



Portal Offers Water Data for All Northern B.C.

Effective: Immediately

A revised and enhanced version of the [Water Portal](#), which provides data and information about water resources and management, now covers all of northern British Columbia. The Water Portal is an online map-based application with an array of water-related data collected by various government agencies and external groups, including industry.

The information comes from a variety of monitoring sources in Northern British Columbia and provides a wide range of current and historic data.

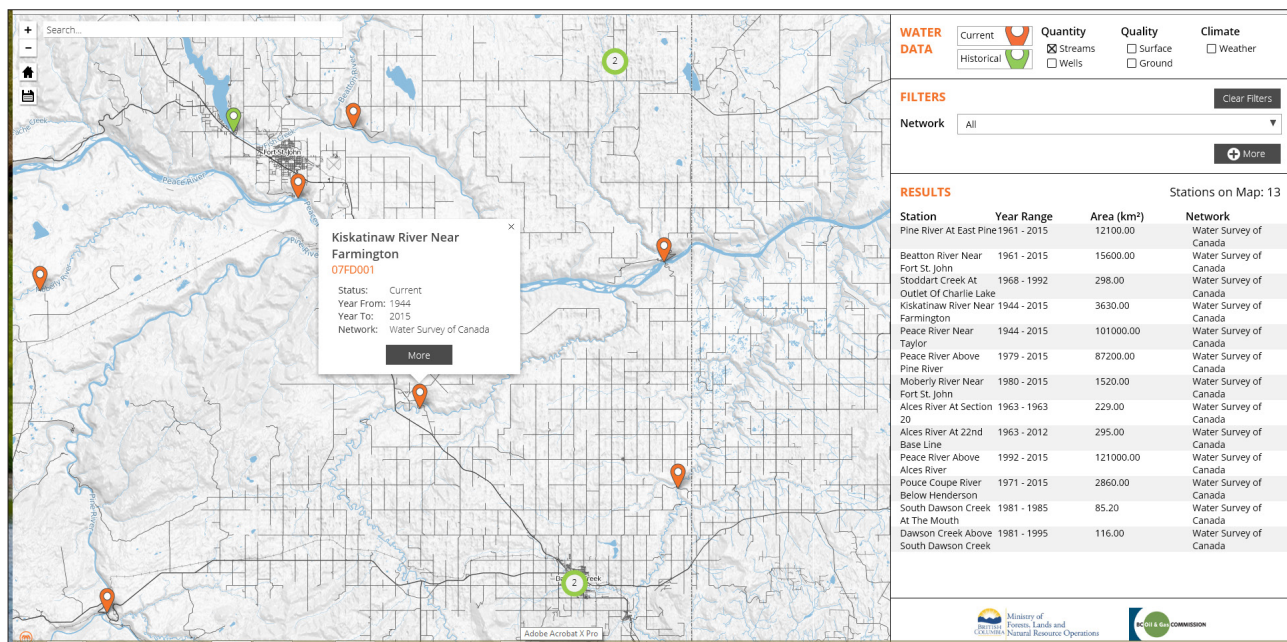


Figure1 Water Portal application interface, showing streamflow monitoring locations near the Peace River, northeast B.C.

In the Water Portal users will find:

- Water quantity data (streamflow and groundwater levels)
- Water quality measurements (surface and groundwater)
- Weather and climate information (temperature, precipitation, snow)
- Historical observations and current conditions

Portal Offers Water Data for All Northern B.C., cont'd

The updated version of the Water Portal features new and upgraded capabilities. These include:

- Monitoring stations for all of Northern B.C., (Peace, Liard, Omineca, Skeena regions)
- Added accuracy and intuitive labeling of monitoring stations based on their current status
- The ability to search by location, station name or key word
- Filtering capabilities based on monitoring network, years of record, station status, parameters, etc.
- Saving map filter templates and the ability to download the data
- Enhanced charts and analytic tools.

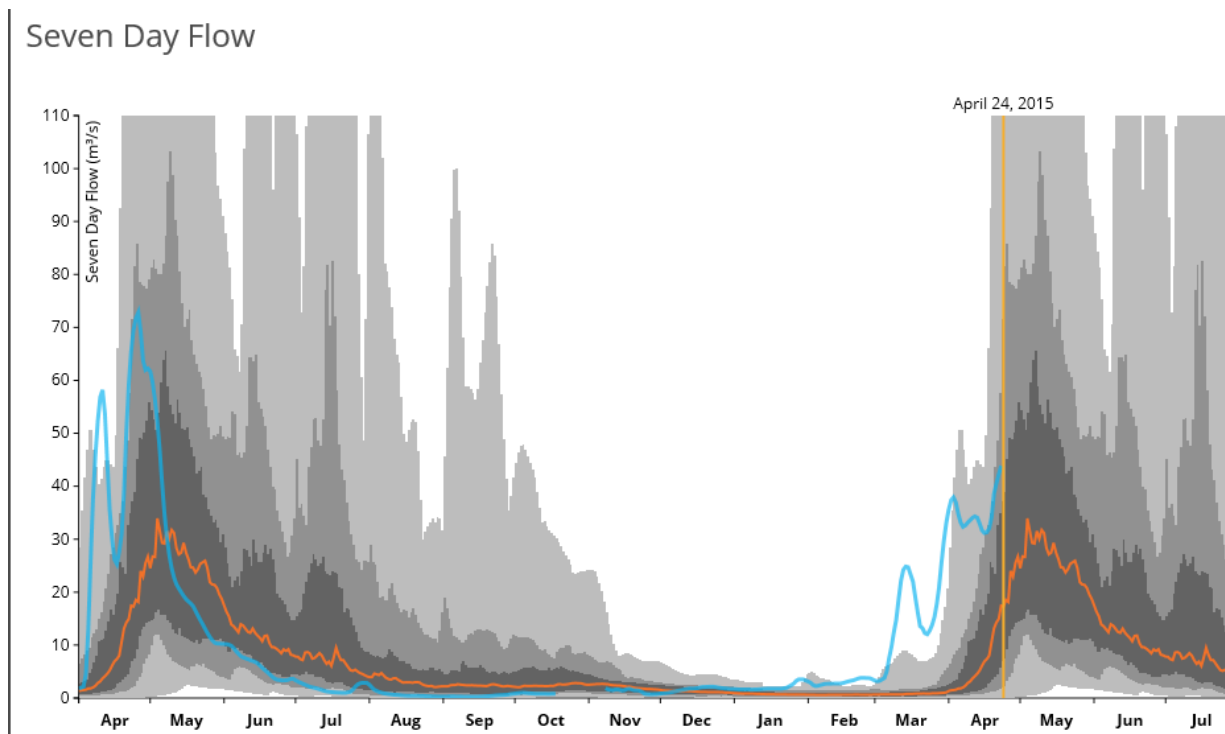


Figure 2 Example chart output, showing 7-day average stream flow on the Kiskatinaw River, near Farmington, B.C.

An abundance of water-related data and information has been collected over many decades, but is stored in multiple databases and formats and is often difficult to access. The Water Portal centralizes this data into one easy to use source, and currently incorporates data from more than 19 networks including:

- Water Survey of Canada
- BC Environment's Environmental Monitoring System (EMS)
- BC Environment Snow Survey
- Northern Health Authority Water System Samples
- BC Hydro
- Environment Canada
- Third party-collected data (industry and academia)
- BC Environmental Assessment Office.

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Enhanced search and multi-criteria filtering allow users to find:

- Any waterbody, place or monitoring location in northern BC
- Monitoring locations with the exact data of interest, by:
 - Date
 - Analysis type
 - Network
 - Example: “All measurements of Barium, from the BC Environmental Monitoring System, since 2010 around Dawson Creek” (see figure 3).

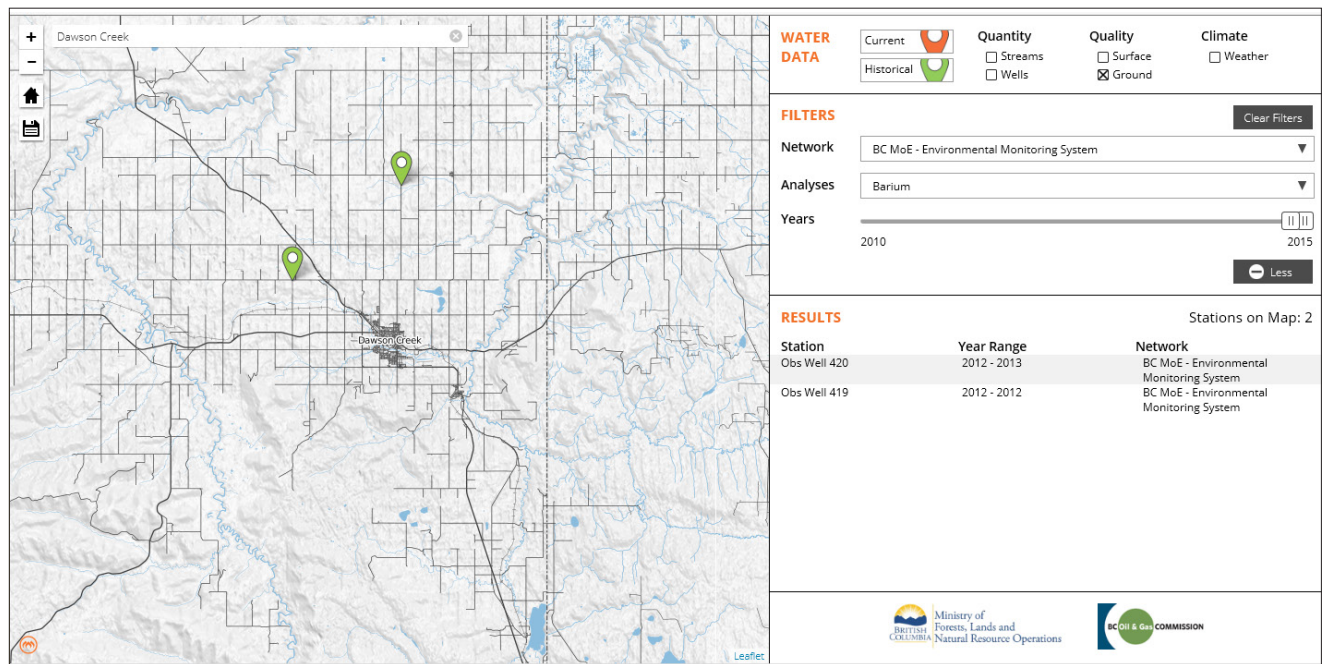


Figure 3 Results of filtered search

Users can save and share map views with colleagues, preserving filter criteria applied and geographic area of interest. Monitoring location data can be saved to the user's computer for further review and analysis.

Innovative analytic tools and charts in the Water Portal provide continuously updated, interactive views of monitoring data, which allow users to access useful information such as:

- Current streamflow conditions in the context of historical flows
- Recent snowpack measurements
- Temperature and precipitation observations.

The Water Portal is available directly at <http://waterportal.geoweb.bcogc.ca/> It is part of a suite of water-information tools available on the Commission's website <http://www.bcogc.ca/public-zone/water-information>. A [manual](#) on how to use the Water Portal is available as well.

Portal Offers Water Data for All Northern B.C., cont'd

The Water Portal is released by the Commission, which has authority for administering the Water Act to support oil and gas activities across British Columbia, in partnership with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO).

The Water Portal was developed by Foundry Spatial, natural resource and geographic information system consulting firm based in Victoria. The previous version of the *Water Portal* was released in May 2014 and was developed in partnership through the Commission, FLNRO, Geoscience BC, and the Science and Community Environmental Knowledge (SCEK) fund.

For more information, or help with how to use and interpret the Water Portal or its data, contact:

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