



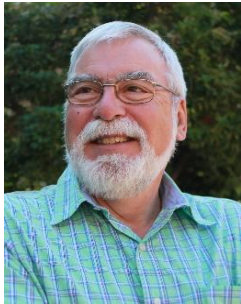
# INCORPORATION OF CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS: TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN

## Transport Canada Adaptation Webinar Series



**Alexa Bradley**

Research / Analysis Officer, Adaptation Policy  
*Transport Canada*



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Chief Engineer  
*British Columbia's Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure*



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Research / Analysis Officer, Transportation Assets Risk Assessment initiative  
*Transport Canada*

# Incorporation of Climate Considerations: Transportation Infrastructure Design

Transport Canada Webinar  
Dirk Nyland, P.Eng., IRP  
Chief Engineer, BCMoTI

March 19, 2019



Ministry of  
Transportation  
and Infrastructure

There has been a substantial increase in the intensity of heavy-precipitation events over large parts of the Northern Hemisphere due to greenhouse gases.  
(Storms with over 100 millimetres of precipitation in 24 hours.)

Source: Zwiers, Nature, 2011



Holberg Road (Vancouver Island, Sept 2010)



Hagensborg (Bella Coola, Sept 2010)



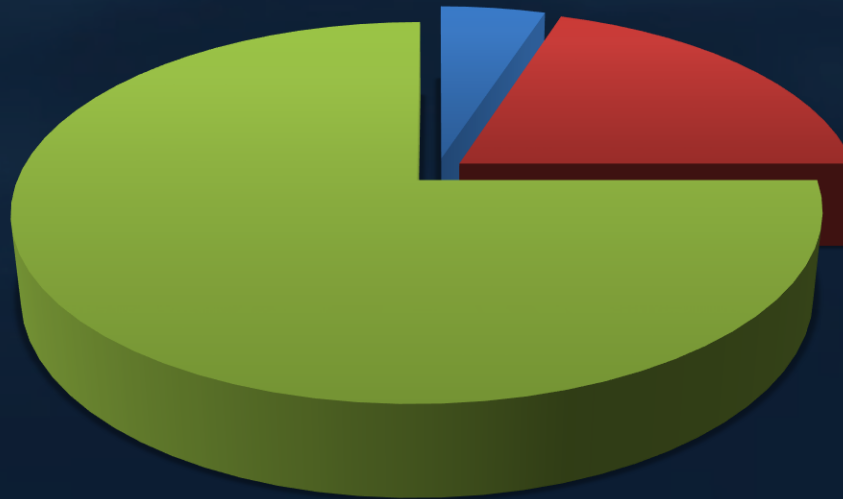
The unavoidable impacts associated with climate change and weather extremes have the potential to adversely affect infrastructure

Planned adaptation can result in lower costs and is often more effective than reactive adaptation. Proactive adaptation measures guide strategic resource allocation and help avoid costly future repairs or replacements

# Adaptation in engineering design and practices for resilient, reliable, efficient and effective transportation infrastructure

## COST OF INFRASTRUCTURE

■ Design   ■ Construction   ■ Maintenance



(resilience = lower maintenance)

Design for **higher temperature and precipitation** over lifecycle of components, i.e. bridges (50-100 years)  
culverts (75 years), pavement (15-20 years)



Nazko 2018



Revelstoke Hwy 23N 2018



# Design for Climate & Weather Extremes

- Extreme rainfall in one or more days (e.g. >76 mm/24 hrs)
- Atmospheric River-Pineapple Express (e.g. >150 mm/24 hrs)
- High Temperature (e.g. number of days over 30°C)
- Temperature variability (e.g. freeze-thaw)
- Sea level rise (e.g. 1m by 2100)



# Adaptation Planning Process

Adapting\_to\_Climate\_Change\_a... x

← → ↻ 🔒 [https://www.retooling.ca/\\_Library/ReTooling\\_Resource\\_Library/Adapting\\_to\\_Climate\\_Change\\_a\\_Risk\\_Management\\_Guide\\_for\\_Uilities\\_2017.pdf](https://www.retooling.ca/_Library/ReTooling_Resource_Library/Adapting_to_Climate_Change_a_Risk_Management_Guide_for_Uilities_2017.pdf) 🔍 ☆ 👤 ⋮

Adapting\_to\_Climate\_Change\_a\_Risk\_Management\_Guide\_for\_Uilities\_2017.pdf 8 / 47 ↺ ⬇️ 🖨️

Phases	Steps
Preparation	Problem definition
	Stakeholder engagement
Risk review (or Risk mapping)	Risk assessment
	Risk prioritization
Risk Control	Risk mitigation
Monitoring and Evaluation	Monitor, measure and evaluate
Monitoring Review	Program adjustment

⌕ + -

Adapting to Clima...pdf ⌕

Show all x



**Vulnerability** or **risk** is a function of the character, magnitude, and rate of climate variation to which a system is exposed, its sensitivity, and its adaptive capacity

# Data for Risk Assessment

- Infrastructure Components
- Infrastructure Age
- Availability of Infrastructure Data
- Geotechnical Indicators
- Variety of Terrain
- Traffic Volumes
- Strategic Importance of Route
- Occurrence of Extreme Environmental Events
- Historic Weather Data Available
- Current Weather Data Available
- Expected Climatic Change – Temperature
- Expected Climatic Change – Precipitation
- Climatic Regions
- Sea Level Rise

# Infrastructure Components

- Surface asphalt
- Bridges
- Ditches
- Catch basins
- Culverts
- Third-party utilities

Criteria on design standards and limits for infrastructure components to assess risk to climate change and weather extremes





# Design Criteria - Bridges and Structures

## Hydrotechnical Design – Scour

Current Standards	Maximum instantaneous discharge (Q200) Clearance between design water surface and bridge soffit (i.e. 1.5 m)
Climatic Variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Historic streamflow from hydrometric gauges</li><li>• Historic precipitation from weather stations</li></ul>
Risk Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Changes in streamflow (Q200)</li><li>• Changes at watershed scale (land use &amp; vegetation)</li><li>• Changes in channel scale (stability, sediment transport)</li></ul>
Design Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Estimate and use future streamflow (Q200)</li><li>• Structure clearance, size, clear span</li><li>• Construction quality (riprap)</li><li>• Debris control</li><li>• Maintenance for debris and sediment</li></ul>

# Design Criteria - Bridges and Structures

## Thermal Movement

Current Standards	Canadian Highway Bridge Design Code
Climatic Variables	Temperature allowance in excess of max and min mean daily temperature
Risk Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase in temperature</li><li>• Temperature extremes</li><li>• (Note: for general bridge design – risk may be low. Temperature changes may be small relative to accuracy of bridge code values)</li></ul>
Design Adaptation	NRC incorporate projected future temperature maps in code

# Design Criteria - Geotechnical

## Slope Stability

Current  
Standards

Safety factor 1.5

Climatic  
Variables

Current conditions and moisture changes

Risk Issues

- Increased precipitation
- Groundwater changes
- Changes in land use and vegetation
- Higher flow volumes and velocities

Design  
Adaptation

Compare recent conditions and future climate projections



## Design Criteria - Geotechnical

### Pavement Grade - Asphalt Cement Mix

Current Standards	Standard Specification 952
Climatic Variables	Pavement Grade values based on historic temperature and use
Risk Issues	Increased temperatures
Design Adaptation	Modify PG rating based on future temperature and use

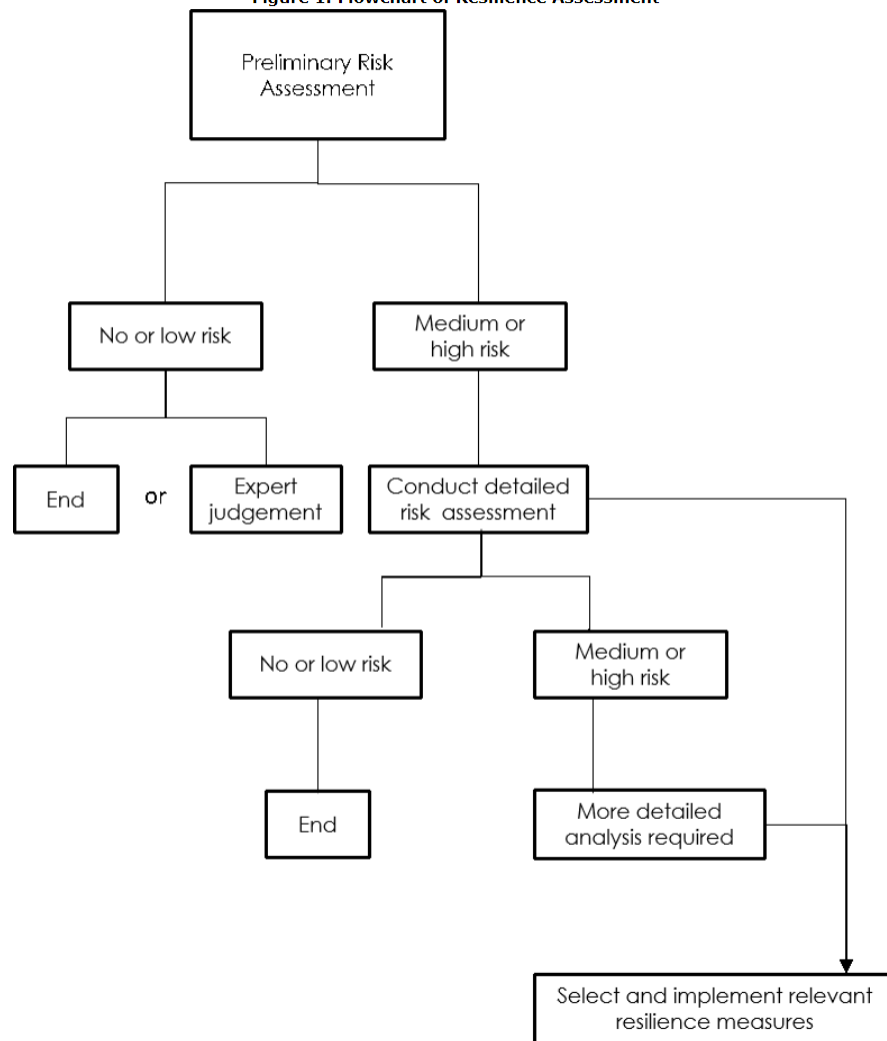
Organizations require tools and resources to effectively anticipate, plan for, and respond to climate-related risks

## ISO 31000 Risk Management - Infrastructure Canada – Climate Lens risk assessment tools:

- Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) Protocol: <https://pievc.ca/>
- Envision: <https://sustainableinfrastructure.org/envision/>
- SuRe - The Standard for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure: <http://www.gib-foundation.org/sure-standard/>

# Climate Resilience Assessment

Figure 1: Flowchart of Resilience Assessment





Chief Engineer of BCMoTI involved developing PIEVC tool to assess infrastructure risk to projected climate change and weather extremes. Using multi-disciplinary/stakeholder and local knowledge/experience inputs

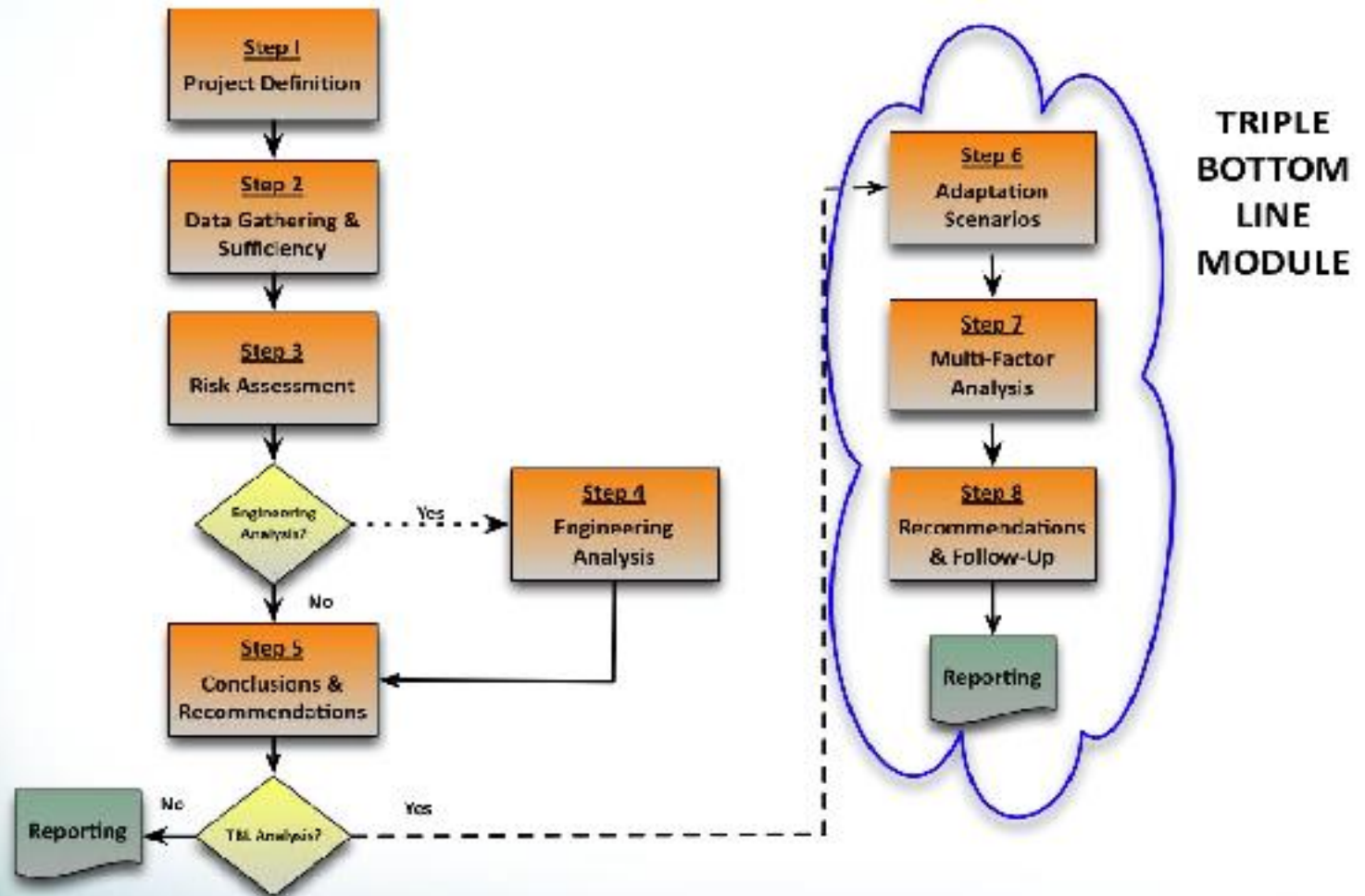


Commotion Creek Hwy 97 2016



Peace Region Flooding 2016

# PIEVC Steps



# Risk Matrix

Figure 4: Sample risk matrix

Severity	7	0	7	14	21	28	35	42	49
	6	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42
	5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35
	4	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28
	3	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21
	2	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14
	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Probability							

Special Case	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
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BC Highways are generally resilient to projected climate change except for extreme precipitation events; further research is required for events such as rain on snow, fog and wind, avalanche, landslides, sea level rise, etc.



Yellowhead Hwy



Bitter Creek Bridge, Stewart, Sept 2011



# Lessons Learned to Date

- Develop awareness of climate change/extreme weather and implications (primarily water related events)
- Include climate adaptation in organizational practice
- Use multidisciplinary teams for projects
- Use qualified professionals with local knowledge (climate, meteorological, hydrotechnical)
- Adaptation education for professionals, consultants, staff and students



Batnuni Bridge 2018



Narcosli Bridge 2018

# Best Practices



Bella Coola, Sept  
2010



- Monitor **data** used in current codes and standards and develop climate resilience specific codes
  - Use data and/or professional judgement
  - Apply sensitivity analysis
  - Understand risks and uncertainties
  - Review association guidance
- 
- Use information from ensemble of climate models
  - Determine best models and data to use



In 2014-15, ACECBC consultants, EGBC, PCIC and BCMoTI partnered in developing a technical circular considering climate adapted design for highway reliability



Grand Forks, May 2018

# Technical Circular Requirements

- Design for climate change and weather extremes from model projections
- Vulnerability screening analysis for the design life of structures and components include data sources
- Development of practical and affordable design criteria
- Design Criteria Sheet to summarize climate parameter changes

**BC MoTI Design Criteria Sheet for Climate Change Resilience**  
**Highway Infrastructure Design Engineering and Climate Change Resilience**  
**Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure**

<b>Project:</b>	Project No. 12573 Highway 1 at Mountain Highway Interchange
<b>Type of Work:</b>	Interchange Improvement
<b>Location:</b>	Highway 1 at Mountain Highway Interchange, North Vancouver, BC LKI Segment 0515 km 6.18
<b>Discipline</b>	Drainage

Design Component	Design Life or Return Period		Design Criteria + (Units)	Design Value Without Climate Change	Change in Design Value From Future Climate	Design Value Including Climate Change	Comments / Notes / Deviations / Variance
	D.L.	R.P.					
<b><u>Major Drainage System</u></b>							
Culverts < 3000 mm	50 yr	100 yr	Flow Rate [m3/s]	18.1	+20%	21.7	
Keth Creek	-	100 yr	Flow Rate [m3/s]	18.1	+20%	21.7	
<b><u>Minor Drainage System</u></b>							
Storm Sewer – MoTI	-	25 yr	Intensity [mm/hr]	Varies	+20%	Varies	
Storm Sewer – CNV / DNV	-	10 yr	Intensity [mm/hr]	Varies	+20%	Varies	
Catchbasin - All	-	10 yr	Intensity [mm/hr]	Varies	+20%	Varies	

**Explanatory Notes / Discussion:**

1. Plan2Adapt Tool (PCIC Website)
  - a. Annual Precipitation estimated to increase by ~7% (Mean) ~10.5% (75<sup>th</sup> Percentile) ~ 17.5% (90<sup>th</sup> Percentile), for year 2065.
2. APEGBC Professional Practice Guidelines – Legislated Flood Assessments in a Changing Climate in BC
  - a. If no historical trend is detectable, apply a 10% increase (to year 2100)
  - b. If there is a significantly detectable trend, apply a 20 % increase (to year 2100)
3. IDF-CC Tool (Western University / Canadian Water Network)
  - a. Ensemble mean estimates approximately a 18% / 18% / 23% increase in rainfall to the year 2065 (assumes RCP 8.5 climate change scenario), for Environment Canada rain gauges North Vancouver Lynn Creek / Vancouver Harbour CS / North Vancouver Sonora Drive.

Recommended by: Engineer of Record:  
 (Print Name / Provide Seal & Signature) Josh Thiessen

Date: 2016-01-29

Engineering Firm: Associated Engineering (B.C.) Ltd.

Accepted by BC MoTI Consultant Liaison: \_\_\_\_\_

Deviations and Variances Approved by the Chief Engineer: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Contact: Dirk Nyland, Chief Engineer BCMoTI

# Design Sheet Example



# EGBC Practice Guidelines

Request for Proposal (2.2.1.1)

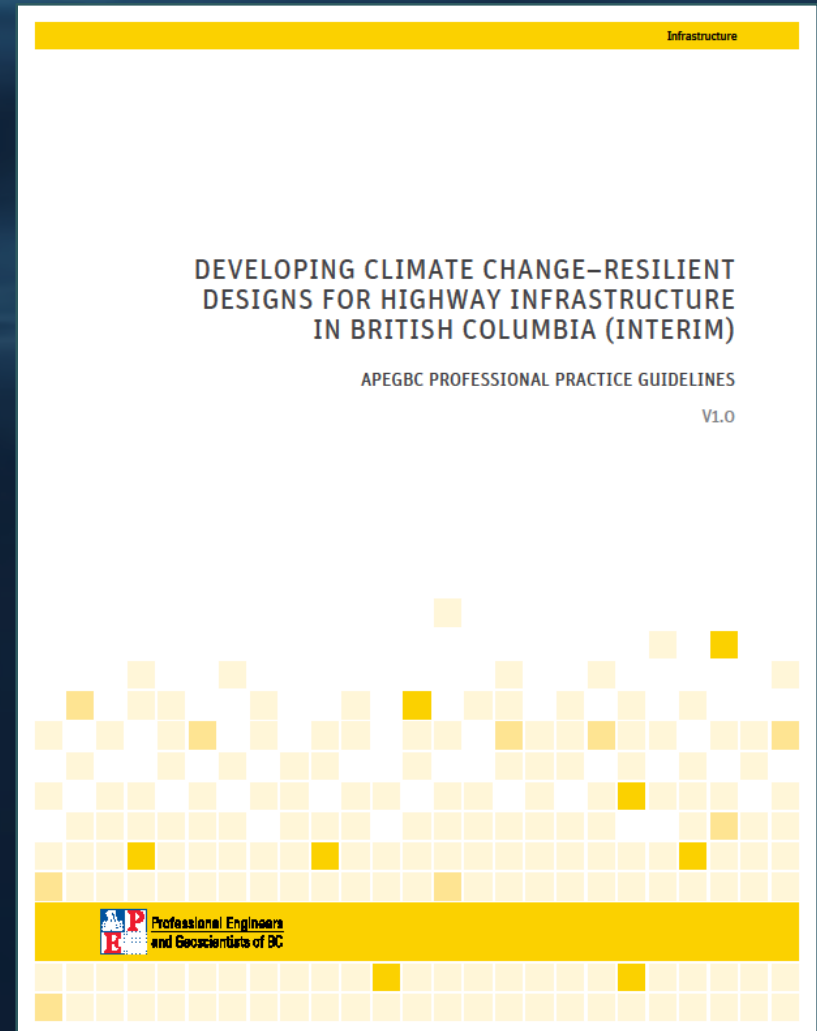
Define Highway Infrastructure project (3.2)

Conduct screening-level, climate change risk assessment (3.3)

Identify and incorporate climate adaptation options (3.4)

Documents (3.5)

- Climate change risk assessment
- Hwy resilient design report
- Assurance statement
- BCMoTI Design Criteria Sheet



# Adapted Bridge Designs - Flow

Region	Return periods from sheets vary	% ↑ Design Value for Climate Change	Climate Data
NR	100-200yr	+9% to +30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-MoTI practices</li> <li>-EGBC recommendations*</li> <li>-PCIC regional reports</li> <li>-IDFCC</li> <li>-Consultant Reports</li> </ul>
SIR	100-200yr	+10% to +20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-MoTI practices</li> <li>-EGBC recommendations*</li> <li>-PCIC</li> <li>-Consultant Reports</li> </ul>
SCR	200yr	+11% to +15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-MoE coastal guidelines</li> <li>-EGBC recommendations*</li> <li>-Consultant Reports</li> </ul>

# Adapted Culvert Designs - Flow

Region	Return periods from sheets vary	% ↑ Design Value for Climate Change	Climate Data
NR	50-200yr	+10% to +25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IDFCC</li> <li>- Consultant reports</li> </ul>
SIR	25-200yr	+10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MoTI</li> <li>- EGBC recommendations*</li> <li>- Consultant Reports</li> </ul>
SCR	5-200yr	+3.6% to +25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EGBC recommendations*</li> <li>- PCIC</li> <li>- IDFCC</li> <li>- Consultant Reports</li> </ul>

# Zonnebeke Creek – Culvert Replacement

(Design \$1 million / Construction \$10 million)



Zonnebeke Creek Culvert Replacement Hwy 29S	Culvert (6,470 mm SPCSP)	Return 200yr	Flow Rate (m <sup>3</sup> /s) 61.6	Climate Change +25%	New Flow Rate (M <sup>3</sup> /S) 77	NHC IDFCC Report on the 2016 Flood Event and Regional Hydrology – NHC, 2017 <sup>9</sup>
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# McKenzie Interchange

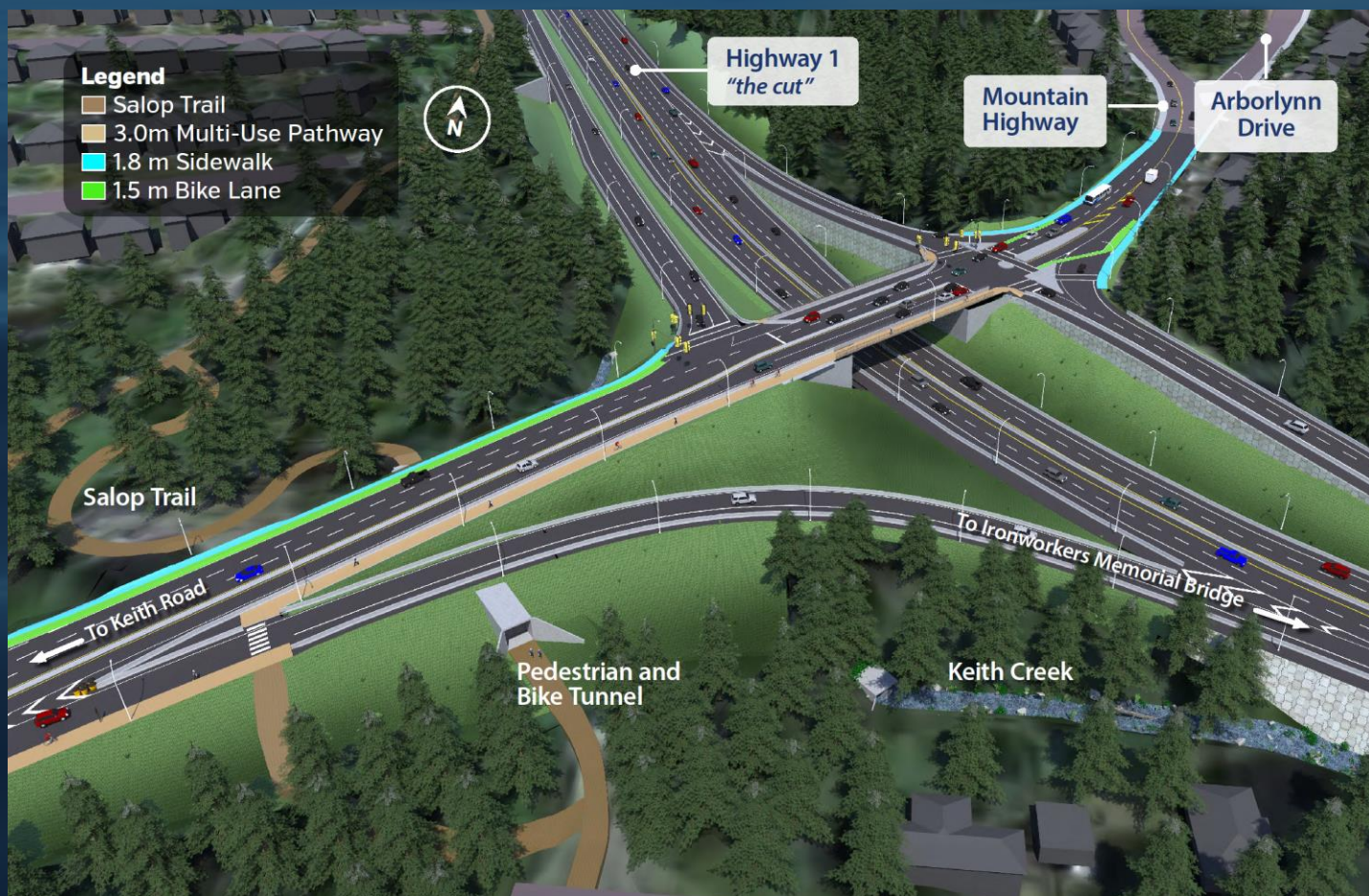
(Critical Sewer Segment 2 of 10)



Admirals-McKenzie Interchange Hwy 1	Critical Sewer Segment #2	Return 200yr	Flow Rate (l/s) 711	Climate Change +18.4%	Flow Rate (l/s) 842	Future IDF curves
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# Mtn Hwy Interchange

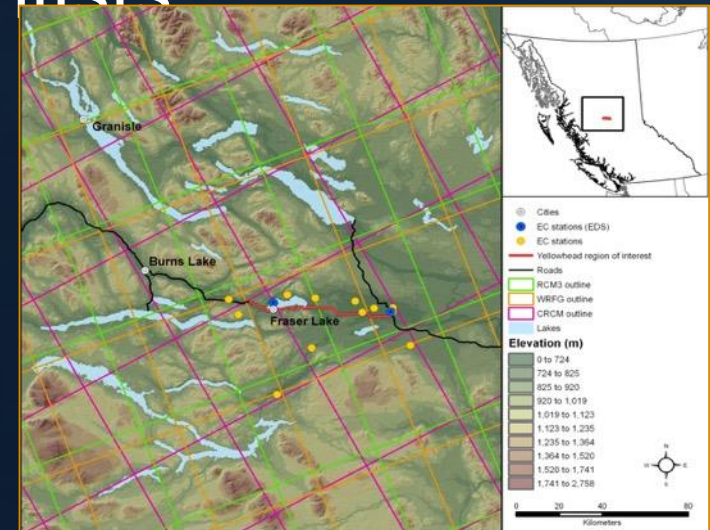
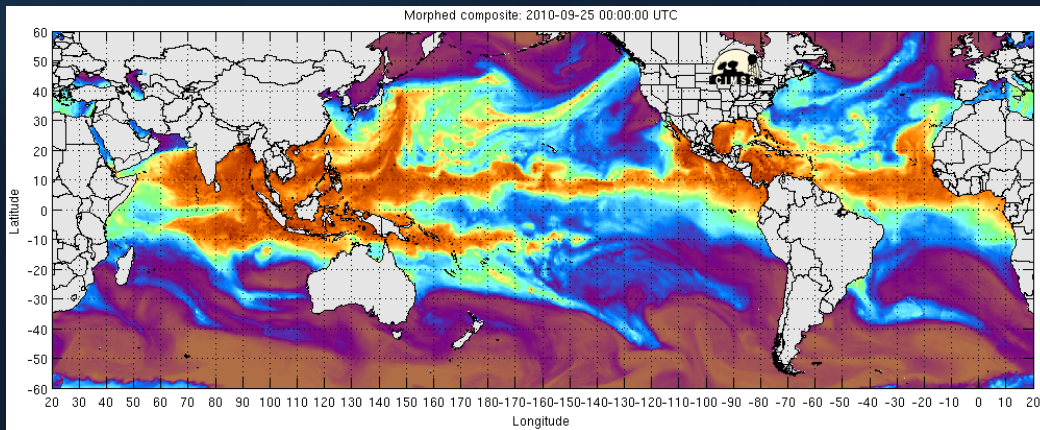


Mountain Hwy Interchange Hwy 1	Major Drainage systems Keith Creek Culverts	Return 100yr (75yr DL)	Flow Rate (m <sup>3</sup> /s) 18.1	Climate Change +20%	Flow Rate (M <sup>3</sup> /S) 21.7	PCIC (Plan2Adapt 90 <sup>th</sup> % 17.5%↑) APEGBC (10%, 20%↑) IDFCC (18-23%↑)
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# PCIC Climate Resources

- Plan2Adapt
- \*New\* Climate Explorer – climate projections
- Downscaled climate data - projections
- Hydrologic model output – projections
- Support from climate scientists



**Summary**

## Region &amp; Time

## Temperature

## Precipitation

## Snowfall

## Growing DD

## Heating DD

## Frost-Free Days

**Impacts**

## Notes

## References

**Summary of Climate Change for British Columbia in the 2050s**

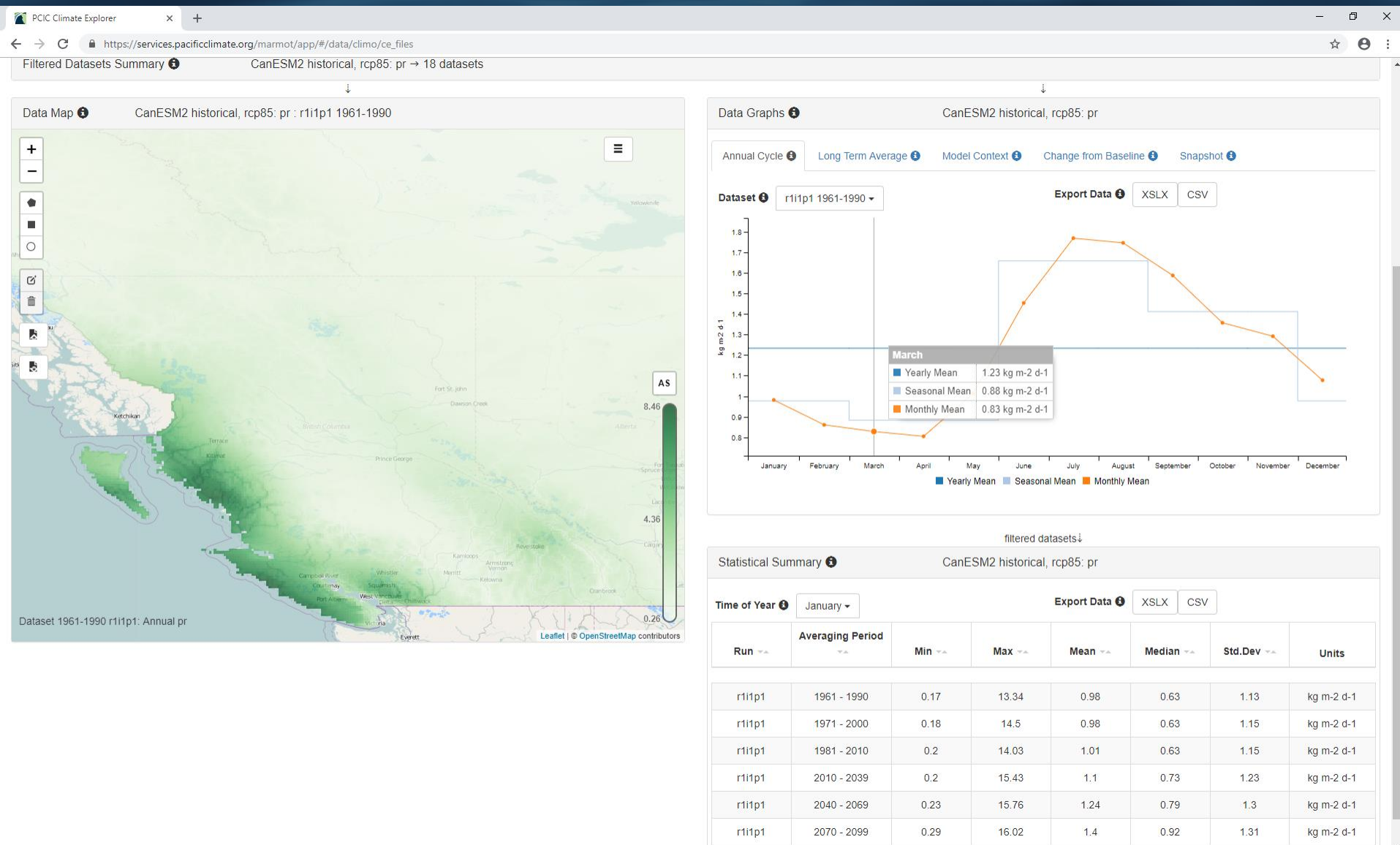
Climate Variable	Season	Projected Change from 1961-1990 Baseline	
		Ensemble Median	Range (10th to 90th percentile)
Mean Temperature (°C)	Annual	+1.8 °C	+1.3 °C to +2.7 °C
Precipitation (%)	Annual	+6%	+2% to +13%
	Summer	-1%	-8% to +7%
	Winter	+8%	-2% to +15%
Snowfall* (%)	Winter	-10%	-17% to +2%
	Spring	-58%	-71% to -11%
Growing Degree Days* (degree days)	Annual	+283 degree days	+177 to +429 degree days
Heating Degree Days* (degree days)	Annual	-648 degree days	-955 to -454 degree days
Frost-Free Days* (days)	Annual	+20 days	+12 to +29 days

The table above shows projected changes in average (mean) temperature, precipitation and several derived climate variables from the baseline historical period (1961-1990) to the **2050s** for the **British Columbia** region. The ensemble median is a mid-point value, chosen from a PCIC standard set of Global Climate Model (GCM) projections (see the 'Notes' tab for more information). The range values represent the lowest and highest results within the set. Please note that this summary table does not reflect the 'Season' choice made under the 'Region & Time' tab. However, this setting does affect results obtained under each variable tab.

\* These values are derived from temperature and precipitation. Please select the appropriate variable tab for more information.

# PCIC Climate Explorer

## (March release with instructional videos)





# BCMoTI Adaptation Site

BCMoTI Adaptation site:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/transportation-environment/climate-action/adaptation>



Sportsman Bowl Rd 2018



Old Kamloops Rd Hwy 5A 2018



# Recap

Adapt highway infrastructure for resilience to climate change and weather extremes using vulnerability assessment and climate projection tools

# Thank you!



Grizzly Creek Culvert  
Trash Rack – Flying V (2013)







# Transport Canada's Transportation Assets Risk Assessment Initiative (TARA)

## Recommended Practices and Lessons Learned

Presented by: Allison Kader, Research/Analysis Officer with Transport Canada's TARA Team  
March 19, 2019



# Presentation Overview

- TARA Initiative
- Examples of Climate Risks
- Climate Risk Assessment
- PIEVC Review Results
- Recommended Practices and Lessons Learned



# What is the TARA Initiative?

- The TARA initiative was announced following Budget 2017, receiving \$16.35 million over five years
- Goal: Better understand climate risks to federally-owned transportation assets and potential adaptation solutions
- Eligible projects
  1. Full climate risk assessment
  2. Subcomponent(s) of a climate risk assessment
  3. Research projects
- \$3.7 million in funding approved since 2017
- Grants and Contributions Call for Proposals
  - EN: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/en/programs-policies/programs/transportation-assets-risk-assessment-program.html>
  - FR: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/fr/programmes-politiques/programmes/programme-evaluation-risques-lies-ressources-transport.html>

# Examples of Climate Risks Affecting the Canadian Transportation System



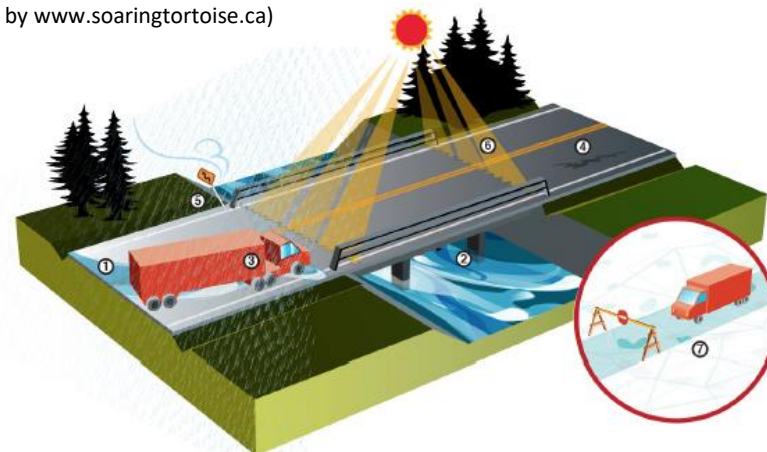
How climate and weather can affect marine transportation. (Illustration created by [www.soaringtortoise.ca](http://www.soaringtortoise.ca))



How climate and weather can affect air transportation (Illustration created by [www.soaringtortoise.ca](http://www.soaringtortoise.ca))



How climate and weather can affect rail transportation (Illustration created by [www.soaringtortoise.ca](http://www.soaringtortoise.ca))



How climate and weather can affect road transportation (Illustration created by [www.soaringtortoise.ca](http://www.soaringtortoise.ca))

# What is a Climate Risk Assessment?

- Consideration of the risk associated with the current and future climate impacts
- Follow ISO 31000 Risk Management Standard (i.e. PIEVC protocol)
- Three steps
  1. Risk Identification
  2. Risk Analysis
  3. Risk Evaluation
- Key activities
  - Climate data modelling and forecasting
  - Infrastructure components and climate parameters definition
  - Risk assessment workshop
  - Engineering analysis
  - Recommendations

# Why is it Important to Assess Climate Risk?

- A resilient transportation system is critical
- Climate impacts already affecting the Canadian transportation system
- Climate impacts are expected to become more frequent and severe



# Who should be involved?

## Asset-Specific

- Operational/management
- Technical services
- Environmental services

## Specialized Services

- Project Manager
- Climate Specialist
- Engineering Analyst
- Climate Risk Assessment Tool Lead
- Transportation Modal Expert

## Asset Owner/Operator's Role

- Provide access to the site and supporting documentation
- Receive deliverables and provide feedback
- Participate in climate risk assessment workshop
  - Representatives from capital planning and operations
- Respond to recommendations

# Examples of Approved Projects Assessing Climate Risk

- Climate risk assessment projects
  - Five Transport Canada airports
  - Four Parks Canada highways
  - Confederation Bridge
  - Six Atlantic ferry terminals
  - Toronto Port Authority assets
- Climate risk assessment subcomponent projects
  - Churchill Airport
  - Winnipeg Richardson International Airport
- Research projects
  - National Research Council's development of storm surge and wave activity database and visualization tool for coastal BC

# Review of PIEVC Climate Risk Assessments

- Use of publicly available PIEVC climate risk assessment reports
- Focus on the Canadian transportation system
- Establish an understanding of common recommendations

Type of recommendation	Development/update of policies and previous evaluations	Studies and instrumentation	Monitoring	Management and operational changes	Engagement to gather additional information and/or further apply assessment results	Engineering solutions	Vulnerability ranking and criticality parameters
Number of recommendations	35	33	24	6	5	5	2



# Recommended Practices and Lessons Learned

## Climate Data and Parameters

- Cumulative impacts of climate parameters should be considered
- The lifecycle and management/maintenance plan of the observed asset should be considered when determining climate projection timescales
- There is a need to establish a method at the outset of the assessment to better identify which climate models and RCPs are most appropriate
- Climate data projections would benefit from an additional seasonal analysis as opposed to focusing on yearly projections

# Recommended Practices and Lessons Learned

## Climate Risk Assessment Tools and Processes

- Most climate risk assessment tools are not decision-making tools
- There is a need to understand what tools and methods exist or can be developed to assess climate risk as part of the normal design process
- Where possible, potential climate change opportunities should be considered along with negative impacts
- Climate risk assessment deliverables and results should be developed in a manner that is clear and easily understood

# Thank you!

- For additional information on the TARA initiative, please contact:
  - Donavan Jacobsen, TARA initiative Manager, at [donavan.jacobsen@tc.gc.ca](mailto:donavan.jacobsen@tc.gc.ca), or
  - Allison Kader, Research/Analysis Officer with the TARA initiative, at [allison.kader@tc.gc.ca](mailto:allison.kader@tc.gc.ca)
- Questions on the grants and contributions application process should be directed to: [tc.tara-erat.tc@tc.gc.ca](mailto:tc.tara-erat.tc@tc.gc.ca)





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# Q & A

## (Question and Answer Period)

*Please pose your questions via the chatbox or by hitting \*6 to unmute your line*



# Thank you for joining us today!

*Stay tuned for upcoming webinars!*

**Alexa Bradley**

Research / Analysis Officer, Adaptation Policy | Transport Canada  
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