# The Coquihalla: British Columbia's Insult to Road Building

The Coquihalla Highway is a 403-kilometer (250-mile) stretch of road that connects the Lower Mainland of British Columbia with the Interior. It is one of the most important highways in the province, and it is also one of the most dangerous.

The Coquihalla was built in the 1980s, and it was designed to be a highspeed, four-lane highway. However, the highway has been plagued by problems from the start. The road surface is often slick, and the curves are tight and unforgiving. As a result, there have been numerous accidents on the Coquihalla, including many that have been fatal.



#### The Coquihalla, British Columbia's Insult to Road

Bulding by Ted Campbell			
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In addition to the safety concerns, the Coquihalla is also an environmental disaster. The highway was built through a pristine mountain wilderness, and it has had a devastating impact on the local ecosystem. The road has

fragmented the habitat of many animals, and it has also led to increased pollution and noise.

The Coquihalla is a monument to the arrogance and incompetence of the British Columbia government. The highway was built in a hurry, and it was never properly engineered. As a result, the Coquihalla is a dangerous and environmentally destructive road that has no place in British Columbia.

#### The History of the Coquihalla

The Coquihalla Highway was first proposed in the 1950s. The highway was intended to connect the Lower Mainland with the Interior, and it was seen as a way to boost economic development in the region. However, the project was delayed for decades due to concerns about the cost and the environmental impact.

In the 1980s, the British Columbia government finally decided to go ahead with the project. The highway was built in just four years, and it was opened to traffic in 1986. However, the highway was immediately plagued by problems.

#### The Problems with the Coquihalla

The Coquihalla has been plagued by problems from the start. The road surface is often slick, and the curves are tight and unforgiving. As a result, there have been numerous accidents on the Coquihalla, including many that have been fatal.

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#### The Future of the Coquihalla

The future of the Coquihalla is uncertain. The highway is in need of major repairs, and it is unclear whether the British Columbia government is willing to invest the money to fix it. In the meantime, the Coquihalla remains a dangerous and environmentally destructive road that has no place in British Columbia.

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The Coquihalla is a reminder that we must never sacrifice safety and the environment for the sake of economic development. We must demand better from our governments, and we must hold them accountable for their failures.

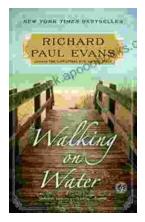


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