

News From Our Peace Region July 2016

2016-2017 Projects Underway

Our Board approved funding for 20 fish and wildlife projects across our Peace Region for 2016-17. The projects will help conserve and enhance a variety of species including Bull Trout, Arctic Grayling, bats, migrating birds, Moose, Northern Caribou, and other ungulates. While some projects will result in immediate benefits to improve habitat, such as prescribed burns to increase ungulate forage, others will improve the science and understanding for the long-term management of species. To see the full list of Peace Region projects, read our <u>Peace Region</u> <u>Project Summary</u>, and visit <u>fwcp.ca</u> to view a map of where each project is located, and to learn more about them.



Restoring and conserving habitat for Moose and other ungulates is a priority for our Peace Region. Pictured: an unusual congregation of Moose in winter at McLeod Lake, Feb 2016, by Bob Gammer.

Project Breakdown

In 2016-17, our Peace Region Board approved approximately \$970,000 in project funding. See the <u>full breakdown</u> of how these funds are split between fish and wildlife projects, by sub-region, proponent and project type. Across the province, FWCP is funding more than <u>116 fish and wildlife projects</u> for a total of approximately \$8.7 million within its Coastal, Columbia, and Peace Regions.

Fish Samples Wanted from First Nations for Mercury Study

With funding from the FWCP, a comprehensive <u>two year mercury investigation</u> is being led by Azimuth Consulting Partnership Group. Participation of local First Nation communities is key to the success of the project, <u>including the collection of fish samples</u>. If interest is expressed, First Nations will be provided information and training as samples need to be collected using standard protocols. While they can be from any species of fish in the Williston and Dinosaur watersheds, of special interest is fish from frequently-used fishing locations, and sizes that are typically consumed. If you have any questions please <u>email Dan</u> or call 250-783-7509.



Data collection is now underway to determine mercury concentrations in fish. Photo: Azimuth

Grant Intake Opens July 15

The opening and closing dates of our next grant application intake, including the deadline for our mandatory Notice of Intent, have all been moved forward



compared to last year. For 2017-18 projects, grant applications can be received **starting July 15**, with the deadline for the **Notice of Intent form on September 21.** All grant applications **must be submitted by October 28, 2016**. Funding decisions will be announced in March 2017.



Peace Region Board

Back row: George Desjarlais, Bob Coyle, Eric Lofroth, Luke Gleeson, Ross Peck, Norm Bilodeau, Rian Hill, Alec Chingee. Front Row: Rosemarie Sam and Robin Tsakoza. Missing: Teena Demeulemeester, Luke Vince, Wayne Sawchuk, Trevor Oussoren, Gord Haines.

Community Engagement Grant Reminder Are you working on a summer project to help fish and wildlife in FWCP's Peace Region and looking for a little extra funding? Then don't forget about our <u>Community</u> <u>Engagement Grant</u>. Funds are limited, so apply now.



Manager's Message

The 20 projects approved for FWCP funding this year reflect our conservation priorities, and were selected after being reviewed by our Fish and Wildlife Technical Committees, First Nations Working Group, and then our <u>16-member Board</u>. In total, we received 39 applications in the Peace Region for a total funding request of \$1.7 million. Thank you to all who took the time to apply for funding, and remember, the deadlines for this year's grant applications have moved forward, as outlined above. Please also note that our mercury investigation will greatly benefit from the contribution of

samples from First Nation communities. Thanks for supporting this important project and please spread the word!

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Dan Bouillon Peace Regional Manager

Read Our Reports

Read reports and results from past projects we've funded. Visit fwcp.ca.

<u>Sign up for our</u> <u>news!</u>

The FWCP is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, First Nations, and Public Stakeholders, to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife impacted by existing BC Hydro dams. Read more at <u>fwcp.ca</u>

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