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# Coastal Region fish and wildlife project list 2019 – 2020

## Conserving and enhancing fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams

The Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) conserves and enhances fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams. The FWCP is funded annually by BC Hydro. The FWCP funds projects in the Coastal, Columbia and Peace Regions, which fulfills BC Hydro's water licence obligations and voluntary commitments to compensate for fish and wildlife impacts. The FWCP is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, First Nations and Public Stakeholders.

In 2019 – 2020 our three regional boards – Coastal, Columbia, and Peace – approved funding for 97 fish and wildlife projects valued at approximately $9.2 million for 2019–2020. Each project went through a three-stage review and evaluation process prior to a final decision by our local Boards. Each project addresses one or more conservation priority in our Action Plans.

In our Coastal Region, the Board approved approximately $1.9 million for 33 fish and wildlife projects to be implemented April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020. First Nations, stewardship groups, consultants, and agencies are leading the 20 fish and 13 wildlife projects that will help conserve and enhance fish and wildlife impacted by BC Hydro dams.

## About our 2019 – 2020 project list

This is a final list of projects conditionally-approved by the FWCP's Coastal Region Board as of April 1, 2019. Read our annual reports for a final list of projects implemented in 2019–2020 and project outcomes.

Approved budgets are to support the delivery of fish and wildlife projects, and do not include the FWCP administration or communications budget.

The total number of projects approved for 2019 – 2020 includes budgets approved for future work this fiscal year to be further defined by the regional Boards (i.e. directed projects).

Grant-based fish and wildlife project descriptions are based on information provided in the lead proponent's 2019 – 2020 grant application and, in some cases, have been modified to reflect Board-approved project activities and budgets.

Directed projects reflect regional conservation priorities and have been identified by our regional Boards for implementation through a request for proposals (RFP) process.

## Contact us

Contact Julie Fournier, Coastal Region Manager at 604-528-7998 or Julie.fournier@bchydro.com to learn more about our work in the Coastal Region. Subscribe and stay informed about the projects we fund and how you can apply for a grant.

Learn more at fwcp.ca

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Fish Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | COA-F20-F-3072 | **Assessing feasibility of fish passage in the Alouette River Watershed** *Alouette Watershed Sockeye/fish passage feasibility - year 3* The Alouette River Sockeye Re-anadromization Program is a joint initiative between the Katzie First Nation, the Alouette River Management Society, BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, LGL Limited, and local stakeholders. The project promotes the re-establishment of anadromous Alouette Sockeye (Oncorhynchus nerka) at Alouette Dam. This project will support work on year three of an updated 11-year plan to assess environmental feasibility of fish passage in alignment with step three of the BC Hydro Fish Passage Decision Framework. | Alouette River Management Society | $ 97,909 | Species-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Alouette River Watershed |
| 2 | COA-F20-F-3021 | **Helping rebuild Chinook stocks in the Bridge-Seton Watershed** *Portage Creek Chinook conservation enhancement* Portage Creek Chinook are classified federally as a vulnerable single-site Conservation Unit and have had diminishing returns for almost 10 years. In this multi-year project, Fisheries and Oceans Canada proposes strategic enhancement for a minimum of one generation (five years), to support rebuilding this population and preserving its genetics. Further work will investigate the limiting factors contributing to the decline. This project will support enhancement and coded-wire tagging activities of up to 50,000 yearling smolts. Enhancement will provide the population with a greater smolt survival rate, while the tags will provide much-needed assessment and stock distribution information. | Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) | $ 22,039 | Species-Based Actions | All | Bridge-Seton River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Fish Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | COA-F20-F-3030 | **Studying Chinook and Bull Trout in the Bridge-Seton Watershed** *Yalakom River fish inventory update* This project will update the fish inventory and habitat data for the Yalakom River to address a long-standing knowledge gap, and support mitigation and restoration planning for salmonids, including Chinook, which were once a staple food for Xwisten (Bridge River Indian Band). Chinook stocks below Terzaghi Dam have declined, prompting renewed interest in restoration opportunities in the Yalakom River - the only major stream habitat accessible to fish populations below the dam. Past opposition to increasing Chinook access in the Yalakom has been based partly on Bull Trout status, however, the increasingly critical status of Chinook across its entire range is shifting local priorities towards a multi-species approach. | Coldstream Ecology, Ltd. | $ 17,299 | Research & Information Acquisition | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Bridge-Seton River Watershed |
| 4 | COA-F20-F-3046 | **Assessing spawning channel function in the Bridge-Seton Watershed** *Seton River spawning channel fish conservation project* The Seton River Spawning Channel Fish Conservation Project is gathering critical data to evaluate the functionality of the spawning channels - post-complexing - in relation to egg-to-fry survival. Data collected during this multi-year project will provide information needed to develop a sustainable management plan for the channels and will provide a baseline to monitor the long-term productivity of the channels. | Splitrock Environmental Sekw'el'was LP | $ 66,240 | Research & Information Acquisition | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Bridge-Seton River Watershed |
| 5 | COA-F20-F-3076 | **Enhancing spawning channels in the Bridge-Seton Watershed** *Seton River spawning channel riparian habitat enhancement* The Seton River Spawning Channel riparian habitat enhancement project will assist in the development of a management plan for the Seton River spawning channels. This project aims to restore and maintain important salmonid fish spawning and rearing habitat in the upper and lower spawning channel portion of the Seton River Watershed. This work will help support sustainability and functionality of the spawning channels, as well as support Coho, Chinook, and Pink Salmon, in addition to Steelhead and Rainbow Trout. | Splitrock Environmental Sekw'el'was LP | $ 19,060 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Bridge-Seton River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019 -2020 Grant-Based Fish Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | COA-F20-F-3053 | **Restoring habitat and riparian areas in the Campbell River Watershed** *Cold Creek habitat enhancement* The Quinsam River Fish and Fish Habitat Restoration Plan, funded by FWCP in 2017-2018, identified five restoration projects for Cold Creek, an important tributary of the Quinsam River. In 2019, A-Tlegay Fisheries Society will complete riparian restoration work that will benefit five species of Pacific Salmon and other species. This is a multi-year project. | A-Tlegay Fisheries Society | $ 55,078 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Campbell River Watershed |
| 7 | COA-F20-F-3071 | **Improving salmon spawning habitat in the Campbell River Watershed** *Campbell River spawning gravel placement site 7-V* This project is part of an ongoing gravel replenishment program on the Campbell River to restore degraded salmon habitat. Construction of the John Hart Generating Facility in 1947 blocked gravel recruitment from the upper Campbell River and reduced Chinook spawning habitat. The project includes construction of a single, 1,500-square-metre spawning bed at Site 7. This project will provide critical spawning habitat for an additional 150 Chinook spawning pairs. The design would incorporate design features intended to prevent the washing away of spawning gravel during high flow events. Restoration of this spawning habitat will also benefit Coho, Chum, and Steelhead populations. | Campbell River Salmon Foundation | $ 188,669 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Campbell River Watershed |
| 8 | COA-F20-F-3081 | **Improving spawning habitat at Elk Falls Canyon in the Campbell River Watershed** *Elk Falls Canyon spawning gravel bulk delivery - year 4* This project provides the fourth year of gravel additions to the Upper Canyon Reach of the Campbell River using the 2017 bulk gravel delivery system, constructed in Elk Falls Provincial Park. Using the new delivery system, approximately 250 $m^3$ of gravel will be added to the first pool tail-out. This gravel will provide valuable spawning habitat for all species of salmon and trout. Over time, as gravel is added, the canyon habitat will become more gravel-rich, further increasing spawning capacity. The cost-per-unit of gravel is about 30 per cent of the previous helicopter-based delivery method. The infrastructure investment by FWCP and others provides an effective tool to help improve salmon spawning habitat in the watershed. | British Columbia Conservation Foundation | $ 63,683 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Campbell River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | COA-F20-F-3090 | **Eco-cultural restoration of the estuary in the Campbell River Watershed** *Eco-cultural restoration of the Campbell River Estuary* This eco-cultural restoration of the Campbell River estuary will help the marsh recover. This project will use applied restoration techniques for estuaries, alongside the Wei Wai Kum First Nation and partners, which will restore vital estuary sedge marsh habitat by modifying traditional fish weir techniques. This project builds on recent restoration efforts in the Campbell River estuary and will use 100 per cent organic materials to create wooden exclosures to protect channel edge habitat, and stop Canada Goose herbivory. This project will benefit salmonids. | Guardians of Mid Island Estuaries Society | $ 45,173 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Campbell River Watershed |
| 10 | COA-F20-F-3067 | **Improving fish passage in the Cheakamus River Watershed** *Central Squamish Estuary restoration project - year 2* This is the second year of a multi-year project to improve fish passage along the Squamish Training Dike by replacing culverts with bridge crossings at key locations. The 2019 project will concentrate on realigning the spit to construct a deflection berm north of the Squamish Terminals and install a flow control structure across the CN spur line to reconnect the water from the central estuary back into Bridge Pond/Cattermole Slough. | Squamish River Watershed Society | $ 250,538 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Cheakamus River Watershed |
| 11 | COA-F20-F-3077 | **Improving salmon habitat in the Cheakamus River Watershed** *Cheakamus floodplain upgrades and restoration* This project will improve habitat for salmonids and redds stranded by lower flow levels in the Cheakamus River, especially along Mykiss Channel on the west side of Bailey Bridge. The Mykiss floodplain channel will be deepened, providing more year-round habitat. | Squamish River Watershed Society | $ 70,070 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Cheakamus River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Fish Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **12** | COA-F20-F-3066 | **Assessing feasibility of fish passage in the Coquitlam-Buntzen Watershed** *KSRP Year 1 hatchery augmentation studies* The Kwikwetlem Sockeye Restoration Program (KSRP) developed an eight-year plan under BC Hydro's Fish Passage Decision Framework. The plan will assess the uncertainties in the 2018 life-cycle modelling and re-evaluate smolt outmigration again in 2019. This project will include assessment of smolt outmigration efficiency under optimized operations and collection of returning adult Sockeye and/or Coquitlam Reservoir Kokanee broodstock for hatchery incubation. | Watershed Watch Salmon Society | $ 31,688 | Species-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Coquitlam-Buntzen River Watershed |
| **13** | COA-F20-F-3083 | **Assessing restoration options for salmonids in the Coquitlam-Buntzen Watershed** *Reeve Slough feasibility assessment 2019* This project will provide a feasibility assessment of Reeve Slough, which could provide 31,800 $m^2$ of potential rearing habitat for salmonids. This is the largest parcel of unrestored, off-channel habitat remaining in the Coquitlam Watershed. Assessment and restoration of this site would primarily benefit Coho Salmon, but would also be accessible and utilized by Chinook, Chum, Sockeye, and Pink Salmon, as well as Cutthroat and Steelhead juveniles. The project is located in Port Coquitlam B.C., on Kwikwetlem First Nation lands. | North Fraser Salmon Assistance Project | $ 79,634 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Coquitlam-Buntzen River Watershed |
| **14** | COA-F20-F-3063 | **Restoring natural habitat conditions in the Puntledge River Watershed** *Reed Canarygrass removal in the K'ómoks Estuary* Invasive Reed Canarygrass is an introduced species spreading within the Courtenay River (K'ómoks) Estuary, especially in Hollyhock Marsh and Mallard Creek. This invasive grass out-competes native plant species, provides little value for native wildlife, grows too thickly for mammals or waterfowl to use for cover/nesting, reduces foraging and feeding opportunities for juvenile salmonids, and impedes salmon from reaching spawning habitats. This project will inventory, map, and work on removing and controlling this invasive grass to restore more natural habitat conditions for fish and wildlife. | Comox Valley Project Watershed Society | $ 14,268 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Puntledge River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **15** | COA-F20-F-3068 | **Studying summer-run Chinook in the Puntledge River Watershed** *Puntledge summer Chinook parentage-based tagging study* Genetic methods, known as parentage-based tagging (PBT), will be used in this multi-year project to identify individual Puntledge River summer-run Chinook Salmon back to parental crosses (both in the hatchery and in the wild). The effects of parental Chinook return migration time and bacterial kidney disease infection status on their progeny will be examined. Results will guide Fisheries and Oceans Canada in development of management actions focused on improving wild and hatchery summer Chinook productivity, and preserving the genetic integrity of the stock. | K'omoks First Nation | $ 16,988 | Research & Information Acquisition | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Puntledge River Watershed |
| **16** | COA-F20-F-3120 | **Improving nutrients for salmonids in the Puntledge River Watershed** *Nutrient enrichment of the upper tributaries of Comox Lake* This project is designed to improve growth and survival of juvenile salmonids, primarily, Cutthroat and Rainbow Trout, Coho Salmon, Dolly Varden, and Steelhead. Fertilizer, packaged in biodegradable burlap bags, will be applied at two sites in Comox and Eric creeks (tributaries of Comox Lake) at a loading rate of about 100 kg/site. Monitoring will include water and periphyton monthly sampling in enhanced tributaries and in three control tributaries. Electrofishing depletion estimates will be used in monitoring. This project could expand to other salmon-bearing tributaries, including Reese Creek, Upper Cruickshank River, Lower Cruickshank River, Upper Puntledge River, and Beach Creek. | British Columbia Conservation Foundation | $ 19,265 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Puntledge River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Fish Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **17** | COA-F20-F-3096 | **Building awareness of salmon in the Shuswap River Watershed** *Protection of Shuswap River Chinook through education* This project will build awareness about Shuswap River salmon, and the habitats and ecosystems they require, through hands-on experiences. This project is aimed at school children, teachers, parents, and community members. Instilling passion, understanding, and compassion will promote future actions for restoration, and the protection for our "Kings" to support the long-term survival of all salmon and the preservation of the Shuswap River Watershed. | Kingfisher Interpretive Centre Society | $ 6,066 | Species-Based Actions | All | Shuswap River Watershed |
| **18** | COA-F20-F-3110 | **Improving fish passage and habitat in the Stave River Watershed** *Thompson Creek fish ladder, replanting and assessments* This project will improve fish passage and habitat in the Stave River Watershed, and will benefit Coho, Chum, Chinook, Sockeye, and Pink Salmon, as well as Cutthroat and Rainbow Trout. A wooden fish ladder on Thompson Creek - a salmon-bearing tributary to the Stave River - will be replaced. Bio-engineering and planting efforts will continue within the Stave River to replace invasive Reed Canarygrass with natural vegetation and to improve ecological function. An effectiveness assessment will be conducted on right bank erosion protection work and will help further downstream restoration of additional off-channel habitats. This project will host a local stakeholder meeting and community planting events. | Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition | $ 69,646 | Habitat-Based Actions | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Stave River Watershed |
| | | | **Fish Project Total:** | **$1,133,312** | | | |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Wildlife Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **19** | COA-F20-W-3105 | **Restoring species of conservation concern and cultural value in the Alouette River Watershed**<br>*Restoring species of conservation concern and cultural value* The goal of this project is to create and enhance wetland and riparian habitat within the lower Alouette Watershed, to support healthy populations of salmonids and species of cultural value and conservation concern. The project represents the implementation of an eco-cultural restoration plan for Katzie traditional territory, which integrates the principles of restoration ecology and adaptive management with Katzie traditional knowledge and priorities for conservation. In 2019, the fourth year of this five-year project, effectiveness monitoring at habitat enhancement sites will be expanded to include water quality parameters, and address local and regional management priorities for species at risk: Great Blue Heron, Western Toad, and the Barn Owl. | Katzie Development Limited Partnership | $ 52,650 | Monitoring & Evaluation | All | Alouette River Watershed |
| **20** | COA-F20-W-2982 | **Helping captive-raise Canada's most endangered owl species**<br>*Northern Spotted Owl captive breeding program* The Northern Spotted Owl is one of Canada's most endangered bird species. Its entire Canadian range occurs in southwestern British Columbia. Historic estimates suggest that up to 1,000 Spotted Owls were present in the province pre-European settlement. Currently, however, fewer than 30 individuals remain in the province and more than half of these owls reside in captivity at the breeding facility in Langley, B.C. This project's mission is to prevent this species becoming extirpated from Canada by releasing captive-raised Northern Spotted Owls back into recovery habitats, which are protected for the species in B.C. The goal of this multi-year project is to produce captive-born Spotted Owls that can be released into suitable habitat within the Bridge-Seton Watershed, in order to recover the local population to a minimum of 20 individuals. | British Columbia Conservation Foundation | $ 90,985 | Habitat-Based Actions | All | Bridge Seton River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019 -2020 Grant-Based Wildlife Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **21** | COA-F20-W-3034 | **Conserving wildlife habitat in the Campbell River Watershed**<br>*Conserving wildlife habitat in the Salmon River Watershed* This project will protect and improve habitat for birds, amphibians, large mammals, and salmon in the Salmon River Estuary Conservation Area. A portion of this conservation property was purchased in 2015 with FWCP support. Year two of habitat restoration includes restoring degraded habitat by thinning dense alder forest, managing invasive plant species, re-establishing riparian forests, and enhancing wetland habitat. Past ecosystem restoration projects will be monitored and maintained. This project will benefit Roosevelt Elk, Great Blue Heron, Northern Pygmy-Owl, Western Screech-Owl, Band-tailed Pigeon, Barn Swallow, Common Nighthawk, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Northern Red-legged Frog, Pacific Salmon, and Cutthroat Trout | The Nature Trust of British Columbia | $ 35,000 | Habitat-Based Actions | Wetland & Riparian | Campbell River Watershed |
| **22** | COA-F20-W-3086 | **Restoring ecological function in the Campbell River Watershed**<br>*Restoring ecological function in the Campbell River Estuary* This project aims to restore ecological function and integrity in the Campbell River Estuary by managing invasive species, including Yellow Flag Iris, Purple Loosestrife, and Japanese Knotweed. In addition to improving ecosystem functioning, the species that will most directly benefit are native wetland plant species, including the B.C. Blue-listed Henderson's Checker-mallow and Vancouver Island Beggarticks, a SARA Species of Special Concern. | Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust | $ 23,723 | Habitat-Based Actions | Wetland & Riparian | Campbell River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Wildlife Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **23** | COA-F20-W-3117 | **Conserving bats and their habitat in the Clowhom River Watershed**<br>*Conservation of bats and their habitat in the Clowhom Watershed* This project will help conserve bats and their habitat in the Clowhom River Watershed by protecting and repairing two bat maternity roosts, each housing more than 1000 bats; identifying and protecting additional bat roosts; undertaking White Nose Syndrome (WNS) surveillance; and installing and monitoring installed bat houses to determine ideal design, placement, and temperature to benefit bats. This project will help build healthy and resilient populations of Little Brown Myotis, Yuma Myostis, and migratory bats, prior to expected arrival of WNS in BC. | Sunshine Coast Wildlife Project | $ 17,900 | Habitat-Based Actions | Upland & Dryland | Clowhom River Watershed |
| **24** | COA-F20-W-2903 | **Assessing bat species in the Coquitlam-Buntzen, Alouette, and Stave River watersheds**<br>*DNA analysis of bat species using artificial rock roosts* In 2010, the FWCP funded the installation of artificial rock roosts for bats in our Coastal Region. In 2018, the roosts were revisited and guano was collected. This project funding will be used to complete DNA analysis of bat guano collected at six artificial rock roosts in the Coquitlam-Buntzen, Alouette River, and Stave River watersheds. The results will confirm which bat species use the roosts. | SNC-Lavalin Inc. | $ 2,206 | Monitoring & Evaluation | All | Multiple |
| **25** | COA-F20-W-3037 | **Supporting recovery of endangered marmots on Vancouver Island**<br>*Translocating Vancouver Island marmots to Strathcona Park, 2019* This project will support the Marmot Recovery Foundation to translocate between five and 10 endangered Vancouver Island Marmots to colonies in Strathcona Provincial Park. These marmots will support previously re-established colonies, helping those colonies persist, while future recovery efforts are prepared. The Strathcona colonies will require support until the population grows significantly. The marmot is an endemic, endangered species that was extirpated from Strathcona Provincial Park in the 1990s. Reintroduction efforts have successfully established a number of colonies and a small population of marmots in the park. | Marmot Recovery Foundation | $ 11,000 | Habitat-Based Actions | Upland & Dryland | Multiple |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Wildlife Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **26** | COA-F20-W-3056 | **Supporting recovery of Western Painted Turtles in the Coquitlam-Buntzen, Alouette River, and Stave River watersheds**<br>*Western Painted Turtle recovery in Lower Mainland watersheds* This project will support B.C.'s only remaining native freshwater turtle - the endangered and Red-listed Pacific Coast population of Western Painted Turtles. There are only 18 known sites where this turtle exists in the Lower Fraser Valley. Ten turtle sites are in the Coquitlam, Alouette, and Stave watersheds. This project's goal is to recover these populations by releasing head-started turtles, monitoring recruitment, and providing and monitoring effectiveness of habitat for basking and nesting. Western Painted Turtles may be found in most types of standing water at low elevations, but also require upland terrestrial habitat for nesting and dispersal. | British Columbia Conservation Foundation | $ 106,480 | Species-Based Actions | All | Multiple |
| **27** | COA-F20-W-3085 | **Conserving wildlife habitat in the Puntledge River Watershed**<br>*Morrison headwaters nature preserve* This project will support the Comox Valley Land Trust to purchase a 55-acre (22-hectare) parcel of private land in the headwaters of Morrison Creek in the Puntledge River Watershed. The land has high conservation values for wetland and riparian habitats. The headwaters of Morrison Creek are known for its unique "climate-proof," spring-fed hydrology and abundant, reliable runs of salmon. The land is the largest remaining unprotected area of core wildlife habitat in the Comox Valley lowlands, providing habitat for all large mammals native to Vancouver Island, and habitat for more than 12 species at risk, including Morrison Creek Lamprey, found nowhere else on earth. Species that will benefit include: Coho, Pink, Chum, and Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, Cutthroat and Rainbow Trout, Dolly Varden, Morrison Creek Lamprey, Roosevelt Elk, Black Bear, Columbian Black-tailed Deer, beaver, Marten, Little Brown bats, Red-legged frogs, and a diversity of birds. | Comox Valley Land Trust | To be funded from Property Acquisition Fund | Land Securement | All | Puntledge River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Wildlife Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **28** | COA-F20-W-3121 | **Improving bat science and knowledge in the Puntledge River Watershed** *Puntledge Watershed bat project* This project will record ultrasonic acoustic data of bats in the Puntledge River Watershed, to determine which bat species are present. The project will gather data about their life history attributes, identify maternal colonies and hibernacula; and develop strategies to protect high quality bat habitat areas in the watershed. Delivered in partnership with BC Community Bat Program, the Province of B.C., the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the North American Bat Monitoring Program, this project will include permanent acoustic monitoring stations, driving transects, and site-specific field investigations with ultrasonic acoustic data-recording devices, as well as community outreach and education. | Comox Valley Land Trust | $ 10,085 | Habitat-Based Actions | Upland & Dryland | Puntledge River Watershed |
| **29** | COA-F20-W-3102 | **Supporting Mule Deer and habitat in the Shuswap River Watershed** *Mule Deer migration and seasonal ranges in the Upper Shuswap River Watershed* This project will help inform development of a habitat map and resource selection function model that will predict Mule Deer use and identify suitable habitats. Fifteen adult female Mule Deer will be collared and tracked for two years. Data from the GPS collars will help plot seasonal ranges and migration corridors. Completion of habitat maps and resource selection function models will help identify potential habitat enhancement sites to offset impacts of hydro development. This is a joint project with the Province of B.C., UBCO, and the Splatsin First Nation. | Ministry of Forests Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development | $ 19,720 | Research & Information Acquisition | Upland & Dryland | Shuswap River Watershed |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Grant-Based Wildlife Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **30** | COA-F20-W-3033 | **Assessing White Nose Syndrome mitigation options in the Stave River Watershed** *Developing and evaluating bat mitigation strategies* This multi-year project will study bat maternity colonies in the Stave River Watershed to understand how roost selection (i.e. bat boxes vs. buildings) affects bat health and reproduction. Sentinel sites will be monitored to evaluate the newest, most promising, White Nose Syndrome mitigation strategies for western North America. The results will have broad applicability across watersheds to inform mitigation strategies for bats. Bat habitat has been compromised at hydroelectric developments, as riparian habitats have flooded. This project will benefit the Little Brown and Yuma Bat species. | Wildlife Conservation Society Canada | $ 29,491 | Habitat-Based Actions | Upland & Dryland | Stave River Watershed |
| | | | **Wildlife Project Total:** | **$ 399,240** | | | |

# FWCP Coastal Region 2019-2020 Project List

| # | Project ID | 2019-2020 Fish and Wildlife Directed Projects | Project Lead | FWCP Funding | Project Type | Action Plan Alignment | Watershed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **31** | - | **Campbell River salmon spawning habitat strategy.**<br>In consideration of high winter flows in the lower Campbell River, and the importance of salmon, the Coastal Region Board approved funding for an assessment of the quantity and location of spawning habitat in 2019-2020 | - | $ 15,000 | Research & Information Acquisition | Rivers, Lakes & Reservoirs | Campbell River Watershed |
| **32** | - | **Supporting aquaculture in the Puntledge River Watershed**<br>FWCP annual funding to the Puntledge River Hatchery to support Summer Chinook production. | Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada | $ 17,000 | Species-Based Actions | All | Puntledge River Watershed |
| **33** | - | **Securing conservation lands in our Coastal Region**<br>Acquiring lands for conservation purposes. The Coastal Region Board has approved an annual land acquisition, which is a set aside of funds, for the future purchase of lands for conservation purposes in our Coastal Region. | - | $ 322,945 | Land Securement | All | Region-wide |
| | | | **Directed Project Total** | **$ 354,945** | | | |
| | | | **2019-2020 PROJECT SPEND TOTAL** | **$1,887,497** | | | |