



HABITAT
CONSERVATION
TRUST FUND

1981-2006 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Achieving Conservation Results Together

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Bighorn Sheep Receive Big Boost with Project Funding

Kootenay - The Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, supported by BC angling and hunting licence surcharges, is funding 17 projects totalling over \$512,000 in the Kootenay Region.

This funding is targeted at enhancing fish and wildlife populations at project sites throughout the Kootenay Region. In particular several projects will focus on using prescribed fire and other habitat restoration tools to assist grassland dependent species such as Bighorn Sheep.

“The Habitat Conservation Trust Fund Board is meeting in Fernie to discuss future plans for projects across British Columbia,” said Harvey Andrusak, Chair of the volunteer board. “The Board meets in two or three regions each year to review project sites to ensure trust dollars are wisely invested. The Board also wants to meet local conservationists to hear directly from them about the issues and how HCTF can help.”

Accompanied by local conservation partners, the Board is visiting various project sites in the Fernie and Cranbrook area to inspect the results of HCTF project investments such as ecosystem restoration activities on Wigwam Flats.

Since its creation in 1981, HCTF has provided more than \$90 million in project funding to more than 2000 enhancement, educational and acquisition projects across BC. As most HCTF projects are partnered with other organizations, the total invested is more than \$250 million.

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Note to editors: Project List attached. Contact: Jacquie Louie (250) 387-9369

Note to TV Outlets: HCTF's 25th Anniversary video contains clips of many typical conservation projects which could be used for broadcast. For further information contact Jacquie Louie (250) 387-9369.

For more details on HCTF go to: <http://www.hctf.ca>