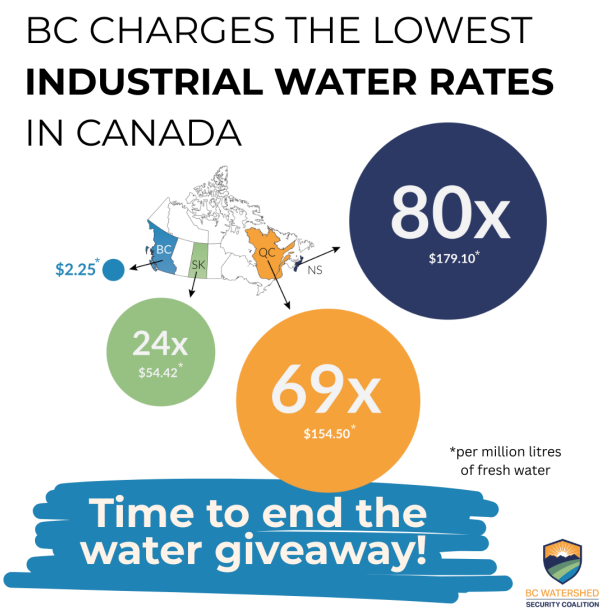
Across BC, people are coming together around a simple and fair idea: that those who use and benefit most from water should contribute their fair share to keeping it clean and available for everyone.

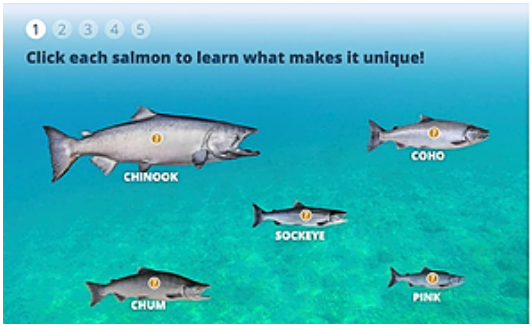
Last week, the BC Watershed Security Coalition released a new report, Modernizing Industrial Water Rates in BC: Ending the Great Water Giveaway, showing how updating BC's industrial water rates to bring them in line with other provinces could help fund the local work that keeps communities safe from droughts, floods, and wildfires without costing taxpayers a dime.

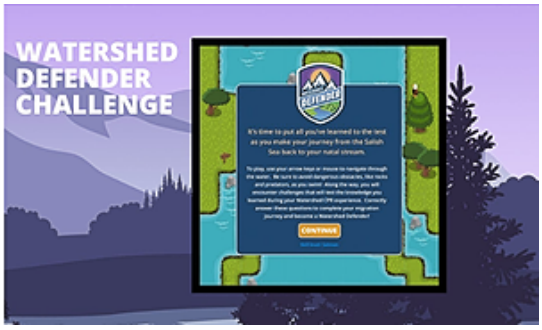


BC currently charges some of the world's largest industries among the lowest water rates in Canada, while communities bear the growing costs of droughts, floods, and wildfires. Modernizing these outdated rates could generate more than $100 million each year, a fair and practical solution that strengthens BC's economy, supports local jobs, and sustains the water that communities and industries rely on.

Rivershed is proud to be part of the Coalition's steering committee and to have contributed as an expert reviewer for the report. We truly value the opportunity to collaborate with others across the province who share a commitment to healthy,

resilient watersheds. Learn more about the report on the Coalition's website here, and read Business Intelligence for BC's coverage of its release here.





It's salmon-spawning season!

Discover how to tell a Coho from a Chinook and explore how salmon connect to the health of the Fraser Watershed through our Watershed CPR Education Program a self-guided virtual learning experience about the Fraser. Learn about the pillars of Connect, Protect, and Restore and try the interactive Salmon Migration Game to experience a salmon's journey home.

What we're listening to

WWF-Canada's new podcast: This Is Wild, dives into the lives of salmon, whales, and other remarkable species that call this country home. It's a fascinating listen for anyone who loves learning about the wildlife that shapes the world we share.

News from the Watershed

Reduce wildfire risk or B.C. faces dire economic consequences: study.
Indirect costs — including disaster recovery, property loss, environmental damages, and business and health costs — can push the total costs of wildfires 1.5 to 20 times higher. Read more.

Habitat restoration underway at Cottonwood Island Park to prevent future fish strandings

Wildlife advocates and community members have successfully rescued over 5,000 fish that were trapped in a water channel at Cottonwood Island Park. Read article.

The AI data centre boom is here. What will it mean for land, water and power in Canada?

Kevin O'Leary's plans to build the world's biggest data centre in a drought-stricken part of Alberta highlights the big questions and concerns about the resource demands of artificial intelligence. Keep reading.

Opinion: DFO's flawed science leaves wild salmon vulnerable to disease.

Gideon Mordecai: As the government finalizes its plan to transition away from open-net pen salmon farming in B.C., it is crucial that decision-makers have a clear pathway to receive robust science advice. More information.

Conservation group thankful for return of Sockeye to Alouette River.

The staff at the Alouette River Management Society (ARMS) were appreciative over the Thanksgiving long weekend, seeing good numbers of sockeye salmon returning to the river. Read more.

A Safe Operating Space for Salmon Watersheds Under Rapid Climate Change

[...] Here, we offer a synthetic perspective on the downscaled application of the safe operating space concept to inform the stewardship of watersheds in this time of rapid climate change, with particular focus on watersheds that support coldwater migratory fishes such as Pacific salmon. Continue reading.

Fracking's Water Demand Soared in Drought-Plagued Northeast BC

A report today from Stand.earth shows the industry's water use increased 50 per cent in 2024. Read more.

Celebrating Excellence: DUC's Eric Balke Honoured with Pacific Birds Joint Venture Conservationist Award.

DUC shares the well-deserved recognition of B.C.'s Eric Balke and his continued contributions to restoring and protecting coastal landscapes. Read full article.

Delta farms face a salinity challenge

Delta received funding in the cost-sharing grant program. Keep reading.

Trans Mountain faces $292k environmental fines after 2024 B.C. rainstorm: regulator

Trans Mountain is facing $292,000 in regulatory fines for alleged environmental issues in January 2024 along a stretch of its British Columbia pipeline expansion route hit by a major rainstorm. More information.

B.C. First Nations urge DFO to 'stay the course' in removing fish farms by 2029

Wild Salmon Alliance met with minister to press for ban of all open-net fish farms on B.C. coast. Read more.

Fraser Estuary sediment pilot project expands in fall 2025

A pioneering pilot project using Fraser River sediment to bolster Richmond's flood defences is continuing this fall, with researchers preparing to place another 4,500 to 6,000 cubic metres of material at Sturgeon Bank beginning October 20 in an ongoing test of the strategy's long-term potential. Continue reading.

Barriers and opportunities for the effective management of cumulative effects in salmon ecosystems in British Columbia, Canada

[...] We offer an integrative treatment of both the science and policy levers of cumulative effects and reveal the sheer complexity of effective governance of salmon ecosystems in British Columbia, Canada. Read more.

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Events

Land Sharing Workshop by Young Agrarians (Surrey, Lower Fraser Region)

November 2. Join Ve-Jane (Metro Vancouver-Fraser Valley Land Matcher) to learn how you can access land for farming or make your land available to a farmer. 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.

Designing Trails for People and Wildlife (Virtual, Watershed-Wide)

November 4. Learn best practices for planning, designing, and managing wildlife-friendly trails at ORCBC's upcoming Designing Trails for People and Wildlife webinar. Register here.

Faces of the River (New Westminster, Lower Fraser Region)

November 6. Join Raincoast Conservation Foundation for an interactive panel discussion about the diversity of work related to the natural world. More information.

A River Walk in a Salmon Forest (Surrey, Lower Fraser Region)

November 18. Join Wild Spaces and the Cougar Creek Streamkeepers for a walk at Lower Cougar Creek during spawning season. Register here.

Workshop: Rewetting our waterways-Floodplain restoration in an occupied landscape (Virtual, Watershed-wide)

November 18. This virtual workshop, co-hosted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Pacific Salmon Foundation and Washington's Governor Salmon Recovery Office, brings together experts to discuss how floodplain function has been altered by human activity and how those changes have led to cascading effects on our river systems. Learn more.

Annual Emerging Environmental Professionals Social (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)

November 19. An excellent opportunity for young professionals to network with fellow peers, connect with seasoned industry leaders, meet mentors, and share stories and

experiences in a relaxed, supportive atmosphere. Register here.

Life after academia: finding career fulfilment in applied biology (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)
November 20. This seminar will focus on the transition from academic research into applied biology and environmental consulting. More information.

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

Hatfield is hiring a Junior or Intermediate Hydrologist.

ECOFOR is hiring a Project Coordinator.

AECOM is hiring a Program Management Senior Director, Water.

Ducks Unlimited is hiring a Conservation Programs Specialist – Wetland Management.

CPAWS is hiring a Conservation Campaigner, Ocean Program.

Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) is offering six Graduate Scholarships in Water Resources (Canada nationals).

The **Forest Enhancement Society of BC** is accepting expressions of interest (EOI).

The **Fraser River Discovery Centre** is looking for volunteers.

The **Fraser Basin Council** is seeking applications from Indigenous youth for the Chief Roy Mussell Bursary.

The third intake of the **Watershed Security Fund Grants Program** is open until November 17th.

One Water's Walk of Water Photostory Contest: Identities is now open.

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

Thanks for reading!

Until next time—yours in stewardship,

The Rivershed Team

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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