



Caribou Habitat Restoration Fund

2023 Report Overview

6-283: Caribou captured on camera in Tweedsmuir range.
(Project by Province of B.C.)

The Caribou Habitat Restoration Fund (CHRF) is managed by the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation for the purpose of restoring high-value habitat for caribou in BC using functional and ecological restoration methods. The CHRF is made possible by contributions from the Province of BC and Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Who can apply?

Any individual or organization capable of restoring habitat for caribou in British Columbia can apply. To maximize the benefits for caribou using the funds available, the Province has identified priority herds and developed guidelines for selecting restoration areas that will benefit these herds. [Learn More.](#)

How much money can an applicant request?

There is no upper limit to the amount of money an applicant can request, however, HCTF's goal is to allocate this money to habitat restoration projects that, in aggregate, will provide the maximum benefit to caribou. Priority will be given to projects that secure significant partner contributions (cash and in-kind).

What type of restoration projects will be prioritized for funding?

Priority is given to restoration projects that will reduce the use of linear features by predators and people so as to reduce caribou mortality in the short term, utilizing functional restoration methods. Ecological restoration is important to meet the long-term goals at many sites and can be done in conjunction with functional restoration. Please review the [Eligible Activities List](#) on HCTF's website for further details.

Additional considerations

- Proposed activities must not be part of an existing statutory/legal obligation.
- Mitigation must be undertaken to minimize the environmental impact of treatments, such as archaeological resources, watercourse crossings, minimizing impacts on other Species at Risk, etc. It is the proponent's responsibility to ensure appropriate permitting is in place.
- Collaboration between the applicant and the regional caribou biologist(s) in all affected regions must occur (concept to delivery).
- Familiarize yourself with the Operational Restoration Framework document which outlines key considerations for planning restoration.



Not ready to submit a full proposal?

Applicants can request up to \$10,000 for a seed grant for the development of a full, technically sound proposal for a new caribou habitat restoration project. The goal of this pilot is to help groups that want to restore anthropogenic disturbances in high-value caribou habitat, but require some assistance in preparing a full proposal that meets the technical requirements. Refer to the [Seed Grant](#) tab on the CHRF website for more details.

How do we apply?

HCTF accepts CHRF grant applications in September 2023 for restoration work planned for April 2024 - March 2025.

See [CHRF Apply Tab](#) for full information and details on how to apply.



Functional and ecological restoration in year 5 at Upper Bigmouth Creek (Project led by Yucwmenlucw)

CHRF 2023–2024 Grant Recipients:

Amoco Road Restoration (Project #7-528)

Proponent: Project led by the Nîkanêse Wah tzee Stewardship Society.

Region: Northeast Region, 56 km west of Chetwynd, BC and within zone B3 of the Caribou Partnership Agreement.

Description: This project in year 5 of 5 is designed to benefit the Klinse-Za and Scott caribou herds using functional restoration treatments on a road built for oil and gas exploration. This project has resulted in functional and ecological restoration of 1,136 ha of road, and this year the team will conduct post-treatment monitoring of treatment effectiveness.

Amount: Approved for \$49,849 of CHRF funding.

SugarBowl-Grizzly Den Provincial Park and Protected Area Legacy Linear Features Restoration Project (Project #7-593)

Proponent: Project led by Society for Ecosystem Restoration in Northern British Columbia (SERN BC)

Region: Omineca/Peace region, 82 km south-east of the city of Prince George, B.C.

Description: This project will benefit the North Cariboo caribou subpopulation by functionally restoring 20 km of forest harvesting legacy linear features in Sugarbowl-Grizzly Den Provincial Park and Protected Area thereby reducing predator movement and eliminating human recreational access within this important low/mid elevation caribou habitat.

Amount: Approved for \$134,910 of CHRF funding.

Peck Creek – Upper Carbon (Project #7-543)

Proponent: Project led by the Nîkanêse Wah tzee Stewardship Society.

Region: Omineca/Peace region, approximately 54 km west of Chetwynd, BC and within zone B3 of the Caribou Partnership Agreement.

Description: This project is in year 4 of 5 and has resulted in functional and ecological restoration of 1,287 ha of road in the Klinse-Za caribou herd area. In this project year the team will conduct post-treatment monitoring of treatment effectiveness.

Amount: Approved for \$61,476 of CHRF funding.



Callazon – Clearwater Valley (Project #7-554)

Proponent: Project led by the Nîkanêse Wah tzee Stewardship Society.

Region: Omineca/Peace region approximately 45 km northeast of Mackenzie, BC, and within zone B3 of the Caribou Partnership Agreement.

Description: This project is in year 3 of 5 and will result in the functional and ecological restoration of approximately 16.3 km of linear corridors on two sites in the Clearwater Valley, resulting in restoration of 18% of the total disturbance at the meso-watershed scale.

Amount: Approved for \$254,809 of CHRF funding.

Tweedsmuir Caribou Winter Range – Chelaslie Road (Project #6-283)

Proponent: Project led by the Province of British Columbia.

Region: Skeena Region, 60 km south of Burns Lake, BC in the Chelaslie migration corridor.

Description: This project in year 4 of 5 will benefit the Tweedsmuir–Entiako caribou herd by using functional and ecological techniques to restore 80+ km of road and fire guard features in high-value low-elevation winter range with the goal of increasing intact caribou habitat and reducing predator-prey interactions through decreasing predator and human access.

Amount: Approved for \$220,401 of CHRF funding.

Whitesail (Project #6-306)

Proponent: Project led by Canfor and the Province of British Columbia.

Region: Skeena Region, approximately 122 km south of Smithers, B.C.

Description: This project in year of 3 of 5 and will restore ~ 86 km of roads to reduce predator and human access within the Whitesail Priority Restoration Area for the Tweedsmuir-Entiako caribou herd, decreasing road density from 1.3 km/km² to 0.08 km/km² and creating 7,176 ha of near-contiguous low elevation summer habitat from the shoreline of Whitesail Reach to intact no-harvest areas.

Amount: Approved for \$98,028 of CHRF funding.



7-543: A field worker on the Peck Creek-Upper Carbon restoration site navigating around felled trees. (Nîkanêse Wah tzee Stewardship Society)

Simpcw First Nation Caribou Road Rehabilitation (Project #3-467)

Proponent: Project led by Simpcw First Nation.

Region: Thompson - Nicola region, approximately 19 km north of the town of Blue River, B.C.

Description: This project is in year 1 of 3 and aims to rehabilitate approximately 35 km of roads for the Wells Gray South Caribou Herd between 2023-2026 within the road networks around Thunder River.

Amount: Approved for \$95,760 of CHRF funding.

Westside Fort Nelson (Parker) Caribou Range (Project #7-591)

Proponent: Project led by WSP Golder.

Region: Omineca/Peace region, approximately 5 km west of Fort Nelson, in boreal caribou range. The project area is situated just south of Highway 97 and north of the Muskwa River.

Description: This project will monitor the functional and ecological restoration treatment effectiveness in year 6 after restoration treatments were implemented in Zone 1 of the Westside Fort Nelson boreal caribou range (Parker range).

Amount: Approved for \$70,000 of CHRF funding.



Helicopter Lakes (Project #7-592)

Proponent: Project led Chu Cho Environmental.

Region: Omineca/Peace region. The Swannell River Valley is located 55 km southwest of Tsay Keh Dene, BC and 190 km northwest of Mackenzie BC. The 2023 road of focus, the Helicopter Lakes road, is located at the end of the Swannell mainline, parallel to Helicopter Lakes.

Description: This project will use ecological and functional restoration techniques to restore 8.5 km of road, within core low elevation habitat for the Chase caribou, within the Chuyaza Conservancy established by Tsay Keh Dene Nation.

Amount: Approved for \$53,000 of CHRF funding.



Functional road restoration for Groundhog herd (Project led by Province of BC)

CHRF 2023–2024 Seed Grant Recipients:

TNG West-Central Chilcotin Linear Features Restoration Program (Project #5-352)

Proponent: Project led by Tsilhqotin National Government.

Region: Cariboo region, within the Itcha-Ilgachuz caribou herd range, approximately 180 km west of Williams Lake, north of Highway 20.

Description: This project will commence the engagement, prioritization, permitting and then restoration of numerous roads throughout the Central and Eastern half of the Itcha-Ilgachuz herd range.

Amount: Approved for \$10,000 of CHRF funding.

Telwka Caribou Herd Range (Project #6-319)

Proponent: Project led by the Province of British Columbia.

Region: Skeena region, approximately 20 km south of Telkwa, and 20 km west of Houston, B.C.

Description: This seed funding will be used to conduct preliminary work, such as field verification, to develop a proposal to restore habitat for the Telkwa caribou herd through functional and ecological restoration of untenured forestry roads in priority areas as identified in the Tactical Restoration plan and with input from First nations to be collated this winter.

Amount: Approved for \$10,000 of CHRF funding.

Groundhog Field Verifications and Prescription Development (Project #4-697)

Proponent: Project led by the Province of British Columbia.

Region: Kootenays, in high/moderate priority areas within Groundhog.

Description: This seed funding will be used to conduct road verification and development of road prescriptions for the Groundhog Herd in collaboration with First Nations part of the restoration sub-group. The fieldwork and prescriptions will be based on a priority list currently being developed by the Shuswap Band.

Amount: Approved for \$10,000 of CHRF funding.



Columbia North Field Verification and Prescription Development (Project #4-698)

Proponent: Project led by the Province of British Columbia.

Region: Kootenays, in high/moderate priority areas north of Revelstoke.

Description: This seed funding will be used to conduct road verification and development of road prescriptions for the Columbia North Herd in collaboration with First Nations part of the restoration sub-group. The fieldwork and prescriptions will be based on a priority list currently being developed by the Shuswap Band. These prescriptions will be developed on linear features to be restored.

Amount: Approved for \$10,000 of CHRF funding.

Central Selkirks Field Verification and Prescription Development (Project #4-699)

Proponent: Project led by the Province of British Columbia.

Region: Kootenays, in high priority areas within Selkirks, north of Meadow Creek and around Trout Lake east of Nakusp, B.C.

Description: This seed funding will be used to conduct road verification and development of road prescriptions for the Central Selkirks Herd in collaboration with First Nations part of the restoration sub-group. The fieldwork and prescriptions will be based on a priority list currently being developed by the Shuswap Band.

Amount: Approved for \$10,000 of CHRF funding.

Barkerville Caribou Habitat Restoration (Project #5-354)

Proponent: Project led by Southern Dakeh Nation Alliance.

Region: Cariboo region, 12 km west of the district of Wells, B.C.

Description: This seed funding will be used to conduct engagement with First Nations and preliminary work to develop a proposal to restore habitat for the Barkerville caribou herd through functional and ecological restoration of roads and forests with no legal obligation to reforest.

Amount: Approved for \$10,000 of CHRF funding.



Collared Klinse-Za herd caribou captured on remote camera in Amoco Road Restoration Area (Project led by Nikanese Wah tzee Stewardship Society)

