



Message from our board co-chairs

Thank you for your interest in the work we do in our Columbia Region to help conserve and enhance fish & wildlife impacted by dam construction.

This annual report includes an overview of our strategic framework, a summary of how our regional board allocated more than \$6.7 million toward nearly 40 fish & wildlife projects, and includes links to each project so you can learn more at your convenience.

If you're interested in more details about the projects we fund, read our annual outcomes report when it's released this fall.

Many of you know that our primary obligation is to compensate for the impacts to fish, wildlife, and their habitats resulting from the construction of BC Hydro dams. We were established in 1995 and we are the mechanism by which BC Hydro fulfills its water licence obligations to compensate for impacts resulting from construction of dams in our Columbia Region. See map on page 3.

We fund projects every year that benefit fish, wildlife, and their habitats. Often one project may benefit many aquatic and terrestrial species and ecological values. The purchase of the Kootenay Forest Lands for conservation is that kind of project!

Our board approved more than \$600,000 to help the Nature Conservancy of Canada purchase 45,000 hectares in southeastern B.C. This landscape is within the Ktunaxa Nation homeland and is vital for wildlife movement and ecological health, supporting grizzly bears, wolverine, lynx, and bull trout. It also features rare high-elevation grasslands, ancient forests, and a multitude of streams that feed into the Elk River, a waterway renowned for its world-class fly fishing. This purchase was endorsed by the Ktunaxa Nation.

And on the northern edge of the East Kootenay, our board-approved funding helped re-connect the Moberly Marsh, a section of the Columbia River floodplain, to the mainstem Columbia River north of Golden. In the 1970s and 1980s, dikes and water control structures were installed to increase waterfowl habitat. Unfortunately, those dikes and structures separated the floodplain from the river, disrupted natural ecological processes, and reduced biodiversity. Re-connecting the floodplain to the river is a good news story that will continue for generations.

And finally, 2025-2026 marked the end of a multi-year project focused on declining at-risk bank and barn swallows. The Upper Columbia Swallow Habitat Enhancement Project increased breeding habitat availability, improved connectivity, fostered stewardship, and provided important information to help conserve swallow populations.

It's hard to pick a few projects to share in this short Chair message, so be sure to subscribe, follow us on social media, or take a few minutes and visit fwcp.ca.

In 2024, each of our three regional boards approved a project effectiveness and performance measurement strategy as recommended in our most recent audit. Following on this important strategic work to develop a logic model, we embarked on a process to update our approach to project funding in 2025–2026. We will be continuing this renewal process in 2026–2027 and will be engaging with First Nations and interest holders about new priorities for compensation funding. We're excited about these changes and look forward to sharing more with you next year.

I would like to thank my co-chair, Eva, who not only stepped down from the board towards the end of the fiscal year, but also led or directed the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program Section within the Ministry of Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship for 12 years. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Isaac Dekker, Mark Thomas, and Wendy Booth for their many years of commitment to the FWCP. We welcome Tara Szkorupa, who replaced Eva as co-chair, Ingrid Liepa, Mike Christian, Jamison Squakin, and Al Nicholas to the board!



Margo Sadler
Columbia Region
Board Co-chair



Eva Schindler
Columbia Region
Board Co-chair



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



Front cover: With FWCP funding, Wildsight Golden led a multi-year project aimed at conserving and enhancing breeding habitat for at-risk bank and barn swallows in the North Columbia and East Kootenay. [COL-F26-W-4204](https://col-f26-w-4204). Photo: R. Darvill

1. Overview

Our Columbia Region was established in 1995 to support the conservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and their habitats in watersheds impacted by construction of BC Hydro dams.

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.

The Columbia Region has received nearly \$140 million from BC Hydro since it started its commitments in 1995 following the construction of its dams. This has enabled the FWCP to fund approximately 40-50 compensation projects each year. Our Columbia Region is shown below in Figure 1.1.

Our independent board evaluates and approves funding for all projects. Our Columbia Region board includes representatives from each of our FWCP partners: First Nations (9), public interest holders (3), BC Hydro (2), the Province of B.C. (2) and Fisheries & Oceans Canada (1). Appendix B shows the complete list of board and committee members for our Columbia Region during F26.

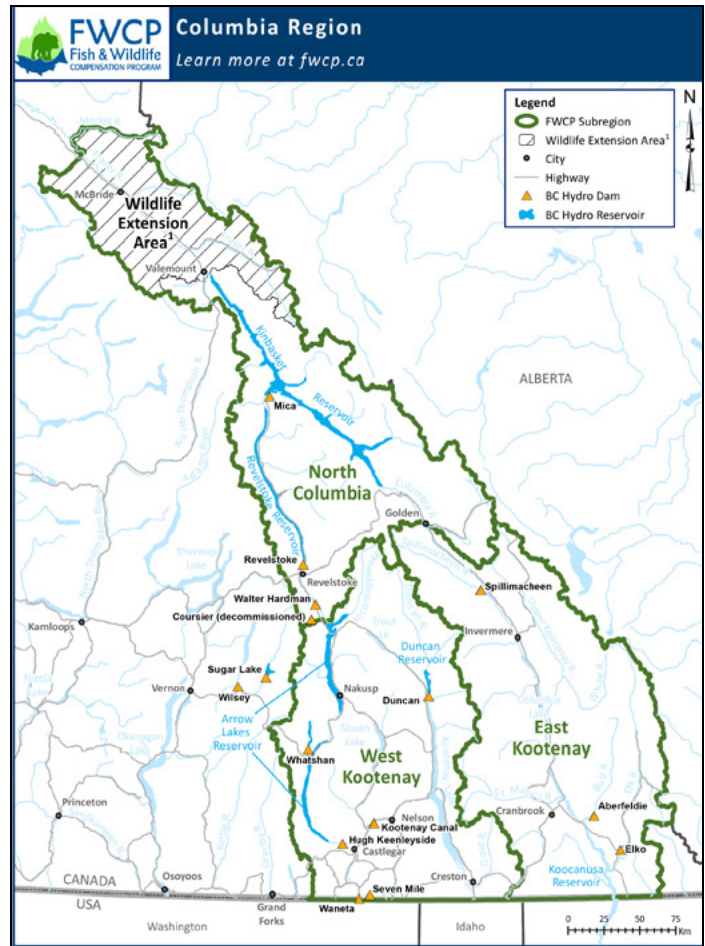


Figure 1.1: Map of the FWCP's Columbia Region



In F26, funding from our Columbia Region board helped protect 45,000 hectares of high-quality habitat, including the Kootenay Forest Lands in the East Kootenay. Photo: N. Nault

2. Our strategic approach

VISION AND MISSION

While the FWCP operates in watersheds that have been altered by hydroelectric development, our vision recognizes that an effective program can support the maintenance of healthy fish and wildlife populations that will meet its conservation objectives. Actions focused on conserving and, where possible, restoring ecosystem function will help species be more resilient to emerging pressures, such as climate change and the cumulative effects of other overlapping resource developments. 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. More details on our three strategic objectives can be found in our [governance manual](#).

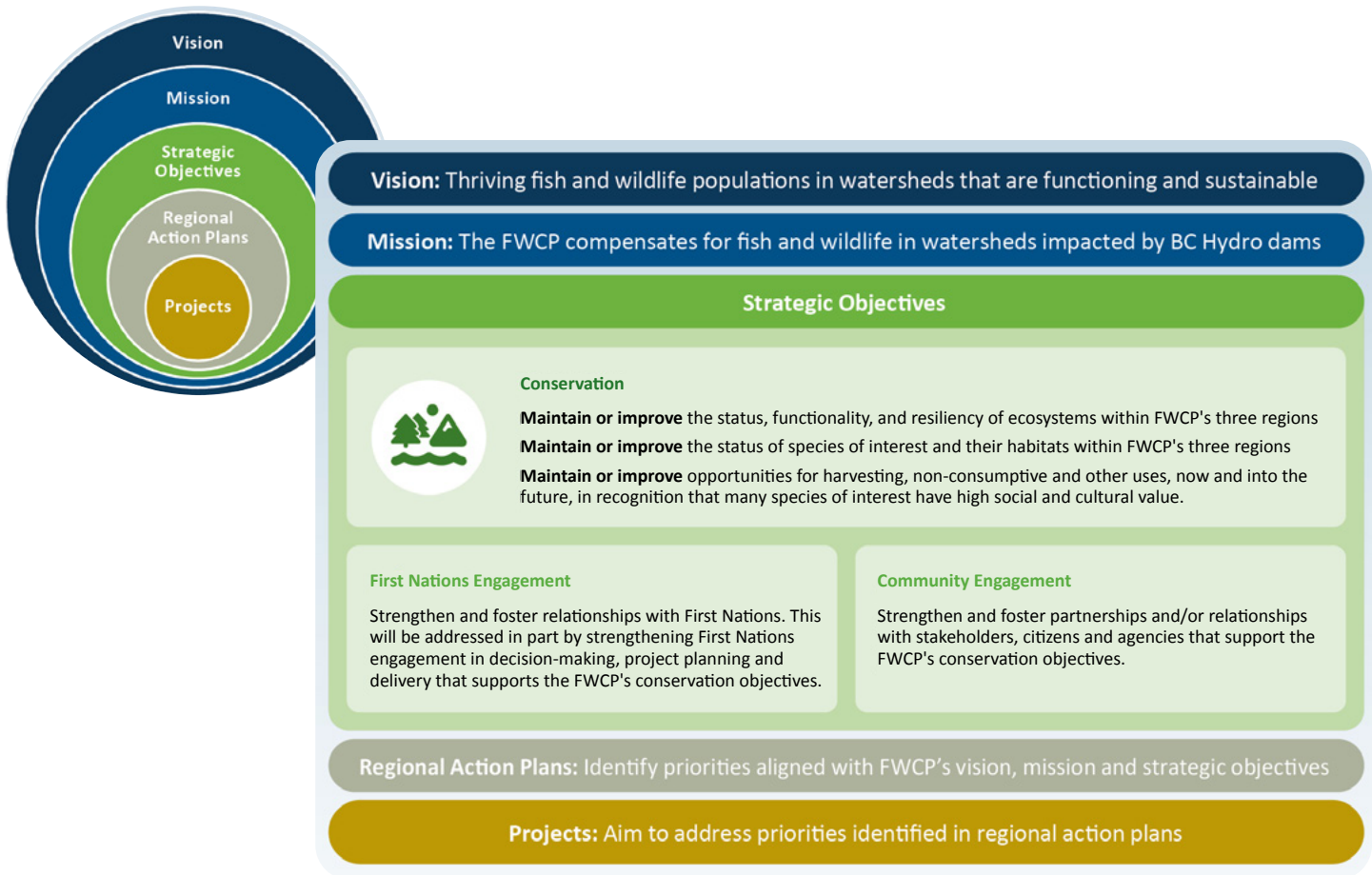


Figure 2.1: Strategic framework. The projects we fund align with our regional action plans, reflect our strategic objectives, and advance our mission and vision.

Our regional action plans guide FWCP investments in fish and wildlife compensation 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 have five ecosystem-based action plans, and all F26 projects approved for funding by our Columbia Region board align with priority actions identified in the action plans.

UPDATE: EVALUATION AND FINANCIAL AUDIT

In 2019, an independent third-party evaluation and financial audit was completed, as required by our governance manual. 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. The recommendations have been substantially completed and the FWCP has reported to the Comptroller of Water Rights and the steering committee—as per the FWCP's [governance manual](#).

3. Financial report

APPROVED BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES

Our Columbia Region board allocates annual funding toward fish and wildlife compensation projects, administration, First Nations engagement, and other activities as outlined below. These allocations form the annual operating plan. Any unallocated funds are carried forward as uncommitted available funds for future spending.

BC Hydro provided \$662,756 in F26 to the FWCP Columbia Region to fulfill BC Hydro’s commitment to address the impacts of dam construction on fish, wildlife and their habitat. Of this, \$600,000 was additional funding to offset increasing program delivery costs. Our board approved a budget of \$7,550,726 not including remaining commitments from previous years.

Figure 3.1 shows a total of approximately \$12 million available to our Columbia Region as of April 1, 2025. This includes the approved budget of approximately \$7.55 million, the uncommitted available funds of approximately \$485,000, and the remaining prior-year funding commitments from F24 and F25 of nearly \$3.98 million, as shown below.

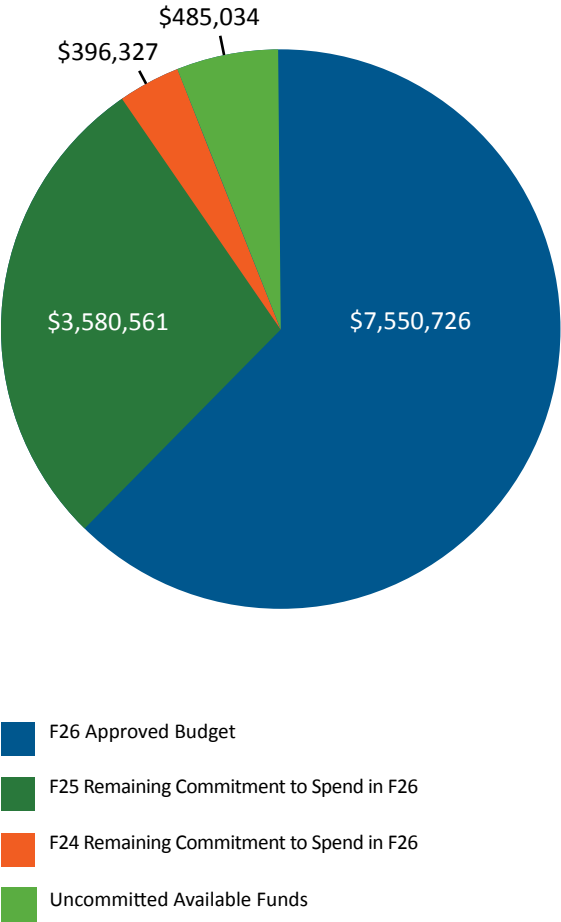


Figure 3.1: FWCP Columbia Region financial summary on April 1, 2025

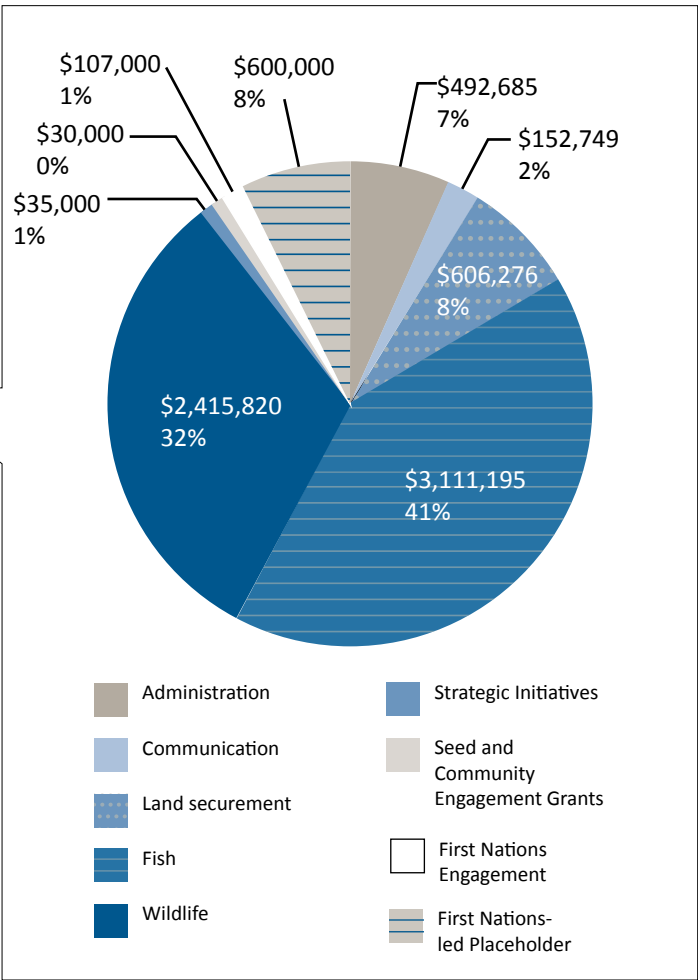


Figure 3.2: Allocation of the approved Columbia Region budget of \$7,550,726 as of April 1, 2025

Figure 3.2 illustrates the approved budget for F26 as of April 1, 2025. Funding for fish projects accounted for approximately 41% of the budget, wildlife projects 32%, and land securement approximately 8%. Administrative costs accounted for approximately 6.5% of the budget. Strategic initiatives—less than 0.5%— included implementing the logic model and funding to support renewing our project funding approach.

Columbia Region expenditures up to the end of the fiscal year (March 31, 2026) 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 as shown in Table 3.1, F26 funds not yet expended by March 31, 2026 are labelled as planned payments.

Occasionally, compensation projects come in under budget (variance in Table 3.1). Funds not spent during the fiscal year will be carried forward as unspent surplus budget and made available for new spending in future fiscal years. Funds identified as land securement are approved for a reserve fund that, if they remain unspent, are carried forward and made available for future land securement projects.

Table 3.1: F26 budget status as of March 31, 2026

Fund category	F26 approved budget	Paid up to March 31, 2026	Variance ¹	Planned Payments ²
Administration	\$492,685	\$283,555	\$84,626	\$124,504
Communications	\$152,749	\$130,812	-	\$21,937
Land securement	\$606,276	\$606,000	\$276	-
Fish	\$3,111,195	\$1,821,356	\$200,000	\$1,089,839
Wildlife	\$2,415,820	\$1,030,111	(\$3,985)	\$1,389,694
Strategic Initiatives	\$35,000	\$34,424	(\$43,422)	\$44,180
Seed and Community Engagement Grants	\$30,000	\$23,057	(\$302)	\$7,245
First Nations Engagement	\$107,000	\$30,120	\$5,000	\$71,880
First Nations-led Placeholder	\$600,000	\$205,093	-	\$394,907
TOTAL	\$7,550,725	\$4,164,347	\$242,194	\$3,144,185

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

Note 2: Planned payments represent expected invoices for approved ongoing compensation projects that have not yet submitted final reports by March 31, 2026.

At the end of this reporting period, approximately \$4.16 million of the annual budget had been spent, and approximately \$3.14 million¹ remained as an F26 commitment to spend in F27.

In addition to the planned payments of \$3.14 million, the balance of prior-year funding commitments anticipated to be spent in F27 was just over \$1 million, with approximately \$930,000 available in uncommitted funds (Figure 3.3).

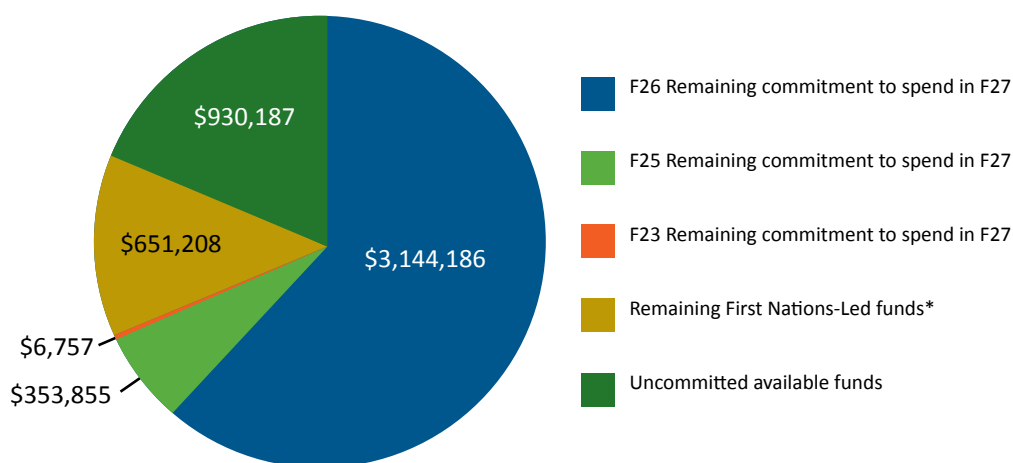


Figure 3.3: Financial summary of our Columbia Region, as of March 31, 2026 (end of fiscal year)

*Unspent First Nations-led funds allocated in previous years were carried forward into F26.

1. The end of fiscal F26 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, causing them to be associated with the next fiscal (F27). Many final payments for F26 projects are processed in the first few months of F27, and unspent funds are allocated for future spending.

4. Approved project funding

This fiscal year, our three regional boards approved 90 compensation projects for a total FWCP investment of approximately \$9.46 million. The total value of these projects, including leveraged funding from other organizations and in-kind resources, was nearly \$97 million.

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

Thirty-nine projects were approved this year for \$5,253,717 in funding from our Columbia Region board. Of the 39 projects, 29 were wildlife (\$3,270,975 or 62%) and 10 were fish (\$1,982,742 or 38%). As a result of financial partnerships and in-kind contributions, the total value of the projects was more than \$81 million. Annual and ongoing projects received nearly 63% of the budget, grant-based projects approximately 15%, directed projects just over 12%, and First Nations-led projects nearly 10%.

Annual and ongoing projects

Our Columbia Region board approved approximately \$3.31 million to support 11 annual and ongoing fish and wildlife projects. These projects typically comprise multiple sub-projects and activities. All but one is led by the Province of B.C. through a letter of agreement and involve other regional partners and First Nations through contracts and contribution agreements. The Province of B.C. contributed approximately \$3.26 million to the annual ongoing approved funds through in-kind and additional partnered contributions.

This year, four annual and ongoing fish projects were approved for approximately \$1.69 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. Seven annual and ongoing wildlife projects were approved for nearly \$1.62 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, and working to support securing conservation lands.

Grant-based projects

The FWCP’s annual grant intake opens each July and closes in early November. All grant applications go through a three-stage review process. For more details, [visit our FAQs](#). 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.

In our Columbia Region, all grant applicants are required to submit a [notice of intent](#) (NOI) before submitting a full application. The NOI is an important part of our commitment to strengthen 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 the projects.

There were 14 grant-based wildlife projects for nearly \$749,000 in FWCP funding, and two grant-based fish projects for approximately \$62,000. These included two large wetland restoration projects in the East Kootenay, and projects to support elk, bighorn sheep, yellow-breasted chat, and swallows. For a full list of projects, see Appendix A.

Directed projects

There was one directed fish project funded in F26: the maintenance and monitoring of the Murphy Creek Spawning Channel for ~\$29,000.

First Nations-led projects

Since 2022, the Columbia Region board has approved funding for First Nations-led projects to be defined by each Nation in alignment with the FWCP’s mission and action plan priorities. This funding supports the region’s efforts to strengthen engagement of First Nations in the FWCP’s project planning and delivery by creating the opportunity and providing funding for Nations to implement fish and wildlife projects. The Nations share the funding equally between the three partner Nations: Ktunaxa, Syilx Okanagan, and Secwepemc Nations.

At the start of the fiscal year, \$600,000 was set aside for First Nations-led projects and, by the end of fiscal, ten projects (seven wildlife and three fish) had been identified, for a total of approximately \$502,000. Projects included suppressing invasive northern pike in the Columbia River, planning for a prescribed burn to enhance elk habitat, bat conservation and monitoring in the West Kootenay, and a cumulative effects assessment in Kinbasket Reservoir.

Land securement

Our Columbia Region board approved \$606,000 toward the purchase price of more than \$70 million to conserve the Kootenay Forest Lands—45,000 hectares of Rocky Mountain landscapes that support grizzly bears, wolverine, bighorn sheep, badger, lynx, bull trout, and whitebark pine. In addition to the contribution to help purchase Kootenay Forests Lands, the FWCP provided approximately \$55,000 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 Figure 4.1.

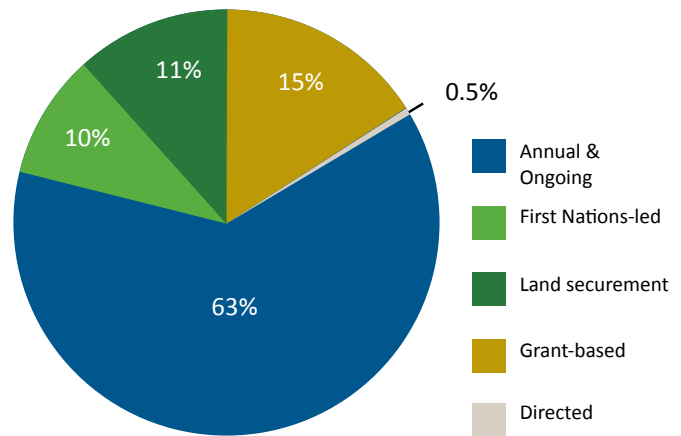


Figure 4.1: Type of project delivery in F26

Projects 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 F26, more than two-thirds of project funding was allocated towards habitat-based projects, and 13% each towards land securement and species-based projects. Figure 4.2 shows the approved projects by action type.

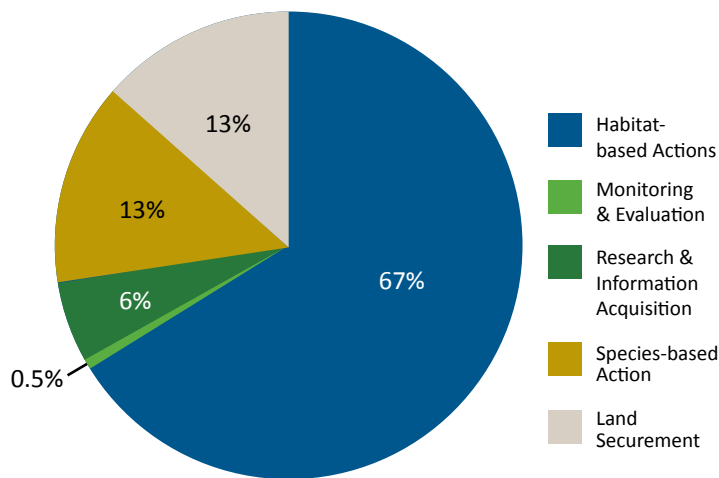


Figure 4.2: Approved funding by action type

Projects delivered by sub-region

Figure 4.3 shows funding approved for projects this year by sub-region. Funding breakdown was 22% in the East Kootenay, 51% in the West Kootenay, 8% in the North Columbia, and nearly 20% basin-wide¹.

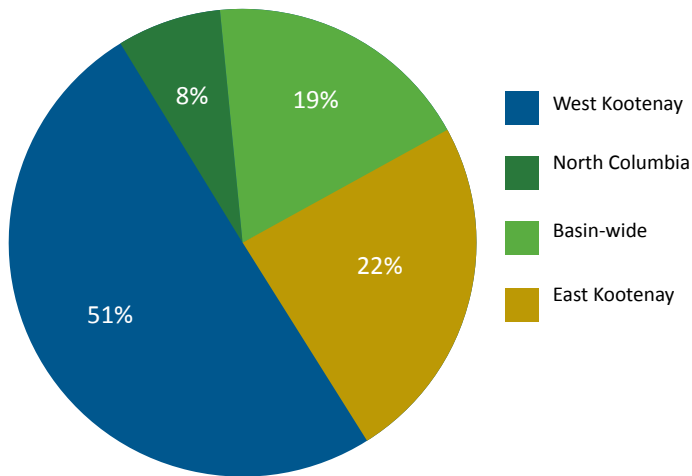


Figure 4.3: F26 project funding by sub-region

Community Engagement Grant projects

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

A total annual budget of \$10,000 was set aside for Community Engagement Grant funding for F26. Ten applications were approved as shown in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Approved F26 Community Engagement Grants

Organization	Project	FWCP \$s
BC Wildlife Federation	BC Wildlife Federation AGM 2025	\$250
Revelstoke Bear Aware	Bear Awareness Day	\$500
Trails for Creston Valley Society	2025 Creston Bear Fair	\$1,500
Elk Root Conservation Society	Elk Root Conservation Pollinator Highway Project	\$1,500
Castlegar Chamber of Commerce	Fishout Derby 2025	\$750
Lake Windermere Ambassadors Society	Columbia River Headwater Lakes Recreational Impacts Awareness Project	\$500
Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society	Kootenay Lake Summit & Stewardship Action	\$1,500
UNBC Student Chapter of the The Wildlife Society	Demographics of Mule and White-tailed Deer in the Robson Valley	\$1,500
Wildsight Invermere	Junior Ambassador Program	\$1,000
West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative	Making Waves World Water Day Symposium	\$1,000
		\$10,000

¹ Basin-wide is defined as more than one sub-region.

APPENDIX A: Columbia Region 2025-2026 projects

The table below provides a listing of 2025—2026 Columbia Region fish and wildlife projects approved for funding. The funding identified may vary from the approved budget as of April 1, 2025, 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-reports.html for an updated list of all available final reports. Learn more about 2025—2026 project outcomes at fwcp.ca.

FWCP Project ID	Project Title	Proponent	FWCP \$s
Fish: Grant-based			
COL-F26-F-4238	Cottonwood Creek Aquatic Habitat Enhancement	Living Lakes Canada	\$35,664
COL-F26-F-4214	Whirling Disease Prevention and Monitoring	Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society	\$26,161
Wildlife: Grant-based			
COL-F26-W-4226	Moberly Marsh Floodplain and Wetland Habitat Restoration	Ducks Unlimited Canada	\$165,769
COL-F26-W-4231	Bummers Flats Floodplain and Wetland Habitat Restoration	Ducks Unlimited Canada	\$162,598
COL-F26-W-4243	NTBC Land Stewardship Activities - CFC Program	The Nature Trust of British Columbia	\$25,300
COL-F26-W-4272	Advancing Wetland Stewardship & Restoration in the Kootenays	British Columbia Wildlife Federation	\$82,125
COL-F26-W-4361	Elk Valley Bighorn Sheep Habitat Enhancement Project	Elkford Rod and Gun Club	\$5,190
COL-F26-W-4182	Kicking Horse Canyon Habitat Enhancement Project	Golden District Rod and Gun Club	\$97,709
COL-F26-W-4190	Galton Range Invasive Plant Management	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council	\$26,906
COL-F26-W-4191	Revelstoke Reach Invasives	Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society	\$14,038
COL-F26-W-4201	Golden Bighorn Sheep Habitat Enhancement	Golden District Rod and Gun Club	\$25,425
COL-F26-W-4204	Upper Columbia Swallow Habitat Enhancement Project	Wildsight Golden	\$13,410
COL-F26-W-4212	NABat, BatCaver and Beyond: Protecting Columbia Basin Bats	Wildlife Conservation Society Canada	\$85,914
COL-F26-W-4253	Yellow-breasted Chat Monitoring in the West Kootenays	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$34,305
COL-F26-W-4362	North Trench Elk Collaring Project	Golden District Rod and Gun Club	\$5,248
COL-F26-W-4370	Dart Creek Ecosystem Enhancement Project	Golden District Rod and Gun Club	\$4,928
Fish: Annual & Ongoing			
COL-F26-F-4323-DCA	F26 Kootenay Lake Nutrient Restoration Program - North Arm	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$603,865
COL-F26-F-4324-DCA	F26 Arrow Lakes Reservoir Nutrient Restoration Program	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$474,426
COL-F26-F-4322-DCA	F26 Hill Creek Spawning Channel	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$299,164
COL-F26-F-4330-DCA	F26 Meadow Creek Spawning Channel	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$310,834
Wildlife: Annual & Ongoing			
COL-F26-W-4318-DCA	F26 Northern Leopard Frog Recovery	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$412,922
COL-F26-W-4319-DCA	F26 Caribou Recovery	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$162,375
COL-F26-W-4320-DCA	F26 Non-game Enhancement	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$261,923
COL-F26-W-4321-DCA	F26 East Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$231,755
COL-F26-W-4325-DCA	F26 Land Management Operations	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$279,885
COL-F26-W-4326-DCA	F26 West Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement	Ministry of Water Lands and Resource Stewardship	\$214,168
COL-F26-W-4329-DCA	KCP Land Acquisition & Base Support F26	The Nature Trust of British Columbia	\$55,238
Fish: Directed			
COL-F26-F-4328-DCA	Murphy Creek Spawning Channel Maintenance and Monitoring	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$28,740
COL-F26-F-4363-DCA	Slocan Lake Sockeye Salmon Reintroduction	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$89,029
COL-F26-F-4356-DCA	Supporting ONA Columbia River Northern Pike Removal	Shuswap Band	\$78,119
COL-F26-F-4359-DCA	Supporting ONA - COL River Salmon Reintroduction Initiative	Shuswap Band	\$36,740

FWCP Project ID	Project Title	Proponent	FWCP \$s
Wildlife: Directed			
COL-F26-W-4355-DCA	Wildlife Response to Open Forest and Grassland Enhancement	Tobacco Plains Indian Band	\$73,343
COL-F26-W-4364-DCA	Sylx Herbarium for Preservation of Ethnobotany Project	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$10,573
COL-F26-W-4365-DCA	Native Plant Propagation Project	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$41,000
COL-F26-W-4366-DCA	Smallwood & beyond: Bat Conservation and Monitoring	Okanagan Nation Alliance	\$35,998
COL-F26-W-4377-DCA	Prescribed Burn for Elk Habitat Restoration	Shuswap Band	\$5,000
COL-F26-W-4378-DCA	Indigenous Led Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance	Shuswap Band	\$38,374
COL-F26-W-4488-DCA	Kinbasket Cumulative Effects Assessment – Phase 3	Shuswap Band	\$93,557
Land Securement			
COL-F26-W-4372-DCA	Kootenay Forest Lands phase 2	Nature Conservancy of Canada	\$606,000

Total \$5,253,717

APPENDIX B: Board and committee lists for 2025-2026

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 F26 were:

Brent Meger	BC Hydro
Margo Sadler	BC Hydro
Jen Harding	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Misun Kang	Ktunaxa Nation
Isaac Dekker	Ktunaxa Nation
Al Nicholas	Ktunaxa Nation
Michael Zimmer	Okanagan Nation
Marc Steynen	Okanagan Nation
Jamison Squakin	Okanagan Nation
Manjit Kerr-Upal	Province of B.C.
Eva Schindler/Tara Szkorupa	Province of B.C.
Wendy Booth/Ingrid Liepa	Public
Samara Kolasko	Public
Greg Rickbeil	Public
Manon Moreau	Secwepemc Nation
Mark Thomas/Mike Christian	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	BC Hydro
Ben Meunier	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Vacant	Okanagan Nation Alliance
Will Warnock, Chair	Province of B.C.
Tyler Weir	Province of B.C.
Vacant	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. It also provides coordination with the Province of B.C. on delivery of annual and ongoing projects, and administration of First Nations-led project funding.

Emily de Freitas	Ktunaxa Nation
Alexis Martig	Ktunaxa Nation
Vacant	Ktunaxa Nation
Nancy Bonneau	Okanagan Nation
Chad Eneas	Okanagan Nation
Evan Smith	Okanagan Nation
Kyle Krahn/Vacant	Secwepemc Nation
Adam Neil	Secwepemc Nation
Scott Cope	Secwepemc Nation

STEERING COMMITTEE

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

Rian Hill, Chair
Acting 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 for Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Mark Thomas
Shuswap Band (Columbia Region)

FWCP TEAM

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