



# Land Stewardship Grants

Year 2 Reports  
2020-23 Funding Cycle

## Introduction

In 2008, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) was awarded a \$9M endowment contribution from the Province of British Columbia to fund operations and maintenance activities on Conservation Lands. \$3M of the endowment was allocated for activities on lands managed by non-profit organizations. The first intake of this program occurred in late 2016 and 12 grants were awarded to be used from April 2017 to March 2020. The second intake for this program occurred in 2019 and 13 grants were awarded for 2020-2023. More information about this grant program is available [HERE](#). This document provides copies of all reports submitted for the 2021 -2022 fiscal year (Year 2 of 3). The table below lists all reports included plus the total amount spent to date for each project (Year 2). Note that the detailed financial reporting is removed for confidentiality purposes. If you have any questions about the Land Stewardship Grant program, please contact Barb von Sacken, Conservation Lands Program Coordinator at 250-940-3013 or [bvonsacken@hctf.ca](mailto:bvonsacken@hctf.ca).

Revised with correct totals 13 September 2023

Project #	Project Name	Organization	Amount Spent up to Year 2
1-647	Martha's Place	Nanaimo Area Land Trust	\$8,090
1-651	Matson Conservation Area	Habitat Acquisition Trust	\$21,484
1-733	Central Denman Conservation Complex	Denman Conservancy Association	\$21,143
1-734	Millard Learning Centre	Galiano Conservancy Association	\$28,700
1-735	Chemainus Estuary	Q'ul-Ihanumutsun Aquatic Resources Society (QARS)	\$100
2-673	Rogers Road Properties	Savary Island Land Trust	\$6,597
2-674	Savary Island Road	Savary Island Land Trust	\$6,381
2-675	Vancouver Boulevard	Savary Island Land Trust	\$5,696
2-676	Frenchies Island	Ducks Unlimited Canada	\$7,700
3-425	Turtle Valley Farm/Toad Hollow Invasive Plant Management and Rehabilitation	The Nature Conservancy of Canada	\$38,799
4-551	Fort Shepherd Conservancy Area	The Land Conservancy of BC	\$11,800
4-606	Morrissey Meadows	The Nature Conservancy of Canada	\$4,387
8-457	R.E. Taylor Conservation Property	Southern Interior Land Trust (SILT)	\$9,130
			<b>\$170,007</b>



1-647

Martha's Place



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 1-647

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Martha's Place

**Project Leader Name:** Paul Chapman

**Name of Organization:** Nanaimo & Area Land Trust

**Date of Report:** April 21st, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Information:** [paul@nalt.bc.ca](mailto:paul@nalt.bc.ca) 250-714-1990

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

Maintenance of areas of removal or control of priority invasive plant species English ivy, English holly and Himalayan blackberries from previous year.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

The outreach opportunities are normally limited on this property as it is the main residence of the onsite care takers. In 2021, COVID 19, health authority directives and organizational protocol continued to prevent any outreach activities from occurring.



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

**Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF**

Our contractor was able to carry out maintenance of invasive plant control even with COVID concerns. The contractor limited their time on the property and therefore only partial funds for 2021 have been invoiced. Please advise regarding invoice, should we use all of the current funding first before we send an invoice for the remaining 20%? We have dates scheduled for invasive maintenance in the summer of 2022.





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

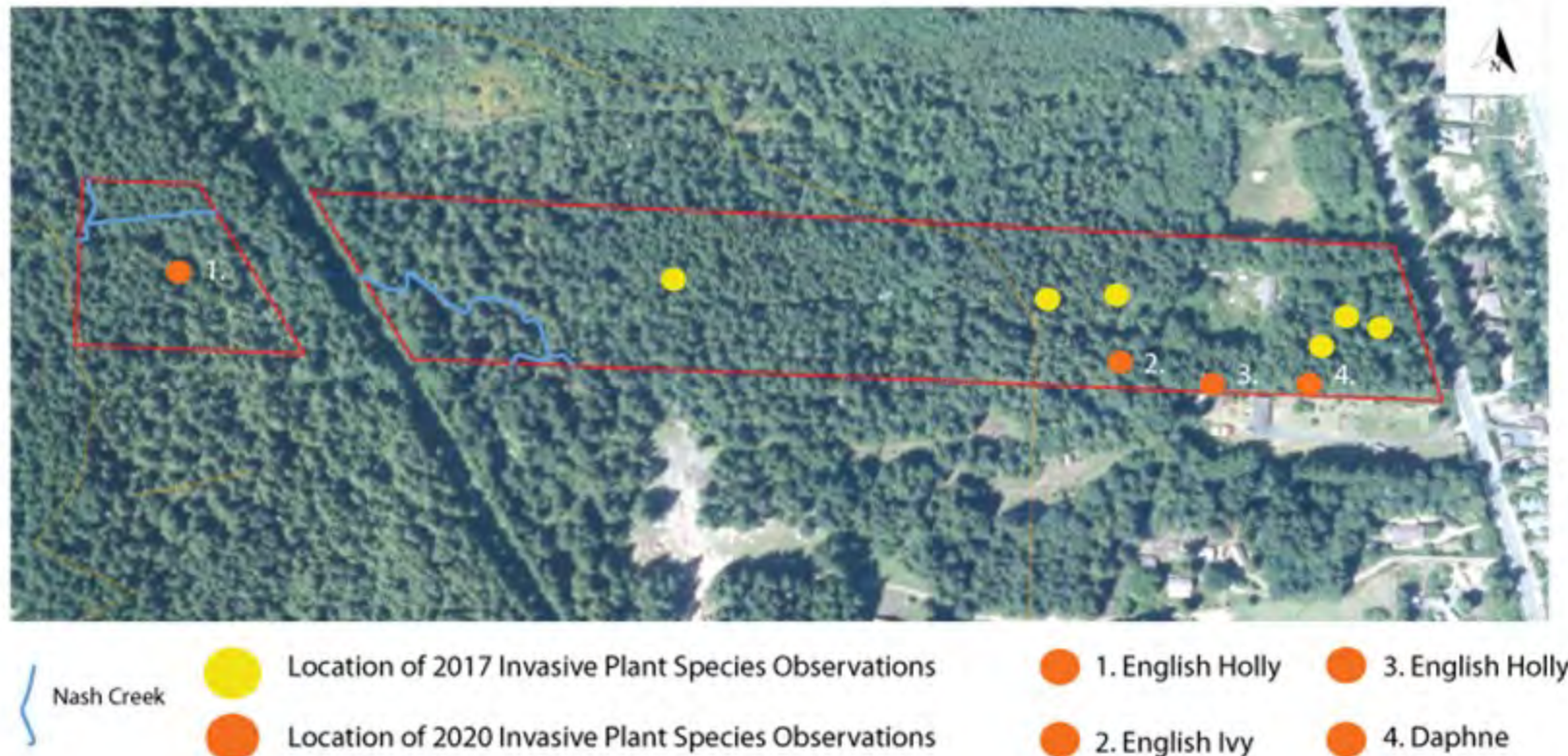
## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



container of invasive plants



## Martha Warde Property - Location of Invasive Plant Species Observed in 2017 and 2020 Field Work





Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23 Cycle

Please read the Year 2 Reporting Instructions before completing this form.

From Application					Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Martha's Place Project # 1-647	To identify and locate invasive species and recommend a plan for removal and control	Implement a program for invasive species removal from forested area of property	Control and/or removal of priority invasive species including English ivy, English holly andHimalayam blackberries.	Primary removal of priority invasive plant species (2020)		
				Maintenance of invasive plant species removal/control (2021)	Yes	Maintenance of Invasive plant species control
				Maintenance of invasive plant species removal/control (2022)		
	To steward the land, to protect, conserve and enhance its natural values; to protect and enhance, where applicable, natural ecological processes; to ensure that permitted land uses will not significantly impair the natural condition of the land or inhibit natural ecological processes within natural areas of the land.	Baseline Inventory Study to identify plants and wildlife, map ecosystems and document ecological values.	Completed Baseline Inventory	Produce Baseline Inventory Study (2020)		





1-651

Matson Conservation Area



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 1-651

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Matson Lands Conservation Area

**Project Leader Name:** Sara Lax, Habitat Management Coordinator

**Name of Organization:** Habitat Acquisition Trust

**Date of Report:** April 19 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:** N/A

**Contact Information:** N/A

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

From June 2021 to March 2022, HAT's Habitat Management Team, including Habitat Management Coordinator, four restoration technicians, data and mapping technician, and the Matson Mattocks volunteer stewardship group, focused on Garry oak ecosystem habitat restoration in four priority areas of the Matson Conservation Area lands. This team utilized integrated management activities from Best Management Practices outlined by GOERT's General Decision Process for Managing Invasive Plant Species in Garry Oak and Associated Ecosystems, as well as guidance from local biologists.

The restoration work in these four priority management areas involved removal invasive plant species, planting restored areas with 963 native plants from a local native plant nursery as well as 2400 salvage plants from a development site in Langford, sowing 1kg of native seed, fencing planted areas, and de-thatching dried grass from open meadows. This habitat restoration work covered a total area of 1807m<sup>2</sup> and included the removal of over 38 m<sup>3</sup> of invasive plant biomass and waste debris. Target invasive plant species that were removed from this site include Common Periwinkle (*Vinca*), Himalayan Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), and English Ivy (*Hedera Helix*) Creeping Buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), and Orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*).

In addition to restoring these priority management areas, HAT's Habitat Management team also hosted three outreach workshops on site with local biologists and ecological knowledge holders.

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## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

One of the workshops was hosted in collaboration with local Registered Practicing Biologist, Kristen Miskelley and Abby Hyde in September 2021 and involved HAT staff and crew learning about priority restoration planning information for this site. Another workshop was led by mycologist Shannon Birch with two stewardship group volunteers and two staff, focused on identifying fungi species at the site in November 2021. The third workshop was led by Royal Roads University lichenologist, Juliet Pendray, in March 2022, and taught 12 HAT land stewards, volunteers, and staff about lichen identification at Matson Conservation Area.

Forming new relationships with Indigenous community members from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and developing two new interpretive signs for this place, were also influential for HAT's Habitat Management Program work this past year. In February 2022, HAT staff invited Songhees Elder, Elmer George, and Esquimalt Nation Hereditary Chief, Edward Thomas, to meet on the land and discuss the new Matson Conservation Area interpretive signage design and content, including sharing lək'wəŋən language for the native plants and animals. The collaborative creation process of this new interpretive signage has offered a new opportunity for HAT to engage local Indigenous peoples from the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations around the conversation of how best to interpret and present the ecological and cultural importance of this place.

Lastly, HAT has continued to enhance relationships with the Matson Mattocks Stewardship Group and the City of Esquimalt through regular check-ins around site management, as well as consultation on the reformation of the Matson Management Advisory Committee, and planning for the 2022 Matson Spring Fling.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

Over the past year, HAT hosted three workshops and a Spring Fling event at Matson Conservation Area for volunteers, habitat stewards, and staff including: a workshop on wet area planting and sowing native seed with Satinflower nurseries, a lichen workshop with local expert Juliet Pendray, and a mycology workshop with local mycologist Shannon Birch.

In addition to these workshops, HAT also hosted an outreach and volunteer sign-up table at the Esquimalt Market on August 20, 2021.

The HAT restoration crew also created Social Media stories and highlights on Instagram and Facebook showcasing some of the restoration work that was completed at Matson Conservation Area from June 2021 – March 2022.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

HAT's Habitat Management Program produced 15 announcements with documented photos of the HAT crew and volunteer stewardship group's restoration work, and notices of workshops, which were sent out to HAT's subscribers, volunteers, and members. These 15 announcements included: seven themed



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

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social media posts across three platforms, numerous emails to volunteers as well as co-covenant holders and community members, four blog write-ups for the HAT website, two excerpts/write-up for the Swallows Landing newsletter, two HAT online newsletter highlights.

These announcements updated members about the crew and volunteers' ongoing work at Matson CA, and highlighted their recent achievements and events. All of these announcements recognized Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation's funding support for this habitat stewardship and restoration work.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

Press Releases about the Habitat Management Restoration work in Garry Oak ecosystems through the Conservation Economic Stimulus Initiative, which included work at Matson Conservation Area:

- <https://www.sookeenewsmirror.com/community/funding-boosts-restoration-efforts-for-vancouver-islands-garry-oak-ecosystems/>
- <https://www.vicnews.com/community/funding-boosts-restoration-efforts-for-vancouver-islands-garry-oak-ecosystems/>

List of HAT blogs that included highlights about the work done at Matson Conservation Area:

- Blog post about Matson Seeding - <https://hat.bc.ca/blog/seeding-at-matson-conservation-area>
- Blog post about the Matson Spring Fling event happening on May 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 - <https://hat.bc.ca/blog/matson-spring-fling>
- Blog post about Lichen workshop with local lichen expert Juliet Pendray and Habitat Stewards - <https://hat.bc.ca/blog/enlichenment-lichen-workshop>
- Blog post about Garry oak ecosystem restoration crew – <https://hat.bc.ca/blog/hat-garry-oak-ecosystem-restoration-crew>

#### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 2b\_View of planting area West rocky meadow MCA**

**Photo 2c\_Planting in West rocky meadow MCA**

**Photo 2d\_Planting salvage plants with Matson Mattocks at West rocky meadow MCA**

**Description of photos:**

HAT restoration crew, volunteers, and Matson Mattocks stewards plant native potted plants from Satinflower nurseries, and salvaged plants from Centre Mountain Development site, into the cleared rocky meadow area on the West side of Matson Conservation Area in November





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM





HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST  
FOUNDATION

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM







HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST  
FOUNDATION

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM






HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST  
FOUNDATION

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
1			Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23 Cycle								
2	Please read the Year 2 Reporting Instructions before completing this form. Yellow cells will calculate automatically. Please do not edit these cells.										
3											
4	From Application								Progress Year 2		
5	Property/Complex Name:		Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description			
6											
7	Matson Conservation Area Project #1-651		Enhance, restore and sustain the native Garry Oak associated ecosystems and the native wildlife that occurs in this Conservation Area	Remove invasive tree, shrub and grass species that threaten biodiversity and native plant germination and success.	1. Invasive species cover on Matson Conservation Area will be reduced by 25% over 3 years. 2. Through collaboration, Matson Mattocks will continue to volunteer restoration efforts weekly. 3. Creation of an Invasive Plant Management Strategy utilizing Best Management Practices and an integrative management approach. 4. Application of herbicide to manage specific Invasive Species	Hold at least two community-based restoration events (1 per year) targeting highest priority invasive plant species that threaten the site.	Yes	HAT hosted two community-based restoration events this year, one in November 2021 and another in March 2022, in collaboration with HAT volunteers and HAT restoration youth crew, targeting invasive plant removal in high priority management areas in order to prepare the site for planting native salvage plants. The invasive plant species that were removed during these community-based restoration volunteer events included English Ivy, Common Periwinkle, and Himalayan blackberry. In addition to the restoration work accomplished through these two volunteer events, the HAT youth restoration crew also spent over 40 days at Matson Conservation Area removing invasive plants in order to restore habitat for native plant and animal species. In total, the HAT youth crew and Matson Mattocks volunteers restored over 1,807/24,000 m2 (13%) of this site from June 2021 - March 2022. The Matson Conservation Area is 2.4 hectares (24,000m2).			
8						Meet with the Matson Mattocks three times per year to establish priority management activities and review previous activities and achievements; attend occasional Matson Mattocks volunteer days	Yes	HAT staff met with the Matson Mattocks over 10 times this year to establish and monitor priority management activities and review previous activities and achievements; as well as attend Matson Mattocks volunteer days. HAT's Habitat Management Coordinator and restoration crew, along with local restoration contractor from Satinflower nurseries, created an Invasive Plant Management Strategy for priority areas on site utilizing Best Management Practices and an integrative management approach. The HAT staff also enhanced HAT's relationships with the Matson Mattocks Stewardship Group and the City of Esquimalt through regular check-ins around management of the site. These regular check-ins covered topics such as: 1) addressing fallen Oak trees during the 2021 winter storms, 2) discussing next steps for herbicide treatment on English ivy covering the rocky slopes at the end of Garrett Place, 3) planting native salvage plants in restored areas, 4) removing invasive plant species, 5) seeding de-thatched open meadow areas, 6) as well as discuss plans around managing illegal tenting and waste on site. Later this spring, HAT staff will be continuing to strengthen these relationships through discussions around reforming the Management Advisory Committee for Matson and develop a Matson Management Plan for future restoration work on site.			
9						Work with contractor on herbicide application	Yes	HAT has been working with a local and experienced ecological restoration contractor, and the Township of Esquimalt Parks staff, to plan for management of mature English ivy vines growing along the rocky slopes of Matson Conservation area near the end of Garrett Place through targeted herbicide application.			
10				Install native trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs to enhance biodiversity, pollinator sources and prevent re-establishment of invasive plants.	1. Habitat diversity and abundance will be increased by 20% 2. Addition of native food, nesting and cover sources for wildlife, measured through surveys and monitoring.	Install at least 500 native plants in the meadow and Douglas fir understory in years 1 and 2	Yes	HAT staff and Matson Mattocks volunteers intalled over 2163 native plants in the meadow and Douglas fir understory in year 2 of this project from October 2021 - March 2022.			
11						Disperse at least \$2000 of annual and perennial seeds suitable for the Garry Oak Meadow in years 1 and 2	Yes	HAT staff and Matson Mattocks volunteers dispersed \$2000 (1kg) of annual and perennial seeds from Satinflower nurseries suitable for the Garry Oak Meadows at this site in year 2. The native seeds dispersed in this meadow area were Sea blush (Plectritis congesta), Yarrow (Achillea millefolium), as well as two reintroduced species: Small-flowered blue-eyed Mary (Collinsia parviflora) and farewell-to-spring (Clarkia amoena).			
12								Overall, the habitat diversity and abundance at this site increased by 20% between the areas that were enhanced with native seed, native salvage plants, and native plugs and potted plants from Satinflower nurseries. This addition of native food for pollinators and other wildlife has been monitored by a local biologist through 2 successfully completed pollinator surveys at this site.			
13				Monitor/manage progress and success using qualitative and quantitative data collection methods and reporting results at the end of 3 years.	1. Utilizing a monitoring program, both quantitatively and qualitatively data collected will provide valuable information to gauge success over time. 2. In monitoring annually utilizing volunteer community members we can provide learning opportunities for the stewardship members. 3. Monitoring will provide data that can provide valuable information vital for implementing an adaptive management program.	Perform a species survey (over 2 seasons) to gather information for a baseline on species and abundance.	Yes	Planning for pollinator species surveys completed with local pollinator biologist, Lora Morandin from the Island Pollinator Initiative and Pollinator Partnership Canada, in preparation for survey work in April 2022. This survey will be reported on in Year 3.			
14						Monitor planting sites and meadow annually using photo-point surveys (qualitative) and collecting line-transect data (quantitative) in meadow and Douglas fir forest.	Yes	Since April 2021, the HAT team and Matson Mattocks volunteers have been collaboratively monitoring the planted sites and meadow seasonally using qualitative photo-point surveys in the meadows, rocky outcrops, and Douglas fir forest areas. These collaborative monitoring days have provided a useful learning and training opportunity for the stewardship members and HAT staff alike.			
15						Write summary report depicting activities performed, successes and monitoring results.	Yes	In monitoring priority restoration areas at Matson CA, HAT staff have compiled a summary report depicting activities performed, successes and monitoring results from the HAT youth restoration crew's work from June 2021 - March 2022.			
16	Restore and enhance land near Garrett Place at public entrance of property	Create and enhance wildlife habitat at a disturbed site near the public entrance to the MCA	1. Creation of bird and wetland habitat; mitigation of pollutants and runoff from roadway 2. Enhancement of public access; decrease in site disturbance due to homeless encampments by opening site-lines and increasing foot-traffic	Clean up disturbed site at end of Garrett Place (removal of invasive species and debris) -- in-kind by Mann Construction	Yes	HAT staff, youth restoration crew and Matson Mattocks volunteers cleaned up disturbed areas at the end of Garrett Place through removal of invasive plant species and waste debris, as well as planting native plants in the wet drainage area.					
17				Trail building through forested area	No	Activity revision proposed -- please see project change form. HAT staff have re-evaluated the need and appropriateness of the planned trail and have decided it's best not to build it.					
18				Wetland habitat creation at the site of natural drainage	Yes	HAT staff, youth restoration crew and Matson Mattocks volunteers created a wetland habitat at the site of natural drainage at the end of Garrett Place through planting native plants selected by Satinflower nurseries restoration contractor.					

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J		
19							From Application			Progress Year 2		
20												
	Property/Complex Name:				Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description		
21					Successfully coordinate the newly established MCA collaborative group of partners (Management Advisory Group)		1. Management Advisory Group will meet 2x/year to coordinate implementation of the Management Plan and Restoration Plan for Matson Conservation Area.	Coordinate Management Advisory Group meetings 2x/year	Yes	In winter of 2022, HAT staff held a meeting with Matson Mattocks' volunteer lead to discuss coordination and reformation of the Matson Management Advisory Group. HAT staff have a planned meeting in early-June to bring together past and new members of the Management Advisory Group to discuss updating the Matson Management Plan. A barrier to moving forward has been a need for a relationship with Songhees and Esquimalt Nations in order to invite them to meaningfully engage as part of the management planning. In early spring of 2022, HAT staff held a first introductory meeting with local Elders from the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations to discuss working together on site signage and stewardship goals. HAT staff will be continuing to work towards building positive relationships and friendships with these members of the Esquimalt and Songhees Nation, and exploring opportunities for collaboration on the Matson Management Advisory Group reformation.		
22								Provide Annual Summary Reports to Management Advisory Group	Yes	Management Advisory Group was engaged for input to new Matson Conservation Area Interpretive Signs. Annual Summary Report will be provided at the beginning of FY 2022-23.		
						Coordinate and implement priority management activities						
23					Establish public outreach and educational opportunities	Encourage community support and engagement in Conservation Area	1. Interpretive signs will be installed to encourage public learning about the ecology and history of the site	1. Design, print and install interpretive signage onsite. 2. [Not in contribution agreement, but activities performed in year 2] Host annual speakers' series about MCA and Garry Oak ecosystems 3. [Not in contribution agreement, but activities performed in year 2] Host an annual Spring Fling community outreach event	Yes	1. Through additional funding provided by HCTF in December 2021, one of the HAT restoration crew technicians was able to spend six weeks working on creating two new interpretive signs for Matson Conservation Area with local artist, Darlene Gait, from the Esquimalt Nation, and Elmer George from the Songhees Nation, and Edward Thomas from the Esquimalt Nation. This sign was designed collaboratively with knowledge holders from the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations to encourage public learning and communicate the ecological and cultural importance of this place to public visitors, and include Lekwungen language for species names. This funding provided over 40 hours of contract employment for the artist as well as honorariums for two Indigenous language consultants, Elmer and Edward. We will be holding an unveiling of the new signage with local community members and volunteers in the spring of 2022. This signage project has been an invaluable opportunity for HAT staff to work on a collaborative tangible project with community members from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and support relationship building with these individuals. 2. The following speakers' events / workshops were held at the Matson CA this year: 2-part Lichen workshop centered around the lichen species at Matson CA with 10 participants over 5 hours led by local lichenologist, Juliet Pendray from Royal Roads University. GOE native plant seed sowing workshop with Abby Hyde from Satinflower nurseries and HAT crew and 2 Matson Mattocks volunteers - 1hr event + 7 participants including HAT crew. GOE native plant wet area planting workshop with Abby Hyde from Satinflower nurseries and HAT crew and 3 Matson Mattocks volunteers - 2hr event + 8 participants including HAT crew. Mycology in GOE Identification workshop with local expert, Shannon Birch, at Matson CA with 2 Matson Mattocks volunteers - 1hr event + 5 participants including: 1 UVic staff and 1 student, 1 HAT staff, 2 volunteers. 3. HAT spent time in Year 2 preparing and planning for a Spring Fling which will be held in Year 3 on May 15, 2022.		
24												

1-733

## Central Denman Conservation Complex





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 1-733

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Central Denman Conservation Complex  
**Project Leader Name:** Erika Bland  
**Name of Organization:** Denman Conservancy Association  
**Date of Report:** April 7, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**  
**Name of Organization:**  
**Contact Information:**

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

Pollinator Stewardship: 328 small trees removed from butterfly reserve. Survival rate of small trees removed in Y1 and transplanted to broom removal areas was essentially nil due to extreme heat during the summer 2021 heat dome. As watering is not practical, tree removal in Year 2 focused on potting up trees for replanting at other restoration sites. Native seeds distributed at garden and 28 pollinator shrubs planted in adjacent habitats by volunteers and youth. Demonstration garden monitored in spring, summer and fall 2021. Germination present in late spring for 4/6 species seeded. 3/6 species flowered and produced seeds by fall. Survival of shrubs planted in garden in 2021 was ~80 percent as of early spring 2022. Coordinator hired to lead collection of native plant seeds by volunteers. 22 volunteers participated in collection May-October 2021. Seeds collected from 22 species and stored/stratified over winter for early spring 2022 seeding and distributed across butterfly reserve broom removal areas. Seeds also distributed to volunteers for propagation in 2022.

Invasive Species Control: 10 volunteer work bees focused on invasive species removal (English Holly, Daphne, Scotch Broom) carried out by hired coordinator. Contractors hired for 204 hours to carry out invasive species removal work (English Holly, Scotch Broom, Daphne) across the Conservation Complex. Student from BCIT/SFU working on Reed Canary Grass Control research proposal for Y3.

Wetland Stewardship: Weekly Acoustic Bullfrog Monitoring took place across the Beadnell/Chickadee Lake watershed and other Denman wetlands by 24 volunteers through summer 2021. Reports of bullfrogs on Chickadee Lake prompted Rapid Response planning for Year 3. Funding requested from BC Parks to hire expert bullfrog eradication specialist to visit Denman Island, train locals in methods for bullfrog survey/capture. Training provided via email/website for volunteer monitors. Water quality data collection sporadic in Y2 but a volunteer wetland monitors group formed in March '22 and coordinator hired to oversee the project and data collection in Year 3.

Management Aids & Signage: Installation of boundary signage continued in Y2 with boundaries at Winter Wren Wood surveyed/marked by DCA and retired professional surveyor. Management signage, mostly 'No Hunting' signs, replaced as needed throughout the Conservation Complex in Y2. Local artist



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began work on refurbishing degraded plant ID signs at Winter Wren Wood. Quote received for production of new durable signs; old plant signs removed.

**Fire Prevention:** 6 volunteers carried out daily monitoring of fire risk areas at Winter Wren Wood and Chickadee Lake from June to September 2021. Volunteer fire department advising on barriers to prevent vehicle access to Winter Wren Wood during high fire season, will carry out trials for proposed fire access that will inform placement of new barriers. A local contractor will donate boulders and another will donate trucking time. DCA donated to local initiative placing large cigarette butt receptacles at recreational locations across Denman, including one at the entrance to Central Park within the Conservation Complex.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

DCA outreach table at Summer Markets featured information about pollinator stewardship, fire monitoring, wetland stewardship and invasive species control. Board members signed up new volunteers for work bees. Work bees featured short presentations by speakers on scientific topics of relevance to the Conservation Complex. Outreach activities focused on Bullfrog monitoring and Water Quality and Wetland Science attracted about 40 interested volunteers.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

Monthly reports to Lands Committee and DCA Board of Directors  
 DCA Newsletter April 2021 (Enclosed) – sent to households on Denman Island and to membership email list (~100 addresses)  
 Summer Market Outreach May – October 2021  
 Email mailouts for Volunteer Work Bee Series Spring and Fall 2021  
 DCA Website hosted information about bullfrog monitoring activities: <https://www.denman-conservancy.org/denman-nature/bullfrogs/>  
 Bullfrog Monitoring Emails Spring 2021  
 Bullfrog Monitoring Facebook Posts Spring 2021  
 10 Work Bees through Spring and Fall 2021  
 Final report on Invasive Species Work Bees December 2021  
 Communications with BCIT/SFU/UVic Students regarding possible research projects Winter 2021/22  
 Communications with Denman Island Fire Department Early Spring 2022  
 DCA meeting of Water Quality Monitors – Pickles Bridge Feb 18 2022  
 Communications with Volunteer groups helping with collecting and planting native seeds, fall 2021 and early spring 2022.  
 DCA Annual General Meeting Feb 2022 – Lands report, powerpoint presentation

Report on Monitoring of Invasive Species Control (St. John's Wort) March 2022

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

Much of our media coverage this year focused on a major property acquisition also supported by HCTF Habitat Acquisition Fund, and therefore not much was featured about this project in media in Year 2.

#### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description:**

Y2 Example of Broom removal area before and after.jpg – sample photo of Scotch broom removal at Settlement Lands carried out by one of 5 contracted workers, showing small area before treatment and after. Also see map included below for details on areas of work.

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:**

Wetland Monitoring Group Meeting February 2022.jpg – group of volunteers organized to learn about water quality and bullfrog monitoring initiatives meeting at monitoring site in February 2022, in preparation for monitoring in Year 3 coordinated by Leya Anderson.

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:**

Hypericum Evaluation.jpg – Sample photo of follow up monitoring and evaluation of non-native St. John's Wort control methods at Settlement Lands, March 2022, following initial treatment in July 2020. Supplementary report available.

**Photo 4 File name and Photo Description:**

Volunteer Work Bee Fall 2021.jpg – Volunteers gather for a 'Workshop-n-lop' work bee at Winter Wren Wood, to carry out follow-up removal of small and resprouting English Holly plants in Year 2. Supplementary report available.

**Photo 5 File name and Photo Description:**

Volunteers at Broom Removal Work Bee May 2021.jpg – Volunteers helping to remove Scotch Broom plants at Settlement Lands, adjacent to Butterfly Reserve Area.

**Photo 6 File name and Photo Description:**

Photo 6 - Seed Collecting Workshop Y2.jpg – Youth and Parents from Denman's Homeschooling Group gather to learn about native plants and help gather seeds for planting in Central Denman Conservation Complex. Supplementary report available.

**Photo 7 File name and Photo Description:**



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

Photo 7 - Bee on native red currant planted Y2.jpg – Native bee shown nectaring on native flowering red currant shrub planted by volunteer group in February 2022.

### Maps Included:

Map 1 - Invasive Species Control Year 2 - Settlement Lands.jpeg

Map 2 - Invasive Species Control Year 2 - Winter Wren Wood.jpeg

Map 3 - Invasive Species Control Year 2 - Central Park.jpeg

## 5. ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.

Supplementary reports on work carried out under this grant are available for review upon request:

-Seed Collection Report 2021

-Monitoring and Evaluation of St John's Wort 2022

-Report on Invasive Removal Work Bees Year 2. Thank you very much for your support of DCA in carrying out this important stewardship work!





## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

Sample Broom removal area before:



Sample Broom removal area after:







HABITAT  
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## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



Wetland Monitoring Group Meeting February 2022



## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



St. John's Wort dig & cover evaluation – 0% regeneration in treated area



St. John's Wort cut & cover evaluation <10% regeneration in treated area





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Volunteer Work Bee Fall 2021



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**Volunteers at Broom Removal Work Bee May 2021.**





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

Seed Collecting Workshop Early Fall 2021



Seed Collecting Workshop Y2



## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



Bee on native red currant planted Y2



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

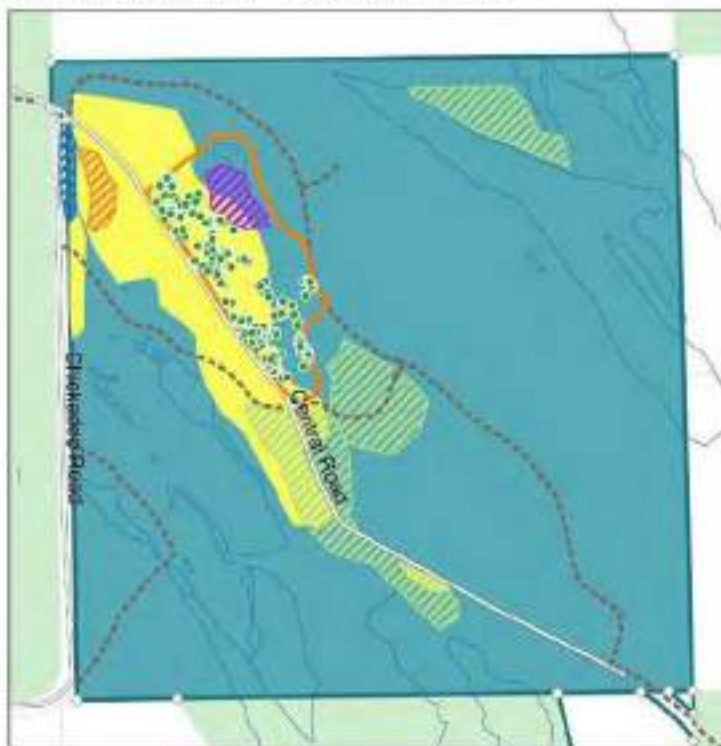
### HCTF 1-733 Central Denman Conservation Complex - Invasive Species & Vegetation Control Progress Update After Year 2 (2021-22) - Settlement Lands

- Roads
- - - Trails
- DCA Butterfly Reserve
- \* Small Tree Removal Y2
- Broom Control Y2
- Broom Control Y1
- Hypericum Control Y1
- Everlasting Pea Control Y1 & 2
- Thistle Control Y1
- Settlement Lands (DCA)
- Inner Island Nature Reserve (ITC)
- Denman Island Provincial Park (BC Parks)

0 75 150 225 300 375 m



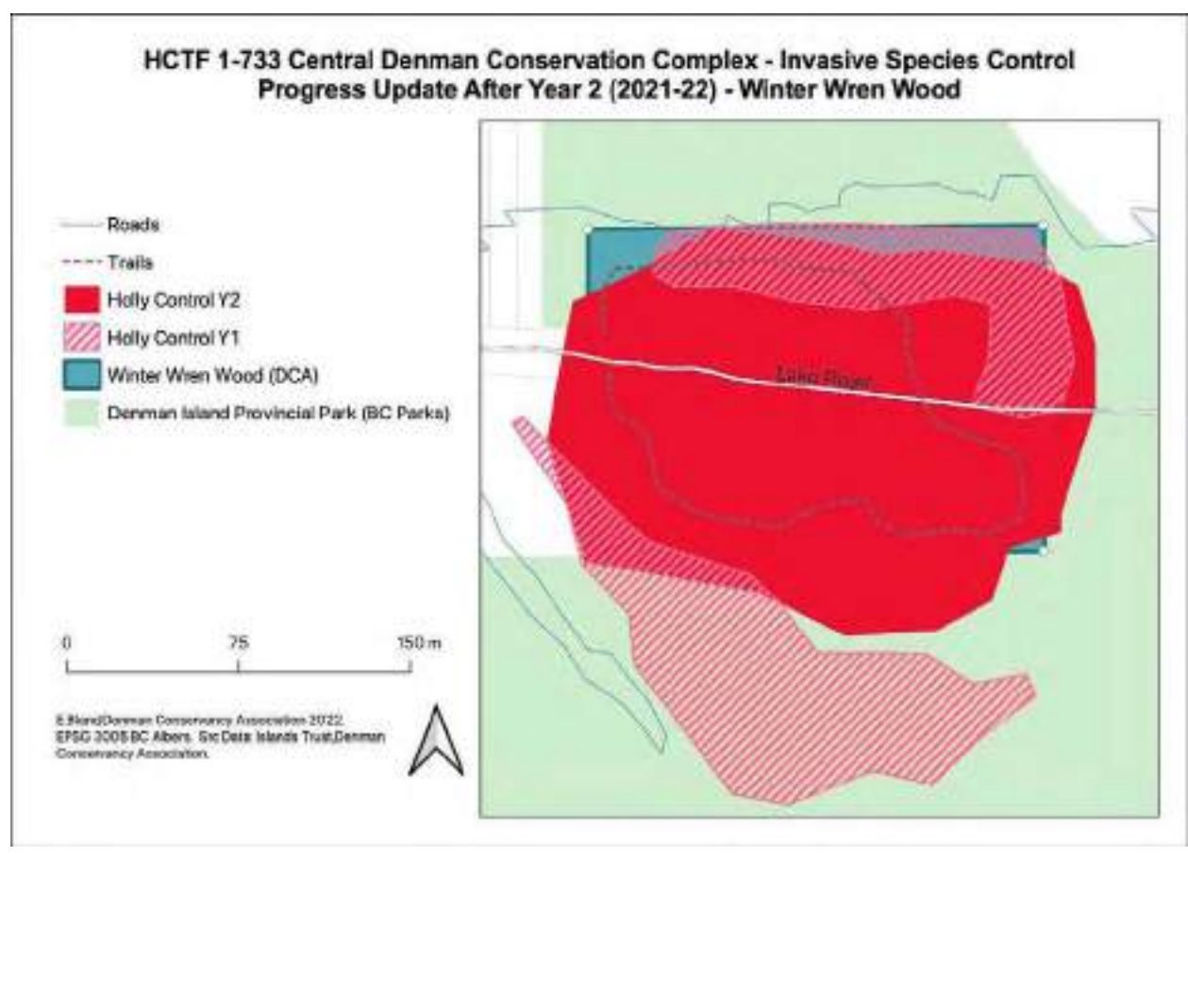
© Island Denman Conservancy Association 2022.  
EPSG 3005 BC Albers. Src Data: Islands Trust, Denman  
Conservancy Association.





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

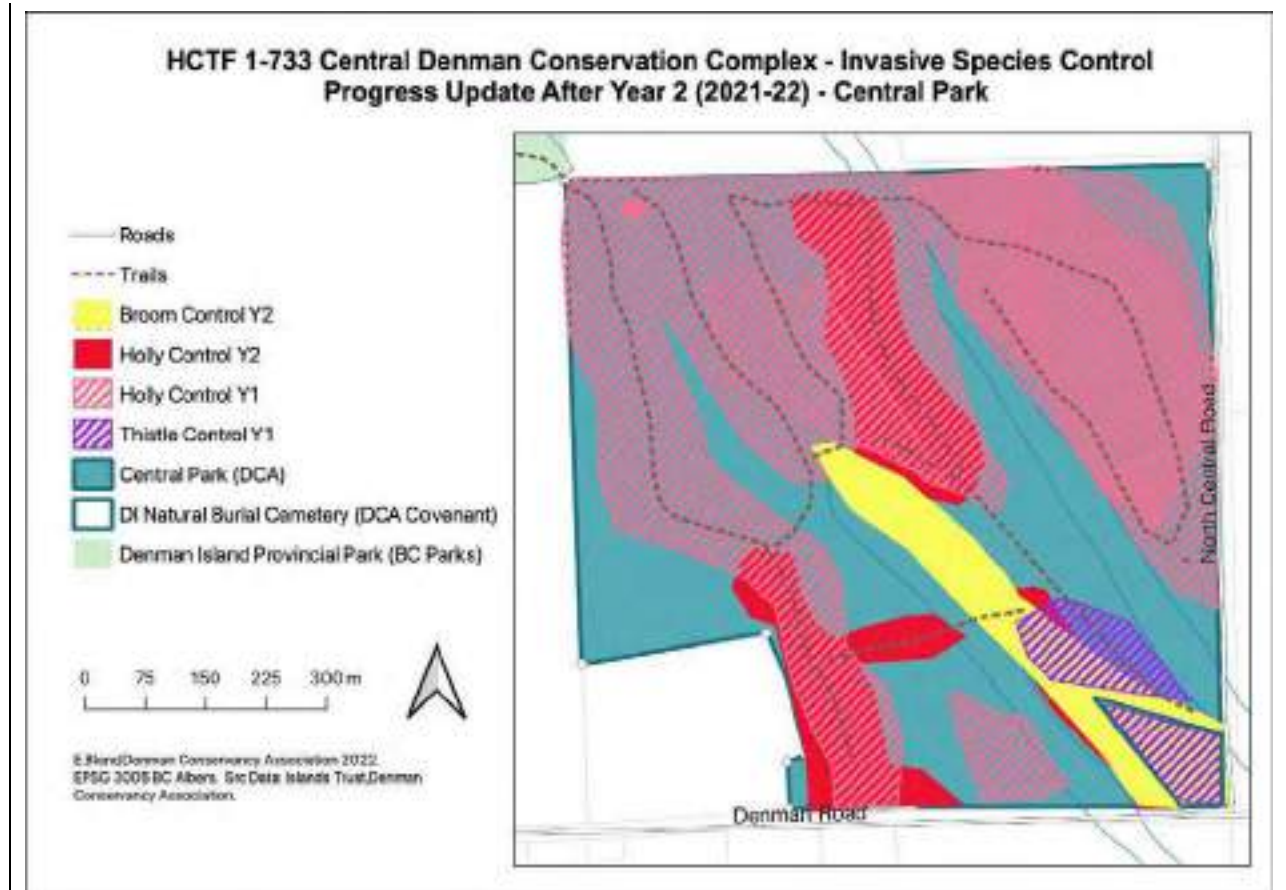






# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM





Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23 Cycle

Please read the Year 2 Reporting Instructions before completing this form.

From Application						Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description	
Central Denman Conservation Complex Project # 1-733	Maintain/increase populations of Species at Risk: Taylor's Checkerspot (SARA Endangered); Little brown bat (Endangered); Dun Skipper (BC Red List); Western Pondhawk (BC Blue List); N. Red-legged frog (BC Blue List); Olive-sided flycatcher (BC Blue List); C.Nighthawk (SARA Threatened)	Enhance habitat for Taylor's Checkerspot (TC) & other invertebrate pollinators by controlling ingrowing vegetation & increasing density of food & nectar plants for larvae & adult TCs and other species;	1000+ ingrowing trees (0-2m tall) are removed from Butterfly Reserve area, to retain sunny areas for native meadow species used as nectar & larval host plants for TC. 0.02ha Butterfly Garden produces seeds & forbs from 8+ TC host species, for translocation/seed collection used in Butterfly Reserve. Surplus plants/seeds distributed annually to 10 private landholders with critical TC habitat. Translocated plants show survival rate of min 50% after 1 year. Germination present at min 50% of seed distribution sites in Butterfly Reserve within 2 years.	DCA Land Manager & volunteers dig up 1000+ conifer trees <2m from Butterfly Reserve, retaining moist root masses & staging in fenced Butterfly garden for distribution to landholders with critical TC habitat (Y 1-3)	Yes	328 small trees removed from butterfly reserve and potted up for use in other restoration sites	
				Garden seeded with TC host spp by volunteers and youth. Seedlings translocated to 2ha Reserve habitat (Y2&3). Garden & purchased seed distributed to 0.4ha vernal wetland & adjacent habitat (Y 1-3).	Yes	Seeds distributed at demonstration pollinator garden and adjacent wetland habitats with help of volunteers and youth. 28 small pollinator shrubs planted in butterfly reserve by volunteers.	
				Follow-up monitoring /survival rate data collection annually in fall.	Yes	Seeded plots in demonstration garden monitored for growth throughout the spring, summer and fall months. Germination was present for 5 of 6 species seeded in the garden in spring, and 2 of 6 species flowered and produced seeds. Survival of shrubs planted in garden in 2021 was 80 percent as of early spring 2022. Small trees removed from butterfly	
	Maintain/increase populations of Species at Risk: Taylor's Checkerspot (SARA Endangered); Little brown bat (Endangered); Dun Skipper (BC Red List); Western Pondhawk (BC Blue List); N. Red-legged frog (BC Blue List); Olive-sided flycatcher (BC Blue List); C.Nighthawk (SARA Threatened)	Augment invasive species removal efforts by revegetating treated areas with native plant species to create varied shade and reduce ingrowth of new Broom and other invasive plants.	The DCA Land Manager organizes 20 volunteers to seed native species of local provenance and representative of natural species diversity (8+ species) within areas treated for Scotch Broom removal. Germination of seeded species observed at a minimum of 50% of treated areas within 2 years.	DCA Land Manager and 20 volunteers collect seeds and berries from native forbs/shrubs of local provenance & distribute across 20ha where Scotch Broom control has taken place. (Y 1-3)	Yes	Coordinator hired to lead collection of native plant seeds of local provenance by volunteers including youth. 22 people participated in seed collection throughout the spring, summer and fall of 2021. Seeds were collected from 22 species of native forbs and shrubs and were stored (and	
				Follow-up monitoring /survival rate data collection annually in fall.	No	Monitoring to be completed in Year 3	
	Maintain/increase populations of Species at Risk: Taylor's Checkerspot (SARA Endangered); Little brown bat (Endangered); Dun Skipper (BC Red List); Western Pondhawk (BC Blue List); N. Red-legged frog (BC Blue List); Olive-sided flycatcher (BC Blue List); C.Nighthawk (SARA Threatened)	Enhance wetland & upland habitats by restoring native plant diversity through manual removal of invasive species (Scotch broom, English Holly, Daphne Laurel, Canada Thistle, Everlasting Pea, St.John's Wort, Reed Canarygrass, English Hawthorne).	Coordinator organizes 1800 volunteer hours + 240 paid hours to remove invasive plants from 30ha habitat throughout Conservation Complex (except Inner Island Nature Reserve). Treated areas are mapped and photographed. 100 English Holly plants >2m tall removed within the Complex, with focus on female plants producing berries. GPS locations of cut holly trees are marked, & follow-up treatments in Y2&3 to cut resprouting shoots. Completed work is documented with photographs & maps of treated areas to guide continual management efforts.	Carry out 10 volunteer work-bees each year + hire contractor for 80h per year to remove Invasive Scotch Broom, Canada Thistle, English Holly, Daphne Laurel and other species) across the Conservation Complex (Y 1-3).	Yes	10 volunteer work bees focused on invasive species removal (English Holly, Daphne, Scotch Broom) were carried out by a hired coordinator. Contractors were hired for a total of 204 hours to carry out invasive species control work (English Holly, Scotch Broom, Daphne) across the Conservation Complex in Y2. A Student from BCIT/SFU has made a proposal to work on Reed Canary Grass Control in collaboration with DCA in Y2.	
				Hire contractor to remove min. 100 large English Holly Plants, marking GPS locations of plants removed, focusing especially on plants with berries, using a chainsaw (Y 1).	No	Completed in Y1	
				DCA Land Manager & volunteer Land-Keepers use GPS locations to monitor cut Holly stumps & remove resprouting shoots (Y 2 & 3)	No	Planned for Y3.	
	Following positive ID of one American Bullfrog on Denman Island (2018), protect native wildlife diversity & habitat for Northern Red-legged frog (BC Blue List), other amphibians & breeding waterfowl. Prevent colonization of American Bullfrog into areas where it is currently unrecorded.	Initiate monitoring program for early detection of invasive American Bullfrogs (HCTF & HSP Funds - Application pending).	Volunteer working group is initiated to carry out bi-weekly monitoring for American Bullfrog in perennial Lake/wetland habitats within the Central Denman Island Conservation Complex. Trained working group personnel record monthly baseline water quality data (depth, pH, temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, Electrical Conductivity) using professional equipment within Chickadee-Beadnell watershed. 10 community leaders trained in water quality monitoring (HCTF) and identification and methods for Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) protocols for American Bullfrogs (HSP).	Early-detection monitoring (acoustic & eyeshine surveys) at perennial wetlands in the Complex (Pickles Marsh, Homestead Marsh, Chickadee Lake, Swale Marsh, Graveyard Marsh) weekly May-Sept for 3 years (Y 1-3).  Implement outreach in D.I. community, focusing on Early Detection and Rapid Response protocols for American bullfrogs including ID (visual, acoustic), habitat characteristics & native amphibean interactions (Y2)	Yes	Weekly Acoustic Monitoring took place across the Beadnell/Chickadee Lake watershed by 24 volunteers in summer of 2021. Reports of bullfrogs on Chickadee Lake have prompted Rapid Response actions for Year 3.	
				Water quality parameters measured monthly for 3 years at 4 sites in Beadnell headwaters by trained DCA Landkeeper volunteers and Land Manager.	Yes	Data collection was sporadic at the Settlement Lands in Year 2, but a group was formed near the end of Year 2 to revitalize the water monitoring program, and a coordinator has been hired to oversee the project and data collection throughout Year 3.	
	Protect sensitive habitat from damage with management aids in areas of concern for wildlife & rare plant communities (migrating/nesting waterfowl; at-risk invertebrates & amphibians; old-growth Coastal Douglas-fir forest stands; sensitive bluff flora).	Clarify & mark conservation area boundaries, especially where land use changes occur due to private or other-agency landownership.	Install 30 boundary markers at property corners & along boundary lines, specifically focusing on sites where changes in land use / ownership / management objectives occur with adjacent neighbouring properties (see Inset Map showing proposed marker sites).	DCA Land Manager & retired professional surveyor volunteer locate key boundary points/property corners, in collaboration with neighbours including 8 private landholders, and the following agencies: Islands Trust Conservancy, BC Parks, & Denman Island Memorial Society (Y1)	Yes	Boundaries at Winter Wren Wood were surveyed and marked in Year 2 with the help of a retired professional surveyor. Plans are in place to continue and complete boundary marking work in Year 3.	
				30 Boundary marker signs are fabricated & installed on painted metal T-posts at sites located by retired surveyor volunteer & DCA Land Manager (Y1)	Yes	Boundary signage purchased in Year 1. Installation continued in Y2 and will be completed in Y3.	
	Protect sensitive habitat from damage with management aids in areas of concern for wildlife & rare plant communities (migrating/nesting waterfowl; at-risk invertebrates & amphibians; old-growth Coastal Douglas-fir forest stands; sensitive bluff flora).	Install new/ repair degraded signage along trails at key locations where incursion into sensitive areas is anticipated by the public.	35+ signs are designed & installed at locations a) where visitor access passes through or near to areas of high ecological sensitivity or b) where information is needed for wayfinding/appropriate use of properties; and c) where signs have degraded through long-term use.	Replace or repair 15+ plywood management signs in Complex (degraded from long-term use) with durable aluminium or coated wood signs (Y2)	Yes	Management signage, mostly 'No Hunting' signs, were replaced as needed throughout the Conservation Complex in Y2.	
				Work with artist to refurbish and re-install 20+ existing degraded plant ID signs (Winter Wren Wood): touch up paint & coat with permanent sealer (Y2)	Yes	An artist has begun work on refurbishment of the degraded plant ID signs at Winter Wren Wood. A quote for production of new durable signs was sought, and old plant signs were removed and are in the process of being re-designed by the artist.	
				Install a sign at 'Overlook Trail' suggesting caution to protect sensitive bluff flora.	No	Completed in Y1	
	Protect sensitive habitat from damage with management aids in areas of concern for wildlife & rare plant communities (migrating/nesting waterfowl; at-risk invertebrates & amphibians; old-growth Coastal Douglas-fir forest stands; sensitive bluff flora).	Protect against wildfire by encouraging seasonally appropriate access to Conservation Complex lands & providing means for safe disposal of flammable materials.	Volunteer coordinator organizes volunteer fire monitoring crew to carry out daily monitoring in high fire-risk areas throughout extreme fire hazard season (June-August). In collaboration with volunteer Fire Department, fireproof cigarette-butt receptacles & no-smoking signs are placed at 4 main property entrances in summer & maintained by fire monitoring crew.	Volunteer coordinator organizes fire monitoring crew for daily fire monitoring through fire season (Y1-3)	Yes	6 volunteers carried out daily monitoring of high fire risk areas at Winter Wren Wood and around Chickadee Lake from June to September 2021.	
				Refurbish chain closure used to restrict vehicle access to Winter Wren Wood parking area during extreme fire season. New posts installed for chain supports (Y1)	Yes	The local volunteer fire department was contacted for advice on creating effective barriers to prevent vehicle access to Winter Wren Wood during high fire season. The Fire Department will be carrying out trials for their proposed methods for accessing water from the lake when new barriers are put in place. A local contractor has agreed to donate boulders for the new barrier, and another contractor will donate trucking time.	
				Metal receptacles & no-smoking signs are placed at all entrances to public trails in Conservation Complex (placed ~June, removed September) (Y1-3)	Yes	DCA made a donation to a local group working to place large cigarette butt receptacles at key locations on the island, including one at the entrance to Central Park, within the Conservation Complex.	





1-734

Millard Learning Centre



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 1-734

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Millard Learning Centre

**Project Leader Name:** Adam Huggins – Restoration Coordinator

**Name of Organization:** Galiano Conservancy Association

**Date of Report:** April 14, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Information:**

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 2 (500 words max).

Significant progress was made across the board on project activities in Year 2. Invasive species removal activities were especially thorough, enabling us to expand both the area covered and species targeted across the MLC. New plantings were established in the Old Mill and Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest sites, and the dilapidated enclosure at the Old Mill site was replaced with a much larger and more robust fence. The utility road cut was restored by incorporating parts of it into the fenced area and turning the remainder into a trail. Monitoring protocols were carried out in full across the property, including the red-legged frog monitoring protocol, which was expanded to include 4 sampling sites. Trails were maintained and extended throughout the property, including a 1km extension to replace an old road that was removed during restoration activities. Detailed mapping of the property was completed to inform a revised invasive species management plan.

Most significantly, restoration treatments (including live-staking) were completed in the Phase 1 area of the Chrystal Creek watershed, and funding was secured for the Phase 2 area. Surveying, mapping,



planning, and preparations are now underway in the Phase 2 area, with restoration treatments scheduled for fall 2022.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

We communicate about our project activities to youth and post-secondary education programs that we host at the Millard Learning Centre, as well as community volunteers and supporters during several annual events.

In Spring of 2021, we hosted a field school from the University of Victoria Restoration of Natural Systems program class (14 people) and three 'Fireside' youth programs (24 people), who participated in restoration activities in the Chrystal Creek watershed Phase 1 area. We also hosted several volunteer days (10 people) in the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest and Chrystal Creek watershed Phase 1 area to celebrate "Make a Difference Week" as part of the kick-off for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030.

In Summer of 2021, we gave a tour of the MLC and our restoration projects to a group of new graduate students from the University of Victoria (26 people), and hosted our Annual Musical Walkalong for Learning, which attracted over 200 participants and included interpretive stations across our restoration and conservations areas at the MLC.

In Fall of 2021, we hosted two youth school groups (75 people) and the UVic Ecological Restoration Club (9 people), who participated in restoration activities in the Chrystal Creek watershed Phase 1 area. We co-hosted BCWF's annual Wetlands Institute, which engaged 23 participants in restoration and planning activities in the Chrystal Creek watershed Phase 1 and 2 areas.

In Winter of 2021-2022, we hosted a volunteer group of University of Victoria students (4 people) and a field trip from the BCIT MSc Ecological Restoration program (30 people), who participated in restoration activities in the Chrystal Creek watershed Phase 1 area.

Over the course of the year, we engaged over 175 volunteers at the Millard Learning Centre, including 6 interns who contributed significant amounts of time to stewardship activities.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

HCTF is verbally acknowledged as a funder during outreach activities and events at the Millard Learning Centre, and is acknowledged in print on our Nuts'a'maat Foraging Guide, produced in 2020 (visitors take

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

this brochure more quickly than we can re-stock it). HCTF will be acknowledged in interpretive signage and brochures produced during the 2020-2023 period, and on our new website (delayed - launching Summer 2022).

We produced a time-lapse video about the Chrystal Creek watershed restoration, which was shared on social media and on our YouTube channel – you can view it at <https://youtu.be/k2YpJbgUKNU>. HCTF is acknowledged in the credits.

We are currently experimenting with interactive virtual 360 tours as a communication and educational tool for our projects and educational programs. You can view a virtual tour of the Chrystal Creek watershed restoration at <https://www.kuula.co/share/collection/7k7st?logo=0&info=0&fs=1&vr=1&sd=1&initload=0&thumbs=1>. HCTF is acknowledged on the first slide.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

The GCA regularly publishes articles in the Active Page, the local Galiano Island newspaper, about activities at the MLC. This year, we published an article entitled 'Why Transforming wet land into Wetlands is the Perfect Antidote to Rainy Days' in the December 2021 edition of the Active Page. You can find a web version of this article at <https://galianoconservancy.ca/why-transforming-wet-land-into-wetlands-is-the-perfect-antidote-to-rainy-days/>. HCTF is acknowledged at the end of the article.

#### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description:**

IMG\_1: Volunteers from BCIT's MSc Ecological Restoration program live-stake to prevent erosion in the newly restored Phase 1 area of the Chrystal Creek watershed at the Millard Learning Centre

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:**

IMG\_2: Volunteers establish native wildflowers in the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest at the Millard Learning Centre during international Make a Difference Week as part of the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:**

IMG\_3: Penelakut elders Karen and Richard Charlie lead participants from BCWF's Wetlands Institute on a tour of the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest at the Millard Learning Centre

## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.

We anticipate variances of greater than 10% in the HCTF expenditures for a few of the activities in our workplan. Please let us know how to notify you of these changes.



**Volunteers from BCIT's MSc Ecological Restoration program**





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Volunteers establish native wildflowers in the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest





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## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



Penelakut elders Karen and Richard Charlie lead participants from BCWF's Wetlands



Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23 Cycle

Please read the Year 2 Reporting Instructions before completing this form.

From Application					Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Millard Learning Centre Project # 1-734	1. Protect sensitive ecosystems from invasive species and excessive browsing	Control target invasive species across property and eliminate from sensitive areas	Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius) and tansy ragwort (Senecio jacobaea syn. Jacobaea vulgaris) controlled or eliminated at target sites	Remove scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius) from Chrystal Cove annually	Yes	Scotch broom removed from Chrystal Cove in May 2021.
				Remove scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius) from seepage sites and sensitive areas annually	Yes	Scotch broom removed from seepage sites and sensitive areas in May 2021.
				Remove tansy ragwort (Senecio jacobaea syn. Jacobaea vulgaris) across the property annually	Yes	Tansy ragwort removed from property in July 2021.
	1. Protect sensitive ecosystems from invasive species and excessive browsing	Expand, maintain, and monitor deer exclosures at restoration sites and permanent monitoring plots	Three years of data collected from permanenet monitoring plots; deer exclosures maintained, allowing restoration sites and permanent monitoring plots to remain protected from browsing	Perform annual monitoring protocol at permanent monitoring plots	Yes	Annual browsing protocol performed for 2021.
				Regularly inspect deer exclosures to ensure their integrity against incursions; repair and / or replace damaged exclosures as needed	Yes	Deer exclosures inspected and maintained in 2021. One older exclosure replaced entirely after it collapsed In August 2021. One older exclosure replaced entirely after it collapsed In August 2021.
				Create additional permanent monitoring exclosures at key locations to expand understanding of browsing impacts across ecosystem types / seral stages	No	No new exclosures were created this year.
	2. Ensure effective restoration by maintaining and monitoring established restoration projects	Maintain and monitor the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest	Three years of detailed monitoring data collected for adaptive management and future publication; Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest maintained and expanded, with edible products obtained from most species by the end of year 3	Perform annual monitoring protocol in the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest as laid out by Park & Higgs, 2017	Yes	Annual Forage Forest protocol performed on August 3, 2021 , and results tabulated for internal analysis
				Control introduced thistles (Cirsium spp.) and agronomic grasses to assist establishment and productivity of native species	Yes	Thistles and grasses controlled in the Forage Forest throughout 2021 and winter 2022.
				Establish additional native species as propagules become available from the nursery	Yes	New plantings of wildflowers, camas, shrubs, and trees established in the Forage Forest in September 2021.
	2. Ensure effective restoration by maintaining and monitoring established restoration projects	Maintain and monitor the old mill and Chrystal Cove restoration sites	Old mill and Chrsytal Cove restorations revisited, monitored, and maintained	Monitor to determine health and success of restoration treatments at old mill and Chrystal Cove restoration sites; determine necessary follow-up treatments	Yes	GCA Intern reviewed Mill site reports and produced a restoration plan for the site.
				Perform follow-up treatments (removing cages, replacing dead plants, invasive species control, etc.) based on monitoring	Yes	Extensive invasive species removal and cage removal efforts initiated throughout Chrystal Cove, targeting introduced blackberries, Scotch broom, periwinkle, and holly. Invasive species controlled at the Mill site.
				Restory utility road cut on old mill site	Yes	Mill site restoration treatments performed throughout 2021 and winter 2022, including: replacement of fence and expansion of exlosure area; removal of old cages; planting of red alder plugs; and trail improvements
	3. Improve knowledge of species at risk on the property	Carry out surveys to identify new populations, suitable habitat, and / or health trends of existing populations for target species at risk	Data on habitat and population trends for red-legged frogs (Rana aurora) and dense-spike primrose obtained, and additional suitable habitat identified; presence/absence of sharp-tailed snake (Contia tenuis) determined, and suitable habitat areas assessed for introduction potential	Establish and perform annual monitoring protocol for red-legged frogs (Rana aurora) based on 2018 report, including presence / absence across suitable habitat on the property and population trends within known populations	Yes	Full protocol carried out in winter of 2022. Four sampling sites established, with weekly sampling at each site throughout the breeding season.
				Survey suitable habitat for signs of sharp-tailed snake (Contia tenuis) as per the 2015 Provincial Recovery Strategy and 2011 status report on Species at Risk for Galiano Island	No	Staff outreach to regional experts, and connections made. Planned for 2022.
				Survey property for additional populations of dense-spike primrose (Epilobium densiflorum) and identify sites for seeding	Yes	No additional populations of dense-spike primrose discovered. Seeds collected and included in seeding mixes for restoration sites in the area where the original population was discovered.
	4. Restore hydrological processes across the property	Prepare comprehensive restoration plan for the Chrystal Creek watershed based on expert consultation, reports, and additional surveys	Restoration plan for Chrystal Creek watershed prepared and budgeted; riparian vegetation established in key areas to prevent erosion	Review Design Concept Plan for Chrystal Creek Re-construction (2016) and perform additional surveys to expand project scope to watershed scale	Yes	Ongoing surveying, mapping, and planning for Chrystal Creek watershed restoration project.
				Consult BCWF experts during summer 2020 wetland creation workshop at the MLC to assess restoration potential of the Chyrstal Creek watershed	Yes	Completed in 2020. Note: In 2021, the BCWF Wetlands Institute was hosted at the Millard Learning Centre, with BCWF staff and participants contributing to watershed restoration and planning efforts.
				Prepare comprehensive restoration plan for the Chrystal Creek watershed	Yes	Three phase plan for restoration of Chrystal Creek watershed prepared, including maps and workplan. Two Restoration of Natural Systems students working on capstone projects related to this project. Funding secured for Phases 1 and 2, and restoration is currently in progress on both phases.
	4. Restore hydrological processes across the property	Revegetate eroded riparian areas	Riparian areas protected against erosion across the property	Live-stake riparian areas and pond perimeters to stabilize soils and prevent erosion	Yes	Live-staking completed throughout Phase 1 restoration area in witner of 2021-2022.
	5. Encourage public access to conservation lands, demonstration facilities, and restoration sites	Expand and maintain a high quality public trail network	10 km of trails maintained across the property, with some trails available at all times regardless of educational programs; clear signage and maps posted across trail network	Complete 2 km destination trail connecting parking area to Tranquility Bluff, to be open to the public year-round	Yes	Progress made on trail construction throughout 2021. Trail should be complete by fall 2022.
				Maintain existing 8 km of trails, to be open to the public when youth education programs are not in session	Yes	Trails maintained.
				Repair and improve trail signage as needed	Yes	Progress made on interpretive trail signs for Tranquility Bluff trail. Signs will be printed and posted in summer 2022. Replacement trail signs installed.
	6. Ensure long term management goals are met	Update relevant management plans for 2020, taking organizational successes, feedback, and climate change into consideration	Key management plans updated to reflect successes and revise management priorities for the next decade	Revise and update Millard Learning Centre Management Plan (2013) for 2020	No	Planned for 2022.
				Reivse and update Invasive Alien Species Management Plan (2014) for 2020	Yes	Mapping for updated plan completed. Plan is in draft form and will be completed in 2022.



1-735

## Chemainus Estuary







# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 1-735

**Project/Property Name:** Project # 1-735 Chemainus Estuary

**Project Leader Name:** Jordan Bromley (formerly Jordan Maher)

**Name of Organization:** Q'ul-Ihanumutsun Aquatic Resources Society

**Date of Report:** April 12, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):** Same as project leader

**Name of Organization:** Q'ul-Ihanumutsun Aquatic Resources Society

**Contact Information:** [jordanbromley@qars.ngo](mailto:jordanbromley@qars.ngo); 250-210-0800

## 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

QARS consulted with traditional knowledge holders during a site visit to the Chemainus Estuary. Plants of importance to the local Indigenous communities were identified by Halalt First Nation member Kristen Thomas. Invasive plant removal strategies were also discussed. This information will be used to inform the development of signage and invasive plant removal strategies.

## 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

QARS reached out to the QARS member communities by email and telephone to seek interest in providing input into sign development. Halalt member Kristen Thomas engaged with QARS as a result and conducted a site visit.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

QARS provided updates to the QARS Board of Directors, comprised of delegates from each of the six member communities. Specifically, the Board was updated on the engagement with Kristen Thomas to discuss traditional plants and invasive plant removal in the Estuary.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

Not applicable

### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description:** Chemainus Estuary 1.jpg  
Estuary facing South: Willy's Island. Oregon grape and red currant visible. Tansy ragwort visible.

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:** Chemainus Estuary 2.jpg  
Estuary facing West. Gary Oak and sea asparagus visible. Scotch broom visible.

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:** Chemainus Estuary 3.jpg  
Estuary facing Northeast. Tidally influenced slough. Nootka rose and sea asparagus visible. Tansy ragwort visible.

### 5. ADDITIONAL DETAILS



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## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.

Due to pandemic conditions progress has been slow, however it is anticipated that this project will be completed in year 3.



Estuary facing South: Willy's Island. Oregon grape and red currant visible. Tansy ragwort visible.





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## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



Estuary facing West. Gary Oak and sea asparagus visible. Scotch broom visible



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## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM




Estuary facing Northeast. Tidally influenced slough. Nootka rose and sea asparagus visible. Tansy ragwort visible



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



		Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23 Cycle					
From Application					Progress Year 2		
Property/Complex Name:		Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Chemainus Estuary Project # 1-735	Chemainus Estuary ecological values preserved through responsible and informed estuary use	Develop and install educational signage, suggested topics: Intro to Chemainus Estuary/ Hul’q’umi’num name Indigenous History in area, Native Plants/names in Hul’q’umi’num, Purple Martin, Salmon Enumeration	Signs installed in Estuary along public path to enrich estuary use for the public and educate the public on estuary values.	Hold working groups with Indigenous knowledge holders and others on proposed sign topics and layout. 2 meetings per sign, 4 signs, 8 meetings total @ \$975 (6 Indigenous participants receiving honoraria at \$100 each = \$600 x 8 total \$4800, hospitality at \$375 x 8 = \$3000)	Yes	Indigenous knowledge holder Kristin Thomas from Halalt First Nation conducted site visit with QARS in the Chemainus Estuary to review traditional plants of importance to Indigenous communities.	
				Have proofs developed and fabricated by contractor. Cost fabrication for 4 x 8 aluminum sign \$650, total 4 signs \$2600. 4x4x12 posts plus hardware and cement footing @\$100 per post x 8 posts = \$800	No		
				Install signs in Estuary \$200 per post for wages and travel for two people x 8 posts	No		
	Make informed decisions about Estuary Management and Health	Conduct Aerial Habitat Inventory and Monitoring	Habitat Inventories and water surveys completed that can be used for estuary management and planning.	RPAS surveys for plant communities	No		
				RPAS thermal mapping of waterways and discharge	No		
				Aerial data analyzed to determine rehabilitation needs and inform invasive plant removal strategy	No		
	Maintain and preserve healthy Indigenous plant populations in the Chemainus Estuary	Conduct Invasive Plant Removal	Indigenous plant community (cattails, Nootka rose, others) re-occupation of areas previously displaced by invasive species (yellow flag iris, Himalayan blackberry, others).	Review Invasive Plant Distribution	No		
				Develop Invasive Plant Removal Strategy; hold yellow flag Iris removal workshop.	Yes	As a componenet of the invasive plant removal strategy, the use of yellow flag Iris for making baskets and hats as a reed or cedar substitute was discussed with Indigenous knowledge holder Kristen Thomas.	
				Remove Invasive Plants - protective equipment for volunteers to use for giant hogweed removal (1500), in kind staff time to assist in remova/coordination of removal (\$2500)	No		
	Project adminnistration expense	Project adminnistration expense	Project adminnistration expense	QARS adminstrative cost @10% (includes finance, book keeping, equipment maintenance)	No		

2-673

## Conservation – Rodgers





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 2-673 \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Rodger Road

**Project Leader Name:** Liz Webster

**Name of Organization:** Savary Island Land Trust

**Date of Report:** April 13, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Information:**

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

In Year 1, the legal survey of the perimeter of the property was conducted and registered with Land Title Office.

In Year 2 Ecological surveys were conducted. A report with findings was shared with the public in the SILT Newsletter Summer 2021. The complete Ecological report was submitted in December.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

There was no outreach opportunity in year 1 due to COVID.

In year 2 a report with findings was shared with the public in the SILT Newsletter Summer 2021.



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

The SILT Newsletter report in 2021 acknowledged and thanked HCTF for its support. The news about the support received from HCTF was shared with our membership and the public and discussed at the AGM in August 2021.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

"Findings from three ecological surveys"

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/19eMR9i4G7V4ARUeRSZ45\\_KyQ9hF6BWVB/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19eMR9i4G7V4ARUeRSZ45_KyQ9hF6BWVB/view)

#### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description: 2-673 Baseline Inventory**

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description: 2-673 Bird Survey**

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description: 2-673 Soil Sampling**





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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM







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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM








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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



		Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23Cycle				
From Application					Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Rodgers Road Properties Project # 2-673	Legal Survey of Property	Determine and register legal boundaries	Perimeter survey, mark corners, register with Land Title Office	Contract legal surveyor to survey perimeter, mark, determine and register boundaries	No	completed in Year 1
	Baseline Inventory of Properties	Determine site use by and presence of plants and animals; refine ecological classification; determine ecological context, threats and value;	Better understand ecological attributes of properties and landscape (spatial) consideraions to guide future acquisitions and land use.	vegetation plot sampling for BEC site series and delineation within properties soil sampling for wetland properties (Rodgers Rd.) wetland classification	Yes	Ecological surveys were conducted in June of 2021. Surveys included standardized breeding bird surveys, vegetation plot surveys, walk through surveys, rare plant surveys, and soil sampling. A preliminary report was prepared with the findings for the SILT Summer Newsletter. A comprehensive report was produced in December 2021.
				other features: snags, coarse woody debris significant features (veteran trees, boulders, seepage sites, ephemeral wetlands or depressions)  general plant species inventory rare plant species: vascular plants and bryophytes	yes	
				breeding bird survey (point count) + incidentals during other work bird nest survey (particularly raptors and herons) bird use survey: other sign such as roosting, etc.  ecological/landscape context, threats identify collected plants (vascular and bryophytes) deposit plant specimens at UBC herbarium	yes	



2-674

Conservation - Savary Island Road



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 2-674

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Savary Island Road Property

**Project Leader Name:** Liz Webster

**Name of Organization:** Savary Island Land Trust

**Date of Report:** April 13, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Information:**

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

In Year 1, the legal survey of the perimeter of the property was conducted and registered with Land Title Office.

In Year 2 Ecological surveys were conducted. A report with findings was shared with the public in the SILT Newsletter Summer 2021. The complete Ecological report was submitted in December.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

There was no outreach opportunity in year 1 due to COVID.

In year 2 a report with findings was shared with the public in the SILT Newsletter Summer 2021.

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

The SILT Newsletter report in 2021 acknowledged and thanked HCTF for its support. The news about the support received from HCTF was shared with our membership and the public and discussed at the AGM in August 2021.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

“Findings from three ecological surveys”

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/19eMR9i4G7V4ARUeRSZ45\\_KyQ9hF6BWVB/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19eMR9i4G7V4ARUeRSZ45_KyQ9hF6BWVB/view)

#### 4. PHOTOS

Photo 1 - Savary Island Road -SILT one acre forest






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## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



**Photo 2 Douglas-fir veterans, Savary Island Road Forest**



		Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23Cycle					
From Application						Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:		Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Savary Island Road Project # 2-674		Legal Survey of Property	Determine and register legal boundaries	Perimeter survey, mark corners, register with Land Title Office		No	completed in Year 1
		Baseline Inventory of Properties	determine site use by and presence of plants and animals; refine ecological classification; determine ecological context, threats and value;	Better understand ecological attributes of properties and landscape (spatial) consideraions to guide future acquisitions and land use.	vegetation plot sampling for BEC site series and delineation within properties; other features: snags, coarse woody debris	Yes	Ecological surveys were conducted in June of 2021. Surveys included standardized breeding bird surveys, vegetation plot surveys, walk through surveys, rare plant surveys, and soil sampling. A preliminary report was prepared with the findings for the SILT Summer Newsletter. A comprehensive report was produced in December 2021.
					significant features (veteran trees, boulders, seepage sites, ephemeral wetlands or depressions) general plant species inventory rare plant species: vascular plants and bryophytes		
					breeding bird survey (point count) + incidentals during other work bird nest survey (particularly raptors and herons) bird use survey: other sign such as roosting, etc.  ecological/landscape context, threats identify collected plants (vascular and bryophytes) deposit plant specimens at UBC herbarium		

2-675

Conservation - Vancouver Boulevard



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: #2-675

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Vancouver Blvd Properties

**Project Leader Name:** Liz Webster

**Name of Organization:** Savary Island Land Trust Society

**Date of Report:** April 13, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:** Savary Island Land Trust Society

**Contact Information:** [silts@telus.net](mailto:silts@telus.net) 604 414-7291

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

In Year 1, the legal survey of the perimeter of the property was conducted and registered with Land Title Office.

In Year 2 Ecological surveys were conducted. A report with findings was shared with the public in the SILT Newsletter Summer 2021. The complete Ecological report was submitted in December.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

There was no outreach opportunity in year 1 due to COVID.

In year 2 a report with findings was shared with the public in the SILT Newsletter Summer 2021.





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

The SILT Newsletter report in 2021 acknowledged and thanked HCTF for its support.  
The news about the support received from HCTF was shared with our membership and the public and discussed at the AGM in August 2021.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

"Findings from three ecological surveys"  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/19eMR9i4G7V4ARUeRSZ45\\_KyQ9hF6BWVB/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19eMR9i4G7V4ARUeRSZ45_KyQ9hF6BWVB/view)

#### 4. PHOTOS



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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

**Photo 1 Vancouver Blvd Forest**





## Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



**Photo 2 Vancouver Blvd Forest**

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.


We are very thankful for the HCTF support. It has enabled us to set legal boundaries of the land and gather detailed ecological information about the plants, animals, soils and ecological features on this parcel. This information will be very helpful in the stewardship of the land going forward, and will further inform our Land Acquisition Strategy Framework and decision making around future land acquisitions.





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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

 <div>HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST FOUNDATION</div>		Land Stewardship Grant Report Year <b>2</b> of 2020-23 Cycle					
From Application						Progress Year 1	
Property/Complex Name:		Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 1 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Vancouver Boulevard Project # 2-675		Legal Survey of Property	Determine and register legal boundaries	Perimeter survey, mark corners, register with Land Title Office	Contract legal surveyor to survey perimeter, determine and register boundaries	Yes	Legal survey of perimeter completed; determine and register boundaries.
		Baseline Inventory of Properties	determine site use by and presence of plants and animals; refine ecological classification; determine ecological context, threats and value;	Better understand ecological attributes of properties and landscape (spatial) consideraions to guide future acquisitions and land use.	vegetation plot sampling for BEC site series and delineation within properties; other features: snags, coarse woody debris	Yes year 2	Ecological surveys were conducted in June of 2021. Surveys included standardized breeding bird surveys, vegetation plot surveys, walk through surveys, rare plant surveys, and soil sampling. A preliminary report was prepared with the findings for the SILT Summer Newsletter. A comprehensive report was produced in December 2021.
					significant features (veteran trees, boulders, seepage sites, ephemeral wetlands or depressions) general plant species inventory rare plant species: vascular plants and bryophytes	Yes	
					breeding bird survey (point count) + incidentals during other work bird nest survey (particularly raptors and herons) bird use survey: other sign such as roosting, etc.  ecological/landscape context, threats identify collected plants (vascular and bryophytes) deposit plant specimens at UBC herbarium	Yes	



3-425

**Turtle Valley Farm/Toad Hollow Invasive  
Plant Management and Rehabilitation  
Project**





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 3-425

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Turtle Valley Farm/Toad Hollow Invasive Plant Management and Rehabilitation Project

**Project Leader Name:** Danielle Cross

**Name of Organization:** Nature Conservancy of Canada

**Date of Report:** March 31, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:**

**Contact Information:**

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

During Year 2 the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) completed the following tasks in accordance with this grant:

- Assessed the two transects established in Year 1 within the disturbed meadow to measure species composition change post Year 1 invasive plant treatment.
- Monitored biocontrol agents for spotted knapweed and Canada Thistle.
- Completed replacement of northern and eastern boundary fences and portions of the southern and western boundary fences where repairs were not possible.
- Installed metal gates across Butler Rd. to limit livestock trespass that historically travelled down the road and onto the conservation area.
- Seeded bare soil patches of disturbed meadow that either did not previously catch or were disturbed over the winter by off road vehicles.
- Installed camera monitoring sign and rehung Conservation Area sign.
- Continued communication with neighbour regarding compatible use and issues on the conservation area.

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

Additional activities not included in the original grant application completed in 2021 included:

- Clean up of illegal dumping on the conservation area.
- Installation of a trail camera to monitor use and trespass issues.
- Completion of additional Riparian Health Assessment (RHA) monitoring due to additional funding source. Originally only Year 1 and 3 had RHA monitoring.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, NCC canceled or postponed all conservation volunteer events and programs for the safety of its staff and the communities across the country for all of Year 1 and portions of Year 2 of this project. Some exceptions were made but with the consistently changing public health regulations it was thought best to post pone the volunteer weed pull until year 3 and combine it with a shrub planting day in the fall.

A brief update of this HCTF funded project was given to the Invasive Plant Management Coordinator for the Thompson Nicola Regional District, who provided the update at the November 2022 Thompson Nicola Invasive Plant Management Committee meeting to the committee members and at the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society 's land manager meeting this March. Update included the management of Cypress spurge by NCC on this project. Cypress spurge is only known at a few locations in the TNRD and is being actively managed and monitored to limit spread and possibly completely eradicate. Additional photos of the disturbed meadow before and after invasive plant treatment was shared. Photos are included with this Year 2 submission.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

Project backgrounder was written for Craig Doucette, Communications Officer, HCTF, for the Chase Sunflower Newspaper, the newspaper went ahead and mentioned the project with out consent from Craig or the promised article, see below. Craig mentioned that the article written by NCC would be a good fit for HCTF blog.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

Chase Sunflower posted an article mentioning the project  
[https://issuu.com/chasesunflower/docs/july\\_16th](https://issuu.com/chasesunflower/docs/july_16th) (see page 6)

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description:** Meadow\_Overview\_PreandPost\_InvasiveTreatment.jpg  
Slide showing comparison of before invasive plant treatment in 2020, to post invasive plant treatment in 2021.

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:** TVF 2021 gates.jpg  
Photo of installed gates across Butler Rd. to restrict livestock trespass. Permission obtained from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for these gates.

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:** T2\_Frame9\_ComparisonYr1and2.jpg  
Slide showing comparison of one of transect plots in 2020 versus 2021. Unfortunately transect was not completed at the same time in Year 2 as Year 1 and with extreme heat much of the vegetation had completed its growing season, but it is still plainly evident that there are no invasive plants in the Year 2 image.

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.

Since the onset of this project theft and vandalism has become a major issue. A fencing contractor had major equipment implements stolen, the gates NCC installed across Butler Rd were stolen less than 2 weeks after install, and a secured trail camera mounted 12 feet up a tree was stolen. Both the equipment and gate incidents (separate incidents) were reported to the local RCMP but not much can be done beyond that. Other issues during the extent of this project have included illegal harvesting of two live trees adjacent to Butler Rd., dumping of home reno debris and other garbage on the conservation area and new off-road vehicle use in the disturbed meadow. NCC continues to do its best to address these issues and rectify them if possible and as funding permits.



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



Photo Left: Year 1 Looking back at road Pre-Treatment July 6, 2020, notice hawkweed species infestation.

Photo Right: Year 2 Looking up from road Post-Treatment June 23, 2021, notice lack of invasive plant presence.

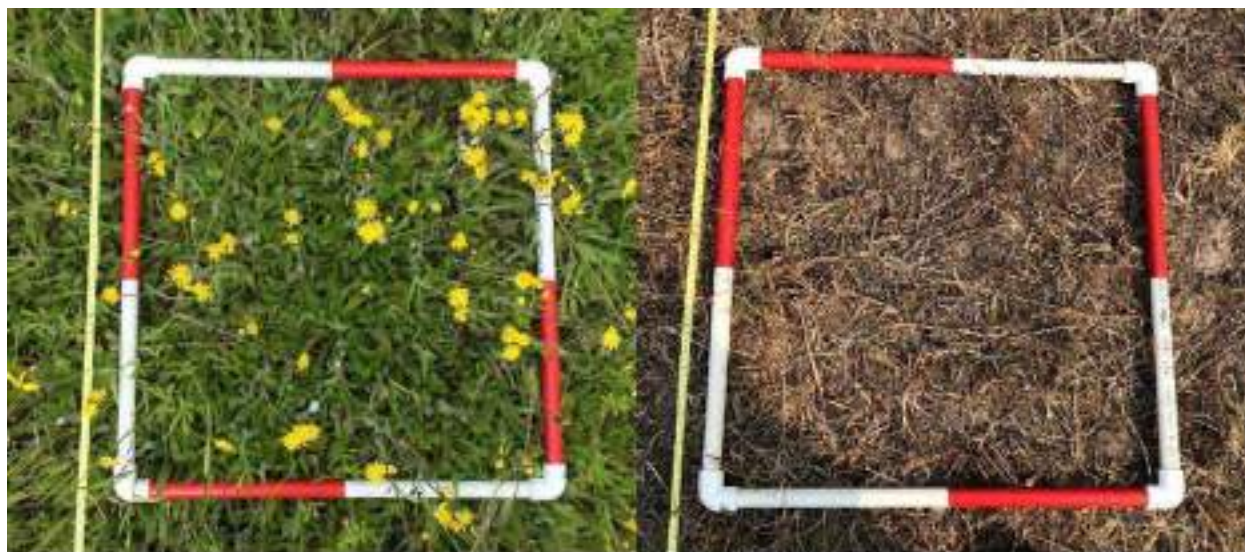


Photo Left: Year 1 Transect 2, Frame 9 at 24m, July 6, 2020. Hawkweed infestation forming near complete ground cover.

Photo Right: Year 2 Transect 2, Frame 9 at 24 m, August 5, 2021. No hawkweed present, some grass species reestablishing.






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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM



		Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23 Cycle				
From Application					Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Toad Hollow (Turtle Valley Farm) Project # 3-425	Reduce invasive plant species coverage on distrubed meadow and along road right-of-way	Control or eradicate invasive plant species using best management practices	Invasive species inventory completed and target of 60% reduction in coverage of priority species by 2023 (Year 3)	Chemical control applications by contractor - Year 1 and 2, using best management practices as discussed with local invasive species council and through research by NCC staff	NO	Monitoring determined no follow up chemical treatments required in Year2.
				Release of biocontrol agents as available for Canada thistle and spotted knapweed in particular	No	Completed Year 1.
				NCC staff to conduct pre-treatment inventory and assessment and monitor effectiveness of invasive management control adjusting if necessary to ensure effectiveness (Year 1, 2 and 3)	Yes	Completed monitoring of biocontrol realease sites for spotted knapweed and Canada Thistle, biocontrols were found and observed to be active on target species.
	Maintain reduction in invasive plant coverage	Control or eradicate invasive plant species using best management practices	Invasive plant management plan in place and being utilized (Start of Year 2 and beyond).	TNIPMC to develop Invasive Plant Management Plan by 2021.	No	Completed Year 1.
	Maintain or increase riparian health scores	Protect riparian areas for wildlife such as wetland dependant birds, moose and species at risk including Western Toad	Riparian Health Assessments completed and riparian areas score a Healthy rating by 2023 (Year 3)	NCC staff to conduct Riparian Health Assessments in Year 1 prior to invasive species control and fencing and then in Year 3 to measure effectiveness of treatments and fencing.	Yes	Although Riparian Health Assessments were originally only proposed for Year 1 and 3, additional funding was received through the BCWF Wetlands Workforce so additional monitoring was completed in Year 2.
	Increase cover of natural vegetation on disturbed meadow	Establish natural vegetation including shrubs on the disturbed meadow	Restoration site assesment completed with natural vegetation and grass species establishing on 30% of the site by 2023 (Year 3)	NCC to conduct pre-treatment inventory of disturbed meadow and then post-treatment inventories in Year 2 and Year 3	Yes	Completed post-treatment monitoring on both transects established in Year 1. Invasive plants occurred in 10/10 frames in both Transects 1 and 2 pre treatment. In Year 2 only one frame had invasive plant coverage
				Fall seed after spring chemical application on disturbed meadow	Yes	Supplemental spring seeding on disturbances that occurred over the winter and some bare soil in the treated meadow was completed.
				Plant shrubs in disturbed meadow (Year 3)	No	Year 3
	Control livestock trespass on the property	Eliminate horse trespass and associated grazing and trailing on the property	Cattleguard installed along the road transecting the property and 2.4 km of functioning wildlife friendly fencing are in place along the property boundary to prevent livestock, mainly horses, from accessing the property via adjacent private land.	Replace or repair when possible 2.4 km of fence with wildlife friendly fencing (smooth top wire no more than 40" high, with bottom wire 18" above ground), no stays, post placement about 16 ft. apart, remove all exisiting fence and wire and dispose off site (Year 1).	Yes	Completed replacement of northern and eastern boundary fences and portions of the southern and western boundary fences where repairs were not possible. Installed gates across Butler Rd. to remove livestock trespass that historically came down the road.
				Inspect fence annually. Make adjustments and repairs as necessary to ensure horses do not enter the property (Year 2 and 3)	Yes	Completed inspections during fencing work and post fence installation and repair.
				<del>Install cattleguard along the road at east property boundary (Year 1)</del> Deleted - \$ reallocated to fencing	N/A	
	Engage local community in invasive plant awareness and management and conservation lands	Engage local community members to participate in weed pulls or shrub planting volunteer days	A handful of local volunteers take an interest in and actively participate in the continued conservation activities on this property.	Host weed pull day to assist with mechanical removal around wetland and forest edges - Year 1, with potential for second in year 2	No	Moved to Year 3 to be completed in conjunction with shrub planting.
				Engage neighbors to report any livestock or other issues on the property - ongoing	Yes	Took calls and emails from neighbours and local community regarding this work. Met with neighbour on site.
				Install additional property signs - Year 2	Yes	Installed camera monitoring sign at property entrance. Rehung Property sign. Additional boundary signs to be installed in Year 3.

4-551

## Fort Shepherd Conservancy Area







# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: : CAT21-4-551

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Fort Shepherd Conservancy Area

**Project Leader Name:** Karen Iwachow, Environmental Technician & Land Manager

**Name of Organization:** TLC The Land Conservancy of British Columbia

**Date of Report:** April 5, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):**

**Name of Organization:** TLC The Land Conservancy of British Columbia

**Contact Information:** 5150 Cordova Bay Road, Victoria BC V8Y 2K6

250-479-8053

kiwachow@conservancy.bc.ca

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 2 (500 words max).

**Goal: Management Plan Refresh**

**Activity: Management Plan refresh.** Marlene Machmer, Pandion Ecological Research Ltd. was contracted to complete the Management Plan refresh. She documented representative polygons and habitat types, special attributes, and access routes and infrastructure. Using collation, analysis of that data is currently underway, supported by photos and detailed notes on status/condition, as well as management concerns and recommendations. First draft of the new Management Plan to be submitted for TLC review at the end of April 2022.

**Activity:** TLC staff coordination and support for management plan creation. TLC staff coordinated discussions with selected stakeholder groups, and individuals with specific knowledge, interest, involvement in the Fort Shepherd Conservancy are being contacted by phone/email to discuss their management priorities, goals, objectives and specific issues of concern.

**Activity:** TLC coordination with partners to implement management plan action items. Recommendations made in the Management Plan which will be submitted for review in April 2022 will identify high-priority sites for restoration activities outlined in the Budget and Activity Detail. Partners in conservation who have specific projects within their programs at Fort Shepherd have been contacted to collaborate for Year 3 to best achieve activity goals. This includes Kootenay Native Plant Society's Columbia Basin Trust's Ecosystem Enhancement initiative in the Lower Columbia sub-region, called the



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

Pollination Pathway Climate Adaptation Initiative, and Okanagan Nation Alliance's CBT funded Lower Columbia Rare Species Ecosystem Enhancement Program.

**Goal: Maintain and restore ecosystem integrity, health, and biological diversity with a climate change lens.**

**Activity:** Install bird nesting boxes for wildlife tree-dependent species as interim habitat. Ravens Bluff Consulting was contracted to build and install 20 bird boxes for mergansers, wood duck, screech owl and bluebird. Lumber was donated by Kalesnikoff Lumber Co. Ltd. Bird boxes have been georeferenced for ongoing monitoring.

**Activity:** Develop weed management plan with BCTC, FortisBC, and TCML to not impact SAR recovery actions. TLC Land Manager Karen Iwachow met at Fort Shepherd with FortisBC and Teck Metals Ltd. to begin discussions in developing a collaborative invasive plant species management plan. FortisBC is limited by requirements to maintain safety under the transmission lines. However, we anticipate developing a plan that will fulfil safety requirements, invasive species control, and enhance known SAR habitat with the support of Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society in summer of 2022.

**Goal: Protect and enhance the ecological and archeological values**

**Activity:** Identify critical habitat for SAR and address threats: Marlene Machmer, Pandion Ecological Research Ltd. was contracted to complete the Management Plan refresh. She conducted field surveys for species at risk (SAR) and candidate listed grassland-brushland communities.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

The Management Plan refresh activities required outreach to First Nations representatives who were contacted by phone to initiate consultations on management priorities, goals, objectives and specific issues of concern or interest for the Conservancy.

Other agencies (FWCP, Teck, FortisBC, BC Hydro, TWA, WKNs, BCNPS, etc.) and selected stakeholder groups, and individuals with specific knowledge, interest, involvement in the Fort Shepherd Conservancy are being contacted by phone/email to discuss their management priorities, goals, objectives, and specific issues of concern.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

Communications about HCTF were made with project partners in the planning process for executing activities for 2022 summer and fall in brushing shrubs, native planting, mechanical wildlife tree creation, interpretive signage and trail signage and open house.

# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description:** CAT21 4 551 FSCA Skink and Boa.jpg Management Plan contractor Marlene Machmer found a Western skink and Rubber boa nestled under the same log during her Species at Risk surveys in summer 2021.

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:** CAT21 4 551 FSCA Bluebird box w trail cam.jpg Installation of blue bird box on lower benches of Fort Shepherd by contractor Karen Trebitz of Ravens Bluff Consulting.

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:** CAT21 4 551 FSCA Teck Row Invs Species.jpg Site visit with FortisBC and Teck Metals Ltd. to discuss invasive species management from transmission line right of ways.

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.

Year 2 focused on the development of the Management Plan and Year 3 will be the execution of activities outlined in the Budget and Activity Detail which will be supported by the recommendations from the management plan.



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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM





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# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23 YEAR 2 REPORT FORM







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## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM





Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23 Cycle

From Application					Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Fort Shepherd Project # 4-551	Management Plan Update	Update the existing management plan to reflect restoration that has occurred, changes in habitat conditions, access management and address climate change stressors.	Management Plan is updated and objectives are implemented.	Contract Pandion Ecological Research Ltd. to prepare management plan	yes	Marlene Machmer of Pandion Ecological Research Ltd. Completed the first draft of the management plan. She documented representative polygons and habitat types, special attributes, and access routes and infrastructure, using collation and analysis of that data is currently underway, supported by photos and detailed notes on status/condition, management concerns and recommendations.
				TLC staff coordination and support for management plan creation	yes	TLC staff coordinated discussions with selected stakeholder groups, and individuals with specific knowledge, interest, involvement in the Fort Shepherd Conservancy are being contacted opportunistically by phone/email to discuss their management priorities, goals, objectives and specific issues of concern
				TLC coordination with partners to implement management plan action items	yes	Partners in conservation who have specific projects within their programs at Fort Shepherd have been contacted to collaborate for Year 3 to best achieve activity goals.
	Maintain and restore ecosystem integrity, health, and biological diversity with a climate change lens.	Improve representative habitats, elements, and species at risk (SAR)	Comprehensive species inventories for identified sites. Populations of SAR are maintained or increased relative to baseline.	Species inventories completed by staff or contractors	no	
				Develop weed management plan with BCTC, FortisBC and TCML to not impact SAR recovery actions	yes	Meetings between TLC, FortisBC and Teck Metals Ltd. Throughout 2021 online and on site at Fort Shepherd. Final collaborative weed management plan will be completed summer 2022
				Riparian area survey for knapweed control	no	
	Maintain and restore ecosystem integrity, health, and biological diversity with a climate change lens.	Improve winter range habitat for ungulates	Increased number of wintering ungulates due to enhanced winter forage	Brushing of decadent shrubs to reduce fuel load, improve growth for drought conditions and improve forage for ungulates	no	
				Remove fencing to allow unrestricted wildlife movement	no	
				Native shrub planting along roadways, in riparian areas and along ROWs.	no	
	Maintain and restore ecosystem integrity, health, and biological diversity with a climate change lens.	Increase the number of wildlife trees and coarse woody debris (CWD)	Increased density of CWD and increased populations of wildlife tree-dependent species on site.	Create wildlife trees and large hollow logs using mechanical means	no	Ravens Bluff Consulting was contracted to build and install 20 bird boxes for mergansers, wood duck, screech owl and bluebird.
				Install bird nesting boxes for wildlife tree-dependent species as interim habitat	yes	
					no	
	Encourage initiatives that promote public awareness, stewardship and educational opportunities	Foster a sense of stewardship over the land.	Regular community-led outings to contribute to stewardship objectives (e.g. winter ungulate counts, Christmas bird count, SAR surveys).	Interpretive signage at key entry points	no	
				Publicize new management goals and activities through open-house events with the community on the land	no	
				Promote training and educational opportunities with post-secondary programs	no	
	Manage human land use opportunities that do not compromise conseration and management of it's ecological values	Create access management plan for easement/right of way contractors and trail users	25% of unused roads decommissioned with signage for all retained roads to remain	Continue road decommissioning of unauthorized/unused roads	no	
				Meet with BCTC, FortisBC and TCML representatives on site to conduct a powerline access road inventory	no	
				Install trail markers	no	
	Protect and enhance the ecological and archeological vales	Control or eliminate invasive species using best management practices	Reduction in invasive species coverage and vigour. Increase in habitat for native species and SAR.	Conduct work parties with community volunteers to remove invasive species in high priority areas	no	
				Identify critical habitat for SAR and address threats	yes	Marlene Machmer, Pandion Ecological Research Ltd. was contracted to complete the Management Plan refresh. She conducted field surveys for species at risk (SAR) and candidate listed grassland-brushland
				Monitoring and management of regrowth in treated areas	no	



4-606

Morrissey Meadows



# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## YEAR 2 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 4-606

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** Morrissey Meadows Habitat Enhancement / Morrissey Meadows Conservation Area

**Project Leader Name:** Richard Klafki

**Name of Organization:** The Nature Conservancy of Canada

**Date of Report:** April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):** Kate MacKenzie

**Name of Organization:** Nature Conservancy of Canada

**Contact Information:** kate.mackenzie@natureconservancy.ca

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in Year 1 (500 words max).

Invasive plant management went ahead in Year 2 as planned. Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) staff coordinated with the East Kootenay Invasive Species Council (EKISC) to complete chemical treatments in fall of 2021. High priority species around the homestead and adjacent to Elk River were targeted with herbicide treatments, including common tansy, spotted knapweed and blueweed. Other lower-priority species such as wormwood and burdock were also treated advantageously. This is the third year that EKISC and NCC have collaborated on invasive plant treatments at Morrissey Meadows, and effectiveness monitoring of treated sites has confirmed a reduction in the burdock infestation particularly around the old homestead site. According to the treatment report provided by EKISC, infestations on the property are manageable and continued treatment efforts over the next several years are likely to achieve significant results.

Earthmoving and vegetation planting activities associated with the riparian/fish habitat restoration portion of the project were completed in Year 2 during the fall of 2021. NCC partnered with the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) to restore fish habitat in a side channel of the Elk River, resulting in the construction of two deep ponds and a small channel connecting the ponds to the main stem of the Elk River to facilitate fish passage. The shoreline was also re-graded and stabilized with the use of root wads and embedded dogwood and willow cuttings, which will prevent erosion and promote the development of healthy riparian vegetation. The site was hydroseeded following construction activities and will be



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supplemented with a mix of native grass species in the spring to improve diversity and reduce the spread of invasive plants. Annual monitoring will be completed by the RDEK over the next five years to measure the success of the project and to complete any maintenance work as required. Plans are also underway to use up the remaining HCTF funds to construct a cattle exclusion fence in spring of 2022 that will protect the restored area from livestock grazing, and to build several elk and deer exclusion “pods” to improve establishment and success of riparian plantings.

Several local contractors were invited to bid on work related to refuse removal and general clean-up around the homestead site in Year 2. No contracts have been let to date.

### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

Fish habitat restoration activities were featured on NCC’s website. The story can be found here: <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/en/where-we-work/british-columbia/stories/morrissey-meadows-rdek.html>

NCC will be partnering with the Elk River Alliance during the 2022 season to continue restoring cottonwood forest on the property and enhance the riparian restoration activities through ongoing vegetation planting.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

There were no specific communications in 2021 related to Year 2 activities, however it is expected that there will be many opportunities for ongoing recognition of the HCTF in Year 3.

**Media Coverage:** Provide a list of any articles or media coverage during the year.

Year 2 of the project did not include any media coverage. HCTF and other funders will continue to be acknowledged as future stories are released.

### 4. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.



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**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description:**

IMG\_8122 – restored side channel showing a constructed pond and shoreline stabilization in the foreground.

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:**

IMG\_8136 – constructed fish channel and embedded shoreline stabilizing woot wad.

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:**

IMG\_8141 – regraded shoreline stabilized with dogwood live cuttings.

**Photo 4 File name and Photo Description:**

IMG\_8145 – stabilized shoreline and constructed fish channel looking back towards the project site from the Elk River.

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.

In Years 1 and 2, funding provided by HCTF has allowed NCC address the issue of invasive plants and to work with local and regional partners to develop and carry out fish/riparian habitat restoration on the property. With the majority of riparian restoration activities already complete, the remaining portion of the budget will be used in Year 3 to construct fencing and plant additional vegetation. These activities represent a significant step in managing habitat within conservation area for a diversity of wildlife including several species at risk.

Cattle operations on Morrissey Meadows will be discontinued following the 2022 grazing season, allowing NCC to explore a new opportunity to partner with the Elk River Alliance to undertake a cottonwood forest restoration initiative starting in 2022.



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		Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2020-23Cycle				
From Application					Progress Year 2	
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Progress on this Activity in Year 2 (Yes/No)	Completed Activity Description
Morrissey Meadows Project # 4-606	Restore and enhance the shoreline and riparian habitat of the Elk River and its side channels.	Improve bank stability and the condition of riparian vegetation along the Elk River for aquatic species such as Bull Trout and Westslope Cutthroat Trout.	Strategic fencing is installed to exclude cattle from the Elk River shoreline in spring of 2021 prior to restoration activities. Restoration activities are completed to enhance the riparian vegetation along approx. 350m of Elk River shoreline.	Develop a plan to restore riparian vegetation, and provide support in the form of materials to the rancher to install fencing to exclude cattle from riparian areas.	Yes	NCC staff collaborated with the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) to construct fish habitat and restore riparian vegetation within a side channel of the Elk River. A contractor has been selected to construct a range fence in spring of 2022 to protect the restored area from browse.
				Purchase vegetation and grass seed to complete riparian plantings, and install temporary wildlife exclusion fences to avoid damage to plants from wildlife.	Yes	Riparian plantings completed as part of the fish habitat and riparian vegetation restoration project. A contractor has been selected to construct temporary wildlife exclusion "pods" to protect plantings, which
				Establish monitoring plots to measure effectiveness and track recovery of riparian vegetation	No	Annual monitoring and any necessary management will be completed at the direction of the RDEK over the next 5 years.
	Enhance biodiversity and improve the condition of ungulate winter range and species at risk habitat.	Invasive species are controlled or removed based on the most effective techniques.	High priority invasive species are controlled according to past inventory data, and current populations are reduced or eliminated where possible.	Work with the East Kootenay Invasive Species Council (EKISC) and local contractors to control invasive plants through treatments and monitoring.	Yes	NCC staff collaborated with the East Kootenay Invasive Species Council to complete annual invasive plant treatments in Year 2.
	Enhance biodiversity and improve the condition of ungulate winter range and species at risk habitat.	Improve habitat for wildlife and species at risk (e.g. Little Brown Myotis, Elk).	Refuse left of the property from previous landowners is removed.	Hire contractor and rent roll off dumpster bin to remove refuse from the property that has been dumped or left by previous landowners.	Yes	Several local contractors were engaged throughout 2021 to complete this project, however no contracts have been let to date.
	Engage partner organizations and the local community to participate in conservation and restoration activities.	Community members participate in restoration activities.	10-15 volunteers participate in planting riparian vegetation.	Partner with local organizations (e.g. Elk River Alliance, Wildsight) to help coordinate local volunteers to complete the vegetation planting, install wildlife exclosures and provide tools for volunteers.	Yes	Riparian plantings were completed at the direction of the RDEK. A contractor has been selected to construct temporary wildlife exclusion "pods" to protect plantings, which will occur in spring of 2022. The Elk





8-457

R.E. Taylor Conservation Property





# Land Stewardship Grant 2020-23

## FINAL YEAR REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 8-457

### 1. PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project/Property Name:** R.E. Taylor Conservation Property

**Project Leader Name:** Alan Peatt, RPBio, FAPB

**Name of Organization:** Southern Interior Land Trust Society

**Date of Report:** April 15, 2022

**Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):** Same

**Name of Organization:** Same

**Contact Information:** E: [apeatt@siltrust.ca](mailto:apeatt@siltrust.ca) Call/Text: 250-328-4699

### 2. SUMMARY

Provide a general description of project work completed in the last year (500 words max).

The Southern Interior Land Trust monitored perimeter fence effectiveness during periodic site visits throughout 2021, no issues detected, and no additional fence maintenance was needed. The 85 native shrubs planted in Year 1 were watered frequently during the severe summer heat dome; survival was estimated at 80%+. Further planting was unnecessary. Litter from the highway was collected and removed during the periodic site visits. Two reflective safety markers were installed on the driveway to improve visibility for vehicle drivers exiting the highway. As we were unable to proceed with an in-person public bioblitz due to COVID, alternative strategies were developed (with costs offset by a small TDFEF grant received in 2021) to promote public engagement with the conservation property. This included four site visits with expert biologists, creation of two educational videos, and developing an [iNaturalist project](#) and an [eBird hotspot](#) for the property. The goal of these virtual projects is to provide public opportunity to continue to collect and share ecological data, which will continue to benefit property management. The collected data to date and species expert opinions helped inform completion of a management statement for the property.

Please provide a general summary of overall project outcomes (500 words max).

In 2020 & 2021, the Southern Interior Land Trust (SILT) undertook management and maintenance activities at its R.E. Taylor Conservation property near Olalla, BC. The R.E. Taylor Conservation Property is a Water Birch woodland located on the banks of Keremeos Creek. SILT's current goals for the property are to maintain it as productive habitat for wildlife, to improve vehicle parking to increase visitor safety, and to increase public awareness of the property. The 700 metres-long perimeter fence for the property

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## FINAL YEAR REPORT FORM

was inspected several times and minor maintenance such as wire tightening, re-stapling and removal of downed trees was undertaken. Top and/or bottom visible PVC pipe rails were added to the boundary fence at five known wildlife crossings; the height of the rails was adjusted as practical to make the crossing sites even more wildlife friendly. The existing driveway and parking area was improved to increase public safety and abandoned concrete debris was collected and buried to create an artificial winter den and basking area for snakes and other wildlife; which was then revegetated. These works occurred in late fall 2020 to avoid harm to reptiles and nesting birds. As SILT was unable to proceed with the in-person bioblitz event due to COVID restrictions, an alternative strategy was developed in 2021 to promote public engagement with the added help of a small, complementary TDFEF grant. Activities included four site visits with expert biologists, creation of two educational videos to share with the public (posted on SILT's website), and developing an [iNaturalist project](#) and an [eBird hotspot](#) for the property. The goal of these virtual projects is to provide public opportunity to continue to collect and share data, which will benefit property management on an ongoing basis. The collected data to date and species expert opinions helped to inform completion of a brief management statement for the property.

### 3. LESSONS LEARNED

Describe any problems or challenges that arose and how you addressed them in order to proceed with the project. What have you learned that would be valuable to share with others that may be undertaking a similar project?

COVID prevented in-person public activities and liaison with neighbours; the severe heat dome of 2021 meant additional site visits to ensure planted shrubs were frequently watered. We developed an alternate strategy to engage the public by videoing species experts visiting the property and discussing its values and resources. This resulted in two online videos (links below), an iNaturalist project, and creation of an eBird hotspot. We obtained a small, separate but complementary TDFEF grant to help offset additional costs of the 'virtual bioblitz', which required multiple trips to the property, time to create the videos and citizen science data sites, and Honoraria for two of the species experts. We adapted to the extra requirements to water recently planted shrubs by conducting additional trips to the property (about once per week) by arranging time to stop while engaged in other projects requiring travel past the property. The greatest lesson learned was to remain positive and adaptable in the face of adversity. As we could not do a traditional 'bioblitz' we instead found another 'virtual' way to inform and engage the public in a continual collection of property data over time, with the added benefit of providing permanent educational videos about SILT and its property. The 2021 heat dome was not anticipated and simply required budget and time adjustments, and some volunteer help, to water the site more frequently to ensure as many plants as practical survived.

### 4. COMMUNICATIONS

**Project Outreach Activities:** Provide information on any outreach activities during the year that directly relate to the project.

SILT created three educational videos to share with the public on SILT's website and on YouTube. Each video acknowledges HCTF as a funding partner.

*Snake den and basking site:* [https://youtu.be/WFrF\\_adjo44](https://youtu.be/WFrF_adjo44)



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Reptiles & Amphibians: <https://youtu.be/MCDOurb4wKE>

Birds & Plants: <https://youtu.be/MrVlpCDjmlA>

In addition, SILT developed an [iNaturalist project](#) for the property and created an [eBird hotspot](#). The goal of these virtual sites is to provide an opportunity for the public to continue to share data they may collect while visiting the property in the future. This will provide useful insight to SILT on what species are present at the property at different times of year and may lead to new knowledge of species-at-risk that may be present. If species-at-risk are identified through these projects, SILT can develop management actions to support the habitat they occupy.

**Communicating about HCTF:** Provide information on any activities specific to communicating about HCTF undertaken during the year.

Nothing specific. HCTF is acknowledged on the R.E. Taylor Conservation Property information sign, in each video produced by SILT about the property, and in SILT's management statement for the property.

### 5. PHOTOS

Include a minimum of three photos as part of your report, attached as separate JPG files. List the filenames below, plus a description of each photo.

**Photo 1 File name and Photo Description:** Taylor Conservation Property, 2021, overview with info sign 8-457, L Lalach

**Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:** Western Terrestrial Gartersnake, 2021, Basking at the Taylor Conservation Property artificial den, 8-457, L Lalach

**Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:** Dr. Terry McIntosh, botanist, 2021, Taylor Conservation Property virtual bioblitz, 8-457, L Lalach

Provide any other information you wish to share with HCTF.

SILT appreciates the support of the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation both in helping to acquire the R.E. Taylor Conservation Property and for supporting SILT's efforts to help ensure the land is maintained and enhanced as productive habitat, and is safe for wildlife and people to visit. HCTF's Land Stewardship grant has already resulted in greater community engagement and improved management at SILT's R.E. Taylor Conservation property.



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	HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST FOUNDATION	Land Stewardship Grant Report Year 2 of 2021-24 Cycle						
From Application					Progress Year 2/Final Year			
Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activities Completed in the Final Year	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators met? (Yes/No/Partial)	If Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators not met, provide an explanation	
R.E. Taylor Conservation Property Project # 8-457	Maintain productive habitat for wildlife	Existing 700 meter-long perimeter fence is effective; known wildlife crossing points are made safe.	700 meters of fence is maintained to exclude cattle from the property; at least one known wildlife crossing of the fence made safer with top and/or bottom rail.	Inspect fence, note areas of concern and wildlife crossing points, purchase supplies and make necessary reparis.	None - done in Year 1	Yes		
				Monitor fence effectiveness by inspecting for signs of cattle trespass, liaise with adjacent owners; maintain fence.	No cattle trespass, no maintenance needed.	Yes		
	Maintain productive habitat for wildlife	Plant native plants and grass seed areas disturbed by debris cleanup & parking area improvement.	A target of 20 native shrubs are planted in disturbed areas and are surviving	Clean-up and dispose of litter and debris (costed in contractor work below); plan for planting native species in disturbed areas	Periodic collected minor litter from highway	Yes		
				Purchase native plants and conduct planting and seeding	None - done in Year 1.	Yes		
				Monitor plant survival and replace any dead plants	Frequent watering req'd during heat dome. 80%+ alive; no planting	Yes		
	Improve vehicle parking to increase visitor safety	2-3 vehicle parking and a safe turning space constructed	Visitors no longer have to back their vehicles into Highway 3A traffic to exit the property	Supervise contractor; improve driveway and construct parking area (cost includes contractor machine time & and clean fill)	Reflective safety posts added to driveway entrance for visibility.	Yes		
	Increase public awareness, use and care of the property	Community members participate in a biodiversity survey	Six or more volunteers participate in a biodiversity survey (bioblitz); results are reported publicly	Plan and conduct a spring biodiveristy survey (bioblitz) involving local experts, the interested public and secondary students	COVID limited. Virtual bioblitz done with 4 spp experts.	Partial	COVID prevented a public bioblitz event. Instead, 4 species experts visited the property and provided their observations & spp lists. eBird & iNaturalist applications created for the property.	
				Organize data and report (website/newsletter) on results	Videos, iNaturalist project and eBird hotspot created. Master spp list	Yes	Videos of species experts created & posted to SILTs website and YouTube. Reptiles & amphibians: <a href="https://youtu.be/MCDOurb4wKE">https://youtu.be/MCDOurb4wKE</a> Plants & Birds: <a href="https://youtu.be/MrVlpCDjmlA">https://youtu.be/MrVlpCDjmlA</a>	
	Increase public awareness, use and care of the property	Prepare a brief management statement using current information.	A brief managmeeent statement is completed and available for use by current and future SILT officials.	Liaise with adjoining property owners and others about the Taylor property, management planning, and mutual goals.	Compiled property info & consulted with 4 species exprrts (herps, birds, plants, invasives).	Partial	COVID limited. Consulted with 4 spp experts about mgt suggestions. Mgt statement will be posted on SILT website in 2022 and emailed to adjoining landowners. There were no personal interactions with neighbours in 2021 due to COVID. No new goals or property-use issues were identified	
				Write a management statement to document known resource values and to guide SILT's future managment of the property and ongoing community involvement.	Management statement is complete; will be updated annually.	Yes		