



Seattle City Light

# SKAGIT ENVIRONMENTAL ENDOWMENT COMMISSION 2019- 2023 BUDGET FRAMEWORK APPROVAL

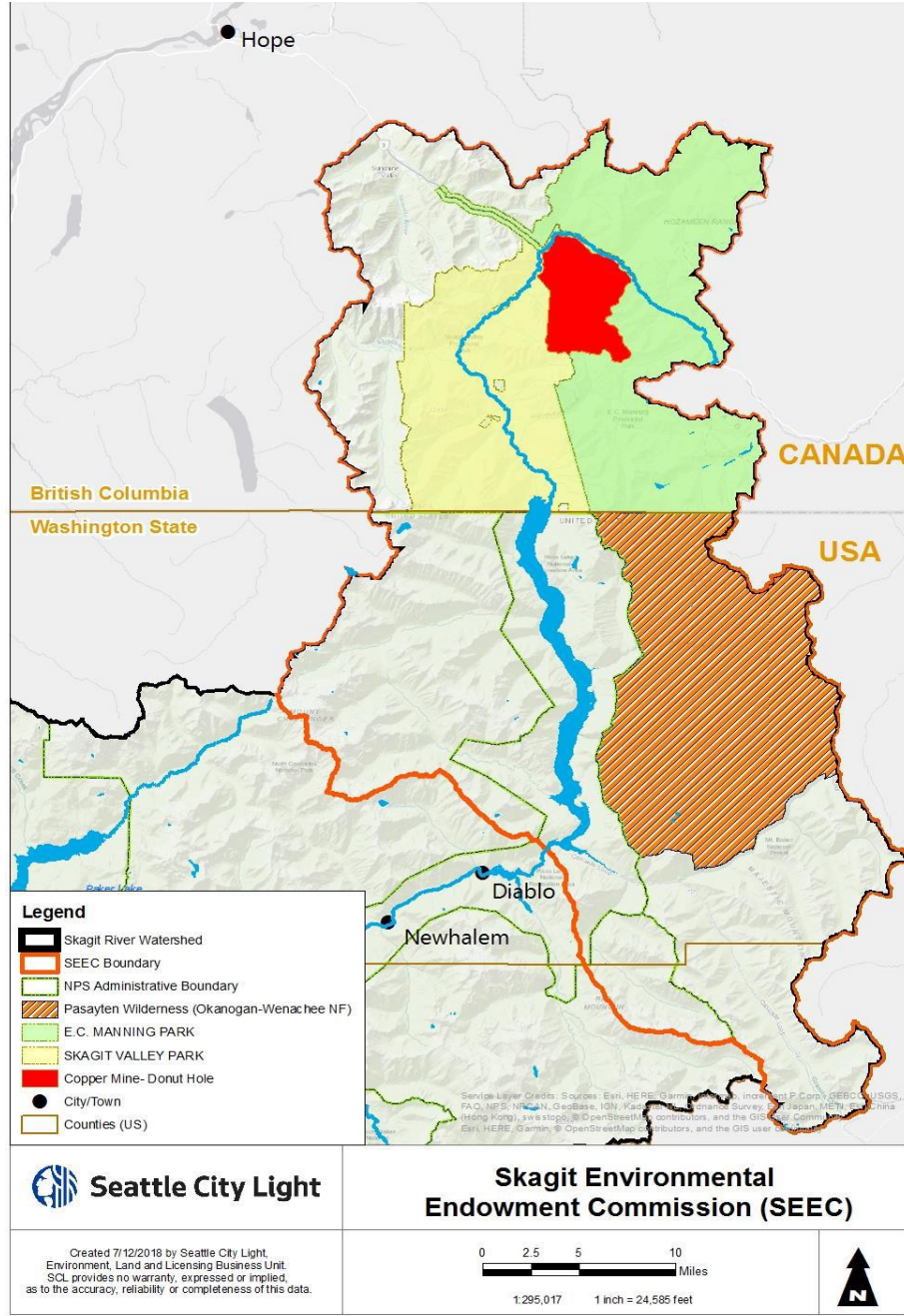
Debra Smith, Seattle City Light General Manager and Kate Engel, Science Policy Manager/SEEC US Secretary | March 21, 2019

## PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

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- High Ross Treaty and Agreement
- Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission
- Skagit Environmental Endowment Fund
- Five-year Budget Framework Approval





# HISTORICAL CONTEXT



Ross Dam Construction 1939

High Ross Dam was constructed by Seattle City Light (City Light) for water storage and power generation.

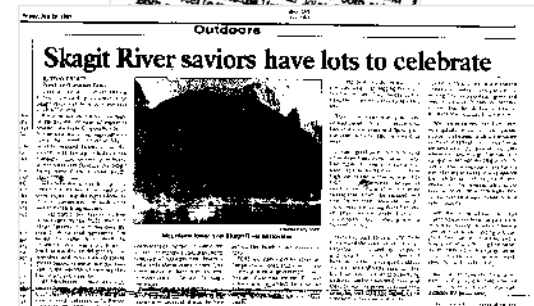
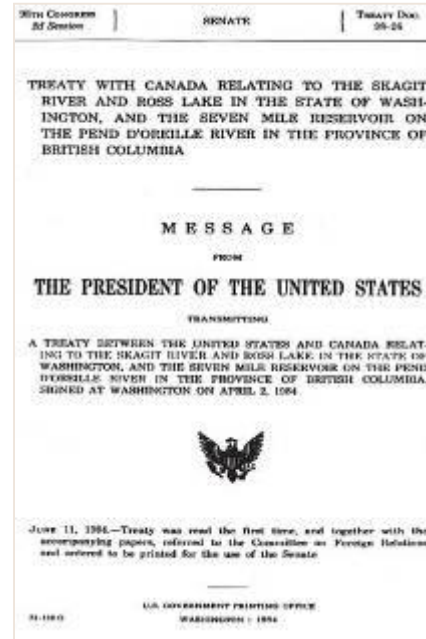


Controversy arose when City Light applied to raise the original dam height by a further 100'. This would flood an additional 2000 hectares into Canada.



# HIGH ROSS TREATY AND AGREEMENT

In 1984, after much public and political pressure, Canada and the United States reached an equitable agreement without raising the Ross Dam above its current height of 1615 ft.



The Skagit River-Ross Lake Treaty created and established both the Skagit Environmental Endowment Fund and the Commission.

# SKAGIT ENVIRONMENTAL ENDOWMENT COMMISSION (SEEC)

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- Administers an Endowment Fund
- Consists of 8 Commissioners appointed by the Mayor of Seattle and 8 by the Premier of BC
- Serves staggered 4-year terms.
- Does not manage land, but cooperates with government land management agencies.



# SKAGIT ENVIRONMENTAL ENDOWMENT FUND PURPOSES

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- Conserve and protect wilderness and wildlife habitat
- Enhance recreational opportunities in the Skagit Valley
- Acquire mineral or timber consistent with conservation and recreational purposes
- Conduct studies of need and feasibility of projects
- To plan for and construct hiking trails, footbridges, interpretive displays and the like

# SKAGIT ENVIRONMENTAL ENDOWMENT FUND PROGRAMS

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- Four Program-specific areas of work:
  - Watershed Integrity
  - Education
  - Recreation
  - Ecosystem Science
- Cross-program goals:
  - Indigenous Engagement
  - Diversity
  - Climate Change



# SEEC PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

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- U.S. Partners:
  - North Cascades Institute
  - Student Conservation Association
  - US National Park Service – North Cascades National Park Complex
- Canada Partners:
  - Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning
  - BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change – BC Parks
  - BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

## SEEC 5-YEAR BUDGET FRAMEWORK APPROVAL

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- Since 1984, SEEC has funded over \$8 million USD in projects ranging from recreational enhancement to education and research
- 2019-2023 funding totals \$3,122,064 USD
  - Education = \$1,093,277
  - Ecosystem Science = \$436,835
  - Recreation = \$453,621
  - Watershed Integrity = \$304,394
  - Communications = \$304,394
  - Opportunity = \$254,739



Seattle City Light



QUESTIONS?





# CITY LIGHT

## OUR MISSION

Seattle City Light is dedicated to delivering customers affordable, reliable and environmentally responsible electricity services.

## OUR VISION

We resolve to provide a positive, fulfilling and engaging experience for our employees. We will expect and reinforce leadership behaviors that contribute to that culture. Our workforce is the foundation upon which we achieve our public service goals and will reflect the diversity of the community we serve.

We strive to improve quality of life by understanding and answering the needs of our customers. We aim to provide more opportunities to those with fewer resources and will protect the well-being and safety of the public.

We aspire to be the nation's greenest utility by fulfilling our mission in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.

## OUR VALUES

Safety, Environmental Stewardship, Innovation, Excellence, Customer Care



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