



building communities together

2025 Business Plan Russet Bluff Water (1886)

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Manager of Utilities*

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 Russet Bluff Community Water System.

Background Information

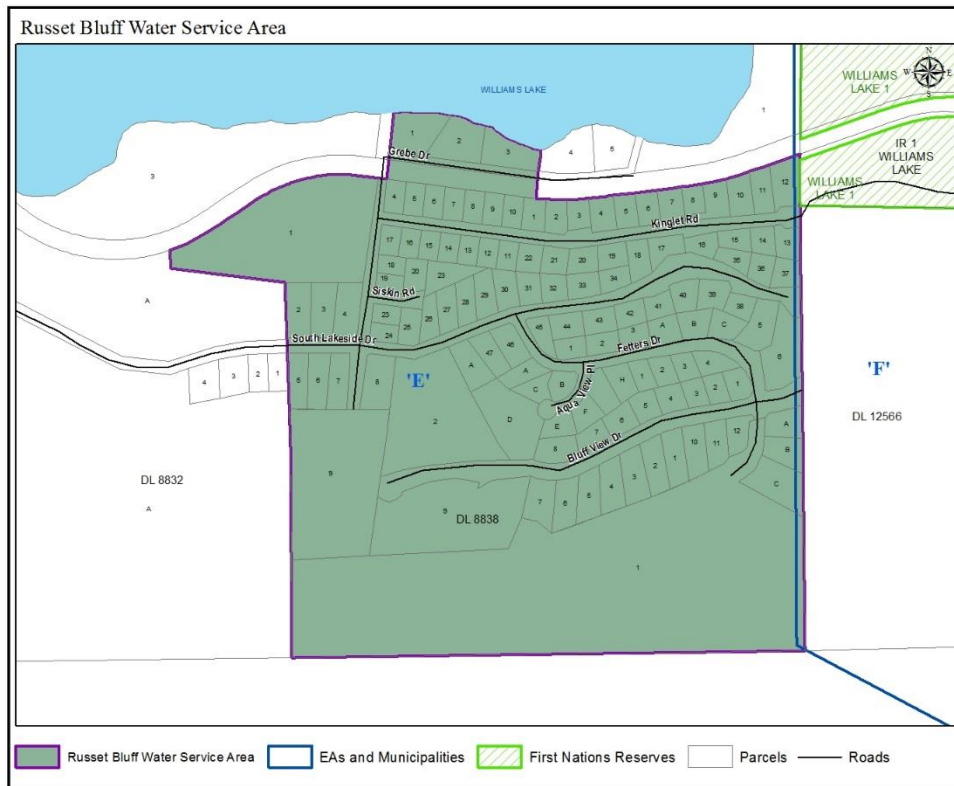
- The Russet Bluff Water function was established in 2009 and services 90 land parcels.
- The system is comprised of two wells, two well houses, associated pumps and distribution piping, fire hydrants and one reservoir.

Operations

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

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

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 include:

- 1) Increased monitoring frequency
- 2) Chlorination

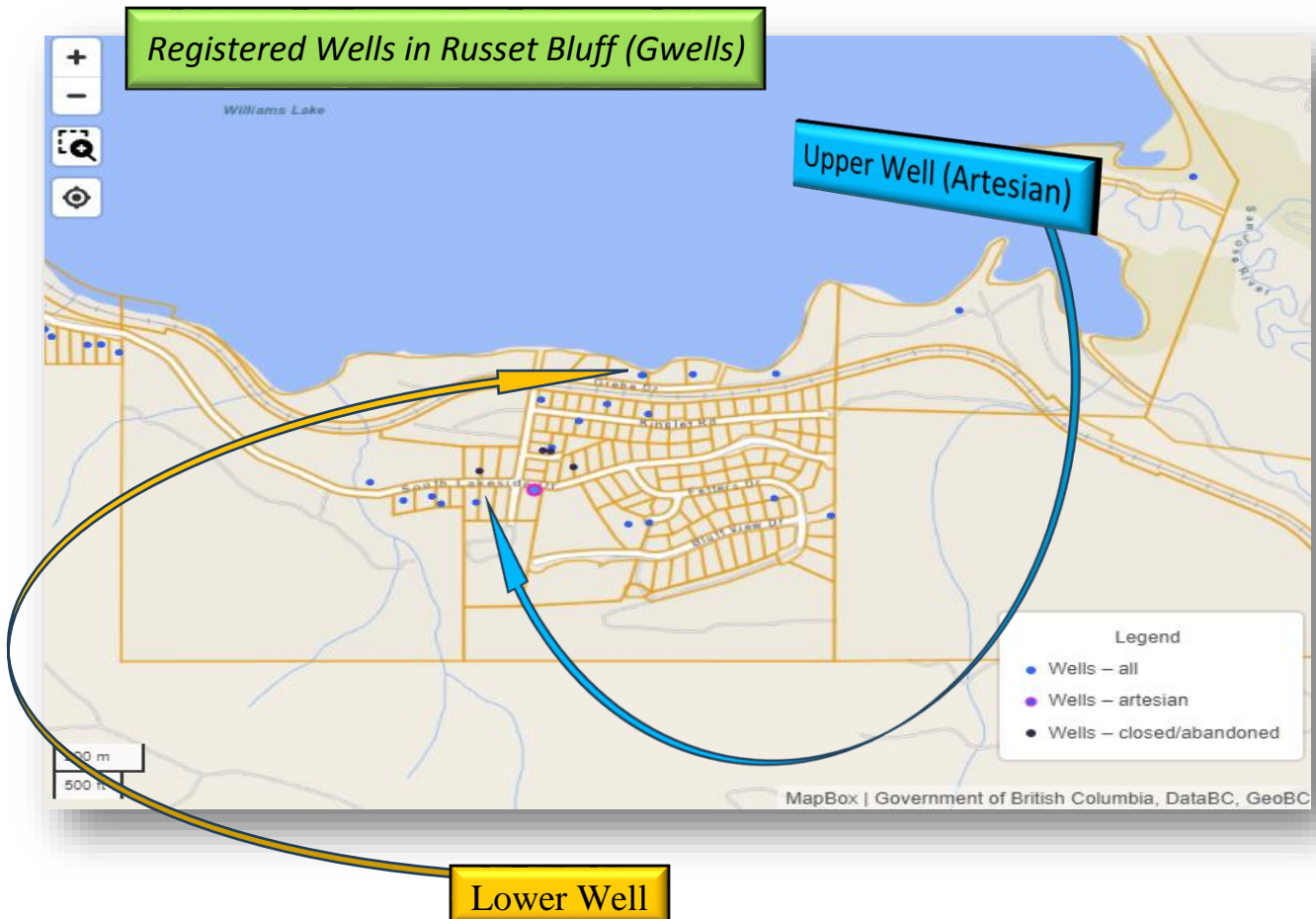
The Russet Bluff Water System currently has two wells for supply. The upper well is used most of the year and water quality meets standards. However, in the summer months, it was thought that drawdown in the upper well was such that the lower well needed to be put on-line. This was found not to be the case with testing in 2024. The lower well, which has manganese at levels that exceed the Maximum Allowable Concentration, was taken off-line.

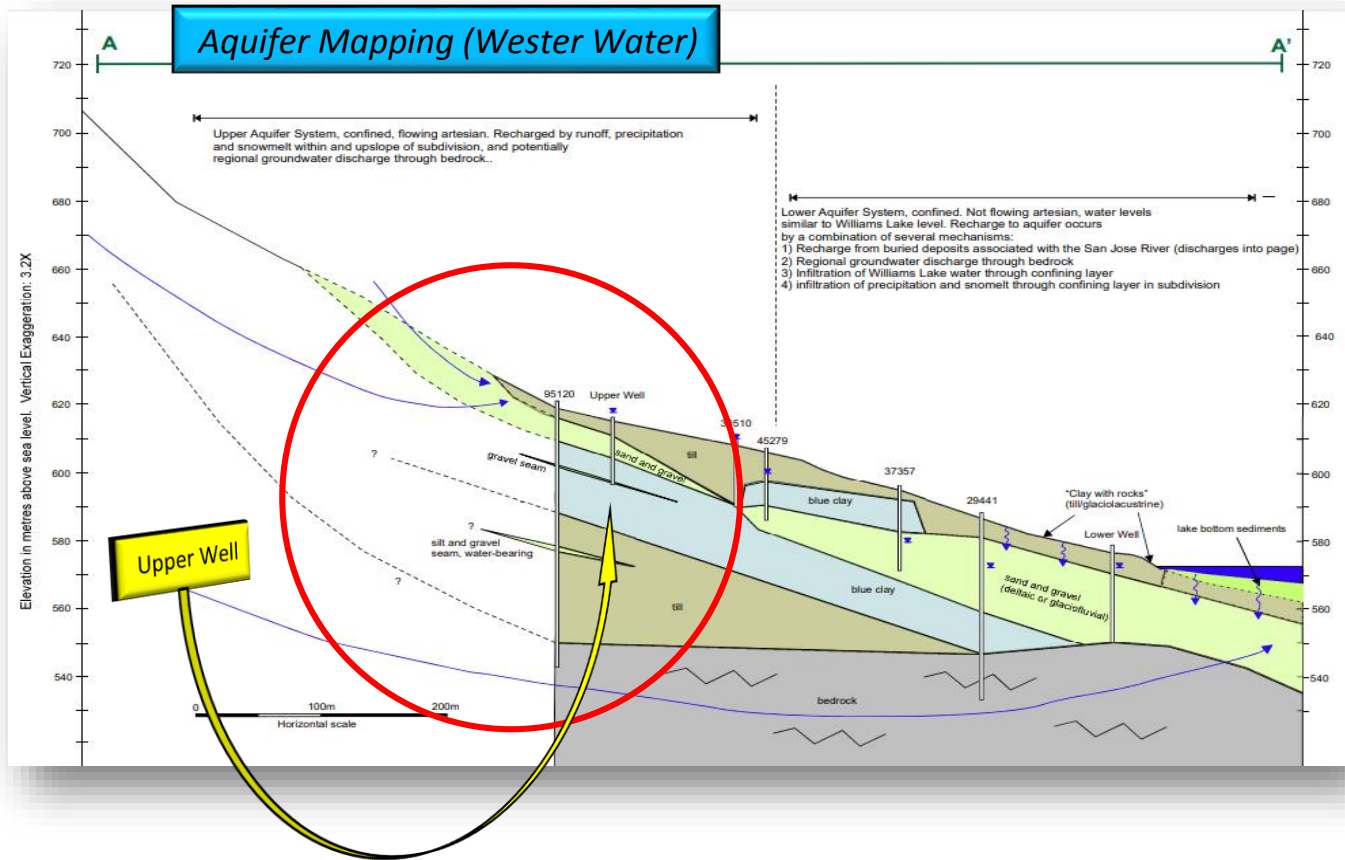
The Public Sector Accounting Board now requires local governments to report and record tangible capital assets. At some time in the future local governments may be required to amortize these assets over their useful life.

The Cariboo Regional District is a signatory on the 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, Objectives & Strategies

- 1. Goal:** Add SCADA (remote monitoring and control).
Rationale: Currently there is only a general alarm. This can consume Operator time unnecessarily.
Strategy: Upgrade (SCADA) Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition by installing communication and hardware.
- 2. Goal:** Improve water quality and maintain a chlorine residual.
Rationale: Meet health requirements and prevent potential waterborne illness. Improve overall water quality.
Strategy: Add chlorination and on-line chlorine monitoring; investigate the feasibility of a new pumphouse and new well. Assess if there is adequate space in existing pumphouse for chlorination equipment. Research Aquifers for quality and depth to drill for best results outside of GUDI (groundwater under direct influence of surface water) areas for potential secondary well.





3. **Goal:** Service Hydrants.
Rationale: Full teardown services of hydrants to ensure reliability.
Strategy: Schedule so that they can be completed when the contractor is in the area already for the other systems, to save costs.

4. **Goal:** Exercise and service main valves.
Rationale: These important and expensive pieces of the distribution system should be regularly serviced to promote reliability and asset longevity.
Strategy: Contribute a portion of the cost toward valve exercising equipment based off system size.

Overall Financial Impact

The projected capital reserve as of December 2024 is \$53,178.

No parcel tax is currently being collected for this location.

The current residential user fee is \$475 per year, which may increase in 2025 to match inflation.