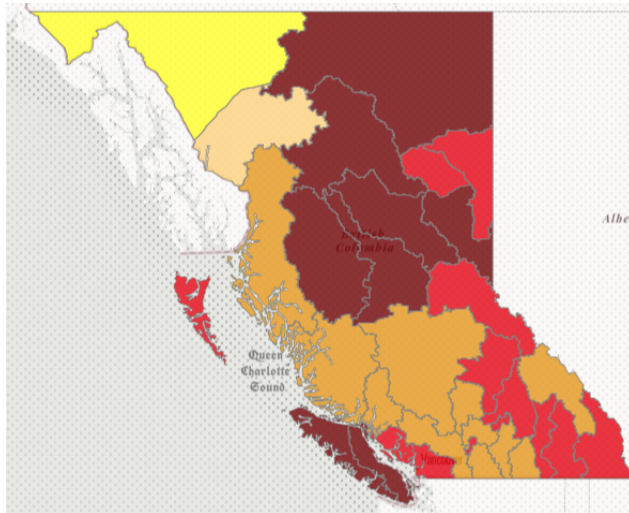


The Fraser Watershed is facing profound impacts from extended drought and severe wildfires. The situation is critical, with an alarming 8 areas in the province now dealing with Level 5 conditions, including the Upper Fraser. Our thoughts and compassion are with everyone affected by the devastating wildfires and our unwavering support goes to those enduring hardship due to the ongoing drought ([BC drought information portal](#)).



As the planet continues to experience record-breaking temperatures, the urgency to protect and restore precious resources grows ever more crucial.

World Nature Conservation Day is July 28 and we'd like to highlight some Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) in the Fraser Watershed. These areas are instrumental in building resilience and safeguarding crucial salmon and wildlife habitat.

- First up is the [Raush Valley](#), which was declared an IPCA by the Simpcw First Nation in March. Through this designation, the Simpcw First Nation has made a commitment to preserving the biodiversity of the Raush Valley and protecting the Simpcw peoples' traditional and ongoing use of the area.
- [Chun T'oh Whudujut](#), situated to the west of the Raush Valley, is an IPCA with a unique management plan with it also being a designated provincial park. This joint operation between the province and Lheidli T'enneh protects a portion of the only inland temperate rainforest in the world.
- Further downstream is the proposed Kanaka Bar. Led by the [Kanaka Bar](#) Indian Band, this IPCA will protect some of the most endangered old growth forests in one of the most biologically and ecologically diverse areas in BC.

If you know of other protection or restoration efforts happening in the Fraser Watershed that we can share in the newsletter, please [reach out](#). We would love to hear about them!



Welcome back Miki!

You may recognize Miki from her work with Rivershed as our Communications Coordinator in 2020-2021. She returned to school in 2021 to complete her degree at BCIT. We are fortunate to have Miki back on the team as our new Program Coordinator, using her new degree in ecological restoration to support Watershed CPR efforts!



Summer staff are here!

Please join us in welcoming three summer students!

Ayla joins us as the Mid Fraser Regional Assistant. Raised in the traditional, unceded territory of the St'at'imc Nation (near Lillooet), she is currently living in Secwépemc territory and pursuing a BSc in Biology and GIS.

John brings a formal education in natural resource management and technical forestry background to his role as our Upper Fraser Regional Assistant. In his free time, John can often be found exploring tributaries and forests with a camera in-hand.

Tobi is an outdoor enthusiast and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. She is currently pursuing a Juris doctor degree, and is using her previous experience working with non-profits to help Rivershed in the role of Database Assistant.

[Learn more about the Rivershed team.](#)



We are now on TikTok and Threads!

We are excited to announce that we have joined TikTok and Threads to reach more people with the message of Watershed CPR and to continue building the Watershed Movement. Follow us!



Headwaters to Sea River Clinics: Connecting the Fraser Watershed

Nechako Watershed Roundtable and Rivershed are collaborating on a guided canoe trip of the Nechako River and are inviting youth (aged 13-25) from the Nechako Watershed to participate!

Youth are invited to participate in one day of canoeing (either August 12th or August 13th) and a celebratory barbecue on August 12th. No previous paddling experience required. [Register by August 1.](#)

News from the Watershed

Fraser River Indigenous salmon fishery closure to protect stocks

Fraser River salmon fisheries in the Cariboo Chilcotin are closed to all recreational and Indigenous fishing to attempt to preserve salmon stocks. [Read more on the closure.](#)

Williams Lake First Nation Fisheries Notice

Weekly in-season fisheries bulletin. Find out more about the most [recent closures.](#)

Opinion: Investing in B.C.'s watersheds will build natural defences to droughts, fires and floods

Healthy watersheds are potent natural defences for our towns, cities and businesses but many in B.C. need repair due to decades of mismanagement and damage. [Read the Op-Ed.](#)

Province assisting communities; people, businesses urged to conserve water

As drought conditions worsen, with unprecedented levels of drought being observed in British Columbia this early in the season, people and businesses are urged to prioritize water conservation. [Information bulletin.](#)

This push to bring back salmon is about more than just fish

Learn about how the Takla Nation is working to bring back the salmon, despite a myriad of obstacles hampering a salmon resurgence. [Read the story.](#)

Protection coming for large tract of threatened grassland south of Kamloops, B.C.

More than 60 square kilometres of at-risk grassland in British Columbia's southern Interior will be protected as part of the newest conservation project in the province. [Read more.](#)

Events

Fiery Friend and Foe! (New Westminster)

July 22. Fire is an essential and healthy part of the river ecosystem that has been monitored and managed in many forms by First Nations communities for generations. Learn more about the role of fire on the landscape [this Saturday](#) with the Fraser River Discovery Centre.

Small Fry (Prince George)

August 2 & 16. Calling all small fry! Join the Spruce City Wildlife Association for a fun hour and a half that will include a story, a craft and a nature-based activity. Learn more about this [free event!](#)

Stream Health Field Workshop (Mission)

August 17. Join the Fraser Valley Conservancy for a benthic macroinvertebrate survey. During this interactive workshop, you'll learn about the little lifeforms living on the bottom of the stream and how they are crucial indicators of stream health. [Register here.](#)

Opportunities

Georgia Strait Alliance is looking for a [Development Manager](#).

BC Wildlife Federation is hiring for [multiple positions](#).

Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition is hiring [two Restoration Field Technicians](#).

Sierra Club BC is looking to fill the role of a [Development Officer, Major Gifts and Legacy Giving](#).

Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership is hiring a [Fall Field Team Leader and a Fall Field Team member](#).

British Columbia Conservation Foundation is looking for a [Regional Coordinator](#).

MakeWay is hiring an [Indigenous Watershed Champions Program Associate](#).

Our Rivershed Stories newsletter is full of content provided by YOU, and we can't thank you enough for sharing!

Please continue to [send us news, events or opportunities](#) that you would like to promote throughout the watershed as we continue to build the Watershed Movement.



Aleena Oates
Communications Coordinator & Logistics Assistant
Rivershed Society of BC



Rivershed acknowledges our position as a settler-led organization on Indigenous, and often unceded, untreated land in what is today called British Columbia, Canada. Our organization works to understand the responsibilities of this privilege, and we aim to engage, promote, and support Indigenous-led work to connect, protect, and restore (Watershed CPR) the Watershed.

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