

2026 – 2027 COLUMBIA REGION FUNDING FOR FISH & WILDLIFE PROJECTS

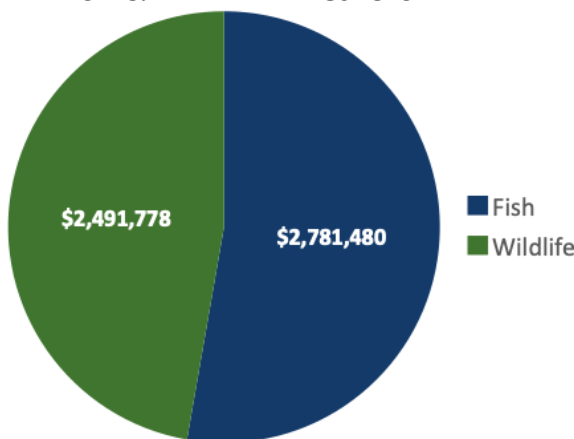
\$6.4 million approved for fish & wildlife compensation projects

Our Columbia Region board approved more than \$6.4 million for fish and wildlife projects in 2026 – 2027. Of that, approximately \$5.3 million is allocated to 25 projects. The remaining board-approved funds – more than \$1.1 million – are set aside for the region’s First Nations Directed Projects, Community Engagement, Seed, and Land Securement grants. This funding will be allocated throughout the coming year. The projects approved for funding this year align with our priority actions and reflect our primary obligation to compensate for dam impacts to fish, wildlife, and their habitats in the watersheds where we operate.

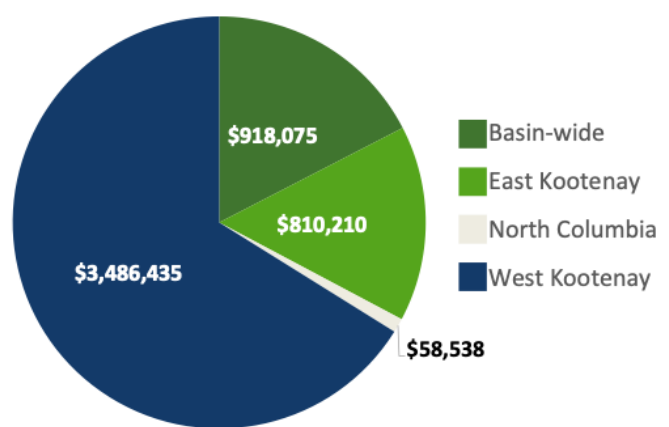
Columbia Region 2026 – 2027 funding

Approved Projects	
Fish projects (5)	\$2,781,480
Wildlife projects (20)	\$2,491,778
Subtotal	\$5,273,258
Funding Approved for Projects (to be allocated during the year)	
First Nations Directed Projects	\$615,000
Community Engagement Grants	\$10,000
Seed Grants	\$10,000
Land Securement Grants	\$507,476
Subtotal	\$1,142,476
TOTAL APPROVED FUNDING 2026 – 2027	\$6,415,734

FISH & WILDLIFE PROJECTS



PROJECTS BY SUB-REGION



\$12 million approved for fish and wildlife compensation projects in our three regions

The FWCP’s regional boards approved approximately \$9.7 million for 77 fish and wildlife projects to be delivered in 2026 – 2027 in our Coastal, Columbia, and Peace regions. Another \$2.3 million was approved for First Nations Directed Projects (Columbia and Peace regions), Community Engagement Grants, Land Securement Grants, and Seed Grants. These board-approved funds will be allocated throughout the year, bringing the total approved funding for fish and wildlife compensation projects to \$12 million in 2026 – 2027.

FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	Annual and Ongoing Fish Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
1	COL-F27-F-4548-DCA	<p>Adding nutrients to Arrow Lakes Reservoir</p> <p><i>F27 Arrow Lakes Reservoir Nutrient Restoration Program:</i> This ongoing restoration program addresses nutrient losses in Arrow Lakes Reservoir resulting from the construction of Hugh L. Keenleyside, Mica, and Revelstoke dams.</p> <p>In this bottom-up approach, the addition of nutrients—nitrogen and phosphorus in the form of liquid agricultural-grade fertilizer—from April to September supports phytoplankton populations that are suitable for the production of zooplankton, including daphnia, a main food source for kokanee. This project also includes monitoring of several trophic levels as well as data analysis and reporting.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$1,039,136	Habitat-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region
2	COL-F27-F-4549-DCA	<p>Adding nutrients to the North Arm of Kootenay Lake</p> <p><i>F27 Kootenay Lake Nutrient Restoration Program–North Arm:</i> This ongoing restoration program addresses nutrient losses in Kootenay Lake resulting from the construction of Duncan Dam.</p> <p>In this bottom-up approach, the addition of nutrients—nitrogen and phosphorus in the form of liquid agricultural-grade fertilizer—from April to September supports phytoplankton populations that are suitable for the production of daphnia, a main food source for kokanee. This project also includes monitoring of several trophic levels as well as data analysis and reporting.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$1,078,118	Habitat-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region



FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	Annual and Ongoing Fish Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
3	COL-F27-F-4550-DCA	<p>Supporting Hill Creek Spawning Channel on Arrow Lakes Reservoir</p> <p><i>F27 Hill Creek Spawning Channel:</i> This project supports ongoing operations, maintenance, and monitoring at the Hill Creek Spawning Channel. Monitoring includes kokanee fry emigration, overwintering egg survival, water quality at the spawning channel, and adult kokanee size, fecundity, and escapement.</p> <p>The spawning channel was funded by BC Hydro to compensate for Arrow Lakes Reservoir kokanee spawning habitat lost due to the construction of Revelstoke Dam, and it now provides additional spawning habitat for rainbow trout.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$305,427	Habitat-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region
4	COL-F27-F-4551-DCA	<p>Supporting Meadow Creek Spawning Channel at Kootenay Lake</p> <p><i>F27 Meadow Creek Spawning Channel:</i> This project supports ongoing operations, maintenance, and monitoring at the Meadow Creek Spawning Channel. The channel provides spawning habitat for Kootenay Lake kokanee.</p> <p>BC Hydro funded construction of the spawning channel in 1967 to compensate for natural kokanee habitat lost due to the construction of Duncan Dam, and it continues to provide spawning habitat for Kootenay Lake kokanee.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$317,299	Habitat-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region
Fish Annual and Ongoing Project Total:				\$2,739,980		



FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Directed Fish Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
5	COL-F27-F-4545-DCA	<p>Ensuring the sustainability of Murphy Creek Spawning Channel</p> <p><i>Murphy Creek Spawning Channel Monitoring and Maintenance:</i> The Murphy Creek Spawning Channel provides quality spawning habitat for rainbow trout and supports the resident Columbia River population.</p> <p>Each year, the spawners are monitored to provide data to evaluate run size and population dynamics. This project is delivered in partnership with the Trail Wildlife Association.</p>	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$41,500	Habitat-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region
Fish Directed Project Total:				\$41,500		

FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
6	COL-F27-W-4385	<p>Improving habitat for ungulates in East Kootenay</p> <p><i>Dart Creek Ecosystem Restoration-Prescribed Fire Project:</i> A prescribed burn in the Dart Creek area near Golden is planned to help restore conifer-encroached habitats and reduce the risk of future wildfires.</p> <p>The burn will increase forage availability and sightlines for mule deer, mountain goats, and bighorn sheep. The restored area will also help attract ungulates away from the Trans-Canada Highway, reducing vehicle collisions.</p>	Golden District Rod and Gun Club	\$38,065	Habitat-based Actions	North Columbia Sub-region
7	COL-F27-W-4388	<p>Improving high-value East Kootenay habitat for bighorn sheep</p> <p><i>Wigwam Ecosystem Recovery Through Invasive Plant Management:</i> This project aims to restore ecological integrity and long-term habitat resilience in the Wigwam Flats, which are a high-value habitat for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.</p> <p>This year, the project team will implement a 2025 invasive plant management plan to restore grassland health and improve habitat conditions at this East Kootenay site.</p> <p>The project will include targeted invasive plant management, vegetation and photo plot data collection, and collaboration with the large-scale ecosystem enhancement activities.</p>	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council	\$52,030	Habitat-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region
8	COL-F27-W-4389	<p>Reducing invasive species in the East Kootenay</p> <p><i>Galton Range Invasive Plant Management:</i> The goal of this multi-year project is to reduce invasive species in high-value habitat and complement ongoing habitat restoration work in the Galton Mountain Range.</p> <p>This project limits the spread of invasive species by targeting known vectors and responding to new infestations, helping maintain biodiversity in high-value habitats.</p> <p>Working collaboratively with First Nations and land managers, the project team will coordinate and implement invasive species management across the Galton Range.</p>	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council	\$28,854	Habitat-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region

FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
9	COL-F27-W-4396	<p>Conserving bat populations in our Columbia Region</p> <p><i>NABat, BatCaver and Beyond: Protecting Columbia Basin Bats:</i> This project will improve understanding of species distributions, identify priority habitats for protection, and guide targeted mitigation in the Columbia Region.</p> <p>This project year, the team will synthesize findings on bat activity across winter and summer migration; describe habitat use of endangered species; support White-nose Syndrome surveillance; design, monitor, and evaluate roost enhancement structures to offset habitat loss; and prepare a comprehensive bat database to guide future efforts that will inform management and policy, and shape on-the-ground practices.</p>	Wildlife Conservation Society Canada	\$87,089	Species-based Actions	Basin-wide
10	COL-F27-W-4399	<p>Enhancing ungulate habitat on Yaqit ʔa.knuqʔi ʔit Reserve</p> <p><i>Yaqit ʔa.knuqʔi ʔit Open Forest and Grassland Enhancement:</i> Open forest and grassland habitat on Yaqit ʔa.knuqʔi ʔit Reserve is highly valued for elk, mule, and white-tailed deer, but forest encroachment and invasive plants have increased demand on limited food sources.</p> <p>This five-year ecosystem management plan aims to restore ungulate habitat and improve critical habitat for at-risk Lewis’s woodpeckers, American badgers, and Spalding’s campion, a perennial herb.</p> <p>In this project year, the team plans to conduct an ecological health assessment, continue invasive plant management, and monitor the restoration effectiveness of a fire research trial site.</p>	Yaqit ʔa.knuqʔi ʔit First Nation	\$84,182	Habitat-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region

FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
11	COL-F27-W-4400	<p>Managing invasive species in Revelstoke Reach</p> <p><i>Revelstoke Reach Invasives:</i> The goal of this multi-year project is to manage priority invasive species in the Revelstoke Reach (i.e. riparian areas along Upper Arrow Lakes Reservoir between Shelter Bay and Revelstoke).</p> <p>This conservation area of concern provides valuable habitat for ground-nesting water birds (i.e. waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds) and at-risk species such as western painted turtle and short-eared owl.</p> <p>This project will target invasive species, including blueweed, Bohemian knotweed, Himalayan balsam, blackberry, hoary alyssum, and leafy spurge, which can reduce biodiversity, interfere with forest regeneration, and impact water quality.</p>	Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society	\$20,473	Habitat-based Actions	North Columbia Sub-region
12	COL-F27-W-4419	<p>Stewarding conservation lands in the Columbia Region</p> <p><i>NTBC Land Stewardship Activities – Conservation Field Crew Program:</i> This multi-year project supports conservation field crews in conducting stewardship and operational projects each year on conservation properties in the East and West Kootenay to maintain and enhance biodiversity and wildlife values.</p> <p>This year, the project will focus on fostering closer collaboration with local First Nations and advancing collaboration in on-the-ground conservation activities.</p> <p>The crew will focus on conservation properties acquired previously with FWCP funding, including the Duncan-Lardeau, Big Ranch, Bull River, and Hoodoo conservation lands. The work will benefit bighorn sheep, Lewis's woodpecker, Williamson's sapsucker, American badger, mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, great blue heron, and other species.</p>	The Nature Trust of British Columbia	\$38,000	Habitat-based Actions	Basin-wide

FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
13	COL-F27-W-4420	<p>Supporting coexistence with grizzly bears in Creston area</p> <p><i>Creston Valley Grizzly Coexistence Solutions:</i> The project provides grizzly bear safety education and bear spray training, hires a local outreach coordinator, includes local First Nations, and facilitates a local working group.</p> <p>This work will educate residents about grizzly bear behaviour and provide tools to mitigate conflicts, resulting in improved tolerance of grizzly bears in Creston Valley and ensuring connectivity between core Selkirk and Purcell grizzly bear populations.</p>	Grizzly Bear Solutions	\$34,320	Species-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region
14	COL-F27-W-4437	<p>Using cultural fire to restore ecosystem health</p> <p><i>Dove Hill Ecosystem Enhancement Project:</i> This project supports the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) in reintroducing low-severity cultural fire to 26 hectares of red-listed Dove Hill brushland to improve ecosystem health, native plant diversity, and fire resiliency.</p> <p>The Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society will support the project by leading community events, engagement and outreach, invasive plant control, monitoring and restoration, and training ONA staff in invasive species monitoring and data submission.</p>	Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society	\$40,000	Habitat-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region
15	COL-F27-W-4439	<p>Restoring cottonwood trees in the Elk Valley</p> <p><i>Elk Valley Cottonwood Restoration Program:</i> Cottonwood trees are an iconic species in the Elk Valley, but many stands have been lost to human activities and settlements in the Qukin ʔamakʔis (the Elk Valley).</p> <p>Through this project, cottonwood trees and native plants will be planted along 53 hectares of riparian floodplain and wetland habitat in the Elk Valley.</p> <p>The project will help reverse the negative impact of poor riparian conditions to improve water quality, habitat area, and stream channel complexity, while reducing water temperatures, erosion and sedimentation, and downstream flood impacts on local communities. This work will benefit several species, including westslope cutthroat trout and grizzly bears.</p>	Elk River Alliance	\$40,000	Habitat-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region

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#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
16	COL-F27-W-4445	<p>Reducing road mortality for endangered badgers</p> <p><i>East Kootenay Badger Conservation Initiative:</i> The East Kootenay Badger Conservation Initiative aims to enhance habitat quality and reduce threats to support recovery of the Endangered American badger.</p> <p>In this project year, the team, in partnership with the ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation, will collaboratively plan and implement habitat improvements and train Nation staff in highway culvert assessment methods.</p> <p>The team will assess and clear blocked culverts to improve safe passage for badgers and install cameras to monitor effectiveness.</p>	Goldeneye Ecological Services	\$39,345	Species-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region
17	COL-F27-W-4472	<p>Restoring a Kootenay River floodplain</p> <p><i>Bummers Flats Floodplain and Wetland Habitat Restoration:</i> This multi-year project will restore a floodplain along the Kootenay River: 169 hectares at a site known as Middle Bummers and 155 hectares at North Bummers.</p> <p>The project will re-activate natural floodplain processes that were severed from the river by dikes constructed decades ago. The ʔaąam First Nation is actively participating in the project.</p> <p>Habitat will be restored for a diversity of wetland species, such as waterfowl, songbirds, raptors, amphibians, bats, elk, and beaver. Suitable habitat for the Endangered northern leopard frog will also be created.</p>	Ducks Unlimited Canada	\$230,000	Habitat-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region



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#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
18	COL-F27-W-4474	<p>Restoring Columbia River wetland habitat</p> <p><i>Moberly Marsh Floodplain and Wetland Habitat Restoration:</i> During this project year, the team plans to restore ~15 hectares of wetland habitat in the Upper Columbia River at Moberly Marsh near Golden. The team also plans to develop a restoration plan for 58 hectares at the Sime Marsh.</p> <p>This project will re-activate natural floodplain processes and restore wildlife habitat for a broad diversity of wetland-associated species. ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation is participating in the project.</p> <p>Both projects are within the historical floodplain of the Columbia River but have been severed from the river by dikes constructed decades ago for agriculture or to stabilize water levels for waterfowl productivity.</p>	Ducks Unlimited Canada	\$120,000	Habitat-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region
Grant-based Wildlife Project Total:				\$852,358		

FWCP Columbia Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	Annual and Ongoing Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
19	COL-F27-W-4553-DCA	<p>Enhancing West Kootenay ecosystems</p> <p><i>F27 West Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement:</i> Efforts to suppress wildfires over the past 60-80 years have increased tree density and ground fuel in West Kootenay upland forests. The goal of this project is to convert these forest types back to a density where prescribed burning can be used to restore open forest habitat and benefit wildlife.</p> <p>Work includes prescription development, slashing, piling, pile burning, masticating, burn-planning, prescribed burning, post-burn monitoring, and reporting.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$203,860	Habitat-based Actions	West Kootenay Sub-region
20	COL-F27-W-4554-DCA	<p>Enhancing East Kootenay ecosystems</p> <p><i>F27 East Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement:</i> Efforts to suppress wildfires over the past 60-80 years have increased tree density and ground fuel in East Kootenay upland forests.</p> <p>This project's goal is to convert these forest types back to a density where prescribed burning can be used to restore grasslands and open forest habitat and benefit wildlife. Work includes prescription development, slashing, piling, pile burning, masticating, burn-planning, prescribed burning, post-burn monitoring, and reporting.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$215,799	Habitat-based Actions	East Kootenay Sub-region
21	COL-F27-W-4555-DCA	<p>Enhancing habitat for non-game species</p> <p><i>F27 Non-Game Enhancement:</i> This project focuses on maintaining habitat features such as roosting and nesting sites for non-game species, including Vaux's swift, western painted turtle (Rocky Mountain population), western toad, Townsend's big-eared bat, American badger, and common loon.</p> <p>Monitoring enhancement projects is critical to make sure they continue to benefit wildlife.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$237,276	Habitat-based Actions	Basin-wide

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#	Submission ID	Annual and Ongoing Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
22	COL-F27-W-4556-DCA	<p>Stewardship of conservation lands</p> <p><i>F27 Land Management Operations:</i> This project conducts land stewardship activities on conservation lands. These activities include patrols of highly used conservation areas in partnership with First Nations Guardians to monitor the lands and land uses, document non-compliant activities, update signage as required and engage with partners and the public.</p> <p>Other activities include improving habitat values on conservation lands, such as beaver reintroduction in the Duncan-Lardeau conservation area, and slashing treatments in the West Kootenay conservation lands to improve the amount of browse available for ungulates.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$322,957	Habitat-based Actions	Basin-wide
23	COL-F27-W-4557-DCA	<p>Supporting recovery of caribou near Nakusp</p> <p><i>F27 Caribou Recovery:</i> This project supports a multi-agency effort led by the Province of B.C. to recover threatened caribou sub-populations in the Central Selkirk Mountains east of Nakusp.</p> <p>This year, work will focus on caribou census and collaring, maternal pen support, and predator track surveys. In addition, moose will be surveyed near Revelstoke to determine population estimate, habitat use, and survivorship.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$178,253	Species-based Actions	Basin-wide
24	COL-F27-W-4558-DCA	<p>Supporting northern leopard frog recovery</p> <p><i>F27 Northern Leopard Frog Recovery:</i> This project involves conducting inventory, monitoring, and stewardship of the Endangered northern leopard frog population at the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, and controlling the invasive American bullfrog population within the Creston Valley.</p> <p>This is the last known breeding population of northern leopard frogs in BC. It serves as the source population for reintroductions to its historical range and for captive assurance populations at the Vancouver Aquarium, Calgary Zoo, and Edmonton Zoo.</p>	Province of B.C.	\$426,775	Species-based Actions	Basin-wide



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#	Submission ID	Annual and Ongoing Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-Region
25	COL-F27-W-4559-DCA	<p>Supporting land securement activities in our Columbia Region</p> <p><i>KCP Land Acquisition & Base Support F27:</i> Each year, our Columbia Region board allocates funding towards the Kootenay Conservation Program’s work to support priority land-acquisition projects that strongly align with Columbia Region action plan priorities.</p> <p>This project includes GIS support from the Province of B.C.</p>	The Nature Trust of British Columbia	\$54,500	Land Securement	Basin-wide
Wildlife Annual and Ongoing Project Total:				\$1,639,420		
2026-2027 APPROVED PROJECTS TOTAL:				\$5,273,258		