



HCTF 2015-16 Approved Projects - Thompson/ Nicola

Project Name	Project #	Project Description	Approved Funding	Project Leader
Interior Fraser Wild Steelhead Conservation	3-251	This project will continue long term monitoring of abundance, productivity and conservation status for four populations of wild steelhead from the Thompson and Chilcotin watersheds. The project will provide science based knowledge to enhance provincial and federal fisheries management planning, processes and decisions for conservation and responsible use. The project will provide data and knowledge to encourage better fishing practices and coordination of management between provincial and federal fisheries agencies and First Nations.	\$76,002	Robert Bison Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-371-6244
Wetlands Institute 2015 	3-272	The Wetlands Institute workshop provides hands-on training to individuals and groups committed to wetland stewardship projects across the province. Following the Institute, participants are offered ongoing support to successfully complete their projects.	\$36,916	Neil Fletcher BC Wildlife Federation 1-888-881-2293
Quality Waters Strategy - Thompson River Guardian Program	3-273	River guardians will patrol and survey during times of fishery closure and will patrol and survey the steelhead sport fishery in the event of an opening to assist with fishery management and compliance.	\$24,860	Robert G. Bison Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-371-6244
Thompson Shuswap Okanagan Instream Conservation Flows	3-297	This project will continue to: 1) develop instream flow needs for fish on priority streams and document water balance (natural instream flow vs. downstream of withdrawal flow). 2) measure key streams requiring follow-up measurements in low flow months to determine if instream flows recommended in prior projects are met, and 3) engage local expertise, local government and water licensees and update stream information used for water use decisions.	\$26,894	Christian StPierre Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-371-6236
Community-based amphibian monitoring program in multi-use landscapes in south-central B.C.	3-313	This project is a collaborative monitoring program among volunteer community members, landowners, and scientists to identify and monitor important wetland habitats for amphibians and mitigate threats. Volunteers are trained in monitoring methods, and stewardship activities are initiated to promote practices that facilitate conservation of amphibians in multi-use landscapes.	\$10,830	Kristiina Ovaska Biolinx Environmental Research Ltd. 250-727-9708
Moose Habitat Selection and Mortality Risk In Relation to Salvage	3-342	The Province faces a major management challenge in maintaining sustainable populations of moose in the Southern Interior given large-scale salvage logging of insect-killed timber. The Proponent and Lab students are engaged in a collaborative project	\$55,650	Dennis Jelinski University of Victoria 250-721-7968



Logging on the Bonaparte Plateau		with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to assess female moose habitat selection in landscapes heavily altered by timber salvage operations, and how forest cut-blocks and road infrastructure relates to their mortality risk. The outcome of this research will greatly enhance the Province's understanding of factors affecting sustainable moose populations in the Bonaparte Plateau and more broadly in the province.		
Meadow Creek Golf Course Wetlands Restoration	3-344	By restoring and creating wetlands along Dumois Cr., this project is improving water quality in the local area and will, over time, improve water quality and the ecosystem downstream in Logan Lake. Functioning wetlands also provide better habitat for wildlife. Educational links have been established with the Ecological Restoration Program at BCIT.	\$35,000	Jeff Carter District of Logan Lake 250-523-6225
Fisher Artificial Reproductive Den Box Study 	3-345	This project will determine if artificial den boxes will be used by reproductive fishers (or other wildlife), the extent to which these devices will mitigate losses of natural denning habitat, and address the need for a science based mitigation technique to deal with the loss of fisher denning habitat that is occurring over a large portion of fisher range in BC.	\$50,900	Larry R. Davis 250-398-7353
Assessment of Sustainable Fishing Rates for Nicola Lake Burbot to Evaluate Sports-fishing Opportunities	3-347	Historically, Nicola Lake burbot provided a popular and unique fishery, but in the early 1990s, the Fish and Wildlife Branch closed the sports fishery due to concerns of overexploitation; no harvest analysis or assessment of the burbot population was done at the time. Partnering with First nations, we propose to estimate the sustainable fishing rate (Fopt) for the Nicola Lake burbot stock using the observed population age structure and the biology and vulnerability of the fish. We would then compare the estimated Fopt to the current fishing rates (F) for an existing First Nations food fishery by tagging fish and creeling the fishery to recover tags and evaluate additional sport-fishing opportunities.	\$47,460	Andy Morris Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-371-6325
Thompson Burn Program	3-358	The intent of this project will be to reintroduce fire into the low-mid elevation dry forest and grassland ecosystems to restore and improve forage nutrition and availability, primarily for mule deer and bighorn sheep.	\$91,700	Gerad Hales Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-371-4457
Stock Density Reduction Project - Thompson Region	3-361	This project involves the assessment of 20 candidate lakes which have high recruitment rates of naturalized rainbow trout. The assessments will determine if conditions are appropriate for the	\$34,970	Andrew Klassen Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource



		construction of recruitment barriers. The end goal of the initiative is to reduce trout recruitment rates to a level that will allow the trout size and condition to increase, creating attractive angling opportunities.		Operations 250-371-6237
Potential Declines in Aquatic Invertebrate and Chara within Interior Lakes	3-367	This project involves an assessment of the past and current state of Chara beds and aquatic invertebrates within interior small lakes. Observations consistently report significant declines in most of the major invertebrate groups (caddisfly, mayfly, damselfly, chironomid) that have always been consistent in past decades.	\$5,000	Brian Heise Thompson Rivers University 250-371-5530
Thompson Region Bighorn Sheep Collaring Project 	3-369	This project will collar 33 bighorn sheep rams from different herds in the Thompson region to better quantify connectivity of Thompson bighorn sheep herds, as well as clarify core home range use, summer and winter range migration timing and movement rates and ram foray patterns. The project will also develop a herd health baseline dataset from biological samples from individuals in each herd.	\$68,000	Gerad Hales Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-371-4457



Project 3-342 will enhance the Province's understanding of factors affecting sustainable moose populations in the Bonaparte Plateau and throughout BC.

