

COLUMBIA REGION NEWS

February 2021

New gravel improves habitat for shore-spawning kokanee

Watch the
video now



24 northern leopard frog egg masses found in 2020

Twenty-four northern leopard frog egg masses were found in the Creston Valley in the last field season, one of the highest observed counts since monitoring started there in 2000. The field team caged 18 of the egg masses to protect them from predators and increase survival for this endangered amphibian.

[MORE.](#)



Mesh cages (left) were set up to protect each egg mass (right) to increase survival. Photos: Kat McGlynn

Grant applicants to be notified in February

Thanks to everyone who submitted a grant application to deliver a project in 2021-2022. Our three-stage review and evaluation process of each grant application is complete, and applicants will be notified of our board's decision by the end of this month. For those who are approved for funding, please [read our](#)

[information kit](#) outlining next steps for approved grant applicants.

Garbage removed and trees planted along the Slocan River

More than 100 tires were removed from the shoreline as part of the Slocan River Riparian Enhancement Project led by the Slocan River Streamkeepers. Fifty native cottonwood, willow, alder, red osier dogwood, cedar, and spruce trees were planted, and five swallow nesting boxes were installed. Thanks to members of the local community for hauling all the tires to the transfer station, and thanks to the Youth Climate Corps for all their work!



Project funding was provided through an FWCP [Community Engagement Grant](#). Photo: Gregoire Lamoureux

Cattail control at Reflection Lake benefits marsh birds

Restoration work at Reflection Lake near Golden has improved breeding habitat for marsh birds, including the sora, Virginia rail, pied-billed grebe, wood duck, hooded merganser, and the provincially Blue-listed eared grebe. [MORE](#).



Cattails were used for a Ktunaxa workshop and students clear a test plot. Photo: Goldeneye Ecological Services

Read our reports

Check out our updated [Columbia Region searchable spreadsheet](#) with links to the latest FWCP project reports now available on the Province of B.C.'s database. New reports include [Invasive Plant Management on Bighorn Sheep Winter Ranges](#) and [Kootenay Wildlife Tree Creation Project](#).

Free online presentations from our Peace Region!

If you missed our recent online presentations on fishers, bull trout and caribou, be sure to check out our coming sessions hosted in partnership with the

University of Northern British Columbia and its Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute. Join us Wednesday, March 3, and learn more about opportunities to restore connectivity in rivers and streams. On Wednesday, March 24, find out how genetic analyses of char fish species is informing how they evolved and how they are managed. All sessions are free and start at 12 noon PST / 1 p.m. MST. Find out how to join, and access past presentations. [MORE](#).



Click on the image to view an excellent fisher presentation by Rich Weir, a carnivore conservation specialist.



The FWCP is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, First Nations, and public stakeholders to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams.

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