is a relatively shallow region of Shuswap Lake, and consequently it warms up more than other parts of the lake. These conditions are favourable to some species of algae. Other favourable conditions for the algal bloom in 2020 were the abundance of sunshine and stable weather throughout much of July and August.



A high influx of nutrients due to rain and high water levels, and relatively shallow, calm, warm water in the Salmon Arm Bay likely contributed to the algal bloom of 2020. These two photos were taken at Canoe Beach on August 30th and September 8th. Notice in the later photo that the water is more clear and colourless.



### Did you know?

Shuswap Lake has a residence time of approximately 2.1 years. That means that all the water in the lake is replaced over that period of time. The residence time varies from arm to arm—for example, the Main Arm residence time has been estimated at 2–3 months whereas the Salmon Arm has a longer residence time closer to three years. Shuswap Lake has a relatively rapid residence time, compared to other large lakes in BC, and it can be attributed to the lack of flow-control structures (i.e., dams) on the lake and the high run-off volume from the large watershed area.

Photo credit:  
City of Salmon Arm

## Keeping invasive Zebra and Quagga Mussels out of the Shuswap



### Did you know?

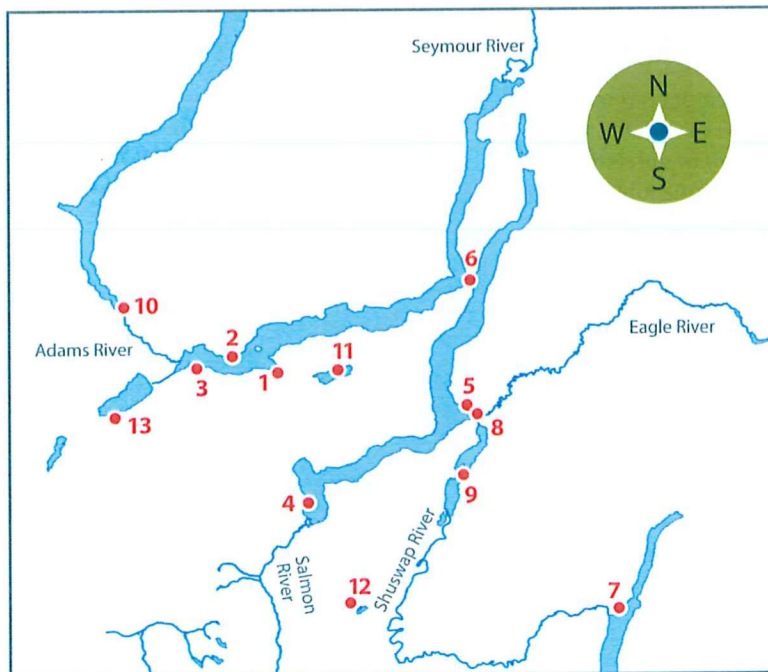
Shuswap Lake and many other lakes in our region are especially at risk of a mussel infestation because of the water quality. The temperature, pH, and calcium concentrations are well suited to mussel survival. Additionally, the high influx of watercraft that we typically see in the summer from nearby provinces and states also puts our lakes at greater risk of an invasion.



Zebra and quagga mussels are two species of freshwater mussels native to Europe and Asia with tremendous destructive potential due to their ability to attach to objects in the water: boats, water supply pipes, irrigation systems, dock pilings, hydro-electric facilities, and more. They also litter beaches with their small razor-sharp shells, impact water quality and aquatic food webs, reduce biodiversity by out-competing native species for food and space, and produce foul odours.

Fortunately, **zebra and quagga mussels don't exist in the Shuswap**—or in any of BC's lakes—but they do occur in Ontario, Manitoba, and as far west as California. Since they arrived in North America in the 1980s in ship ballast water, they have spread to new water bodies by 'hitch hiking' on boats and other watercraft.

With financial support from the SWC and others, the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS) has monitored several sites throughout the Shuswap for invasive mussels for the past six years. All their test results have been negative, meaning that invasive mussels have not been detected.



### ZQM Monitoring Sites in 2020

1. Shuswap Lake—Blind Bay
2. Shuswap Lake—Captain's Village Marina
3. Shuswap Lake—Little River Boat World
4. Shuswap Lake—Sandy Point
5. Shuswap Lake—Old Town Bay
6. Shuswap Lake—Cinnemousun Narrows
7. Mabel Lake—Kingfisher
8. Mara Lake—Sicamous Narrows
9. Mara Lake—Swansea Point
10. Adams Lake—Indian Point Resort
11. White Lake—White Lake Provincial Park
12. Gardom Lake—Community Park
13. Little Shuswap Lake—Memorial Park



CSISS collected 100 samples from 13 sites on seven lakes throughout the Shuswap in 2020. Invasive mussels weren't detected at any of these locations!





### Zebra Mussels and Aquariums

In early 2021, zebra mussels were found in 'moss ball' aquarium plants in several locations across BC, including homes and pet stores. Although the introduction of zebra mussels to BC via aquarium plants was unintentional, it is a very unfortunate discovery that could have disastrous consequences if contaminated aquarium contents make their way into the environment through dumping or improper disposal. Aquarium owners are requested to inspect their plants and get in touch with the BC Conservation Officer Service if zebra mussels are observed in their tanks.

Reach the BC Conservation Officer Service at 1-877-952-RAPP (7277).

### Invasive freshwater clams in the Shuswap

In 2019, invasive freshwater clam shells were discovered on the shores of Shuswap Lake. In 2020, the SWC sponsored Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS) to survey where the clams have established in Shuswap Lake. Living populations were confirmed at Sunnybrae and Canoe (in the Salmon Arm of Shuswap Lake). Invasive clams are very difficult to eradicate from a complex waterbody like Shuswap Lake. Therefore, we must all pitch in to prevent their spread to other areas of the Shuswap lake, or to nearby lakes:

- Clean, drain and dry watercraft when moving from one waterbody to another
- Stop for watercraft inspection when travelling
- Avoid using invasive species as fishing bait
- Never release or dump aquarium plants or animals
- Report sightings of invasive clams and other invasive species using the [Report Invasives BC app](#) >



Invasive freshwater clams have a light brown triangular shell, usually less than 2.5 cm in length with visible growth rings. They pose many of the same threats as Zebra and Quagga mussels, including the potential to clog pipes, pollute water quality, and reduce biodiversity. Surveys for invasive freshwater clams are continuing in the Shuswap in 2021 to better understand where they are distributed.

Photo credit: Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society



SHUSWAP TRIVIA

How many eggs can a single female zebra mussel produce in one year?

- A. 10,000
- B. 100,000
- C. 1,000,000

Check page 15 for trivia answers!

## Protecting and improving water quality in the Shuswap

The Shuswap Watershed Council launched a Water Quality Grant Program in early 2020. Farm businesses in the Shuswap were invited to apply for grant funding to go toward on-farm nutrient management projects. Applications to the grant fund needed to demonstrate how nutrient management would be improved, thereby reducing the amount of nutrients that wash off or leach out of soils into nearby creeks, rivers, and ultimately to Shuswap or Mara Lake. Nutrient retention in soils represents a significant savings for farms, making the nutrient management projects a win-win for farms and for water quality.

The purpose of the SWC's Water Quality Grant Program is to assist agricultural producers in retaining nutrients on land and in soil, not washing off into nearby creeks and rivers through rain, snowmelt, or flooding where it could contribute to water quality degradation.



The SWC's Water Quality Grant Program is guided by the results of a three-year research project by scientists at the University of British Columbia-Okanagan. Phase 1 of the research project showed that the highest proportions of nutrients in the watershed come from the settled valley bottoms of the Shuswap River and Salmon River, which are the areas

most impacted by agriculture, housing, and commercial development. Phase 2 of the research project showed that nutrient loading into Mara Lake has been trending upward since the 1990s. Learn more about the water quality research in this mini-report: **Understanding Nutrients and Water Quality in the Shuswap River and Salmon River**. Find it on the SWC website.



### Shuswap Watershed Council

The SWC produced a short, informative video with these Salmon Valley-based farms that received grant funding from the Council in 2020. Find the video on the SWC's YouTube channel!

## 2020 Water Quality Grant Funding recipients



Hillside Dreams Goat Dairy completed a few projects including the installation of fencing between the farm and the Salmon River to keep livestock out of the river; construction of a stable berm between the river and a barn to mitigate the risk of flooding and prevent floodwaters from becoming nutrient-enriched in the nearby barnyard; and re-construction of a manure pit to improve its impermeability.



Swaan Farms installed a 'HarveStore' to safely collect and store liquid effluent from dairy manure to be applied to crops on the farm at the appropriate time.



Lakeland Farms completed a cover-crop trial project, which involved planting various species for cover and demonstrating the techniques and benefits of cover crops to other producers in the area.



Grass Roots Dairies replaced an effluent treatment storage facility, including the installation of a sump, pump and pipe.



Splatsin First Nation and the *Farmland Riparian Interface Stewardship Program* (FRISP) of the BC Cattlemen's Association are working with ranchers in the Shuswap River valley and Salmon River valley to build and replace riparian area fencing, which will keep livestock away from rivers, creeks, and creekbanks.



## Help keep the Shuswap clean

Here's what you can do as a resident of the Shuswap to help maintain our water quality:

- Make sure you know where your household wastewater goes. Is your home connected to a septic system or to sewer? If it's septic, it's your responsibility to keep it in good repair. The Septic Smart Homeowner's Guide is a good place to start: [csrd.bc.ca/septicmart/](https://csrd.bc.ca/septicmart/)
- If you have a farm or agricultural operation of any kind, get familiarized with the provincial Code of Practice for Agricultural Environmental Management. This regulation was enacted by the BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy in February 2019. It aims to ensure agricultural practices are consistent with the protection of clean, safe drinking water. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/2ToGpu2>
- If you're a boat owner or have a watercraft of any kind, take the necessary steps to avoid accidentally moving invasive species from one waterbody to another. Always clean, drain, and dry your watercraft. When you travel, stop at watercraft inspection stations.
- Properly dispose of unused medications. Don't throw them out or flush them—return them to a pharmacy
- Don't ever flush personal care products such as wipes, floss, masks, gloves, swabs or hygiene products—not even if it says 'flushable' on the package!
- Don't put fats, oils or grease down the drain. Cool it, scrape it, and dispose of it in your garbage. Large quantities of liquid fats and oils should be dropped off at a hazardous waste facility (e.g., Salmon Arm landfill).

## Acknowledgments

Thanks go to members of the SWC's Water Quality Monitoring Group for their contributions to this summary. The SWC wishes to acknowledge the BC Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy, the CSRD, First Nations Health Authority, Interior Health, the City of Salmon Arm, and the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society.

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## Trivia answers

How long is the shoreline of Shuswap Lake?  
**B. 1,430 km**

Which of these lakes has the deepest point?  
**C. Adams Lake**—the deepest point is 397m!

Which of these lakes is the highest elevation?  
**C. Sugar Lake**

Which of these rivers is the longest?  
**A. Shuswap**

What is the surface area of Shuswap Lake?  
**B. 310 sq. km**

How many eggs can a single female zebra mussel produce in one year?  
**C. 1,000,000**



## What do you think?

Would you like share your feedback on this water quality report with us? Please contact the SWC, care of the Fraser Basin Council in Kamloops:

**Erin Vieira**, SWC Program Manager  
[evieira@fraserbasin.bc.ca](mailto:evieira@fraserbasin.bc.ca)  
250.314.9660

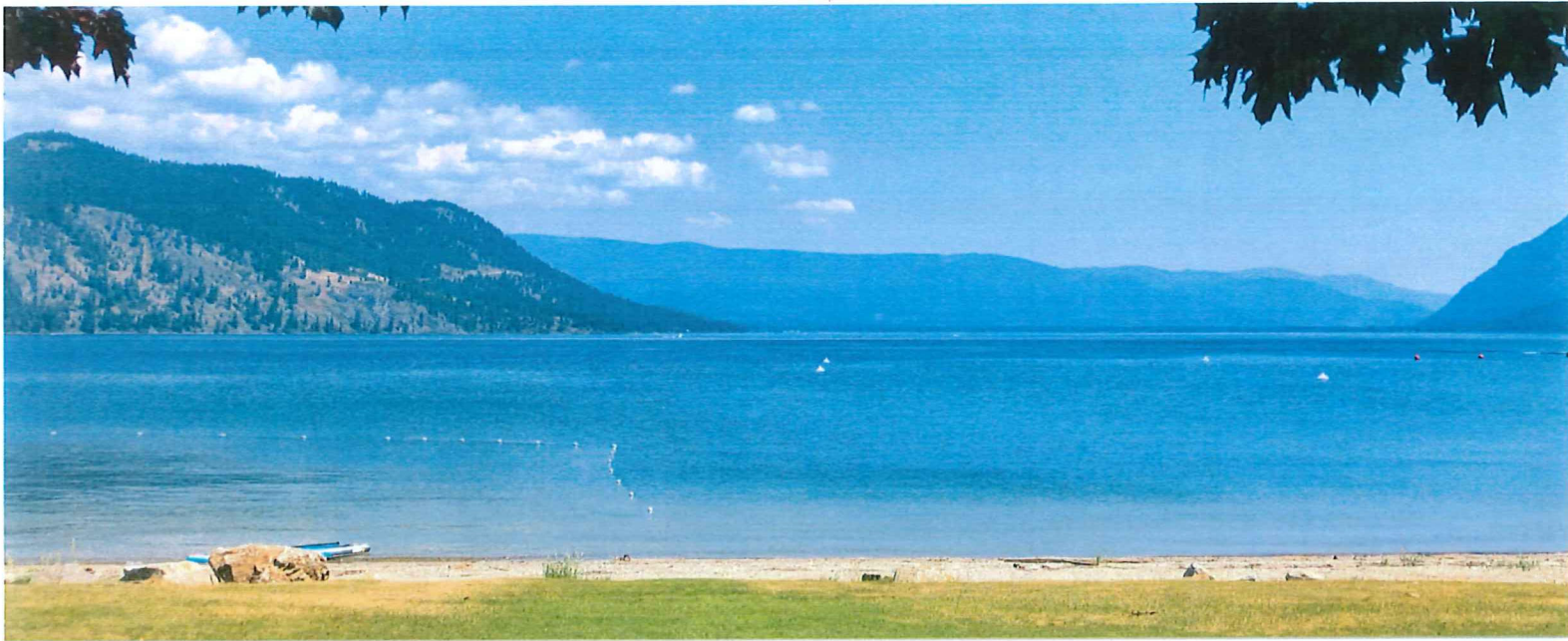


Photo Credit: Erin Vieira



## Who We Are

### About the Shuswap Watershed Council

The SWC was established in 2014 as a watershed-based partnership to enhance water quality and safe recreation in the Shuswap. There are 18 members that represent three regional districts, two municipalities, the Secwepemc Nation, two provincial government agencies, and Shuswap communities. The SWC is a collaborative, non-regulatory group. It works alongside organizations that have regulatory roles in managing the Shuswap watershed, complementing their work and carefully avoiding duplication.

### Staff

The Fraser Basin Council, a provincial non-government organization, provides staff services to the Shuswap Watershed Council.

### Our Vision

Enhanced water quality that supports human and ecosystem health and the local economy in the Shuswap watershed.

## What We Do

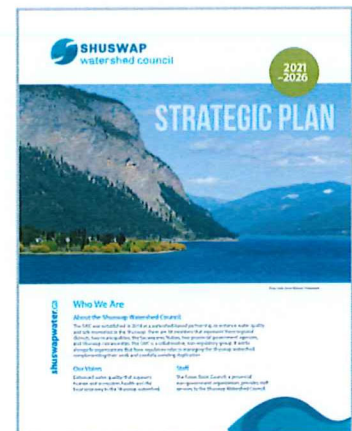
### Our Goals

The SWC's goals are that water quality is maintained and improved in the Shuswap for the benefits of a healthy ecosystem, a thriving tourism economy and a desirable lifestyle for residents; that the SWC is the trusted, go-to source for water quality information in the Shuswap; that people in the Shuswap practice safe water-based recreation; and that the SWC is a well-governed, transparent, collaborative organization.

### The Work

The SWC's work on water quality, prevention of aquatic invasive mussels, and safe water-based recreation is guided by its Strategic Plan for 2021–26.

The SWC recently published a new Strategic Plan for 2021–26. Find it on their website: [shuswapwater.ca](http://shuswapwater.ca)



File: 0110.00

July 29, 2021

Honourable Premier John Horgan  
Province of British Columbia  
PO Box 9422 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

Email: [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)

The Honourable Adrian Dix, M.L.A.  
Minister of Health  
PO Box 9050, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Email: [HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Premier Horgan and Minister Dix:

**Re: Improvement to Pre-Hospital Care System**

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At its July 26, 2021 Regular Council meeting, the Council for the City of Langley adopted the following resolution regarding the above-referenced subject.

**WHEREAS** local governments have been raising concerns of long delays with ambulance response time and First Responders responding to increasing number of Medical Emergency Service Alarm (MESA) calls due to lack of inadequate number of ambulances being available.

**WHEREAS** the recent heat wave exacerbated the shortcoming of the pre-hospital care system which created unacceptable delays in ambulance response time.

**WHEREAS** First Responders had to respond to extraordinary number of Medical Emergency Service Alarm (MESA) calls during the recent heat wave and endured unreasonable delays in response time by the ambulance to release them from the calls.

**WHEREAS** First Responders play an essential role in the pre-hospital care system and in supporting BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) with the delivery of the quickest possible response to patients requiring time-critical care.

**WHEREAS** the Auditor General of British Columbia's report, published in February 2019, on Access to Emergency Health Services provided recommendations to make transformational changes to the pre-hospital care system.

**WHEREAS** Health Minister Adrian Dix announced on July 14, 2021 to improve ambulance response time by providing funding for 85 new full-time paramedics, 30 fulltime dispatchers, 22 new ambulances, and converting 22 rural ambulance stations to 24/7 ALPHA stations.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Province of BC and BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) immediately allocate the funding to improve ambulance response

time; and to improve coordination with fire departments to support consistent application of medical standards, information sharing, an integrated dispatch system, and improvements to patient care as recommended in the Auditor General report.

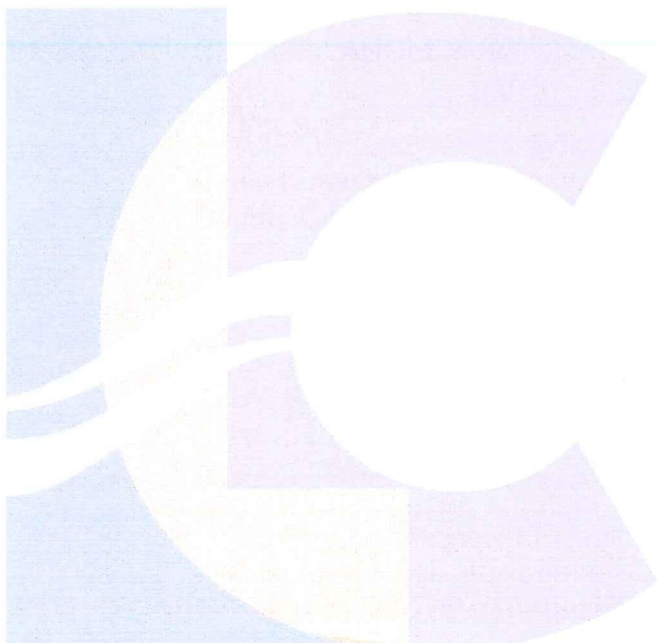
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Minister Dix take concrete actions to treat First Responders as an equal and an integral partner of the pre-hospital care system with adequate support (e.g. training) and resources (e.g. cost recovery) in order to achieve this goal; and that this motion be forward to Premier John Horgan; Minister Adrian Dix, Minister of Health; Andrew Mercier, MLA Langley, Susan Wannamaker, Executive Vice President, Clinical Service Delivery, Provincial Health Services Authority; and All municipalities in BC.

Yours truly,  
CITY OF LANGLEY



Paula Kusack  
Deputy Corporate Officer

cc: Andrew Mercier, MLA Langley  
Susan Wannamaker, Executive Vice President, Clinical Service Delivery,  
Provincial Health Services Authority  
All municipalities in BC.





**Indigenous Relations & Government Affairs**  
General Yard Office  
1670 Lougheed Highway  
Port Coquitlam BC V3B 5C8

[www.cpr.ca](http://www.cpr.ca)

August 3, 2021

Mayor Alan Harrison  
City of Salmon Arm  
500 - 2nd Avenue NE  
PO Box 40  
Salmon Arm BC V1E 4N2

Via email: [aharrison@salmonarm.ca](mailto:aharrison@salmonarm.ca)

Dear Mayor Harrison:

**RE: CP's Interim Extreme Weather Fire Risk Mitigation Plan**

In compliance with Transport Canada's Ministerial Order 21-06 (MO 21-06) and taking into consideration further clarification issued by Transport Canada on July 13, 2021, Canadian Pacific (CP) has developed and implemented an Interim Extreme Weather Fire Risk Mitigation Plan across its Canadian network.

CP's Interim Extreme Weather Fire Risk Mitigation Plan includes relevant fire detection, monitoring and response activities and measures from existing plans and programs, supplemented by measures that are implemented in locations where fire danger levels are "extreme" as defined under the Canadian Wildland Fire Information System.

Effective planning is essential to ensuring a safe and resilient rail system that continues to serve the needs of the North American supply chain. As such, CP welcomes comments from community members and stakeholders, including municipal, regional and Indigenous leaders, on the plan.

To download CP's interim plan in PDF format and to provide feedback, please click on this link: <https://www.cpr.ca/en/interim-extreme-weather-fire-risk-mitigation-plan>. Consistent with the Order, CP will accept feedback on the plan until August 25, 2021.

Rail infrastructure is essential to Canada's supply chain. CP's Operations Center, which controls train movements, is operated 24/7/365 and includes resources dedicated to dispatching maintenance staff to reported issues on the network including reports of fire or smoke on the right of way. CP works in close collaboration with government agencies, including provincial authorities responsible for wildfire prevention and control, to share information on wildfire activity and risk.

The vast majority of wildfires are caused by nature when environmental conditions are extremely hot and dry. While railroads are not a significant cause of wildfires, this plan outlines CP's proactive approach to mitigating the risk of wildfires in the communities we operate in and through.

Sincerely,

Mike LoVecchio  
Director Indigenous Relations and Government Affairs  
Canadian Pacific