



building communities together

2024 Business Plan Horse Lake Water (1889)

*Peter Hughes
Manager of Environmental Services*

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.

Department Services

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

Background Information

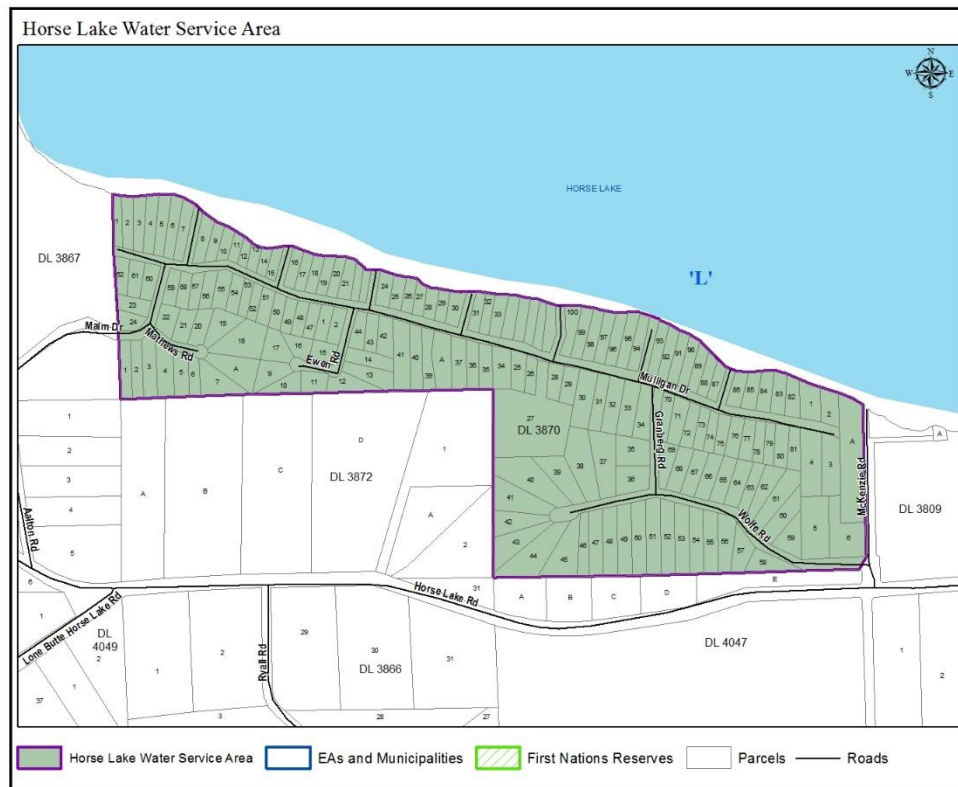
- The Horse Lake water function was established in 2009 and services 167 land parcels.
- The system is comprised of two wells, a well house, associated pumps and distribution piping, fire hydrants and one reservoir.
- In addition to meeting domestic needs, the system does provide some water to aid community fire protection, but the hydrants cannot be fully recognized by the Fire Underwriters Survey due to system inadequacies.

Operations

The water quantity and quality are tested on a regular basis and adjustments to the system are made as required. Regular inspection and maintenance of the system components is undertaken to ensure continuous operations. New connections are provided to residents as requested.

Taxation is collected by way of a parcel tax set at \$171 and a user fee set at \$250. The Horse Lake Water System Specified Area Establishment and Loan Authorization Bylaws No. 4411 and 4412 provide function authority.

As Electoral Area L 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

Interior Health Authority (IHA) conducted inspections of CRD water systems and made recommendations to achieve compliance with the Drinking Water Protection Act and Regulation. Recommendations for the Horse Lake system have not yet been provided by IHA.

The water supply contains manganese at concentrations that exceed drinking water standards. A pilot study was conducted in 2023 to identify treatment options and Class D cost estimate. The estimated cost to install manganese treatment at Horse Lake is \$560,000.

The Public Sector Accounting Board 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 to the Clean BC Climate Action Plan (formerly the Province of BC/UBCM Climate Action Charter) and has committed to continuing work towards carbon neutrality in respect of corporate operations.

Business Plan Goals, Rationale & Strategies

- 1. Goal:** Investigate costs for replacement of remaining sections of water main in need of replacement.
Rationale: There are significant sections of the distribution system that need to be replaced.
Strategy: Assess condition; hire contractor to replace pipe.
- 2. Goal:** Continue SCADA upgrade.
Rationale: Improve work productivity.
Strategy: Upgrade (SCADA) Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition.
- 3. Goal:** On-line Chlorine monitoring
Rationale: Improve water quality.
Strategy: Assess reservoir condition.

Overall Financial Impact

The projected capital reserve as of December 2023 is \$41,644.

Taxation is collected by way of a parcel tax of \$171 per year and has remained unchanged since 2009.

The current residential user fee is \$272 per year and may need to increase in 2023 to match the growing needs of this service and cover inflation.