

Natural Resource Officers

of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO)



Natural Resource Officers

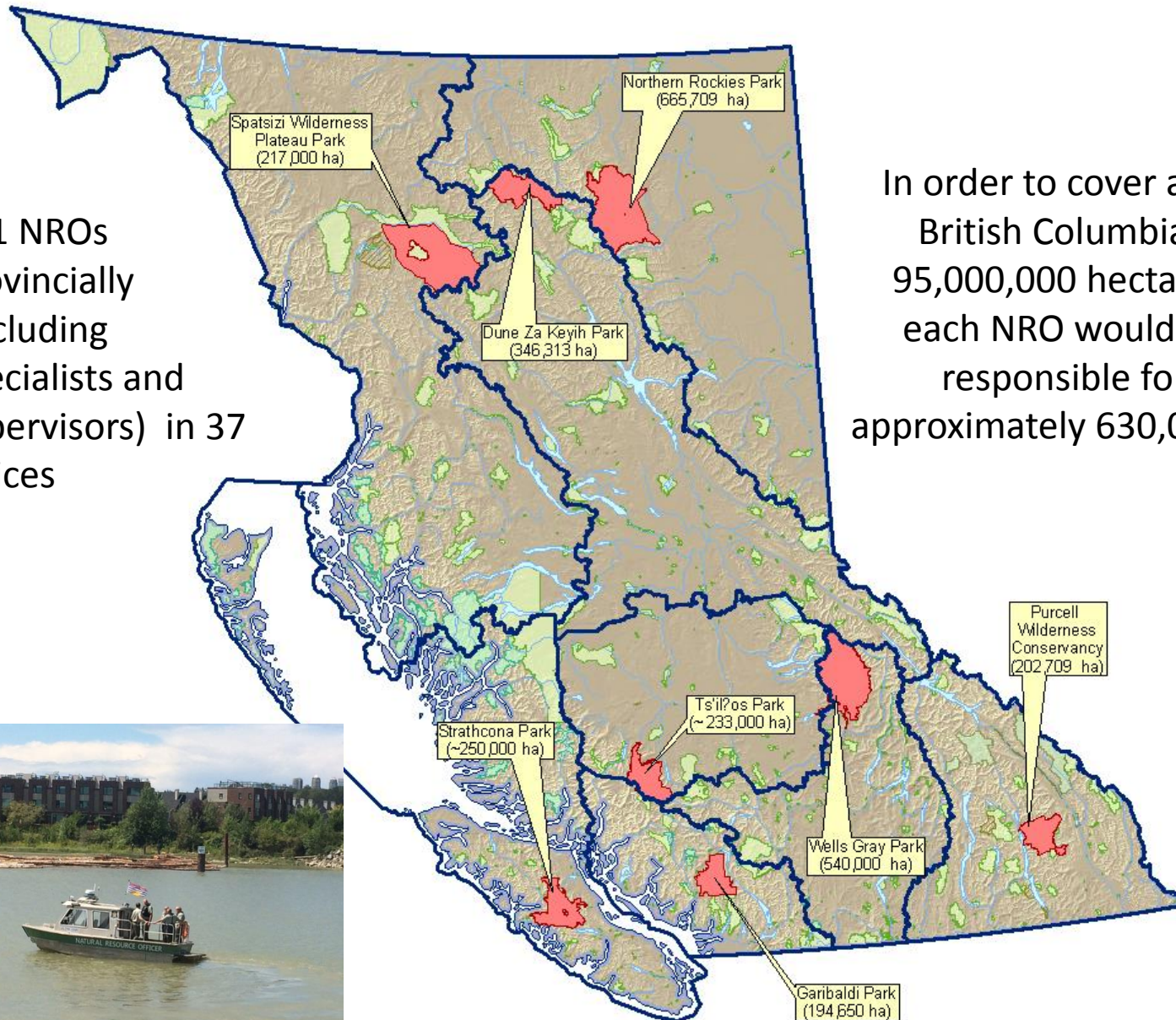
Gaining compliance with knowledge, presence and enforcement



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

151 NROs
provincially
(including
specialists and
supervisors) in 37
offices

In order to cover all of
British Columbia's
95,000,000 hectares,
each NRO would be
responsible for
approximately 630,000 ha



Everyone has a stake in protecting B.C.'s
Natural Resources

Legislative Mandate of NROs

Enforcement of Provincial Natural Resource Legislation

including,

Forest and Range Practices Act

Wildfire Act

Forest Act

Range Act

Forest Practices Code of BC Act

Land Act

Water Sustainability Act

Heritage Conservation Act

and all their Regulations....



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

Legislated Delegations and Support

Delegations

Fish Inspection Act (Provincial) & Fisheries Act
(provincial)

Water Utility Act & Utilities Commission Act

Environmental Assessment Act (as it relates to
Certificates)

Agriculture Land Commission Act

Support of Ministry Of Environment (COS)

Off Road Vehicles

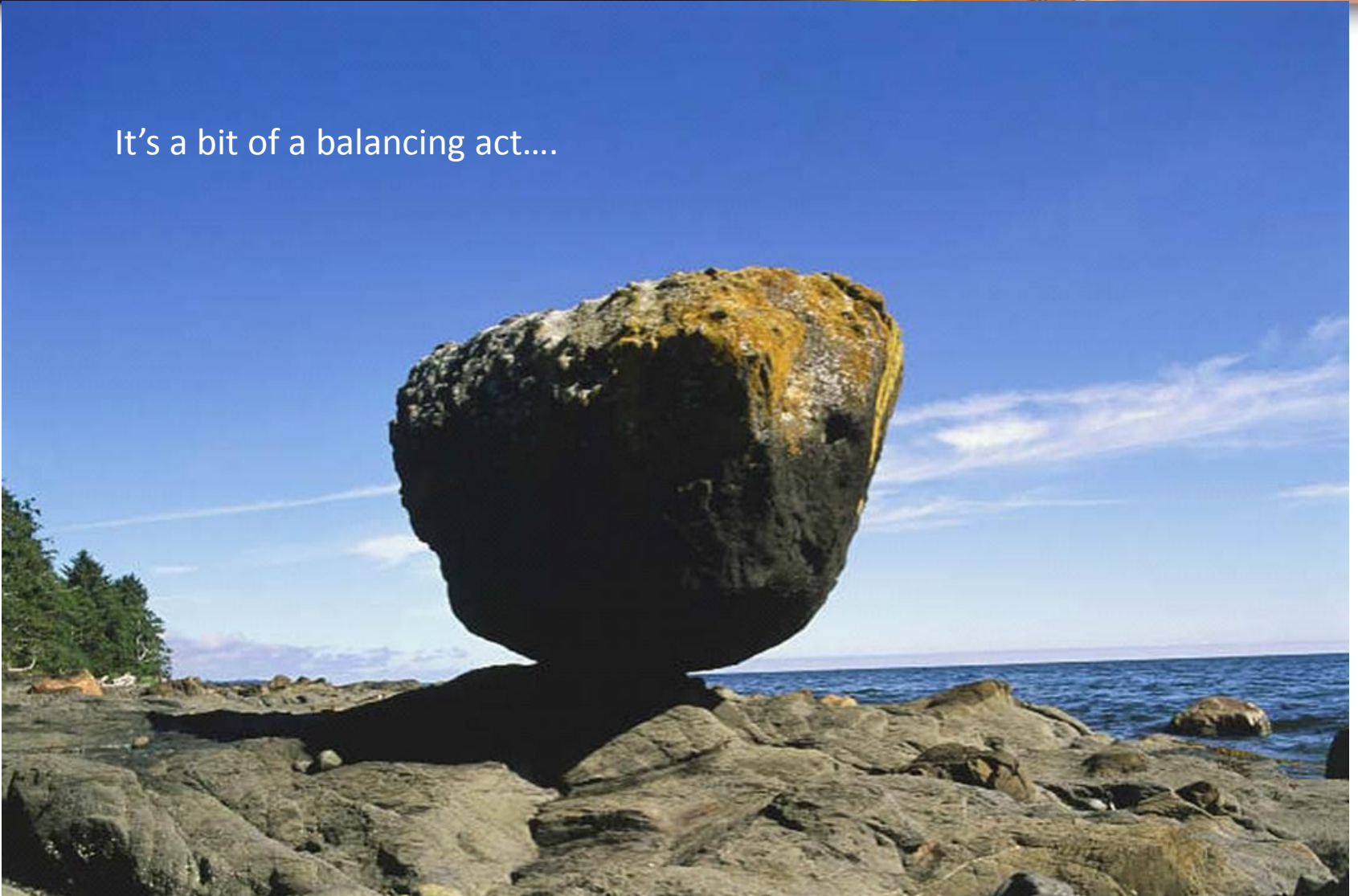
Wildlife Act (Human/wildlife conflict prevention)

Environmental Management Act (Litter, Waste,
and Open Burning)

Park Act



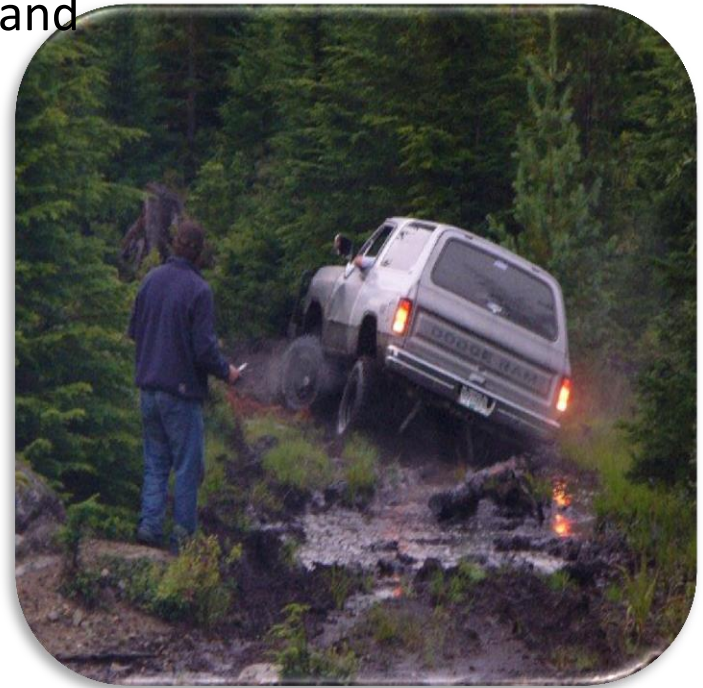
It's a bit of a balancing act....



NROs deal with issues related to:

Environmental Damage

Sensitive habitats such as riparian areas, wetlands, alpine regions and natural grasslands are home to many threatened and endangered species of plants and animals.



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

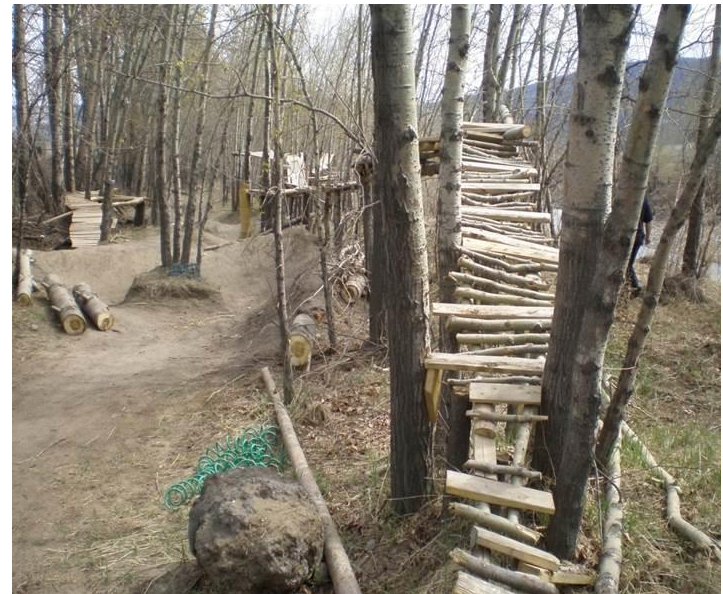
NROs deal with issues related to:

Recreation sites and trails

Unauthorized use/construction

Damage

Excessive stays



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

NROs deal with issues related to:

Illegal cabins or structures, unauthorized occupation of Crown land (squatting) and land tenure requirements.



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

NROs deal with issues related to:
Enforcement of fire bans & Wildfire
investigations



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

NROs deal with issues related to:
Forest practices, rangeland and roads



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

NROs deal with issues related to:

Damage to cultural sites.

Damage to and/or theft of artifacts



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

NROs deal with issues related to:

Alterations to foreshores or riparian areas of lakes and streams



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

NROs deal with issues related to:

Water permit, well inspections & dam and dike inspections

Works in and about a stream



Dams/Dikes



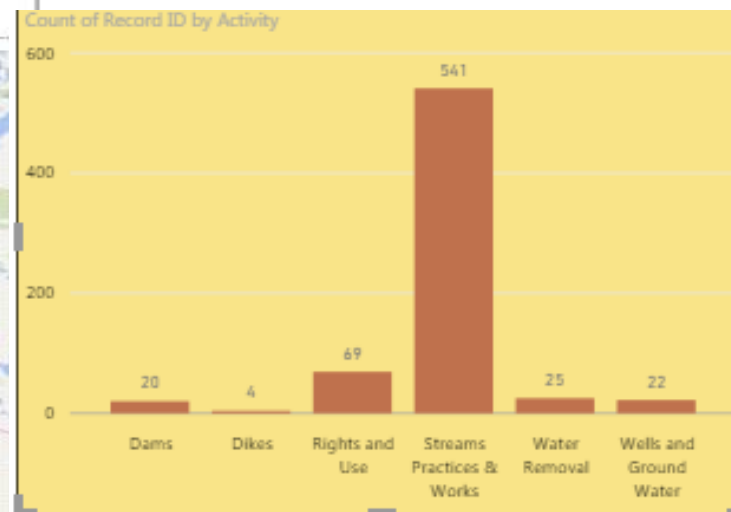
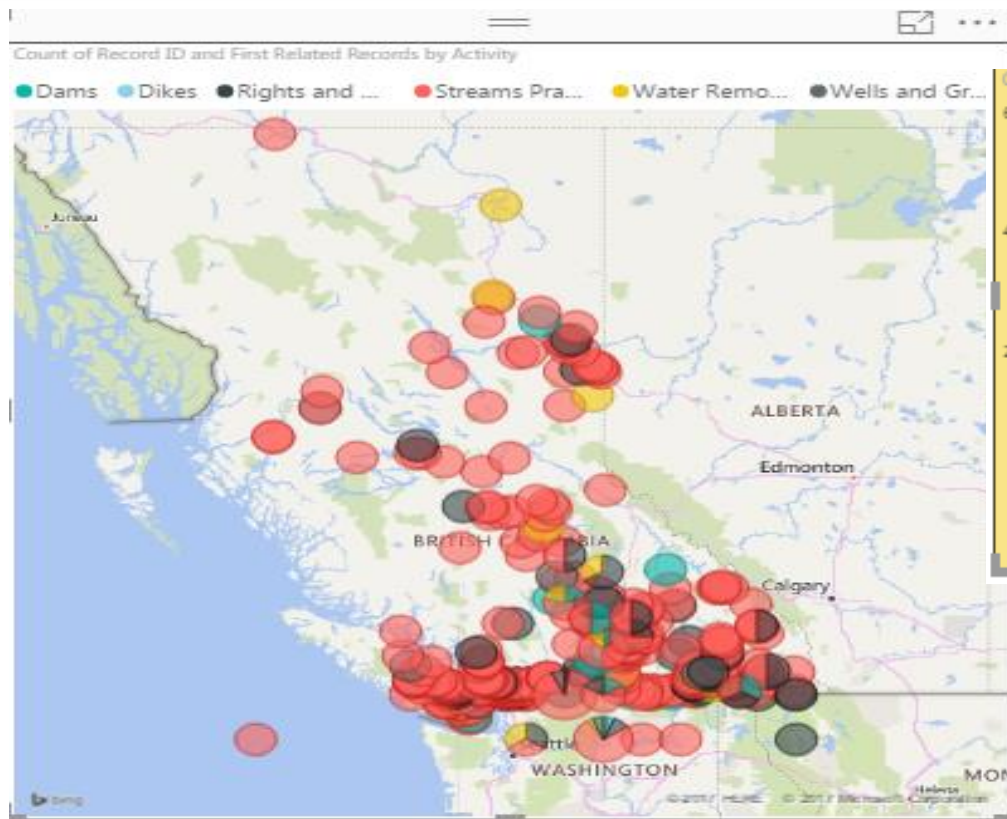
Groundwater (wells)



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

Presence stats

Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources



Report a Natural Resource Violation

1 877 952 7277 (RAPP) or *7277

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hen/>



***information to collect for reporting a violation: the 5Ws**


WHO-vehicle or person(s) description (the more detail the better)

WHAT-description of the activity

WHERE-general location and coordinates

WHEN-date, time of day, is the offense ongoing

WHY-how the violation is affecting you or our natural resources



Working with Groundwater
staff cooperatively

Doing reactive work based on priority but will also
be doing some proactive targeted inspections.

HISTORY OF GROUNDWATER LEGISLATION IN BC:

Prior to 2004 – basically no regulation of well construction, groundwater use, etc.

Nov 1, 2004 – *Water Act* amendments to include groundwater provisions and the introduction of the Ground Water Protection Regulation

February 29, 2016 – The *Water Sustainability Act* and the Groundwater Protection Regulation come into force.



Water Sustainability Act
Part 3, Division 3
Groundwater Protection Regulation

To promote sustainable use and protection of BC's aquifers by specifying requirements for wells to be properly constructed, maintained, and, at the end of their service, deactivated and decommissioned.

Well ID plates

section 106 (5) (e)	Fail to attach identification plate to a well or wellhead or to remove identification plate when required	\$100	\$15	\$115
section 106 (5) (f)	Destroy, injure or tamper with identification plate attached to a well or wellhead	\$100	\$15	\$115



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

Failing to have required qualifications

section 106 (4) (o)	Construct a well, close a well or install a well pump or wellhead without holding the required qualifications	\$350	\$53	\$403
section 106 (4) (o)	Disinfect a well without holding the required qualifications	\$100	\$15	\$115
section 106 (4) (o)	Perform an activity in relation to a well, other than constructing, closing or disinfecting a well or installing a well pump or wellhead, without holding the required qualifications	\$200	\$30	\$230



Fail to deactivate or decommission

section 106 (5) (g)	Fail to deactivate well when required	\$200	\$30	\$230
section 106 (5) (g)	Fail to decommission a well when required	\$350	\$53	\$403



Junk in well

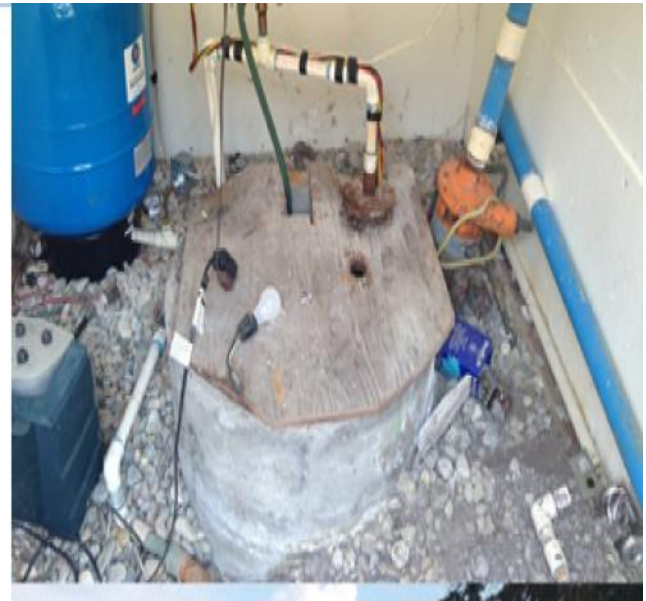
section 106 (5) (k)	Introduce, allow or cause to be introduced into a well anything contrary to section 59 (1)	\$350	\$53	\$403
section 107 (1) (d)	Fail to comply with an order under section 60 (1), (2), (3) or (4) in relation to foreign matter in a well	\$500	\$75	\$575



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

TICKETABLE OFFENCES

section 106 (5) (c)	Fail to secure well cap or well cover or removes well cap or well cover when not authorized	\$200	\$30	\$230
section 106 (5) (d)	Fail to replace well cap or well cover when required	\$200	\$30	\$230



Everyone has a stake in protecting BC's
Natural Resources

section 106 (5) (a)	Fail to stop or bring artesian flow under control or give notice as and when required	\$350	\$53	\$403
section 106 (5) (b)	Fail to engage a qualified well driller or a professional or to ensure that that person stops or brings artesian flow under control	\$350	\$53	\$403

Artesian flow



Help us protect the ground water resources of BC

