



*building communities together*

## **2021 Business Plan Russet Bluff Water (1886)**

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***Working in partnership with communities large and small to offer local, sub-regional and regional services to ensure that the Cariboo Chilcotin is a socially, economically and environmentally desirable region.***

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### **Department Services**

- The Cariboo Regional District (CRD) owns and operates the Russet Bluff Community Water System.

### **Background Information**

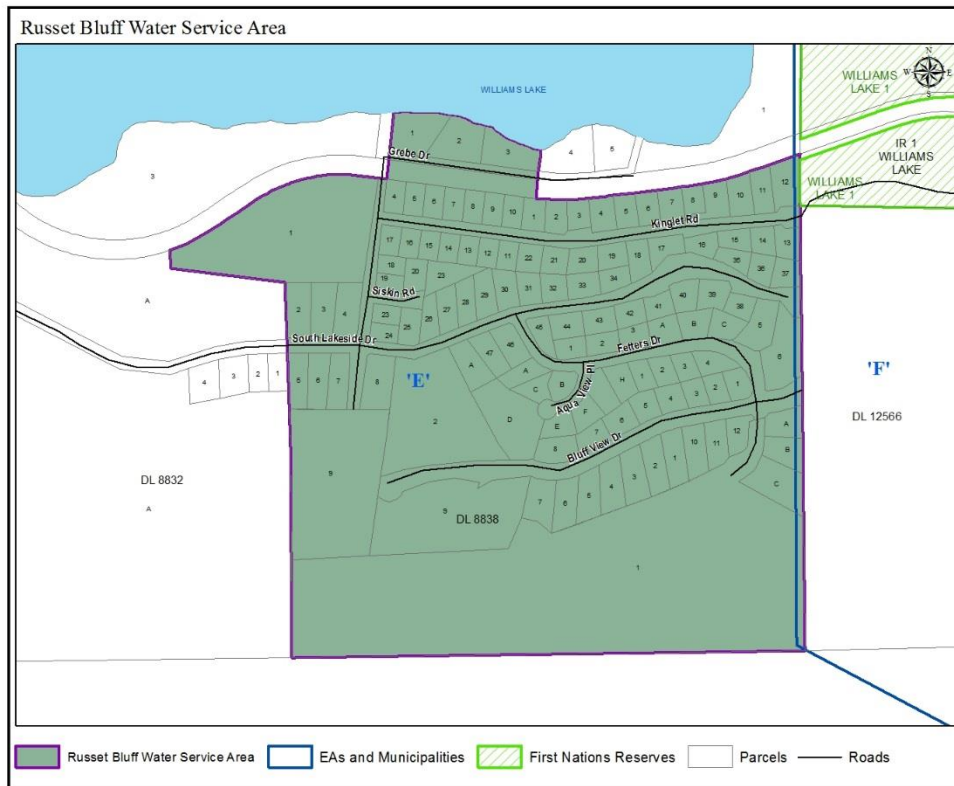
- The Russet Bluff water function was established in 2009 and services 90 land parcels.
- The system is comprised of two wells, two well houses, associated pumps and distribution piping, fire hydrants and one reservoir.

### **Operations**

The water quantity and quality is tested on a regular basis and adjustments to the system made as required. Regular inspection and maintenance to the system components will be undertaken to ensure continuous operations. As well, new connections will be provided to residents as requested.

Operational costs are collected by way of a user fee set at \$380 per year. The Russet Bluff Water System Specified Area Establishment Bylaw No. 4407 provides function authority.

As Electoral Area E is the only stakeholder, and the Local Government Act requires more than one vote, the entire Board is responsible for the governance of this service.



## Significant Issues & Trends

WorkSafe BC has a recent mandate targeting municipalities and regional districts focusing on confined space entry plans, policies and procedures as well as general occupational health and safety requirements. In response to inspections by WorkSafe, hazard assessments were completed for all utilities owned by the Cariboo Regional District to identify all confined space locations and subsequently procedures were developed for each. In order to strictly meet WorkSafe requirements, some of the procedures recommended cannot be implemented with existing infrastructure layout. Staff are currently investigating how other jurisdictions are approaching these requirements and looking for alternative procedures acceptable to WorkSafe.

Interior Health Authority conducted inspections of CRD water systems and made recommendations to achieve compliance with the Drinking Water Protection Act and Regulation. Recommendations for the Russet Bluff system have not yet been provided by IHA; however, it is anticipated that:

- 1) Increased monitoring frequency
- 2) Iron/manganese treatment and residual chlorine monitoring pending results of additional water quality sampling.

The Public Sector Accounting Board now requires local governments to report and record tangible capital assets. At some time in the future local governments may be required to amortize these assets over their useful life.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

### **Moving Forward:**

- 1) Assessments of ground water quality.

### **Business Plan Goals, Objectives & Strategies**

- 1. Goal:** Assess groundwater quality to determine potential requirement for treatment of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) and chlorination by-products.  
**Rationale:** At the time of this report the work is ongoing. Consultants are waiting for a major rain event to facilitate further sampling to confirm previous water quality results. It has been several years since this goal was introduced; however, the circumstances needed to accomplish the goal have not been experienced.  
**Strategy:** Review water quality data and select treatment options.
- 2. Goal:** Update GUDI/GARP assessment.  
NB: Ground water under direct influence of surface water (GUDI)  
Groundwater at Risk of Containing Pathogens (GARP)  
**Rationale:** Update GUDI/GARP assessment to meet IHA recommendations.  
**Strategy:** Retain consultant to update the assessment.

### **Overall Financial Impact**

The 2021 requisition remains the same as the 2020 requisition. There is no taxation levied for this service.

The established user fee is adequate at this time for the five-year period. The projected capital reserve as of December 2020 is \$54,000.

An annual reserve contribution of \$5,500 is anticipated.