



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Fish and Wildlife Big Winners Across BC

Salmon Arm – The Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation is investing over \$5 Million this year to help fish and wildlife in communities across BC. Supported by angling, hunting and trapping licence surcharges, the Foundation will fund over 120 projects designed to sustain native fish and wildlife populations and habitats.

“Our contributors understand the importance of investing in projects such as these”, noted HCTF Board Chair Harvey Andrusak. “Hunting, fishing and conservation groups across BC share a common goal of improving habitat and wildlife and fisheries management. By giving these groups the funding and tools they need for important conservation projects, we can sustain the habitats and populations that provide recreation in all regions of BC.”

Project applications were approved following a detailed technical review and evaluation. Applications came from local conservation organizations, sporting and rod and gun clubs, environmental groups and citizens associations. Many applications also provide partnered funding sources.

Some of the projects funded this year include:

- \$260,268 to eradicate invasive fish species in the Thompson/Nicola, Kootenay and Cariboo regions
- \$400,050 for prescribed burns on Vancouver Island, Kootenays, Omineca Peace and the Okanagan
- \$130,000 for Wild BC, an environmental education program for school aged children

Since its creation in 1981, HCTF has provided more than \$100 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.

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