



November 10, 2021

Mt. Currie Water System – Notice of Reservoir Vandalism

Risk Level – Low

No Boil Water Advisory Required

On Monday November 8th, Lil'wat Nation Public Works discovered that the Nation's IR 10 water reservoir had been broken into and vandalized. The damage consisted of 3 locks being cut, multiple holes cut into the reservoir fencing and both access gates being dismantled by shearing of the hinge bolts. The reservoir access ladder was also breached and the lock to the top reservoir access hatch was cut and opened.

Candy wrappers were found along with a campfire nearby and the reservoir itself was defaced with scratches to its surface. Based on evidence at the site it was determined the vandalism occurred between 7 and 30 days previous and given all the damage done it appeared to be more mischief in nature than intent to contaminate the reservoir.

Tribal Police were notified and investigated the scene as well the incident was reported to the First Nation's Health Authority (FNHA). The Vancouver Coastal Health, Village of Pemberton and Squamish Lillooet Regional District have all been notified as well.

With current water use rates, the reservoir turns over approximately every 3 days meaning that if anything was introduced to the system it will have already cycled through the reservoir and into distribution. The Nation tests the water weekly for bacteriological parameters and all recent tests including yesterday's testing have come back negative. The Nation has also implemented flushing of hydrants at the far extents of the system to ensure full turnover of water since the incident took place.

In discussion with our Health Authority, the risk to the water system is considered low given the high dilution factor of the reservoir (900,000 Litres of water), the level of residual chlorine within the reservoir, and the fact that this likely happened over a week ago and testing conducted by both the Nation and the Village of Pemberton has come back normal. For these reasons, there is no water advisory being put in place. The Xit'olacw water system was not affected by this incident.

If you have any information regarding this incident, please contact the Stl'atl'imx Tribal Police, Mt. Currie, at 604-894-6124 and refer to case file # 1286. You can also contact Public Work at 604-894-6115.

