

Bliss Spring

Jordan River, B.C.



Photo 1. Bliss Spring point of capture.

Objective

Protect the Bliss Spring water source and upgrade the capacity of the system to provide improved water security and opportunities for community accessibility.

Background

Bliss Spring is a near surface water source located on the west side of West Coast Road (Highway 14) at UTM coordinates 421655m.E. and 5364200m.N (Figure 1). The water flows down a steep slope into a road side ditch where it is captured by two covered 50-centimetre wide, vertically oriented concrete pipes (Photos 1 and 2). The water is gravity fed through pipes under the Highway to small (less than 500 gallon) metal cisterns (Photos 3 and 4) and then piped to the residential and commercial buildings that were located in the Hamlet of Jordan River.



Figure 1. Location of Bliss Spring and existing water capture and diversion infrastructure.



Photos 2 and 3. Current points of capture.



Photos 4 and 5. Current cisterns.

Status

The system is registered in the BC Water License Directory. Currently only one domestic use license (Hugh Pite) and one commercial license (BC Hydro - Cold Shoulder Cafe) are active. The remaining eight licenses are held by BC Hydro (Figure 2). Unfortunately the water system has not been adequately maintained or updated since it was established in the 1940s. Combined with its tenuous position adjacent to the highway and recent residential developments, the water source is at risk of being contaminated and destroyed.

License No	WR Map/ Point Code	Stream Name	Purpose	Quantity	Units	Qty Flag	Redit Flag	Licenses	Water District/Precinct	Licence Status	Process Status	Priority Date	Issue Date
C061320	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Domestic	2.273	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19840224	
C110196	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Comm. Enterprise: Enterpr	2.273	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19950825	19960731
C123888	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Domestic	2.273	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	20080430	20080923
F011450	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Domestic	4.546	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19380816	
F012739	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Domestic	4.546	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19380816	
F014458	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Comm. Enterprise: Enterpr	2.273	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19430909	
"	"	Bliss Spring	Domestic	2.273	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19430909	
F014742	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Domestic	4.546	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19491013	
F110384	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Domestic	2.273	MD	T	N	BC HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY 12TH FLOOR-333 DUNSMUIR S VANCOUVER BC V6B5R3	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19380816	19970417
F127744	92.C.050.2.3 B (PD31641)	Bliss Spring	Domestic	2.273	MD	T	N	PITE HUGH D 570 SEACLIFFE RD SIDNEY BC V8L5W1	VIC - VICTORIA	Current	N/A	19410616	20120326

Figure 2. List of current license holders.

Proposed Upgrades

Upgrading the spring's capacity to provide potable water for local residents and protecting the source from potential damage would be extremely beneficial to the local community. Currently there is no emergency supply of potable water in the area and during drought many residents have potable water trucked in from Sooke. It could also be a source of water for emergency fire suppression.

Upgrades to the system would include an expanded and enclosed capture system that would pipe water through an existing culvert to a new 10 to 20,000 gallon cistern (Figure 3). The construction of an access road to the cistern would be from the BC Hydro power plant road along an existing rise (old road bed?). Continuing to take advantage of the elevations, the system would be gravity fed.

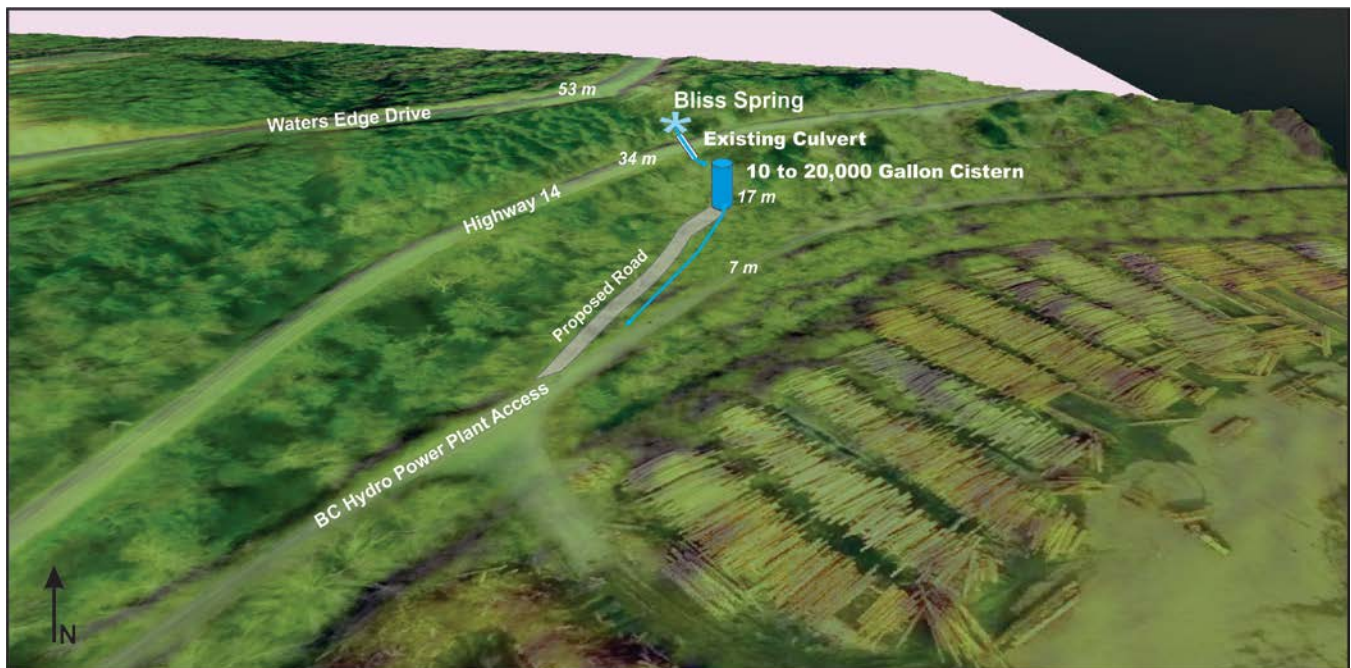


Figure 3. Elevation model showing a possible infrastructure upgrade.

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