

Attachment



**Village of Gold River 499  
Muchalat Dr.  
Gold River, BC  
V0P 1G0**

**Operations Department  
2025  
Annual Water Report**

Date: June 15, 2026

## **1. Introduction**

### **BC Drinking Water Protection Act**

The [Drinking Water Protection Act](#) and [Drinking Water Protection Regulation](#) replace the former Safe Drinking Water Regulation.

The *Drinking Water Protection Act* covers all water systems, except single-family dwellings (and systems excluded through the regulation). It sets out requirements for drinking water operators and suppliers to ensure the provision of safe drinking water to their customers:

- Water system construction proposals must be approved by public health engineers.
- Water system operators must operate their systems in compliance with the requirements of the *Drinking Water Protection Act* through operating permits, which may contain specific conditions and are set and approved by the drinking water officer.
- Minimum water treatment and water quality standards are to be met, and monitoring and testing carried out, as required.
- Water suppliers must have microbiological samples analyzed by a [laboratory](#) that has been approved by the Provincial Health Officer.
- Operators of water systems serving more than 500 individuals must be certified as operators through the [Environmental Operators Certification Program](#).
- Public notification must be made in case of water quality problems.

The *Drinking Water Protection Act* also helps to ensure safe and potable drinking water for British Columbians by assigning the following duties to the Provincial Health Officer:

- Monitor compliance of drinking water officers by way of guidelines and directives.
- Prepare and deliver an annual report to the Minister of Health regarding activities under the act.
- Report about all drinking water issues that threaten public health.
- Make recommendations to the minister with regard to drinking water protection planning.
- Oversee, review, and make amendments to drinking water protection plan.

The act ascended in *April 11, 2001*

In this very act a yearly distribution report is required to be submitted and reviewed by local council.

## **2. Authority to Operate**

The Village of Gold River is authorized to operate under the Ministry of Health, Vancouver Island Health Authority Water Operating Permit # 1410222 and is required to comply with the BC Drinking Water Protection and Regulations. The Gold River water utility is a Level 11 Water Distribution System as classified by the Environmental Operators Certification Program (EOCP).

## **3. Non-compliance Issues**

During the year of 2025 the Village of Gold River had **zero (0) reported issues**.

## **4. Water Reduction Efforts**

The Village of Gold River shall continue to follow and implement strategies in the Water Conservation Plan as approved by council. The Water Conservation Bylaw No. 751 provides specific direction and enforcement tools to regulate consumption reductions during drought or water shortage.

The Gold River Universal Metering Project will bring water meters to every property over the next two years. This project will empower residents to understand and control their consumption to suit. Metering, regardless of billing models has been shown to reduce consumption when implemented in other jurisdictions.

## **5. System Improvements**

The Village of Gold River will continue to follow and implement strategies as approved by council in the Water Conservation Plan.

### **2022 System Updates**

- Received a replacement portable back flow preventer meter. The Village continue to monitor its effectiveness as previous meters have been inaccurate.
- Well #1 – Rehabilitation Project., undertake a temporary repair to obtain an 8-to-10-year life expectancy of the well.
- Well #3 - Redevelopment, Motor Replacement and Pump Rebuild Project.
- The Village dealt with several water-main breaks mostly brought on by fibre installation within community. Except for two rather large/challenging breaks. First being at the intersection of Eagle Crescent (S. Leg) and Nimpkish Dr during the Christmas holidays, with the other located in front of the high school along Muchalat Dr., each being carried out by staff.

## 2023 System Updates

- Updated and integrated SCADA program with water well pumping to distribution with the sewage treatment plan and sewage lift stations.
- Water and Wastewater Operator achieve their Environmental Operators Certification Program Level 2 Certification in Water Distribution.
- Prepared an Operational Emergency Response and Contingency Plan (ERCPC) – Supplementary Drought Response Plan.
- Activated Stage 2 (July 4) of the Water Conservation plan (2019-2023) in response to a Stage 4 drought being declared within the West Vancouver Island Basin.

## 2024 System Updates

- Budgeted to clean and re-paint the Scout Lake Reservoir; however, due to contractor capacity, the project was carried forward to 2025.
- The asset management plan or report was completed. This report explored and defined levels of service, risk analysis, and current asset life-cycles for the water utility.

## 2025 System Updates

- The Village received a grant to install water meters at every serviced property in the Village, valued at \$3,227,854. This was formalized on March 20, 2025. The Province established a community of practice, working group of facility managers, directors, staff, and consulting engineers to help guide communities through the scoping details and competition and contract documents. Gold River's competition officially got underway on September 15, 2025, saw a contract engaged on December 5, 2025.
- There were nineteen (19) asset management software (AMS) tracked water related issues in 2025. Seven of them were leaks on the public water main or services. Cost tracking has begun, with each unique resolution adding data into the system for cost and resource tracking. Water service leaks have been trending towards \$1,500 +/- each to resolve including labour, equipment, and materials; excluding surface asphalt or concrete restoration. Hardened surface restoration tend to be resolved the year following the repair to allow for settlement and costs have not necessarily been fully realized yet.
- There were no other major water projects in 2025

## **6. Water Use**

- Water consumption statistics from the 2016 BC Municipal Water Survey (UBC) indicate that the estimated residential water use per person in BC to be 312 litres per person per day (lpcd). The total water use was 494 lpcd, and this was because the total water use per person includes industrial, commercial, institutional, agricultural, as well as, system losses. Total water use is the most relevant comparable with Gold River's figures given we currently do not meter water at the point of sale. According to the 2021, Survey of Drinking Water Plants by Statistics Canada, the average system loss rate was 17%. This figure includes losses due to main and service breaks, hydrant use, flushing system maintenance. This is provided for context only. It demonstrates the need to understand our system, consumption, and points of loss to support its' management as it enters its older life cycle years. The table below includes a column reflecting a 17% loss rate to help us visualize the quantities, impact and value of measuring our water.
- In Gold River, our 2025 total consumption rate was 637 (lpcd) based on a population of 1,339 (2024, BC Statistics, [Municipal and sub-provincial areas population, 2011 to 2024 \(XLSX\)](#) which remains higher than the provincial average, and is a slight increase over 2024's improvement from 2023's 567 lpcd total consumption. There was a slight population bump from 2024's 1,318 to 2025's 1,339.
- 2024 saw the continuation of severe drought and heat conditions, and while 2025 saw a slightly better snow-pack (79% of normal), it came with an early, warmer spring, and melted very early. There is limited local weather data since the closure of the weather station data recording centre in 2016. There is currently no reliable, local weather and precipitation data available for Gold River.
- The Village of Gold River Annual Water Report estimates the average daily production at 853 m<sup>3</sup>. Peak usage has historically been June; however, in 2025 July overtook June. July's production was 1,269 m<sup>3</sup> compared to June's 1,090 m<sup>3</sup>.

Water Production • Daily - Monthly Average – Cubic Meters

	<b>2022 (Revised)</b>	<b>2023 (Revised)</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>17% estimated loss</b>	<b>2024 Est. Consumption</b>	<b>2025 Est. Consumption</b>
Jan	1,097	559	581	809	138	444	672
Feb	926	558	556	711	121	436	590
Mar	871	527	526	726	123	402	602
Apr	1,367	665	547	667	113	433	554
May	699	898	898	699	119	779	580
Jun	1,042	1,393	1,393	1,090	185	1,207	905
Jul	1,040	1,356	1,296	1,269	216	1,080	1,053
Aug	1,350	845	831	1,143	194	637	949
Sep	1,046	640	640	970	165	475	805
Oct	706	570	570	794	135	435	659
Nov	501	543	543	716	122	421	594
Dec	612	587	587	638	108	479	530
<b>Avg Daily (M^3)</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>708</b>
<b>Equivalent lpcd</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>637</b>		<b>457</b>	<b>537</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Doxey AScT, ENV SP, ProfCert AM  
 Director of Operations  
 Village of Gold River