



Message from our board co-chairs

Thanks for reading our Columbia Region's annual report, which includes an overview of the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP), including projects and financials for 2024-2025.

Projects: In this fiscal year, our Columbia Region board approved nearly \$6.8 million for 42 projects. The projects, 10 fish and 32 wildlife, were delivered by First Nations, communities, businesses, agencies, stewardship groups, and consultants. The projects align with many of our priorities for riparian areas, wetlands, uplands, drylands, small lakes, and large lakes and reservoirs. They are diverse and will support habitat enhancement for ungulates and other species, wetland restoration, as well as spawning habitat for kokanee, bull trout, and other species.

Read our project list at the end of this report to learn more about the projects approved by our board. Be sure to read our 2024-2025 project outcomes report to learn more about the results and how these and other projects are making a difference for fish and wildlife.

Sharing project results and recommendations is important to us because it demonstrates the ways we're working towards our vision of thriving fish and wildlife populations in watersheds that are functioning and sustainable. Complete lists of available reports for all three FWCP regions are on our [results page](#).

Audit update: We continued to implement recommendations from our 2019 independent [evaluation and financial audit](#) this year, including the submission of a completion report. See page 5 for an overview.

We completed a logic model—as recommended in the audit—to guide our strategic approach to funding projects and track our progress through a performance measurement strategy. Both of these initiatives provide a framework for a new and more flexible approach to funding projects and enable tracking of performance metrics that relate back to our mandate. These will get underway in 2025-2026.

Board news: Our board charts the course for our Columbia Region each year, and this year we were pleased to welcome Isaac Dekker, Manon Moreau, Greg Rickbiel, and Jenn Harding to our board.

Thank you: If you've read all this way, thanks! But our biggest thanks go to all the project proponents who applied for a grant this year and who do the important work we fund. We couldn't do our job without you!

If you have any questions about our projects, grants, or this annual report, please contact our [regional manager](#). We'd be happy to answer your questions.



Margo Sadler
Columbia Region
Board Co-chair



Eva Schindler
Columbia Region
Board Co-chair

In our Columbia Region, we host a number of outreach events that raise awareness about the species we support, such as the western painted turtle. Turtle Day in Cranbrook is held every April, in partnership with the Province of B.C. and the Rocky Mountain Naturalists. [COL-F25-W-4128-DCA](#) Photo: A. Glass



Annual reports are also
available for our Coastal
and Peace regions at
fwcp.ca.



1.0 Overview

FWCP COLUMBIA REGION

The FWCP's Columbia Region was established in 1995 to compensate for fish and wildlife populations affected by the construction of BC Hydro dams in Canada's portion of the Columbia River Basin. The FWCP Columbia Region has received nearly \$127 million since it began, delivering between 40 and 50 projects each year. The Columbia Region is shown below in Figure 1.1.

Compensating for dam impacts

BC Hydro has water licence obligations in the Columbia and Peace regions and has made voluntary commitments to address the impacts of dams in the Coastal Region. BC Hydro fulfills the applicable obligations through the work of the FWCP.

With annual funding from BC Hydro, the FWCP conserves and enhances fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by 31 BC Hydro dams. The FWCP directs those funds toward priority actions across its three regions: Coastal, Columbia, and Peace. Since 1988, BC Hydro has provided more than \$230 million to the FWCP to compensate for dam impacts, and the FWCP has funded more than 2,500 projects across its three regions.

The FWCP is governed through a framework that recognizes the regulatory accountabilities of agency partners (i.e., BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., and Fisheries & Oceans Canada: DFO). The framework also ensures public and Indigenous participation in decision-making, project planning and delivery. Independent regional boards review, evaluate, and approve funding for all projects. Our boards include representatives from each of our FWCP partners: First Nations (21), public interest stakeholders (9), BC Hydro (5), and the Province of B.C.

(5). Appendix B shows the complete list of board and committee members for our Columbia Region during F25. When it comes to decision-making, input from each board member is given equal consideration through collaborative discussion. Learn more at fwcp.ca/our-story.

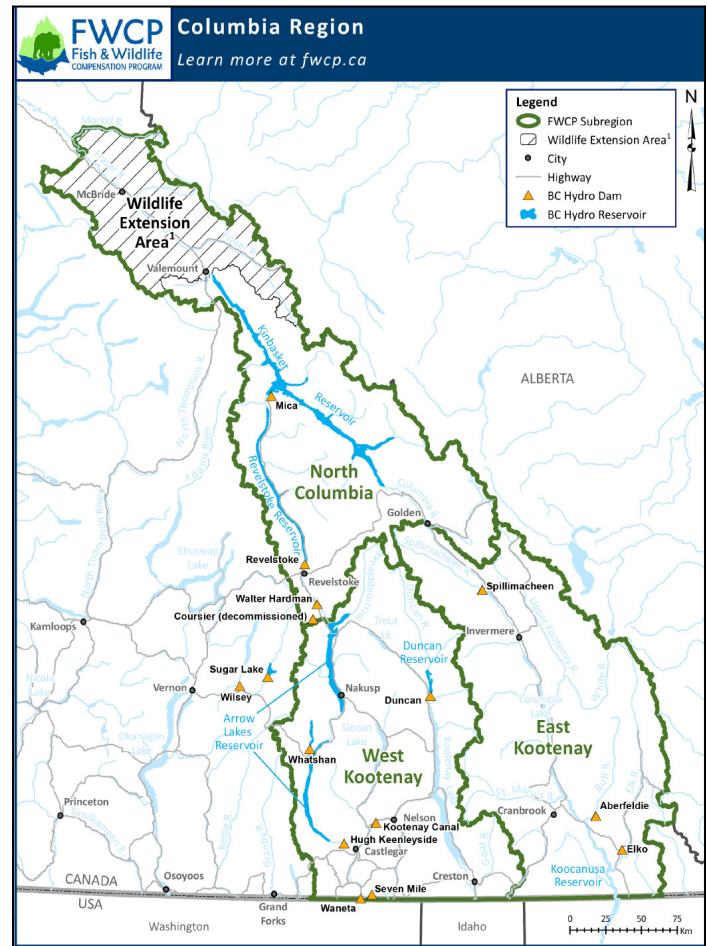


Figure 1.1 Map of the FWCP's Columbia Region



With FWCP funding, Wildsight Golden created this bank swallow habitat in the East Kootenay—the first of its type in the province. Monitoring in July 2024 found that almost 200 nests had chicks! [COL-F25-W-4010](#). Photo: R. Darvill

2. Our strategic approach

VISION AND MISSION

Our vision is for thriving fish and wildlife populations in watersheds that are functioning and sustainable. Our mission is to compensate for fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams.

We take a forward-looking, ecosystem-based approach that defines the desired outcomes and takes actions to restore, enhance, and conserve priority species and their habitats, in alignment with our strategic framework as in figure 2.1, below. More details on our three strategic objectives can be found in the [Governance Manual](#).

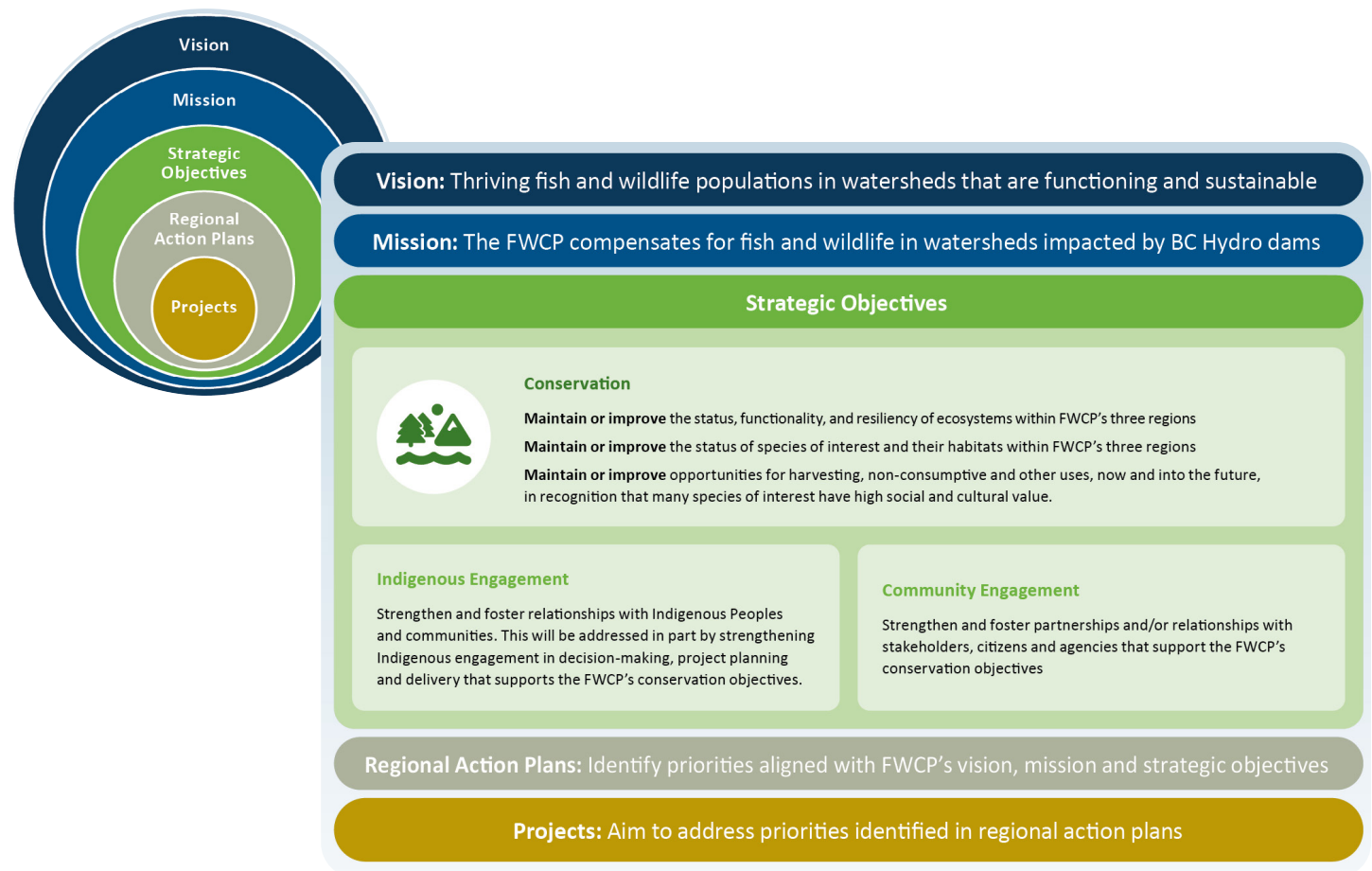


Figure 2.1: Strategic framework. The projects we fund align with our regional action plans, reflect our strategic objectives, and align in with our mission and vision

ACTION PLANS

Our action plans guide FWCP investments in fish and wildlife projects. They are referenced annually by our regional boards to track progress toward implementation, set priorities, and guide decision-making in setting out and approving the annual operating plan for each region. Actions in our action plans are eligible for FWCP funding and align with our vision, mission, and geographic scope.

In our Columbia Region, we currently have five ecosystem-based [action plans](#). F25 projects approved by our Columbia Region board align with the priority actions identified in the Columbia Region action plans:

1. Reservoirs & Large Lakes Action Plan
2. Rivers & Riparian Areas Action Plan
3. Small Lakes Action Plan
4. Upland & Dryland Action Plan
5. Wetlands & Riparian Areas Action Plan.

UPDATE: EVALUATION AND FINANCIAL AUDIT

In 2019, an independent third-party evaluation and financial audit, as required in our Governance Manual, was completed. The auditor made nine recommendations to refine, support, and strengthen our approach to conserving and enhancing fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams. Since 2019, the FWCP team has been methodically working on the recommendations, and many of them have been completed or nearing completion. See [website](#) for more details.



Among the annual and ongoing activities that the FWCP funds is the northern leopard frog recovery project led by the Province of B.C.—here taking measurements of an adult in a protective pen in for Creston Valley wetlands. [COL-F25-W-4130-DCA](#). Photo A. Glass

3.0 Financial Report

APPROVED BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES

Each year, our Columbia Region board allocates funding toward fish and wildlife projects, land securement, and other operational activities as outlined in Figure 3.2. These allocations form the annual operating plan. Any unallocated funds are carried forward as uncommitted available funds for future spending.

The annual funding provided from BC Hydro to the region for the year was \$5,942,755. Our Columbia Region board approved a budget of \$6,471,364 for this year, utilizing unspent surplus funds from previous years.

Figure 3.1 shows a total of nearly \$11.5 million available to our Columbia Region at the start of the year. This comprises the approved budget of approximately \$6.47 million, remaining prior-year funding commitments from F24 to F21 of \$4.6 million, and available uncommitted funds of approximately \$390,000.

Figure 3.2 illustrates the approved budget for F25 as of April 1, 2024. Funding for fish projects accounted for 46% of the budget, while wildlife projects comprised 39%. Administrative costs made up approximately 7% of the budget and include region manager salary and expenses, fees associated with uploading reports to the provincial databases, maintenance and refinements to our grant management system, a portion of the environmental project coordinator’s salary and expenses, and board, technical committee, and First Nations Working Group costs. The full breakdown is shown in Figure 3.2.

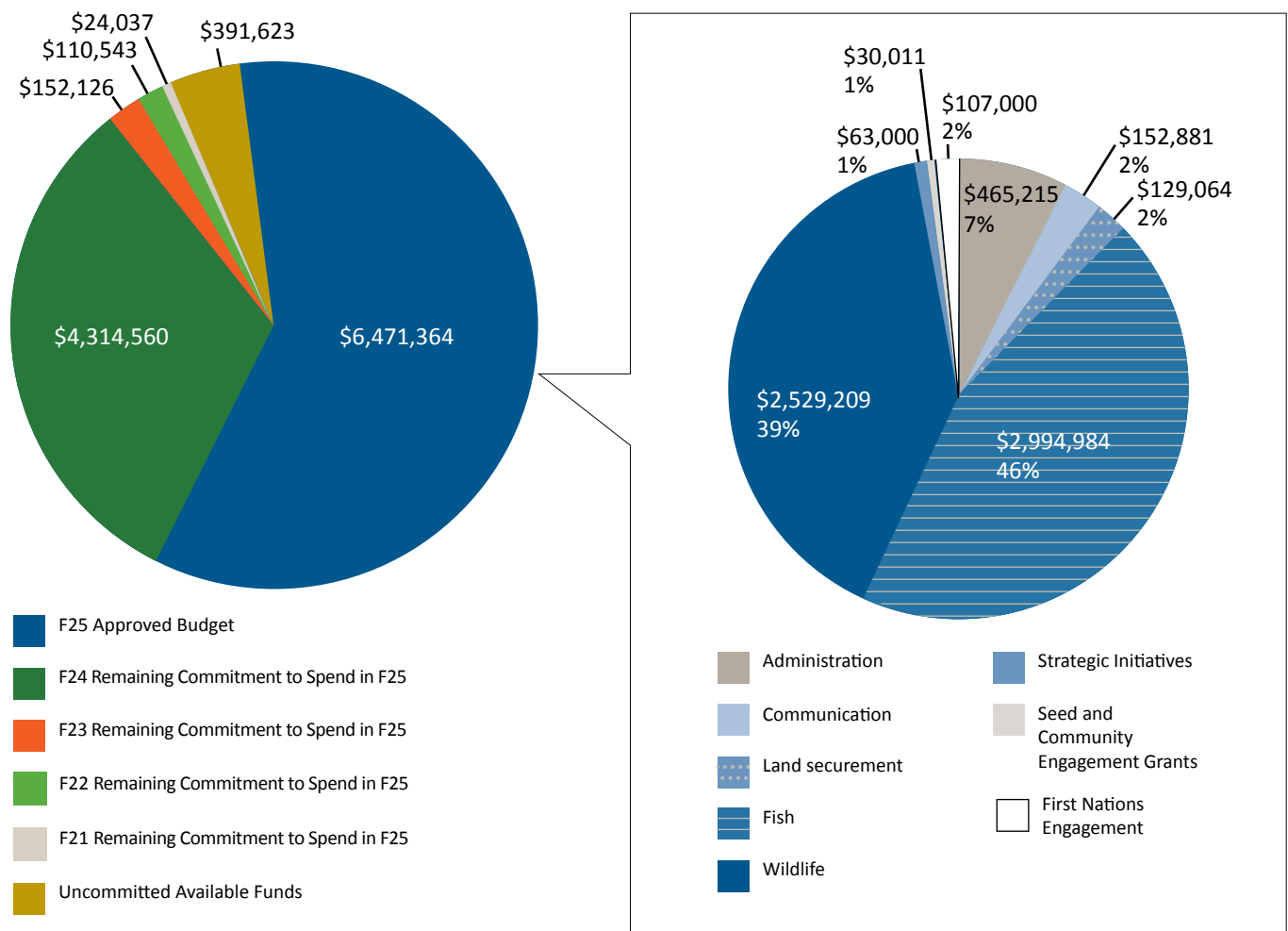


Figure 3.1: FWCP Columbia Region financial summary on April 1, 2024

Figure 3.2: Allocation of the approved F25 Columbia Region budget of approximately \$6.47 million as of April 1, 2024

Columbia Region expenditures up to the end of the fiscal year (March 31, 2025) are shown in Table 3.1. This reflects a snapshot of actual and planned payments made related to this year's finances. Funding allocated each year may not be fully expended by year-end, and this is shown as 'planned payments' in Table 3.1.

Occasionally, projects and program office activities are completed under budget (unspent funds in Table 3.1). Funds not spent during the fiscal year are carried forward as unspent surplus funds and may be re-allocated in the current fiscal year if needed or carried forward to a future year. Therefore, the amount of funding that is allocated towards projects by the end of the fiscal year may vary from the approved budget at the start of the year as opportunities arise, and new funding decisions are made during the year. This was the case with the F25 projects: approximately \$5.7 million was initially approved for fish, wildlife, and land securement projects, but by the end of the year, approximately \$6.8 million had been approved. Two areas where there were a significant carry-over of unspent surplus funds from previous years were land securement and First Nations led fish and wildlife projects.

Table 3.1: F25 budget status as of March 31, 2025

Fund category	F25 approved budget	Paid up to March 31, 2025	Unspent Funds ¹	Planned Payments ²
Administration	\$465,215	\$269,698	\$136,090	\$59,427
Communications	\$152,881	\$128,675	\$3,886	\$20,320
Land securement	\$129,064	\$670,936	\$(670,936)	\$129,064
Fish	\$2,994,987	\$2,018,957	\$(482,434)	\$1,458,562
Wildlife	\$2,529,209	\$1,136,320	\$10,045	\$1,382,844
Strategic Initiatives	\$63,000	\$24,799	\$25,337	\$12,864
Seed and Community Engagement Grants	\$30,011	\$6,000	\$4,000	\$20,011
First Nations Engagement	\$107,000	\$40,287	\$32,713	\$34,000
TOTAL	\$6,471,364	\$4,295,571	\$(941,299)	3,117,091

Note 1: Unspent surplus funds are carried forward and available for the next fiscal year. In the instance of a negative amount, the money was taken from unspent surplus budgets from previous years and added to the line item, making them committed and increasing the expected spend/planned payment. If the number is positive, it means that the money is released from this line item and returned to uncommitted funds.

Note 2: Planned payments represent expected invoices for approved ongoing projects that have not yet submitted final reports by March 31, 2025

In addition to the planned payments of approximately \$3.12 million, the balance of prior-year funding commitments anticipated to be spent in F26 was approximately \$860,000 from F24, with approximately \$1.23 million available in uncommitted funds (Figure 3.3)¹.

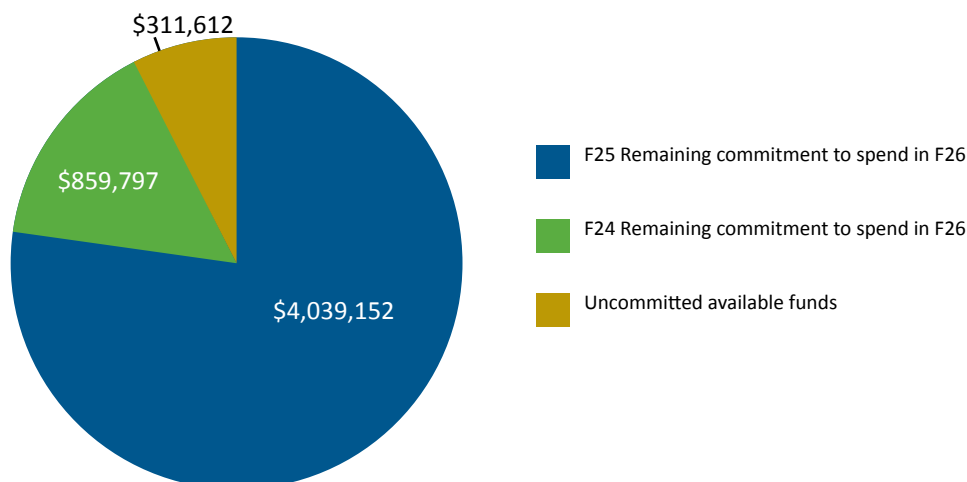


Figure 3.3: Financial summary of the FWCP's Columbia Region, as of March 31, 2025 (end of fiscal year)

1. The end of F25 and the year-end deadline for project reporting are on the same day. Therefore, reports (and potentially statements of accounts) are not reviewed and accepted until after the March 31 deadline. Many final payments for F25 projects are processed in the first few months of F25, and unused funds are allocated for future spending.

4.0 Project funding and grants

PROVINCIAL PROJECT FUNDING

This year, our three regional boards approved 95 projects for a total FWCP contribution of approximately \$10.4 million. The total value of these projects, including leveraged funding from other organizations and in-kind resources, was nearly \$23.7 million.

Final reports for all FWCP-funded projects are uploaded to [Ecocat](#) or [SIWE](#) provincial databases, and searchable spreadsheets of reports for each FWCP region are available at fwcp.ca/results.html

COLUMBIA REGION PROJECT FUNDING

In our Columbia Region, the FWCP funds the delivery of fish and wildlife projects in a variety of ways, including grant applications, long-term agreements (annual and ongoing), First Nations-led, and directed projects. By the end of the fiscal year, 42 projects had been approved this year, for \$6,796,583 in funding from our Columbia Region board.

The 42 projects comprised 17 grant-based projects, 13 annual and ongoing projects, 10 First Nations-led, one land securement, and one directed project.

Grant-based projects

Grant applicants are required to develop a project idea that aligns with one or more priority actions in any [action plan](#) and will achieve the intended outcome. Each priority action in our action plans is identified as Open, Open/Directed, or Directed. The proposed project must be aligned with an Open or Open/Directed priority action to be eligible for a grant. This year, only priority actions #1 and #2 were eligible for funding.

In the Columbia Region, grant applicants were required to submit a mandatory [notice of intent](#) (NOI) prior to submitting a complete application. The NOI is an important part of our commitment to strengthening engagement with First Nations. It helps inform First Nations about proposed projects and is the basis for identifying opportunities for First Nations perspectives on, and engagement in, these projects. The NOI also helps our Columbia Region manager provide additional guidance before grant applications are completed.

For the F25 grant intake, 37 NOIs were received by the deadline: 26 for wildlife projects and 11 fish projects. Following the NOI submissions, our Columbia Region board received 33 grant applications by the grant application deadline—a marginal increase (2) over F24. Twenty-three wildlife project applications were received, and 10 for fish.

The board approved nearly \$737,000 in funding for 17 grant-based projects: two were fish projects, totalling approximately \$20,000, and the 15 wildlife projects, totalling nearly \$717,000. This is an increase of more than 10% in grant-based funding compared to F24.

The FWCP encourages grant applicants to seek additional funding sources (e.g., other funding agencies and in-kind contributions) to leverage FWCP funding contributions. We recognize the value of partnerships in helping to plan, deliver, and fund projects. We encourage grant applicants to build funding and project partnerships into their projects. In F25, as stated, the FWCP funding allocation for grant-based projects was approximately \$717,000; as a result of financial partnerships and in-kind contributions, the total value of the projects was nearly \$2.24 million. In other words, for every \$1 invested by the FWCP, others contributed more than \$2, greatly increasing the value of the FWCP's investment overall.

Annual and ongoing projects

Our Columbia Region board approved approximately \$4.63 million to support 13 annual and ongoing fish and wildlife projects. These projects typically comprise multiple sub-projects and activities. They are delivered with support from the Province of B.C. through a letter of agreement, and other regional partners through contracts and contribution agreements. The Province of B.C. contributed approximately \$1.6 million to the annual ongoing approved funds through in-kind and additional partnered contributions.

This year, four fish projects were approved for approximately \$3.11 million. The projects included adding nutrients to Kootenay Lake and Arrow Lakes Reservoir, and operating and maintaining the Hill Creek and Meadow Creek spawning channels.

Nine annual and ongoing wildlife projects were approved for more than \$1.52 million. These projects included stewardship of conservation lands, enhancing upland and dryland species in the East and West Kootenay, enhancing non-game habitat, recovering caribou and northern leopard frog populations, restoring and enhancing wetlands, and working to support securing conservation lands.

First Nations-led projects

The board has approved annual funding for our First Nations partners to deliver projects in the Columbia Region since fiscal 2022. If the funds are not fully spent by the end of the fiscal year, they may be rolled forward to future years for First Nations-led projects. All projects must align with priorities outlined in our action plans.

In F25, there were 10 projects (three fish and seven wildlife projects) led by our three First Nations partners for just over \$600,000 in funding from the FWCP. Six were led by the Okanagan Nation, two by the Secwépemc Nation, and two by the Ktunaxa Nation. They included projects on stream restoration, chronic wasting disease, monitoring bighorn sheep, American bullfrog management, improving grasslands, and artificial bat roost monitoring. For a complete list of projects led by First Nations organizations and businesses, see Appendix A.

Directed and land securement projects

There was one directed project, also led by the Okanagan Nation, which was Murphy Creek Spawning Channel Maintenance and Monitoring, valued at \$26,000. The Okanagan Nation works closely with the Trail Wildlife Association to provide spawning and rearing habitat for rainbow trout in the lower Columbia River downstream of Hugh L. Keenleyside Dam.

There was one land securement project approved during F25: Geddes Creek property in the East Kootenay region. Encompassing 193 hectares of diverse forested and riparian habitat, it plays a vital role in regional connectivity, enabling the movement of wildlife—especially for grizzly bears and elk—between Kootenay National Park and the Columbia Wetlands complex. The Nature Conservancy of Canada leads the project, and the FWCP contributed \$800,000. Note: In addition to the contribution to help purchase Geddes Creek, the FWCP provided nearly \$47,000 to support actions to plan and prioritize land securement initiatives, with the funds primarily going to Kootenay Conservation Program; these funds are recorded under annual and ongoing funding in the chart below.

Figure 4.1 shows the complete breakdown of funding by delivery type for F25.

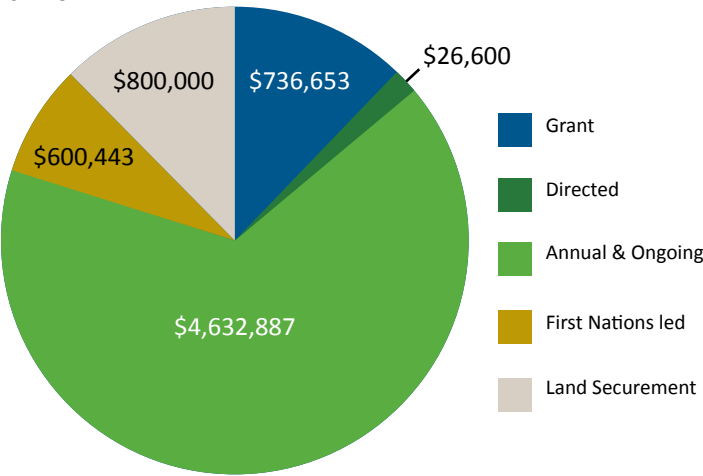


Figure 4.1 Funding by project delivery type

Project funding by action type

Priority actions in our Columbia Region action plans are grouped into five broad action types: research and information acquisition; habitat-based; species-based; monitoring and evaluation; and land securement.

In F25, 63% of funding was allocated towards habitat-based projects, 16% towards land securement, and 15% towards species-based projects. Figure 4.2 shows the approved projects by action type.

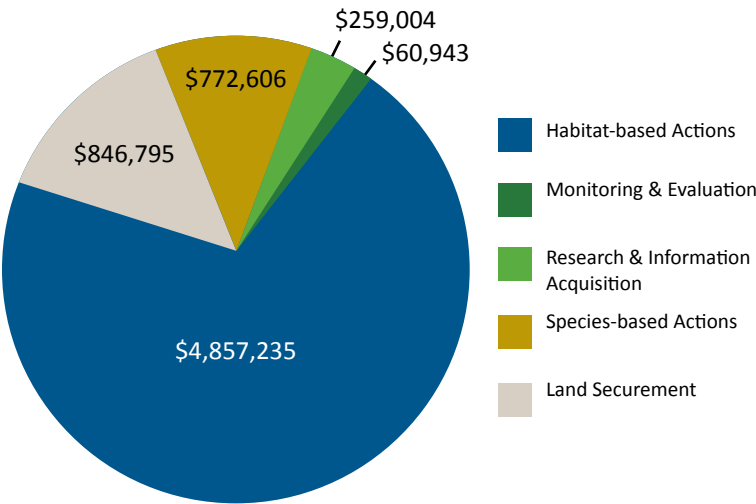


Figure 4.2: Breakdown of approved funding by action type

Approved projects by sub-region

The Columbia Region comprises three sub-regions: North Columbia, East Kootenay, and West Kootenay. Basin-wide projects are delivered across multiple sub-regions. Figure 4.3 illustrates the distribution of project funding by sub-region for this year.

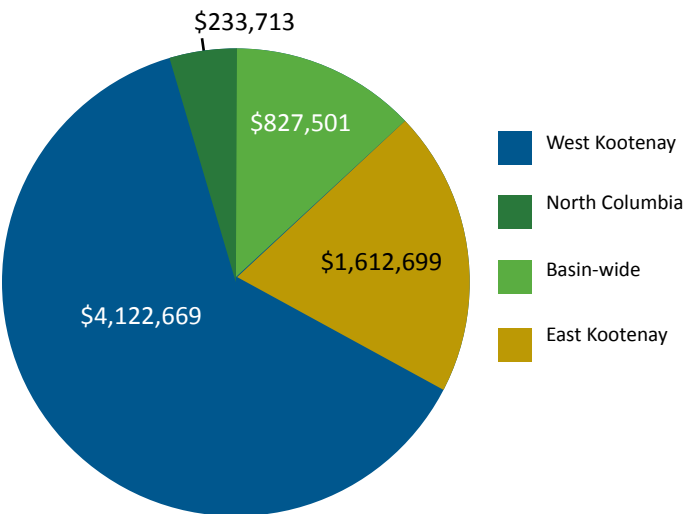


Figure 4.3: F25 Columbia Region project funding by sub-region

Community Engagement Grant projects

The goal of the [Community Engagement Grant](#) is to provide small grants of up to \$1,500 to support activities that align with our strategic objectives. Groups can apply for a FWCP Community Engagement Grant at any time during the year, while funds are available.

This year, 10 applications were approved, totaling \$10,000. The complete list of approved Community Engagement Grants is shown in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 F25 Columbia Region Community Engagement Grants

Organization	Project	FWCP \$s
Wildsight Revelstoke	Turtle Conservation, Revelstoke	\$1,500
Elk Root Conservation Farm Society	Pollinator Highway Project - Phase 1	\$1,500
Revelstoke Bear Aware	Bear Awareness Day and Kokanee Fish Fest	\$750
Kootenay Native Plant Society	Butterfly Habitat Learning Garden - Open House	\$750
Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society	2025 Kootenay Lake Beach Cleanup Series	\$500
Wildlife Collision Prevention Program	Radium Bighorn Sheep Driver Awareness and Collision Prevention	\$740
Valhalla Foundation for Ecology	Wetland Restoration Interpretive Sign	\$1,000
Trail Wildlife Association	Critter Day 2025 Family Bird Box Building Activity	\$1,500
West Kootenay Educational Resource Society	Pollinator Protection and Ecosystem Awareness Project	\$1,000
Living Lakes Canada	Beaver Creek Watershed Community Awareness	\$760
		TOTAL \$10,000



Elk Root Conservation Society received a Community Engagement Grant in F25 to advance the Pollinator Highway Project in the Slocan Valley. Members of the Wildsight Youth Climate Action Corp removed invasives and planted native species. Photo: Elk Root Conservation

APPENDIX A: Columbia Region 2024-2025 projects

The table below provides a listing of 2024–2025 (F25) Columbia Region fish and wildlife projects. The funding identified may vary from the approved budget as of April 1, 2024, due to project budget increases or decreases as they progressed throughout the fiscal year. Final reports for all projects are posted to the appropriate provincial databases once available. Visit [fwcp.ca/ results](https://fwcp.ca/results) for an updated list of all available final reports. Executive summaries and links to the final reports can also be viewed by clicking on the project numbers. Learn more about the 2024-2025 project outcomes at fwcp.ca/annual-reports.

FWCP Project ID	Project Title	Proponent	FWCP \$s
Fish: Grant-based			
COL-F25-F-3997	Joseph Creek Rehabilitation with Floating Treatment Wetland	Blue Lake Forest Education Society	\$4,989
COL-F25-F-4032	Bull Trout Spawner Escapement in the Salmo River Watershed	Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society	\$14,730
Wildlife: Grant-based			
COL-F25-W-3991	Kootenay Riparian Invasive Plant Control	Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society	\$53,722
COL-F25-W-3993	Simpcw Grizzly Bear Monitoring and Connectivity Study	Estsék' Environmental Services LLP	\$51,257
COL-F25-W-4009	Yaqit ʔa.knuqʔi'it Open Forest and Grassland Enhancement	Tobacco Plains Indian Band	\$69,105
COL-F25-W-4010	Upper Columbia Swallow Habitat Enhancement Project	Wildsight Golden	\$19,319
COL-F25-W-4011	Revelstoke Reach Invasives	Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society	\$8,714
COL-F25-W-4012	Elk Valley Cottonwood Restoration Program	Elk River Watershed Alliance	\$54,779
COL-F25-W-4016	NTBC Land Stewardship Activities	The Nature Trust of British Columbia	\$39,100
COL-F25-W-4018	NABat, BatCaver and Beyond: Protecting Columbia Basin Bats	Wildlife Conservation Society Canada	\$82,817
COL-F25-W-4028	Elk Valley Invasive Plant Management: Year 5	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council	\$19,818
COL-F25-W-4029	Galton Range Invasive Plant Management	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council	\$27,411
COL-F25-W-4030	Bummers Flats Floodplain and Wetland Habitat Restoration	Ducks Unlimited Canada	\$67,056
COL-F25-W-4031	Moberly Marsh Floodplain and Wetland Habitat Restoration	Ducks Unlimited Canada	\$101,431
COL-F25-W-4041	Safe Passages for Wildlife in the Southern Canadian Rockies	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$12,593
COL-F25-W-4045	Kicking Horse Canyon Habitat Enhancement Project	Golden District Rod and Gun Club	\$52,993
COL-F25-W-4077	Columbia Whitebark Pine Recovery Planting	Moody Tree	\$56,820
Fish: Annual and Ongoing			
COL-F25-F-4122-DCA	F25 Meadow Creek Spawning Channel	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$291,366
COL-F25-F-4124-DCA	F25 Arrow Lakes Reservoir Nutrient Restoration Program	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$1,122,703
COL-F25-F-4125-DCA	F25 Kootenay Lake Nutrient Restoration Program - North Arm	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$1,399,538
COL-F25-F-4126-DCA	F25 Hill Creek Spawning Channel	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$295,700
Wildlife: Annual and Ongoing			
COL-F25-W-4121-DCA	F25 West Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$193,831
COL-F25-W-4123-DCA	F25 Land Management Operations	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$243,642
COL-F25-W-4127-DCA	F25 East Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$227,838
COL-F25-W-4128-DCA	F25 Non-game Enhancement	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$247,420
COL-F25-W-4129-DCA	F25 Caribou Recovery	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$158,767
COL-F25-W-4130-DCA	F25 Northern Leopard Frog Recovery	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$371,327
COL-F25-W-4131-DCA	F25 Wetland and Riparian Enhancement	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$25,000
COL-F25-W-4132-DCA	F25 KCP Land Acquisition & Base Support	The Nature Trust of British Columbia	\$46,795
COL-F25-W-4120-DCA	F25 Land Securement	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	\$8,960

FWCP Project ID	Project Title	Proponent	FWCP \$s
Fish: First Nations led			
COL-F25-F-4197-DCA	Shuswap Creek Stream Restoration Project: Phase 1	Shuswap Band	\$125,060
COL-F25-F-4149-DCA	Lower Columbia River Tributary Bull Trout eDNA Sampling	Okanagan Nation	\$36,887
COL-F25-F-4153-DCA	Syilx Ceremonial Release of Sockeye Salmon in Slocan Lake	Okanagan Nation	\$159,845
Wildlife: First Nations led			
COL-F25-W-4316-DCA	Syilx Chronic Wasting Disease Management Program	Okanagan Nation	\$50,019
COL-F25-W-4317-DCA	Columbia Lake Bighorn Sheep Collaring Project	Akisknuk First Nation	\$39,655
COL-F25-W-4144-DCA	American Bullfrog Management, Nelway/Pend d'Oreille	Okanagan Nation	\$48,565
COL-F25-W-4147-DCA	Smallwood artificial bat roost monitoring	Okanagan Nation	\$23,351
COL-F25-W-4148-DCA	Syilx Herbarium for the Preservation of Ethnobotany	Okanagan Nation	\$9,485
COL-F25-W-4164-DCA	Improving health of ʔaḡam grasslands via goat grazing	ʔaḡam	\$56,910
COL-F25-W-4199-DCA	Monitoring the Radium Wildlife Overpass	Shuswap Band	\$50,665
Fish: Directed			
COL-F25-F-4141-DCA	Murphy Creek Spawning Channel Maintenance and Monitoring	Okanagan Nation	\$26,600
Land Securement			
COL-F25-W-4154-DCA	Geddes Creek Land Securement	Nature Conservancy of Canada	\$800,000

TOTAL \$6,796,583

APPENDIX B: Board and committee lists for 2024-2025

BOARD

The board guides our work and is responsible for approving our projects and budget in the Columbia Region. In addition to funding projects through our annual grants, the board may choose to direct projects.

Columbia Region board members during F25 were:

Brent Meger	BC Hydro
Margo Sadler	BC Hydro
Jen Harding	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Misun Kang	Ktunaxa Nation
Isaac Dekker	Ktunaxa Nation
Vacant	Ktunaxa Nation
Michael Zimmer	Okanagan Nation
Marc Steynen	Okanagan Nation
Vacant	Okanagan Nation
Manjit Kerr-Upal	Province of B.C.
Eva Schindler	Province of B.C.
Wendy Booth	Public
Samara Kolasko	Public
Greg Rickbeil	Public
Manon Moreau	Secwepemc Nation
Mark Thomas	Secwepemc Nation
Vacant	Secwepemc Nation

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The board is supported by two fish and wildlife technical committees. They act in an advisory role by providing technical reviews, evaluations, and ranking of fish and wildlife grant applications; supporting the development of strategic plans; assisting in the development and oversight of directed projects; and providing advice on the effective implementation of action plans.

Fish technical committee

James Crossman	BC Hydro
Karen Bray, Chair	BC Hydro
Ben Meunier	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Vacant	Okanagan Nation Alliance
Will Warnock	Province of B.C.
Tyler Weir	Province of B.C.
Robyn Laubman	Secwepemc Nation

Wildlife technical committee

Harry Van Oort	BC Hydro
Nikki Heim	Ktunaxa Nation Council
David DeRosa	Okanagan Nation Alliance
Anna McIndoe	Province of B.C.
Tim Davis	Province of B.C.
Vacant	Secwepemc Nation

FIRST NATIONS WORKING GROUP

The board is supported by a First Nations Working Group that provides an advisory role, including early engagement with proponents prior to submitting grant applications.

Caitlin Phillips	Ktunaxa Nation
Tanis Richmond	Ktunaxa Nation
Marty Williams	Ktunaxa Nation
Nancy Bonneau	Okanagan Nation
Chad Eneas	Okanagan Nation
Evan Smith	Okanagan Nation
Kyle Krahn	Secwepemc Nation
Adam Neil	Secwepemc Nation
Braydi Rice/Scott Cope	Secwepemc Nation

STEERING COMMITTEE

The steering committee (formerly the policy committee) sets the FWCP's overall direction, including the governance structure and strategic framework. It also oversees periodic evaluations, approves significant changes to the FWCP, and addresses dispute resolution, when necessary, among other responsibilities beyond the FWCP. For more details, refer to our [governance manual](#).

Karen Popoff, Chair
Director, Environment, BC Hydro

Jasmine Pouce Coupe
Doig River First Nation (Peace Region)

Alice Cheung
Director, PSSl Secretariat, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Mark Peters*
Peters First Nations (Coastal Region)

James Mack
Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

Mark Thomas*
Shuswap Band (Columbia Region)

*Two year term with renewal option to provide a diversity of affected Nations the opportunity to participate

FWCP TEAM

FWCP Columbia Region management and operations were implemented by our Columbia Region Manager, Jen Walker-Larsen. During this fiscal year, Jen was supported by FWCP Program Manager Margo Sadler, Indigenous and Environmental Initiatives Coordinator Shesley Callison-Hanna, Environmental Project Coordinator Melissa Fiel de Sousa/Sharon Johnson/Soo Lee, and independent facilitator Toby Michaud. Communications and community engagement for all three FWCP regions were led by Lynne Betts and Angus Glass.