



**FWCP**  
Fish & Wildlife  
COMPENSATION PROGRAM

**wild**BYTES

## News From Our Peace Region

January 2016



### Message From the Manager

Hello everyone. I would just like to take a little bit of your time to update you on some of the things the FWCP is doing in the Peace Region. Wishing you and your families all the very best for 2016, and I am looking forward to working with you to achieve good things for fish and wildlife in the Peace Region in the New Year!

[Dan Bouillon](#)

Peace Regional Manager

### Update on Grant Applications

Our annual grant intake is closed for 2015 and province-wide we received 184 applications for fish and wildlife grants. That's up from 172 last year. Here in our Peace Region, we received 39 grant applications for a total ask of \$1.75 million. We have now completed the Fish and Wildlife technical reviews of the project applications and the First Nations Working Group is just completing their review. Peace Region Board members are starting their evaluation now. Final decisions will be announced in March. Monitor the status of your application [online](#).



### Meet Our New Board Member

Long-time Rolla resident Wayne Sawchuk is our newest Board member. Wayne is well known for his work to conserve 6.4 million hectares in the Northern Rockies.

[Meet Wayne.](#)

### New Wetland Mapping Project

Our Regional Board approved \$175,000 for a riparian and wetland mapping project to be undertaken by the Ministry of Environment. Understanding the abundance,

distribution and status of these important ecosystems in the Williston and Dinosaur Reservoir Basins is an important first step towards conserving them. This project is a priority in our Peace Region [Riparian and Wetland Action Plan](#) and will be complete in early 2016.



## Update on Mercury Studies

In 2015, our Board, which includes members representing nine First Nations, Public Stakeholders, the Province of B.C., and BC Hydro, approved the collection of fish tissue samples to test for mercury, selenium and other heavy metals. Results of this testing will be available in March 2016. We're planning more comprehensive mercury studies in 2016. [Learn More.](#)

## Sparrow Flies More Than 4,000 Kms!

[Read about](#) this Lincoln's Sparrow, banded at the Mugaha Marsh Banding Station near Mackenzie, that was caught in Mexico. That means it flew more than 4,229 kms. Not bad for a small songbird. We've [helped fund](#) the volunteer-driven Mackenzie Nature Observatory banding station for more than 20 years.



(Photo: Raul Said Quintero Felix)



## Studying Moose Mortality

This winter 60 cow moose will be fitted with satellite tracking collars as part of an FWCP-funded project to study the factors contributing to moose mortality in the Peace and Omenica regions. The study is expected to last up to five years. [Read more](#)

## We've Updated Our List of FWCP [Reports Online](#)



## Peace Region Board Members

From left: Ross Peck, George Desjarlais, T. Rosemarie Sam, Wayne Sawchuck, Gord Haines, Trevor Oussoren, Jason Lee, Norm Bilodeau, Eric Lofroth, Rian Hill, Luke Vince, Alec Chingee, Robin Tsakoza. Missing: Luke Gleeson, Debbie Beattie, and Teena Demeulemeester.

## 2015 Survey of Perceptions and Improvement Opportunities

Thanks to everyone who participated in our *2015 Review of Perceptions and Opportunities for Improvement*. The survey and interview results are being compiled and a summary of results will soon be available on our website.

## **Community Engagement Grant**

Although our regular grant intake has closed for 2016-17 projects, we still have funds available through our [Community Engagement Grant](#) that can be applied for at any time. Grants, for up to \$1,000, are typically used to support workshops, conferences and fundraising events to promote conservation, enhancement, protection or management of species and their habitats, in communities within or in proximity to the Williston and Dinosaur reservoirs.

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**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 impacted by existing BC Hydro dams. Read more at [fwcp.ca](http://fwcp.ca)**