



by Kim Westad

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Can you remember the summer 2006 drought in Tofino? It surprised many people, how ordered hydrological water shortages could happen in a coastal rainforest.

That year, the high-elevation mountain snowpack that coastal British Columbia counts on for much of its winter supply melted before the spring due to rising air temperatures, resulting in water shortages in the summer, when the demand was greatest.

It is a clear example of how the temperature on distant mountains can impact the water, even if it is not immediately available

of the province