

2026 – 2027 PEACE REGION FUNDING FOR FISH & WILDLIFE PROJECTS

\$2.8 million approved for fish & wildlife compensation projects

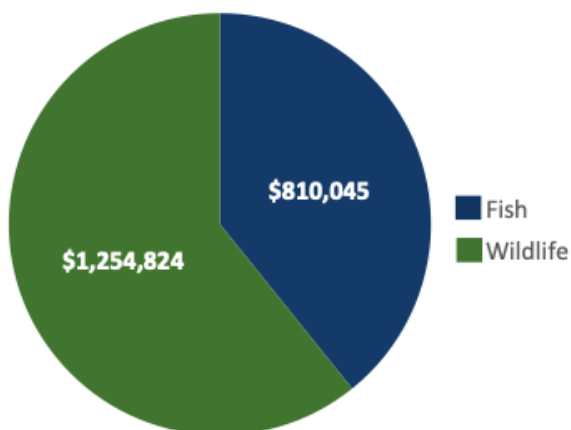
Our **Peace Region** board approved more than \$2.8 million for fish and wildlife projects in 2026 – 2027. Of that approved funding, approximately \$2 million is allocated to 25 projects. The remaining board-approved funds – nearly \$800,000 – are set aside for the region’s First Nations Directed Projects, Community Engagement and Seed grants, to be allocated throughout the 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.

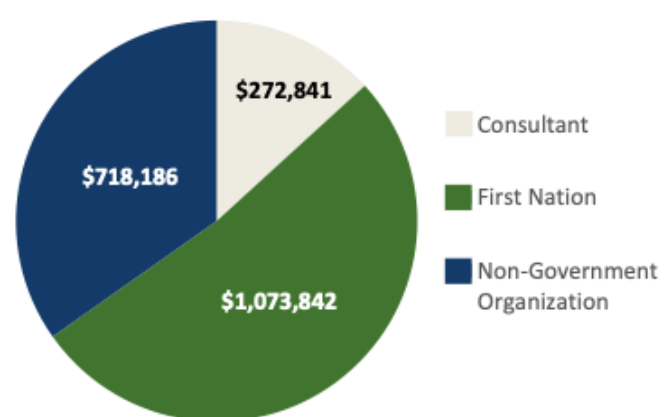
Peace Region 2026 – 2027 funding

Approved Projects	
Fish projects (6)	\$810,045
Wildlife projects (19)	\$1,254,824
Subtotal	\$2,064,868
Approved funding (allocated during the year)	
First Nations Directed Projects	\$750,000
Community Engagement Grants	\$9,000
Seed Grants	\$15,000
Subtotal	\$774,000
TOTAL APPROVED FUNDING 2026 – 2027	\$2,838,868

FISH & WILDLIFE PROJECTS



PROJECTS BY PROPONENT



\$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 Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Fish Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
1	PEA-F27-F-4431	<p>Supporting Bull Trout redds and population health</p> <p><i>Peace Reach Bull Trout Spawning Zones Year 1 of 5:</i> This project will address high-priority data gaps by adding to a critical database necessary to monitor long-term trends in Bull Trout redd abundance and adult population health.</p> <p>The project team will conduct redd surveys of Bull Trout spawning zones in four Peace Reach tributaries: Carbon Creek, Clearwater Creek, the West Nabesche River, and Schooler Creek. These sites were previously surveyed in 2016, 2017, 2021 and 2024, with FWCP funding.</p> <p>This project aligns with the FWCP’s Bull Trout Information Synthesis and Monitoring Framework.</p>	Ridgeline Wildlife Enhancement	\$53,559	Research & Information Acquisition	Peace Sub-region
2	PEA-F27-F-4422	<p>Prioritizing restoration actions for Bull Trout</p> <p><i>Restoration Planning to Promote Bull Trout Resiliency Year 1 of 2:</i> The project team will prepare a Bull Trout restoration and protection plan for the Mesilinka River and continue the spawner abundance monitoring in the watershed.</p> <p>The plan will prioritize aquatic habitat restoration, enhancement, and protection actions to benefit Bull Trout and other priority species, while providing key data on the conservation status of Bull Trout and the limiting factors that drive abundance trends in the Williston Reservoir Watershed.</p> <p>This project aligns with the FWCP’s Bull Trout Information Synthesis and Monitoring Framework.</p>	Chu Cho Environmental LLP	\$195,394	Research & Information Acquisition	Basin-wide
3	PEA-F27-F-4411	<p>Improving fish passage through assessments</p> <p><i>Fish Passage Evaluation and Prioritization Project Year 1 of 5:</i> Up to 30 watercourse crossings that restrict fish passage will be identified and evaluated. Up to six crossings will get a detailed fish habitat assessment, and up to three will be selected for future restoration based on engagement outcomes with First Nations, ecological value, feasibility, and other factors.</p>	Nak'azdli Whut'en	\$53,873	Research & Information Acquisition	Parsnip Sub-region



FWCP Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Fish Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
4	PEA-F27-F-4402	<p>Assessing Arctic grayling abundance in Williston Reservoir tributaries</p> <p><i>West Shore Arctic Grayling Abundance and Critical Habitats Year 3 of 5:</i> This multi-year project will assess Arctic grayling abundance and critical habitat in tributaries on the west shore of Williston Reservoir.</p> <p>This year, snorkel surveys will be completed on the Omineca River and its tributaries. eDNA sampling will be undertaken in un-surveyed tributaries (e.g. Silver Creek, Germansen River, and Discovery Creek) to assess Arctic grayling abundance and distribution.</p>	Chu Cho Environmental LLP	\$130,116	Research & Information Acquisition	Basin-wide
Grant-based Fish Project Total:				\$ 432,942		



FWCP Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Directed Fish Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
5	PEA-F27-F-4517-DCA -	<p>Removing culverts to improve fish passage in our Peace Region</p> <p><i>Improving Fish Passage in Our Peace Region Year 6 of 8:</i> This multi-year project is implementing prioritized fish passage restoration activities (e.g. replacing hanging culverts that block fish passage) identified and prioritized at the beginning of this project.</p> <p>This work builds restoration capacity by mentoring partners such as McLeod Lake Indian Band in planning, data collection, and communications activities.</p>	Society For Ecosystem Restoration in Northern BC	\$304,973	Habitat-based Actions	Basin wide
6	PEA-F27-F-4532-DCA	<p>Understanding population trends in Williston Reservoir kokanee</p> <p><i>Kokanee Spawner Size at Age Assessment Year 2 of 5:</i> This multi-year project will monitor trends in kokanee size at different ages during spawning in tributaries of the Williston Reservoir.</p> <p>Understanding these trends will provide insight into the population status of kokanee in the reservoir and could potentially signal population changes that could be relevant to ecosystem management, informing next steps, including further investigation.</p> <p>In collaboration with local First Nations, kokanee will be collected, measured and aged at sites across the watershed.</p>	Chu Cho Environmental LLP	\$72,130	Research & Information Acquisition	Parsnip Sub-region
Fish Directed Project Total:				\$377,103		

FWCP Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
7	PEA-F27-W-4475	<p>Understanding mortalities in Threatened caribou herd</p> <p><i>Causes & Rates of Mortality in the Wolverine Caribou Herd Year 1 of 3:</i> The habitat used by the Threatened Wolverine Caribou Herd has been significantly altered by wildfire, forestry, and mineral exploration since 2020.</p> <p>The project team will monitor ~30 collared caribou and conduct cause-specific mortality investigations to determine if timing, rates, and causes of mortality have shifted in response to landscape changes.</p> <p>This information is critical to guiding the herd’s recovery efforts.</p>	Nak'azdli Whut'en	\$35,500	Research & Information Acquisition	Finlay Sub-region
8	PEA-F27-W-4467	<p>Increasing habitat for fishers</p> <p><i>Alternative Den Sites for Fishers in a Disturbed Landscape Year 1 of 3:</i> Secure denning habitat for female fishers is a key limiting factor for this small carnivore that relies on tree cavities and natural structures for shelter.</p> <p>By adding up to 20 more den boxes across a range of disturbance types to the west side of the Williston Reservoir, this work will support Nak'azdli Whut'en’s ongoing fisher program that recently added 10 den boxes.</p>	Nak'azdli Whut'en	\$62,290	Habitat-based Actions	Parsnip Sub-region
9	PEA-F27-W-4458	<p>Nak'azdli Whut'en assesses elk population and movements</p> <p><i>Elk Distribution and Expansion on the Nation River Year 3 of 3:</i> This monitoring and assessment project will determine if elk are expanding their range on the west side of Williston Reservoir. If elk have expanded their range to the west side of the reservoir, likely due to climate change and increased fire frequency, this could alter predator-prey dynamics and impact other ungulates, including caribou.</p> <p>The project team will continue monitoring 20 collared female elk for movement, distribution, survival, and seasonal habitat use, and the team will use climate projections and past fires to predict future expansion, providing valuable information to support caribou recovery.</p>	Nak'azdli Whut'en	\$65,984	Research & Information Acquisition	Parsnip Sub-region

FWCP Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
10	PEA-F27-W-4457	<p>Track surveys & citizen science will support fisher recovery</p> <p><i>Porcupine Density & Habitat Use to Inform Fisher Recovery Year 1 of 3:</i> Fishers are a species of conservation concern, and on the west side of Williston Reservoir, porcupines are a critical prey species for fishers.</p> <p>The project team, including Guardians from Nak’azdli Whut’en and Takla First Nation, will conduct winter track surveys, and assess other signs of porcupine presence and den site identification. An additional 13 GPS collars will be deployed on porcupines to add to the existing 11 porcupines collared. This information will improve understanding of porcupine population and survival factors to support fisher recovery planning.</p>	Wildex Consulting Ltd.	\$64,514	Research & Information Acquisition	Finlay Sub-region
11	PEA-F27-W-4452	<p>Restoring caribou habitat for a Peace Region herd</p> <p><i>Restoring Caribou Habitat in the Klinse-Za Herd Range Year 8 of 10:</i> The focus of this multi-year project is to restore habitat for the at-risk Klinse-Za Caribou Herd and manage access to the range to reduce impacts on the population.</p> <p>Work is focused on 13 restoration sites in the herd area near Chetwynd. This year, restoration treatments are planned for ~15 km of linear corridors (i.e. road), adding to the ~110 km already treated during this project.</p> <p>This project will result in reduced human access, reduced predator use, and data on predator movement rates. It will lead to accelerated forest regeneration and improved habitat for caribou.</p>	Nikanese Wah tzee Stewardship Society	\$115,616	Habitat-based Actions	Peace Sub-region

FWCP Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
12	PEA-F27-W-4450	<p>Caribou: improving calf survival and herd size through maternity penning</p> <p><i>Enhancing Caribou Survival in the Klinse-Za/Scott East Herd Area Year 10 of 10:</i></p> <p>This Indigenous-led project aims to enhance the survival rate of caribou cows and calves in the Klinse-Za Herd through maternity penning.</p> <p>Pregnant cow caribou will be captured in early March and transported to a protective maternity pen located in the caribou’s natural calving range. The cows will be fed and monitored until mid-summer—when calves have grown to a point where they are less susceptible to predation by wolves and bears—then released back into the wild.</p> <p>The project enhances survival of calves and supports recovery efforts while habitat restoration is underway.</p>	Nikanese Wah tzee Stewardship Society	\$71,750	Species-based Actions	Basin-wide
13	PEA-F27-W-4446	<p>Increasing lichen availability for caribou</p> <p><i>Lichen Forage Restoration in Woodland Caribou Habitat:</i> Woodland caribou are of deep cultural importance to Saulteau First Nations, and the species survival depends on terrestrial lichens as primary winter forage.</p> <p>Building on two years of lichen ecology research, this project will test and refine techniques for re-establishing caribou forage lichens.</p> <p>By embedding Indigenous knowledge, the project ensures lichen restoration supports both ecological recovery and the continuation of the Saulteau First Nations’ cultural practices and stewardship responsibilities connected to caribou recovery.</p>	Saulteau First Nations	\$51,922	Research & Information Acquisition	Peace Sub-region



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#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
14	PEA-F27-W-4438	<p>Restoring abandoned access roads to support caribou recovery</p> <p><i>Chase Caribou Road Restoration Program Year 3 of 3:</i> This multi-year project will use ecological and functional restoration techniques to restore abandoned resource roads in the Chase Caribou Herd range.</p> <p>Restoring roads will help accelerate the herd’s return to a mature forest environment. Plus, roads and trails can increase caribou mortality by making it easier for predators to move into high-elevation habitats that would normally provide security for caribou.</p> <p>This year, the project team plans to restore approximately 8.5 km of roads using both ecological and functional restoration techniques. So far, the Chase Caribou Road Restoration Program has restored and monitored ~54 km of forest roads at strategic locations within the herd’s range.</p>	Chu Cho Environmental LLP	\$85,847	Habitat-based Actions	Finlay Sub-region
15	PEA-F27-W-4434	<p>Improving science and knowledge of bat populations</p> <p><i>North American Bat Monitoring Program: Williston Year 4 of 5:</i> The North American Bat Monitoring Program is a multi-national, multi-agency coordinated program to assess population status and trends, inform responses to stressors, and sustain viable populations.</p> <p>This project will continue to gather baseline data on bats in the Williston Reservoir Watershed, prior to the arrival of White-nose Syndrome. With further understanding of the bats in this region and their habitat types, recovery actions can be implemented.</p> <p>This project is also an opportunity for interested First Nations to learn bat monitoring skills and contribute to bat conservation.</p>	Zonal Ecosystem and Wildlife Consultants Ltd.	\$69,044	Research & Information Acquisition	Basin-wide

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#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
16	PEA-F27-W-4428	<p>Understanding bird and bat movements to identify critical habitats</p> <p><i>Tracking Bird Movement in the Peace Region with Motus Year 1 of 5:</i> This multi-year project will maintain the Motus Wildlife Tracking System, which currently has 23 tracking stations in our Peace Region. The project team will build on past work to track local movements and habitat use of Bank Swallows and Myotis bats that have been tagged previously.</p> <p>Monitoring their movements helps to identify critical habitat and effective conservation measures.</p>	Birds Canada	\$60,307	Research & Information Acquisition	Basin-wide
17	PEA-F27-W-4427	<p>Conserving ecologically and culturally significant plants in Tsay Keh Dene Nation Territory</p> <p><i>Tsay Keh Dene Herbarium for Plant and Knowledge Conservation Year 3 of 3:</i> Plants, lichens, and fungi that are integral to the ecology and culture of Tsay Keh Dene Nation (TKD) since time immemorial are at risk due to climate change, human activities, and natural disturbances.</p> <p>Since 2022, the TKD herbarium has grown into a vital resource for stewardship and ethnobotanical knowledge, housing more than 500 + specimens.</p> <p>Drawing on interviews, research, field collections, and elder guidance, the project team continues to gather valuable botanical data, support mentorship, and foster collaborative research within TKD. These efforts support the sharing of knowledge across generations, create learning opportunities, and ensure the careful documentation of ecological and cultural information.</p>	Chu Cho Environmental LLP	\$69,097	Research & Information Acquisition	Finlay Sub-region



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#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
18	PEA-F27-W-4425	<p>Conserving wetlands in our Peace Region</p> <p><i>Wetland Function and Health Assessments Initiative Year 3 of 5:</i> This project will advance the Road Impact Wetland Health Assessment (RIWHA) through field assessments to identify wetlands suitable for restoration due to road and other anthropogenic developments</p> <p>This project will use GIS data to assess the health of wetlands near roads. Wetlands with degraded health will be targeted for future restoration.</p> <p>In the Northern Boreal Mountain eco-region, the project will collect data for the Wetland Ecosystem Services Protocol. This protocol gives decision makers and land stewards a standardized method for comparing 18 wetland functions.</p>	British Columbia Wildlife Federation	\$128,250	Research & Information Acquisition	Basin-wide
19	PEA-F27-W-4414	<p>Leveraging academic partnerships with UNBC</p> <p><i>2026-27 Colloquium Presentation Series Year 1 of 5:</i> This multi-year project provides education and outreach by building connections and developing relationships.</p> <p>Three free, in-person and online presentations on fish and wildlife research underway in, or applicable to, our Peace Region will take place in the fall, winter, and spring at the Prince George UNBC campus.</p>	University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC)	\$5,500	Research & Information Acquisition	Basin-wide



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#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
20	PEA-F27-W-4410	<p>Planning for marmot recovery</p> <p><i>Voices of the Mountains: Dutni (Marmot) Baseline Study:</i> Hoary marmots were historically abundant on Nation and Sylvester mountains; areas once central to Nak’azdli Whut’en sustenance and cultural practice.</p> <p>Today, there are concerns that the local marmot population has collapsed.</p> <p>The goal of this project is to verify colony presence through observation, fecal DNA sampling, and acoustic monitoring, by using autonomous recording units and detailed vegetation and disturbance assessments. The data will help inform the scientific and cultural foundation for a long-term recovery and restoration plan for the marmots.</p>	Nak’azdli Whut’en	\$64,322	Research & Information Acquisition	Parsnip Sub-region
21	PEA-F27-W-4401	<p>Maintaining nesting enhancements in the Williston Watershed</p> <p><i>Maintaining Peace Region Waterfowl Nesting Enhancements:</i> The project team will inspect, maintain, and replace (as necessary) 93 waterfowl nesting structures previously installed in the Parsnip and Dinosaur sub-regions.</p> <p>Regular monitoring at three-year intervals provides important data on the nest boxes and provides an opportunity to sustain the effectiveness and longevity of these habitat structures.</p>	Blackbird Environmental LP	\$44,474	Habitat-based Actions	Basin-wide



FWCP Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Grant-based Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Sub-region
22	PEA-F27-W-4398	<p>Using native plants at restoration sites</p> <p><i>Growing Native Plants in a Greenhouse for Restoration Year 1 of 5:</i> In partnership with the McLeod Lake Indian Band and others, the College of New Caledonia Research Forest will focus on growing native plants for upland forest restoration sites.</p> <p>The native plants will be planted at priority restoration areas determined by the Band, based on an analysis of existing data.</p> <p>This project includes developing a protocol to assess the resiliency of greenhouse-grown native species when planted on restored forest sites.</p>	College of New Caledonia Research Forest	\$141,824	Research & Information Acquisition	Parsnip Sub-region
Grant-based Wildlife Project Total:				\$1,136,242		

FWCP Peace Region 2026–2027 Project List

#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Directed Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Region
23	PEA-F27-W-4533-DCA	<p>Enhancing winter range for moose</p> <p><i>Moose Habitat Enhancement Year 4 of 7:</i> This multi-year project between SERNbc and the McLeod Lake Indian Band aims to enhance moose habitat and overall forest biodiversity through mechanically thinning and manually brushing 30- to 45- year-old spruce plantations to various stand densities, girdling trees to enhance wildlife tree creation, and restoring forestry roads to minimize predator movement at the site. To date more than 80 hectares of plantation forest have been treated, and 13.8 km of roads have been restored.</p> <p>This year, the project will continue effectiveness monitoring and data analysis to understand vegetation and wildlife response, and to adaptively manage the site.</p> <p>Moose are a priority species in our Peace Region and a culturally important species for our First Nation partners.</p>	Society of Ecosystem Restoration in Northern B.C. (SERNbc)	\$40,000	Habitat-based Actions	Parsnip Sub-region
24	PEA-F27-W-4397-DCA	<p>Building ecological awareness in our Peace Region</p> <p><i>Boreal Outdoor Education Program:</i> This long-term stewardship project will improve understanding of local ecology for Peace Region elementary and high school students through outdoor-based, hands-on environmental education in rural schools.</p> <p>All modules tie in with provincial curricula and include First Nations knowledge and local ecology to illustrate concepts and ideas (e.g. timber cruising to apply statistics, and spawning trout to illustrate life cycles).</p> <p>In the last few years, this outdoor education program has been expanding to more communities and developing online materials.</p>	Thomi Forestry	\$41,250	Research & Information Acquisition	Basin-wide



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#	Submission ID	2026-2027 Directed Wildlife Projects	Project lead	FWCP Funding	Project Type	Region
25	PEA-F27-W-4534-DCA	<p>Understanding long-term trends in breeding birds at Mugaha Marsh Bird Banding Station</p> <p><i>Mackenzie Nature Observatory:</i> This long-term, multi-year project will add to 20-plus years of bird monitoring data collected at the Mackenzie Nature Observatory, one of 27 stations in the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network. The station monitors birds migrating through the Mugaha Marsh from northern B.C. and the Yukon.</p> <p>The 2026 data will provide important information on breeding bird population trends, distribution, and health, which can guide species conservation and habitat enhancement initiatives in the region.</p> <p>New this year, our Peace Region board is funding the continuation of the 2024 Saw-whet Owl Banding Program as part of this ongoing project.</p>	Mackenzie Nature Observatory	\$37,332	Research & Information Acquisition	Parsnip Sub-region
Wildlife Directed Project Total:				\$118,582		
2026-2027 APPROVED PROJECTS TOTAL:				\$2,064,868		