

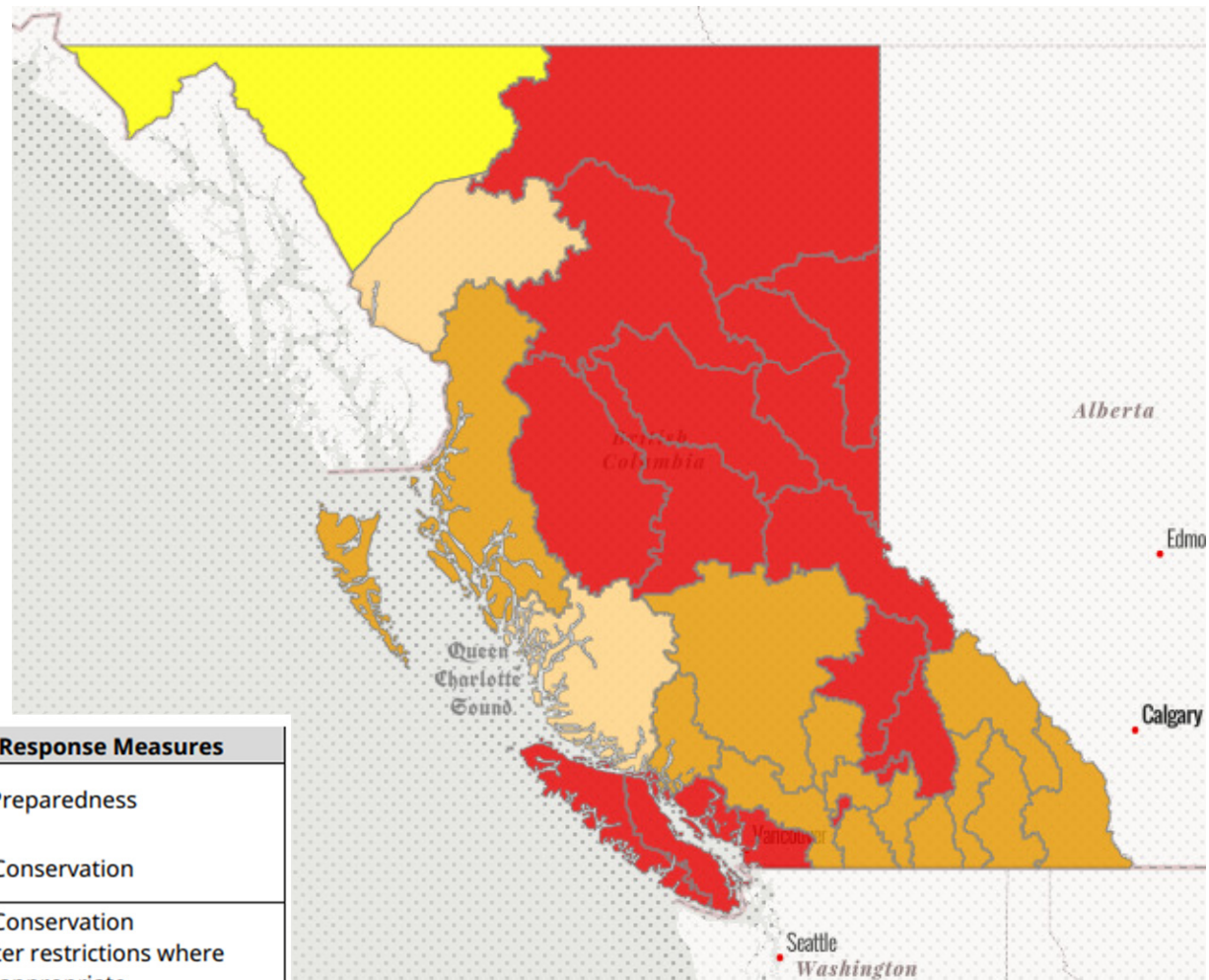
Water Supply Update

Committee of the Whole
July 13, 2023



BC Drought Conditions

- The Province uses a 6 level drought classification to describe the impacts of drought conditions.
- Sunshine Coast region is currently at Level 4 – Extremely Dry, Adverse impacts are likely.

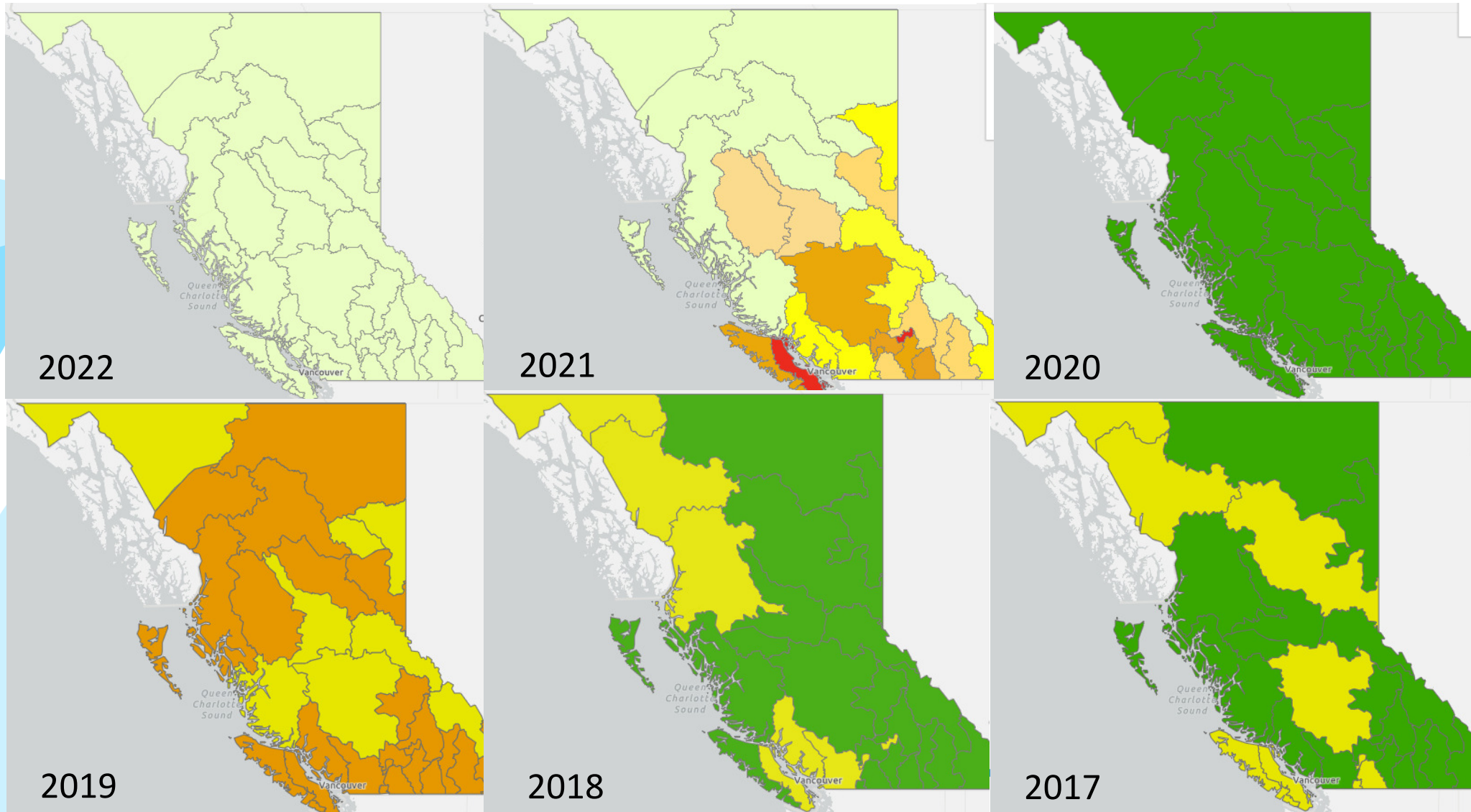


Level	Impacts	General Response Measures
0	There is sufficient water to meet socio-economic and ecosystem needs	Preparedness
1	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are rare	Conservation
2	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are unlikely	Conservation Local water restrictions where appropriate
3	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are possible	Conservation Local water restrictions likely
4	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are likely	Conservation and local water restrictions Regulatory action possible
5	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are almost certain	Conservation and local water restrictions Regulatory action likely Possible emergency response



Historical BC Drought Conditions

To put this into perspective....



Neighbouring Communities....

Parksville, Regional District of Nanaimo move to stage 4 water restrictions

Posted: Jul. 5, 2023 8:44AM | Last Updated: Jul. 5, 2023 9:18AM

CVRD moves to Stage 3 watering restrictions

Province has increased Vancouver Island to Drought Level 4

District of Tofino:

Effective June 30, 2023 at 12:00pm, Stage 3 watering restrictions are in effect for all North Cowichan water systems.

Effective Monday, July 10, 2023

Stage 3 Water Conservation Bylaw No. 1093 prohibits all outdoor use of water. For clarity, any outdoor showers, taps and faucets must be turned off.

Tofino is currently experiencing a significantly drier and hotter start to summer. Recently, Vancouver Island was amongst 17 BC regions categorized at Drought Level 4 by the BC Government. The District of Tofino is requesting all visitors and residents to conserve water in an effort to delay further restrictions.

Earth reaches hottest day ever recorded 4 days in a row

Even higher temperatures are expected in July and August as El Niño strengthens.

By [Julia Jacobo](#)
July 7, 2023, 6:14 AM



South Pender Water System

Going to Stage 3 on July 14

- Water use has not decreased, a reduction in water use is urgently needed by the community.
- SCRD staff will be available to answer questions outside IGA on Friday, July 14 from 12-2pm.
- Staff sending a mail out to all residents with more information.
- Staff have used leak correlator to ensure there is no significant loss within the system that is unmetered.
- Staff went to Harris Lake to inspect dam structure.



South Pender Water System

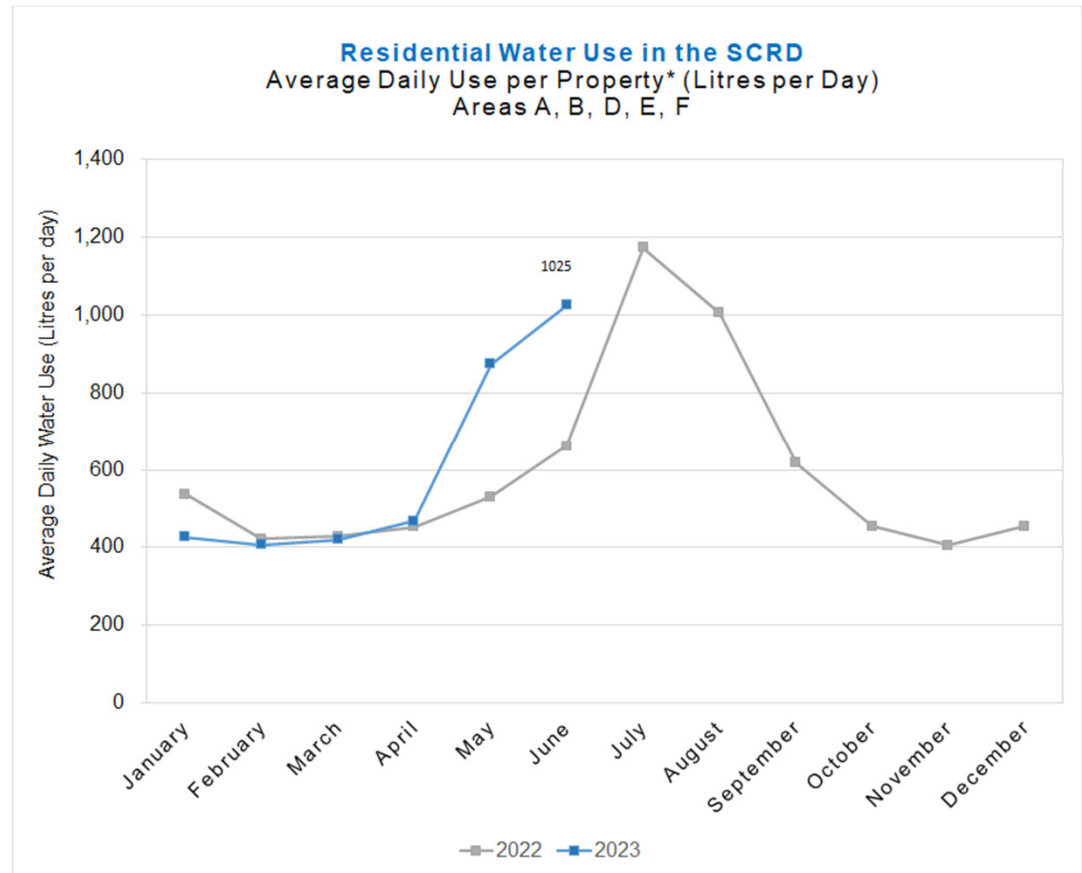
Stage 3 Reminders

- Ban on use of sprinklers for watering
- Further time restrictions for hand watering
- No washing of exterior buildings, windows, vehicles
- Can wash off seawater from boats
- No filling of pools, hot tubs, fountains, ponds



Chapman Water System

- Currently at Stage 2 as of July 7
- Water use is 1.5x higher than June 2022
- We are seeing water use almost doubled since May
- We encourage everyone to sign up for their monthly water use update! scrd.ca/water-use



Chapman Water System

No significant rainfall in the last 30 days.

Pre Stage 2, the Chapman Water System demand was ~18,500,000L/day

Since Stage 2 was called, demand is ~17,500,000L/day

This is a small reduction in total demand.

- Snowpack has melted and are using stored water until it rains. Currently losing 2-4 cm/day in lake.
- **Now is the time to conserve water.** Reductions in water use now can help delay Stage 3 and 4.



Water Source Updates

- Lakes are no longer overflowing
- Chaster Well is contributing ~ 800,000 L per day
- Gray Creek is contributing ~ 2,600,000L/day

And.....



Chapman Creek

Church Road is online!



- System turned on Tuesday, July 11, 2023
- Currently contributing ~ 2,000,000L/day
- SCRDR has started monitoring Soames Creek and the aquifer for the next two years as required by the Province

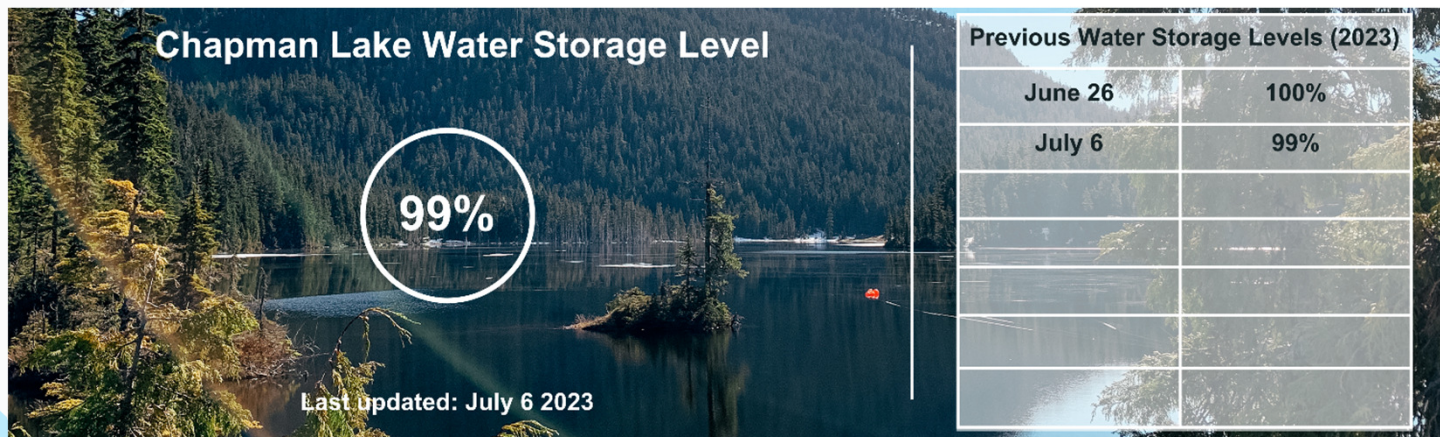


Church Road
Water Treatment Plant



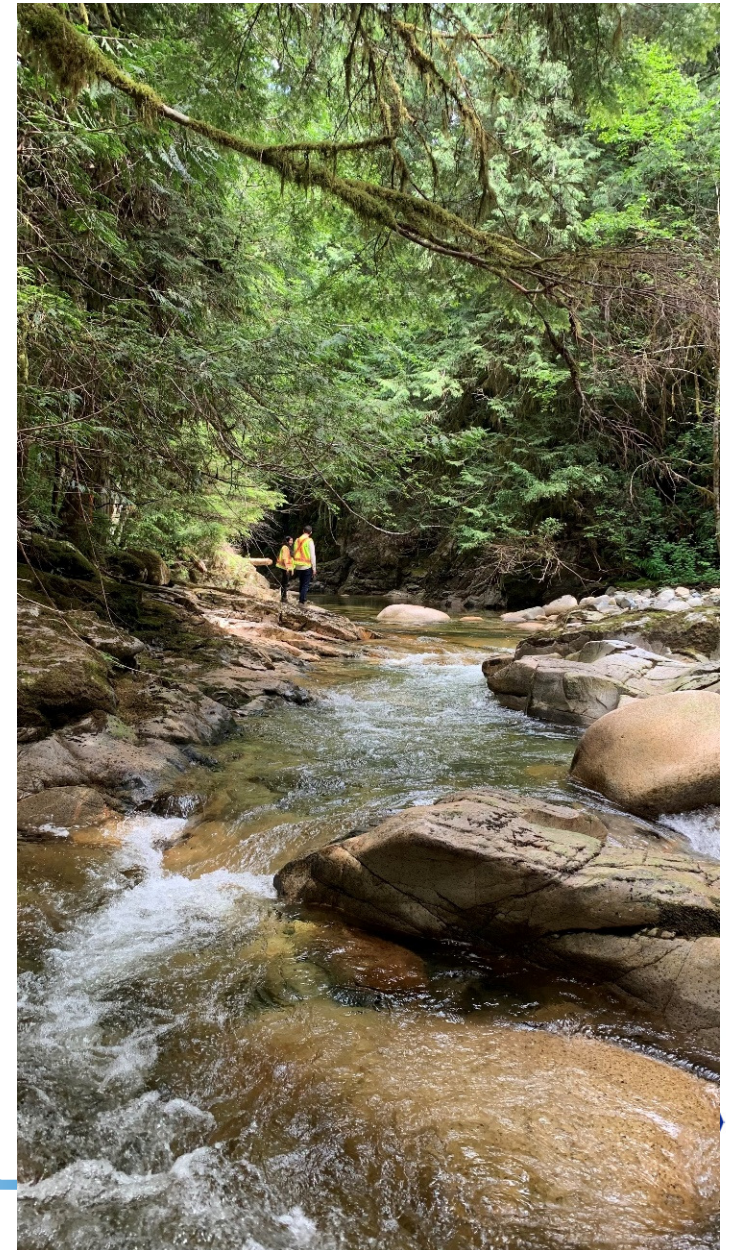
Water Conservation Communications

- Leak Resolution – three shut off notices sent to users with ongoing unresolved leaks.
- New webpage created to show Chapman Lake Levels. This is a one-stop shop for water supply information www.scrd.ca/water-updates.
- SCRD, SCREDO and Sunshine Coast Tourism met with businesses to discuss drought and water regulations.



Environmental Flow Needs Update

- The Ministry of Forests has completed an initial review of the request to temporarily reduce creek flows this summer and has requested supplementary information including a monitoring plan.
- SCRD has retained a consultant to develop a monitoring plan.



Chapman/Edwards Siphons

- SCRD received approvals from the Province on July 7 to keep the emergency siphons in the lakes until 2025.
- These siphons keep flow in Chapman Creek once lake levels are below the channel.
- Siphons can only be used in Stage 4.



Groundwater Investigations: Eastbourne Water System

- Current water system has three shallow wells and one deeper well.
- Three test wells were drilled and tested earlier this year to similar levels as the deeper well. Wells at that level are less susceptible to drought than the shallow wells.
- Staff are finalizing the report and will present to the Board with findings and recommendations at the July 27 Committee of the Whole.



Groundwater Investigation Phase 5: Regional Water System

- SCRD Board directed staff to explore new potential groundwater sources to supplement the Chapman Water System.
- The project will include a desktop review, identification of three locations and drilling of up to three wells.
- The plan is to concentrate new test wells west of West Sechelt, where we currently have not explored for groundwater. Exact test well locations not known yet.
- Sites chosen will be evaluated on factors like water quality and quantity, treatment requirements, proximity to existing infrastructure, cost, and environmental implications of using the water.
- Results of Phase 5 will be presented to the Board.



Community Questions:

How do I report a bylaw infraction?

Staff do not take bylaw complaints over the phone. They must be submitted through the bylaw complaint form at <https://www.scrd.ca/bylaw-complaint-form/>



Questions?

