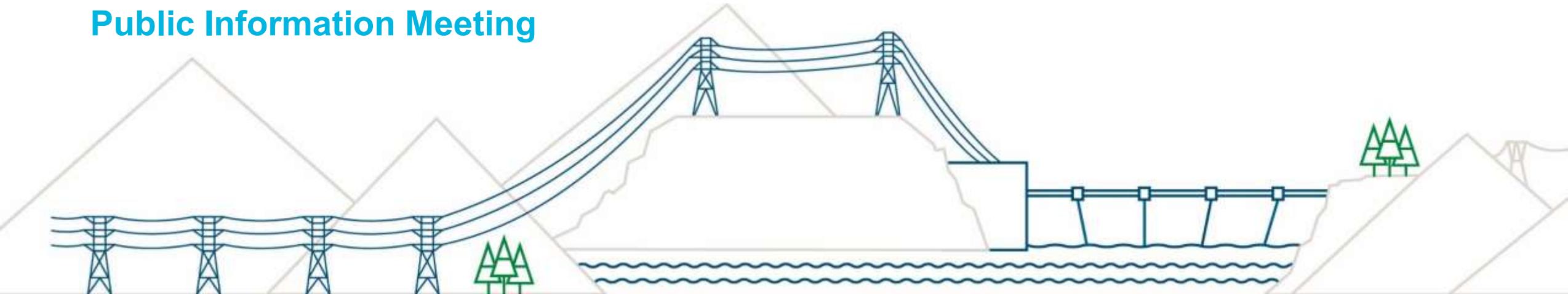


# Walter Hardman Water Use Plan Order Review

Public Information Meeting



September 22, 2022

# Objectives and Agenda

## Objectives

- Provide an overview of the Walter Hardman Water Use Plan Order Review (WUPOR) renewal process
- Identify next steps in the WUPOR process

## Agenda

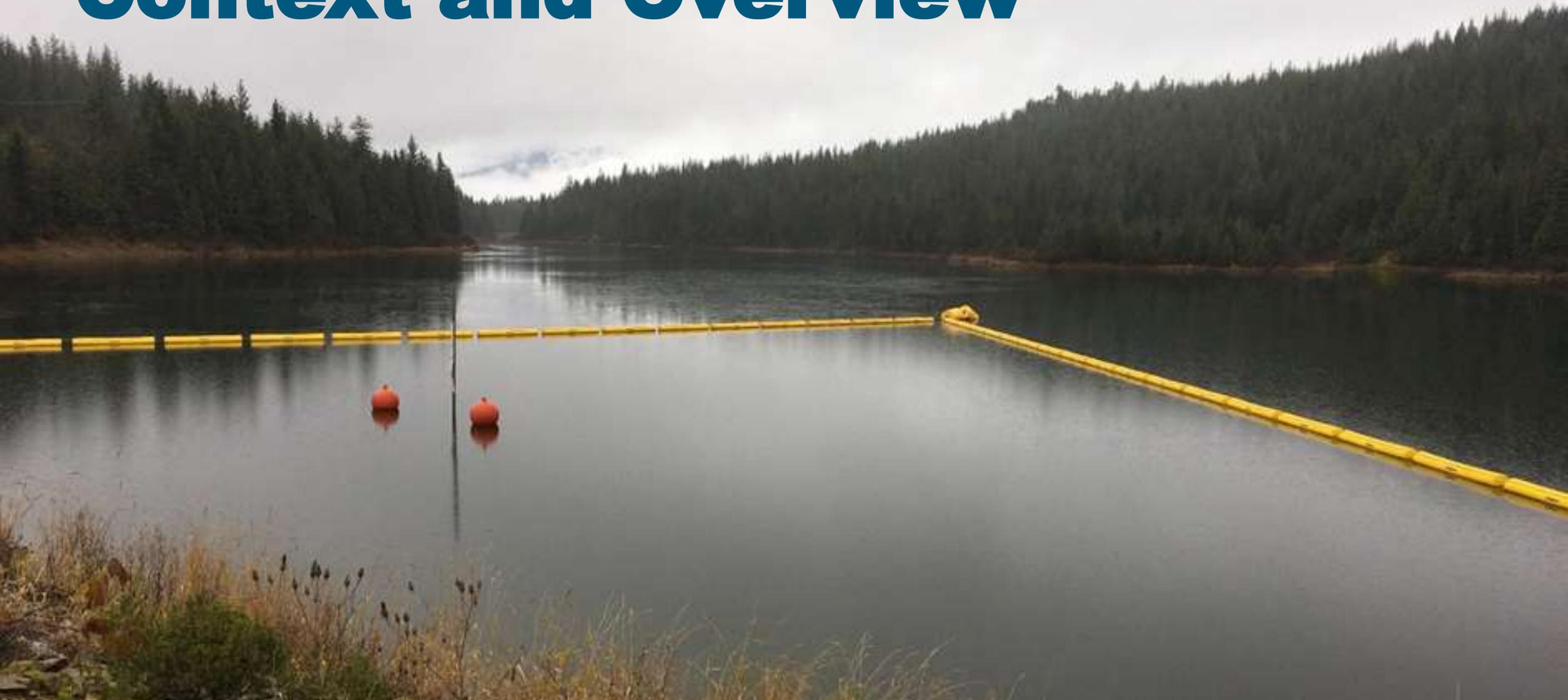
- Welcome & Introductions
- WUPOR Context and Overview
- Next Steps and Q&A

# Virtual Meeting Etiquette



- Use the 'raise your hand' button or the chat box for comments/questions
- Mute your microphone when not speaking
- Use your camera when speaking
- Share air space so that everyone can participate
- Challenge ideas, not people
- We aren't recording this session, and kindly ask that others do not record

# WUPOR Context and Overview



# WUP/WUPOR 101

## What is a Water Use Plan, Order and Order Review?

- Water Use Plans (WUPs) were mandated by the Province under the *Water Act* in the late 1990s, with an aim to provide a better balance between power production and other water uses
- Water Use Plans are implemented through an Order issued by the Comptroller of Water Rights (CWR)
- The Order stipulates how BC Hydro can operate within a watershed by imposing operational constraints, monitoring programs, and physical works
- The Province requires WUP Orders to be reviewed to ensure intended benefits are being achieved

# Walter Hardman System Overview



# Water Use Planning at Walter Hardman

## History

- 1950s/1960s - Walter Hardman Facility and Coursier Dam constructed by City
- 1972 - BC Hydro buys Walter Hardman and Coursier
- 2003 - Coursier Dam decommissioned and Water Use Planning process initiated
- 2006 – Completed Water Use Plan submitted to the CWR who issues an Order
- 2008 – Minimum flow bypass required by Order constructed
- 2011 – DFO issues *Fisheries Act* Authorization

## Issues identified by the WUP Consultative Committee

- Fish populations
- Power revenues
- Wildlife
- Recreation

# Implementing the WUP

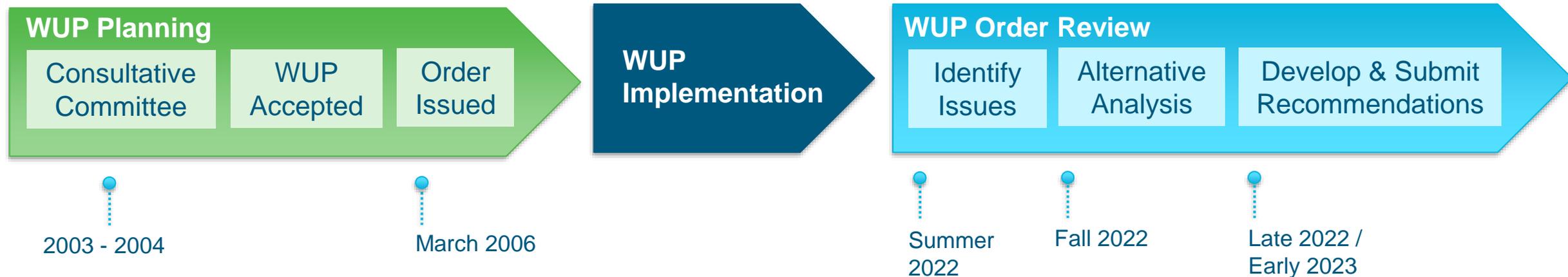
The Comptroller of Water Rights accepted the WUP in 2006, and Ordered BC Hydro to

- Install a minimum flow bypass, and maintain a minimum flow to Lower Cranberry Creek from the diversion
- Maintain specific water levels in the headpond / reservoir, and operate it to avoid or minimize spills
- Conduct fish salvage prior to maintenance or following a spill
- Implement an annual gravel placement program
- Complete 6 monitoring studies on fish and fish habitat in Lower Cranberry Creek and the headpond / reservoir

# What's the Process for the Review?

The WUPOR has three parts

1. **Issues Identification:** Identify priority issues to focus on in the Order Review
2. **Alternative Analysis:** Develop and evaluate alternative hydro operations along with other actions that could address those issues using Structured Decision Making (SDM) methods
3. **Recommendations:** Informed by the analysis of alternatives, develop and submit recommendations to CWR



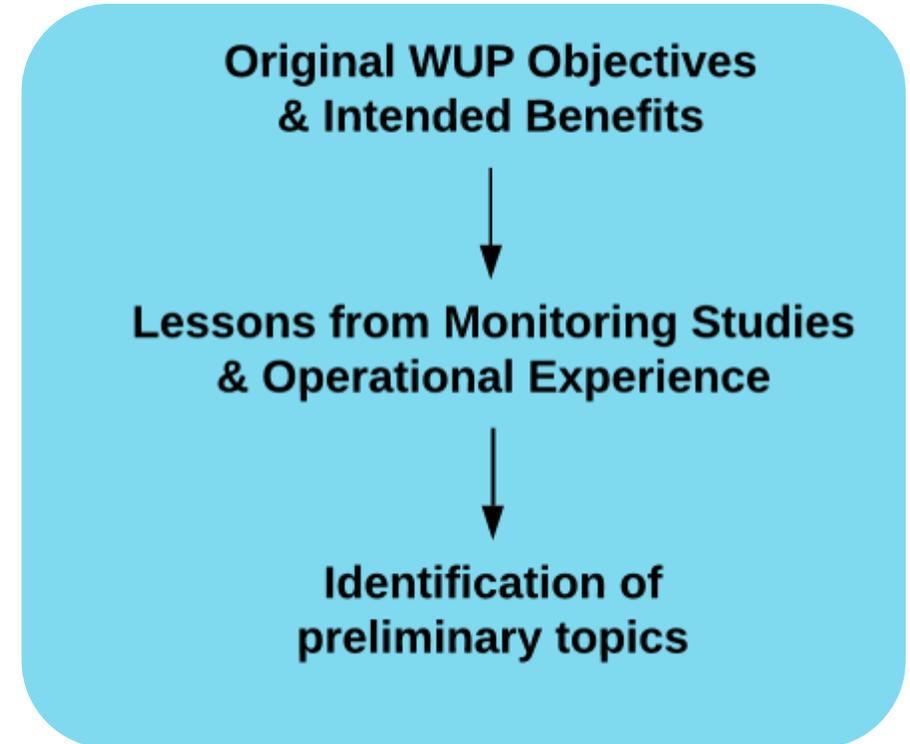
# WUPOR Issues Identification



# Identifying Issues

## Issues are being identified in many ways

- Previous Consultative Committee Reports and Water Use Plans
- New information obtained since the Orders were issued:
  - Results of WUP monitoring studies
  - Operational experience
- Input from First Nations, regulators and stakeholders



# Preliminary priority issues

## The WUPOR will focus on priority issues

- We've identified the following preliminary priority issues for discussion
  - Fish & Aquatic Ecosystem
  - Power Generation and Operations
  - Heritage and Culture
  - Recreation
  - Wildlife
  - Climate Change

### Key Discussion Questions

- Feedback?
- Need more information?

# Next Steps



# Next Steps

- Set up meetings for First Nations, regulators and key stakeholders
- Confirm and assess issues
- Prepare report for submission to the Comptroller of Water Rights
- Develop *Fisheries Act* Authorization application





**BC Hydro**

Power smart