Twitter Thread by Alberta, You See Pee ■

Alberta, You See Pee ■
@youseepeeYYC

Thanks for tagging me, @BartMLL.

I basically never use FB, but I'm on my (very old) laptop today.

Let's get some screen shots.

> https://t.co/FHWkaHrqUj @youseepeeYYC @Dave_Khan @RachelNotley - They already started
>
> — Bart (@BartMLL) January 17, 2021

"Today I decided to head up the Oldman to see what the coal companies have been getting up to. I forgot, however, that the forestry trunk road is closed at Dutch Creek each winter, ostensibly for wildlife protection. So I parked at the locked gate and started hiking."

#ableg

Back

Kevin's Post



Kevin Van Tighem
19 hours ago

Today I decided to head up the Oldman to see what the coal companies have been getting up to. I forgot, however, that the forestry trunk road is closed at Dutch Creek each winter, ostensibly for wildlife protection. So I parked at the locked gate and started hiking. Evidently only the public is locked out; there was lots of signs of industrial traffic — logging and coal exploration — on a well-ploughed road. But the wildlife was certainly there. I saw tracks of a pack of wolves, a couple lynx, lots of coyotes, moose and deer and smaller creatures.

It's not all that rewarding to walk on a major road up a heavily-logged valley, but it was a lovely day: warm and calm and, at least for the first couple hours, sunny. There were several snowmobilers parked back at Dutch Creek and they had left tracks in the forest, but none came my way. In fact I saw nobody all day except the driver of a big truck that was hauling used pipe up the valley, apparently for Atrum's coal exploration roads.

Four kilometres in, I saw the first sign of new damage, way up on top of a mountain ridge that separates the upper Livingstone River and the north fork of the Oldman. A bulldozed road sneaked around the ridge top to a sandstone outcropping and a big gouge there showed recently exposed coal. I could see where the wind had been spraying coal dust all down the lee slope. But from the valley floor, most of the ridge top is invisible and it was clear from the amount of snow on the slope that I wasn't going to get there today.

Nine kilometres in, I found a new exploration road gouged into a previously intact slope with a temporary bridge and a big gate at the bottom. I ignored the no-trespassing sign the company had installed on our public land and punched my way through the hard-drifted snow to the bridge so I could photograph their signs. The road angles up and out of sight from there, perfectly laid out to funnel a few tonnes of eroded silt into the cutthroat trout stream at the base of the hill. I'll be back in spring to photograph that happening.

But I still had nine kilometres to hike back out, and the company had evidently stopped operations, at least at this site, until spring so there wasn't going to be much more to see. So I headed back down that once-idyllic valley, pausing to photograph a sign advising the public about how volunteers were planting willows in erosion sites along Hidden Creek. That's how we roll here in Alberta: the government allows logging companies and Australian coal miners to strip whole landscapes, and then volunteers arrive to try and bandage some tiny wounds. Because those volunteers, at least, care.

Am I bitter? Yeah, a little. Well, actually: a lot. I just spent half a day bearing witness to violence in a place I love. But it was encouraging to find at least that I was not alone. Someone else had been in there before me and had left a sticker on a road sign. It said "Save the Oldman River: Stop Crowsnest Mines."

Alberta still has good people. But unlike me and my mystery friend, most don't know how little time our last good places have before their coal is tortured out of them and they are left in ruins.

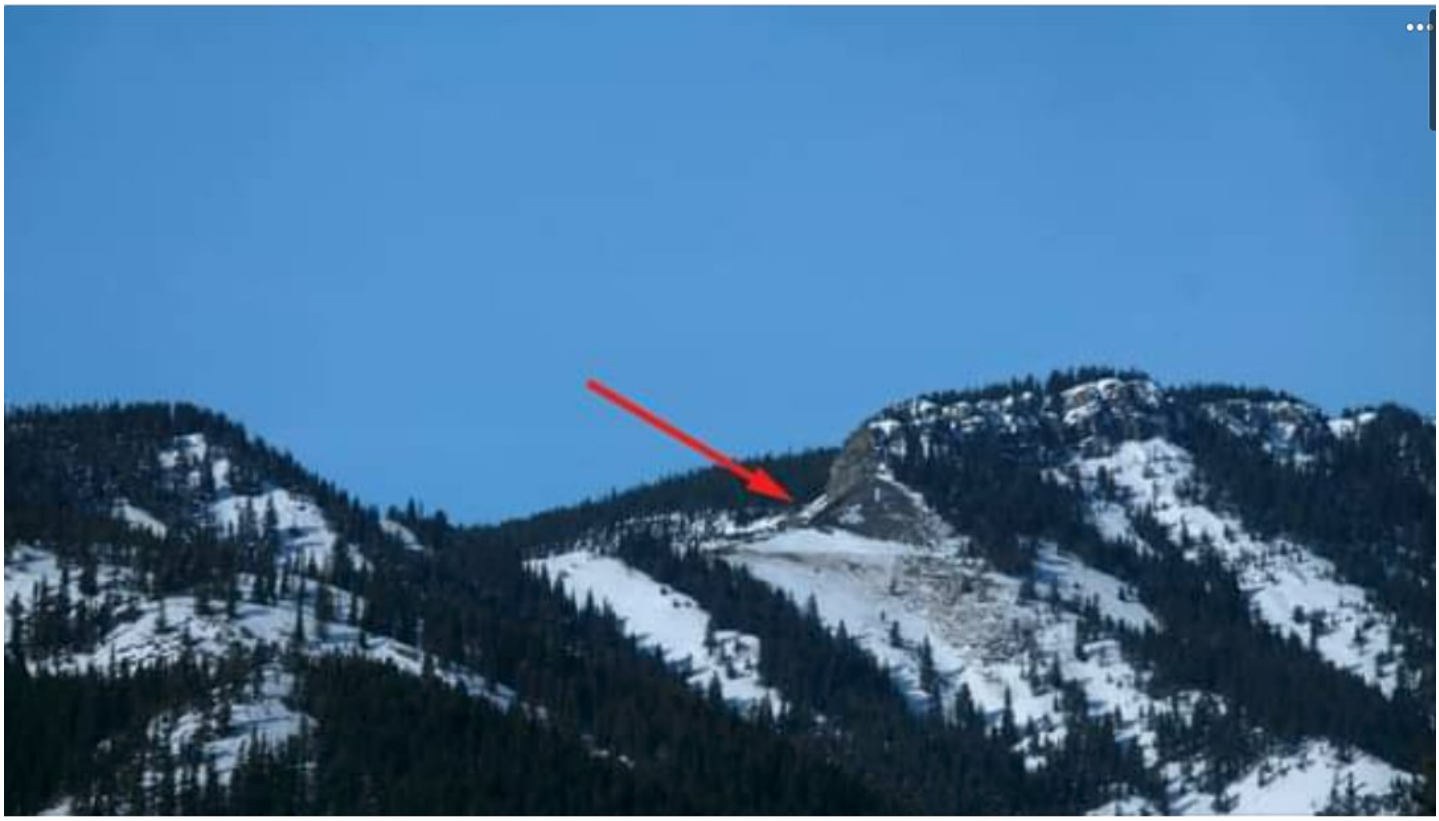
Another big truck passed me as I headed out.

It was hauling a massive track-hoe on a flatbed trailer up into our mountain headwaters, up where the coal is. Where it is meant to stay.

907 117 Comments 2.9K Shares

"Newly gouged test pit for coal wayyyy up on the mountain ridge. Note coal dust deposited downwind on the snow."

#ableg #DefendABParks
#FiretheUCP

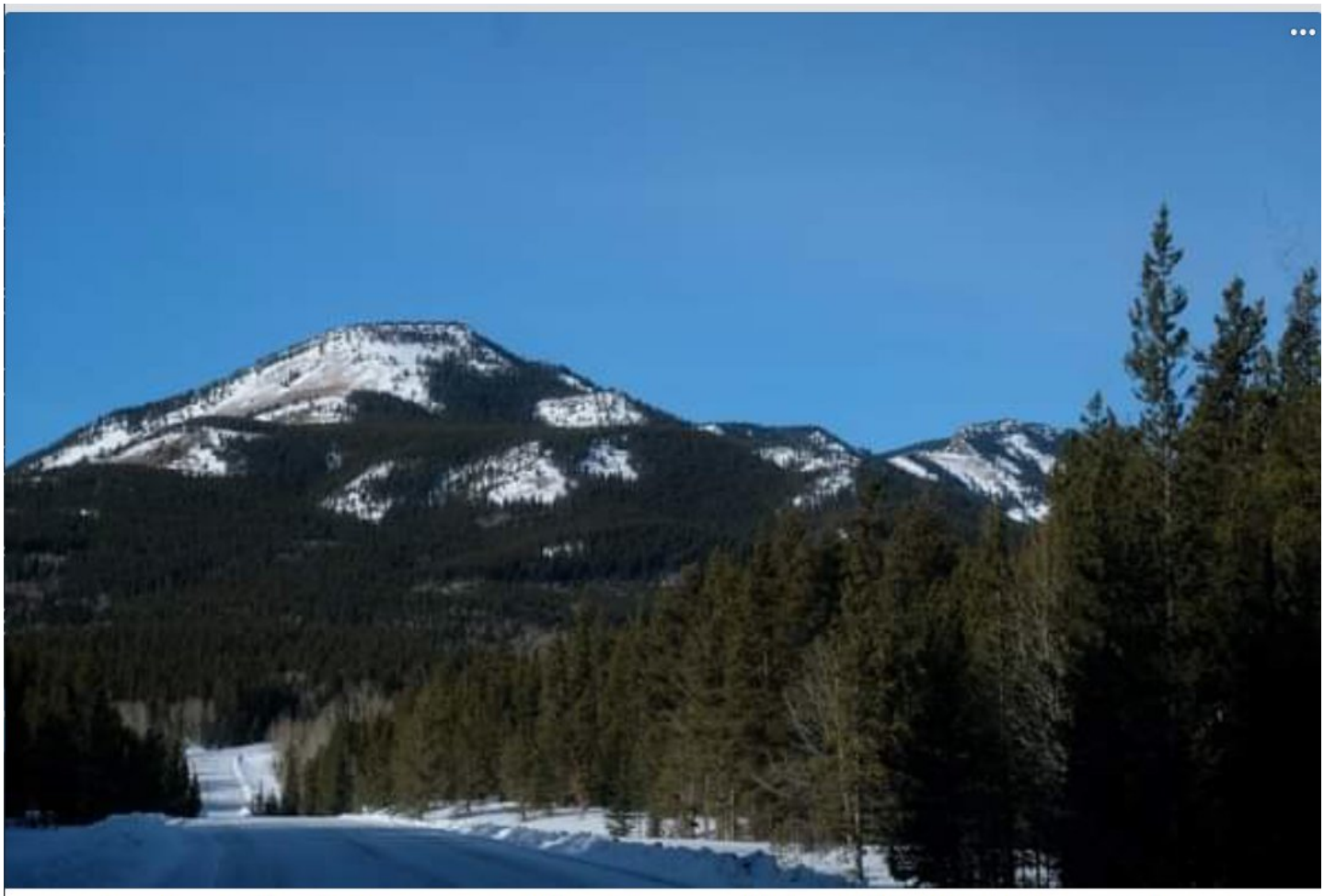


Newly gouged test pit for coal wayyyy up on the mountain ridge. Note coal dust deposited downwind on the snow.

😡😢😮 162 7 Shares

"Same ridge, for scale. That whole mountain is meant to disappear, if Atrum gets the okay to mine this lease. Which they will if the UCP stay in charge of things. The new exploration pit is on the right. The rest of their work is out of sight from this angle."

#ableg #FiretheUCP



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117 2 Comments 8 Shares

"The moose shared my opinion, evidently."

#ableg #DefendABParks
#WaterNotCoal #NoToCoalAB



The moose shared my opinion, evidently

335 1 Comment 2 Shares

"No traffic since earlier in the winter, but you can see the new road going up the hill in a perfect line to bring erosion back down to the creek with its hopeful little single strip of erosion fabric beside the undersized bridge."

#ableg #BoycottUCPdonors #WaterNotCoal



No traffic since earlier in the winter, but you can see the new road going up the hill in a perfect line to bring erosion back down to the creek with its hopeful little single strip of erosion fabric beside the undersized bridge.

98 4 Comments 2 Shares

"Truck heading up-valley with more pipe for more new roads up the sides of more old mountains."

#ableg #BoycottUCPdonors
#WaterNotCoal #NoToCoalAB



Truck heading up-valley with more pipe for more new roads up the sides of more old mountains.

121 3 Shares

"Public land. "No Trespassing"."

#WaterNotCoal
#ableg #BoycottUCPdonors
#FiretheUCP #NoToCoalAB

3 Shares



Public land. "No Trespassing".

153 3 Comments 5 Shares

"Hope the work I and other volunteers did stands up to strip mining..."

#WaterNotCoal
#ableg #BoycottUCPdonors
#FiretheUCP #NoToCoalAB



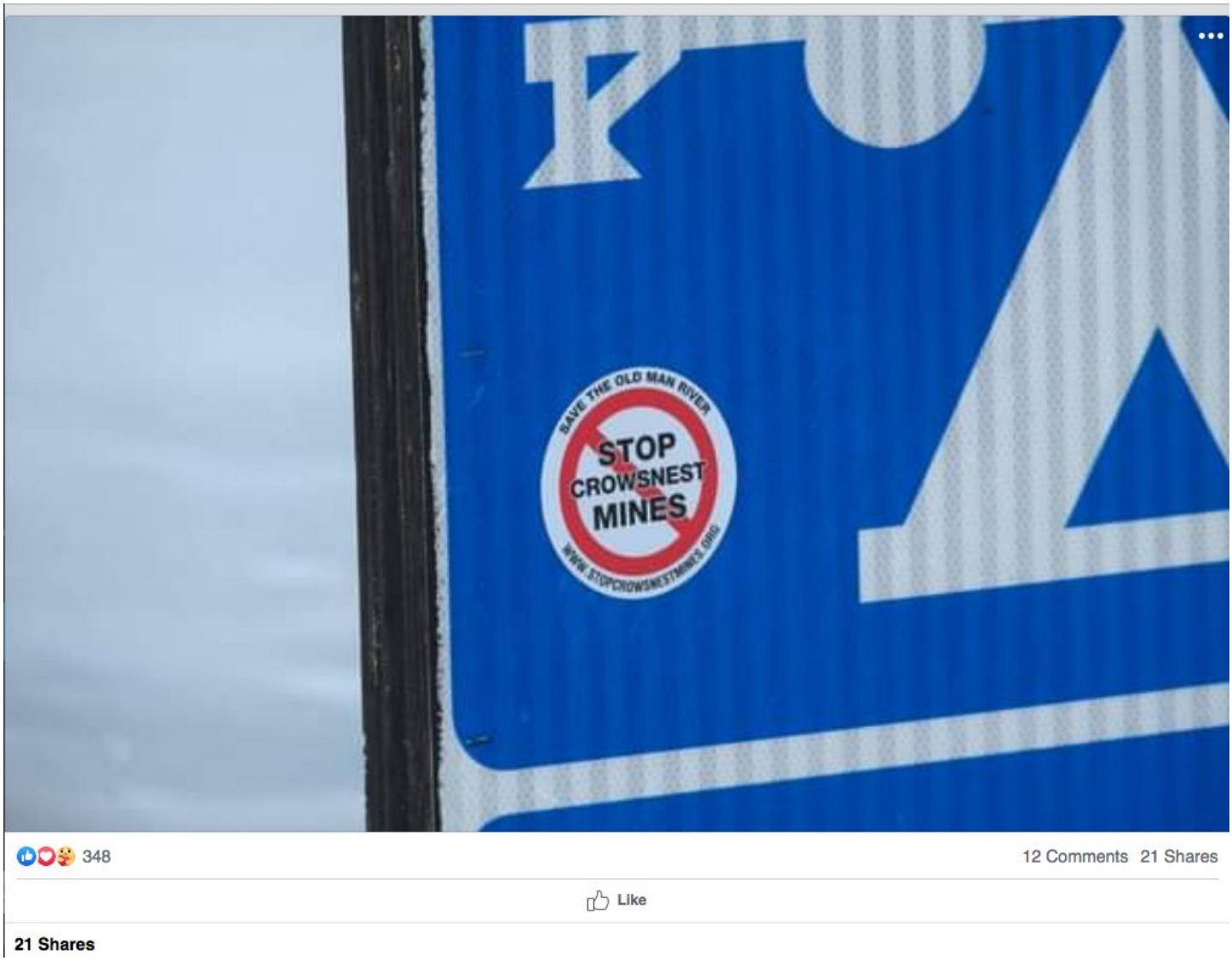
Hope the work I and other volunteers did stands up to strip mining...

232 9 Shares

Save the Old Man River

Stop Crowsnest Mines

#WaterNotCoal
#ableg #BoycottUCPdonors
#FiretheUCP #NoToCoalAB



That's the end of the Facebook thread.

Here's a direct link to that website mentioned at the end.

Stop Crowsnest Mines

#WaterNotCoal
#ableg #BoycottUCPdonors
#FiretheUCP #NoToCoalAB

https://t.co/iIHTPHCJE7

Here's their "Take Action" page with contact info.

"We need your help! Please print the petition off, sign it, and then take it to your work, home, school etc. and collect as many signatures as you can, and then contact us!"

#WaterNotCoal #ableg

https://t.co/Kpfg1IYNRx

Reminder, it was only a month ago that permits were issued for this project by the #UCP government.

#WaterNotCoal #ableg
#FiretheUCP
#BoycottUCPdonors

https://t.co/LyshhNBE7v

> $66,563 - that's the pittance the #abgov got yesterday for selling off the rights to strip mine coal in 18.52 sq. km of the Eastern Slopes. These 15-yr leases are renewable. No wonder the Australians love doing business with this govt. #abpoli https://t.co/9H0RUXf68S
>
> — Ian Urquhart (@iturquhart) December 16, 2020

We can thank @cpawssab for warning about this project earlier. Please consider following them!

#WaterNotCoal
#DefendABParks
#FiretheUCP

https://t.co/TPmp7V7iP0

Here's a screen shot of the December 15th permit posting, which I first saw shared by @iturquhart. (Thank-you!)

#WaterNotCoal
#DefendABParks
#FiretheUCP
#ableg

https://t.co/kppE6svMFD

ALBERTA DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ACCEPTED OFFERS FOR DECEMBER 15, 2020
PUBLIC OFFERING OF COAL

Parcel	M-R-T	Percent	Client Name	Bonus ($)	$/Ha
C0073	(5-04-008)	100%	BENGA MINING LIMITED	672.00	3.50
C0074	(5-04-008)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	2,025.00	7.03
C0075	(5-04-008)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	8,023.00	125.36
C0076	(5-04-009)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	2,025.00	9.04
C0077	(5-04-009)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	6,427.00	76.51
C0078	(5-04-009)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	2,025.00	15.82
C0079	(5-04-010)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	2,025.00	10.55
C0080	(5-04-011)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	2,025.00	21.09
C0081	(5-04-011)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	5,840.95	52.96
C0082	(5-03-013)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	2,024.67	16.54
C0083	(5-04-013)	100%	MONTEM RESOURCES ALBERTA OPERATIONS LTD.	33,450.00	95.03
C0084	(5-05-014)		No Offers		

**** LEASE TOTALS ****

Region	Bonus	Hectares	$ / Ha
	66,562.62	1,852.6800	35.93
Total :	**66,562.62**	**1,852.6800**	**35.93**

The Stop Crowsnest Mines folks have a facebook page.

If you're on FB hop over and give them a like and a share.

(And let me know if they start up on twitter.)

#WaterNotCoal
#DefendABParks
#FiretheUCP
#ableg

https://t.co/Dz9Ib0Zzes■

Apparently @TUCanada1 had done a bunch of work on the Hidden Creek watershed area a few years back.

Is that work now threatened?

https://t.co/PMfijW7uAV

> This is #bioengineering out at Hidden Creek wow good work everyone #OWC @TUCanada1 looks like the weather held pic.twitter.com/Bswrr15lso

— Oldman Watershed Council (@Oldmanwatershed) October 4, 2015

Here's a page that talks a bit about @TUCanada1's work on the Old Man River area. There's a little map that shows the (huge!) area of the river's watershed on their page. Check it out.

https://t.co/HgYlvMk8rG

Here's the Government of Canada page on the Grassy Mountain Coal Project.

The Joint Review Panel has closed the record on project and is no longer accepting submissions, however there's a bunch of documents there going back to 2016.

https://t.co/VZDZe23xtO■

Initial environmental assessment from August 2016.

#DefendABparks
#ableg

https://t.co/R2u3ujfOLl■

Agreement To Establish a Joint Review Panel for the Grassy Mountain Coal Project Between

The Minister of the Environment, Canada
- and -
The Alberta Energy Regulator, Alberta

Dated August 2018.

https://t.co/Yq3oGD6acQ■

June 29, 2020: Public Notice: Grassy Mountain Coal Project – Notice of Hearing

Public hearing to begin Oct. 27th, 2020.

https://t.co/mCRbmrVFfO■

And here's a video playlist of that public hearing, which met through 29 days

32 videos total.

#ableg #WaterNotCoal

https://t.co/nf3nhHydRC

Okay, getting into the details of the policy stuff here is beyond my skillset. I don't have the time right now to try to dig in and interpret everything.

I hope someone is able to review this stuff.

#ableg #DefendABparks

Here's a link back to Kevin Van Tighem's FB post, initially shared with me by @BartMLL.

Thanks again.

#ableg #WaterNotCoal

https://t.co/arlw84nnWl

Here's a map of the area posted by @CBCFletch

https://t.co/Fu0I0FyI9r https://t.co/8rdUX8INms

> A lot of people have been tweeting about the new coal leases that were just issued in Southern Alberta: https://t.co/oU4DNMFfRd
>
> For those wondering *where* these are, exactly, here's a map.
>
> New leases in black. Existing leases in grey. pic.twitter.com/CIH8JUo4Fh
>
> — Robson Fletcher (@CBCFletch) December 17, 2020

And some more context by @CBCFletch

#ableg #WaterNotCoal

https://t.co/EakbdFR0aR https://t.co/EG9gAuhjvM

> The southern section is just one small part of the former Category 2 lands that used to be off-limits to open-pit mines. (In blue on this map.)
>
> The largest section is in central Alberta, and there is a big chunk in northern Alberta, too.
>
> The grey sections are coal leases. pic.twitter.com/TkELyvxqRQ
>
> — Robson Fletcher (@CBCFletch) January 16, 2021