



Conservation Economic Stimulus Initiative (CESI) Preliminary Approved Project List

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Approved Projects Taking Place in Multiple Regions

Project #	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	Project Lead
0-603	Enhanced assessment of the conservation status and vulnerability to climate change of species and ecosystems in British Columbia	Species and ecosystems in British Columbia are vulnerable to climate change which may result in a decline in key fish and wildlife populations, extirpation, and extinction of species and ecosystems endemic to BC. This project will conduct inventory research and mine existing data of species and ecosystems in BC to assess vulnerability to a changing climate and incorporate this information into conservation data assessments that feed into the BC Red and Blue lists. Additional resources will allow expansion of our initiative to develop range maps for species and ecosystems in BC, providing a baseline to compare shifting ranges as our climate changes.	\$150,000	Damien Joly BC Conservation Data Centre
0-606	BC Parks iNaturalist Project	iNaturalist is an online social network of people sharing biodiversity information to help each other learn about nature, a crowdsourced species identification system and occurrence recording tool. In 2019, a joint project was launched between BC Parks, SFU and UVic to record species in all BC parks and protected areas throughout the province on this web-based app. The purpose is to generate species lists for each of the parks, record new observations, species at risk and invasive species. CESI funding will allow project leads to hire youth/student researchers to assist in coordinating among the partners actively supporting the Project, review and optimize existing observations so they are “research grade” and support young researcher’s time in the field in effort to broaden and deepen iNaturalist observations coverage across the protected area system.	\$50,000	Brian Starzomski University of Victoria
0-608	Sorting, pinning, labeling, databasing and identifying invertebrate specimens	This project will pin, label, database, and identify unsorted invertebrate specimen samples. The samples are part of bycatch that has been collected as part of various projects targeting invertebrate species at risk and contains valuable information/specimens for species in BC. Many of the specimens have been collected from BC Parks wildlife management areas and crown land over the past ten years. Timely processing of these collections is essential to documenting changes caused by climate change.	\$150,000	Jennifer Heron Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
0-599	Bull Trout Population Status Assessment	Bull Trout are an endemic species of char widely distributed within BC. Conservation and management of bull trout in BC has been hindered by the lack of a systematic, province-wide assessment of distribution, abundance, trends in abundance, and threats to the species' long-term persistence. The project will address data gaps for the conservation and management of Bull Trout within BC. The project will deliver a coordinated population monitoring approach for Bull Trout within the province by selecting a few data poor index streams to monitor within 3 regions (South coast, Thompson-Okanagan, and Northeast Regions).	\$60,000	Jennifer Sarchuk Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
0-602	Promoting habitat conservation and herptile awareness through online engagement of BC citizens	Development of a consolidated provincial web page that will provide current and comprehensive information about amphibians, reptiles and their habitats from a Western Science and First Nations perspective. In addition to providing accurate content, this website will engage with BC residents using interactive approaches to address common questions and misconceptions, spark curiosity, and create an interest in species reporting and population monitoring. The expected result will be the enhanced conservation of herptiles and their habitats throughout BC.	\$80,000	Karl Larsen Thompson Rivers University

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0-600	Building Resilient Bat Populations: Pilot Project on Engaging First Nations in Local Bat Conservation	This project will employ direct outreach and partnership with First Nations to support local bat populations through the Bat-friendly Communities Program. The goal of this program is to increase capacity within communities, protect/enhancement bat habitats (with a focus on artificial roost sites), and increasing resilience of bat communities in the face of climate change and emerging diseases.	\$90,800	Katie Calon The British Columbia Conservation Foundation
0-596	Helping Trappers Reduce Incidental Harvest of Fishers	Fishers are at high risk of decline or extirpation in British Columbia. Despite this concern, fishers are still trapped and are especially susceptible to overharvest because the species is captured incidentally in traps set for more abundant and profitable American martens. This project strives to reduce the incidental harvest of fishers in traps set by providing modified marten traps to active trappers and delivering a comprehensive extension program designed to improve trapper stewardship knowledge, skills, and aspiration.	\$175,000	Rich Weir Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
0-597	Fishers, fires and forests: Understanding how threatened fisher populations respond to rapidly changing landscapes	Fisher populations in the Central Interior of British Columbia are believed to have declined precipitously over the past 20 years. Working with our First Nations partners, this project will assess current population distribution and abundance throughout the Columbian population unit and monitor changes and status to the population over time - information that is critically needed to recover this endangered population.	\$300,000	Rory Fogarty Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
0-609	GIS habitat mapping and modeling habitat for invertebrate species at risk, including ground-truthing some sites	Numerous high priority invertebrate species at risk, including Dun Skipper, Audouin's Night-stalking Tiger Beetle, Oregon Forestsnail, Bumble Bees, and the ecosystems that support them are within areas of high development/land conversion throughout their range. Completing GIS habitat modeling will provide information on high priority rates of encounter for these animals, guidance to conservation practitioners and decision makers when advising on development, methods of best management practices/stewardship guidance that should be recommended.	\$75,000	Jennifer Heron Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
0-601	The Nature Trust of BC- Conservation and Land Management Intern Project	The Conservation Intern Program will hire approximately 10 people under 30 to work with the Nature Trust of British Columbia and provincial regional staff to deliver conservation land management programs on approximately 100 hectares (40 properties/property complexes) in the Okanagan, Kootenay, West and South Coast regions. These projects include ecological restoration (focus on wetland and riparian habitats) to improve ecosystem function and resilience to climate change, invasive species inventory/removal, recreation management and public engagement. Participants will work with First Nations, local governments, other NGO's, stewardship groups and volunteers.	\$250,000	Jason Emery The Nature Trust of British Columbia
0-598	Field Guidance for identification of old and ancient forest stands to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem integrity in BC	This project will support and promote improved management of old and ancient forest stands in BC, which act as refuges for biodiversity in the landscape amid a changing climate. Key work will be completed to identify gaps in knowledge of old growth forest and biodiversity within BC and establish mitigation measures to preserve ecosystem health and the integrity of these natural systems. This project will result in the development and publication of ecosystem-based field guidance for identifying and retaining old and ancient forests across BC, ensuring that land management decisions are informed by current ecological knowledge and data to support the identification and retention of forest ecosystems at very high risk of permanent biodiversity loss.	\$75,000	Nyssa Temmel Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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0-604	Inventory and Monitoring of Coastal Northern Goshawk	The provincial cabinet approved Implementation Plan has targets for Wildlife Habitat Area protection requirements based on known locations of coastal northern goshawk. These birds are elusive and establish their territories in large areas of intact mature and old growth forests. This project supports the detection and monitoring of known goshawk sites by conducting a geographic inventory of goshawk sites, this project will contribute. These large, forested sites will then be the focus of habitat protection for this species at risk and will also contribute to climate impact mitigation through the maintenance of ecological functions.	\$300,000	Christine Petrovcic Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
0-605	Habitat Inventory, Population Monitoring and Research for the protection of the Marbled Murrelet	There is a provincial cabinet approved Implementation Plan and pending regulatory orders to protect suitable Marbled Murrelet nesting habitat, which is primarily old-growth forests. The accurate mapping (with LLAS and LiDAR modeling) and protection of large areas of forested ecosystems will not only protect habitat for this species at risk but it has an umbrella effect for other wildlife and will contribute to climate impact mitigation through the maintenance of ecological functions.	\$180,000	Christine Petrovcic Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
0-607	Spartina Program FY22	Spartina refers to a group of invasive Cordgrasses which have been threatening the coastal ecosystems of British Columbia since they were first reported in 2003. The BC Spartina Working Group (BCSWG) was formed in 2004 and is made up of government and non-government organizations. The primary goal of the BCSWG is to eradicate all invasive Spartina spp. within British Columbia. Spartina impacts over 650 hectares along BC's coastline and the collaborative efforts of the BC SWG are critical to ensuring an ecologically healthy and resilient BC coast.	\$50,000	Richard Topp Ducks Unlimited Canada
0-408	Wetlands restoration for Species at Risk habitat enhancement in the CDF	Wetlands provide critical habitat for many at-risk species in Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems. Moreover, climate change will lead to reduced abundance, persistence, size, and water quality of wetlands across the landscape. The Islands Trust Conservancy is collaborating with local conservancies and landowners to restore and enhance wetland habitat on Lasqueti Island and Sidney Island with known at-risk species. Activities will include invasive species removal, native species planting, creating habitat with nest boxes, monitoring species-at-risk presence and population. The habitat restoration, training, and research conducted in this project will assist with species persistence and address future climate change impacts.	\$25,000	Kathryn Martell Islands Trust Conservancy
3-448	Inventory for late-season southern interior invertebrate species at risk	There is a variety invertebrate species at risk that mature late in the season and are active in September and October. A number of high-priority sites have been identified that require surveys, including some of these same habitats being up for potential sale to private investors for future development. Targeted surveys for these late-season species will ensure a more accurate conservation status assessment and more information for decision makers.	\$70,000	Katie Calon The British Columbia Conservation Foundation
3-446	Snake Den Movement and Temperature Monitoring	The project focuses on the movement of rattlesnakes at den sites and the relationship to temperature across the species range in BC. This information will be used to develop mitigation measures/timing windows for development projects near snake dens and will inform how snake movements are impacted/modified in response to climate related temperature changes.	\$25,000	Karl Larsen Thompson Rivers University

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Approved Projects on Vancouver Island

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1-785	Grace Islet Impacted Area Restoration	Grace Islet is a small islet in Ganges Harbour which was known to be one the most floristically intact islets in the southern Gulf Islands until construction of a luxury home began on the site in 2014. In 2015, a settlement with the landowner was reached to transfer the land's title to the Nature Conservancy of Canada. CESI funds will be directed towards both relationship-building and restoration efforts including establishment of native plant species, invasive species control, and replacement of disturbed soils as appropriate.	\$82,000	Steven Godfrey The Nature Conservancy of Canada
1-781	Garry Oak Ecosystems - Restoring an endangered ecosystem	Habitat Acquisition Trust is facilitating a collaboration of 12 independent projects all relating to the restoration and enhancement of Garry Oak and associated ecosystems on Vancouver Island. Funding will support protecting Garry oak habitat on private and public lands, indigenous led conservation projects on traditional territory lands, research providing information that will greatly inform and enhance Garry Oak restoration practices and climate change baseline data, and monitoring species at risk and surveying for critical habitat.	\$140,000	Wendy Tyrrell Habitat Acquisition Trust
1-782	Western Painted turtle habitat creation, mitigation and enhancement	Western painted turtle habitat is limited within much of their range due to habitat disturbance and conversion. This project will develop and implement prescriptions to create, enhance, and mitigate risks to nesting and basking habitat for Western painted turtle's Pacific Coast population, focusing on site in the Alberni Valley.	\$21,360	Mary Toews Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
1-627	Coastal Experimental Watersheds (CEWs) – active adaptive management for ecological integrity and climate change resilience in the Great Bear Rainforest	The Coastal Experimental Watersheds project provides data and tools to understand ecological function within the Great Bear Rainforest, assess operational and ecological outcomes of management under the legal Land Use Order, and quantify implications of climate change for ongoing stewardship. This research will utilize and build capacity across First Nation Guardian programs and integrate existing monitoring activities with opportunistic and retrospective sampling on planned or previously harvested sites and designed (experimental) harvest treatments.	\$120,000	Jordan Benner Nanwakolas Council
1-783	Salmonid habitat and flow requirements in the Koksilah and Chemainus Rivers - A twinned watershed proposal	The Koksilah and Chemainus watersheds on southern Vancouver Island support large populations of steelhead and salmon species. They also have significant historical and cultural values for the Cowichan Tribes communities. Climate change, along with water and land use practices, are having significant impacts on salmon in the area and their habitats. This project will provide the foundational knowledge necessary to address these challenges and further water governance and restoration projects for both watersheds.	\$500,000	Tom Rutherford Cowichan Watershed Board
1-784	Quatse Estuary Restoration Project	This project aims to restore coastal processes and improve fish and wildlife habitat in the Gwa'dzi River Estuary. This project is being implemented and delivered in partnership with the Kwakiutl First Nation, the West Coast Conservation Land Management Program along with the District of Port Hardy. We will breach Goodspeed Road and enhance fish and wildlife habitat while ensuring the estuary is resilient to sea-level rise and climate change.	\$50,000	Tom Reid The Nature Trust of British Columbia

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1-602	Restoration and Stewardship of Greater Victoria Small Watersheds	The urban watersheds of Greater Victoria provide important habitat for a variety of species and a place for people to enjoy nature. However, high urban storm runoff is causing severe erosion and loss of spawning gravel for fish. Simplified ditch-like channels, debris barriers and invasive blackberries are also a concern. Working with World Fisheries Trust, this project focuses on identifying and correcting habitat problems for coho salmon and sea-run cutthroat trout. Trained interns will implement habitat restoration plans for the upper Colquitz River, Gorge Creek, and the Lower Colquitz River along Craigflower Creek.	\$374,000	Heather Wright World Fisheries Trust
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Approved Projects in Lower Mainland Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	Project Lead
2-734	Maintaining spawning and rearing habitat in the lower Alouette River: Mud Creek Sediment Ponds	The lower Alouette River in Maple Ridge supports numerous freshwater and migratory fish species including Sockeye Salmon and Steelhead. Increased sediment loading in the river reduces available spawning habitat for fish. A series of settling ponds located where Mud Creek flows into the Alouette River helps to reduce river sedimentation by catching incoming debris. This project will restore sedimentation catchment potential, subsequently maintaining the quality of existing habitat in the Alouette River by mitigating sediment loading in spawning and rearing habitat.	\$15,000	Heather Vainionpaa Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
2-735	Developing tools to anticipate instream flow needs for fish under climate change	This project will hire an early career researcher to model the effects of increasing temperatures on Habitat Suitability Curves for salmonids; to extract flow-ecology relationships for BC streams from BC Water Use Plans and other studies; and to update the provincial EFN Research Strategy. Project results will improve our ability to model, predict, and manage the impacts of climate warming on stream flows and productive capacity for fish.	\$43,000	Jordan Rosenfeld University of British Columbia
2-730	Developing genetic primers to identify agricultural pests in bat guano	This joint project between SFU, ENV, AGRI, and BCCDC will pilot a genomics method to identify invertebrate prey in bat guano. The outcomes of this project will help environmental stewards more effectively communicate the value of bats to agriculturists and encourage additional bat stewardship and natural pest control as we face changes in the timing and occurrence of climate-related insect outbreaks.	\$70,000	William Hsiao Simon Fraser University
2-726	Using bioenergetics models to determine changes in food availability and consumption for white sturgeon	This project will estimate changes in white sturgeon consumption over seasons and years to evaluate how availability of food prey affects population-level consumption estimates. Results will help inform management of sturgeon and their prey species to transition to more ecosystem-level outcomes and metrics.	\$50,000	Brett van Poorten Simon Fraser University
2-731	South Coast Conservation Land Operation & Maintenance Field Teams	The South Coast Conservation Land Management Program will hire two Conservation Land Field Teams to conduct high priority operation and maintenance activities throughout South Coast provincial conservation lands. Field teams will gain hands-on experience with conservation land management by conducting important activities, such as invasive plant management, maintenance of infrastructure, public outreach, and ecosystem inventory.	\$76,000	Eric Balke Ducks Unlimited Canada
2-732	Wetland creation and enhancement in the Little Campbell River Watershed	Wetlands capture and store carbon, provide resilience to hazards such as flooding and storm surge; they also provide habitat for wide diversity of species, including species at risk. The goal of this project is enhancing and conserving 1000m ² of freshwater wetland in South Surrey and South Langley where 80% of natural wetlands have already been lost.	\$50,000	Christy Juteau A Rocha Canada

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2-727	Nature Stewards Program: Habitat Restoration and Nature-based Solutions to Climate Change	The Fraser Valley Conservancy's Nature Stewards Program encourages private landowners throughout the eastern Fraser Valley to conserve and enhance habitat for wildlife on their properties. The program is open to all landowners who have suitable habitat to support native species and want to implement nature-based solutions to climate change. This project will enable the Fraser Valley Conservancy to assist landowners with habitat improvements while providing meaningful employment for new staff members.	\$100,000	Joanne Neilson Fraser Valley Conservancy
2-733	Sumas/Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance Bank Stabilization Fish and Fish habitat survey	The Sumas/Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance Bank Stabilization Fish and Fish Habitat study aims to understand and monitor changes in fish abundance before, during and after bank armoring initiatives. To accomplish this, researchers will conduct a hydro-acoustic survey, fish habitat assessment and riparian vegetation inventory.	\$80,000	Ashlee Prevost Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance Society
2-729	Tom Berry Gravel Pit -Transforming a gravel pit into functional fish and floodplain habitat as protected park-conservation space	The Tom Berry Gravel Pit project will restore a gravel pit into functional floodplain habitat. It will allow pacific salmon migrating down the Fraser River, to enter and leave the "pit-stop" rather than being trapped in the pit. It will involve creating new channels, enhancing aquatic habitats, and replanting the floodplain ecology with native trees and shrubs. This funding will support the second controlled connection of flows - supporting construction of the under-road crossing and downstream channel; and support replanting using native plants from the Pacific Northwest, to build riparian areas, within the footprint of the constructed areas.	\$181,800	Natashia Cox Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition
2-736	Pilot Program: Supporting Local, Small-scale Hobby Farmers and Horse Farmers	The project focuses on farms in the Lower Mainland, an identified Species-At-Risk hot-spot and a target of the Priority Places program. Improvements to pasture and manure management practices directly improve water quality by reducing sediment and nutrient flow into streams, wetlands and rivers. Simple, small-scale changes in farming practice will ensure remnant habitats are retained for at risk species such as Redlegged Frog, Oregon Spotted Frog, Great Blue Heron and Pacific Water Shrew, and other wildlife.	\$15,000	Rachel Drennan Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition
2-728	Photographic recording of breeding cormorants to support effective population management in the Salish Sea	Cormorants are 'sentinel' species; indicators of ecosystem health in marine and near-shore ecosystems that track ecosystem change, including environmental pollutants, prey abundance and human disturbance. This project will develop new monitoring methods at large, vulnerable colonies to inform decisions on how to curtail human activities that have the potential to disrupt these important colonies. Additionally, the project will contribute to improved understanding of local ecosystem conditions. Photogrammetry data from these deployments will compare the nesting phenology and breeding success on urban bridges to those of natural rookeries in the Salish Sea.	\$42,000	Ruth Joy Simon Fraser University

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Approved projects in the Thompson-Nicola Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	Project Lead
3-450	Adams Lake Restoration Project	Climate change has contributed to significant collapses of wild Pacific salmon stocks. Reductions of returning salmon and in turn marine derived nutrients impacts ecosystem productivity resulting in further ecosystem collapse. The Adams Lake Indian Band's traditional and social practices are tightly linking to salmon and a healthy sustainable stock is critical to this community. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and the Adams Lake Indian Band will deliver a collaborative project that uses nutrient restoration to mitigate the effects of climate change on Adams Lake salmon stocks in Adams Lake. This funding will support monitoring of the response of blue listed Bull Trout and the invasive perch population to nutrient restoration, as well as the assessment of primary productivity measuring ecosystem change to guide restoration decisions.	\$125,000	Shannon Harris Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
3-443	Whitebark Pine Seed Orchard Development	Whitebark pine is an endangered species threatened by white pine blister rust, mountain pine beetle, changes to historic fire regimes and global climate change. This project spearheads one strategy to alleviate this decline through the establishment of a cooperative tree improvement program, and the establishment of seed orchards to produce white pine blister rust-resistant seed and seedlings for restoration and reforestation purposes.	\$40,000	Kendra Bennett The Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada
3-444	Species at Risk Management in Skeetchestn Traditional Territory	This is a multi-year species at risk and habitat management program in collaboration with Skeetchestn within their traditional territory and based on the draft management plan that was developed in 2019-2020. The project includes inventory, habitat assessments, and planning for management actions with the objective of achieving on the ground management actions for species at risk by the end of the project.	\$70,000	Skeetchestn Indian Band
3-445	Secwepemc Collaborative Stewardship Project	The Goal of the Secwepemc Collaborative Stewardship Project is to concurrently advance the Secwepemc aspiration to be stewards on the land and to advance collaborative stewardship, conservation and reconciliation, and inform the development of the Secwepemc Collaborative Stewardship Plan. The project will provide opportunity to employ Secwepemc community members, who would otherwise not be employed, as Territorial Stewards. These Territorial Stewards will receive training and move forward on specific deliverables that will benefit riparian and terrestrial wildlife and habitats in collaboration with FLNRD.	\$375,000	Rob Purdy Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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Approved projects in the Kootenay Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	Project Lead
4-644	Forsyth Creek/ Cadorna Creek Ecosystem Restoration	This project will develop and carry out a stand management prescription and burn plan for Cadorna Creek & Forsyth Creek including comprehensive habitat/archeological assessment on this high value habitat that will inform and guide the BC Wildfire Service and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development on prescribed fire delivery.	\$140,000	Larry Ingham Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
4-650	Evaluating and Improving Critical Habitat of Species-at- Risk in Southeast BC	The overarching goal of the project is to assess and evaluate current habitat condition, level of threat/disturbance (aligned with IUCN categories) on the landscape, and species occupancy in Critical Habitat for target species in the Kootenay Boundary area in Southeast BC. Results from assessments/evaluations will inform prioritization of habitat restoration/enhancement and threat mitigation actions for subsequent years.	\$200,000	Lindsay Anderson Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
4-645	Highway 3 Safe Passage Wildlife Mitigation	The project will work to improve wildlife connectivity and human safety along Highway 3 in the southern Canadian Rockies. The partner organizations have collaborated for over a decade to identify hotspots of wildlife collisions and crossings that would benefit from highway mitigation. Activities will include changes to existing bridges to allow wildlife passage and associated wildlife fencing. With increased wildfire on the land base associated with drought, insect outbreaks and warming, coupled with increasing land use pressure, resilient and connected wildlife populations are needed to sustain First Nations and public interests.	\$500,000	Emily Chow Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
4-651	Peckham's Ecosystem Restoration & Seeding Refurbishment	The goal for this project is to restore degraded and damaged sites in the Peckham's Range Unit through invasive plant management and seeding restoration works. The main objective for the project is to restore elk habitat and improve ecosystem capacity and resiliency in a high value grassland. Project works will include invasive plant treatments and domestic seeding refurbishment to restore grassland ecosystems and wildlife habitat.	\$100,000	Hanna McIntyre Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
4-646	Galton/ Lizard Mountain Ungulate Winter Range Restoration	Invasive plant management at the Lizard and Galton Range restoration sites is a project component of larger enhancement activities that aim to increase habitat effectiveness and ecosystem function on ungulate winter ranges. Invasive plant management includes herbicide application and biological control on high priority species. This ungulate winter range restoration project includes an intensive monitoring portion to track the effectiveness of both herbicide and prescribed burn treatments, and vegetative response to each.	\$100,000	Larry Ingham Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
4-652	Peckham's Range Unit Restoration Plan	The goal of the Peckham's Range Unit Restoration Plan is to develop a coordinated resource management plan to improve ecosystem health and wildlife management on Crown Land. By providing a strategic path forward and developing projects for future investment, the plan will be used to inform resource management decisions going forward.	\$70,000	Hanna McIntyre Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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4-645	McDonald Prescribed Burn	Prescribed burning will enhance winter habitat to support Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep populations in the Galton Range. This project builds upon ongoing efforts and aims to enhance forage and restore ecosystem function, diversity and resiliency on bighorn sheep ranges. Enhancement efforts will benefit other ungulates that use the area for winter range, including elk, mule deer and white-tailed deer.	\$30,000	Larry Ingham Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
4-647	Wildlife Monitoring in Wildfires	The objective is to compare wildlife abundance in intact-burns versus salvage logged burns, with the intent of informing management of wildlife and conservation areas. We intend to collect year-round data on ungulate and predator densities in these two habitat types. CESI funding will support the continuation of data collection and analysis of data collected to date.	\$20,000	Meghan Anderson Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
4-648	Road Deactivation and Restoration in the East Kootenays	The high road density in the east Kootenay region is a threat to multiple terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem values. To reduce risks to wildlife and restore ecosystem function, this project aims to deactivate 70.4 km of logging and mining roads. The deactivated roads will be planted with trees to speed up ecosystem recovery and sequester carbon. This project will benefit multiple terrestrial and aquatic species, including moose, grizzly bears, and westslope cutthroat trout. Additional benefits include restored hydrology, lower stream sedimentation, improved habitat connectivity, improved habitat security and lower wildlife mortality, enhanced habitat quality, decreased invasive species abundance and spread, and carbon sequestration.	\$150,000	Meghan Anderson Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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Approved Projects in the Skeena Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	Project Lead
6-308	Provincial Whitebark Pine Data collection, analysis and conservation management	This project aims to collect and analyze ecological data on the ground from newly observed whitebark pine areas in Tweedsmuir North Provincial Park to support whitebark pine ecosystem description and classification. Collected vegetation material will be used to increase the number of pine rust resistant trees across the province over time.	\$50,000	Kendra Bennett Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
6-122	Guardian Program to support Conservation in the Meziadin Watershed – Assessing Climate Resilience	This project will involve monitoring and assessing changes to water quality and temperature in Meziadin Lake and will empower Gitanyow to better steward the lands and waters that have been the subject of legal action, negotiation, and conflict for more than 100 years. The project will support employment, reconciliation, stewardship and climate resilience - including the establishment of an Indigenous protected area as well as tri-lateral negotiations towards an incremental treaty approach between Gitanyow, BC and Canada.	\$110,000	Tara Marsden Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs
6-123	Lower Otter Creek Wetland Restoration	The project seeks to restore natural wetland habitat along the lower section of Otter Creek will reduce sediment from upstream mining activities from entering Surprise Lake. These restoration efforts will improve water quality, encouraging local grayling populations to utilize Otter Creek habitat once again and providing water and habitat retention.	\$700,000	Jackie Caldwell Taku River Tlingit First Nation

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Approved Projects in the Omineca/ Peace Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	Project Lead
7-561	Nechako white sturgeon restoration action	This project will contribute to the recovery of the Nechako white sturgeon by supporting work in three areas: spawning habitat restoration, juvenile mortality and by evaluating juvenile winter habitat use. All three project areas are high priorities recovery activities. These projects will both advance our understanding of identified threats and continue our progress on habitat mitigation.	\$250,000	Steve McAdam Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
7-560	Using large-scale functional habitat restoration tools to enhance moose populations in northcentral British Columbia	The Society for Ecosystem Restoration in Northern BC has proposed a habitat restoration project in response to declining moose populations in the Omineca. The project will use a combination of treatments to modify the structure of older plantations to facilitate the recruitment of forage and habitat structure important to moose.	\$144,000	Mark Steynen Society of Ecosystem Restoration in Northern BC
7-559	Saik'uz Restoration Plan	Saik'uz will support 2 short-term restoration projects including current road rehabilitation in the Crystal Lake area and, large-scale functional habitat restoration tools to enhance moose populations in northcentral BC. Saik'uz and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development will also co-develop a Restoration Plan to identify other ecosystem restoration opportunities within Saik'uz Traditional Territory. The restoration plan will support multiple objectives and values related to climate, habitat, forest productivity, and ecosystem restoration.	\$500,000	Mark Steynen Society of Ecosystem Restoration in Northern BC

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Approved Projects in the Okanagan Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Description	Funding Amount	Project Lead
8-482	Okanagan Lake Kokanee Stock Recovery	This project supports Okanagan Lake kokanee stock recovery efforts. Work includes kokanee spawner enumeration surveys, hydroacoustic trawl surveys to estimate in-lake kokanee abundance by age class, and genetic sampling for differentiation of Kokanee vs. Sockeye. Activities are required in order to estimate kokanee stock abundance, regulate the Okanagan Lake fishery, evaluate impacts of the sockeye introduction on resident fish stocks beneath the Okanagan basin Salmon restoration M&E Plan and to determine the impacts of climate change on Okanagan lake fish stocks & habitat.	\$35,000	Tara White Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
8-481	Bighorn sheep and Mountain goat <i>M. ovi</i> and <i>psoropties</i> response monitoring and mangement planning	This project will employ bi-weekly surveys of Okanagan bighorn sheep populations documenting lamb to ewe ratios and tracking collared ewes. Lamb survival will be recorded, and any evidence of potential disease documented with video and photographs. While working to document sheep population status technicians will engage and liaise with local bands to ensure transparent discussions are had with the correct people at appropriate times.	\$25,000	Craig McLean Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
8-483	Road mortality and mitigation monitoring for snakes	This project addresses high levels of roadkill detected for several species of at-risk snakes in the White Lake Basin in the South Okanagan. Earlier work revealed that the population of rattlesnakes are declining from road mortality. In response to this work, new eco-passages for snakes were installed as a mitigation tool. CESI funding will enable a critical assessment of the effectiveness of this effort in arresting the decline of these animals. Continued road surveys along with population and eco-passage monitoring will be conducted to track the proximate and ultimate effects of the mitigation work.	\$40,000	Karl Larsen Thompson Rivers University
3-447	SAR Fish Monitoring and Inventory in the TOR	The Umatilla Dace is a poorly understood species that occurs throughout the Columbia drainage, including the Similkameen watershed in British Columbia. Within the Similkameen watershed the species is limited to a small number of low-density populations, which are believed to be declining. This project will apply eDNA sampling technology to confirm the presence of historically identified populations and inventory other locations that could provide suitable habitat.	\$25,000	Ryan Whitehouse Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

*List of approved projects is incomplete and will be updated with additional projects as agreements are finalized.



For more information on the CESI Program visit:
www.hctf.ca/grants/conservation-economic-stimulus-initiative/