

Message from our board co-chairs

Thanks for reading our annual report. In fiscal year 2023-2024 (F24), our Columbia Region board approved funding for 37 projects—nine fish and 28 wildlife—for approximately \$6.43 million. Congratulations and thank you to the project proponents who carry out vital work to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams. Read our [project list](#) or visit our [interactive map](#) to learn more about the projects approved by our board annually.

This past year saw our three regional boards come together in person for the first time since 2018 at our tri-region meeting in October. Twenty-four board members, plus the FWCP team, met to build awareness and share ideas about how to strengthen the FWCP's strategic approach. Key outcomes include: adding Indigenous participation on the steering committee (formerly the policy committee); enhancing alignment with program partners; pursuing strategic funding partnerships; adjusting grant timing and approach (such as making Seed Grants available year-round, and increasing our Community Engagement Grant); and strengthening our partnership with First Nations. The boards also discussed the importance of UNDRIP and how to support reconciliation with our work.

Sharing project results and recommendations is a priority to us so we can demonstrate the ways we're working towards our vision of thriving fish and wildlife populations in watersheds that are functioning and sustainable. That's why we've worked to increase the number of project reports submitted annually to provincial databases from 89 in F22, to 127 in F24; that's an increase of more than 40%. Links to all final project reports for FWCP-funded projects are available on our [results page](#).

Over the past year, our board has seen some changes. We've increased First Nations representation on our Columbia Region board from three seats to nine. Now more than half of our board positions are assigned to First Nations members, and we're working with the Okanagan Nation, Ktunaxa Nation, and Secwepemc to make sure all seats are full. It demonstrates our commitment to strengthening involvement with Indigenous communities in our region and our acknowledgement of the stewardship that First Nations have practiced since time immemorial.

Thanks to Damien Joly, Moss Giasson, and Kim Cox who finished up their time on the board this year, and we welcome Brent Meger and Manjit Kerr-Upal. Thanks to our outgoing co-chairs Monique Stevenson and John Krebs. Special mention should be made of John who has been the backbone of the FWCP Columbia Region for nearly three

decades: as head wildlife biologist leading numerous projects and staff for more than 15 years, and—for a similar time period—helping to lead our board as a representative from the Province. We shall miss your dedicated commitment, John, as well as your historical, in-depth knowledge of the FWCP.

Monique was not only our previous co-chair but also the FWCP Program Manager for nearly three years, during which time recommendations from the evaluation and audit started to be implemented—see page five— and there was an increase in First Nations representation on our Columbia board. Thank you for your work! Margo Sadler was hired as the FWCP Program Manager in fall of F24, and we welcome her to the board as the new co-chair. We're looking forward to continuing the efforts to ensure the FWCP's work benefits fish and wildlife in this region.

If you have any questions about our projects, grants, or this annual report, please contact our [regional manager](#). We'd be happy to answer your questions.



Margo Sadler
Columbia Region
Board Co-chair



Eva Schindler
Columbia Region
Board Co-chair



Annual reports are also
available for our Coastal
and Peace regions at
fwcp.ca.

Cover: The FWCP is the primary funder of the Nutrient Restoration Program, where nutrients are added to compensate for nutrients trapped by upstream reservoirs. A recent independent review of the program concluded that it is helping rebuild the food web. [Learn more](#). Photo: All Too Clear

1.0 Organizational overview

INTRODUCTION

With annual funding from BC Hydro, the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) conserves and enhances fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by 31 BC Hydro dams. The FWCP directs those funds toward priority actions across its three regions—Coastal, Columbia, and Peace.

BC Hydro has water licence obligations in the Columbia and Peace regions and has made voluntary commitments to address the impacts of dams in the Coastal Region. BC Hydro fulfills the applicable obligations through the work of the FWCP.

The FWCP is governed through a framework that recognizes the regulatory accountabilities of agency partners (i.e., BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., and Fisheries & Oceans Canada—DFO) and ensures Indigenous participation in decision-making, project planning and delivery. Independent regional boards review, evaluate, and approve funding for all projects. Our boards include representatives from each of our FWCP partners: First Nations (21), public stakeholders (9), BC Hydro (5), and the Province of B.C. (5). The Coastal Region board also has a representative from DFO¹. When it comes to decision-making, input from each board member is given equal consideration through collaborative discussion. Learn more at fwcp.ca/our-story.

Since 1988, BC Hydro has provided more than \$220 million to the FWCP to compensate for dam impacts, and the FWCP has funded more than 2,400 projects across our three regions.

Columbia Region

The FWCP's Columbia Region (Figure 1.1) was established in 1995 to compensate for fish and wildlife populations affected by the construction of BC Hydro dams in Canada's portion of the Columbia River Basin.

The FWCP Columbia Region has received nearly \$127 million since it started, delivering between 40 and 50 projects each year.

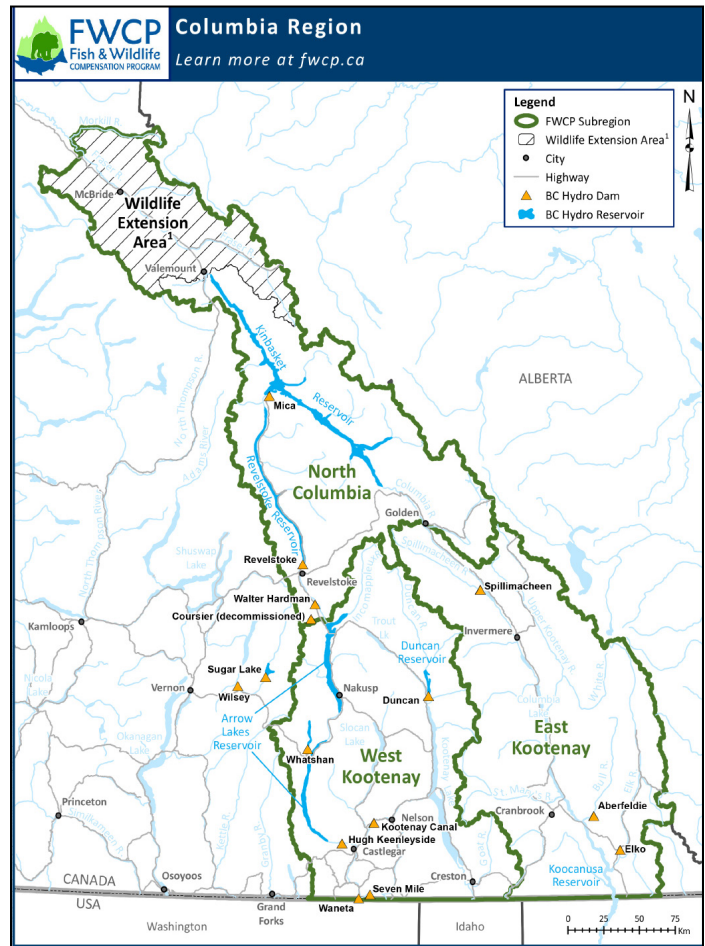


Figure 1.1 Map of the FWCP's Columbia Region



The Columbia Region is home to more than a dozen species of bats including the Townsend's big-eared bat, and we're funding a multi-year project, led by Wildlife Conservation Society Canada, to protect bats against the anticipated threat of white-nose syndrome. [COL-F24-W-3832](#). Photo: C. Lausen.

1. Currently, DFO does not have representation on the Peace and Columbia Region boards but does have the opportunity.

2. Our strategic approach

VISION AND MISSION

Our vision is for thriving fish and wildlife populations in watersheds that are functioning and sustainable, and our mission is to compensate for fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams.

We take a forward-looking, ecosystem-based approach that defines the desired outcomes and takes actions to restore, enhance, and conserve priority species and their habitats. The FWCP’s strategic objectives are:

Conservation

Maintain or improve:

- 1. The status, functionality, and resilience of ecosystems within the FWCP’s three regions.
- 2. The status of species of interest and their habitats within the FWCP’s three regions.
- 3. Opportunities for harvesting, non-consumptive and other uses, now and into the future, in recognition that many species of interest have high social and cultural value.

Indigenous engagement

Strengthen and foster relationships with Indigenous Peoples and communities. This will be addressed in part by strengthening Indigenous engagement in decision-making, project planning, and delivery that supports the FWCP’s conservation objectives.

Community engagement

Strengthen and foster partnerships and/or relationships with stakeholders, citizens, and agencies that support the FWCP’s conservation objectives.

More details on these three objectives can be found in the [Governance Manual](#).

ACTION PLANS

Our action plans guide FWCP investments in fish and wildlife projects. They are referenced annually by our regional boards to track progress toward implementation, set priorities, and guide decision-making in setting out and approving the annual operating plan for each region. Actions in our action plans are eligible for FWCP funding and align with our vision, mission, and geographic scope.

In our Columbia Region, we have five ecosystem-based [action plans](#). F24 projects approved by our Columbia Region board align with the priority actions identified in the Columbia Region action plans:

- Reservoirs & Large Lakes Action Plan
- Rivers & Riparian Areas Action Plan
- Small Lakes Action Plan
- Upland & Dryland Action Plan
- Wetlands & Riparian Areas Action Plan

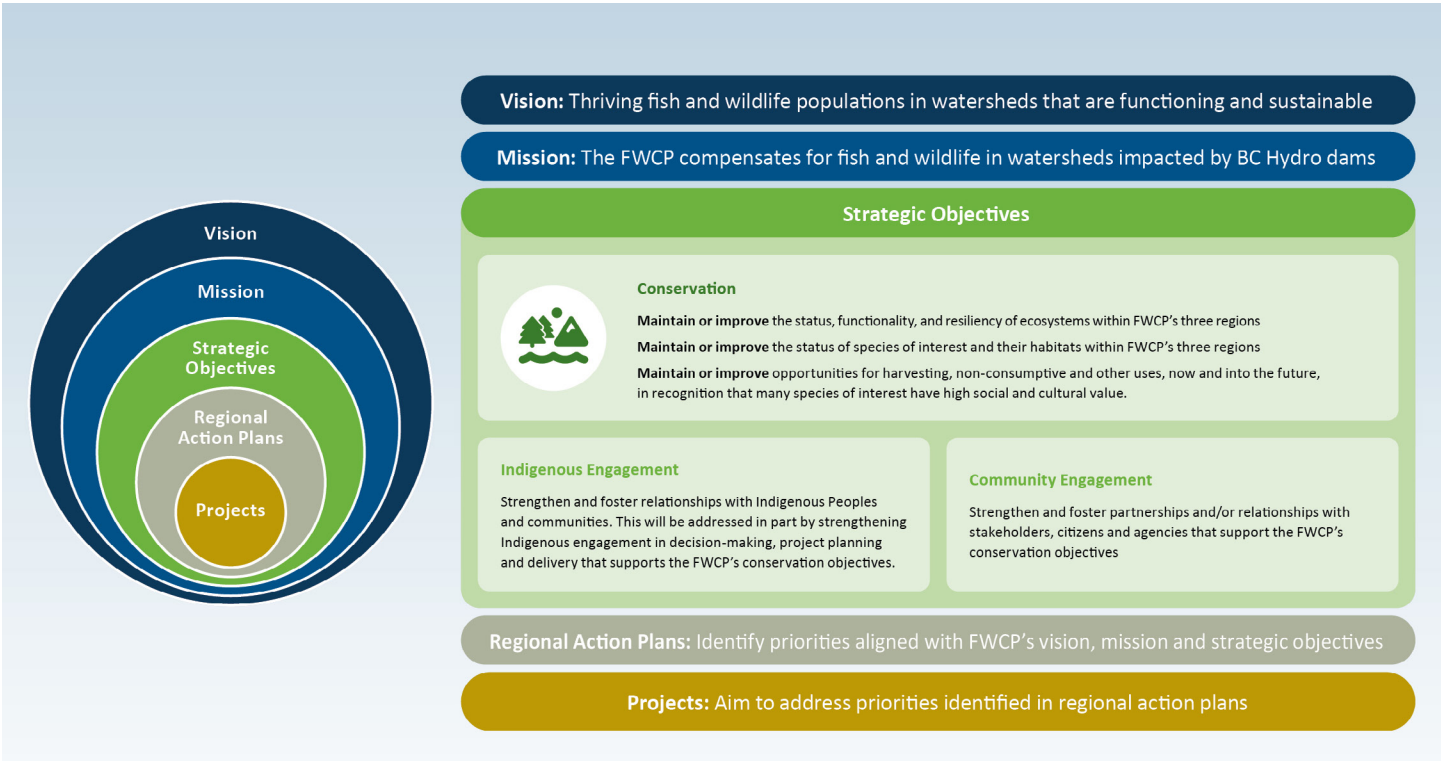


Figure 2.1: Strategic framework. The projects we fund align with our regional action plans, reflect our strategic objectives, and align in with our mission and vision.

UPDATE: EVALUATION AND FINANCIAL AUDIT

In 2019 an independent, third-party [evaluation and financial audit](#) as required by our Governance Manual was completed. The audit resulted in nine recommendations to refine, support, and strengthen our approach to conserving and enhancing fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams. See Table 1.1 below for an update on implementing recommendations up to March 31, 2024.

Table 1.1 Status of implementing evaluation and financial audit recommendations

Recommendation	Status
#1: Clarify the scope and intended outcomes of Strategic Objective #3: Maintaining or improving opportunities for sustainable use.	Complete: Strategic objectives updated: see our website or our governance manual for details.
#2: Undertake a detailed review of the Columbia annual and ongoing programs.	In progress: Detailed review of Kootenay & Arrow Nutrient Restoration Programs completed. Wetland project effectiveness evaluation underway. Our Columbia Region has developed a more formalized review process for the annual and ongoing programs.
#3: Increase program funding levels.	In progress: Columbia and Peace boards are drafting business cases for increased funding. Additionally, each region continues to encourage partnership funding for projects to leverage FWCP's investment.
#4: Continue to reduce the total number of actions in action plans and ensure connection between actions and program objectives.	In progress: Peace Region board reduced number of actions from 94 to 65; Columbia Region board from 212 to 161; Coastal Region board will address in next action plan updates. Refinements to the scope and scale of the action plans and priority actions is a task for the program logic model development that will consider the links between actions and objectives (see recommendation #7).
#5: Explore the potential for increased use of directed studies.	Complete: All action plans now have directed actions identified. More directed projects will be approved in accordance with available capacity within the FWCP team. The updated governance manual now provides opportunity for external technical advisory support which could increase FWCP's capacity to initiate directed projects.
#6: Explore options for the Columbia Region to increase the involvement of First Nations in the operation and delivery of the program.	In progress: Established a Columbia First Nations Working Group and Notice of Intent process ; expanded number of seats on the board from one per Nation to three; First Nations member appointed to steering committee; annual board-approved funding for First Nations-led projects; and annual board-approved funding to build capacity to participate in and lead FWCP projects.
#7: Develop a program logic model and performance measurement strategy.	In progress: Funding approved by boards in F24. Procurement of contractor in progress and work planned for F25.
#8: Review specific sections of the governance manual to ensure it is up-to-date and reflects current practices and priorities.	Complete: Governance manual updates completed in 2024.
#9: Seek further direction from the B.C. Government and BC Hydro regarding the nature of FWCP's obligations under UNDRIP.	Complete: Updated governance manual acknowledges that FWCP can determine its own unique approach to advancing reconciliation as appropriate given the FWCP's strategic framework. FWCP's obligations under UNDRIP were discussed at 2023 tri-region board meeting with an action to discuss at the steering committee to determine a path forward.

[Learn more](#) about our evaluation and financial audit.

3.0 Board, committee members, and staff

FWCP COLUMBIA REGION BOARD

The board guides our work and is responsible for approving our Columbia Region projects and budget. In addition to funding projects through our annual grants, the board may choose to direct projects.

Columbia Region board members during F24 were:

Monique Stevenson/	BC Hydro
Margo Sadler, Co-Chair	
Brent Meger	BC Hydro
Misun Kang	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Vacant	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Vacant	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Eva Schindler, Co-chair	Province of B.C.
Manjit Kerr-Upal	Province of B.C.
Samara Kolasko	Public
Moss Giasson/vacant	Public
Wendy Booth	Public
Mark Thomas	Secwepemc Nation
Vacant	Secwepemc Nation
Vacant	Secwepemc Nation
Michael Zimmer	Syilx Okanagan Nation
Marc Steynen	Syilx Okanagan Nation
Vacant	Syilx Okanagan Nation

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The board is supported by two fish and wildlife technical committees. They act in an advisory role by providing technical review, evaluation, and ranking of fish and wildlife grant applications; supporting the development of strategic plans; assisting in the development and oversight of directed projects; and providing advice on the effective implementation of action plans.

Fish technical committee

James Crossman	BC Hydro
Karen Bray, Chair	BC Hydro
Ben Meunier	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Tyler Weir	Province of B.C.
Will Warnock	Province of B.C.
Robyn Laubman	Secwepemc Nation
Evan Smith/vacant	Syilx Okanagan Nation

Wildlife technical committee

Toby Michaud/Harry Van Oort	BC Hydro
Nikki Heim	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Lindsay Anderson/	Province of B.C.
Anna McIndoe, Chair	
Patrick Stent	Province of B.C.
David DeRosa	Syilx Okanagan Nation
Evan Smith	Syilx Okanagan Nation
Nancy Bonneau	Syilx Okanagan Nation

FIRST NATIONS WORKING GROUP

The board is supported by a First Nations Working Group that provides an advisory role, including early engagement with proponents prior to submitting grant applications.

Caitlin Phillips	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Marty Williams	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Tanis Richmond	Ktunaxa Nation Council
Aaron Deans/Kyle Krahn	Secwepemc Nation
Corey Bird/Braydi Rice	Secwepemc Nation
Dwayne Spence/Adam Neil	Secwepemc Nation
Norman Allard	Secwepemc Nation
Dave DeRosa/Chad Eneas	Syilx Okanagan Nation

STEERING COMMITTEE

The steering committee—formerly policy committee—sets the FWCP’s overall policy direction including the governance structure, establishes the strategic framework, oversees periodic evaluations, approves significant changes to the FWCP, and addresses dispute resolution when necessary, among other responsibilities beyond the FWCP. For more details, refer to our [Governance Manual](#).

Steve Newton
Director, Salmon Stewardship, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

James Mack
Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

Karen Popoff
Director, Environment, BC Hydro

FWCP TEAM

Program management and operations were implemented by FWCP Columbia Region manager, Jen Walker-Larsen. During this fiscal year, Jen was supported by Monique Stevenson, former program manager, Margo Sadler, program manager, and Melissa Fiel de Sousa, environmental project coordinator. Communications and community engagement for all three FWCP regions were led by Lynne Betts and Angus Glass.

4.0 Financial report

APPROVED BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES

Each year our Columbia Region board allocates funding toward fish and wildlife projects, land securement, administration, and communications. These allocations form the annual operating plan. Any unallocated funds are carried forward as uncommitted available funds for future spending.

The annual funding provided from BC Hydro to the region for the year was \$5,762,914. Our Columbia Region board approved a budget of \$7,144,119 for this year, utilizing previously uncommitted available funds.

Figure 4.1 shows a total of nearly \$11.62 million available to our Columbia Region as of April 1, 2023. This comprises the approved budget of approximately \$7.14 million, uncommitted available funds of approximately \$1.2 million, and remaining prior-year funding commitments from F23 to F20 of approximately \$2.77 million, \$477,000, and \$24,000 respectively.

Figure 4.2 illustrates the approved budget for F24 as of April 1, 2023. Funding for fish projects made up 48% of the budget, wildlife projects 33%, and land securement 9%. Administrative costs made up approximately 8% of the budget and include region manager salary and expenses, fees associated with uploading reports to the provincial databases, maintenance and refinements to our grant management system, a portion of the environmental project coordinator’s salary and expenses, and board, technical committee, and First Nations Working Group costs. The remaining allocation was for communications and was approximately 2% of the approved budget.

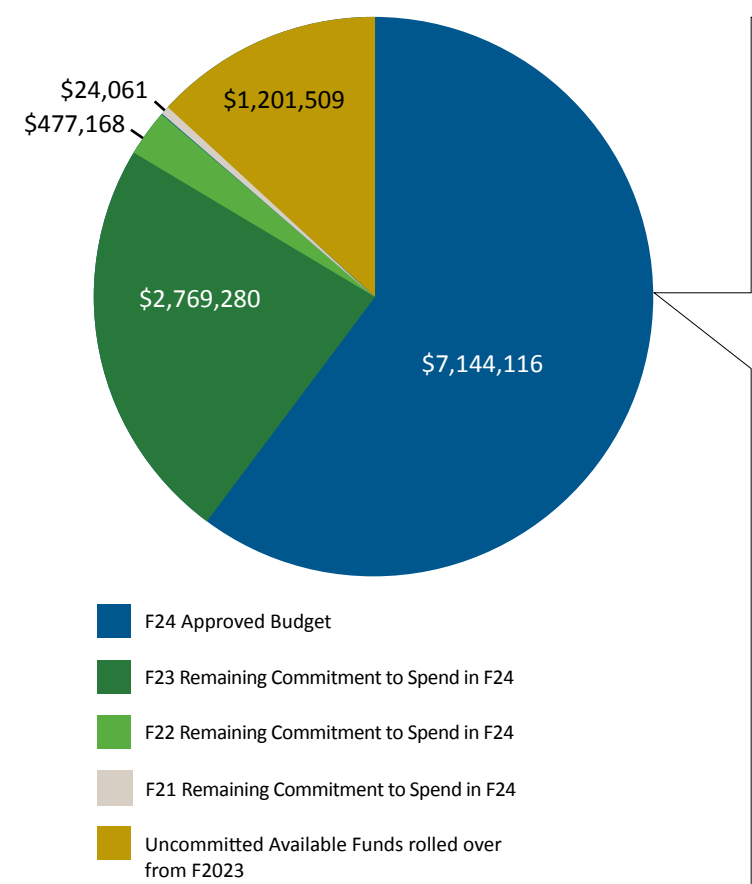


Figure 4.1: FWCP Columbia Region financial summary on April 1, 2023

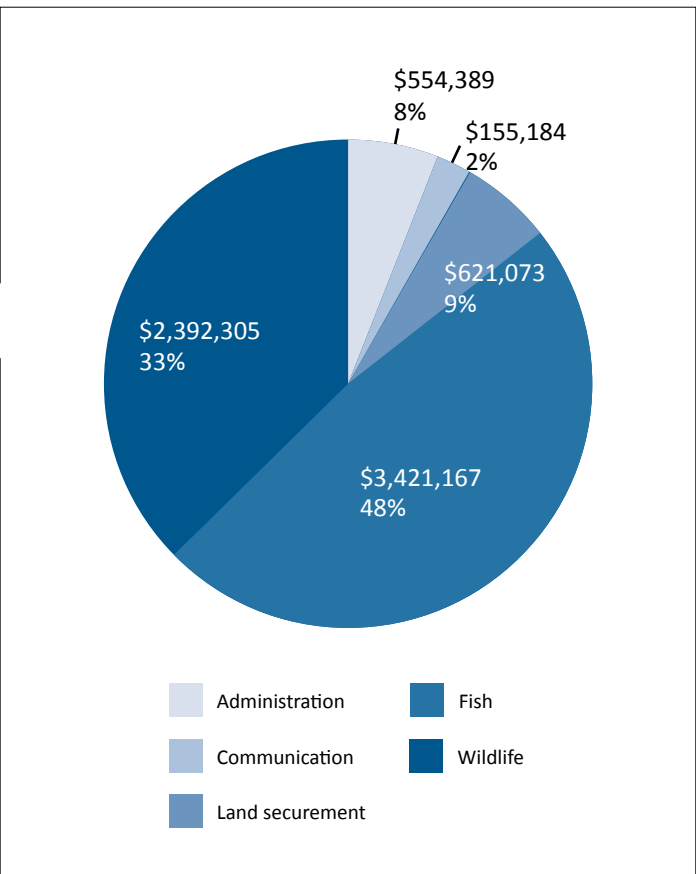


Figure 4.2: Allocation of the approved Columbia Region budget of approximately \$7.14 million as of April 1, 2023

Columbia Region expenditures up to the end of fiscal (March 31, 2024) are shown in Table 4.1. This reflects a snapshot of actual and planned payments made related to this year's finances. Funding each year may not be fully allocated by year-end and—as shown in Table 4.1—F24 allocated funds not yet expended by March 31, 2024, are labelled as planned payments.

Occasionally, projects come in under budget (unspent funds in Table 4.1). Funds not spent during the fiscal year will be carried forward as unspent surplus budget and made available for new spending in future fiscal years.

Table 4.1: F24 budget status as of March 31, 2024

Fund category	F24 approved budget	Paid up to March 31, 2024	Unspent Funds ¹	Planned Payments ²
Administration	\$554,389	\$311,561	\$121,674	\$121,154
Communications	\$155,184	\$126,349	\$ -	\$28,835
Land Securement	\$621,073	\$-	\$(105,122)	\$672,460
Fish	\$3,421,167	\$1,973,912	\$(158,725)	\$1,605,980
Wildlife	\$2,392,305	\$793,861	\$(233,122)	\$1,947,361
TOTAL	\$7,144,119	\$3,205,683	\$(375,294)	\$4,375,790

Note 1: Unspent funds are carried forward and available for the next fiscal year. If the number is a negative (in brackets) it means that money was taken from previously uncommitted funds and added to the line item, making them committed and increasing the expected spend/planned payment. If the number is positive, it means that the money is released from this line item and returned to uncommitted funds.

Note 2: Planned payments represents expected invoices for approved, ongoing projects that have not yet submitted final reports by March 31.

At the end of this reporting period, approximately \$3.21 million of the annual budget had been spent, and \$4.38 million¹ remained as an F24 commitment to spend in F25—see Table 4.1.

In addition to the planned payments of approximately \$4.38 million, the balance of prior-year funding commitments anticipated to be spent in F25 was approximately \$126,000 from F23, \$111,000 from F22, and \$24,000 from F21, with nearly \$904,000 available in uncommitted funds (Figure 4.3).

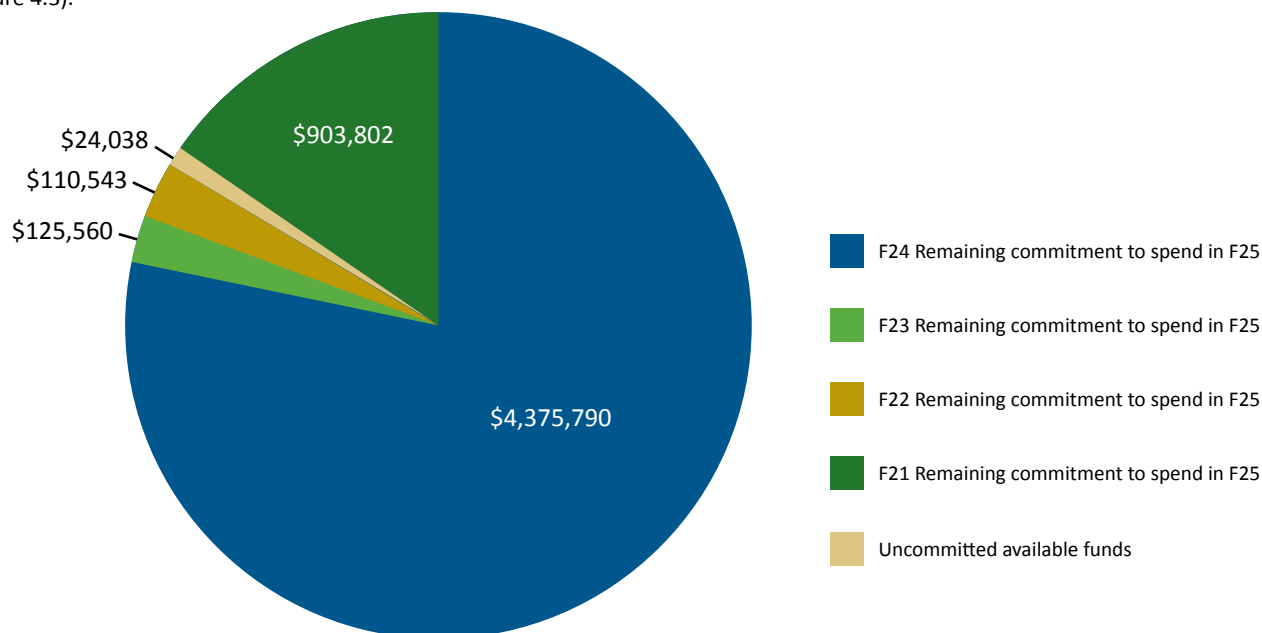


Figure 4.3: Financial summary of the FWCP's Columbia Region, as of March 31, 2024 (end of fiscal year)

1. The end of F24 and the year-end deadline for project reporting are on the same day, therefore reports—and potentially statement of accounts—are not reviewed and accepted until after the March 31 deadline. Many final payments for F24 projects are processed in the first few months of F25, and unused funds are allocated for future spending.

5.0 Project funding and grants

PROVINCIAL PROJECT FUNDING

This year, our three regional boards approved 94 projects for a total FWCP contribution of approximately \$10.17 million. The total value of these projects—including leveraged funding from other organizations and in-kind resources—was \$18.2 million.

Final reports for all FWCP-funded projects are uploaded to [Ecocat](#) or [SIWE](#) provincial databases, and searchable spreadsheets of reports for each FWCP region are available at [fwcp.ca/results](#).

COLUMBIA REGION PROJECT FUNDING

In our Columbia Region, the FWCP funds the delivery of fish and wildlife projects in a variety of ways, including grant applications, long-term agreements (annual and ongoing), and directed projects. Thirty-seven projects were approved this year, for \$6,434,545 in funding from our Columbia Region board.

The 37 projects were comprised of 15 grant-based projects, 12 annual and ongoing projects, and 10 directed projects. Figure 5.1 below shows the split of project funding between grant-based, directed, and annual and ongoing projects.

Grant-based projects

Grant applicants are required to develop a project idea that aligns with one or more priority action in any [action plan](#) and will achieve the intended outcome. Each priority action in our action plans is identified as Open, Open/Directed, or Directed. The proposed project must be aligned to an Open or Open/Directed priority action to be eligible for a grant and this year only priority #1 and #2 actions were eligible for funding.

In our Columbia Region, grant applicants were required to submit a mandatory [notice of intent](#) (NOI) prior to submitting a full application. The NOI is an important part of our commitment to strengthen engagement with First Nations. It helps inform First Nations about proposed projects and is the basis for identifying opportunities for First Nations perspectives on, and engagement in, the projects. The NOI also helps our Columbia Region manager provide additional guidance before grant applications are completed.

For the F24 grant intake, 41 NOIs were received by the deadline—34 for wildlife projects and seven fish projects.

Our Columbia Region board received 31 grant applications for fish (five) and wildlife (26) projects in this reporting period, resulting in a request of approximately \$1.64 million in funding. This is a reduction of 34% compared to F23, when 47 were received.

The board approved just over \$665,000 in funding for 15 projects through our annual intake of grant applications: two fish projects for \$10,000, and 13 wildlife projects for approximately \$655,000.

The FWCP encourages grant applicants to seek additional funding sources (e.g., other funding agencies and in-kind contributions) to leverage FWCP funding contributions. We recognize the value of partnerships to help plan, deliver, and fund projects and we encourage grant applicants to build funding and project partnerships into their projects. In F24, as stated, the FWCP funding allocation for grant-based projects was approximately \$665,000; as a result of financial partnerships and in-kind contributions, the total value of the projects was nearly \$2.5 million. In other words, for every \$1 invested by the FWCP, others contributed nearly \$3, greatly increasing the value of the FWCP’s investment overall.

Annual and ongoing projects

Our Columbia Region board approved approximately \$4.71 million to support 12 annual and ongoing fish and wildlife projects. These projects are typically comprised of multiple sub-projects and activities. They are delivered with support from the Province of B.C. through a letter of agreement, and other regional partners through contracts and contribution agreements. The Province of B.C. contributed approximately \$1.6 million to the annual ongoing approved funds through in-kind and additional partnered contributions.

This year, there were four fish projects approved for approximately \$3.17 million. The projects were: adding nutrients to Kootenay Lake and Arrow Lakes Reservoir and operating and maintaining the Hill Creek and Meadow Creek spawning channels.

Eight annual and ongoing wildlife projects were approved for more than \$1.54 million. These projects included stewardship of conservation lands, enhancing upland and dryland species in the East and West Kootenay, enhancing non-game habitat, recovering caribou and northern leopard frog populations, restoring and enhancing wetlands, and work to support securing conservation lands.

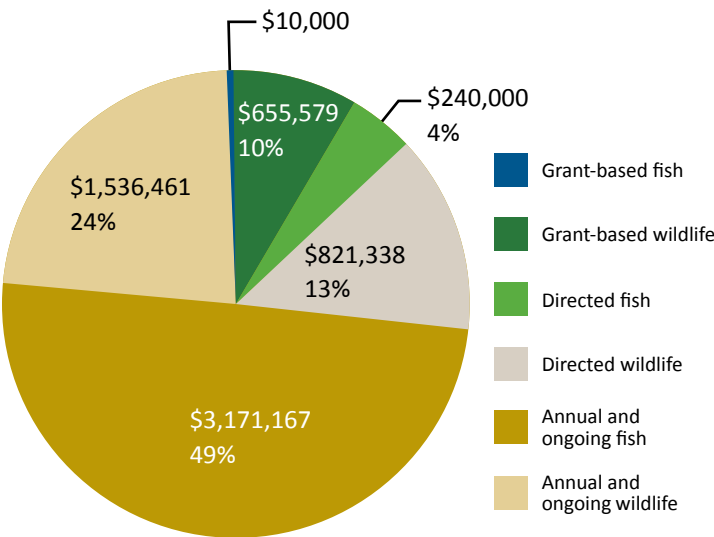


Figure 5.1 Funding by project delivery type

Directed projects

Directed projects provide an opportunity for our Columbia Region board to direct funds to regional priorities. A total of nine directed projects—more than twice as many as the previous year—were approved for \$490,000.

Seven of the nine projects were First Nations-led, either by the Ktunaxa, Secwepemc, or the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

The FWCP Columbia Region board is committed to strengthening First Nations engagement in decision-making, leadership, and project planning and delivery. Indigenous-led directed projects align with action plan priorities and the priorities and interests of the Nations.

First Nations-led directed projects included managing invasive bullfrogs, replacing loon platforms on Whatshan Reservoir, operating a maternity pen for the Selkirk caribou herd, propagation of native plants, and the monitoring and maintenance of Murphy Creek spawning channel.

It also included an allocation of nearly \$600,000 to support land securement.

Land securement

Securing critical ecosystems and habitats for conservation is an important way to help conserve and enhance fish and wildlife in watersheds impacted by BC Hydro dams. Land securement is a priority action for all ecosystems in our Columbia Region where FWCP funding has helped protect and manage nearly 80,000 hectares since 2002.

Each year, the FWCP Columbia Region board supports conservation land acquisition through directed funding and annual and ongoing project funding. This year, the board set aside \$567,000 through directed funding for land acquisition, although no projects were funded in F24. Through annual and ongoing funding, \$45,000 was allocated to the Kootenay Conservation Program, and \$8,375 to the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to support land securement.

APPROVED PROJECTS BY PROPONENT, ACTION TYPE, AND SUB-REGION

Project funding by action type

Priority actions in our Columbia Region action plans are grouped into five broad action types: research & information acquisition; habitat-based; species-based; monitoring and evaluation; and land securement.

This year, nearly 75% of funding was allocated towards habitat-based projects, 11% towards species-based projects, and 9% towards land securement activities. Figure 5.2 shows the approved projects by action type.

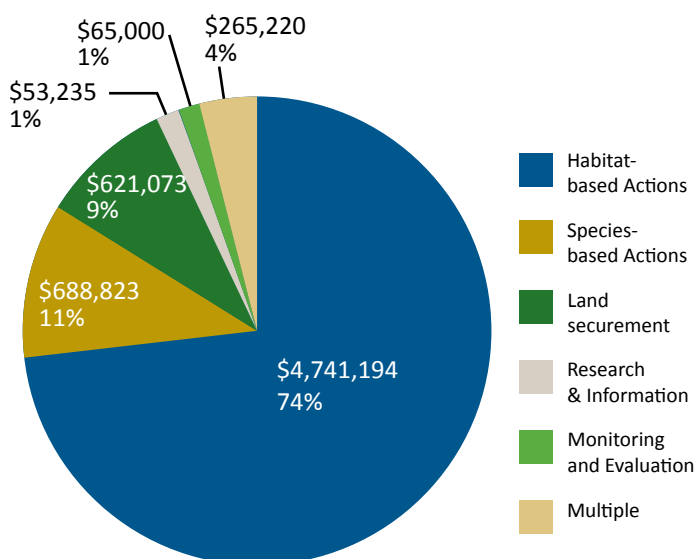


Figure 5.2: Breakdown of approved funding by action type

Project funding by proponent type

The majority of the FWCP Columbia Region project funding—more than 70%—went towards projects led by the Province. Nearly 20% went towards projects led by non-government agencies, and 8% to projects led by First Nations. It must be noted, however, that many of these projects are delivered through partnerships with other proponent types. A proportion of the work led by the Province of B.C.—approximately 15% of the FWCP funding—involves working with First Nations. The full split of project funding by proponent type is shown in Figure 5.3.

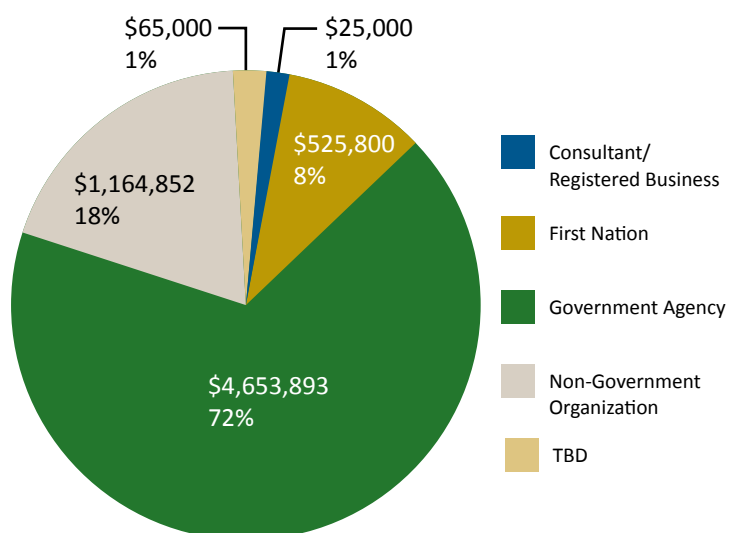


Figure 5.3: Columbia F24 approved funding by lead proponent type

Approved projects by sub-region

The Columbia Region is made up of three sub-regions: North Columbia, East Kootenay, and West Kootenay. Basin-wide projects are delivered across multiple sub-regions. Figure 5.4 shows the split of project funding by sub-region this year.

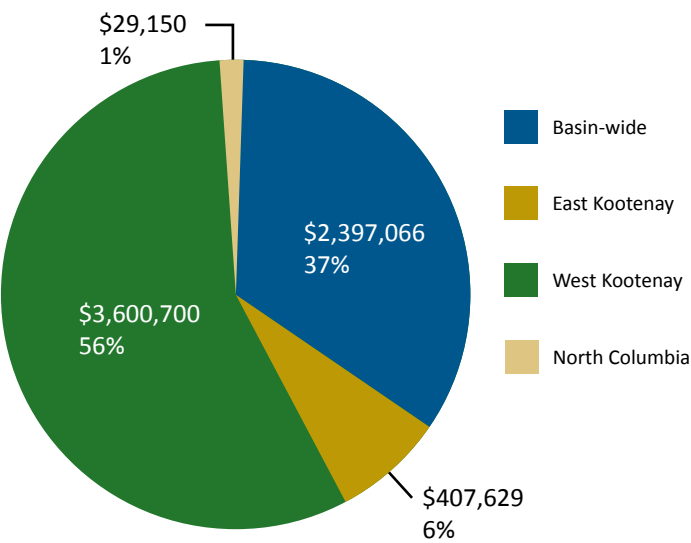


Figure 5.4: Columbia F24 approved funding by lead proponent type

Community Engagement Grant projects

The goal of the Community Engagement Grant is to provide an opportunity for FWCP stakeholders and First Nations to apply for a small grant to support conservation and enhancement work that aligns with our action plans. A total budget of \$7,500 was available for F24 in our Columbia Region. Note that our Community Engagement Grants are categorized as a single, grant-based wildlife project for the purposes of this report.

This year, 11 applications were received and ten were approved, for a total of \$7,250. The full list of approved Community Engagement Grants is shown in Table 5.1.



Members of the Castlegar & District Wildlife Association, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, and Trail Wildlife Association used a Community Engagement Grant to clean-up more than 2,000 kgs of scrap metal and garbage. Photo: A. Glass

Table 5.1 Approved F24 Columbia Region Community Engagement Grants

Applicant	Project title	Grant Amount
Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society	Osprey and Bald Eagle Nest Monitoring	\$1,000
Nelson & District Rod and Gun Club	Bear Aware Workshop	\$250
Arrow Lakes Stewardship Society	Central Selkirk Caribou Herd Video #2	\$1,000
Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada	Pines and People: 2023 Conference	\$500
Revelstoke Bear Aware Society	Bear Awareness Day	\$500
Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society	CKISS Fall Field Tour	\$500
Rossland Society for Environmental Action	Beaver Creek Watershed Engagement Tools	\$1,000
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers: BC Chapter	Backcountry Cleanup Day	\$1,000
Wildsight Invermere	Columbia Lake Bighorn Sheep Population and Habitat Project	\$1,000
West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative	Branching Out: Fire Mitigation Strategies	\$500
		Total \$7,250

6.0 Columbia Region 2023-2024 projects

Table 6.1 provides a listing of 2023–2024 (F24) Columbia Region fish and wildlife projects approved for funding. The funding identified may vary from the approved budget as of April 1, 2023, due to project budget increases or decreases as they progressed throughout the fiscal year. Final reports for all projects are posted to the appropriate provincial databases once available. Visit fwcp.ca/results for an updated list of all available final reports. Executive summaries and links to the final reports can also be viewed by clicking on the project numbers. Learn more about the 2023-2024 project outcomes at fwcp.ca/annual-reports.

Table 6.1: F24 Approved projects

FWCP Project ID	Project Title	Proponent
Fish: Grant-based Projects		
COL-F24-F-3856	Bonaventure Shore-Spawning Kokanee Habitat Restoration	Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society
COL-F24-F-3878	Developing a Cottonwood Creek Enhancement Strategy	Living Lakes Canada
Wildlife: Grant-based Projects		
COL-F24-W-3807	Upper Columbia Swallow Habitat Enhancement Project (UCSHEP)	Wildsight Golden
COL-F24-W-3814	Floral Relations of Native Bees in Camas Meadows-Year 4 (cancelled)	Kootenay Native Plant Society
COL-F24-W-3822	Advancing Wetland Stewardship & Restoration in the Kootenays	British Columbia Wildlife Federation
COL-F24-W-3832	NABat, BatCaver and Beyond: Protecting Columbia Basin Bats	Wildlife Conservation Society Canada
COL-F24-W-3840	Kootenay Riparian Invasive Plant Control	Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society
COL-F24-W-3852	Galton Range Invasive Plant Management	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council
COL-F24-W-3853	Elk Valley Invasive Plant Management Year 4	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council
COL-F24-W-3854	Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions	Sanders Environmental Services
COL-F24-W-3867	NTBC-Land Stewardship Activities F24 - CFC Program	The Nature Trust of British Columbia
COL-F24-W-3902	Yaᑭit ᑭa.knuᑭi 'it Open Forest and Grassland Enhancement	Tobacco Plains Indian Band
COL-F24-W-3930	Expanding the Toolkit of Invasive Plant Management	East Kootenay Invasive Species Council
COL-F24-W-3934	Kicking Horse Canyon Habitat Enhancement Project	Golden District Rod and Gun Club
n/a	Community Engagement Grant	Various NGOs
Directed fish		
n/a	First Nations-led Directed Fisheries Project Funding	TBD
COL-F24-F-3949-DCA	Murphy Creek Spawning Channel Monitoring and Maintenance Yr2 of 3	Okanagan Nation Alliance
n/a	Alternatives to Creel Survey and Bull Trout Redd Counts (postponed)	TBD

FWCP Project ID	Project Title	Proponent
Directed wildlife		
n/a	Wetland Effectiveness Monitoring Framework Phase II Implementation (postponed)	TBD
n/a	First Nations-led Directed Wildlife Project Funding (see projects below)	TBD
COL-F24-W-3952-DCA	Native Plant Propagation Project	Okanagan Nation Alliance
COL-F24-W-3947-DCA	Invasive American Bullfrog Management, South Salmo/Nelway	Okanagan Nation Alliance
COL-F24-W-3972-DCA	Whatshan Loon Platform Replacement	Yucwmenlúcwu (Caretakers of the Land)
COL-F24-W-3951-DCA	Selkirk Caribou Maternity Pen	Aqam First Nation
COL-F24-W-3795-DCA	Land Securement Property Acquisition	Province of BC
Annual and ongoing fish		
COL-F24-F-3793-DCA	Arrow Lakes Reservoir Nutrient Restoration Program	Province of BC
COL-F24-F-3984-DCA	Hill Creek Spawning Channel	Province of BC
COL-F24-F-3797-DCA	Kootenay Lake Nutrient Restoration Program - North Arm	Province of BC
COL-F24-F-3985-DCA	Meadow Creek Spawning Channel	Province of BC
Annual and ongoing wildlife		
COL-F24-W-3794-DCA	Land Management Operations (includes Guardian Program)	Province of BC
COL-F24-W-3799-DCA	West Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement	Province of BC
COL-F24-W-3800-DCA	East Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement	Province of BC
COL-F24-W-3801-DCA	Caribou Recovery	Province of BC
COL-F24-W-3979-DCA	Northern Leopard Frog Recovery	Province of BC
COL-F24-W-3977-DCA	Non Game Enhancement	Province of BC
COL-F24-W-3980-DCA	Wetland and Riparian Enhancement	Province of BC
COL-F24-W-3981-DCA	Land Securement Support - KCP contribution and MWLRS Support	The Nature Trust of British Columbia

1. The FWCP's annual and ongoing projects are defined as long-term operational projects (e.g., nutrient restoration programs, northern leopard frog recovery, and ecosystem enhancement) that require continuity for implementation and also address a significant habitat restoration requirement. Many of these projects are delivered in partnership with the Province of B.C. through a letter of agreement.