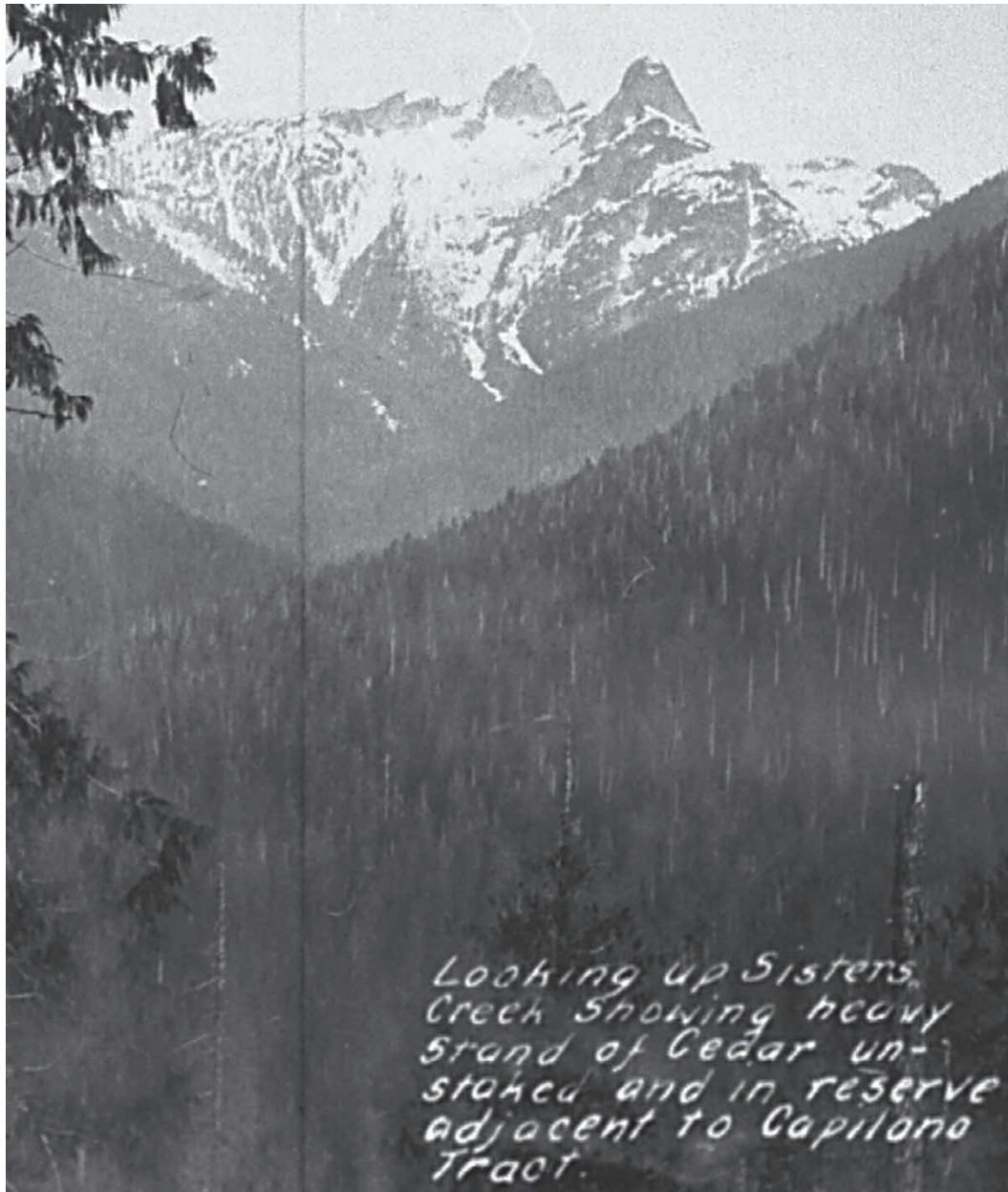


FROM WISDOM TO TYRANNY
A HISTORY OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA'S
DRINKING WATERSHED RESERVES



By Will Koop,
May 21, 2006.

FROM WISDOM TO TYRANNY TIME-LINE

	1871 →	Formation of BC Department of Lands and Works
Incorporation of Victoria Water Works Act ←	1873	
	1884 →	Federal government controls BC Railway Belt lands
Incorporation of the Vancouver Water Works Company ←	1886	
	1889 →	Incorporation of Coquitlam Water Works Company
United States federal government creates Bull Run Watershed Reserve for City of Portland, Oregon ←	1892	
Assent of the <i>Game Protection Act</i> , legislation that leads to creation of Games Reserves in BC ←	1897 →	BC <i>Land Act</i> powers to create Watershed Reserves
	1898 →	U.S. federal study released, <i>Report Upon Forest Investigations (1877-1898)</i>
	1900 →	City of New Westminster requests Reserve to protect the forests in the Coquitlam watershed
August 5 – federal government (Department of Interior) establishes Reserve for the Coquitlam watershed ←	1904	
March 30 – OIC Reserve for Capilano watershed ←	1905 →	August – City of Vancouver requests 999-year Crown land lease in Capilano watershed – gets 50 year lease
August 22 – OIC Reserve for Seymour watershed ←	1906 →	July – federal legislation, <i>An Act respecting Forest Reserves</i> , with protection of drinking watersheds
December – provincial OIC to prevent privatization of BC’s Crown (Public) lands ←	1907	
First Royal Commission on BC’s forests and call for protection of public drinking water ←	1908 →	<i>Land Act</i> provision (section 47) for 999-year lease of Crown lands to protect public drinking watersheds
	1909 →	BC first divided into Water Districts
	1910 →	March 4 – final federal OIC Reserve for Coquitlam watershed
Establishment of <i>Forest Act</i> and creation of Forest Service as branch of Lands Department ←	1912	
Public opposition mounts against proposed logging in Vancouver’s water supply, Capilano watershed ←	1916 →	Federal Health Regulations in drinking watersheds
	1917 →	Federal legislation to protect Salmon Arm’s Canoe Creek watershed
	1918 →	Capilano Timber Company begins railway logging operations in Capilano watershed. As a result, provincial legislation on Health regulations passed, <i>Sanitary Regulations Governing Watersheds</i>
Creation of Forest Districts/Regions, 2 nd divisions system ←	1919	
February – E.A. Cleveland appointed as provincial Water Comptroller ←	1922 →	December 16 – passage of <i>Greater Victoria Water District Act</i> (“first form of regional government created”). Water District began its operations 26 years later on September 24, 1948
October – Water Comptroller Cleveland presents report on Greater Vancouver’s two watersheds to Lands Minister Pattullo recommending creation of a Water District and protection for two watersheds from logging ←	1924 →	December – <i>Greater Vancouver Water District Act</i>
Summer – 3,200 acre fire started by Capilano Timber Company in Capilano watershed is final straw, igniting public wrath against future logging ←	1925 →	City of Victoria purchases and protects lands and timber in its drinking watersheds from Esquimalt Water Works Company
	1926 →	February – Greater Vancouver Water District begins operations with E.A. Cleveland as its Commissioner. Process begins by Cleveland to control private and Crown lands in watersheds
August – legislation passed for Greater Vancouver Water District to protect Capilano and Seymour watersheds in 999-year lease agreement ←	1927	
	1929 →	New Westminster City requests federal government solicitors to include a provision in Railway Belt transfer Agreement for Province of BC to continue Protecting Coquitlam watershed
Transfer covenant of Railway Belt lands to Province of BC ←	1930	
	1931 →	Agreement with New Westminster City transfers Coquitlam watershed to Gr. Van. Water District
BC government passes legislation to protect Greater Vancouver watersheds from mining/mineral exploration ←	1936 →	Citizens, politicians, and Victoria Lumbermen Association oppose logging proposals in Victoria City’s watersheds
October 22 – Town of Lillooet’s Town Creek protected as a Reserve ←	1939	
March 14, 1939 – Nelson City’s Five Mile Creek watershed protected as a Reserve ←	1940 →	Gr. Van. Water District Commissioner Cleveland exposes illegal logging in Coquitlam watershed
May 28 – United States Congress passes repressive Public Law No. 532 to alter drinking watershed protection policies ←	1942 →	Creston Board of Trade requests Minister of Lands to protect Arrow Creek watershed
	1943 →	Greater Vancouver Water District includes Coquitlam Watershed into its 999-year lease Indenture
Mounting public pressure and Seattle City Councillors to protect its Cedar River drinking watershed from logging ←	1943	

February – report by three man commission to continue logging Seattle City’s drinking watershed, Cedar Creek. Report widely distributed throughout US and Canada.	← 1944 →	Second Royal Commission on BC’s forest resources, chaired by Gordon Sloan. Submissions by BC water users to protect their drinking water. Attempts by forest industry representatives to subvert protection of drinking water sources
United States Forest Service announces intentions to begin logging in thousands of protected US watersheds	← 1945 →	→ BC Department of Lands changed to Lands and Forests
BC <i>Forest Act</i> amended to institute sustained yield logging and Tree Farms	← 1947 →	1948 → Seattle City forester A.E. Thompson begins intensive US propaganda campaign for “multiple use” in watersheds
Greater Victoria Water District hires first forester, H.G. Hodgins, responsible for developing sustained yield logging plans in the protected watersheds	← 1950 →	Big Eddy Water Works District requests Dolan Creek protected as a Watershed Reserve
Intensive forest inventory begins for BC’s forest resources by new Forest Surveys and Inventory Division. Subsequent related reports (1957, 1969, 1972, 1975) state restrictions about logging in watersheds. Reserve placed on New Denver’s Bartlett Creek	← 1951 →	Public opposition mounts against logging proposals in Victoria City’s watersheds
Commercial sustained-yield logging underway in Victoria City’s watersheds	← 1955 →	1952 → January 8 – Greater Vancouver Water District Commissioner Cleveland passes away after 26 years of service
Report on third provincial review of forest resources, chaired by Gordon Sloan	← 1956 →	February – BC Natural Resources Conference Foresters pass infamous resolution to invade BC’s protected watersheds
Minister of Lands and Forests Bob Sommers convicted in BC Supreme Court for conspiracy & bribery	← 1958 →	December – C.D. Schultz Company releases controversial two-volume report for sustained yield logging in Greater Vancouver’s protected watersheds
Social Credit government alters <i>Forest Act</i> to exclude protection of drinking watersheds in Tree Farm License agreements	← 1960 →	US Forest Service begins illegal logging operations in Portland City’s Bull Run Watershed Reserve
March – Department of Lands and Forests changed to Lands, Forests and Water Resources	← 1962 →	December – Chief Forester’s office issues memo to provincial foresters to encourage logging in protected drinking watersheds
March – <i>Amending Indenture</i> legislation alters Greater Vancouver Water District’s 40 year old 999-year lease <i>Indenture</i> to allow sustained yield logging in its three protected watersheds	← 1967 →	1964 → July – BC Nelson Regional Forester J.R. Johnston sends memo to his foresters to invade protected regional drinking watersheds
August – provisions passed to form federal/provincial Task Force on Okanagan water sources (1969-1974)	← 1969 →	→ Forest Service Planning forester W.G. Hughes interferes with Lands Service to weaken its mandate that protected Watershed Reserves from logging
BC Social Credit government revamps <i>Land Act</i> and introduces new sections (11-13) on Reserves	← 1970 →	First year of Hansard: the public finally provided access via transcripts of BC Legislature proceedings
February – after years of complaints, Environment and Land Use Technical Committee of Deputy Ministers creates provincial Community Watersheds Task Force (1972-1980)	← 1972 →	1971 → Assent of <i>Environment and Land Use Act</i> legislation, the “Magna Carta” over the ecology
Governmental controversy rages over domestic cattle grazing in Okanagan’s Naramata Creek watershed. Naramata is made a Watershed Reserve.	← 1973 →	1973 → Dr. Joseph Miller Jr. begins court case on logging in Portland City’s Bull Run Watershed Reserve
Fourth provincial commission on forest resources, chaired by Peter Pearse. Commission not provided information about Community Watersheds Task Force and Watershed Reserves	← 1975 →	→ August – provincial Community Watersheds Task Force re-establishes and creates Watershed Reserves
After December 1975 provincial election, Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources is split up, creating separate Departments of Forests and Environment	← 1976 →	1974 → Forest Service Regional offices openly resist orders to register Watershed Reserves on Forest Atlas Maps
September – BC Water Comptroller Hearing in Revelstoke concerning Big Eddy Water District and Dolan Creek Watershed Reserve	← 1976 →	June – Deputy Forests Minister Stokes orders his rebel foresters to acknowledge Watershed Reserves
Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing is formed	← 1979 →	→ September – Associated Boards of Health pass provincial resolution for veto powers over all resource use in drinking watersheds. Those veto powers are denied by new Social Credit government one year later
	← 1980 →	1978 → After the Forest Service becomes a separate Department in 1976, the BC Social Credit government creates the Ministry of Forests (an autonomous agency)
	← 1980 →	March – Ministry of Forests releases its first <i>Forest And Range Resource Analysis Report</i>

September 1 – New Ministry of Lands policy for the Watershed Reserves, called Watershed Used for Community Water Supplies, in the Lands Manual	← 1980 →	October – end of Watersheds Task Force. Ministry of Environment publishes <i>Guidelines for Watershed Management of Crown Lands Used As Community Water Supplies</i> for provincial Watershed Reserves
March 5 – Deputy Forests Minister Mike Apsey initiates assault against “single use” in BC’s drinking watersheds	← 1981 →	November – Ministry of Forests asserts itself to be new Lead Agency over community watersheds and proposes new policy for “integrated use” through second draft report, <i>A Policy for Integration of Forest Planning and Operations in Community Watersheds Lying on Crown Land Within Provincial Forests</i>
July – Ministry of Forests’ draft Discussion Paper, <i>Multiple Resource Use Management in Community Watersheds</i>	←	
Watershed Reserves secretly begin to be included in Allowable Annual Cuts	←	
Slocan Valley Watershed Alliance is formed	←	
Greater Vancouver Water District becomes a corporate member of the Council of Forest Industries	← 1982 →	
June 1 – Protocol agreement between Ministries of Lands and Forests regarding Watershed Reserves	← 1983 →	February – Ministry of Forests staff consider amending <i>Water Act</i> for control of logging agenda
March – Slocan Valley Watershed Alliance announces moratorium on all logging in community watersheds	← 1984 →	July – Environmental Appeal Board ruling on Dolan Creek Reserve angers Ministries of Forests and Environment
April 6 – Environment and Land Use Technical Committee presented with Ministry of Forests’ <i>Policy for the Integration of Forest and Water Management Planning on Crown Land Within Community Watersheds</i>	←	→ Draft Integrated Watershed Management Plans introduced for Arrow and Dolan Creek Reserves
		→ Second Ministry of Forests <i>Forest, Range and Recreation Resource Analysis Report</i>
		→ (First) For Love of Water (FLOW) conference and creation of BC Watershed Alliance
February – Environment and Land Use Technical Committee approve Integrated Watershed Management Plans	← 1985 →	September – Ministries of Forests and Lands sign second revised Protocol Agreement over Watershed Reserves
October – first meeting (unauthorized by Greater Vancouver Water District Board) of Seymour Advisory Committee. Former Deputy Forest Minister Mike Apsey and Chief Forester Bill Young attend (Young made chair)	← 1986 →	August 14 – Ministry of Forests becomes Ministry of Forests and Lands (until July 6, 1988)
August – Seymour Demonstration Forest begins its operations to promote logging in drinking watersheds	← 1987 →	November – public angered about “roll-over” of Tree Farm Licenses with Fletcher Challenge’s proposal for six million hectare License near Town of Mackenzie
Summer – New Democratic Party MLAs promise to protect BC’s drinking watersheds through legislation	← 1989 →	Union of BC Municipalities resolutions to protect drinking watersheds force Social Credit government to create provincial Interagency Community Watershed Management Committee
Forest Resources Commission (fifth provincial review) begins	←	→ Ministries of Environment/Forests quietly begin demoting Watershed Reserves to “Notations of Interest”
Federal government introduces <i>Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines</i> , failing to advocate protection of drinking water sources	← 1990 →	Integrated Watershed Management Plan begins for Sunshine Coast Regional District’s two Watershed Reserves
November 21 – Lillooet & Town Creek Watershed Reserves are demoted to “Notations of Interest” during beginning phase of Kamloops LRMP	←	→ BC Medical Association Resolution for BC Gov’t. to initiate independent study on drinking watersheds
February – BC Branch of Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors submission to Royal Commission on Health Care & Costs – crisis in BC drinking watersheds	← 1991 →	April 15 – Ministry of Lands and Parks is formed, changed to Environment, Lands and Parks later the same year
May – responding to public criticisms, Greater Vancouver Water District holds public meetings about logging in its watersheds	←	→ July – Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors submission to BC Round Table on Environment & the Economy
October – BC Committee for Safe Drinking Water report, <i>Safe Drinking Water for British Columbia</i>	← 1991 →	
May – release of Resource Inventory Committee’s Watershed Task Force report	← 1992 →	New Democratic Party forms second community watershed committee, the Technical Advisory Committee, which later conducts public meetings throughout BC
July 3 – passage of BC’s <i>Safe Drinking Water Regulation</i> . It omits protecting watersheds from commercial and agricultural activities, and introduces first mandatory treatment of BC’s drinking water	← 1992 →	November – Sunshine Coast Regional District files complaint in BC Supreme Court against the BC Ministry of Forests (out of Court agreement by May 1993)
June – 3rd protocol agreement revised between Ministries of Lands and Forests concerning Watershed Reserves	← 1993 →	December – large public meeting held in Revelstoke with intense public opposition against chlorination and logging

March 1 – Land Management Manual is amended and reestablishes the Policy for Watershed Reserves	←	1994	→	March 21 – BC Supreme Court rules logging in Victoria City’s watersheds (1955-1994) is illegal, contravening the <i>Greater Victoria Water District Act</i>
Third and final Ministry of Forests <i>Forest, Range, and Recreation Resource Analysis Report</i> is released	←		→	East and West Kootenay/Boundary Land Use Plans Finalized, ignoring Watershed Reserves. Creation of Special Resource Management Zones in protected watersheds. Nelson City’s Five Mile Creek Watershed Reserve is made into a provincial Park
August – Technical Advisory Committee releases (fourth) 220-page draft, <i>Community Watershed Guidelines</i> , with no reference to Watershed Reserves	←			
October 25, 1994 – Tetrahedron Land and Resource Use Plan Committee releases its final report with information about the Chapman and Gray Watershed Reserves	←	1995	→	June – <i>Forest Practices Code Act</i> becomes law, failing to acknowledge Watershed Reserves
July – Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan finalized, 1st of many to come, ignores Watershed Reserves	←	1996	→	September – US President Clinton signs <i>Opal Bill</i> that re-protects Portland City’s Bull Run watershed
October – Ministry of Forests releases 120-page <i>Community Watershed Guidelines Guidebook</i>	←	1997	→	June – Valhalla Wilderness Society takes Ministry of Forests to Supreme Court in Nelson City concerning two Category One Watershed Reserves. First such Court case in BC legal history.
February - BC Tap Water Alliance is formed	←	1998	→	May – Sunshine Coast Regional District referendum. 88 percent of voters reject future logging and proposed mining in its drinking watersheds
January - the Surveyor General’s office removes Bartlett and Mountain Watershed Reserve boundaries from its Legal Survey Maps	←	1999	→	March – Auditor General releases report, <i>Protecting Drinking Water Sources</i> , catalyst for drinking water legislation in 2001
February - Greater Vancouver Water District abolishes Seymour Demonstration Forest and its Seymour Advisory Committee	←	2000	→	Seattle City’s Cedar Creek watershed is protected
November 10 – Greater Vancouver Water District re-protects its three watersheds through a five point resolution	←	2001	→	April – provincial Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts report, its review of the March 1999 Auditor General’s report on drinking water
February – public meetings held throughout BC on Drinking Water legislation	←		→	April – NDP government passes Bill 20, <i>Drinking Water Protection Act</i> , failing to protect drinking watersheds
February – public pressure forces NDP government to remove controversial “Working Forest” legislation	←	2002	→	May – BC Liberals pass <i>Bill 35</i> removing community watersheds Protocol Agreement (the “designated environment official”) between Ministries of Environment and Forests
November – special report released, <i>Drinking Water Quality in British Columbia: the Public Health Perspective</i> , by the Provincial Health Officer	←		→	October 10 – after committee review of NDP legislation of April 2001, Bill 20, <i>Drinking Water Protection Act</i> , BC Liberals pass Bill 61, <i>Drinking Water Protection Amendment Act</i> . It again fails to protect drinking watersheds
June 21 – Greater Vancouver Water District notifies provincial government, officially invoking an escape clause in its 1967 logging agreement to get out of the commercial logging business	←	2003	→	June – Greater Vancouver Water District’s logging license is officially cancelled, reverting back to its original 1927 <i>Land Act</i> lease <i>Indenture</i>
November - BC Liberals pass Bill 74, <i>Forest and Range Practices Act</i> , legally and substantially weakening the <i>Forest Practices Code Act</i>	←	2004	→	September – ceremony in Longhouse and raising of a Totem Pole, a formal accord between the Sechelt First Nation and Sunshine Coast Regional District to protect drinking Watershed Reserves, Chapman and Gray Creeks
April – strong public rejection of BC Liberal’s “Working Forest” legislation. It included drinking watersheds	←	2005	→	To be continued ...
August – BC Liberals overhaul Land Management Manual and plan to alter Watershed Reserves section without public involvement	←			
April 29 – community organization representatives and residents of the Town of Sechelt meet to oppose a Community Forest proposal in its two Watershed Reserves	←			