



Media Release

For Immediate Release

DATE: July 23, 2025

Summerland water utility confirms no damage to dams following earthquake

SUMMERLAND – Following a local 3.8-magnitude earthquake on the early morning of July 19, 2025, the District of Summerland water utility has completed thorough inspections of all 14 dams in the Trout Creek and Eneas Creek watersheds and confirmed that no damage has occurred.

The seismic event, which occurred within close proximity to Summerland's water infrastructure, triggered response protocols outlined in the District's Emergency Response Plan. Water utility staff visited each dam site on the same day as the earthquake to perform detailed visual inspections.

The water utility monitors seismic activity in collaboration with Natural Resources Canada and follows strict response guidelines for any earthquake greater than 3.0 magnitude that occurs within 50 km of critical infrastructure. This proactive approach ensures that even minor seismic activity is taken seriously.

The District of Summerland's 14 dams together store approximately 16.6 billion litres of water (16,644,000,000 litres), the equivalent of nearly 6,700 Olympic-sized swimming pools. Water is released from the dams in sufficient quantities to meet the daily requirements of the community for safe drinking water and agricultural irrigation.

Quote:

"Thanks to the quick action of our dedicated staff and the emergency procedures we have in place, residents can be assured we are well prepared to respond to emergencies in order to protect public safety and maintain uninterrupted service in all our utilities."

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

-30-

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1 photo attached



Summerland Thirsk Dam and Spillway