



A ribbon-cutting event at Toadfest marked the official opening of a second concrete underpass tunnel installed by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) to reduce toad highway mortality. Toady was joined by FWCP's Crystal Klym, and MOTI's Duane Wells. Photo: L. Betts

Toadfest returned: check out the photos!

For the first time in three years, we hosted [Toadfest](#) at Summit Lake Provincial Park! Nearly 400 people enjoyed the displays and learned about western toads and other local plants and wildlife. Although the toad migration through the park was relatively small this year compared to other areas of the lake, more than 1,500 toadlets were collected and moved safely across the highway. [See some pictures!](#)



Grants available: come to an information session October 4

Our annual grant intake is open, and we are looking for proposed projects that will help conserve and enhance fish and wildlife, and benefit the region's ecosystems, species, and habitats. We offer large grants for proposed projects that are ready to be implemented, as well as seed grants to explore the feasibility of a project idea. Review our [action plans](#) and [regional guidance for grant applicants](#). We are here to help! [Contact us](#) if you have any questions.

Thanks to all the Columbia Region grant applicants who submitted an optional Notice of Intent (NOI) by the September 9, 2022, deadline. If you did not submit an optional NOI, we encourage and expect all grant applicants to follow the Nations' guidance for early engagement (see [Table 1 First Nations early engagement guidance](#)) prior to submitting your grant application.

Grant applications are due on **Friday, October 28, 2022, 4 p.m. PT / 5 p.m. MT.**

Learn more about our grants!

[Register now](#): online information session, **Tuesday, October 4, 2022, 1 p.m. PT / 2 p.m. MT.**

Resources for grant applicants

- Start your grant application [here](#)
- [Regional guidance](#) for grant applicants
- Columbia Region 2022-2023 [project list](#)
- Columbia Region [action plans](#)
- [Guidance](#) for early engagement with First Nations



A mobile trap used for sampling kokanee at the Meadow Creek Spawning Channel is relocated by Allison Bendis, with the Ministry of Forests. The electric fence in the background helps keep grizzly bears from getting too close—they like to sample the kokanee too! Photo: A. Glass

Information shared at spawning channel open house

More than 80 people came to the recent Meadow Creek Spawning Channel open house to learn about fish, channel operations, the [Nutrient Restoration Program](#), and how to co-exist with grizzly bears. As of September 10, approximately 8,700 kokanee were in the channel.

Community Engagement Grant: apply now!

We can help support your fish or wildlife project. Apply for our [Community Engagement Grant](#)—up to \$1,000—while funds are still available. The application form is short, and we will get back to you quickly. Apply now!

Trail Wildlife Association used a Community Engagement Grant to support volunteers remove approximately 1.5 km of barbed wire fencing in the Pend d'Oreille Valley. The fence cut across an important wildlife corridor for white-tailed deer and other ungulates. [Read more](#). Photo: Trail Wildlife Association



Attention grant applicants: read our reports

Check out our Columbia Region [searchable spreadsheet](#) with links to FWCP project reports. If you're applying for a grant, consider reviewing relevant final reports from past projects to help inform your grant application. All of our reports are available on the Province of B.C.'s databases.



Save Cottonwood Lake campaign wraps up: celebration ahead

The Cottonwood Lake Preservation Society (CLPS) did an amazing job in raising funds to secure the lake and surrounding habitat for fish and wildlife. Our Columbia Region board [approved \\$75,000](#) to help preserve the 49 hectares near Nelson. As FWCP public representative Moss Giasson [stated](#) at the time, land securement and protecting small lake habitats such as this one is one of the priorities for the FWCP. Congratulations to the society and all the partners involved!

The CLPS is organizing a community celebration at Cottonwood Lake on Saturday, October 8, 2022 and you're invited. For more information visit [savecottonwood.com](https://www.savecottonwood.com).

Follow us on social media

Get updates on project results, early notice about grant opportunities and deadlines, and invitations to information sessions about the projects we fund and the species and ecosystems that benefit. Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#)!



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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