



**FWCP**  
Fish & Wildlife  
COMPENSATION PROGRAM

**wild**BYTES

## Update from Our Columbia Region

February 2016 [fwcp.ca](http://fwcp.ca)



Photo: Evan Smith ONA

### Creek Passing Through Rehab

It has been some time since Pass -or Norns- Creek near Castlegar has received any improvements for fish habitat, but that changed last year thanks to the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) with funding from the FWCP and other partners. And more work is planned this spring... [Read more](#)

### Free Reptile and Amphibian Presentation

Ever wanted to know more about what may be sliding through the grass or hiding under a rock in your yard? If so, then this presentation at noon on Monday in Cranbrook is for you.

[Get the details](#)



Photo: Jakob Dulisse



Photo: E. Kleindienst

### Improving Fish Passage Near Elko

Improving access to existing fish habitat is one of the most effective ways of helping spawning and rearing fish. Wickman Creek, within the Caven Creek watershed near Elko, was the site of an FWCP-supported project to remove a hanging culvert, that was acting as a fish barrier, and replace it with a bridge. [Read more](#)

### Supporting Deer Relocation

We are supporting a project, led by VAST Resource Solutions, which aims to determine if there is an opportunity to successfully relocate Mule Deer from four urban centres in the East Kootenay, to more remote areas where the populations are in decline. The project is one of the first rolled out under UKEEP. [Read more](#)



Photo: Brian Rossman



## Kokanee and Nutrient Restoration Program Data on Website Soon

The FWCP is the primary funder of the Nutrient Restoration Program (NRP) in the North Arm of Kootenay Lake and Arrow Lakes Reservoir, and the Kokanee spawning channels at Meadow Creek and Hill Creek. We are currently working with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations - responsible for delivering the restoration activities within these projects through a long-term agreement - to collect the latest Kokanee and NRP data and post it on our website soon.

## Heart Creek Habitat Opened - First Kokanee Spawning in 35 Years!

With funding support from the FWCP and other partners, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) has replaced a perched - or hanging - culvert with an 18 metre long, clear span bridge near Fauquier. And successful results have already been observed. [Read the details](#)



Swim Over to [fwcp.ca](http://fwcp.ca) to View The Latest FWCP Project Reports Available

## Update on 2016 Grant Applications

Our annual grant intake is closed for 2016-17 projects and, province-wide, we received 184 applications for fish and wildlife grants. That's up from 172 last year. Here in our Columbia Region, we received a total of 84 grant applications, up from 68 last year, of which 18 were for the Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Plan (UKEEP). The total ask in the Columbia Region is \$3.2 million, with a total project value (including in-kind support and other contributions) of \$7.4 million. Each grant application has gone through a technical review by our fish or wildlife committees, and applicants will be informed of the Board's final decisions by the end of this month.



## Got a Question for the Board?

The FWCP Columbia Region Board consists of ten members: three First Nations representatives, three Public Stakeholder representatives, and two representatives each from BC Hydro and the Province of B.C. If you have a question for any of them, [please let us know.](#)

## Update: 2015 Review

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 be available on our website soon.

## Greetings from the Manager



Thanks to everyone who submitted grant applications for 2016-2017 projects. We are very pleased with the response, especially with the increase in interest in delivering projects in the northern portion of our region - more than a four-fold increase in applications compared to last year. We will inform all applicants of the Board's decisions by the end of this month.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate call me, Crystal Klym, at 250-365-4591 or [email](#).

Thanks... to everyone who dropped by the FWCP display at the Winter in the Forest Festival in Kaslo on Family Day. Great to see you all there. And thanks to all the organizers who put the event on.



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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 & wildlife impacted by BC Hydro dams. Visit [fwcp.ca](http://fwcp.ca)