

## ECOSYSTEM ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM LIST OF PROJECTS APPROVED FOR FUNDING, MARCH 2023

These grants support large-scale ecosystem enhancement projects that will have meaningful and measurable impacts in supporting and strengthening ecosystem health in the Basin.

Community	Organization	Project Title	Description	Amount
Canal Flats, Edgewater	Nature Conservancy of Canada	Ecosystem Restoration of Conservation Properties in the Rocky Mountain Trench	Over five years, restore 10 hectares of wetland and upland habitat along Marion Creek, on the west side of Columbia Lake, by restoring surface drainage patterns and reconnecting the channel to its floodplain; also restore 280 hectares of grasslands and open forests using forest thinning techniques to improve wildlife habitat, minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfire and help protect local communities; also implement a prescribed burn. This will benefit species like American badger, Lewis's Woodpecker, elk and westslope cutthroat trout.	\$750,000
Columbia Valley	Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners	Climate Change Mitigation in Wetlands	Over five years, restore critical ecosystem functions on at least 75 hectares within the Columbia Wetlands; this includes restoring wetlands along the western side of the valley, and adding and improving beaver dams in additional wetlands to maintain seasonal water levels. The project will benefit many at-risk birds, waterfowl and plants, and create a training opportunity for a Basin resident.	\$776,000
East Kootenay	Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation	Southern Columbia Whitebark Pine Recovery	Over five years, restore 150 hectares of whitebark and limber pine ecosystems to provide connectivity between heavily impacted and healthy populations by planting 62,000 seedlings and removing competition to restore naturally regenerating populations, plus create a training opportunity for a Basin resident.	\$495,815
Yaἀit ?a∙knuq <del>ŧ</del> i'it First Nation	Yaq̀it ?a∙knuq <del>l</del> i'it First Nation	Horseshoe Lake North Wetland Restoration	Over five years, restore five hectares of the northern portion of Horseshoe Lake to develop a healthy, functional wetland. The project will create habitat for at-risk and culturally	\$588,985

important western painted turtle and improve wetland quality by restoring the function of the aquatic, riparian and upland plant communities.	
TOTAL	\$2,610,800

## SMALL-SCALE ECOSYSTEM GRANTS

These grants support small-scale ecosystem enhancement projects that help improve ecological health and native biodiversity in the Basin through on-the-ground action.

Community	Organization	Project Title	Description	Amount
Golden	Golden District Rod and Gun Club	Kicking Horse Canyon Bighorn Sheep Habitat Enhancement	Enhance 12 hectares of bighorn sheep winter range habitat quality and connectivity by restoring conifer- ingrown habitat.	\$83,000
Harrop	Friends of Kootenay Lake	2023 Expansion of Harrop Wetland Restoration	Restore and enhance 0.52 hectares of wetland and riparian habitat in Sunshine Bay Regional Park.	\$25,000
Lemon Creek	Slocan Lake Stewardship Society	Lemon Creek Streambank Restoration	Restore riparian habitat along Lemon Creek.	\$120,000
Nelson, West Arm of Kootenay Lake and area	Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society	Kootenay Riparian Invasive Plant Control	Inventory and treat aquatic invasive species in the Kootenay River drainage while providing a training opportunity for a local resident.	\$45,247
Shuswap Band and area	Shuswap Band	East Kootenay Ungulate Camera Trap Study Wage Subsidy	Complete a population study on culturally important ungulates while providing a training opportunity for a Band member.	\$22,064
Slocan Valley	Slocan River Streamkeepers	Walter Clough Wildlife Sanctuary Restoration	Enhance one hectare of a riparian cottonwood ecosystem by planting native trees and installing bird boxes in the Walter Clough Wildlife Sanctuary.	\$20,805
			TOTAL	\$316,116

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