



## Cover Crop Stewardship for Waterfowl on the Fraser River

Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust  
**\$30,000 Grant**

The lower Fraser River Delta is an internationally significant site that annually supports over 1.4 million migratory birds located along the Pacific Flyway. It also supports the greatest abundance of winter birds in Canada. Through this program, wildlife habitats were enhanced through the planting of vegetative cover before winter.

### UPLAND RESTORATION

- 4 Stewardship Agreements were signed, which resulted in 732 acres of novel cover crops.
- 22 Stewardships Agreements were signed, which resulted in 2,807 acres of cover crops and engaged 33 farmers.
- Field verification, and field monitoring activities were completed.
- 1,570 people attended a Day at the Farm event.

Photo credits: Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust.



Above: Extent of waterfowl grazing on same barley winter cover crop field as above. (March 2018) Below: Barley winter cover crop field. (Nov. 2017).



## Improved Measurement and Mapping Tool for Wildlife Habitat Conservation

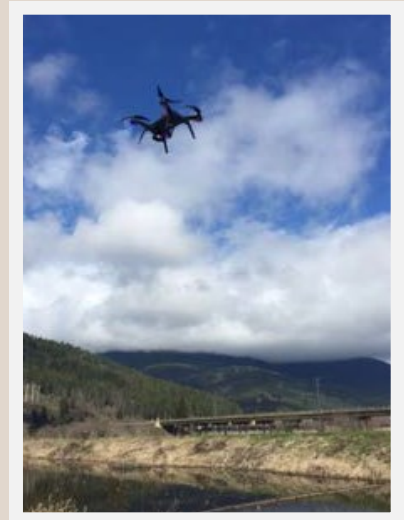
Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society  
**\$8,122 Grant**

### CONSERVATION PLANNING

- Two tests were conducted to see how similar ground-assessed coverage and UAV coverage were. The April test determined that there was little difference. The June test found a significant difference.
- These results may demonstrate that the accuracy of each test may depend on if the flowers have bloomed yet and natural disasters which affects ground based coverage.
- A Yellow Flag Iris colour signature was developed with SGRC statistics.

### COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION

- Reached out to the public through Facebook, Twitter, public engagement events and two radio interviews.
- Educated 12 students at Prince Charles Secondary School.



UAV flight on 28 April 2017, assessing Yellow Flag Iris shoots in early spring at the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area (CVWMA). Photo credit: Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society.



## Monitoring Three Years of Yellow Flag Iris Research in Critical Wildlife Habitat

Agrowest Consulting  
**\$10,300 Grant**

This research project studied 1) how the vegetation community changes over time (2 years) after benthic barrier and aggressive cutting treatments of yellow flag iris have been executed; and, 2) the survival and growth rates of sedges and cattail when transplanted into areas treated with benthic barriers.

### SCIENCE

- 8 sites were tested for percent cover of Yellow Flag Irises, native species and bare ground.
- 3 sites assessed for survival of transplanted rushes and cacti.
- More than 12,000 native transplants were planted at 3 locations across the province.
- This project resulted in an understanding of suitable restoration species such as cacti, soft-stemmed and hard-stemmed bulrushes.



Left: Yellow Flag Iris, invading a wetland in the study area.  
 Right: Yellow Flag Iris seed pods.

Photo credits: Agrowest Consulting.

## Building on the Success of the Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey - Year 3

Wildsight Golden  
**\$18,250 Grant**

The Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey (CWWS) is a five-year (2015-2019) coordinated bird count, where the primary goal is to collect baseline inventory bird data utilizing citizen-scientists.

### COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

- 5 presentations took place to promote the survey and to maintain a volunteer base. At these events there were 3 educational booths.
- 2 bird walks, 4 classroom training modules and 2 field ID trainings were conducted.
- All data was put in e-Bird and the BC provincial government species database.



Photo credit: Wildsight Golden.

### SCIENCE

- 621 Trumpeter/Tundra swans counted during an aerial swan survey.
- 7,156 waterbirds were counted during aerial surveys.

*The Nature Trust of British Columbia was approved for a grant for the Chilcotin Lake Enhancement project; however, the project was not able to proceed due to wildfires in the province and the lack of contractors available to complete the work. WHC funds were returned to the program for re-allocation.*



**Wetland Habitat Conservation, Restoration and Enhancement on BC's Sunshine Coast**

Sunshine Coast Wildlife Project  
**\$59,000 Grant**

**HABITAT RESTORATION**

- 69 acres of wetland habitat and 49 acres of upland habitat were protected through the signing of 81 stewardship agreements with landowners.

**WETLAND RESTORATION**

- 30 nest boxes and 24 nesting platforms were built and installed.
- Finalized plans and permissions to excavate 3 ponds.
- 15 wetland sites improved.

**SCIENCE**

- 10 wetland sites were surveyed to find high priority sites for wetland restoration and retention and 30 sites were surveyed for wildlife.

**COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION**

- 2,000+ citizens were reached through presentations, workshops and children's programs.

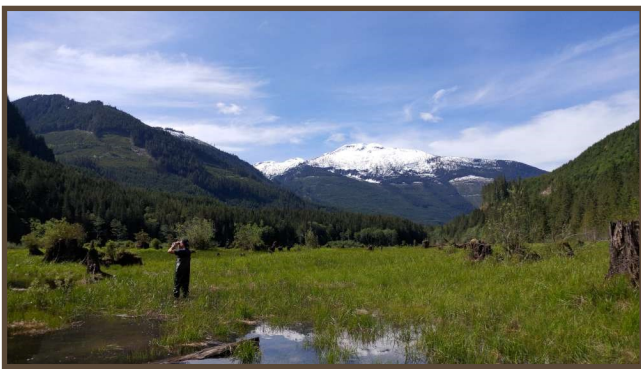


Photo credit: Sunshine Coast Wildlife Project.



Squamish Watershed Society Youth Outreach Event – Squamish.

**Wetland on Wheels 2017-2018: Advancing and Engaging Stewardship in BC**

BC Wildlife Federation  
**\$50,000 Grant**

**COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION**

- 4 wetland surveys delivered.
- 1,498 participants were engaged in the project.

**SCIENCE**

- 3 Map Our Marshes workshops, 4 Wetland workshops, 1 Lentic Health Assessment workshop, and 2 Restoration Design workshops were delivered.

**WETLAND RESTORATION**

- Wetland restoration occurred at Turtle Lake, Gypoo Logging Basin, and the Hoodoo property.
- 1,500 native species planted at KP park.



Photo credits: BC Wildlife Federation.