



Quality Waters Fund

Project 4-444

2025-26 Report

Kootenay Region

Project Summary

The Kootenay River Guardian Program included angler education, angler compliance checks and angler (Creel) surveys on 8 classified waters as well as stream temperature monitoring during the summer period. WCT inventory (density/abundance estimates) was conducted on 2 systems (Mayuik Creek and Skookumchuck Creek). Habitat evaluations were conducted where inventory projects were completed. Audits were conducted on angling guides to confirm compliance with AMP's and angler day quotas. Finally, RG's presented data to stakeholder clubs/groups, peers, etc. to educate public and promote both the benefits of the program and long term management objectives for species viability and angler opportunity. All of these components played a vital part in informing proactive management decisions with the goal of balancing diverse and sustained quality angler opportunities with long term conservation of wild stock wct and bt fisheries.

Summary Funding Table

	2025-26 Budget	2025-26 Spending	Variance
Kootenay (8 classified watersheds)	\$103,670	\$85,515	-\$18,155
Kootenay Classified Waters	\$11,750	\$1,000	-\$10,750
Kootenay Classified Waters	\$15,080	\$13,500	-\$1,580
Total	\$130,500	\$100,015	-\$30,485

Progress and Challenges in Achieving 2025-26 Project Outcomes

BC Public Service strike created challenges in delivering aspects of the project in late Sept-Oct. BT inventory was not completed as all field work would have been conducted during the timeframe of the strike.

Capital Asset Purchase Information

N/A

Additional Supporting Information

2025 project report in process of completion. Region produces 3 or 5 year summary Final reports, as they are more effective in analysing trends and comparing data to previous report cycles.

Photos



River Guardian late fall BT inventory



River Guardian angler check



River Guardians conducting WCT inventory swim