

SOUTH PENDER WATER SYSTEM BACKGROUNDER



CONTEXT

The South Pender Harbour (SPH) Water System is located within the Electoral Area A (Egmont/Pender Harbour) and provides water to the communities of Madeira Park, Francis Peninsula, and Kleindale. This water system is located on the traditional territory of the shíshálh Nation. The SCRD assumed ownership of the SPH Water System in 2008.

The SPH Water System is a separate Water Service Area with its own budget and water rates. It is one of seven independent water systems owned and operated by the SCRD, and is not connected to any other water systems.

WATER SOURCE

McNeill Lake is the primary water source for the system. McNeill Lake is a dammed natural lake that is 18 hectares with an average depth of 4 meters.

The SCRD holds three water licences for McNeill Lake, totaling 663 million litres per year (L/yr), as well as 250-acre storage.

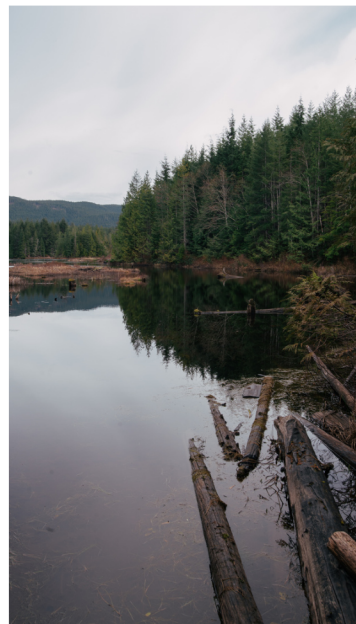
Harris Lake is upstream of McNeill Lake and is also a dammed natural lake. The lake is licensed for water storage and is only used for emergency supply during periods of drought. The water licence for Harris Lake is 150- acre storage.

The total daily permitted use from these sources is 1.8 million L/day. The SCRD owns and operates dams on both McNeill Lake and Harris Lake within the McNeill Lake Watershed.

SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPH Water System provides potable water to approximately 917 service connections, including residents, businesses, farms and institutions. The system consists of one water treatment plant, one chlorination station, 32 kms of watermain, three reservoirs, and hydrants. Every water connection is water metered as of 2015, which allows for both public and private leaks to be found and resolved quickly, improving system efficiency. Residents on this water system are billed volumetrically for their water use.

Water from the intake in McNeill Lake is treated at the SPH Water Treatment Plant. Treated water is then gravity fed to three reservoirs before it is distributed to water users. In 2025, the SPH Water Treatment Plant treated 361 million litres. In 2025, the SCRD completed infrastructure improvements to the watermain on Francis Peninsula Road. A feasibility study aimed at improving storage capacity and fire flow improvements is being worked on.



FAST FACTS

Water Source:
McNeill Lake

Number of Connections:
917

Total Water Distributed:
361 million litres/year

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FUNCTIONALITY

Generally, the SPH Water System is currently working below its designed capacity. Water supply issues have arisen in times of high summer water demand, where the daily water use exceeded the current water licence, which permits 1.8 million L/day.

When water use in the system trends higher than 1.8 million litres per day, the SCRD utilizes water conservation regulations to lower community water demand.



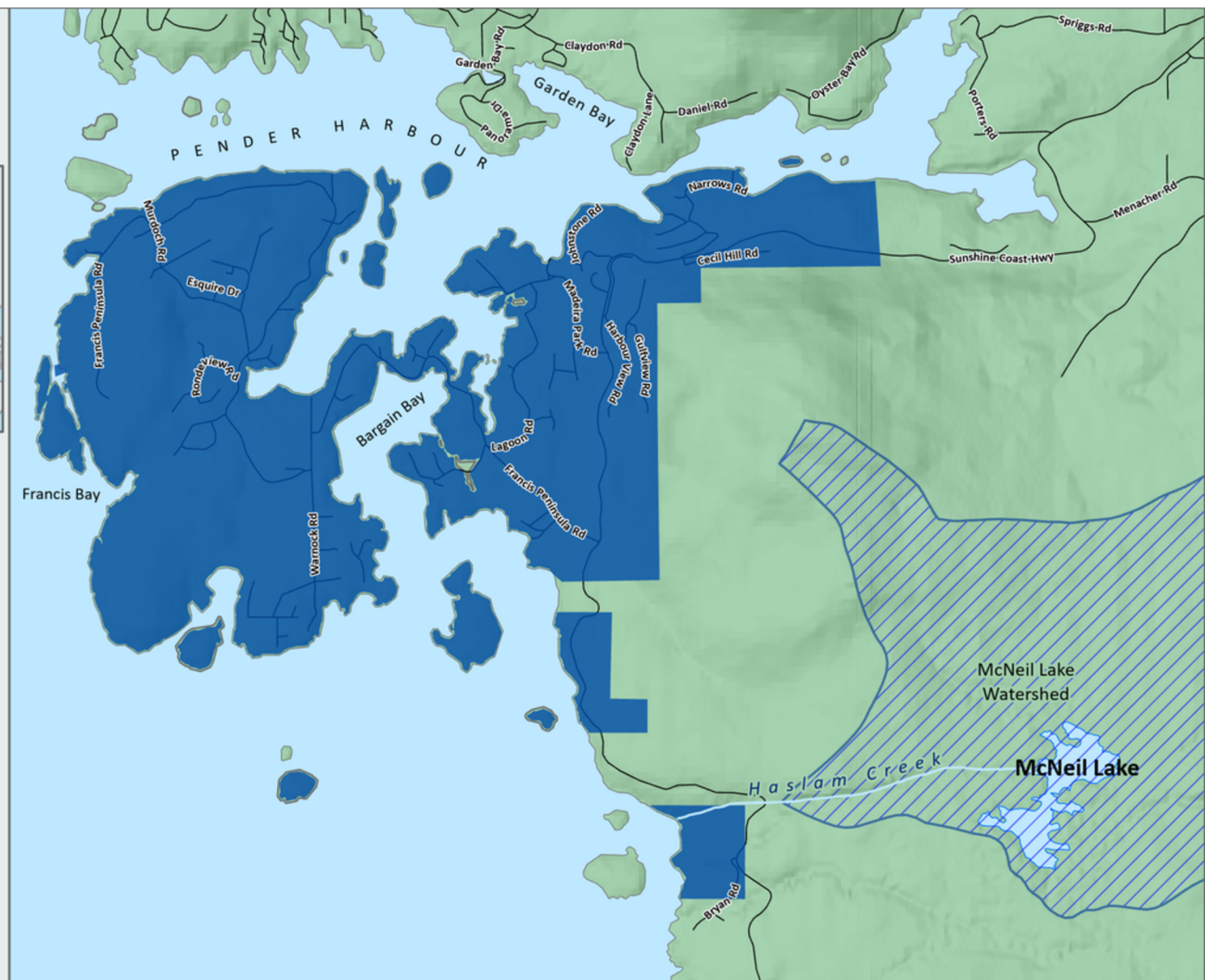
Context Map South Pender Harbour

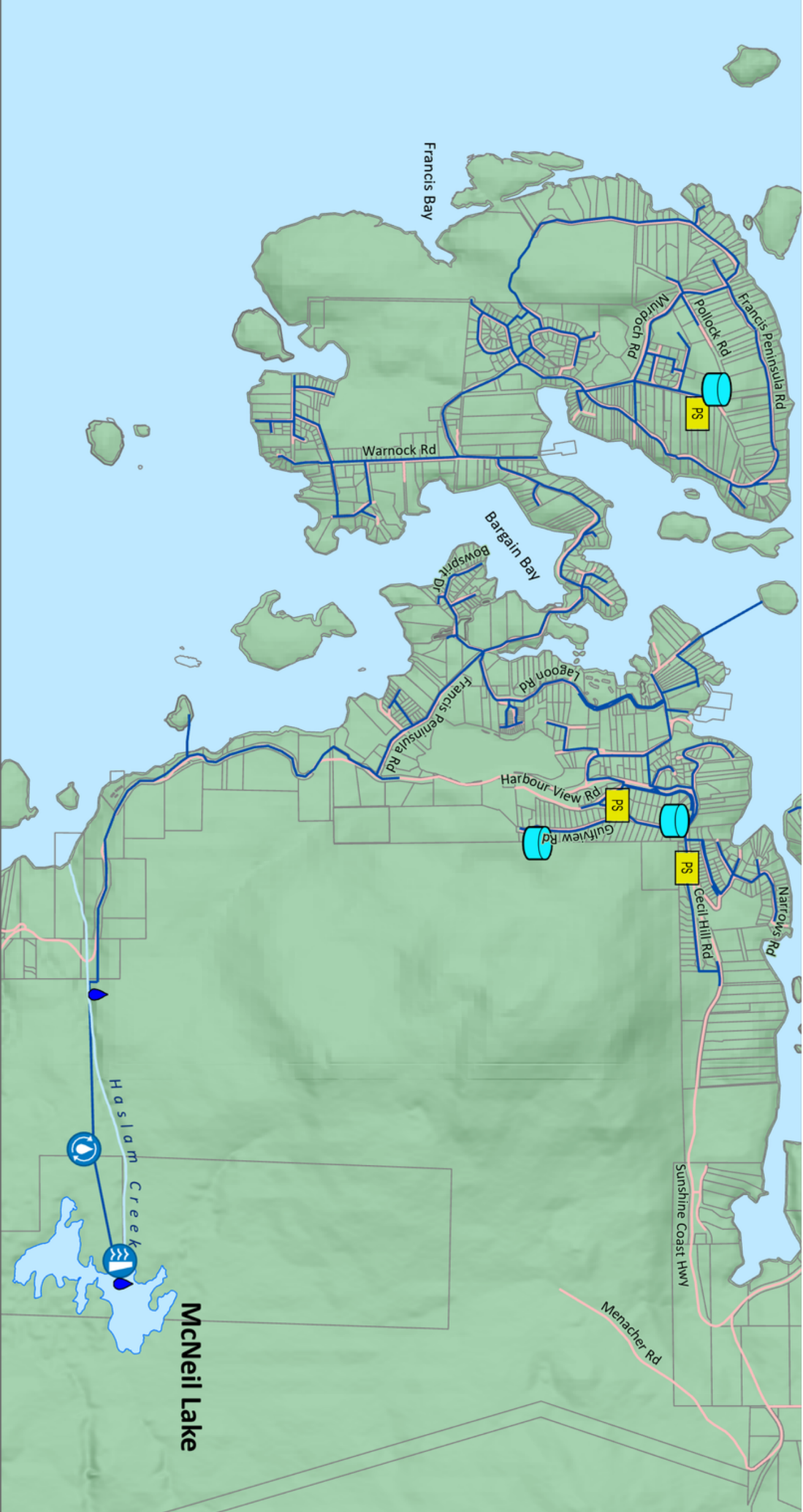


- South Pender Harbour Water Service Area
- Active Community Watershed
- Water Source Creek
- Water Source Lake
- Roads



0 1 2
Kilometers





South Pender Harbour Water System Infrastructure

	Pump Station		Dam		Water Source Creek		Property Boundary
	Reservoir		Water Intake		Water Source Lake		
	Water Treatment Plant		Water Main		Road		

0

1

2

Kilometers

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