



HABITAT CONSERVATION
TRUST FOUNDATION

North Island Conservation Fund



Photo courtesy of fishingwithrod.com

*This fund will provide additional
resources for fish and wildlife conservation
on Northern Vancouver Island*

The Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) is a non-profit charitable granting organization that funds conservation projects in British Columbia. The majority of our grants are funded by conservation surcharges on angling and hunting licences sold in BC. Other revenue sources include donations, proceeds from sales of special permits, education materials, land management revenue, and creative sentencing awards.

What is Creative Sentencing?

Creative sentencing enables judges to use sentencing alternatives beyond the traditional options of fines, penalties and imprisonment. This can include ordering offenders to make payments to certain organizations in addition to fines payable to the Crown. In 1993, HCTF was named as a trust fund and potential recipient of creative sentencing awards in 5 environmental statutes. This designation allowed courts to order offenders to make payments to HCTF. We invest these funds in science-based, peer-reviewed conservation projects in the same region as the offense occurred.

What is the North Island Conservation Fund?

In 2011, Neucel Specialty Cellulose Ltd was found to have exceeded authorized levels of discharge into Neroutsos Inlet on three separate occasions. B.C.'s Conservation Officer Service, supported by Environment Canada, conducted a joint investigation and forwarded recommended charges to B.C.'s Crown counsel. In 2014, Neucel was convicted in provincial court and ordered to pay \$1,000 in fines to the province and \$174,000 to HCTF. The judge specified that this \$174,000 court award is to be used in support of fish and wildlife conservation projects on Northern Vancouver Island. The North Island Conservation Fund was created when the HCTF Board of Directors decided to match the court award funding with surcharge revenue to create a \$350,000 fund specifically for fish and wildlife conservation projects in this region. We will be accepting applications beginning in the fall of 2017.

North Island Conservation Fund Application FAQs

What kind of projects are eligible to apply for grants from North Island Conservation Fund?

As specified by the court, this money is for fish and wildlife conservation projects on Northern Vancouver Island. For this fund, Northern Vancouver Island is defined as the area north of (and including) Campbell River. Please see the HCTF website at www.hctf.ca/apply-for-funding/nicf for a detailed map of the eligible geographic area. To be considered for funding, projects must also:

- benefit native species
- be scientifically rigorous
- have clear and measurable outcomes

Priority consideration will be given to projects taking place on public lands or publicly accessible lands.

Are salmon projects eligible?

HCTF does not typically fund projects focussed on salmon, as the revenue used to fund fisheries projects primarily comes from freshwater angling licences. For this fund, we will consider projects restoring estuaries or riparian habitats that provide benefits to salmon *and* other species. These benefits must be clearly articulated in the proposal.

How much money can we apply for?

While there's no upper limit for funding requests, HCTF hopes to support multiple projects with the \$350,000 available in this Fund.

What are the expectations around fund leveraging?

HCTF strongly encourages proponents to secure additional funding or in-kind contributions for their projects. Priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate a 1:1 funding match.

How do we apply?

Applications for grants from the North Island Conservation Fund will follow the same application and review process as other applications for HCTF's Enhancement and Restoration grants. You will need to complete HCTF's online application form during the fall intake period. The online application portal typically opens in late September and will close **November 2nd, 2017**.

You can view a sample HCTF proposal at www.hctf.ca/apply-for-funding/hctf-online

We're looking for funding for a conservation project not eligible for this Fund. Does HCTF have other grants available?

Yes - HCTF has a number of different granting programs. Please see our website at www.hctf.ca for information on the other types of grants available for conservation and environmental education in BC.

