HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST FOUNDATION

Year 2 Reports

Land Stewardship Grants

2023-2026 Funding Cycle

HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST FOUNDATION

Land Stewardship Grants

2023-26

Introduction

In 2008, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation was provided with 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 private lands managed by non-profit organizations. Since 2017, 25 grants have been awarded. This document contains year 2 reports for projects approved for funding for 2023-2026.

Project #	Project Name	Organization	Amount Spent Yr 2
1-817	Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve	Salt Spring island Conservancy	$43,879
1-818	Millard Learning Centre	Galiano Conservancy Association	$30,612
1-819	Matson Conservation Area	Habitat Acquisition Trust	$25,793
1-820	Central Denman Conservation Complex: Phase 2	Denman Conservancy Association	$22,358
2-764	Ryder Creek	Fraser Valley Conservancy	$11,924
5-347	Horsefly River	Nature Conservancy of Canada	$47,160
8-500	Pleasant Valley Wetland Heritage Park	BC Small Wetlands Association	$19,600
		Total for program:	$201,326

Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve

1–817

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: __1-817_____

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project/Property Name: Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve

Project Leader Name: Penelope Barnes

Name of Organization: Salt Spring Island Conservancy

Reporting Year __2__ of 3

Date of Report: April 7, 2025

Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):

Name of Organization: Salt Spring Island Conservancy

Contact Information: pbarnes@saltspringconservancy.ca. 1-250-931-4627

2. COMMUNICATIONS

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

SSIC's outreach activities that directly relate to this project are the volunteer training sessions focused on land stewardship techniques on Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve (BLNR). Specific to this project were training sessions, provided to new BLNR volunteer wardens, on control of Canada thistle and reed canary grass on BLNR and on trail maintenance.

3. 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. West Field - Area of dense Canada thistle following cutting.

Photo 2. Walking Trail -Trails are maintained by volunteers and field technician.

Photo 3. Field and Brush Mower – Volunteer mowing trail at Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve.

4. ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Provide a description of any materials and supplies purchases funded by HCTF that are considered capital assets. See Reporting Instructions for information on Capital Assets.

Mower (D.R. Pro 26 field and brush mower) - $4544.25

Provide any other information about this project you wish to share with HCTF. Eg. Discuss any roadblocks or unexpected issues impacting project progress.

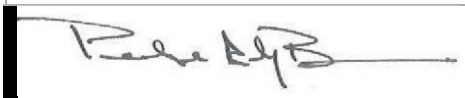
If this is your **final report** please include a short summary of any lessons learned, unexpected benefits and project highlights.

This report is for year 2 of the project.

In year 2, no unexpected issues arose that impacted project progress.

5. SIGNATURE

Certified that the project has been completed as reported and this report is an accurate reflection of project activities and expenditures per the HCTF Grant Agreement.

Proponent Signature	Date	Print Name
	April 7, 2025	Penelope A. G. Barnes

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activity Status Year 2 (C, IP, NS)	Year 2 - Summary of progress towards each Objective
Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve	1a. Eliminate, reduce or manage invasive species	Restore utility vehicle access to southern portion of reserve in order to permit invasive species control equipment access	New bridge over Hitchcock Creek (year 1) allows pedestrian and utility vehicle crossing (years 1-3)	Obtain design plans from structural engineer (year 1).	C	Completed in year 1.
				Obtain necessary permits (year 1).	C	
				Construct the bridge (year 1).	C	
	1a. Eliminate, reduce or manage invasive species (also contributes to Goal 4: Provide ongoing and educational public access)	Acquire equipment necessary to eliminate, reduce or manage invasive plants on the reserve	Acquire a trailer mower for controlling Canada thistle and a brushcutter for controlling Reed canary grass (year 1). Mower and brushcutter used successfully in years 1-3.	Purchase trailer mower to use with exisiting utility vehicle (year 1).	C	Purchase of the mower was completed in year 2. With permission from HCTF's Conservation Lands Program Coordinator, the mower purchase was moved from year 1 to year 2, and SSIC purchased a self-propelled mower instead of a trailer mower to use with our existing utility vehicle. It was determined that the former provides significantly more versatility in accessing all areas of BLNR and, additionally, our utility vehicle is aging and an 'independent' mower was deemed preferable. Included in the mower purchase were associated items (fuel container, safety gear, security lock/chain). Purchase of the brushcutter was completed in year 1.
				Purchase brushcutter (year 1).	C	
	1a. Eliminate, reduce or manage invasive species	Control Canada thistle	Canada thistle mowed on schedule (years 1-3); seeding and encroachment prevented (years 1-3).	Mow Canada thistle 2 times per year (years 1-3).	IP	Canada thistle was cut by SSIC's field technician (contractor) and volunteer wardens using a brushcutter from June to early September, as needed to prevent seeding and encroachment. The brushcutter was used because the new mower was available for purchase later in year 2. This activity was completed for year 2 but, because this activity will continue in year 3, was coded 'IP'.
	1a. Eliminate, reduce or manage invasive species	Control Reed canary grass	Reed canary grass cut on schedule (years 1-3); seeding and encroachment prevented (years 1-3).	Obtain necessary permit exemptions (year 2).	C	The necessary permit exemptions were obtained.
				Cut Reed canary grass 3 times per year (years 1-3).	IP	Reed canary grass was cut three times, thereby weakening the plants and helping to prevent seeding and encroachment. This activity was completed for year 2 but, because this activity will continue in year 3, was coded 'IP'.
	4. Provide ongoing and educational public access	Maintain clear trails for public access and to reduce the instances of the public walking off-trail and potentially damaging ecosystems	Public trails are clearly deliniated by mowing (years 1-3).	Mow trails 3 times per year (years 1-3).	IP	Some paths in the north section of the reserve were mowed by a neighbour volunteer using his farm tractor and mower attachment. The remaining paths were maintained by SSIC's contract field technician, and vounteer wardens, using brushcutters. This mowing maintained the trails for walkers, while reducing instances of the public walking off-trail and potentially damaging ecosystems. Brushcutters were used to maintain trails because the new mower was available for purchase later in year 2. This activity was completed for year 2 but, because this activity will continue in year 3, was coded 'IP'.

Millard Learning Centre

1-818

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: _1-8181_____

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project/Property Name: Millard Learning Centre

Project Leader Name: Adam Huggins

Name of Organization: Galiano Conservancy Association

Reporting Year _2_ of 3

Date of Report: April 9, 2025

Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):

Name of Organization:

Contact Information:

2. COMMUNICATIONS

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

1. Field courses and student groups from the University of Victoria and BCIT were provided tours of project areas and participated in project activities, engaging 40 post-secondary students.
2. We co-hosted a weekend-long Wetlandkeepers workshop with the BCWF at the Millard Learning Centre that showcased project areas, with 22 participants.
3. We hosted separate visits from members of the Aqueduct Foundation, Trinity Western University, Rewilding Water and Earth, and the Unist'ot'en Healing Centre, providing custom tours of project areas for each group and engaging 30 people.
4. We hosted a Supporter Appreciation Event and our annual Walkalong for Learning and provided interpretation in project areas, engaging over 210 people.
5. We presented on our work in project areas at the Society for Ecological Restoration North America Conference in October 2024 in Vancouver BC, and were invited to speak about project

activities at public events hosted by the Denman Island Conservancy, Transition Salt Spring, and Living with Water, reaching over 220 people.

6. We hosted weekly volunteer days open to the public over the course of the year.

Response to our work across the range of project activities has been very positive. The Chrystal Creek watershed restoration (now complete) has been well received by the general public, regional organizations and practitioners, and at the SER North America conference in Vancouver. It is serving as a model and inspiration for practitioners and students in our region. The profile of the Millard Learning Centre as a regional destination for learning about and engaging in hands-on learning in nature continues to rise, with HCTF-funded stewardship activities contributing this by improving public trail access, introduced species management, and species at risk monitoring.

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

1. During in-person tours, events, and presentations (see above), we verbally acknowledged support from the HCTF for our work at the Millard Learning Centre.
2. We release social media posts and supporter newsletters throughout the year, and HCTF is acknowledged where relevant.
3. HCTF is acknowledged the Our Partners and Funders page of our website, as well as on project specific pages, such as the Chrystal Creek Watershed Restoration page.

3. 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.

All photos were taken by Adam Huggins.

UVic ERC 1-4_Adam H – Photos of volunteers from the UVic Ecological Restoration Club establishing plants at the Millard Learning Centre

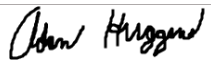
Supporter Appreciation Event_Adam H – Wetland restoration expert celebrates the completion of the Chrystal Creek watershed restoration project with GCA members and supporters in the new "amphibiatheatre"

Tansy Ragwort Removal_Adam H – A visiting volunteer from the San Juan Nature Preservation Trust removes tansy ragwort at the Millard Learning Centre

Monitoring Wetland restoration_Adam H – GCA seasonal staff monitor the success of plantings established around a newly created wetland pool in the Chrystal Creek watershed

4. SIGNATURE

Certified that the project has been completed as reported and this report is an accurate reflection of project activities and expenditures per the HCTF Grant Agreement.

Proponent Signature	Date	Print Name
	April 9, 2024	Adam Huggins

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activity Status Year 2 (C, IP, NS)	Year 2 - Summary of progress towards each Objective
Millard Learning Centre (DL 57)	RESTORE ecosystems throughout the Millard Learning Centre	Complete the restoration of the Chrystal Creek watershed from ridgeline to shoreline	Restoration treatments - including decompaction, wetland construction, ditch removal, streambed realignment, distribution of woody debris, and establishment & protection of native plants - are applied across 11.5 ha of the 26 ha Chrystal Creek watershed.	Plan, coordinate, and implement restoration activities across Phases 1, 2, and 3 of complex restoration program unfolding across multiple funding cycles with a diverse set of funders	C	In Year 2, we completed the restoration of the Chrystal Creek watershed, concluding a 5+ year watershed-scale restoration effort. Activities in year 2 included planting, maintenance of established plants, soil bioengineering, garbage removal, and monitoring. /// Weekly Friday volunteer events were offered regularly throughout the year, including for International Make a Difference (MAD) week to support the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. We hosted hands-on field classes for UVic, BCIT, and the UVic ERC. /// Following summer monitoring activities, we identified areas in need of replanting and established native plants in those areas with help from UVic and BCIT students.
				Host weekly Friday volunteer days and organize post-secondary field school and volunteer group visits to engage students and the community in restoration treatments	C	
				Replace native plants as needed in planted areas after monitoring for survival	C	
	EXTEND management activities across the Millard Learning Centre	Extend and maintain network of nature trails	6.7 km of nature trails maintanined, and an additional 800m constructed to replace eroding logging roads	Maintain 6.7 km of nature trails	C	We maintained, improved, and expanded the Millard Learning Centre trail network for Year 2. The trail continue to attract regular use by the islanders and visitors. /// We continued construction of a 1 km trail through the east branch of the Chrystal Creek watershed. The trail will be completed in Year 3. /// We completed construction of two bridge crossings across the reconstructed final section of Chrystal Creek following road and culvert removal, including surrounding trail segments.
				Construct foot trail (800 m) through the east branch of the Chrystal Creek watershed to replace roads that are removed	IP	
				Build a foot bridge / boardwalk to replace culverted road crossing at the outlet of Chrystal Creek	C	
	EXTEND management activities across the Millard Learning Centre	Extend invasive species management activities based on 2021 Invasive Species Management plan	Source and outlying populations of target invasive species identified in the 2021 Invasive Species Management Plan are efficiently controlled and/or eliminated across the property. [Control means the removal of all sexually mature individuals on an annual basis, continuing until the seed / propagule bank is exhausted.]	Expand Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius) removal activities from 2020-2023 target areas to include the entire property	C	We removed Scotch broom from across the property, with a focus on the 2 km of coastal bluffs and forest, based on the Scotch broom management zones mapped in Year 1. We are continuing to invest in our ropes program to be able to reach previously inaccesible broom populations in sensitive steep slope areas. /// We removed other target introduced species across the property, with a focus on the Chrystal Creek watershed, the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest, the former Mill Site, and the 2 km of coastal bluffs and forest. We produced a draft policy for introduced species management accross GCA lands that will lead to improved efficiency of management actions. /// We swept the property and nearby forests for Tansy Ragwort on several occasions over the course of July and August.
				Remove high priority invasive species across the property, including holly (Ilex aquifolium), blackberries (Rubus spp.), yellow flag iris (Iris pseudacorus) and hawthorne (Crataegus monogyna)	C	
				Continue to remove tansy ragwort (Jacobaea vulgaris) from across the property and nearby roadsides	C	
	MONITOR and maintain restored areas at the Millard Learning Centre	Peform annual monitoring and maintenance activities to ensure long-term success of restoration projects	Monitoring protocols and repeat photography carried out on an annual basis across all active project sites at the Millard Learning Centre, contributing 3 years to ongoing data sets, generating insights for management, and providing opportunities for necessary maintenance.	Perform detailed vegetation monitoring protocol for the Phase 1 area of the Chrystal Creek watershed restoration program, and use results to inform revegetation treatments for Phases 2 and 3	-	After analyzing Phase 1 vegetation monitoring for the first two years of data collection, we produced a technical report (see below) and determined that additional annual monitoring at this site is no longer necessary. We intend to repeat these plots on 5-10 year intervals. /// We monitored deer exclosure and forest garden plots for Year 2, and improved our data management system. /// We completed repeat photography for the property for Year 2, and established additional repeat photo points for ongoing monitoring.
				Continue annual monitoring of deer exclosure plots and forest garden plots according to specialized GCA monitoring protocols	C	
				Complete annual repeat photography at established points across property to document the results of habitat conservation and restoration efforts	C	

	DETECT Species at Risk at the Millard Learning Centre	Perform targeted surveys to detect select Species at Risk	Presence / absence of sharp-tailed snakes (Contia tenuis) along 2 km of suitable habitat at the Millard Learning Cenre determined with reasonable confidence. Spread of breeding populations of northern red-legged frogs (Rana aurora) across restored / constructed wetland ecosystems at the Millard Learning Centre mapped and documented over a 3 year period.	Obtain necessary permits and collaborate with the Islands Trust Conservancy to monitor ACOs in order to detect sharp-tailed snake (Contia tenuis) presence along 2 km of suitable coastal habitat	IP	We monitored sharp-tailed snake cover objects for Year 2, with no detections. Our Conservation Coordinator received training from regional expert to inform our protocols. In 2024, for the first time in over two decades, a sharp-tailed snake was observed and documented on the south end of Galiano Island, demonstrating that this species is still present on the island. /// We completed our annual acoustic monitoring and egg-mass surveys for northern red-legged frogs across the property for Year 2. We confirmed egg masses for red-legged frogs, and Pacific tree frogs in newly constructed wetland habitats across the property.
				Continue annual acousitc, visual, and egg-mass surveys for northern red-legged frogs (Rana aurora) across artificial, natural, and newly constructed wetland habitats at the Millard Learning Centre	C	
	DOCUMENT and share results from project monitoring activities	Publish brief technical papers that communicate key practical insights derived from project activities to a students & practitioner audience	At least three brief (3-8 page) technical papers produced and dissemminated, highlighting the key results and outcomes of 6+ years of monitoring activities across a range of restoration projects at the Millard Learning Centre.	Produce brief technical paper communicating outcomes of Chrystal Creek restoration project activities and 4 years of monitoring	C	We completed a brief technical paper focusing on the outcomes of the Chrystal Creek west branch vegetation monitoring (see above), and presented the results at the Society for Ecological Restoration's North America conference in October 2024 in Vancouver. We intend to produce an additional paper summarizing the project as a whole. /// Work on the other technical papers will commence in Year 3.
				Produce brief technical paper summarizing the results of 6 years of monitoring deer exclosure plots across a ranage of ecosystem types	NS	
				Produce brief technical paper summarizing the results of 9 years of monitoring forest garden sites using a wide range of criteria related to biodiversity, productivity, and social benefit	NS	

Matson Lands

1–819

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: CAT24-1-819

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project/Property Name: Matson Conservation Area ("MCA")

Project Leader Name: Max Mitchell

Name of Organization: Habitat Acquisition Trust

Reporting Year __2__ of 3

Date of Report: April 11th, 2025

Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):

Name of Organization: Habitat Acquisition Trust

Contact Information: max@hat.bc.ca

2. COMMUNICATIONS

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

- Our Habitat Restoration Field Crew spent 10 days on site at the Matson Conservation Area during the 2024 field season. These efforts focused on carrying out restoration tasks but also involve significant public interfacing and outreach work while engaging in restoration on site given the popularity of adjacent walking paths. The field crew frequently shares project details and information with the public.
- HAT social media: While on site the HAT crew built protective deer fencing for the meadow and created a short video documenting the process. This video was shared on HAT's social media and was viewed over 2000 times.
- We hosted a restoration workshop in collaboration with the Compost Education Centre on April 12th, this workshop focused on Garry Oak meadow restoration, the cultural significance of the restoration work, etc. This event allowed us to reach out to the Compost Education Centre's community. We had 25 participants.
- Matson Mattocks volunteer stewardship group regularly engage with members of the public visiting the conservation area

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

- HCTF is mentioned in our blog post promoting the April 12th Restoration Workshop, co-hosted with the Compost Education Centre. Support from HCTF
- HCTF "Thank You" is included on informative signage on deer fencing that was constructed in the meadow.
- HCTF's contribution is acknowledged to the attendees of our restoration events and communicated to our volunteer stewardship group members.

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

- The Matson Conservation Area is featured as the setting in the short documentary film *The Bird in my Backyard*, by filmmaker Ryan Wilkes documenting the hummingbirds at the Conservation Area. Available for streaming on CBC Gem.
- Habitat Acquisition Trust Instagram video (viewed 2000 times)
- This project is discussed and promoted monthly in the Swallow's Nest newsletter, for residents of the neighbouring Swallow's Landing condominium building
- Project discussed on HAT's website blog and newsletter: https://hat.bc.ca/blog/restoring-prairieoakmeadows-at-matson-conservation-areanbsp

3. 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 - Name and Description: Field Crew Planting **Photo 2 - Name and Description:** Fencing Signage
Photo 3 - Name and Description: Holding English Ivy

4. ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Provide a description of any materials and supplies purchases funded by HCTF that are considered capital assets. See Reporting Instructions for information on Capital Assets.

No capital assets purchased

5. SIGNATURE

Certified that the project has been completed as reported and this report is an accurate reflection of project activities and expenditures per the HCTF Grant Agreement.

Proponent Signature	Date	Print Name

	April 11th, 2025	Max Mitchell


THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST FOUNDATION
HAT
HABITAT RESTORATION IN PROGRESS
NATIVE WILDFLOWERS COMING SOON!

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activity Status Year 2 (C, IP, NS)	Year 2 - Summary of progress towards each Objective
	Build upon previous enhancement and restoration of the native Garry Oak and associated ecosystems and the native wildlife that occurs in the Conservation Area through implementation of MCA Restoration Plan (developed with funding support through 2020-2023 HCTF Land Stewardship grant 1-651)	1. Continue to apply appropriate treatment strategies on targeted invasive plant species following best practices that threaten biodiversity and native plant germination and survival	1. All major infestations of woody invasive plant species (English ivy, Himalayan blackberry, Scotch broom) to be successfully treated with mechanical control (manual removal) and invasive species cover reduced by 75% 2. Reduce the impact of invasive grasses on native GOE meadow and assoc. pollinator habitat by mechanically removing targeted invasive grasses (such as Orchard Grass and Velvet Grass) from open canopy Garry Oak meadow. Invasive grass thatch in meadow to be removed from 25% of MCA 3. Properly dispose of any soil, seeds, and plant parts removed during treatment, and clean tools/equipment	Matson Mattocks stewardship group will continue to volunteer mechanical control (manual removal) of invasive plant species, and seasonal invasive grass thatch reduction at weekly work events	IP	The Matson Mattocks volunteer stewardship group continue to host weekly work parties where they carry out restoration tasks. HAT staff provides guidance, support, and materials. HAT staff have continued to consult expert biologists to provide restoration prescriptions. We have also met with experienced restoration practitioner to learn from practical experiences carrying out the restoration at sites such as Playfair Park. Strategic herbicide application perfomed on English Ivy by Habitat Restoration Program Supervisor, under guidance of expert biologists It was determined that herbicide would be the most effective way to control this population. HAT Restoration Field Crew spent 10 days on site in year 2 carrying out restoration tasks on site, including invasive shrub and grass removal, seeding, planting and fencing construction.
				Consult with experts on implementation of appropriate treatment strategy using alternative and/or innovative restoration methods in addition to manual removal (e.g. solarization, smothering, continued strategic herbicide application)	IP	
				HAT restoration crew employed annually to carry out MCA Restoration Plan, this includes: treating priority invasive species with manual removal and reduction of seasonal invasive grass thatch	IP	
		2. Install additional native plants; strengthen existing native plant populations, and augment climate-adaptive and ecosystem-appropriate native species	Enhance native plant biodiversity and abundance, promote ecosystem climate resilience, and prevent the re-establishment of invasive plant species. Native plant species cover of planting area to be increased by 25%	Annual planting of nursery-cultivated native seedlings (such as Garry Oak and Arbutus) to help ensure the successful establishment, survival, and generational succession of key species that struggle to self-germinate naturally.	IP	Planting and seeding of the Matson Conservation Area has continued, carried out by Matson Mattocks volunteers and HAT staff using plants purchased from Satinflower Nurseries, as well as salvaged plants contributed by volunteers and the Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society (GOMPS). 24 Garry Oak Seedlings were planting, and a native seed blend from Satinflower Nurseries was sown. Evaluation of plant survival by biologist determined that plantings and seedings were showing promising initial results, with a notable increase in native plant cover within the treatment areas. It was recommended that seeding and thatch removal continue. Methods for rapid site assessment as designed by are currently being trialed by the field crew.
				Annual Autumn sowing of native plant seeds. Variety and quantity of seed sown to be determined based on ongoing project monitoring, and observed outcomes of 2021-2022 seedings	IP	
				Monitor percent survival rate of planted seedlings and percent cover of planting area	IP	
		3. Improve quality and increase quantity of potential pollinator habitat	Increase on-site stock of potential native food sources, nesting materials, and sources of shelter for pollinators to ameliorate pollinator population health; guided by results of 2022 pollinator survey conducted by Pollinator Partnership Canada.	Continue to consult with pollinator experts to evaluate potential habitat and to develop plan for making improvements to polliantor habitat. Use data from 2022 seasonal pollinator surveys to inform plant seedling and seed selection for 2023 installations	IP	Selection of native plants for planting and seeding based on recommendations of pollinator report from 2022. Continued restoration prescriptions based on recommendations of pollinator report. Follow up pollinator surveys for the Matson Conservation Area to be scheduled for year 3, to measure impacts of planting and invasive species removal since initial survey.
				Install additional native pollinator plants through annual planting and seeding in areas newly cleared of invasive species	IP	
		4. Protect both naturally occuring and newly installed native plant seedlings (purchased and	Allow native species to reach stage of maturity where they do not require protective fencing from deer grazing in order to survive	Beginning of Year 1: Install 100 feet of additional steel wire-mesh fencing to priority native plants and and to sensitive areas	IP	Installation of additional free-standing wire mesh fencing was carried out by Matson Mattocks volunteers. Exclosure fencing repairs continues to be carried out by HAT staff where necessary. Additional wire fencing around newly planted trees,

Matson Conservation Area ("MCA")			planted with funding support of the 2020-2023 HCTF Land Stewarship grant 1-651) from deer grazing	independently. Survival allows for generational succession of species such as Garry Oak and Arbutus, as well as the enhancement of native shrubs and wildflowers. Protective fencing is necessary for young plants to become fully established without being disrupted by deer grazing. At least 90% of planted seedlings survive to at least 3 years.	End of Year 1: assess effectiveness of existing fencing and adjust future fencing strategy as necessary. Assessment of fencing efficacy to be repeated annually	IP	so as to help promote their survival and establishment, as well as around areas where sensitive sites were being negatively impacted by human interferance (this was a continuiation of the fencing installed in year 1). Two new deer exclosures were built in the central meadow by field crew, which was then sown with native seeds. These were built to help protect meadow species on site against deer browsing. Fencing has been determined as being highly effective for preventing the negative impacts of deer browsing. Plans for additional fencing are underway for year 3 to continue to expand the protected sections of the MCA
					Years 2 & 3: continue to install protective fencing around individual plants that require protection, in the manner assessed most effective the preceding year; expanding height and diameter where necessary	NS	
			5. Monitor restoration treatment effectiveness, utilizing qualititative (photopoint) and quantitative data collection methods and reporting results at the end of 3 years.	1. Continue utilizing our effectiveness monitoring program, both quantitative and qualitative data collected will provide valuable information to gauge the project's success over time. Data evaluation will inform adaptive management strategies and priorities. 2. Monitoring data assists HAT in communicating with partners, funders and other stakeholders about the progress and importance of the ecosystem restoration project. Having a robust data set will help engage a variety of people and organizations in the work being done.	Contract plant biologists to conduct updated vegetation inventories using best practices identified by experts to update previous 2005 baseline vegetation report. Surveys to be conducted Spring 2023	IP	Biologist has been contracted to carry out updated plant surveys of the MCA, these surveys will be compared to those of the 2005 baseline report to evaluate changes to vegetation composition over time. Photopoint monitoring continues to be carried out on site to document effectiveness of restoration work. Matson Mattocks volunteers conduct site wide photopoint monitoring, and HAT staff include photopoint documentation as a part of their data collection. Rapid-site assesment methods to evaluate restoration outcomes are currently being developed, and will be implemented by HAT field crew in year 3. Outcomes of the restoration work to be evaluated and analysis of data collected over project duration to be compiled in year 3.
					HAT Staff and crew conduct ongoing photopoint monitoring and data collection before and after treatments, documenting effectiveness of treatment strategies. Effectiveness will be measured by percent cover of native species both generally and specific to pollinator habitat prescriptions, as well as percent cover (reduction) and re-germination rates of invasive species	IP	
					Documentation of data and analysis will be presented in report form in 2026.	NS	
		Management of the Matson Conservation Area will continue to take place collaboratively through consultation and discussion with multiple community partners, including the representatives from the Songhees and Esquimalt First	6. Continue to organize biannual meetings of the Matson Conservation Area Management Advisory Group (MAG) re-established under previous grant 1-651.	Management Advisory Group will meet 2x/year to coordinate implementation of the MCA Management Plan and MCA Restoration Plan	Coordinate biannual meetings of the Management Advisory Group to seek feedback and advice on management issues, community concerns, and progress and direction on management and restoration plans.	IP	Management Advisory Group meeting was held in January of 2024. January 2024 meeting was well attended, and determined a plan for management moving forward over year ahead. MAG members determined that meeting once anually would be sufficient. The 2025 Management Advisory Group meeting took place March 28th 2025 - reviewing 2024 progress, and planning for 2025.
					HAT provides MAG with annual summary progress reports	IP	
			7. Engage directly with Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and communities on issues of cultural importance, land management, and collaborative activities	1. Opportunities will be created for engagement with Indigenous community members on the land, leading to a mutual increase in knowledge on subjects such as traditional plant harvesting, as well as other traditional eco-cultural practices. 2. Indigenous land stewardship practices will be enabled at Matson Conservation Area in partnership with Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. 3. Create opportunties for Songhees and Esquimalt Nation community members to engage in stewardship	Establish a relationship with Chief and Council with both Songhees and Esquimalt Nations	IP	Relationship building efforts continue, with new partners expressing interest in working towards community involvement at Matson. Invitations have been extended, and 2 consultation visits will be held in year 3 A letter will be sent to Chief and Council as an invitation to the site, though working with community representatives will continue to be the focus of our work. Collaborators from the Songhees Nation have been invited to join the Management Advisory Group and have expressend interest in facilitating greater community engagement and future consultations with Elders on site management. Feedback from our Indigenous Collaborators contiues to inform Management Plan revisions.
					Facilitate an invitation for community members to visit MCA to participate in eco-cultural practices, and provide appropriate compensation for individuals to alleviate financial barriers to participation (at least 2 engagement events per year);	IP	
					Invite representatives from Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to join MAG or contribute expertise on management priorities at MCA	IP	

	Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations	8. Adapt and update Matson Conservation Area Management Plan and Restoration Plan	Updates to Management Plan will include Traditional Ecological Knowledge and practices of the First Nations in whose territory the MCA is situated (Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations), in the cases where such inclusion is consented to by the Nations. Updates will also incorporate climate change adaptation plans, and other relevant updates based on advances in the field of oak and associated ecosystem restoration. The Restoration Plan, which informs the techniques, priorities and strategies of field work, will be informed by the principles in the Management Plan and adapted accordingly.	Collaborate with knowledge-keepers to seek recommendations about integration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge and cultural practices into MCA Management Plan and activities through at least 2 site visits and discussions per year;	IP	Updates to the Matson Conservation Area Management Plan continue to be undertaken, overseen by contracted RPBio. Additional revisions are being discussed with the Township of Esquimalt and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Through the revision process we will continue to seek to collaborate with community members and Indigenous knowledge holders where capacity allows, so that their input guides management and restoration decision making Ongoing collaboration and input with expert biologists and restoration practitioners are also guiding management decision-making. First draft of updated management plan were submitted to the MAG January 2024, subsequent revisions to be carried out by contracted RPBio with Indigenous-community partners providing feedback where capacity allows.
				Collaborate with partners and experts in the field of oak and associated ecosystem restoration to seek recommendations about most current best management practices and climate change adaptation strategies, and their application to the MCA.	IP	
				Update the MCA Management Plan with sythesized information, and extrapolate new information recommendations to the MCA Restoration Plan. Updated Management and Restoration Plans will be finalized in collaboration with the MAG.	IP	

Central Denman Conservation Complex: Phase 2

1-820

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 1-820

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project/Property Name: Central Denman Conservation Complex: Phase 2

Project Leader Name: Andy Blackburn

Name of Organization: Denman Conservancy Association

Reporting Year 2 of 3

Date of Report: 10 April 2025

Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):

Name of Organization:

Contact Information:

2. COMMUNICATIONS

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

DCA outreach table at weekly summer markets (May – Oct) featured information about new trail network development, fire monitoring, wetland stewardship and invasive species control. Board members signed up new volunteers for work bees.

Invasive species market display in collaboration with Denman Island Pesticide Free Committee highlighting invasive species removal efforts, native plant planting, and how to get involved.

Hosted table at Denman Community Services Society volunteer recruitment event communicating project activities and ways for community members to get involved.

Hosted BCIT Ecological Restoration MSc students and gave tour of project lands and restoration work. Potential for future project collaboration.

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

Regular DCA newsletter articles in the island paper updating the community on ongoing projects eg. trail & signage development at Raven Woods & Wetlands, restoration at Winter Wren Wood, American Bullfrog monitoring, invasive species control.

Updates to DCA website, social media pages & noticeboard outlining ongoing projects.

Summer market outreach May-Oct 2024.

Monthly reports to Lands Committee & DCA Board of Directors.

DCA Annual General Meeting Feb 2024 report and presentation.

Communication with Islands Trust Conservancy (as Covenant Holder on DCA lands) regarding restoration work.

HCTF recognition included on newly installed interpretive signage for Raven Woods & Wetlands.

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

Newsletter; Jan 2025 'On the Land' article (attached)

DCA website; denmanconservancy.org

3. 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.

1. **WWW Restoration.JPG** – volunteer planting native plants in restoration area
2. **Raven interpretive sign.JPG** – newly installed wetlands interpretive sign
3. **Scotch broom control.jpg** – Scotch broom removal at Settlement Lands by hired contractor.
4. **Outreach market table.JPG** – Volunteers hosting invasive species table at summer market in collaboration with Pesticide Free Committee.

4. SIGNATURE

Certified that the project has been completed as reported and this report is an accurate reflection of project activities and expenditures per the HCTF Grant Agreement.

Proponent Signature	Date	Print Name
	10 April 2025	Andy Blackburn


Scotch Broom
Drop Off
Sat. June 8
1-3pm

Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activity Status Year 2 (C, IP, NS)	Year 2 - Summary of progress towards each Objective
	Conduct high-priority management planning; ensure long-term biodiversity protection & sustainable human use within Raven Woods & Wetlands (RWW); a newly protected area within the Conservation Complex.	Management planning for newly-protected RWW conservation area undertaken through surveying to inform stewardship activities and drafting of Management Plan.	Biological Baseline report produced to inform management planning & stewardship of RWW. Consultation & collaboration with K'ómoks First Nation on management activities and planning, eg. Naming & language, ethnobotanical survey.	Contract professional Biologist to conduct Baseline survey of RWW to facilitate management planning.	C	Meeting with K'ómoks FN Public Interpretation Coordinator and on 2 yr wait list for project collaboration.
				K'ómoks First Nation outreach & organizing of visit(s) to collaborate on naming, management planning, and conduct possible ethnobotanical survey at RWW	IP	
	Conduct high-priority management planning; ensure long-term biodiversity protection & sustainable human use within Raven Woods & Wetlands (RWW); a newly protected area within the Conservation Complex.	Construction & installation of trails, structures & interpretive signage within Raven Woods & Wetlands to manage human activity and prevent incursion into ecologically sensitive areas	Installation of trailhead Information Kiosk, viewpoint bench & railing, creek crossing and interpretive signage, and clear trail network within new RWW conservation area.	Construction & installation of trailhead Info Kiosk with maps, access signage, cultural info etc., to educate public on importance of conservation area and ensure compliance with management regulations.	C	Wetlands interpretive sign installed at wetland viewpoint & bench area
				Construction & installation of bench & railing at wetland viewpoint to provide public access to wetland view, whilst preventing incursion into sensitive wetland habitat	C	
				Design, printing and installation of printed metal interpretive signage highlighting importance of wetlands, species at risk found there, climate change implications at wetland viewpoint	C	
	Conduct high-priority management planning; ensure long-term biodiversity protection & sustainable human use within Raven Woods & Wetlands (RWW); a newly protected area within the Conservation Complex.	Construction & installation of trails, structures & interpretive signage within Raven Woods & Wetlands to manage human activity and prevent incursion into ecologically sensitive areas	Installation of trailhead Information Kiosk, viewpoint bench & railing, creek crossing and interpretive signage, and clear trail network within new RWW conservation area.	Lands Manager coordinates 4 volunteer trail-building work bees to create safe and clearly-defined trail for public access through conservation area, protecting native flora & fauna by reducing incursion into other areas by foot traffic	C	
				Construction & installation of low-impact creek crossing, using cedar logs & metal walkway, to mitigate damage from foot traffic already occuring and provide safe access to northern portion of proposed loop trail.	C	
	Protect sensitive habitat from damage with management aids in areas of concern for native flora & fauna across Conservation Complex (Wetland & Riparian areas, old-growth and mature Coastal Douglas-Fir stands, recovering forest areas)	Trailhead improvements throughout Conservation Complex clarifying public accessibility and limiting potential incursion into ecologically sensitive areas.	Improved signage designed & installed and trail clearing work at 6 trailheads across complex. Metal walkways installed at 3 trailheads where deep ditches make for unsafe footing. Improved signage installed to mitigate ongoing compliance issues eg. Dogs, hunting.	DCA Lands Manager & volunteers install 3 metal 'catwalk' walkways across roadside ditches at new and existing trailheads.	C	New and updated signage installed on some trail points in Raven W&W and Settlement Lands. KFN language/naming collaboration in progress.
				DCA Lands Manager & volunteers install newly printed trailhead signage indicating public access, naming, compliance, including First Nations language & naming in collaboration with K'ómoks First Nation.	IP	
				DCA Lands Manager organizes 6 trail clearing volunteer work bees to clearly indicate trailhead locations and provide safe access while protecting native vegatation.	C	
	Protect sensitive habitat from damage with management aids in areas of concern for native flora & fauna across Conservation Complex (Wetland & Riparian areas, old-growth and mature Coastal	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-September). In collaboration with volunteer Fire Department,	Coordinator organizes volunteer fire monitoring crew for daily fire monitoring through fire season (Y1-3) and updates faded fire compliance signage at trailheads.	IP	Fire monitoring crew carried out daily monitoring of high-use areas from Jun - Oct 2024.
				Fire-proof cigarette-butt receptacles are maintained by monitoring crew throughout fire season. (Y1-3)	IP	Cigarette receptacles regularly monitored and emptied throughout year.

	Douglas-Fir stands, recovering forest areas)		fireproof cigarette-butt receptacles are maintained by fire monitoring crew at main property entrances.			
Central Denman Conservation Complex: Phase 2	Undertake small-scale restoration of native flora within degraded & recovering Coastal Douglas-fir forest areas to encourage native species regeneration and mitigate risk of climate change impacts on biodiversity.	Small-scale restoration of native shrub & herb layer species & Indigenous food plants within CDF regenerating areas	Deer exclosure fencing (10m x 10m) erected in heavily-browsed area within complex. Replanting & seeding of native tree and shrub species within exclosure.	DCA Lands manager & volunteers conduct species survey, inviting K'ómoks FN to collaborate, & erect 10x10m fencing at selected heavily-browsed site.	NS	
				DCA Lands manager coordinates volunteer replanting & seeding of trees and shrubs in fenced area. Native trees & shrubs donated by community members, some purchased as necessary.	NS	
				Lands Manager & volunteers conduct Y2 & Y3 species survey of deer exclosure, fence maintenance & replanting as necessary.	NS	
	Undertake small-scale restoration of native flora within degraded & recovering Coastal Douglas-Fir forest areas to encourage native species regeneration and mitigate risk of climate change impacts on biodiversity.	Restoration of former parking area in Winter Wren Wood, now inaccessible to vehicles, through replanting & protection of native species	Site-appropriate native trees & shrubs are planted and caged for deer-browse protection to restore former parking area. Descriptive signage is designed and installed to explain restoration project to visitors.	Lands Manager & volunteers plant and cage 20 - 30 native trees & shrubs in former parking area. Trees & shrubs donated by community members, some purchased as necessary.	IP	Volunteer work bee in May 2024 planted native shrubs and forbs in restoration area, relocated from nearby to supplement the natural vegatation regeneration. Weekly watering of plantings undertaken by coordinator June - Sept 2024.
				Lands Manager designs and installs signage indicating & explaining restoration activities in area.	C	
				Coordinator carries out weekly watering of planted trees & shrubs during establishment period in summer months.	IP	
	Continue stewardship activities to enhance or maintain populations of Species at Risk, including 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 Spurge-Laurel, Canada Thistle, St.John's Wort, Reed Canarygrass).	Coordinator organizes 600 volunteer hours + 230 paid hours to remove invasive plants throughout Conservation Complex. Treated areas are mapped and photographed. GPS locations of cut holly trees are marked, & follow-up treatments in Y2&3 to cut resprouting shoots. GPS locations of Daphne removed are mapped to monitor spread throughout complex. Completed work is documented with photographs & maps of treated areas to guide continual management efforts. Previous mapping of treated areas is updated for continued tracking of progress.	Carry out 5 volunteer work-bees each year + hire contractor for 60h per year to continue efforts to remove Invasive Scotch Broom, English Holly, Daphne Spurge-Laurel (and other species) across the Conservation Complex (Y 1-3)	IP	2 contractors hired to carry out 60 hours of Scotch broom removal across the complex, focused on the recovering Settlement Lands area. Contractor hired to remove English holly plants throughout the complex, focused on large trees within Raven W&W & Settlement Lands. Ongoing monitoring & removal of regrowth from previosuly cut stumps.
				Hire contractor to remove min. 100 English Holly & Daphne Spurge-Laurel plants (an increasing invasive problem) throughout complex, marking GPS locations of plants removed. GPS locations are mapped for ongoing management.	C	
				DCA Land Manager & volunteers use GPS locations to monitor previously cut Holly & Daphne stumps & remove resprouting shoots.	IP	
	Continue stewardship activities to enhance or maintain populations of Species at Risk, including 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)	Continue monitoring program for early detection of invasive American Bullfrogs throughout complex, following continued reports of probable presence & professional survey recommendations.	Volunteer working group is coordinated to carry out bi-weekly monitoring for American Bullfrog in perennial Lake/wetland habitats within the Complex. Outreach & information materials are updated with improved content following 2021 professional survey for American Bullfrogs on Denman.	Lands Manager to coordinate volunteer monitoring group (15-20 persons) yearly through email communication, data collection/record keeping and mapping, monitoring 12-15 waterbodies across Denman complex.	IP	Volunteer monitoring group of 10 monitored multiple wetlands and waterways across the complex totalling more than 100 hours, Jun - Sept 2024. No bullfrog sightings reported.
				Lands Manager updates American Bullfrog outreach & website material with improved information (eg. Identification techniques, lifecycle info etc.) following recommended actions from 2021 professional American Bullfrog survey.	IP	New DCA website populated with old website content, and updated to include more American Bullfrog info to assist with volunteer identification.
	Continue stewardship activities to enhance or maintain populations of Species at Risk, including Taylor's Checkerspot (SARA Endangered); Little brown bat	Continue habitat maintenance for Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly (TC) & other invertebrate pollinators by controlling ingrowing vegetation & increasing	Ingrowing trees & shrubs (0-1m tall) are removed from Butterfly Reserve Transect immediate area, to retain sunny areas for native meadow species used as nectar & larval host plants for TC. Where	Lands Manager coordinates 1 volunteer work bee each year (Y1-3) to remove ingrowing trees & shrubs in Butterfly transect area.	IP	Oct 2024 volunteer work bee removed ingrowing Scotch broom and several small Douglas fir from Butterfly transect area.
				Healthy and appropriate-sized trees/shrubs potted up for relocation to restoration areas	IP	

		(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)	density of food & nectar plants for larvae & adult TCs and other species.	possible removed trees/shrubs are relocated as part of small-scale native species restoration projects elsewhere in Complex.			

Ryder Creek

2-764

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: **2-764**

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project/Property Name: Ryder Creek

Project Leader Name: Joanne Neilson

Name of Organization: Fraser Valley Conservancy (FVC)

Reporting Year 2 of 3

Date of Report: April 15th, 2025

Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):

Name of Organization:

Contact Information:

2. COMMUNICATIONS

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

Currently there is no public outreach component to this project. This year we communicated with the FVRD, consultants, on and the immediate neighbours about this project. When we move on to the stewardship implementation phase of the project, this coming year, we will reach out to community to engage volunteers to support the work.

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

When discussing this site with project partners we share that HCTF is funding this work. HCTF was acknowledge of the *Ryder Creek Property Baseline Documentation Report* produced this year. When the *Ryder Creek Management Plan* is finalized this year (currently in draft stage) and update will be posted to our website where HCTF will be recognized as the primary funder for this important work.

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

3. 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.

There are multiple photos and maps in the attached *Ryder Creek Property Baseline Documentation Report*. However, as they are for data recording purposes none of them are particularly useful for storytelling or sharing out of context. If you would like any of the images from the report, please let us know

4. ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Provide any other information about this project you wish to share with HCTF. Eg. Discuss any roadblocks or unexpected issues impacting project progress.

If this is your **final report** please include a short summary of any lessons learned, unexpected benefits and project highlights.

This project is proceeding as planned. The *Ryder Creek Property Baseline Documentation Report* was completed. It has been presented to and approved by the FVC's Habitat Protection Committee. The *Ryder Creek Management Plan* is currently receiving input and advice from the Habitat Protection Committee, and it is anticipated the final draft will be presented to the Board of Directors by the summer. Site enhancement works are planned to start this summer and will be based on finding from the baseline report and recommendations from the management plan.

5. SIGNATURE

Certified that the project has been completed as reported and this report is an accurate reflection of project activities and expenditures per the HCTF Grant Agreement.

Proponent Signature	Date	Print Name
	April 15th, 2025	Joanne Neilson

Figure 9 - Photos representative of the plant communities found on the property. The left photo shows the sloped area, while the right is below the slope, directly adjacent to Ryder Creek.

Figure 12 - Map of the anthropogenic features observed during 2023 surveys.

Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activity Status Year 2 (C, IP, NS)	Year 2 - Summary of progress towards each Objective
Ryder Creek	Understand current conditions	Identify the aquatic and terrestrial habitat present and the species that may use them	Expert recommendations incorporated into baseline data collection and informs both the baseline report and management plan	Fish expert advising (species habitat, water quality monitoring methods, survey recommendations). Fish surveys if recommended. In-kind reflects contractor reduced, not-for-profit, day rate.	C	Expert advising on terrestrial habitat was provided by members of the committee reviewing the baseline document who had local and ecosystem knowledge of the area. Steve Clegg, a local naturalist and former FVC employee with a history at the site, provided much feedback in this regard. This feedback was included in the Baseline document and will be reflected in the Management Plan for the property. Other activities listed were completed in year one: "*Aquatic Biologist Mike Pearson advised on fish habitat and site hydrology. Input is being included in the management plan for the property. FVC Staff conducted baseline vegetation surveys and mapped the invasive species*"
				FVC Staff: Baseline vegetation surveys and mapping of invasive species. Additional contribution includes Canada Summer Jobs wage subsidy and field equipment supplied by FVC.	C	
				Expert advising on terrestrial wildlife suitability. Survey recommendations and implementation. In-kind reflects contractor reduced, not-for-profit, day rate.	C	
	Understand current conditions	Assess the landscape	The creation of a map or maps containing notable structures, hydrological features and property boundaries	FVC Staff: Visual inspection and mapping of notable structures throughout the property (Anthropogenic and natural)	C	These activities were completed in year one: "*FVC staff conducted a visual inspection of notable structures, and ground based searches for altered hydrology. Evidence of property boundary markers were looked for during this time and a webmap was used to clarify property boundaries. The results were mapped and will be included in the baseline report and management plan.*" In 2024, the FVRD updated its GIS parcel layer which resulted in a shift in the mapped boundaries of the property. These better reflect what is observed on the ground and the maps from the first year have been updated accordingly.
				FVC Staff: Visual inspection with ground-based searches for altered hydrology. Mapping of all hydrologic features observed.	C	
				FVC Staff: Confirm and map property boundaries.	C	
	Understand current conditions	Document the existing conditions of the soil and water	Baseline data collected and organized for use in a baseline report and informs the management plan	Geotechnical expert advising (to understand site stability and asses risk). In-kind reflects contractor reduced, not-for-profit, day rate.	C	These activities were completed in year one: "*Drew Brayshaw, expert Hydrologist and Geoscientist, was contacted for advise on geotechnical hazards of the area. His input was noted and will be included in the baseline document and management plan. FVC staff took water quality measurements, and soil samples. These were included and the baseline document and results will be interpreted and included in the management plan as necessary.*"
				FVC Staff: Water quality sampling	C	
				FVC Staff: Soil sampling	C	
	Understand current conditions	Document historic land use	Information collected and organized and reported in the baseline report and informs the management plan	FVC Staff: Investigation of historic land use/land use of surrounding area	C	Initial investigations of historic land use was completed in Year One: "*FVC staff researched historical land use online and through books written about the area. Relevant information was included in the baseline document. Steve Clegg, a local naturalist and former FVC employee, provided input about the property's history and previous alternations made to the site. The Sto:lo Nation was contacted. Their process for consultation was given. This process is underway. They would like to provide input once a draft management plan is completed.* " The consultation process with Sto:lo will continue with the
				FVC Staff: Consult with a First Nation group regarding historic significance of the area	IP	
	Understand current conditions	Create baseline document that will inform the management plan and habitat enhancement on the property	Baseline report created	FVC Staff: Compile the data collected and create baseline document. Additional contribution is FVC staff RPBio supervision and review for baseline data collection and analysis	C	In year tow data was compiled and the baseline report was completed. The draft report was brought to the FVC's Habitat Protection Committee and accepted after feedback was included. The completed baseline report is attached.

	Guide property management both short and long term	Create a plan that will be used to manage the property and make informed decisions both in the short and long term	Management plan created	FVC Staff: Interpret baseline findings and draft a management plan for the site. Additional contribution includes matching funds for FVC staff time developing the management plan.	IP	Baseline findings were discussed and are being incorporated into the management plan for the property. Currently the Habitat Protection Committed is undertaking a threats analysis and ranking for the management plant. The committee will review the final management plan and present is to the FVC Board of Director's for approval. The target for completing this activity summer of 2025. Once complete the baseline and management plans will be published on the FVC website.
				FVC Staff: Review plan for property with FVC board of directors and solicit input. Additional contribution is in-kind support from the FVC Board members and Executive Director on the review and approval process.	IP	
				FVC Staff: Finalize and publish the plan.	NS	
	Improve habitat	Reduce invasive plant species and increase of the presence of native vegetation	Approximately 1500 square meters of habitat improved	FVC Staff: Manual invasive species control focused on the areas of highest importance based on the management plan created. Additional contribution includes Canada Summer Jobs wage subsidy and field equipment provided by FVC.	NS	This activity was planned for the summer/fall of 2025 and will be based on management plan recommendations
				FVC Staff: Plant native species where invasives were controlled. Additional contribution is planting tools provided by FVC and 10 person days of estimated volunteer support.	NS	
	Improve habitat	Collect species and or habitat information to inform future	Monitoring report(s) created	FVC Staff: Implement monitoring efforts outlined in the management plan.	NS	This activity is dependent on the recommendations made in the management plan.
	Improve habitat	Undertake habitat enhancement or restoration activities on the property	Approximately 100 square meters of habitat improved	FVC Staff: Undertake habitat restoration/enhancement activities as outlined in the management plan. For example may include off channel habitat creation or wetland enhancement. Addition contribution includes matching funds for FVC staff time, supplies, and contractor for implementation.	NS	This activity is dependent on the recommendations made in the management plan.

Horsefly River

5-347

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: 5-347

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project/Property Name: Horsefly River Riparian Conservation Area

Project Leader Name: Sarah Bayliff

Name of Organization: Nature Conservancy of Canada

Reporting Year 2 of 3

Date of Report: April 15th, 2025

Author of Report (if different than Project Leader): Same as above.

Name of Organization: Same as above.

Contact Information: Same as above.

2. COMMUNICATIONS

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

NCC has communicated with neighbours and licence holders to prioritize and plan further fence construction and to complete required fence maintenance. No other project outreach activities were completed in Year 2 of this project.

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

No activities specific to communicating about HCTF were undertaken throughout Year 2 of this project.

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

N/A. No articles or media coverage were done for this project throughout year 2 of funding.

3. 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:
File name: NCC_HorseflyRiver_Year2Report_Photo1
Description: An area of the fence completed in 2023 in need of repair due to damage by cattle. Photo taken by NCC (Scott McLachlan).

Photo 2 File name and Photo Description:
File name: NCC_HorseflyRiver_Year2Report_Photo2
Description: Area of fence repair noted in Photo 1, showing completion of the required fence repair. Photo taken by NCC (Scott McLachlan).

Photo 3 File name and Photo Description:
File name: NCC_HorseflyRiver_Year2Report_Photo3
Description: During March 2025 fence monitoring visit, several areas of the fence were found needing maintenance. Photo 3 shows a broken wire along the fence that was installed in 2023. This will be repaired during future monitoring visits. Photo taken by NCC (Sarah Bayliff).

4. ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Provide a description of any materials and supplies purchases funded by HCTF that are considered capital assets. See Reporting Instructions for information on Capital Assets.

N/A. No capital assets purchased during year 2 of funding.

Provide any other information about this project you wish to share with HCTF. Eg. Discuss any roadblocks or unexpected issues impacting project progress.

If this is your **final report** please include a short summary of any lessons learned, unexpected benefits and project highlights.

Year 2 activities were focused on monitoring and maintenance of the new fence line that was completed in Year 1's activities. Year 3 activities will focus on further construction of riparian fencing along with continued monitoring and maintenance of previously installed fencing. NCC is confident that we will meet remaining deliverables by the end of Year 3. Fencing is a necessary, yet expensive, activity in areas where cattle are present to help properly manage grazing and protect sensitive habitat. NCC is grateful for HCTF's support of this work through the Land Stewardship Grant.

5. SIGNATURE

Certified that the project has been completed as reported and this report is an accurate reflection of project activities and expenditures per the HCTF Grant Agreement.

Proponent Signature	Date	Print Name
	April 15th, 2025	Sarah Bayliff

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026
REPORT FORM

Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activity Status Year 2 (C, IP, NS)	Year 2 - Summary of progress towards each Objective
Horsefly River Riparian Conservation Area	Enhance the condition of shoreline and riparian habitat of the Horsefly River	Improve the condition of riparian vegetation and reduce sedimentaion by limiting cattle access along the Horsefly River	Grazing pasture fencelines along riparian areas are replaced and repaired as needed to restrict cattle access to restoration project areas and riparian habitat along the Horsefly River.	Develop a plan to prioritize fencing and strategize fenceline placement along riparian habitat.	IP	Activity 1) Throughout 2024, NCC staff began planning for another section of riparian fencing based off cattle movement from neighbouring range tenure. NCC visited the site with a contractor in September 2024 to produce a quote for this project. This fencing is planned to commence in fall 2025. Activity 2) No construction of riparian fencing was completed throughout Year 2. Activity 3) Monitoring of the 1715 m of riparian fence that was installed in 2023 occurred throughout various site visits in June, September, and November 2024 and March 2025. Fence maintenance was completed thorughout 2024 as required. Amount of repairs required were limited and often completed by neighbours/licenceholders. Fence monitoring and maintenance will continue throughout 2025.
				Repair and construct approximately 2 km of wildlife friendly riparian fencing along the Horsefly River.	IP	
				Complete fence maintenance as required, inspect for signs of cattle in restoration project areas and riparian habitat. Complete riparian health assessments to assess progress of conservation goal.	IP	
	Control livestock tresspass on property	Prevent cattle access from neighbouring properties and range tenures and associated grazing and trailing on property	Property perimeter fences are replaced and repaired as needed to prevent cattle at large from entering the Horsefly River Riparian Conservation Area.	Develop a plan to determine priority for property perimeter fencelines	C	Activity 1) NCC has prioritized planning of riparian fencing and is not planning further property perimeter fencing for Year 2 or 3 activities. Acitivity 2) No construction of property perimeter fencing was completed throughout Year 2. Activity 3) Monitoring of the 1990 m of property perimeter fence that was installed/repaired in 2023 occurred throughout various site visits in June, September, and November 2024 and March 2025. Fence maintenance was completed throughout 2024 as required. Amount of repairs required were limited and often completed by neighbours/licenceholders. Fence monitoring and maintenance will continue throughout 2025.
				Repair and replace approximately 850 m of wildlife friendly fencing along property perimeters.	C	
				Complete fence maintenance as required, inspect for signs of cattle trespass. Monitor cover of Reed Canary Grass to assess progress of conservation goal.	IP	

Pleasant Valley Wetland Heritage Park

8-500

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026 REPORT FORM

HCTF Project Number: ___8-500_____

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project/Property Name: Pleasant Valley Wetland Heritage Park

Project Leader Name: Barbara Craven

Name of Organization: BC Small Wetlands Association

Reporting Year __2__ of 3

Date of Report: April 9 2025

Author of Report (if different than Project Leader):

Name of Organization:

Contact Information:

2. COMMUNICATIONS

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

We had help from groups of community volunteers when we were excavating the third mini forest areas by hand to avoid disturbing existing trees and shrubs in the forest garden. This was really hard work but we have observed that it paid off with a thriving mini forest. See link under Photos for more information

3. 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.

See images in the Linked-In article https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/integrating-new-mini-forest-barbaracraven-yrdoc/?trackingId=4%2BPDXMumZWdlShdHjeeXpA%3D%3D

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026 REPORT FORM

4. ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Provide any other information about this project you wish to share with HCTF. Eg. Discuss any roadblocks or unexpected issues impacting project progress.

If this is your **final report** please include a short summary of any lessons learned, unexpected benefits and project highlights.

There were many challenges faced by our Field Supervisor, Jason, after his right leg was amputated mid thigh in 2024. We have worked diligently to ensure that he can be included in Park activities

5. SIGNATURE

Certified that the project has been completed as reported and this report is an accurate reflection of project activities and expenditures per the HCTF Grant Agreement.

Proponent Signature	Date	Print Name
	April 9, 2024	Barbara Craven

HABITAT CONSERVATION TRUST FOUNDATION

Land Stewardship Grant 2023-2026 REPORT FORM

Property/Complex Name:	Goal	Objective	Expected Outcome/Performance Indicators by End of Year 3	Activities	Activity Status Year 2 (C, IP, NS)	Year 2 - Summary of progress towards each Objective
Pleasant Valley Wetland Heritage Park	Continue development of wetland ponds and forested areas in 2 acre park	Riparian planting and replacing trees and shrubs affected by drought and animal grazing.	250 willow whips planted, 75 trees replaced, 400 x 2 gallon new trees and shrubs planted, 5 new culturally important plants introduced	Research drought tolerant replacement trees and shrubs "Ministry of FLNR "Tree Book". In April contract Sagebrush Native Nursery to grow additiuonal trees and shrubs to be delivered for planting in Sept. 2023,2024,2025	C	We have added two new books to our program library to complement the FLNR Tree Book: "The Healing Power of Forests" by Professor Akira Miyawaki & Elgene Box; and "Finding the Mother Tree" by Suzanne Simard. Dr. Nancy Turner shared three of her recent power point presentations on missing native plant species to help us in our research
				Create additional interpretive signage for new species in the park with input from Secwepemc Knowledge Keepers	IP	
				Source culturally important plants that no longer grow in the area: Secwepemc People & Plants, University of Victoria. Dr. Nancy Turner et al 2016, plant each fall, cut willow whips when dormant	IP	
	Continue development of wetland ponds and forested areas in 2 acre park	Update management and stewardship plan for next three years using current data on plant and animal communities to inform management priorities	2023-2026 Park Resource Management and Stewardship plan completed and published	Inventories completed by staff and contractors	IP	Ongoing process as new trees and shrubs are added to the Park. We received a donation of 75 trees and shrubs from the Garden City Conservation Society in Richmond and we are keeping them in a seaprate inventory as they are not native to theis area.
				Results incorporated into new management plan and priorities/activites updated accordingly	IP	
	Continue development of wetland ponds and forested areas in 2 acre park	Update inventory of trees and monitor carbon sequestration by trees, shrubs, plants and grasses, on a worksheet that calculates carbon storage by species, age and size	Master spreadsheet updated 50 students participate in annual inventory, carbon storage increases by 1.05 tonnes year over year	Liaise with school board to arrange student group attendance days	IP	A total of 347 students attended in 2024
				Provide tools for tree measurement and data recording events	IP	
	Engage the local community to participate in the management of the conservation land	Youth learn about densely planted pocket forests and help with planting	Two pocket forests created	Staff and forestry expert select tree and shrub mix in March 2023,2024,2025 for three pocket forests, resource: "The Miyawaki Method for Creating Forests"	C	The two mini forests are thriving, with significant rapid growth compared to row planted trees. We had an additional planting event in 2024 to integrate part of an existing edible trees forest garden with a mini forest.
				Arrange planting events, April- May 2023 and 2024 and contact youth organizations to sign up participants	C	
				Contract Secwepemc Knowledge Keepers and forestry experts to speak to youth	C	
	Engage the local community to participate in the management of the conservation land	Community members participate in invasive species removal	Removal of 75% of Canada thistle, burdock and Scentless Camomile	Staff and expert consultant conduct baseline inventories, research best management practices (BMPs), consult local Invasive Species Council, and prepare Invasive Species Management Plan	NS	Trying to coordinate with the Invasive Species Society
				Provide tools and equipment to host annual invasive species removal days	NS	
	Engage the local community to participate in the management of the conservation land	Provide Information kiosk to keep community organizations and visitors to the park up to date on volunteer opportunities.	Information kiosk constructed at entrance to the park	Construct information kiosk	IP	The last two tasks have been delayed to accommodate our Field Supervisor who had his right leg amputated in 2024. We have been working to ensure that he can continue his duties
				Create task list to be updated weekly and posted on Board. Post information on Events	IP	
				Maintain volunteer data base and updated task list	IP	
	Engage the local community to participate in the management of the conservation land	Invite local landowners, Secwepemc Elders and local dignitaries to annual Open House and forest garden harvest	5 landowners express an interest in creating wetland areas on their land	Carry out maintenance and repairs as necessary on observation platform, pavilion and benches. Create post and chain fences to prevent access to sensitive wetland areas	IP	
				Schedule for Sept 30th each year, organize pop up tents and extra seating, arrange honorariums for Elders	IP	