

# THE *BIG* EDDY

Water District	Watershed Number*	Source	User	Reserve Area Requested**
Revelstoke	1a	Clachnacudainn Creek		15.3
"	1b	Greely Creek		20.3
"	1c	Hamilton Creek	City of Revelstoke	5.6
"	1d	Bridge Creek		1.7
"	1e	Napoleon Creek		1.2
"	2	Dolan Creek	Big Eddy W.W.D.***	1.7



## A History of the Big Eddy Waterworks District and its Long-Standing Battles to Protect the Dolan Creek Watershed Reserve



By Will Koop, September 30, 2013  
 B.C. Tap Water Alliance (<http://www.bctwa.org>)

### **3. 1952-1965: THE EARLY, SUCCESSFUL VIGILANCE OF BIG EDDY AGAINST THE FOREST SERVICE'S INTENTIONS TO LOG THE DOLAN RESERVE**

Shortly after the birth of the Big Eddy Waterworks District in 1950, British Columbia entered a new period or shift in the commerce and political development of its vast and largely undeveloped timber resources. Accompanying it, a new twisted political energy and dynamic unfolded under the Social Credit Party administration (1952-1972).

In 1926, when author Morley Roberts returned to British Columbia from England to tour its diverse forested and mountainous landscape regions, he was in for a big shock as he wrote about in his 1927 book, *On the Old Trail: Through British Columbia After Forty Years*. He was aghast at the rate of logging and how many areas familiar to him had fallen to the axe, and he waxed poetic at times in describing the onslaught. In hindsight, what unfolded from the 1950s to the 1990s in BC's forestlands were peanuts compared to Roberts' general anguish resulting from his visitation experiences.

American forest companies and investors, primarily, were setting up shop, casting their wanton eyes toward pseudo-ownership of public forestlands, in land tenure entities first referred to as Forest Management Licenses (later, Tree Farm Licenses) that were initially provided with perpetual tenures.<sup>89</sup> As these political interests took hold in the 1950s, in 1951 the B.C. Forest Service and the Canadian Forest Service began an enormous, comprehensive and joint undertaking to systematically inventory and catalogue all of BC's forestlands, completed in 1957 and published in a rather thick document filled to the brim with statistical tables.<sup>90</sup>

In the mix of these two purposes, came a clash of political forces, some of which involved the impacts of large forest companies brutishly taking over the little guys, which led, for the most part, to the second provincial forest Commission Inquiry in 1955, only ten years after the previous one. However, the tone of the second Gordon Sloan Commission was far different than the first, whereby discussion on the essential life-giving functions of forests – *forest cover ... the invaluable functions of watershed protection,*<sup>91</sup> *stream flow and run-off control, the prevention of soil erosion ... a home for our wild bird and animal life ... the maintenance of forest cover upon the mountain slopes, the cover that holds up the snow and holds back the floods, sustaining a spongy soil for the storage of the water supply and the regulation of the flow of rivers ... the protection of all forest growth at high altitudes ... by the Department of Forests* – were not as prominent, and soon to be squashed.

The new dance of profits from exponential old-growth liquidation under the un-sustained rubric of “sustained yield” logging came about under the emergence of a new political administration, the Social Credit Party, headed by Premier W.A.C. Bennett. A wide variety of corruption and scandals unfolded over the two decades during the Party's administration relating to the abuse of provincial

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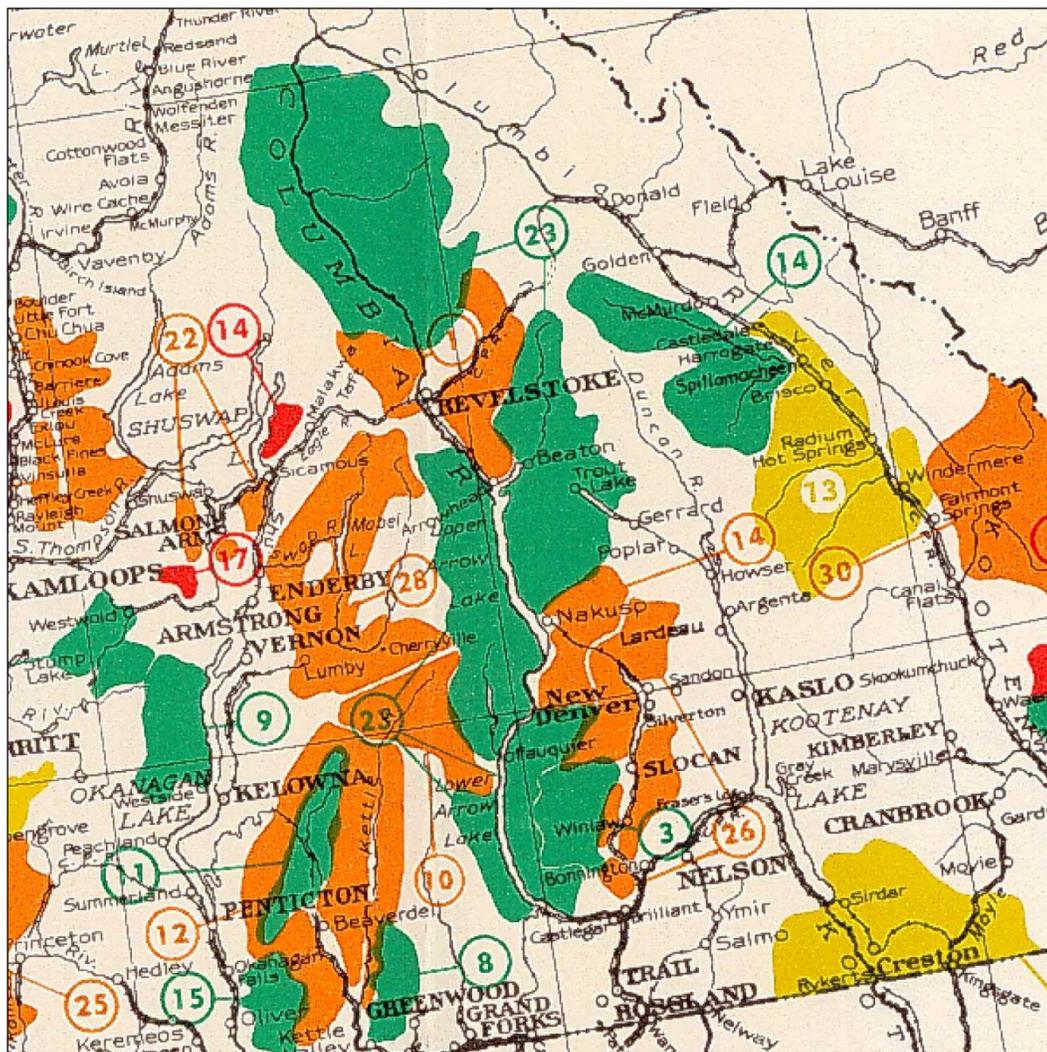
<sup>89</sup> As a result of the conspiracy and bribery charges on Forest Minister Bob Sommers in 1958 concerning untoward awardings of these Licenses, the perpetual tenures on Forest Management Licenses were changed to 25-year renewal terms, and Forest Management Licenses were renamed as Tree Farm Licenses.

<sup>90</sup> *Continuous Forest Inventory of British Columbia*, 1957, published by the Department of Lands and Forests.

<sup>91</sup> The term “watershed” in the 1944-1945 Sloan Commission denoted ‘community watersheds’ set aside for Improvement, Irrigation and Water Districts.

forestlands, stories yet to be more accurately and comprehensively narrated, summed up in part from the initial scandals related to bribery and corruption Supreme Court indictments on the Minister of Lands and Forests, “Honest” Bob Sommers, the ‘fall-guy’ for the sordid affairs.

In about 1951 came a new designation overtop of the Forest Service’s Revelstoke Ranger District operations boundary called the *Arrowhead Public Working-Circle Unit No. 1*, in which the Big Eddy Waterworks District suddenly found itself. As the provincial forestland inventories proceeded in the 1950s, the Forest Service began to establish new political forest management boundaries for the big fish and the little fish, for the prospective large and small forest tenures and timber sale licences and licensees. Amidst these new boundary developments and discussions with logging companies came the shifty opportunities to test the long-held pervasive “single use” policy on the protection of drinking watershed and irrigation sources.



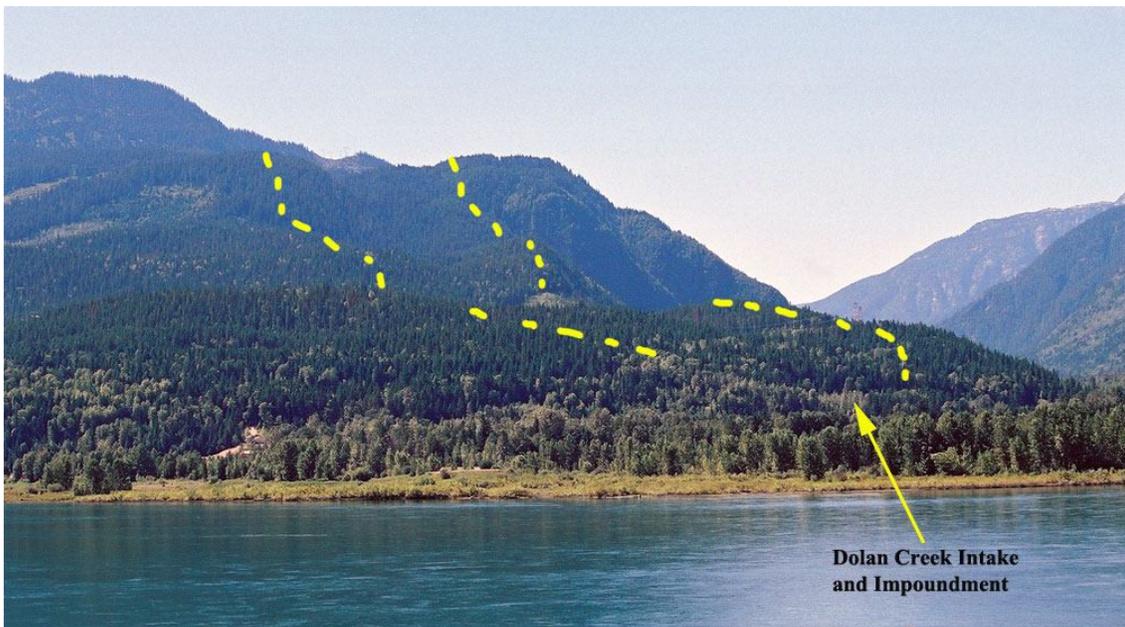
Section of a map from the December 1956 Second Sloan Commission on Forest Resources report. The orange shaded areas are the early *Public Working-Circles*: No. 1, Arrowhead; No. 10, Edgewood; No. 12, Kettle; No. 14, Nakusp; No. 22, Salmon Arm; No. 25, Similkameen; No. 26, Slokan; No. 28, Spallumcheen; and No. 30, Upper Kootenay. The yellow shaded areas are the early *Sustained-Yield Units*: No. 13, Windermere; and at the bottom right, No. 6, Creston. The green shade areas are the *Forest Management Areas*, later called Tree Farm Licenses: No. 3, Passmore Lumber Co. Ltd.; No. 8: Boundary Sawmills Ltd.; No. 9, S.M. Simpson Ltd.; No. 11, Olinger Lumber Co. Ltd.; No. 14, Cranbrook Sawmills Ltd.; No. 15, Oliver Sawmills Ltd.; and No. 23, Celgar Development Co. Ltd. The red shaded areas are those reserved for: No. 14, Shuswap Timbers Ltd.; and No. 17, Vernon Box & Pine Lumber Co. Ltd.

Building upon a June 18, 1945 submission presented to the Sloan Forestry Commission by the forest industry sector,<sup>92</sup> these opportunities were boldly introduced in February 1952 by a small group of professional foresters at the fifth annual meeting of the BC Natural Resources Conference held in BC's capital, the City of Victoria. A conference resolution was endorsed against "single use," which specifically identified the practiced provincial policy in community drinking watersheds as:

*the maintenance of full virgin forest canopy: Be It Resolved, that this conference endorses a programme of forest management on a sustained yield basis for watershed lands where surface water is impounded for domestic and industrial water supply.*

One of the four resolution foresters, H.J. Hodgins, a former employee of the Forest Service, had recently been hired by the City of Victoria to help administratively implement highly controversial logging operations in the City's untouched drinking watershed forestlands. According to an earlier statement made by Hodgins, the logging of Victoria City's protected watersheds was the first commercial logging program proposal of its kind in Canada. After serving as industrial chief forester since 1944 for the American-based Crown Zellerbach forest company, Hodgins was amply rewarded in the 1960s when he was promoted to the company's Vice President of Timber.

When Kamloops Forest District (Region) Forester A.E. Parlow responded in late 1950 to Big Eddy's request for a Reserve – through his statement that the Forest Service had "*the right to dispose of Crown timber*" – he was no longer acting in the interests of the Big Eddy Water District regarding the Reserve over Dolan Creek, as he should have been, but rather acting in the interests of the future prospective timber license holders through internal consultative instructions from his departmental superiors. As Chief Forester F.S. McKinnon later candidly stated in his April 1963 memo to his Nelson Forest Region lieutenants, "*there is no doubt that such timber [in the Rossland City Watershed Reserve over three watersheds] must be included in the capital growing stock of the Sustained Yield Unit*".



<sup>92</sup> See Chapter 2.3 for the summary.



# *Water, Water Everywhere....*

## **Be sure there's some for you**

When buying land, remember that water is essential, for irrigation, domestic and other purposes. Land without water is like having an appetite without food

An adequate well makes your water supply safe but if you require the use of running water you need a Water License.

It is our job to help you to secure the right to the use of running water.

Your **WATER RIGHTS BRANCH** is ready to serve you

through the District Offices at Kamloops, Kelowna, Nelson and Victoria.

## **DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS**

Geo. P. Melrose,  
Deputy Minister of Lands.

Honourable E.T. Kenney,  
Minister.

### 3.1. 1952-1953 - THE FOREST SERVICE CANCELS A PROPOSED TIMBER SALE IN DOLAN CREEK

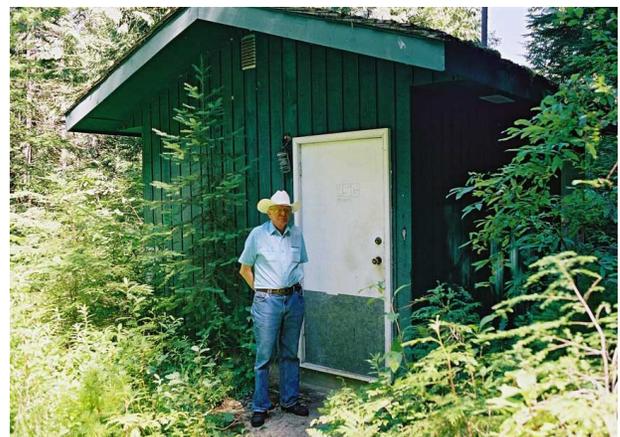
Despite the Big Eddy Waterworks District Trustees' requests with the government in late 1950 to protect the Dolan watershed by its designation as a *Land Act* Watershed Reserve, it didn't take very long for the Forest Service to 'test' or confuse the Trustees. On November 29, 1952, nine months after the controversial resolution passed at the annual BC Natural Resources Conference, Big Eddy Secretary Clough wrote to the Kamloops District Forester about the community's initial concerns regarding a recent notification from the Forest Service concerning Timber Sale application No. 57520 to cut timber in the Dolan:

*This could cause a fire hazard and also cause debris to enter our water dam, we would ask that every consideration be given if and when this timber is sold.*

Comparatively speaking, Dolan Creek is a very small watershed, about 440 hectares in area. It produces a steady but minor water flow, just enough for the needs of the small community. Its waters were collected in a very small reservoir, held up by a thick, concrete impoundment wall.

2002 photos of the small Dolan Creek reservoir, pump and data house, with Big Eddy Trustee chairman, Lloyd Good.

The community Trustees' anxiety and discussions with the Forest Service on the proposed Timber Sale extended over the winter months and into the Spring of 1953, at which point Secretary Clough sent another polite letter of concern on April 1, 1953, this time to the Comptroller of Water Rights, E.H. Tredcroft, in Victoria:



*Our annual meeting was held March 31, 1953, and the matter came up regarding our water shed. We have in hand some correspondence to and from the Forestry Branch asking that a reserve be put on the timber so it would not allow the snow to melt too quickly, which in turn could result in not having enough water in the creek.*

*The Forest Service advises that they were making a note of this request and entering same on their map so that same would be taken into consideration, if and when any timber in the Dolan Creek basin ever comes up as a timber sale.*

*We understand that an application has been made for a timber sale in the Dolan Creek area. Would you please advise us if a timber sale could be stopped if it did come up.*

*We also believe that any cedar that might be cut in that area could cause the needles to do harm to the water. We would appreciate any advice you could give us regarding this matter. Section 38K makes some mention of this matter.*

Provincial Water Rights Comptroller Tredcroft was the successor to Water Comptroller E.R. Davis. On April 10, 1953 Tredcroft replied to the Big Eddy Trustees concern with the following:

*With respect to the problem of cutting timber on your watershed, we think that you have done everything which can be done except of course buying the area from the Government for the purpose for which you want it.*

*It would be very difficult, if not impossible, to bring a timber operator under Section 38 (k) of the Water Act if he was carrying on normal operations with respect to the cutting of timber. If he carelessly allows a stream to become fouled with slash then you could ask that an Engineer look into the matter and if deemed necessary an order would be issued. With respect to timber sales on this area, this matter comes under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service and we know of no such way such a sale could be stopped if approved by the said Forest Service.*

*Further information concerning the sale of timber in this area or the policy adopted with respect thereto could only be obtained from the Forest Service.*

As in the earlier response from Kamloops District Forester Parlow in November 1950, Comptroller Tredcroft somehow failed to provide the Big Eddy Trustees with a proper interpretation and information on available avenues from provincial legislations under the *Land Act* for the protection of the Dolan Watershed Reserve. As stated in chapter 2, B.C.'s Superintendent of Lands Taylor very clearly understood and imparted the meaning of the Reserve legislation in May, 1940: "*withdrawn from any disposition under the provisions of the Land Act and set aside for the use of your Corporation.*"

Fortunately and shortly after the Big Eddy's correspondence with Tredcroft, the Revelstoke Forest Ranger properly reconsidered the matter and then advised against the proposed Timber Sale block in the Dolan Watershed Reserve boundary, as indicated in the Big Eddy Trustees' April 16, 1953 letter of response to Tredcroft:

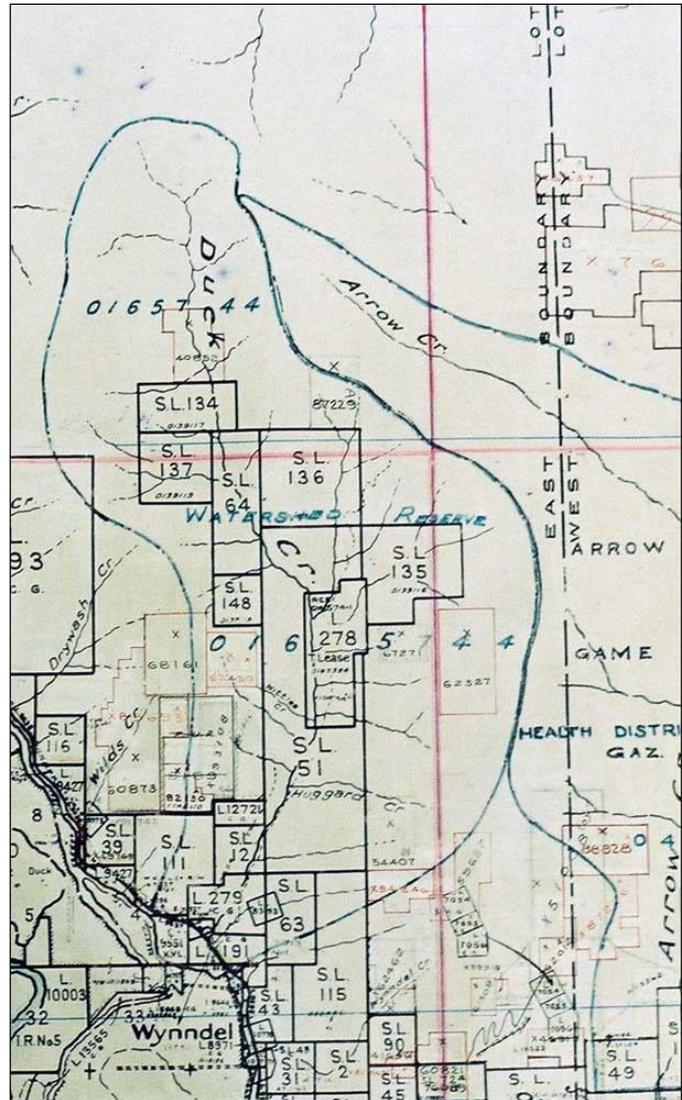
*The advice contained in your letter of April 10, 1953, regarding timber cutting on Dolan Creek Basin is much appreciated. We have been advised (verbally) by the local Forest Ranger that the block on Dolan Creek is being held out of sale for the present time.*

Similar circumstances also transpired with the Wynndel Irrigation District's Duck Creek Watershed Reserve, located northwest of the town of Creston, a Reserve created in 1947. The Wynndel Irrigation District presented a written submission to the Pearse Royal Commission on Forest Resources in 1975 which included a case "*History of Conflicts*", providing counter comments on how the provincial Water Comptroller requested in 1950 that the Forest Service "*not issue*" a Timber Sale licence in the Duck Creek watershed reserve:

*In late 1947, the Creston Ranger staff were instructed by the Nelson District Office of the British Columbia Forest Service to give special consideration to all applications for timber in the area from the point of view of possible damage to the watershed cover and/or pollution of the water supply.*

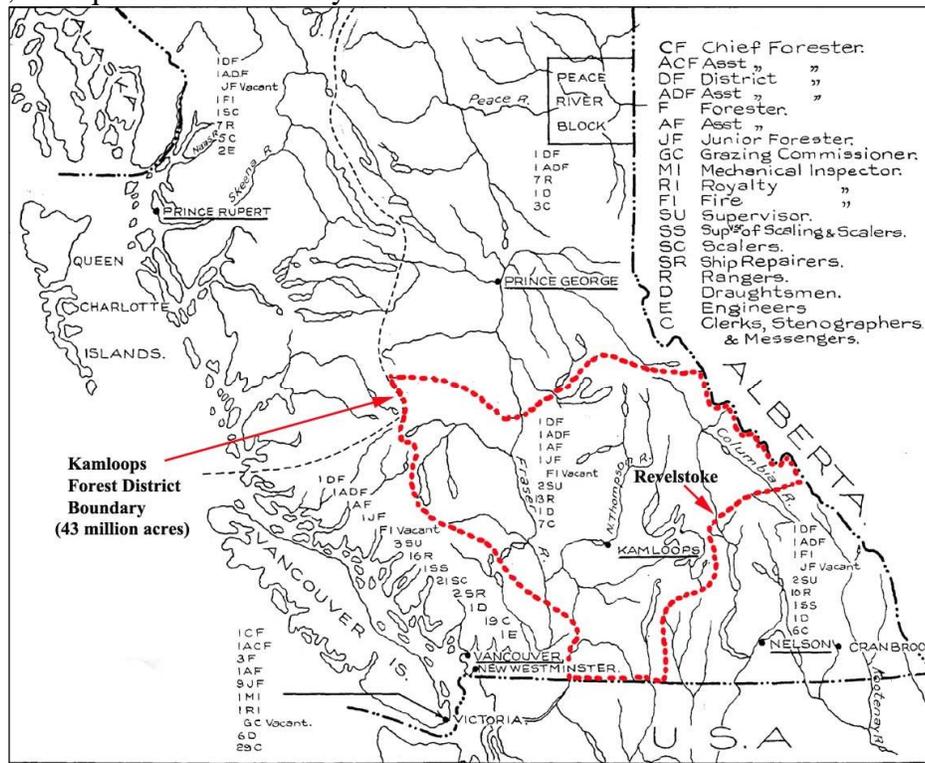
*In October 1947, TSX40852 was disallowed and the Comptroller of Water Rights informed the Wynndel Irrigation District that he had recommended to the Forest Service that the timber remain unalienated. In January 1950, TSX47152 (covering timber over Sublot 148 of Lot 4595) was disallowed as not being in the best interest of the public.*

*In the latter part of 1953, the District Water Engineer declined to comment on the Forest Service's request for recommendations regarding a controlled sale of timber at that time. Consequently, the sale was approved in 1953 with little protection of the Watershed.<sup>93</sup>*



decision to nevertheless respect the wishes of the Big Eddy Waterworks District for the integrity of their water source supply. However, the politics around the issue of drinking watersheds protection was about to give way to political pressures progressively waged on the Social Credit Party government Forest Service's top administrators in the 1960s.

By 1954, the extensive administrative boundaries of the Kamloops Forest District were altered, whereby the Revelstoke Ranger District was transferred out of the operational mandate of the Kamloops Forest District region and into the political boundary domain of Nelson Forest District Region office, headquartered in the City of Nelson.



Above: the old boundaries of the Kamloops and Nelson Forest Districts.

Right: new boundaries of the Nelson Forest District (Region), in which the Big Eddy's Dolan Watershed Reserve was now in. Nelson City was the headquarters for the Nelson Forest Region.



### 3.2. 1964-1965 - THE FOREST SERVICE DECIDES AGAIN NOT TO APPROVE LOGGING IN DOLAN CREEK

On February 12, 1964, eleven years after the Kamloops District Forester's refusal to grant logging in the Dolan Watershed Reserve, Nelson Regional Forest Service office District Forester R.A. Waldie<sup>94</sup> forwarded the following in a letter to the Big Eddy Water Users Association regarding another Timber Sale proposal, X91716, making specific reference to Dolan as a Watershed Reserve:

*An application of a timber sale has been received in this office covering a block of timber shown in red on the attached sketch map. This is in the Dolan Creek Watershed Reserve. The proposed sale is for a maturity cut to a minimum diameter limit of 11-inches at the 18-inch stump height. Slash disposal requirements will include the lopping of tops and the disposal of debris at landings by burying or burning. The usual clauses will be included in the contract to ensure sanitation and protection of existing improvements and utilities.*

*Would you please advise this office within thirty days as to whether you have any suggestions as to other clauses which you may wish to see included in the contract conditions. Should we not hear from you within the thirty days we will assume that our proposed contract is satisfactory to you, and we shall then proceed without further reference to you.*

Waldie's disconcerting letter was met with a swift response from the Big Eddy Trustees:

*I am instructed by the Chairman of the Trustees to reply immediately to your letter of February 12th, concerning an application for a timber sale.*

*First, we would point out that the total water supply for the district is drawn from Dolan Creek, and serves to supply about 90 users of which 85 are domestic; and we anticipate having to increase our works within the next two to five years so as to take care of another 25-100 homes. Therefore, the logging of any part of the watershed is of considerable concern to the Trustees.*

*Now the last paragraph of your letter refers to your "proposed contract", the terms of which appear to be only outlined in the second paragraph of your letter. May we have from you a copy of such contract as you propose for consideration of the Trustees - so that they may have before them the terms of such contract. Otherwise it could not be said to be satisfactory.*

*Disposal of remaining debris by "burning" is a particular concern of the Trustees, and we wonder what clause(s) might be included in the contract to protect the watershed to the maximum degree for this risk - we realize of course that intentional burning would in any case only be permitted during the non-fire season and then only under permit from Forest Service. There are, however, hazards of fire connection with any logging operation, and we wonder if it might be possible to restrict all logging in the watershed to high-humidity months? Measures to insure non-pollution of the water supply would be mandatory." <sup>95</sup>*

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<sup>94</sup> The provincial forest regional land boundaries for the Dolan watershed, previously headquartered in Kamloops, changed to the Nelson Regional office in the 1960s.

<sup>95</sup> The letter signed by Robert C. Hume is undated. Given the February 20th letter of response by the Forest Service, the letter was written sometime between February 12th and February 20th.

On February 20, 1964, Nelson District Forester Waldie immediately sent the contract clauses along with an ultimatum regarding Timber Sale X91716 in response to the Big Eddy Trustees letter:

*Thank you for your letter regarding the Dolan Creek Watershed. We are sending a complete list of the Timber Sale clauses which we had planned to incorporate into the terms of the contract. You are invited to offer any practical suggestions with respect to any of these clauses, but the Department will not agree to any recommendations in favour of disallowing or discontinuing with such a sale.*

*If we do not hear from you within thirty (30) days, we will assume that the timber sale clauses as outlined above are satisfactory to the Trustees.*

Despite the Forest District Office's refusal to reject the Timber Sale proposal, the Big Eddy Trustees responded to Forester Waldie's ultimatum on February 29, 1964, clearly stating their objections to the Timber Sale:

*The Trustees do object, strongly, to the granting of the said timber sale within the watershed, for the following reasons:*

*(1) A timber sale with the watershed would certainly increase the danger of pollution to the domestic water supply.*

*(2) Logging to the extent indicated in your letter would decrease water retention of the ground, increase the rapidity of the spring run-off, and during a dry summer decrease the available water supply which is now just barely adequate. Any decrease in volume of water during a dry summer would have serious consequences, and would entail large expenditures by the District to develop other source of supply.*

*(3) Fire hazard would be increased to some extent at least.*

*(4) Granting of this timber sale within the watershed would probably lead to additional such sales with progressive adverse effects on the watershed for the purpose with which we are concerned.*

District Forester Waldie, however, failed to respect the concerns of the Big Eddy Trustees, as evidenced in his reply letter of March 5, 1964:

*This will acknowledge the protest of the trustees of your waterworks district as per your letter of February 27, 1964.*

*Our replies to each of the points raised in your letter are listed in order:*

*(1) Pollution - A watershed can be polluted without there being a timber sale in the area. We can, and will, however, take steps to see that all persons working on the timber sale are given clearance by a Medical Officer before they are permitted entrance to the area. (More about this later).*

*(2) Effect on volume of water. Studies augmented by practical experience in many quarters have shown that old growth timber has less water-retaining capability than does young timber.*

*Furthermore, the logging will not take place all in one year - it is scheduled for two years and will likely take three years. There will still be considerable vegetation on the area after logging has been completed, for cutting is to take place only down to eleven (11) inches at stump height.*

*(3) Fire hazard will be increased to some extent, as you say. On the other hand, there is some possibility that access to the area will be greatly improved. This is of prime importance in suppressing fire.*

*(4) Granting of additional sales in the watershed. This is true. Wherever mature timber exists on publicly-owned land there will be, sooner or later a timber sale. We predict that there will be no decrease in water, however, even though you argue to the contrary.*

*Since the trustees offered no constructive criticism we are proceeding with the timber sale as outlined, with the further addition of a clause as follows:*

*It is required that all persons working in the Dolan Creek Watershed, in which this timber sale is located, must have a medical certificate from the North Okanagan Medical Health Officer. No workman with a history of typhoid fever, amoebic dysentery, or infectious hepatitis shall be employed in the watershed.*

About a month later, District Forester Waldie sent another letter to the Big Eddy Trustees, with his strangely reasoned recommendations against including provisions for medical inspections for any workers for the logging contract in the Dolan:

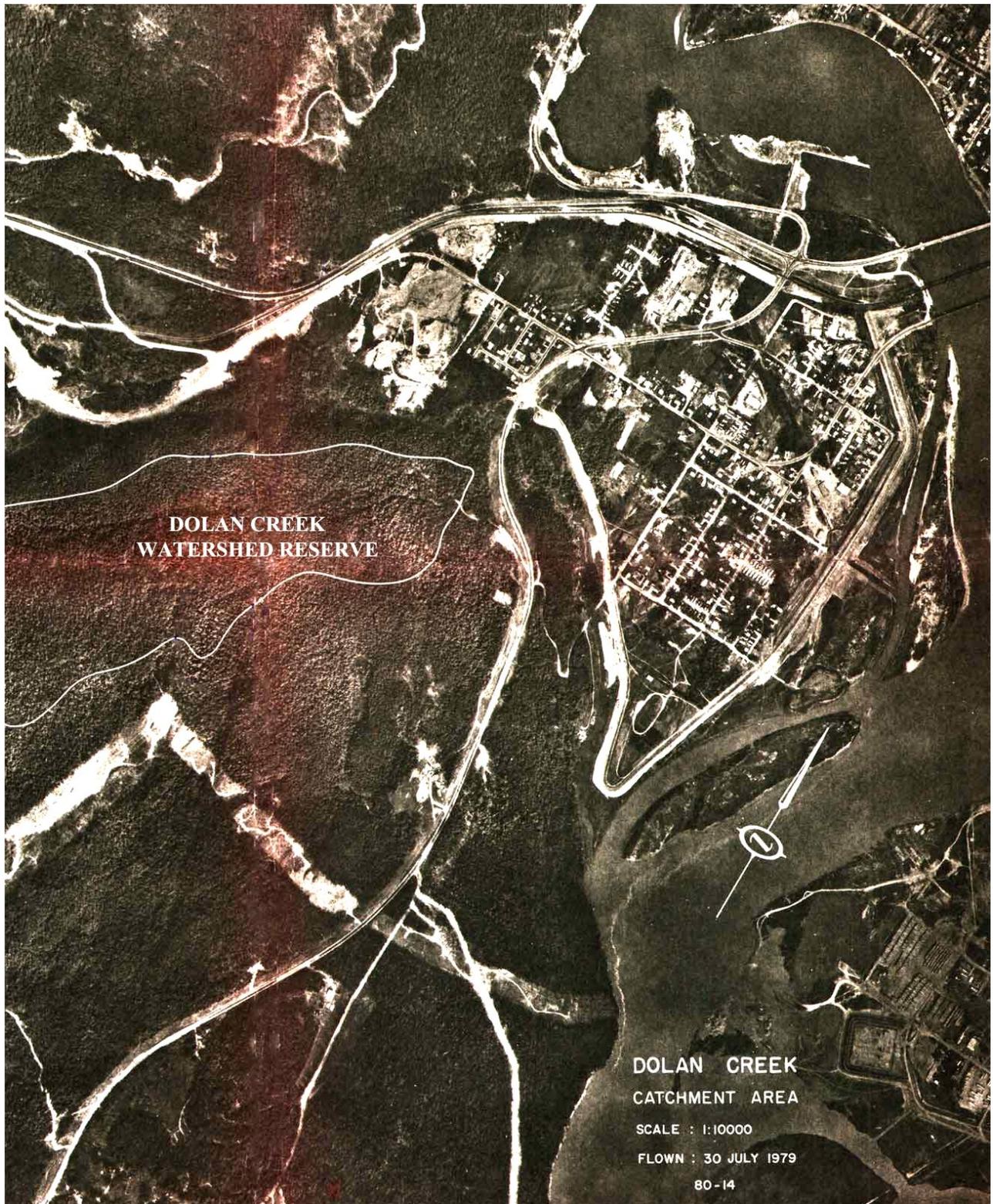
*Following the dispatch of our letter to you dated March 5th, 1964, we had some advice on the matter of pollution from Mr. R.J. Talbot, District Engineer of the Water resources Service for your area. His letter reads:*

*This office would define pollution as we found occurring in the Brash Greek Watershed at Enderby, B.C. That is, pollution from silt, gravels, brush, sawdust, etc. and not necessarily human pollution.*

*Although under Section 41(k), the Water Act states 'that it is an offence to put into any stream any sawdust, timber, tailings, gravel, refuse, carcass or other thing- or substance after having been ordered by the engineer or Water Recorder not to do so', such an order would come too late, and probably after the harm has been done. It would therefore appear practical to try and prevent such pollution before it occurs.*

*On receipt of this letter we asked our field staff to comment on the necessity of clauses to prevent human pollution. The opinion received was that since there is no policing of the watershed at present against human carriers of various diseases, and since the nearest corner of the timber sale is some seven (7) chains from the creek itself, then the requirement that bush workers be examined by the Medical Health Officer is not required.*

*In view of the above advice, we are proceeding with preparation of a Timber Sale document which does not require the medical inspection. We consider that you should be aware of this change in plan in order that future recriminations may be avoided.*



The aerial photo of July 1979 shows the Dolan Watershed Reserve still intact, just before BC Hydro's permit to cut a right-of-way for its transmission lines, logged in the early 1980s (see Chapter 5 for the narrative).

In contrast to the way in which the 1952 Dolan Creek Timber Sale proposals were politely denied by the Kamloops Forest District in 1953, by 1964 the new tenor or approach for logging the Dolan watershed was dramatically different, now under the authority of the Nelson Forest District. Much of this “new order” mentality was being reoriented internally, through the Chief Forester’s office, as evidenced in the Nelson Forest District Regional office memorandum addressed to all Ranger foresters four months later:

*Much of the remaining mature timber in the District is in the watersheds of creeks which are the source of somebody’s water supply. This can be an important source of conflicts of interest: between the interests of the industry and the water user. Two alternative solutions to the problem are possible: (1) keep operators out of watersheds altogether, or (2) permit harvesting of timber in watersheds, subject to stringent controls designed to protect the water supply. As you know, we have, within reason, settled on the second choice. **In many areas we will not be able to supply local industry’s needs unless we can invade the watersheds** [bold emphasis added]. If, in doing this, we fail to protect the users’ interests, this timber reserve will not be available to us much longer.*<sup>96</sup>

Though no records were found on further discussions regarding the approval of harvesting permit X91716, another Timber Sale application proposal X94195 was forwarded to the Big Eddy Trustees on August 28, 1964 by Nelson District Forester F.G. Hesketh:

*We are in receipt of a Timber Sale application for cedar poles.*

*As this area is in the Dolan Creek Watershed Reserve your advice is requested as to any conditions which you feel should be incorporated into the final contract, should this sale be processed. If we do not hear from you within thirty (30) days we will assume that you have nothing to add and will proceed with sale under present regulations.*

*We contemplate incorporation into the contract of all clauses to ensure sanitation, protection from erosion, protection of reproduction and residual stand and proper slash disposal.*

According to the Big Eddy Waterworks’ files, nothing more was said about the logging proposals for 1964. On July 26, 1965, Nelson District Forester Hesketh forwarded a letter to the Big Eddy Trustees regarding yet another proposed Timber Sale. In contrast to the other proposals and strong words of warning in 1964, Hesketh cordially wrote that no logging would henceforth be conducted in the Dolan Watershed Reserve:

*This will advise that we are in receipt of an application for Timber Sale, designated X94764, over an area of approximately 70 acres and which appears, in part, to lie within the Dolan Creek Watershed Reserve.*

*Previous field examination apparently places all this sale outside the Reserve, however our maps indicate that the two north west corners lie within it. Should this sale be processed and part of it lie in the watershed, we can eliminate that portion directly concerned with Dolan Creek. As you are aware, we do not intend to proceed with any further sales within the Dolan area at this time.*

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<sup>96</sup> Memorandum by District forester, J.R. Johnston, Nelson Forest Region, July 17, 1964.

*We would therefore request your comments and suggestions should you agree that we include the two small portions as shown, provided of course that on the ground it would be within the Reserve. In any event we propose to proceed with that portion which does not definitely fall within the watershed.*

*Should we not hear from you within thirty (30) days we will assume you have no suggestion or comments to offer and will proceed with the sale so as to cause no interference or intrusion into the Dolan Creek area.*

For reasons not understood from correspondence files at this time, there was an agreement reached between the Forest Service District or Regional headquarters in Nelson City and the Big Eddy Trustees some time in 1964, whereby, as once agreed to in 1953, logging would not be permitted in the Dolan Creek Watershed Reserve.

Unlike the 1970s, and decades following, the Forest Service was not yet pushing the envelope, but merely testing the political awareness and stamina of the Big Eddy Waterworks District. The Trustees followed up with a response to Forester Hesketh on July 31, 1965:

*Reference is to your letter of July 26th in which you have advised of receipt of an application for Timber Sale in the Dolan Creek area.*

*I am instructed by the trustees of the Waterworks District to request that you keep any and all timber sale operations as far as possible from Dolan Creek; and to advise you that to the best of our knowledge the watershed extends farther than 2.5 chains from the right bank of the creek as is apparently intended by the notation on plan attached to your letter.*

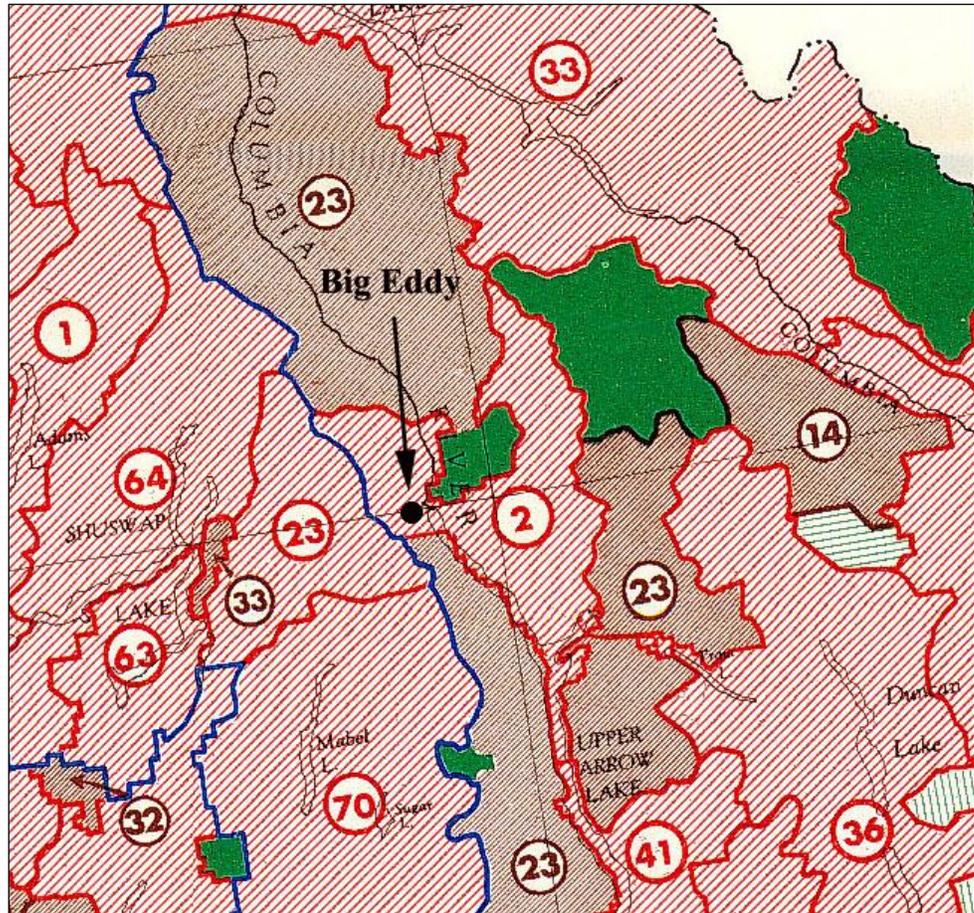
*We would point out that while your plan shows a scale of 1 inch = 40 chains the reserve strip along the right bank of the creek (the strip between the creek and the red line marked) scales at approximately 7/10 [0.7] of an inch, which would indicate a width of about 28 chains. So that your plan is not understandable in this respect.*

*Also, I would mention that the trustees are at this time particularly concerned about possible contamination of the water supply since a Water Supply Report from a sample taken by the Inspector for the Medical Health Officer on July 7th last shows gross contamination.*

*Immediate examination of the creek for a distance of about one mile above our Intake failed to explain the source of contamination. However, a sample taken seven days later on July 14th was satisfactory.*

The final response from District Forester Hesketh to the Trustees on August 6, 1965, noted how “we are proceeding with X94764 on the advice of our field staff who advise that **there will be no conflict with the Dolan Creek Watershed Reserve.**” [Bold emphasis]

This is part of a large map from the 1976 Pearse Royal Commission on Forest Resources, titled *Forest Management Units in British Columbia*. The areas denoted in the red diagonal shaded lines are the **Public Sustained Yield Units (PSYUs)**, formerly called Public Working-Circles. PSYU number 2, located in the centre area of the map, is the Arrowhead PSYU, which included the City of Revelstoke and the hamlet of Big Eddy, urban centres located at the bottom left hand area of the green shaded area, denoting Mount Revelstoke National Park. Other PSYU's in this map: No. 1, Adams; No. 23, Eagle; No. 33, Kinbasket; No. 36, Lardeau; No. 41, Nakusp; No. 63, Salmon Arm; No. 64, Shuswap; and No. 70, Spallumcheen. The brown shaded areas are **Tree Farm Licenses**: No. 14, Crestbrook Forest Industries Ltd.; No. 23, Canadian Cellulose Company; No. 32, Crown Zellerbach Canada Ltd.; and No. 33, Federated Co-operatives Limited. The following are definitions of Public Working Circles and Public Sustained Yield Units made in 1964, published in the Inventory of Natural Resources of British Columbia, pages 341-342:



*A Public Working Circle is a forest management unit set up in order to bring unalienated Crown lands under a sustained yield program managed by the Forest Service. Timber is disposed of by timber sale at public auction although established operators within the working circle have certain privileges with regard to initiating a sale and in some units with regard to bidding. Boundaries of Public Working Circles are fixed by Order-in-Council and not subject to revision in favour of private sustained yield units (tree farm licences). Public Sustained Yield Unit. This term is now more commonly used than Public Working Circle to distinguish between Public and Private sustained yield units. Public Sustained Yield Units are identical to Public Working Circles with one exception that the boundaries are subject to revision, because the units were set up quickly, usually before an adequate study had been made to determine their most logical boundary.*

A December 11, 1991 Ministry of Forests' definition of Public Sustained Yield Unit, published in its *Glossary of Terms in FIR Reports*, is as follows:

*PSYU – A portion of a Timber Supply Area (TSA). An area of Crown land, usually a topographic unit determined by drainage area, managed for sustained yield by the Crown through the Ministry of Forests. It includes all Crown lands within the currently established boundaries of the unit, and excludes federal lands, provincial parks, experimental forest reserves, gazetted watersheds, and tree farm licenses.*