

Gates Creek protects essential, well-used habitat for two at-risk populations of grizzly bears. Photo: F. Lessa

## 111 hectares of grizzly bear habitat conserved

Our Coastal Region donated one hundred-and-eleven hectares (274 acres) of important grizzly habitat near D'Arcy, north of Pemberton, to the Nature Conservancy of Canada for long-term conservation. The land transfer was made possible with the help of BC Hydro.

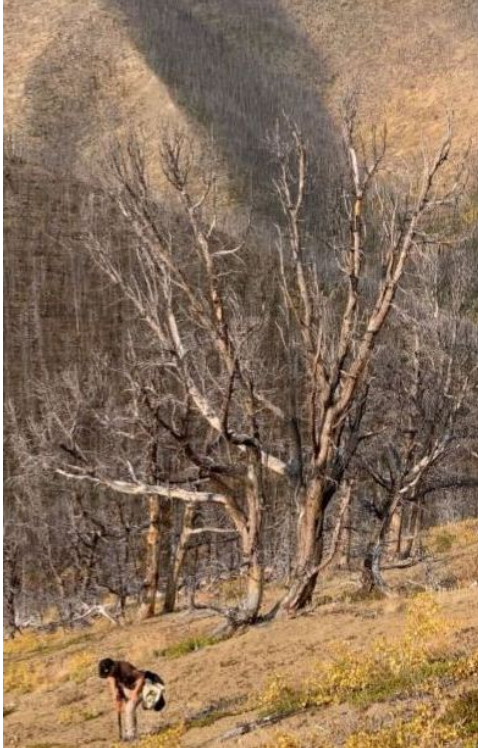
The new conservation property—known as Gates Creek—will support 14 at-risk species, including olive-sided flycatcher, western toad, wolverine, plus two populations of grizzly bears. The South Chilcotin and Stein Nahatlatch grizzly populations overlap in this area, and habitat connectivity is essential to their ongoing survival. [Read more.](#)



## Project aims to maintain water temperatures for Chinook

The Okanagan Nation Alliance is leading a project to prevent warming water temperatures in strategic locations in the Shuswap River Watershed to benefit spawning Chinook. The project will pinpoint key areas for revegetation, like Bessette Creek in the North Okanagan, where high water temperatures in late summer and early fall coincide with the spawning migration of Chinook, which are returning in low numbers. [Read more.](#)

Photo: iStock/Randimal



## More than 3,000 whitebark pine seedlings planted

Close to 3,200 whitebark pine seedlings were planted in the South Chilcotin and competing vegetation was removed in key areas to give the seedlings the best chance of survival. The seedlings were grown from local seeds collected in 2018. The project, led by Moody Tree, is supporting the recovery of whitebark pine, an endangered keystone species in high-elevation ecosystems. Rust infection and recent wildfires have killed many of these at-risk trees, and changes to the fire regime and climate change are contributing to dramatically declining numbers. [Read the full report](#). The FWCP has been supporting whitebark pine work in our Coastal Region for nearly ten years, for more approximately \$180,000, as well as in our [Columbia Region](#).

Nine Mile Ridge in Yalakom Provincial Park burned in 2009 and has had very little natural regeneration from any conifer species since then.

Photo: Randy Moody



## Communications survey: please give us your feedback

Lynne and Angus, our communications team, are updating our three-year communications and engagement strategy, and they'd really like your anonymous feedback. Let them know how we're doing, what you want to know more about, and the best ways we can share FWCP project updates, grant information, and other news. [Please take our short survey](#). It's open until Monday, July 19, 2021. Thanks in advance!



## Northern spotted owl webcam Chick B update: gender reveal

Chick B, the star of our spring webcam is doing well and exploring the aviary. As with many raptor species, the only way to differentiate between male and female northern spotted owls is through DNA testing, and recent testing of blood samples confirm that Chick B is a boy! If you have any ideas for a name for Chick B—it must start with a "B" of course—then [email](#) the Northern Spotted Owl Breeding Program. See the latest photos of Chick B at [our owl webcam page](#) and follow us on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for more on the chick.

Photo: Northern Spotted Owl Breeding Program



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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