

## Approved Community Grant Projects

Project Name	Project #	Project Description	Grant Amount *	Project Leader
Vanier Nature Park Garry Oak Grove Restoration	COM-127	Vanier Nature Park in the Comox Valley is home to an endangered, rare example of a wetland Garry oak ecosystem. These ecosystems support a diverse suite of plants, animals, and insects, and they are drought- and fire-tolerant. Comox Valley Naturalists Society has begun to restore this oak grove by "releasing" the Garry oaks to sun and improved health by removing invasive plants and reducing over-topping firs to wildlife snags.	\$3,904	Comox Valley Naturalists Society
Providing Alternative Den Sites for Chunih Cho (Fishers)	COM-128	This project addresses habitat loss for Chunih Cho (fishers) by designing and deploying artificial den boxes in heavily fragmented forests as a conservation strategy. By studying den box occupancy, reproductive success, and habitat preferences, their effectiveness in supporting fisher populations and mitigating the impacts of habitat degradation will be evaluated. This research will provide evidence-based guidelines for scaling up den box programs, offering a practical solution to enhance habitat and promote the recovery of this important mesocarnivore.	\$7,200	Nak'azdli Whut'en
Nature is for Everyone	COM-129	Just as the forest thrives through diversity, so do we as a society. "Nature is for Everyone" is an innovative multi-year project in South Vancouver, welcoming those who may face barriers to participation in stewardship. In Phase 2 of the project, seniors will be welcomed to connect with nature and help improve the forest ecosystem.	\$10,000	Free the Fern Stewardship Society
View Royal Park Ecocultural Fencing	COM-132	This project will enhance vital estuarine habitat for coastal cutthroat trout, coho salmon, and other salmonids by expanding ecocultural fencing, marsh creation, and long-term monitoring. In partnership with Songhees, Esquimalt, and Tsartlip Stewardship Teams, this project will protect native vegetation, improve fish habitat, and contribute to regional estuary restoration efforts. Findings will directly inform the Tidal Marsh and Estuary Working Group, co-led by Guardians of our Salish Estuaries and Pacific Salmon Foundation, helping develop best practices for tidal marsh conservation across the region.	\$9,000	Peninsula Streams Society
Return of the Kokanee Salmon	COM-134	Efforts are underway on Kootenay Lake to replenish depleted stock of kokanee salmon. Spawner counts in 2024 revealed considerably more kokanee than expected, using the upper reaches of Summit Creek, formerly an important spawning tributary on the south arm of Kootenay Lake. Through this project, counts will again take place in 2025 to help determine preferred salmon habitat on the creek and where to best plant kokanee eggs to help increase their numbers on the south arm of Kootenay Lake.	\$2,056	Creston Valley Rod & Gun Club
Wetland Restoration Workshop at Forslund-Watson Conservation Area	COM-136	This collaborative project will construct an ephemeral groundwater wetland as part of British Columbia Institute of Technology's ecological restoration bachelor's degree program. It will expand upon previous restoration projects with a long-term goal of creating a complex of functional wetlands that provide diverse habitat and food for birds and amphibians while increasing ecological functions such as water storage and infiltration throughout the site. This project offers students a unique opportunity to apply their academic knowledge directly to real-world restoration efforts, with an emphasis on hands-on learning and collaboration.	\$9,463	British Columbia Institute of Technology

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Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Community Action 2025	COM-137	This project will target two locations in the Columbia Shuswap region where invasive plant management will benefit migratory bird and western painted turtle habitat: a Revelstoke Reach project site targeting Himalayan balsam, and a Shuswap, Salmon Arm Bay foreshore site targeting yellow flag iris and Himalayan balsam. The project will involve at least 30 volunteers completing mechanical invasive plant treatments, as well as four days of Indigenous expertise and learning on project sites.	\$3,500	Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society
Help Us Help Ducks	COM-138	This project will enhance waterfowl populations in the Omineca region by installing duck nest boxes and hen houses in key wetland habitats. Volunteers will play a vital role in building, installing, and maintaining these structures, providing safe nesting sites for species such as wood ducks, goldeneyes, and mallards, improving nesting success and supporting conservation efforts. This hands-on initiative fosters community involvement while reinforcing Spruce City Wildlife Association's commitment to habitat restoration and wildlife conservation.	\$3,850	Spruce City Wildlife Association
Monitoring and Improving the Ecosystem Health at Pinantan Lake	COM-139	The Pinantan East Paul Lake Community Association is engaging community volunteers to monitor and improve the aquatic health of Pinantan Lake. This project will monitor water quality and clean up decades of shoreline garbage.	\$4,850	Pinantan East Paul Lake Community Association
2025 Kootenay Lake Education & Stewardship Project	COM-141	This project will empower local communities to protect and restore Kootenay Lake through hands-on citizen science, habitat restoration, and educational outreach. The program will engage volunteers in activities such as wetland revitalization, beach cleanups, osprey and kokanee monitoring, and lake stewardship workshops while expanding public awareness. By fostering community involvement and ecological knowledge, the program will strengthen long-term stewardship and improve the overall health of Kootenay Lake and its shoreline ecosystems.	\$10,000	Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society
Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary Violet-green Swallow Monitoring Project	COM-143	South Island Bird Research Network (SIBRN), Special Bird Service, and Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary are excited to come together to create this project to study and protect the Violet-green swallow. While abundant in B.C., very little is known about their breeding behaviours and nesting success; this community monitoring project will help fill in some of the knowledge gaps. Aerial insectivores are in serious decline both nationally and globally, and it is important to monitor the breeding success of swallows at a finer scale to understand the local impact of global climate change.	\$9,000	Special Bird Service Society
Welland Orchard Pollinator Garden Restoration Project	COM-145	This project will continue to support the planting of native plants at Welland Orchard, enhancing biodiversity and pollinator habitat and providing opportunities for volunteers to gain hands on skills for restoration of natural areas.	\$3,250	Lifecycles Project Society
Increasing Habitat for Native Pollinators, Cariboo Heights Forest Burnaby	COM-146	In this project, Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society will work with community members to create a diverse native plant garden that supports native insects, pollinators and birds. They will remove Reed canary grass and Himalayan blackberry from an area under a BC Hydro transmission line and replant with native plants. This garden will be used to educate the community about the importance of native plants to support biodiversity and encourage community members to include native plants in their home gardens.	\$1,865	Cariboo Heights Forest Preservation Society

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Hummingbird Monitoring in British Columbia	COM-148	This project trains local teams to collect data on individual hummingbirds, their habitat use, and air quality to enhance understanding of their survival needs. Banding data will go to the Canadian Wildlife Service, and habitat use information will be shared with land managers for better decision-making. The project will also engage communities through outreach activities to promote awareness and shared responsibility for hummingbird conservation.	\$10,000	Rocky Point Bird Observatory Society
Mamquam River Side Channel Resilience	COM-149	This project will enhance the resilience of the Mamquam River's off-channel habitats through community-led restoration efforts to ensure long-term climate adaptability. Volunteers will participate in invasive plant removal, native riparian planting, beaver dam management, and water quality monitoring to improve critical riparian habitat for trout and char species. By fostering awareness and providing hands-on training, this initiative empowers the community with the knowledge and skills to steward their environment effectively.	\$9,980	Squamish River Watershed Society
Elk River Alliance Cuttings Nursery	COM-151	The Elk River Alliance (ERA) will establish a cutting nursery for native tree species such as cottonwood, Red Osier Dogwood, willow and trembling aspen. The nursery will support ERA's Cottonwood Restoration Program, which aims to create wildlife habitat, mitigate flood risks, and prevent erosion along the streambank. The nursery will allow ERA staff and volunteers to produce 5-10,000 plants annually for Elk Valley restoration.	\$4,000	Elk River Watershed Alliance
Ecological Habitat Enhancement, Swan Lake Nature Reserve Park	COM-152	This former agricultural property was secured as a nature reserve in 2005. Native plant species are being re-established on it to provide habitat for birds and other wildlife. Bird houses, bat houses, nesting platforms, and perching poles will also be added to the site.	\$2,600	North Okanagan Naturalists Club
Coquitlam River Watershed Stewardship Initiative	COM-153	The Coquitlam River Watershed is a vital ecological system that supports wild salmon, diverse wildlife, and the cultural heritage of the Kwikwetlem First Nation, but it faces increasing threats from urban development and pollution. Through this initiative, volunteers will remove litter along a stretch of the Coquitlam River and participate in the Yellow Fish Program, marking storm drains and educating residents on pollution prevention. By engaging the community in hands-on conservation and education, this project will help improve water quality, protect fish and wildlife habitats, and inspire long-term watershed stewardship.	\$2,384	Watershed Watch Salmon Society
Firehall & Bilston Creek Riparian Restoration & Signage Projects 2025-2029	COM-154	This project will support educational signage and riparian and instream restoration at locations along Firehall and Bilston Creeks. Educational signage in the upper and lower watershed, and riparian restoration activities in Firehall Creek, will help raise awareness of the vulnerability of the small shallow waterways that characterize the Bilston Watershed. Additional signage will be installed along a new path adjacent to Witty's Lagoon Park in partnership with the Metchosin Foundation and St. Mary's Parish Council. This new path will be part of a Community Education & Engagement hub in partnership with the Metchosin Foundation Bilston Conservation Corridor Project, St. Mary's Parish Council and Bilston Creek Farm.	\$10,000	Bilston Watershed Habitat Protection Association



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Everett Crowley Park: A Home for Native Amphibians	COM-155	Restoration of native amphibian habitat in Everett Crowley Park will promote urban biodiversity in Vancouver and neighbouring municipalities. Through invasive species removal, native replanting, and amphibian habitat surveys, this project supports community engagement, connection with nature, and nature education.	\$7,085	Champlain Heights Community Association - Everett Crowley Park Committee
Wildlife Monitoring & Community Stewardship in Bowen Park	COM-156	Wildcoast Ecologist Society is launching a biodiversity monitoring and stewardship project at Bowen Park in Nanaimo to study bats and amphibians through scientific surveys and community involvement. Volunteers will be trained in species monitoring and habitat restoration, with a focus on protecting species at risk, such as the little brown myotis bat and northern red-legged frog. By combining data collection with public education, this project will enhance conservation efforts, inform best management practices, and foster long-term environmental stewardship in Nanaimo.	\$6,400	Wildcoast Ecological Society
Tranquille Viewing Site Ecological Restoration	COM-157	The purpose of this project is to expand efforts to remove invasive species and restore pollinator-friendly and culturally significant native plants to the Tranquille Viewing Site. Restoring the natural ecology of the area will greatly enhance interpretive learning opportunities ahead of significant infrastructure upgrades at the site in coming years.	\$3,460	Kamloops Naturalist Club
VUFFF - Burrard View Park Food Forest	COM-158	The Burrard View Park Food Forest, planted and stewarded by the Vancouver Urban Food Forest Foundation, will be an urban garden planted using permaculture principles. It will be a space to learn, play, grow food and medicine, and come together.	\$4,000	Vancouver Urban Food Forest Foundation



Western Screech Owl Nest Box Cleaning  
Habitat Acquisition Trust