



## News From Our Columbia Region February 2018

### FWCP Columbia Region grant application update

A total of 63 grant applications, requesting more than \$3 million from the FWCP, were received in the fall of 2017. This included 18 applications, requesting nearly \$900,000, under the Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Plan. [Learn more](#) about our application review and evaluation process. A full list of all the projects being funded for 2018-19 will be on our [website](#) soon.



### Public Representative opportunity in our Columbia Region

We're looking for a new Public Representative to join our Columbia Region Board who can bring a regional perspective, represent a broad range of public interests, and make a three-year commitment. Make sure you get your application form in by March 29, 2018. [Read more.](#)

### Cherry Creek wetlands in the East Kootenay restored

Waterfowl, shorebirds, Western Toads and Western Painted Turtles are among those that will benefit from a wetland project located near the confluence of Cherry Creek and the Kootenay River, between Fort Steele and Wasa. [Read more and check out some aerial photos of the project site.](#)



Photo: Doug Newbigging / BCWF

## Make a note of getting closer to nature this year

More details about the following FWCP annual outreach events will be included in future WildBytes, but circle these dates on your calendar, in the meantime.

- Turtle Day - Elizabeth Lake, Cranbrook - April 24, 2018
- Critter Day - Beaver Creek, Trail - May 12, 2018 (TBC)
- Toadfest - Summit Lake, Nakusp - August 22/23, 2018



## Results of Elk River riparian project: garbage!

More than 40 bags of garbage, tires, and various pieces of scrap metal - some weighing as much as 500 lbs - were collected and removed from the shoreline of the Elk River in fall of 2017. It was an excellent community effort. [Read more](#)



Photo: Elk River Alliance

## Acquiring Snk'mip (Bonanza) Marsh

A 35-acre wetland at the north end of Slocan Lake has a new owner and a new name. Following an intensive fund-raising effort, the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology and Social Justice, stepped forward and purchased what was formerly called Bonanza Marsh. [Read more](#)



Photo: Wayne McCrory

## New funding opportunity for local watersheds

On February 1, 2018, Environment and Climate Change Canada announced new funding through the [Environmental Damages Fund](#). \$2.85 million in funding is available for the purposes of the conservation and protection of fish and fish habitat, or the restoration of fish habitat in the Columbia River or Kootenay River watersheds. The deadline to apply is April 6, 2018.

## Read our project reports

We post and share all final project reports so that the results and lessons learned are available to everyone. We're updating our [report list](#) often, as new reports are finalized. [Contact us](#) if you can't find what you're looking for.

The FWCP is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, First Nations and Public Stakeholders to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams.

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