

Approved Action Grant Projects

Project Name	Project #	Project Description	Grant Amount *	Proponent
Promoting Human-Grizzly Coexistence: Electric Fencing Cost-Share Program	ACT-076	The Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative is working to minimize conflict and foster coexistence between grizzly bears and communities residing at the interface of human and bear populations, which is essential for facilitating grizzly bear recovery in southwest British Columbia. Launched in 2021, this privately funded and effective electric fencing cost-share program is a proactive approach to mitigating human-bear interactions by securing attractants to be inaccessible to bears. To date, twelve electric fences have been installed, safeguarding over 20 acres of commercial crops, home gardens, and livestock. The cost-share initiative plays a critical role in maintaining safe boundaries between human communities and the recovering grizzly bear populations.	\$36,000	Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative
Engaging Private Landholders to Stand Up for Xpey' (Western Redcedar)	ACT-053	The Xpey' (Cedar) project is the legacy of a group of Quw'utsun' Elders whose vision is to uplift their communities and inspire region-wide cultural restoration and protection activities to ensure that Xpey' (Western Redcedar) and other cultural values are available and accessible for cultural use for generations 500 years from now. Toward this vision, the group is establishing an Indigenous Land Trust to provide a variety of mechanisms for landholders to restore, protect, and ensure access to cultural values on largely privately owned lands across Hul'q'umi'num' territories. This project will support a landholder engagement program to share cultural teachings and ways of knowing about Xpey' and relationships with the land and inspire actions that will range from voluntary restoration activities and relationship agreements to legally binding covenants, co-management agreements, and land acquisition.	\$50,000	Quw'utsun' Cultural Connections Society in partnership with Social Planning Cowichan
Community Poison Hemlock Eradication Plan	ACT-052	Under the Community Poison Hemlock Eradication Plan, the community works together to eradicate the invasive plant poison hemlock from the Central Kootenay region. Poison hemlock is highly poisonous to humans, livestock, and pets and displaces native vegetation, especially in riparian areas. Community involvement through volunteer reporting, Community Early Detection and Rapid Response Teams, and collaboration between all land owners and holders will build the capacity in the Creston area to stop the spread of poison hemlock throughout the Kootenays.	\$35,702	Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS)
2024 Wetlands Institute: East Kootenays Region	ACT-012	The Wetlands Institute is a 7-day workshop that will provide the necessary tools and knowledge for practitioners to initiate wetland stewardship projects in BC. The 2024 Institute will be hosted in the East Kootenay region, providing high-quality training and hands-on wetland restoration and design experience while supporting regional initiatives. The 2024 Institute will also include a virtual Speaker Series on topics of value to wetland practitioners to support a greater and more diverse audience. Following the Institute, in-person participants are offered ongoing support to successfully complete their projects.	\$50,000	B.C. Wildlife Federation

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Conservation of At-Risk Plants on BC's South Coast	ACT-050	The phantom orchid, an endangered plant species, can be found in environments susceptible to detrimental human activities, including parks and private backyards. This project aims to focus on sites in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley to survey this plant, identify any concerns, and then work with the landowners to improve their activities to ensure that the plants are protected. To help improve the chances of success, a working group will be created with various at-risk plant conservation experts to review the survey results, share best management practices, and provide guidance on prioritizing and implementing conservation activities.	\$16,008*	The British Columbia Conservation Foundation
Shovel and Island Lake Stocking Standards	ACT-005	In 2018 the Shovel and Island Lake Wildfires impacted 113,793ha of forested area near Fraser Lake BC. In response to these fires, SERNbc initiated a collaborative restoration planning process involving local First Nations, communities, tenure holders, academia, experts, and the provincial government. The resulting non-legal landscape level plans have established management zones to prioritize the many values across the landscape as identified by collaborators and previous land use plans. The Ecosystem Restoration Plans (ERPs) have received support from the Nations, Province, and industry through collaboration and implementation of ERP objectives. SERNbc is currently working with all involved parties to create ERP Stocking Standards to support reforestation activities that align with ERP objectives.	\$48,900*	Society for Ecosystem Restoration in Northern B.C.
Corridors for Coexistence	ACT-049	As the Sunshine Coast population, and use by visitors, continues to expand into habitat for black bears and other wildlife, there is an urgent need to assess current and future anthropogenic threats to this habitat. This expansion into quality habitat can compromise important travel corridors, impinge upon connectivity, affect availability of natural food sources, and contribute to the presence of bears in urban areas leading to "human-bear conflict." The Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance Society has undertaken a study to identify these threats to black bear/wildlife habitat on our lower coast to illustrate to local governments the need for wildlife travel corridors within future planning and development decisions. In tandem with this study, our bear alliance will continue to educate residents and visitors about how to coexist safely and respectfully with our coast's bears.	\$9,874	Sunshine Coast Bear Alliance Society
Nature Stewards in Your Neighbourhood	ACT-044	The Nature Stewards in Your Neighbourhood project is a targeted approach to inspiring participation in community science data collection, volunteerism, and private land stewardship. This project expands community engagement opportunities in Chilliwack's Ryder Lake neighbourhood. It builds on the proven success of our Nature Stewards landowner advising program and the power of community science data collection to inspire long-term stewardship behaviour change.	\$25,000	Fraser Valley Conservancy

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Community Collaboration Towards Water Quality Improvement in Langley BC	ACT-041	<p>The Township of Langley is one of the richest agricultural areas in Canada, with 73% of the land base within the Agricultural Land Reserve, coupled with close to 2,000km of waterways. The threat of agricultural pollution is a genuine concern for fish, wildlife, and humans in this network of watersheds that extends to the Fraser River and Boundary Bay.</p> <p>This project will improve citizens' understanding of non-point source pollution sources and incentivize improved agricultural land management practices. Outreach and restoration activities will enable collective action to be taken to mitigate pollution concerns, leading to reduced pollution counts and improved water quality and aquatic habitats in local freshwater resources.</p>	\$25,000	Langley Environmental Partners Society
Southern Mountain Caribou (South Grp) Professional Development Sessions	ACT-059	<p>The overarching goal of this project is to bring various members of the Revelstoke, Columbia, and Central Selkirks Technical Working Group (RCCSTWG) Sub-group, key Ministry of WLRS, Parks, and ECCC staff, and First Nations together for professional growth and stronger, more trusting relationships with the ultimate shared goal of protecting the Southern Group of Southern Mountain Caribou.</p> <p>Through hosting a monthly 'Learn at work' series for the RCCSTWG Sub-group and an in-person get-together with the Sub-Group and some guest presenters leading learning sessions, this project will build connections between members, increase trust, and ultimately increase efficiencies towards helping Mountain Caribou herds grow and thrive.</p>	\$25,000	Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship



Wetlands Institute
BC Wildlife Federation