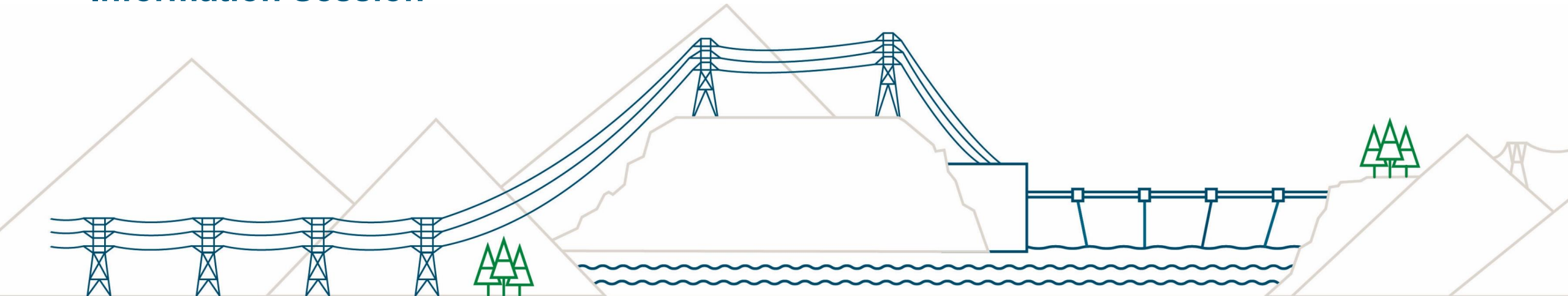


# Cheakamus Water Use Plan Order Review

Information Session



February 2021

# Agenda

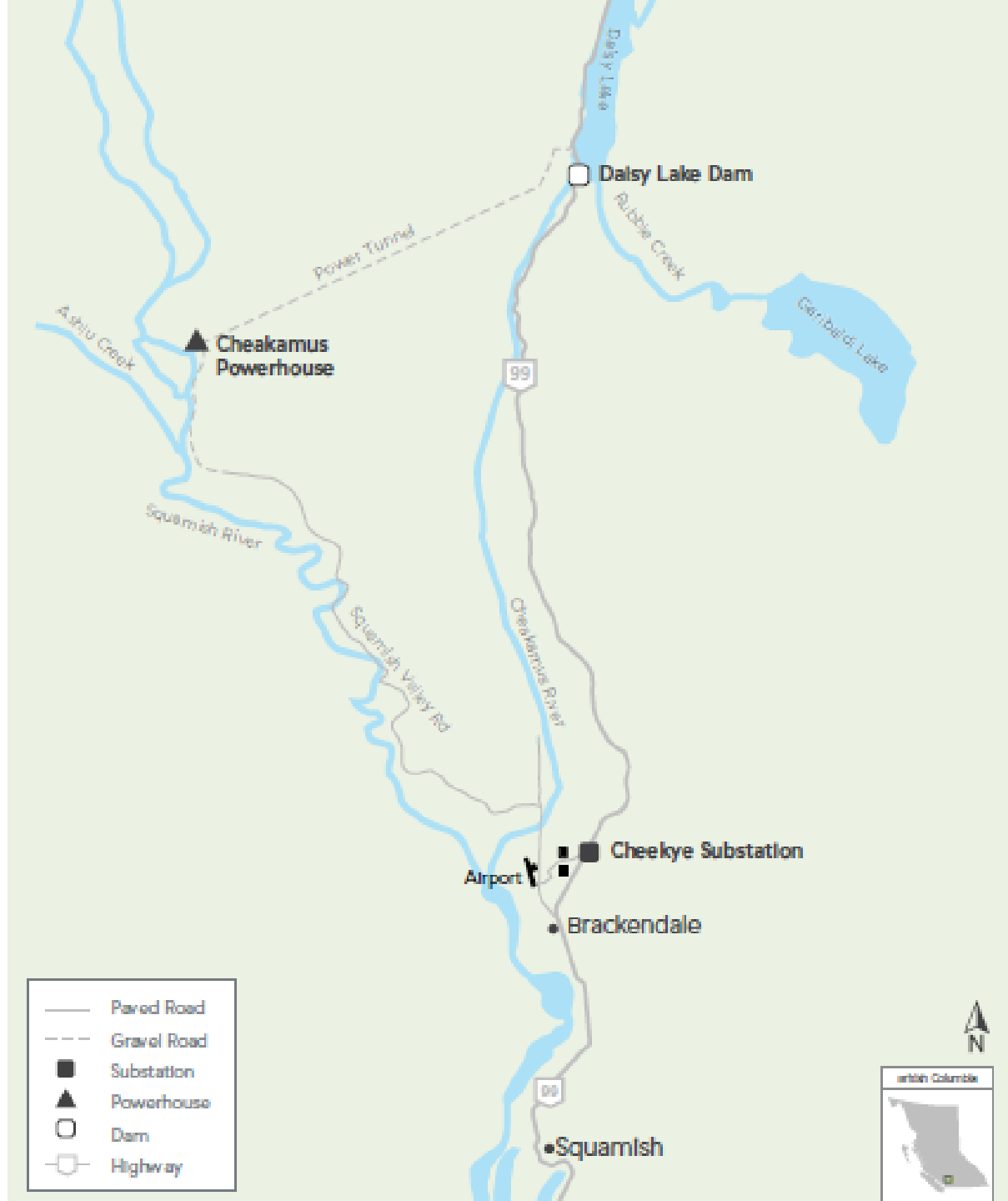
- Welcome and Introductions
- System overview
- History of Water Use Planning
- Water Use Plan Order Review
- Next steps

# System Overview



# Cheakamus System

- The Cheakamus generating station powerhouse is located about 40 kilometers north of Squamish and provides power to 96,000 homes per year.



# History of Water Use Planning

## The Province created Water Use Plan guidelines in 1998



- The Province created a 13 step Water Use Plan guideline in 1998.
- Steps 1-12 were completed and documented in the 2006 Cheakamus Water Use Plan.
- 23 Water Use Plans were developed

# The Goal of Water Use Planning

## Balancing power production with competing water uses

- Recommend incremental changes to operations that result in positive impacts within the watershed for competing interests
- Recommend monitoring programs to test assumed impacts of operational changes
- Impacts due to the footprint of the facility are not addressed during the WUP process

# What was the Outcome?

## New operational requirements for BC Hydro facilities

1. an Order issued under the *Water Sustainability Act* which detailed required operating parameters and monitoring studies; and
2. a *Fisheries Act* Authorization which is subject to several conditions, including those outlined in the WUP Order.

# Why Are We Doing the Order Review?

This is the final step of the Water Use Planning process

- To fulfill our commitment to complete a review of the WUP outcomes, we implemented the Water Use Plan Order Review (WUPOR) program
- The review will assess whether the ordered operational constraints had the intended benefits
- The WUPOR program is a review of existing WUP outcomes and is not intended to be a new WUP process

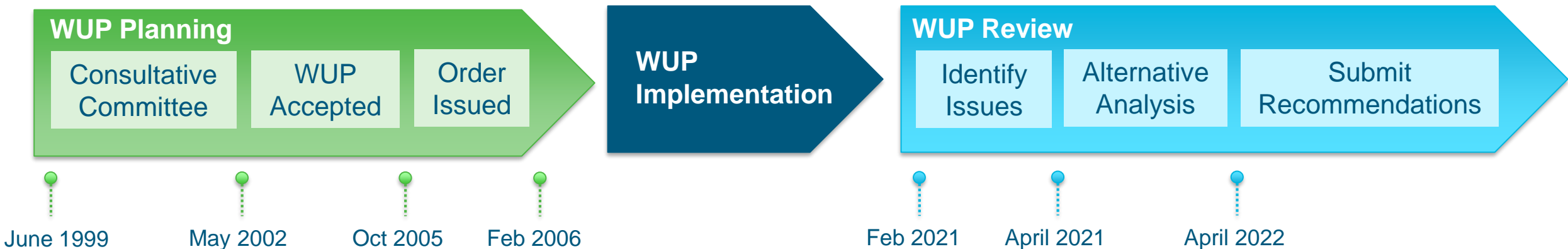


# What is the Process for the Review?

## Have the Ordered changes yielded the anticipated benefits?

The Order Review will

- Summarize and document WUP implementation outcomes
- Review outcomes with First Nations, regulators and key stakeholders, and,
- Seek input on priority issues and possible recommendations for change.



# Reviewing the Impacts of the WUP

## Ten monitoring studies were initiated under the Cheakamus WUP

- Studies aimed at assessing uncertainties of potential benefits or impacts of the WUP flow regime on fish, fish habitat and recreational angling.
- BC Hydro has developed a Monitoring Program Synthesis Report (MPSR) to summarize the results of the monitoring studies.
- The MPSR will be used as a supporting reference document throughout the WUPOR process
- The Cheakamus MPSR is available online at: [www.bchydro.com/cheakamuswatershed](http://www.bchydro.com/cheakamuswatershed)

# Fish Stranding on the Cheakamus

A monitoring program was developed in response to stranding events

- The Cheakamus Adaptive Stranding Protocol (CASP) was established in 2018
- CASP aims to identify effective fish stranding mitigation options for consideration for long-term implementation
- Results of the CASP work will support the WUPOR process

# Next Steps

- **January-March 2021:** identify priority issues to be discussed through the review process.
- **April 2021 to early 2022:** structured review of priority issues. This includes developing and evaluating alternatives.
- **Spring 2022:** BC Hydro plans to submit the WUPOR report to the Comptroller of Water Rights in spring 2022.

# Further Information & Contact

For the latest project information, visit:

[www.bchydro.com/cheakamuswatershed](http://www.bchydro.com/cheakamuswatershed)

Please review the MPSR and provide any comments or questions on the reports and information related to operations issues not considered during the development of the Water Use Plan.

For questions or comments on the Cheakamus WUPOR, you can reach us at:

Email: [Sabrina.locicero@bchydro.com](mailto:Sabrina.locicero@bchydro.com)

13 Phone: 1 866 647 3334

# Questions?





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