



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Ministry of
Environment and
Climate Change Strategy

Flood Debris Management Secretariat

Thyren Jacobs – February 22, 2024

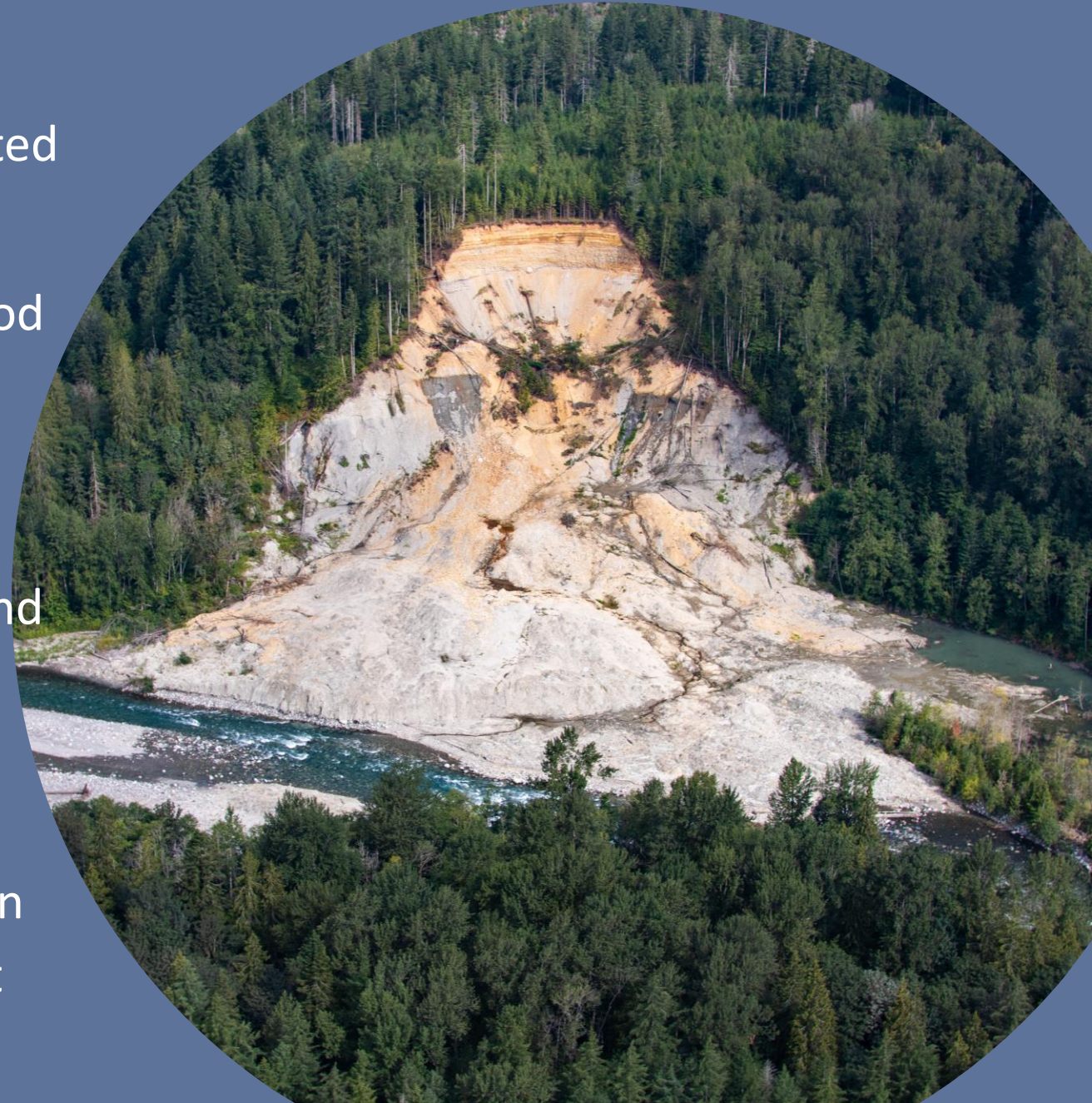
Contents

1. Introduction video
2. Situational Awareness
3. Response
4. Site Assessments
5. Debris Clean up
6. Metrics
7. Conclusion



Situational Awareness

- 8 major watercourses plus tributaries impacted
- Large tracts of land were flooded, mixing flood water with chemicals, manure, and other hazards
- Flow of water destabilized adjacent slopes and shorelines, impacted infrastructure, and compromised dikes
- Identified through engagement, collaboration and partnerships with communities and First Nations





Response

On November 19th, 2021 the Environmental Emergencies Program leads the provincial Environmental Branch in response to the ARE. Scope of work:

- Liquid and Solid Waste Management
- Structures Threatened by Watercourses
- Water Quality Assessment
- Debris Management

The Flood Debris Management Secretariat, within the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, was created to continue to oversee the comprehensive debris removal program.

Site Assessments

Qualified Professionals determined if an issue in a waterway was linked to the ARE and if it fell within the scope of the Flood Debris Management Secretariat.

The sites were assessed to determine if they created risks to health and safety, river capacity, cultural values, environmental values, or critical infrastructure.





Debris Clean up

Debris in watercourses – included human-made and natural debris that posed a high risk to human health and safety, as well as infrastructure.

Examples of human-made debris include:

- Construction machinery
- Vehicles
- Seacans
- Concrete
- Appliances
- etc.

Examples of natural debris include

- woody materials
- sediment
- silt deposits

Scale of the 'garbage' clean-up, as of October 31, 2022

Local authorities and First Nations assessments	1000+ Touchpoints with Communities	1000+ Employment opportunities created	+40 First Nations engaged	+60 Communities engaged	460 Communities members trained	150+ Site visits and Face to Face meetings
Situation unit services	4200+ DOC operations support hours	20+ Provincial and Federal teams involved	31 Decision notes prepared for ENV	168 Weekly reports prepared circulated to government and communities	53+ Executive reports	
Procurement management and contract admin	400+ Number of contractors & sub-contractors	377+ Project documents reviewed for DFAA eligibility	394 Invoices Reviewed for payment	99 Contracts managed	69 Procurement packages submitted to EMBC	
Program management of debris and waste removal	16,000+ Metric Tonnes of debris removed	4,725 Metric Tonnes sent to landfills	445 Debris sites cleared	130+ Sites sampled for hazardous chemicals	128 Sediment projects identified	
Finance	\$715M Forecast Estimate	\$219M Approved EAF's	\$102M Committed funds	\$11M+ Paid to First Nation contractors	\$7M+ Paid to local communities	

Conclusion

The work to re-establish pre-flood conditions continues to be successful due to ongoing collaboration between the Province, First Nations, Qualified Professionals and community members.

[More about FDMS](#)

