



## Projects Approved for Environment Grants—And More Are Invited to Apply

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## Projects Help Fish and Wildlife

The Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program and the Trust have approved 11 fish and wildlife projects that will help conserve and enhance ecosystems in the upper Kootenay River watershed. [...full story](#)



## Social Enterprises Celebrated

May is Social Enterprise Month. To strengthen these types of businesses year-round, the Trust offers advice and other resources through its Basin Business Advisors program. [...full story](#)

## Events and Deadlines

**May 26 to June 15**

Various Locations

**Me Inc. Workshops**

**May 27 and June 2**

Trail, Online

**Social Enterprise Workshops**

**May 29**

Revelstoke

**Trust Board of Directors Meeting**

**June 1**

Deadline

**Youth Action Grants**

[Go to events page.](#)



## What Granting Programs Do We Offer?

[View the guide](#)

## Requests for Proposals

The Trust seeks qualified heritage contractors to perform work relating to:

- built heritage assets
- heritage-related organizations.

[Learn more](#)

## CONTACT

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## Projects Approved for Environment Grants -- And More Are Invited to Apply

Wednesday, May 06, 2015

*Columbia Basin Trust program helps the environment*

Thirty-nine projects have recently been granted a combined total of over \$1.3 million from Columbia Basin Trust's Environment Grants. Funds are also currently available for groups seeking grants of up to \$10,000 for their environmental projects.

Groups are encouraged to apply as soon as possible at [cbt.org/applyenvironment](http://cbt.org/applyenvironment). As funding is limited, applications will be considered as they arrive. Projects needing more than \$10,000 can apply for funding in the fall.

"We appreciate all the work people throughout the Basin are doing to help preserve the natural assets of our region and address pressing environmental issues," said Tim Hicks, Columbia Basin Trust Manager, Water and Environment. "Projects of all sizes can yield significant benefits, and we encourage groups with requests of up to \$10,000 to come forward as soon as possible with their project ideas."

Successful projects from the last intake include ones that strengthen ecosystems, help communities mitigate and adapt to climate change, and support environmental education-- all of which address goals in the Trust's Environment Strategic Plan.

The Blue Lake Forest Education Society is one of the groups that has received project funding. Its project involves delivering an aquatic environmental sciences program that will help participants develop skills in scientific methodologies and procedures.

"The water project is going to benefit Basin residents in two primary ways," said Todd Hebert, Executive Director, Blue Lake Forest Education Society. "First, it will connect the participants to the watershed in their areas, educating them on where water comes from and how it is used. The second benefit is the potential for the development of science literacy, mainly in the field of water quality. They will also have a better understanding of how water quality relates to the flora and fauna around the water."

The BC Conservation Foundation is one of the groups that has received project funding. Its project involves conducting a study on the conservation of grizzly bears in the Flathead and Elk Valley and providing recommendations to improve human safety and reduce human-bear conflicts.

"This project helps grizzly bear management staff make conservation decisions for grizzly bears," said Garth Mowat, Wildlife Research Biologist, BC Ministry of Natural Resources. "Because it is based on broad public participation, it educates the public about grizzly behaviour, biology and population trends."

The Rossland Society for Environmental Action is one of the groups that has received project funding. Its project involves rehabilitating a local non-functioning wetland, including by using hands-on restorative work. It will use the site as an onsite classroom, with interpretive signage and outreach to the community.

"The North Jubilee Wetland Restoration Project will increase wildlife habitat in the heart of our community and create a place for community members to learn about the benefits of wetlands," said Rachael Roussin, Board member, Rossland Society for Environmental Action. "The wetland and wetland plants will also absorb and store excess water in peak runoff times and act as a filter for water before it flows downhill and into our stormwater drains, improving watershed function."

See the complete list of projects approved for funding at [cbt.org/applyenvironment](http://cbt.org/applyenvironment).

To learn more about the Trust's other environmental priorities, visit [cbt.org/environment](http://cbt.org/environment).



## First Projects to Help Fish and Wildlife Under New Plan

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

### *More than \$500,000 in Funding Announced*

The Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) and Columbia Basin Trust (the Trust) have approved 11 fish and wildlife projects that will help conserve and enhance ecosystems in the upper Kootenay River watershed, including Koocanusa Reservoir. These projects are the first to be funded under the Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Plan, developed jointly by the FWCP and the Trust.

Four fish and seven wildlife projects were approved for a total of more than \$500,000.

"These projects will begin to address long-standing concerns regarding the impacts of Libby Dam and the Koocanusa Reservoir on fish and wildlife," said Dave White, Public Representative on the FWCP-Columbia Board. "The public identified an important gap and we are really excited to partner with the Trust to start to fill that gap by implementing the plan that guides conservation efforts in this watershed."

The projects will include a range of activities, from inventory mapping sensitive habitats around Koocanusa Reservoir, to replacing culverts and reconnecting high-value fish habitat in the Gold Creek watershed, to restoring grassland ecosystems near Elko and Wycliffe. Other projects will support amphibians, Westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout; control the spread of invasive plants; and test the feasibility of relocating mule deer from urban areas to areas where their populations are in decline. Projects in the future, under the Plan, may also include incorporating some trans-boundary fish and wildlife work.

"We want a mix of on-the-ground projects and information-based projects aimed at improving our understanding of the ecosystems, which will help inform conservation planning and support management decisions and hands-on work in the future," added White. "These projects will do just that."

Columbia Basin Trust provided \$3 million to develop the plan and fund local fish and wildlife projects over the next three to five years. The FWCP, which already coordinates and supports fish and wildlife work in the region, will oversee delivery of the projects.

"Since we announced our partnership with the FWCP in spring 2013, we've been working together to address important ecological issues that affect environmental well-being in the area," said Kindy Gosal, Columbia Basin Trust Director, Special Initiatives. "Through this plan we now extend that collaboration to other groups with an interest in the future of the region so they can provide their expertise with projects on the ground. We anticipate seeing tangible results that make a lasting difference."

Learn more about the [Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Plan](#) and the projects approved for 2015/16 at [fwcp.ca](http://fwcp.ca) (see [Columbia Region 2015 Project Summary](#)).

The FWCP is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of BC, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, First Nations and Public Stakeholders to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife impacted by BC Hydro dams.

[View the Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Plan projects.](#)



## Social Enterprises Celebrated

Friday, May 22, 2015

May is Social Enterprise Month. A social enterprise is a business operated by a non-profit organization that both generates income from sales and creates social, environmental or cultural value. To strengthen these types of businesses year-round, Columbia Basin Trust offers advice and other resources through its Basin Business Advisors (BBA) program.

Delivered by Community Futures, BBA aims to build economic capacity in Columbia Basin communities by strengthening small- to medium-sized businesses and social enterprises. While it supports social enterprises throughout the year, it is currently running social enterprise workshops in Trail (May 27) and online (June 2). Attending one of these workshops qualifies a non-profit to apply for a development grant from Enterprising Non-Profits. Learn more at [bbaprogram.ca](http://bbaprogram.ca).

"We support social enterprises because enhancing business skills is key to helping non-profits meet their financial goals and visions," said Lisa Kilpatrick, Columbia Basin Trust Senior Manager, Delivery of Benefits. "Social enterprises help build healthy local economies and encourage entrepreneurship in our communities."

BBA provides free, one-to-one, confidential business counselling and assessment services, and arranges and cost-shares specialized consulting services. It helps social enterprises generate revenues so they can diversify their incomes beyond grants. Social enterprises are invited to seek help in areas like business planning and strategy, marketing and sales, and systems support (financial management, inventory management, process efficiency, etc.).

Kootenay Lake Hospital Auxiliary is one non-profit that has benefited from BBA's services. It has numerous functions within Kootenay Lake Hospital, including operating the gift shop, cash machine and comfort cart; taking care of the hospital grounds; and organizing raffles and bake sales. These activities help raise funds to address medical needs in the community.

"We first booked a meeting with a BBA advisor to get an outside perspective on our current business model and long-term plans," said Marla Olsen, Vice President, Kootenay Lake Hospital Auxiliary. "The advisor reviewed our finances and helped us streamline processes. Overall, it was a very good experience. It's a great resource and I know that there are lots of social enterprises in the area that can benefit from the program."

For many years, the Trust has collaborated with Enterprising Non-Profits (enp)--and it continues to do so through BBA. The goal is to help social enterprises in the Basin develop and grow, which in turn builds strong non-profits and healthier communities. Through its granting program, workshops and other opportunities, enp shares its expertise, resources and support, helping non-profits further their objectives and become more financially sustainable.



## Supporting Arts, Culture and Heritage

### Doing an arts, culture or heritage project?

Our **Arts, Culture and Heritage Program** provides funding for all arts disciplines: visual arts, theatre, music, dance, media, literary and inter-arts. There are a number of streams, including project funding for groups and individuals, funding for touring and funding for major projects. The Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance delivers this program on behalf of the Trust.

**Who can apply:** Basin individuals and arts, culture and heritage organizations.

[cbt.org/ckca](http://cbt.org/ckca)

## Supporting Business and Employment

### Need business advice?

Our **Basin Business Advisors** program can give you free, one-to-one, confidential business counselling and assessment services, and more.

**Who can apply:** Existing small- and medium-sized businesses, including social enterprises.

[cbt.org/bba](http://cbt.org/bba)

### Looking to hire a student?

Our **Student Wage Subsidy Programs** can give you a wage subsidy to help you hire a high school or post-secondary student.

1. To hire a student during the school year, apply to School Works.

**Who can apply:** Small businesses and non-profit, First Nations and public organizations in the Basin.

2. To hire a student over the summer, apply to Summer Works.

**Who can apply:** Small businesses.

[cbt.org/swsp](http://cbt.org/swsp)

### Need training to find a job?

Our **Training Fee Support Program** can provide up to \$800 to help you undertake short-term education or training to find a job.

**Who can apply:** Basin residents who are unemployed or underemployed.

[cbt.org/tfsp](http://cbt.org/tfsp)

## Supporting Social Well-being

### Doing a project that will benefit social well-being?

Our **Social Grants** help fund community or regional projects that support social well-being and address social issues.

**Who can apply:** A variety of organizations, including non-profit organizations, co-operatives, First Nations organizations, local governments, school districts, post-secondary institutions and businesses.

[cbt.org/sg](http://cbt.org/sg)

## Supporting Youth

### Are you a young person with a great idea?

Our **Youth Action Grants** can give you up to \$3,000 for your projects.

**Who can apply:** Basin youth aged 12 to 19.

[cbt.org/yag](http://cbt.org/yag)

### Doing a project that will benefit youth?

Our **Youth Grants** can give up to \$15,000 toward projects that directly benefit Basin youth aged 12 to 29.

**Who can apply:** Non-profit organizations, First Nations organizations, local governments and school districts, plus youth aged 15 to 29 with a sponsoring organization.

[cbt.org/yg](http://cbt.org/yg)

## Supporting Community Projects and Events

### Need support for your community project?

If you have a project idea that might benefit your community, you can connect with one of our community liaisons to see if your idea fits under our flexible **Community Development Program**.

**Who can apply:** Non-profit organizations, First Nations organizations and local governments.

[cbt.org/cdp](http://cbt.org/cdp)

### Have a project that fits within your community's priorities?

Through our **Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Programs**, the Trust works in partnership with local governments and First Nations and provides funding for projects decided upon by the community.

**Who can apply:** Contact your local government or First Nation administration for details.

[cbt.org/cipaap](http://cbt.org/cipaap)

### Have an event or activity that needs a bit of financial support?

Our **Sponsorship Program** can provide a small amount of funding to help you along.

**Who can apply:** A variety of organizations, including non-profit organizations, First Nations organizations, local governments, school districts and recreation commissions.

[cbt.org/sponsorship](http://cbt.org/sponsorship)

## Supporting the Environment

### Doing an environmental project?

Our **Environment Grants** provide funding for environmentally focused projects that intend to help improve life in the Basin.

**Who can apply:** Basin groups, organizations, societies or businesses, plus organizations outside the Basin that partner with local organizations.

[cbt.org/eg](http://cbt.org/eg)

### Wish to enhance grassland and rangeland resources?

Our **Grassland and Rangeland Enhancement Program** can help you meet goals like promoting stewardship, maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and long-term fish and wildlife productivity, and improving compatibility between livestock and recreational uses. The Kootenay Livestock Association delivers this program on behalf of the Trust.

**Who can apply:** Basin associations, societies or partnerships, plus individuals with Crown Range Tenures.

[cbt.org/grep](http://cbt.org/grep)

## Supporting Students

### Are you a graduating secondary school student who has done lots of volunteering?

Our **Youth Community Service Awards** can give you \$2,000 to reward you for the great volunteer work you've done.

**Who can apply:** Basin students who will graduate from a Basin high school, alternate school or other institution that grants Ministry of Education-recognized graduation diplomas.

[cbt.org/yicsa](http://cbt.org/yicsa)

### Are you a college student who needs financial help?

Our **Columbia Basin Trust Bursary** can help you continue your post-secondary education or training. The bursaries are based on financial need.

**Who can apply:** Basin residents attending College of the Rockies, Selkirk College or the Revelstoke Centre of Okanagan College.

[cbt.org/bursary](http://cbt.org/bursary)