

Dear firstname

Rivershed is firmly committed to truth and reconciliation and intentional, respectful relationships with Indigenous collaborators and community members throughout the Fraser Watershed. Respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples to steward and protect their lands and waters, as recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, is essential to Watershed CPR (Connect. Protect. Restore).

Saturday, Sept. 30, is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We encourage everyone to attend an event to commemorate the day, spend time reflecting on the history of this land and listen to and learn from residential school survivors. This is in memory of the children who did not come home. We also encourage making a donation to an organization that supports survivors of residential schools. A few options to consider are:

[Indian Residential School Survivors Society](#)

[Orange Shirt Society](#)

[The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund](#)

[Native Women's Association of Canada](#)



Watershed collaborators preparing to launch after a break paddling Horsefly Lake. Photo by Aleena Oates.

Another successful summer connecting with communities

Rivershed had a busy summer! We paddled with youth in the Nechako, and guided Voyageur canoe trips for Watershed CPR leaders and collaborators in the Cariboo-

Chilcotin and Lower Fraser. Our on-the-water journey culminated on our favourite day of the year—Rivers Day—with a paddle from Coquitlam to Richmond.



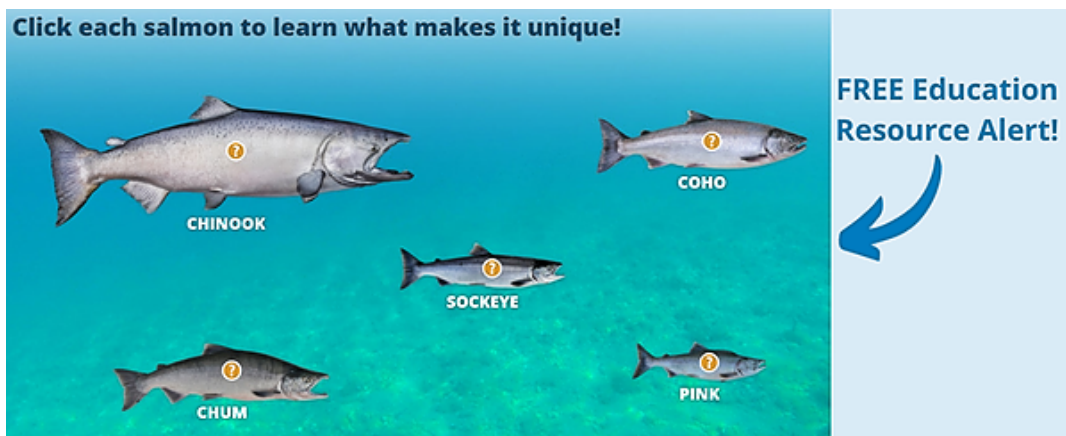
Group shot after the final 2023 River Clinics paddle on BC Rivers Day. Photo by Aaron Paddon.

Rivershed staff attended events around the watershed including the [Horsefly Salmon Festival](#) in the Cariboo-Chilcotin, [Spruce City Wildlife Association](#)'s brood capture in the Nechako and [RiverFest](#) in the Lower Fraser.



Rivershed team members help young artists make salmon prints at the Horsefly Salmon Festival. Photo by Aleena Oates.

It was great to connect with communities throughout the watershed and learn about local Watershed CPR (Connect. Protect. Restore.) efforts.



Watershed CPR Education

Did you know that the salmon's migration in the Fraser River every year plays an important role in keeping the whole ecosystem healthy? There are DOZENS of different organisms that depend on salmon for survival.

Learn more about the Fraser Watershed and the 5 species of salmon that call it home through the [Virtual Watershed CPR Education program](#). Best of all, it's a 100% FREE resource for people of all ages!



Foodlands is making waves!

Foodlands Corridor Restoration Program Coordinator, Emily and Foodlands Project Consultant, Lara were recently interviewed for an article that was featured in the September 7 issue of the Georgia Straight. We love it; great job Emily and Lara! [Read it here.](#)



Rivershed team members and Foodlands collaborators with Members of BC's Legislative Assembly. Photo by Miki Eslake.

Foodlands also recently welcomed four Members of BC's Legislative Assembly to the s̓c̓e:ɬxʷəy̓əm (Salmon River)* Corridor for a tour of the project site and to meet some of our team. A big thank you to Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship Nathan Cullen; Minister of Forests Bruce Ralston; Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Murray Rankin; Parliamentary Secretary for Watershed Restoration Fin Donnelly; and staff for taking the time to join us and learn about our work.



Rivershed becomes an actor in the UN Decade on Restoration

Did you know Rivershed accepted an invitation to become an Actor in the #GenerationRestoration movement, driving positive changes on the ground through ecosystem restoration initiatives? Learn more about what this means in our [blog post](#).

Rivershed learns from the Spruce City Wildlife Association

Rivershed's Upper Fraser Regional Assistant, John, attended [SCWA](#)'s 2023 Nechako River Brood Capture. Thank you SCWA for inviting us to participate!



Rivershed team member, John, holds a large male Chinook (Spring) salmon.

News from the Watershed

Concerns about derelict ferry on Fraser River

The former BC Ferries Queen of Sidney has been moored on the Fraser River near Mission for more than 20 years, and it's in rough shape. The vessel is rusting, and concern is growing that it's a major pollution hazard. [Read more.](#)

World Rivers Day has B.C. roots

It is described as one of the largest environmental events on the planet and it's roots are right here in BC. Watch the interview with World Rivers Day founder and chair, Mark Angelo, [here](#).

British Columbia's beautiful and inspiring salute to the Sockeye salmon

Watching the salmon run in Tsútswecw Provincial Park is bucket list worthy and tourists flock from around the world to witness this magnificent natural event. Read more. [Read more.](#)

No temporary water discharge allowed for Mitchell Island recycler

A Mitchell Island metal and used car recycling company will have to apply for a permit to discharge excess water into the Fraser River and won't be allowed to do so on a temporary basis in the interim. [Read more.](#)

Central B.C. village declares state of local emergency due to drought

As of Wednesday, September 20, residents in McBride are prohibited from washing vehicles, watering lawns or gardens. [Read more.](#)

Fire risk reduction in the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone

Introducing a new practitioner's report focused on reducing fire risk by increasing ecological integrity. [Read more.](#)

Joffre Lakes Park reopening to the public as First Nations, province reach agreement

The Lil'wat Nation and N'Quatqua said the agreement is a welcome development as they seek to preserve the cultural significance and purposes of the park, known as Pipi7iekw. [Read more.](#)

B.C. drought brings increased flood risks, far-reaching damage, experts warn

As severe drought conditions have helped usher in British Columbia's most devastating wildfire season on record, experts and elected officials are warning of increased flooding risks and lingering damage even after wetter weather returns. [Read more.](#)

'Marathon in a sauna': emergency projects aim to help B.C. salmon through drought

The Pacific Salmon Foundation has funded four emergency projects, with more on the way, and convened a federal and provincial advisory group allowing for regulatory approval in a matter of days rather than the standard months-long process. [Learn more.](#)

A more complete meaning of Chilliwack's name

How Chilliwack's name highlights a special type of canoe travel. [Read the story.](#)

Massive pink salmon run leading to 'rampant illegal fishing' in B.C.'s Lower Mainland, DFO says

Arthur Demsky, detachment commander for the DFO's Fraser Valley West region, said fishery officers have handed out "dozens" of tickets over the last two weeks, despite only conducting two patrols in the area so far. [Read the story.](#)

The Last Salmon Run

An image-led journey of the decline of wild salmon on the Fraser River. [Explore the story.](#)

Events

Open House at Quesnel River Research Centre (Likely, Cariboo-Chilcotin)

September 30. The event will include presentations by researchers from UNBC, UBC, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada who have been investigating the environmental impacts of the Mount Polley mine tailings released into Quesnel Lake in 2014. Information on new research projects underway at the QRRRC will also be presented. Q & A sessions will accompany the talks. [More information.](#)

WaterWeeks: Streamside Clean Up (Langley, Lower Fraser Region)

September 30. Gather your friends and family to stroll the streambanks and remove accumulated trash from the stream banks of this salmon bearing stream prior to

spawning season. All ages welcome. All supplies provided. Exact location provided upon registration. [Details here](#).

Regional Parks Snap & Share (Metro Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)

October 1-31. This fall, explore Metro Vancouver's regional parks and greenways. Pay attention to plants, fungi, mosses, and wildlife you haven't noticed before. Then simply snap photos of what you discover and share your photos on iNaturalist. [Details here](#).

Wetland Wonders: Explore, Learn and Connect at Falaise Park (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)

October 7. Enjoy free art, nature activities and cinnamon buns! Learn about wetlands coming to Falaise Park & plans for the Rupert/Renfrew Area. [More information](#).

Lytton River Festival (Fraser Canyon Region)

October 7-8. A celebration of two great rivers – the Thompson and Fraser – and their historic and present role in Lytton, B.C. It will take place at the Stein Valley Nlaka'pamux School and includes music, dancing, crafts, children's events, a community Thanksgiving feast and more! [Information here](#).

Official Community Plan review kicks off (Prince George, Nechako Region)

October 17. The new OCP will guide growth and development through to 2050. There will be a Community Open House for in-person engagement. [Learn more](#).

Salmon Rainforest (Metro Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)

October 20. Trees help salmon, but also eat them too? Join a Metro Vancouver Regional Park Interpreter in [Aldergrove](#) and [Langley](#) to explore the life cycle of salmon and how they provide food for the forest and more than 100 animal species, including us. You'll see video clips, an interactive presentation and real specimens about this extraordinary web of life.

Salmon Come Home (Adam's River, Thompson Region)

October 22. The return is special because the salmon swim back from the ocean to the creek where they were spawned, after living most of their adult lives at sea. They return solely to spawn and then die, completing their lifecycle. Prime viewing for chum salmon is usually from mid-October through early November. [Learn more](#).

Opportunities

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation is now accepting [grant applications](#) for projects that focus on freshwater fish, wildlife and habitats.

Indigenous Environmental Network-Western Mining Action Network is offering [mini grants](#) to communities threatened or adversely affected by mining.

Pacific Salmon Foundation is accepting grant applications for community-led

salmon stewardship projects through the [Community Salmon Program](#). They are also accepting [Stewardship Community Bursary](#) applications for post-secondary students in a program that leads to a career supporting Pacific Salmon.

Georgia Strait Alliance is looking for individuals to join their [Board of Directors](#).

Green Teams Canda is hiring a [Lower Mainland Green Team Program Coordinator](#).

Watershed Watch is hiring a [Communications Specialist](#).

Real Estate Foundation of BC is looking to fill the roles of [Grants System Manager](#), [Grants Program Manager](#) and [Grants Coordinator](#).

Environmental Youth Alliance is hiring a [Manager, Fundraising & Communications](#).

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.



Richelle Giberson
Director of Communications & Design
Rivershed Society of BC



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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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604 - 1189 Eastwood Street, Coquitlam, BC, V3B 7N5

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