

Approved Community Grant Projects

Project Name	Project #	Project Description	Grant Amount *	Project Leader
Community Bat Ecology Project	COM-167	The Bat Education and Ecological Protection Society (BEEPS) was founded when community members joined to protect a maternal colony of over 1,000 bats in the attic of Peachland's Historic Schoolhouse. BEEPS will conduct acoustic monitoring and insect surveys for bats throughout the Okanagan to better understand bat habitat use and fill knowledge gaps regarding species presence. White-nose syndrome has caused serious declines in bat populations in eastern North America and has been reported in Washington, closely bordering populations in B.C., making monitoring before its spread crucial.	\$1,600	Bat Education and Ecological Protection Society
Everett Crowley Park: A Home for Native Amphibians	COM-168	Restoration of amphibian habitat in Everett Crowley Park will promote urban biodiversity in Vancouver and neighbouring municipalities. Through invasive removal, Indigenous replanting, educational walks, eco-art workshops, Indigenous-led events, and amphibian monitoring, this project will support community engagement and connection with nature. Phase two of the project will emphasize nature education and encourage 'holistic restoration.'	\$7,000	Champlain Heights Community Association - Everett Crowley Park Committee
Vanier Nature Park Garry Oak Restoration	COM-169	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 improving health by removing invasive plants and reducing over-topping firs to wildlife snags.	\$4,500	Comox Valley Nature
Bowker Creek Invasive Species	COM-170	Students in the Lansdowne Eco Ed program will take direct conservation action by removing invasive species and restoring native plants in their local park. The work will enhance habitat for local wildlife and support long-term ecosystem health. This project empowers youth to become active stewards of their environment.	\$7,350	Lansdowne Middle School
Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Community Action 2026	COM-171	This project will focus on two priority locations in the Columbia Shuswap region where invasive plant control will directly benefit migratory bird habitat and western painted turtle populations. Targeted treatments will occur at the Revelstoke Reach (Himalayan balsam) and Salmon Arm Bay Foreshore (yellow flag iris and Himalayan balsam) project areas. The project will engage volunteers for mechanical invasive plant treatments and include two days of Indigenous-led expertise and on-site learning to strengthen restoration outcomes and community stewardship.	\$3,500	Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society
Deep Bay Rewilding	COM-172	This project is a significant step towards protecting and restoring an intact estuary and associated upland forests in the heart of the K'omoks Key Biodiversity Area. With significant community support and hard work, anthropogenic improvements are being removed in a small, heavily impacted area, which will then be restored to a natural upland forest.	\$5,800	BC Parks Foundation
Loon Nesting Rafts	COM-173	The project will improve common loon nesting success at Arrow Park on the Arrow Lakes, where fluctuating water levels have repeatedly flooded or exposed shoreline nests. Floating nesting rafts that rise and fall with water levels will provide stable, secure nesting sites for breeding pairs. By reducing egg loss, the project will help increase chick survival and support long-term loon conservation in the area.	\$1,080	Arrow Lake Environment Stewardship Society

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Nanaimo Old City Pollinator Patchway Project	COM-178	This project aims to enhance habitat for native pollinators by building native habitat patches on easements and in front gardens in the Old City neighbourhood of Nanaimo. A group of neighbours will volunteer their properties for the project, working with and receiving support from Nanaimo & Area Land Trust to build patches that will provide forage and nesting habitat. These patches will be in close proximity to each other, effectively creating a habitat corridor for pollinating insects, which will help to increase their abundance and diversity.	\$3,850	Nanaimo & Area Land Trust
Lower Tsolum River Gravel Bar Stabilization	COM-181	Tsolum River Restoration Society will re-plant 0.725 hectares of barren gravel bar using live willow staking to stabilize excess bedload within the lower Tsolum watershed. This stabilization will improve existing fish habitat by deepening the river's thalweg and existing pools, creating better fish passage and creating shade.	\$9,946	Tsolum River Restoration Society
Enhancing/Securing the Turtle Nesting Site - Murray Conservation Property	COM-184	The Gardom Lake Stewardship Society, in partnership with the Southern Interior Land Trust, will enhance protection of western painted turtle nesting habitat at Gardom Lake. The project will install a predator-exclusion fence with nylon mesh covering the top to improve turtle egg and hatchling survival, as well as a gate to limit unauthorized access that can damage sensitive ecosystems and introduce invasive species. These actions will strengthen stewardship of this newly conserved lakeshore property.	\$4,140	Gardom Lake Stewardship Society
Citizen Streams: Collaborative Community Water Quality Monitoring	COM-185	Stanley Park Ecology will mobilize community volunteers to monitor freshwater health of Lost Lagoon and Beaver Lake through water quality sampling, benthic invertebrate surveys, marsh bird monitoring, and bog-edge mapping. The project builds a long-term ecological baseline to guide habitat conservation for native fish, amphibians, and wetland wildlife. This hands-on initiative strengthens community stewardship while delivering measurable conservation benefits.	\$4,280*	Stanley Park Ecology
Community Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Restoration on SSI	COM-186	The Salt Spring Island Conservancy, in partnership with IMERSS, the Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society, and the Climate Adaptation Research Lab, will engage community volunteers in standardized biodiversity monitoring for three species at risk — Northern Red-legged Frog, Common Nighthawk, and Western Screech-Owl — across a network of nine nature reserves on Salt Spring Island. Volunteers will also participate in hands-on wetland and riparian habitat restoration through native plant propagation and planting at priority sites. This four-organization partnership builds shared conservation capacity across Salt Spring Island's community conservation sector, contributing local monitoring data to Salish Sea-wide biodiversity datasets and delivering lasting habitat improvements for species at risk in the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem.	\$9,975	Salt Spring Island Conservancy
A Community Lens on Carney Pond	COM-188	The Carney Pond Wetland Restoration Project will enhance 756 metres of riparian habitat through invasive species removal and the planting of 250+ native trees and shrubs. A new community photopoint monitoring station and interpretive signage will document ecological recovery and engage residents in hands-on stewardship. The project strengthens wildlife habitat, improves water quality, and demonstrates practical urban wetland restoration in Kelowna.	\$8,400	Okanagan Similkameen Stewardship Society

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East Wellington Park's Ecosystem Restoration	COM-189	Wildcoast Ecological Society will rehabilitate a portion of East Wellington Park in Nanaimo by restoring riparian habitat along the salmon-bearing Millstone River. Working alongside community volunteers, invasive plant species will be removed and replaced with native vegetation to stabilize slopes, reduce erosion, increase shade, and enhance fish habitat. The project will also include field-based eco-education and volunteer stewardship events to strengthen community connection and long-term care of the park.	\$9,500	Wildcoast Ecological Society
Wetland Restoration Workshop at Forslund-Watson Conservation Area	COM-191	The British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) is partnering with the South Coast Conservation Land Management Program and Ducks Unlimited Canada to construct an ephemeral groundwater wetland as part of BCIT's Ecological Restoration bachelor's degree program. The project 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 directly apply their academic knowledge to real-world restoration efforts, with an emphasis on hands-on learning and collaboration.	\$9,463	British Columbia Institute of Technology
Pacific Gardens Natural Area Project	COM-194	A condominium in Nanaimo has designated approximately 1.5 acres of its property to remain as wildlife habitat. This area includes a wetland pond, an ephemeral stream and an ephemeral pond that all drain into the Chase River (salmon-bearing). The area has a healthy population of Pacific chorus frogs, 42 species of birds, and 13 Douglas-firs that are well over 250 years old and 8 Garry oaks. The primary goal is to replace the invasive plants with native ones, creating a healthy wildlife habitat.	\$7,906	Jim Senka
Restoring McLean Creek: Syilx-Informed, Community-Driven Freshwater Action	COM-195	This project will restore a degraded riparian section of McLean Creek by removing invasive vegetation and re-establishing native shrubs and trees. Volunteers and youth will participate in hands-on restoration to support habitat for yellow-breasted chat, Lewis's woodpecker and other riparian wildlife. These efforts will support long-term habitat recovery and improve overall ecosystem health.	\$10,000*	snpink'tn (Penticton) Indian Band
Creston Nectar Network	COM-196	The Creston Nectar Network is a community-powered conservation initiative transforming small spaces into vital habitat for native pollinators across Creston. By planting native wildflowers and shrubs on private and public lands, residents are creating a connected network of nectar-rich stepping stones that help bees, butterflies, and other indigenous wildlife thrive. Together, the community is building a healthier, more resilient landscape, one square metre at a time.	\$5,130	Wildsight Creston Valley
SO_QEL_ĒĪ_TTE WEXES_ŪIKEL_; Caring for the Frog Wetland	COM-198	PEPAKEN_HÁUTW has identified a threatened population of Northern red-legged frogs within SNĪDŪEL (the first WŚÁNEĆ Village site). Through the SO_QEL_ĒĪ_TTE WEXES_ŪIKEL_; Caring for the Frog Wetland Project, volunteers will be engaged in helping to support the restoration of a seasonal wetland forest which will promote native biodiversity and provide supportive habitat for adult Northern red-legged frogs.	\$8,750	PEPAKEN_HÁUTW Foundation

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Community Native Plant Salvage	COM-199	HAT's Native Plant Salvage Program is rescuing native plants from a site slated for development and relocating them to local habitats where they can thrive. Trained community volunteers will carefully extract and replant species that support ecological well-being and wildlife, preventing unnecessary loss of valuable habitat. The project strengthens local biodiversity while empowering residents to take part in hands-on conservation.	\$6,850	Habitat Acquisition Trust
RCMSAR ESCGS Removal of Invasives/ Replacement by Native Species	COM-200	This project will initiate a 5-year plan to remove invasive species from the Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue (RCMSAR) land parcel in East Sooke. It will be focus on European Ash, Scotch Broom, English Ivy, English Holly, Tansy Ragwort, Spurge Laurel, Canada Thistle, Bull Thistle, and Himalayan Blackberry. Concomitant planting/seeding of native species will also take place.	\$2,352	East Sooke Community Garden Society
Native Plant and Pollinator Gardens at Burgoyne Valley Community Farm	COM-201	The Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust is creating a pollinator corridor at its 60 acre Community Farm. This will be achieved by planting a series of native gardens that focus on high nectar and pollen plants that benefit our native pollinators.	\$5,340*	Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust
Demonstration Pollinator Garden	COM-203	The demonstration pollinator garden at the Buck Creek Hatchery and Nature Centre in Houston, B.C., will provide visitors and school groups with an example of what they could do in their home or school yard to provide habitat for pollinators and increase biodiversity in the town. Volunteers will be invited to join in the process thus "training" them to be able to repeat the process on their land.	\$4,940*	A Rocha Canada



Volunteers removing reed canary grass and planting native species on Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve
Photo by Salt Spring Island Conservancy