

PEACE REGION NEWS

November 2020

Update: 30 grant applications for fish and wildlife projects

Our Peace Region received 30 grant applications for fish and wildlife projects in 2021-2022. Our team is starting a three-stage review and evaluation of all grant applications that will include our technical committees and First Nations Working Group. Our board members will review recommendations from other reviewers and make final funding decisions at a board meeting in early 2021.

Grant applications were received from First Nations, non-governmental organizations, consultants, and businesses. The total ask for FWCP funds is \$1,672,280. In 2020-2021, our Peace Region board approved 28 projects for approximately \$1.5 million. Read our <u>F21 project list</u>.

What's next? All grant applicants will be notified of our board's decisions about projects and funding by the end of February. Read our information kit for approved grant applicants in 2021-2022 so you know what information we'll need next and what to expect after contribution agreements are finalized.



*Includes First Nations-owned business and led societies



Our 16-member Peace Region <u>board</u>, made up of representatives from First Nations (nine), public (three), BC Hydro (two), and the Province of B.C. (two), will make the final decision on project funding for 2021-2022.

Caribou recovery presentation: Wednesday, November 18 Join Dr. Scott McNay at 12 p.m. (PST) for an <u>online presentation</u> about the uncertain and difficult road to habitat restoration and the recovery of the Klinse-Za caribou herd. The presentation will explore why restoration is so fundamental to recovery, what habitat restoration actually is, the challenges and accomplishments, and what's left to achieve. This event is funded by the FWCP in partnership with the University of Northern British Columbia Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute.

Navigating the uncertain and difficult road to restoration and recovery of Klinse-Za caribou

Guest Presenter: Dr. Scott McNay Senior Wildlife and Forest Ecologist Wildlife Infometrics Inc.



Endangered caribou calves released

Eight endangered caribou calves, 13 adult females, and one yearling were successfully released from a secure maternity pen in late August. Shepherds from the Saulteau and West Moberly First Nations start guarding the pen, which is located near Chetwynd, as soon as the pregnant cows are captured in early spring. The calves and cows are released from the secure pen when the youngest are large enough to be less susceptible to predation. The FWCP is a funder of improving caribou calf survival through maternity penning to recover the endangered Klinse-Za/Scott East herd.



A calf (left) and cow eating fresh vegetation immediately outside of the pen. Photo: Wildlife Infometrics Inc.

Owl information sessions: Fridays, November 13 and 20

Get to know Canada's most endangered owl. Join a free <u>one-hour information</u> <u>session</u> hosted by the Northern Spotted Owl Breeding <u>Program</u> and FWCP's Coastal Region. The FWCP is a long-time funder of the Northern Spotted Owl Breeding Program and its effort to raise and rear northern spotted owls for future release. Meet one of the program's star owls: Small Eyes! Friday, November 13, is all about breeding season, and Friday, November 20, is about artificial incubation and hand-raising.



Photo: Northern Spotted Owl Breeding Program

Apply now! Community Engagement Grants still available

We have funding available to help stewardship groups and others deliver projects to benefit local fish and wildlife in our Peace Region. Of course, COVID-19 can impact project delivery, and we appreciate all the innovative approaches community groups are adopting to prioritize safety. Our <u>Community Engagement</u> <u>Grants</u> are usually \$500-\$1,000 ,and all you have to do is apply now while funds are still available. The application form is short and we'll respond to you soon. What are you waiting for? Apply now!







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 in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams.

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