

# DRAFT

# COLUMBIA BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

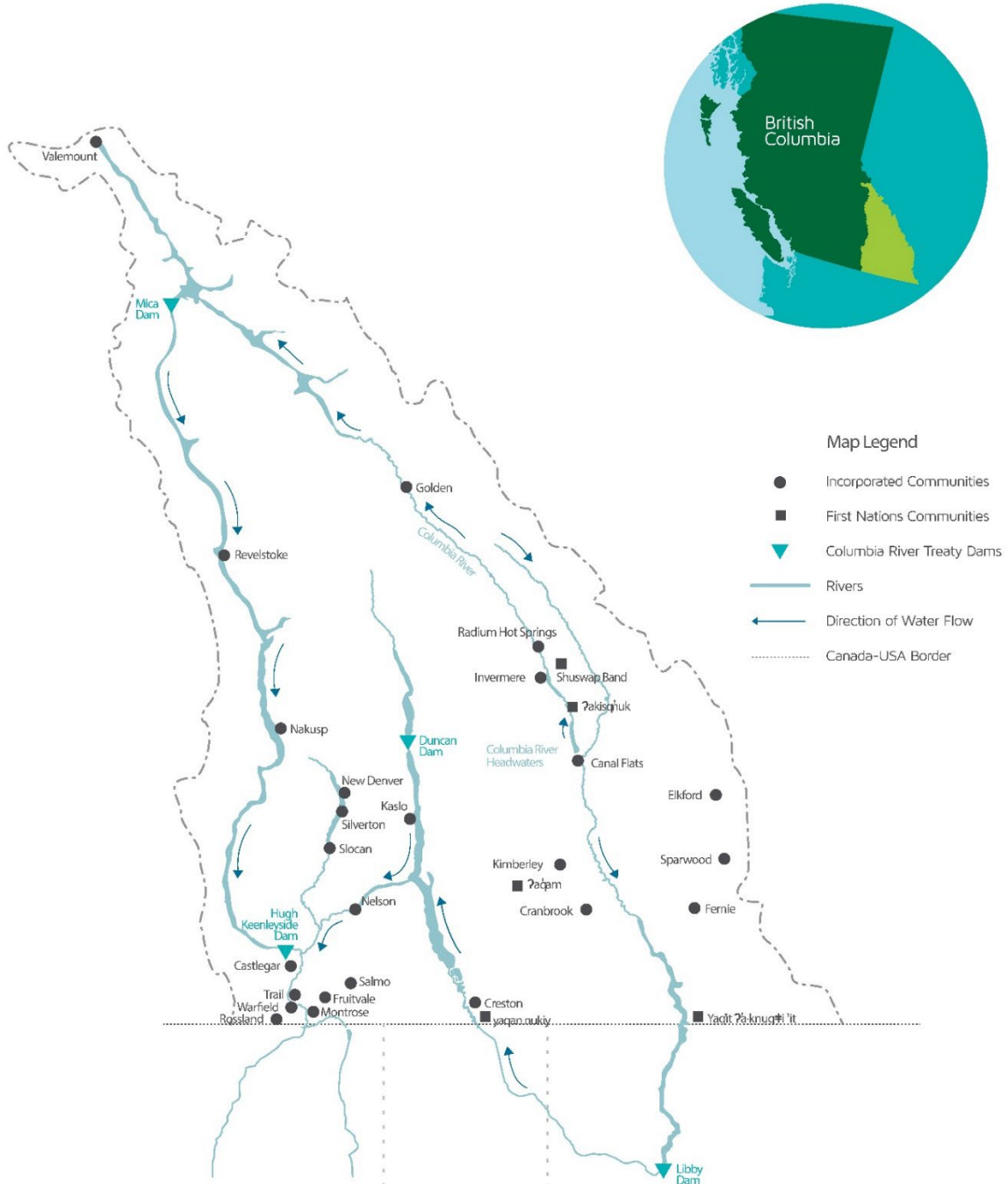
Columbia  
Basin **trust** our trust.  
our future.

## Territorial Acknowledgement

Columbia Basin Trust gratefully operates on the unceded traditional territories of the Ktunaxa, Lheidli T'enneh, Secwépemc, Sinixt and Syilx Nations.

## Columbia Basin Trust Region

Columbia Basin Trust serves the region consisting of all the watersheds that flow into the Columbia River system in Canada.



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## Mission

Columbia Basin Trust supports efforts by the people of the Columbia Basin to create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being and to achieve greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations.

## Guiding Principles

- The Trust will operate with deep gratitude and respect for Indigenous Peoples and honour their presence in the Basin.
- The Trust will continuously engage with Basin communities to understand evolving priorities, remove barriers that prevent residents from working with the Trust, and support and facilitate community conversations.
- The Trust will treat all people with respect, honouring the rich and diverse cultures, beliefs and values in the Basin.
- The Trust will hold true to the core tenets of its creation:
  - Respecting the region-wide unity demonstrated by Basin residents when the organization was created.
  - Acknowledging the history of the Basin, the Columbia River Treaty and the Trust, while helping residents achieve a better future for themselves and the generations that follow.
  - Focusing on two core functions: managing its assets and delivering benefits to the Basin.
  - Not displacing the responsibilities of any level of government, and guarding against the potential to do so.
  - Being accountable to both Basin residents and to its shareholder, the Province of British Columbia.
- The Trust will seek to optimize the economic impact of its activities in relation to this Plan, and consider and balance the environmental and social impacts of all of its activities.
- The Trust will not speak for Basin residents nor advocate on their behalf.
- The Trust will continue to evolve its approaches to supporting residents; this includes considering changing circumstances within communities and the changing context in which the Trust operates.
- The Trust will provide support that is consistent with its legislation, mandate and core tenets, and the principles set out in this Plan.
- The Trust will be mindful of its limits as an organization, such as the amount of influence it has, its ability to provide funding and other resources, and the focus of its mandate.

## Context and Timespan

This Plan sets out how the Trust will work over the next 10 years, and what that work will include.

The Plan can be read together with the Trust's [Charter](#), the enduring part of the Columbia Basin Management Plan that sets out the Trust's mandate, vision and core values.

Residents have shared how important it is that the Trust balances being focused, with being responsive to changing conditions in the Basin. Therefore as the Plan's 10 years pass, some approaches and objectives may have to evolve. The Trust will share any such changes with residents along with updates on progress, successes and challenges in achieving the Plan.

The Trust Board of Directors may deem it appropriate to amend the Plan sooner than 2034 and if it does, the Board will determine how best to seek input from Basin residents through that review process.

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## Focus Areas

### Organizational Self-Sufficiency and Growth

**Ensure the prudent management of the Trust's assets and investments so that the organization continues to be self-sufficient and so that future generations benefit from at least the same level of support as current residents.**

- Continue to grow the original endowment provided to the Basin.
- Make risk-based investment management decisions.
- Repay debt as committed.
- Reinvest for future returns.
- Internally fund organizational costs.

### Engagement and Connection

**Continue to deepen the Trust's connection to and engagement with Basin communities.**

- Build an understanding of:
  - The Treaty and its impacts.
  - The origin and creation of the Trust and how it operates.
  - The regional culture and the power of a united Basin.
- Help communities identify and follow their own paths to achieving their visions; engage in discussions with communities and provide focused support, particularly in communities that require more assistance or face barriers to engaging with the Trust.
- Be present in the Basin by participating in and celebrating community, and by directly and continually engaging with residents.
- Directly engage with young people in the Basin, listen to and value their perspectives, explore their ideas together, and provide support so they can realize their visions.
- Seek opportunities to ensure youth of the region can grow, learn and continue to live in the Basin.
- Help residents across the Basin come together as neighbours connected to the same river system.

## **Valued Relationships with Indigenous Peoples**

### **Prioritize strong relationships built on trust, respect and understanding.**

- Recognize that relationships start with mutual commitments to listening, understanding and spending time together.
- Collaboratively develop and support Indigenous-led initiatives to improve well-being in the Basin.
- Reflect on and adapt the Trust's approaches in response to evolving relationships and understandings with Indigenous Peoples.
- Integrate Indigenous perspectives in the Trust's work.
- Commit to continuous learning as an organization, including for Board and staff, about the history, rights, contemporary presence and aspirations of Indigenous Peoples in the Basin.

## **Strong Communities**

### **Help Basin communities proactively take action to continue to be incredible and vibrant places.**

- Partner in efforts to increase affordable housing stock and to ensure existing affordable housing is maintained.
- Support healthy childhood development, including activities for children.
- Help communities adapt to be more inclusive and receptive to the needs of their populations, including Basin residents as they age.
- Create opportunities that enable Basin residents to lead healthy and active lifestyles, particularly those facing challenges and barriers to doing so.
- Support opportunities for Basin residents to learn about and access affordable, locally grown, healthy food.
- Support opportunities for Basin residents to enjoy a range of arts, culture and heritage opportunities in the region.
- Support targeted opportunities for the training and education of Basin residents that lead directly to employment.
- Support local employment and purchases in Basin communities.
- If economic conditions in the Basin significantly decline, collaborate with residents to identify additional and targeted supports, while being mindful that the Trust does not have the resources or influence to broadly impact the regional economy.
- Find ways to support residents with a desire to contribute to their community well-being.

## **Climate Adaptation and Resilience**

**Support residents and communities to make the Basin more resilient to climate change and prepare for the climate change impacts that the region is likely to experience.**

- Support climate adaptation in the Basin by supporting:
  - Communities facing risks like extreme wildfire and extreme weather.
  - Food producers and processors so they can ensure the availability of local food.
  - Community-serving organizations so they can continue to offer services to the residents who need them most.
- Inspire optimism and commitment in communities as they prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- Amplify the successes of Basin residents who are rising to the challenges of climate change.
- Explore opportunities that will ensure clean energy generation options and energy efficiency and saving measures continue to be available in the Basin.

## **Healthy Natural Environment**

**Support community-led efforts to maintain and enhance the natural environment and healthy functioning ecosystems in the Basin, including forests, grasslands, wetlands, riparian areas, bodies of water and alpine areas.**

- Support opportunities for Basin residents to steward and lead ecosystem enhancements.
- Help residents identify ways to balance the use of land and water for enjoyment, with the need to ensure the natural environment is healthy and accessible for future generations.
- Support collaborative efforts to conserve Basin lands valued by residents that include Indigenous engagement and participation.
- Support collaborative efforts to explore reintroducing salmon to the Basin—returning them to their home waters—that includes the participation and leadership of Indigenous Nations, the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.



## Trust Roles

**Investor and Steward:** Ensure the Trust's assets are managed to create sustainable, predictable and appreciating benefits for present and future generations.

**Convener and Information Resource:** Support residents to come together on topics related to this Plan and to share related information.

**Partner:** Collaborate with others who share common values and goals to achieve the objectives in this Plan.

**Supporter:** Provide resources to support residents' efforts related to the activities described in this Plan.

**Funder:** Provide Trust funding to the activities identified in this Plan and, where appropriate, help communities and organizations access additional resources from within and beyond the Basin. This includes organizations that:

- Have objectives in common with the Trust which are best addressed through collaboration.
- Have values in common with the Trust.
- Are stable, reputable and credible.
- Work at scales that will achieve significant impact.

To provide input on this draft Plan, visit [ourtrust.org/future](https://ourtrust.org/future) by **September 20, 2023**.

**Questions or technical problems?**

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