

A Federal-Provincial Approach to Water Quality Monitoring

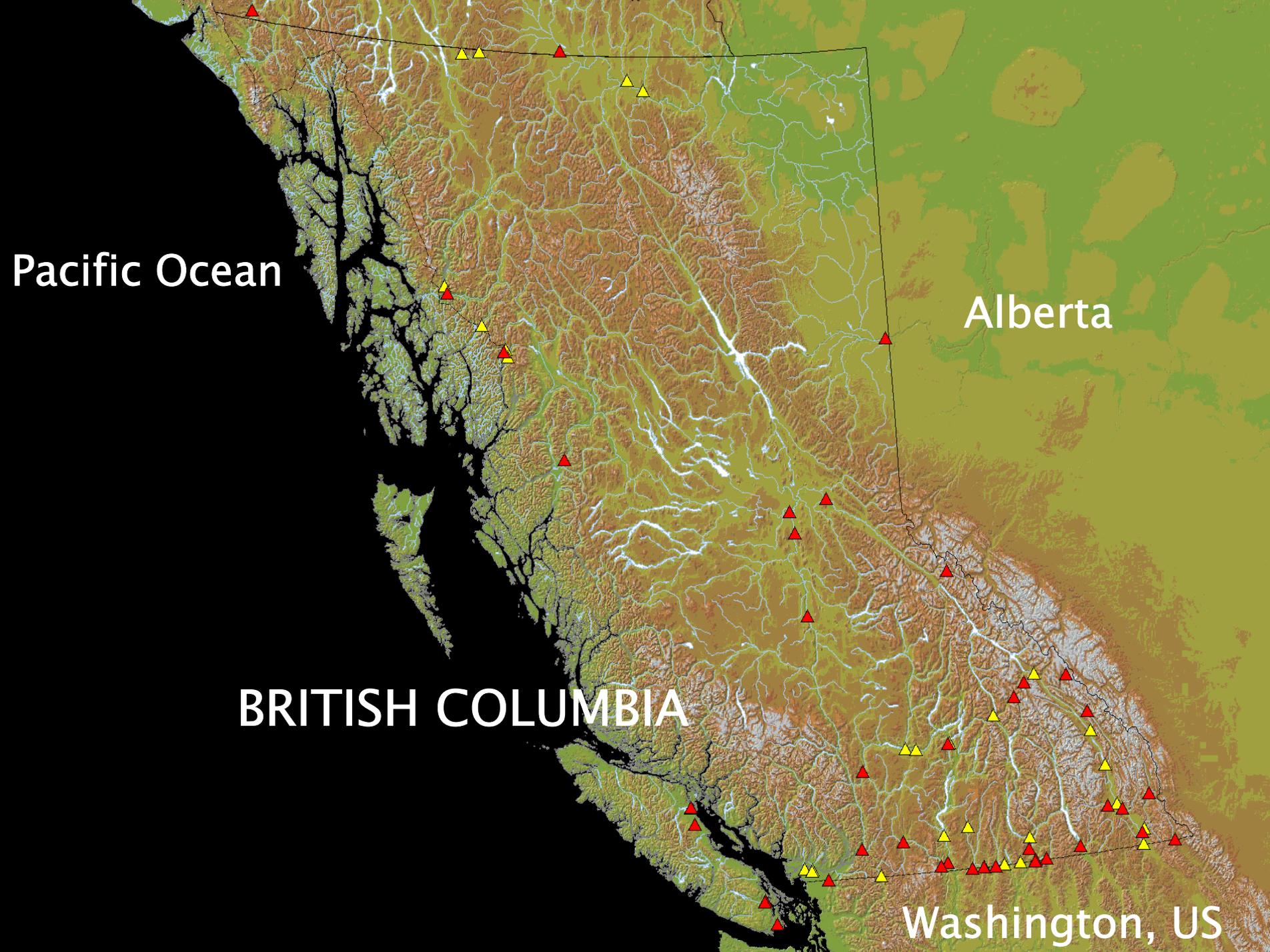
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Pacific Ocean

Alberta

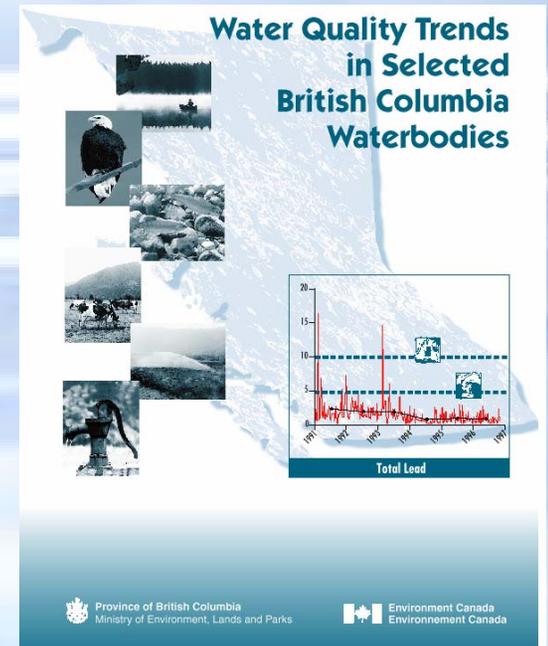
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Washington, US



Data Uses

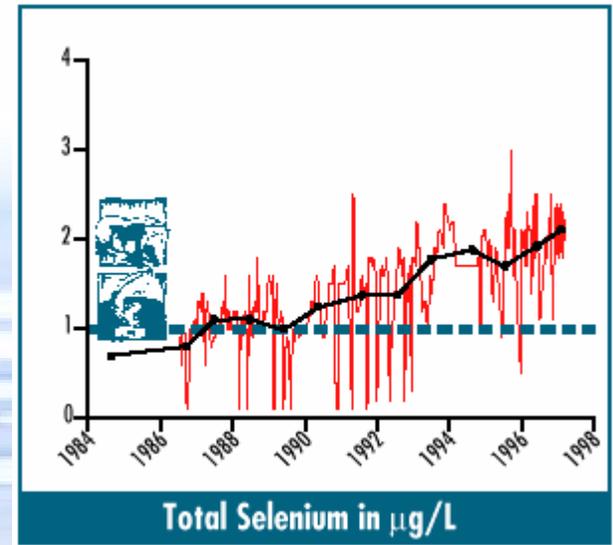
- Trend assessment
- State of Environment reporting
- Development of water quality guidelines and site-specific objectives



➤ Detection/tracking of emerging issues

➤ Environmental assessments

➤ Assessing effectiveness of Departmental policies and programs



Canada-British Columbia Water Quality Monitoring Agreement

Signed in 1985 between the federal Department of Environment and the provincial Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection for the purposes of:

- Coordinating and integrating federal and provincial monitoring
- Producing joint, comprehensive assessments of water quality

➤ Indefinite term

➤ Yearly Schedules (operational plans and costs) negotiated

➤ Fully cost-shared/work-shared

Values to Collaborators

- Cost savings
- No duplication of effort
- Flexibility (operationally/fiscally)



- Sustainability
- Accessibility to other services
- Synergy – Working Groups
- Politically attractive

Additional Benefits

- Improved quality assurance
- Standardization of methods ▶ data comparability
- Increased collaboration on other projects
- Easy to incorporate new funds/projects into Agreement
- Attracts new partners and funds



Thank-you...

