This Sunday, September 28, is World Rivers Day. More than forty years ago, world-renowned river advocate and friend of Rivershed, Mark Angelo, joined with the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC to launch BC Rivers Day. What started as a small, made-in-BC celebration has since grown into one of the largest river events in the world, a legacy this province can be proud of, and one that continues to inspire action for rivers everywhere.

World Rivers Day is about more than recognition. It's about getting outside and connecting with the waterways that shape our lives. Whether it's the Fraser, a neighbourhood creek, or a tributary close to home, we hope you'll take time this weekend to celebrate. Communities across BC are gathering for cleanups, paddles, plantings, and events. You can find one near you by visiting the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC's website.

Rivershed will be marking the occasion with a 2-day Watershed Workforce program in the Lower Fraser. Youth will be paddling with local water champions, restoring habitat, and exploring career pathways to the watershed workforce, showing that hope flows through the next generation of watershed leaders.

Two spots have just opened up for this weekend's Watershed Workforce: Lower Fraser program! Register here to claim a spot in the program and please share this with 15-20 year olds you know!

Happy Rivers Day from all of us at Rivershed.

A Day to Honour and Reflect

September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. It's a time to honour Survivors of residential schools, remember the children who never returned home, and acknowledge the ongoing impacts felt across generations. It is also an opportunity for reflection, learning, and recognizing our shared responsibility to advance reconciliation and to listen to the truths shared by Indigenous Peoples. There are many gatherings taking place across the province. Please visit Indigenous Tourism BC's event page to find one near you.

What we're listening to

Raincoast Radio Season 2: More than a fish

This series focuses on the icon of the west coast, an essential life force that has spawned entire cultures and reminds us just how interconnected everything is: Pacific salmon

News from the Watershed

Is B.C.'s Polluter-Pay System Rigged in Favour of Salmon Farming Companies?
When 8,000 litres of diesel spilled from a Grieg Seafood salmon farm near Zeballos, B.C., in December 2024, local shellfish harvesters lost their livelihoods for months. Read more.

Cariboo First Nation files appeal of Mount Polley expansion
The move comes after the province approved a permit application for the expansion of the Mount Polley Mine which would see the tailings dam raised. Learn more.

Death by a thousand cuts: Salmon are falling through the cracks in British Columbia's fragmented policy landscape.
New research from Simon Fraser University (SFU) Biological Sciences researchers finds that Pacific salmon are facing escalating threats due to a lack of coordinated conservation policy and oversight. Continue reading.

Smoke from Canada's 2023 wildfires linked to over 82K deaths worldwide.
Study links Canadian wildfire smoke to tens of thousands of deaths across North America, Europe and to a lesser extent, Asia, with more deaths likely. Read more.

B.C.'s long-promised watershed security strategy is done. It's just not public.
The province has sat on the completed strategy for more than a year, despite calls from Indigenous leaders for public release. Keep reading.

B.C. port expansion seeks fast-track by Canada's new major projects office.
The company seeking to expand Metro Vancouver's Deltaport terminal has applied for fast-track approval by Canada's new major projects office. Read article.

Conservationists decry lack of progress 5 years after B.C.'s old-growth logging review.
14 recommendations meant to dramatically change how old, huge trees are logged remain unmet say critics. Continue reading.

First Nations leaders, physicians call for B.C. to consider LNG health risks
An open letter to Premier David Eby asks for more detailed health impact assessment. Find out more.

This red retardant is crucial in the fight against wildfires. But is it also harming the environment?
Exact composition and impact of retardants unknown, but many agree firefighting benefits are worth it. Read more.

Opinion: The solutions to fire, flood, and drought: Simple, natural, and inexpensive.

Drought and wildfire have become the rule rather than the exception and that is bad news for wildlife, for fish, and for British Columbians who rely on healthy watersheds. Continue reading.

Celebrating 20 years of shorebird conservation in the Fraser River Estuary.
Twenty years later after international designation, the Fraser River Estuary has changed but is still a site of hemispheric importance for shorebirds. Learn more.

Collaborative Study to Examine False Creek Water Quality
Metro Vancouver, the City of Vancouver, False Creek Friends Society, and Raincoast Conservation Foundation are working together on a project to better understand water quality conditions in False Creek and help guide future pollution reduction efforts. Read more.

Was this newsletter forwarded to you by a friend?
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Events

Wild Mushroom Field Trip (Maple Ridge, Lower Fraser Region)
October 1. Join Wild and Immersive and Swallow Tail Culinary Adventures for a guided walk through the forest to learn how to identify wild mushrooms like chanterelles, porcini, and oyster mushrooms. This beginner-friendly mushroom 101 class is led by expert guides and offers a great introduction to BC's diverse fungi. Spots fill up fast! More information.

Water Monitoring Workshop (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)
October 2. Join the Everett Crowley Park Committee for a water monitoring workshop Everett Crowley Park. Participants will use a Water Rangers kit to measure key indicators of water body health, including dissolved oxygen, pH and alkalinity. Register here.

Annual General Meeting, Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition (Chilliwack, Lower Fraser Region)
October 2. Join FVWC for an evening of community, connection, and updates on their work to protect and restore local watersheds. Register here

Engagement Sessions, Nicola Watershed Planning Initiative (Merritt, Thompson Region)
October 2 & October 16. The Nicola Watershed Planning Initiative will host two engagement sessions to share information, answer questions, and seek early input on thoughts and ideas from different stakeholder groups. Register here.

Robson Valley Agriculture Forum (McBride, Headwaters Region)
October 3 & 4. Join the corporation of the Village of McBride for a day and a half of presentations, workshops, panel discussions and networking about the future of

agriculture in the Robson Valley. Rivershed will be participating in a panel discussion, and we hope to see you there. Learn more.

Salmon Day at ƛ̓éxətəm Regional Park (Coquitlam, Lower Fraser Region)
October 4. Join kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem) First Nation, Resilient Waters, Watershed Watch Salmon Society, and UBC Pacific Salmon Ecology and Conservation Lab at this vibrant, family-friendly event dedicated to celebrating and protecting wild Pacific salmon and the rivers they swim in. More information.

Wetland Restoration Workshop (Kamloops, Thompson Region)
October 4-5. In partnership with Agrowest Consulting Scientists and BC Conservation Foundation, the BC Wildlife Federation's Wetlands Education Program is hosting a free public workshop. Register here.

Invasive Pull (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)
October 4 and November 1. Volunteer with Free the Fern Stewardship Society and help remove invasive species from along the Red Alder Trail in South Vancouver. Gloves, tools, and snacks provided. All ages welcome. Register here.

Forest Bathing (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)
October 9. Tamiko Suzuki, certified Nature Therapy guide, will lead a forest bathing walk. This is not a traditional hike but a slow meditative walk and personal exploration of the forest, hosted by the Fern Stewardship Society. Register here.

Adams River Fall Festival (Tsútswecw Park, Thompson Region)
October 10, 11 & 12. Meet the Salmon Society's Interpretive Guides along the trails and see the Pacific Salmon spawning in their natural habitat. Activities for the whole family. More information here.

Annual General Meeting, Nechako Watershed Roundtable (Virtual, Watershed-wide)
October 14. The 2025 Annual Meeting entitled, "Roots of Resilience: Forests and Water for a Sustainable Future will also take a closer look at the forest landscape planning, projects and shared governance in the watershed. Tickets here.

The Land of Moss Ecology Workshop (Maple Ridge, Lower Fraser Region)
October 15 & 18. Join Wild & Immersive and discover the hidden world of mosses in the traditional, unceded, and ancestral territory of the q̓ic̓əy̓ (Katzie First Nation) — whose name originates from the mosses that thrive on this land. Register here.

Open House, University of Northern British Columbia South-Central Campus (Quesnel, Nechako Region)
October 21. Discover UNBC's diverse academic programs, admissions process and more at their Open House. More information.

Salmon Come Home (Coquitlam, Lower Fraser Region)
October 26. Hosted by the Hoy-Scott Watershed Society and the City of Coquitlam Municipality, this event celebrates the return of the salmon to Hoy Creek. More information.

Shuswap Naturalist Club Monthly Meeting (Salmon Arm, Thompson Region)
November 4. This month's meeting will begin with a presentation by Willem Faasse, Program Coordinator with the Rivershed Society of BC. Rivershed has launched an interactive online Watershed CPR Dashboard showing many of the habitat restoration and protection projects being undertaken within the Fraser watershed. Learn more.

Community of Practice Workshop (Prince George, Nechako Region)
November 25-27. This free workshop brings together practitioners to share learnings, build a positive future for the professional community, and collectively advance restoration efforts in Northern B.C. Register here.

Opportunities

The **Fraser Basin Council** is seeking a Manager, Indigenous Initiatives.

The **Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance** is looking for a Proposal Writer.

WSP Global Inc. is hiring a Principal Water Quality and Aquatic Health Scientist and a Surface Water Group Manager.

Indigenous Climate Action is looking for a Divestment Organizer.

Stantec is seeking a Hydrologist and a Water Resources Senior Team Lead.

Watershed Watch Salmon Society is hiring an Operations Manager.

The **University of British Columbia** is offering a funded MASc/PhD Position in Robotic Water-sampling.

SLR Consulting is hiring an Early Career Water Resources Scientist.

The **Native Bee Society of BC** is looking for Volunteer Board Members.

Women Plus Water is building an expert list, and registration is open to individuals at all career stages. Learn more.

Do you have any Fraser Watershed news, events or opportunities you'd like to share with thousands of people across the watershed? Email them to info@rivershed.com

Thanks for reading!

Until next time—yours in stewardship,

The Rivershed Team

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Rivershed acknowledges our position as a settler-led organization on Indigenous, and often unceded, untreatied 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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