As we approach the end of the year, we want to share an opportunity that will support Foodlands restoration work across the Fraser Watershed.

Thanks to the Dr. Bronner's All-One Canada Initiative, gifts made to Rivershed through the end of December will be **TRIPLED**. Their continued support helps keep collaborative restoration moving in the Fraser Watershed, and we appreciate their support for relationship-based restoration work.

The match will support the next phase of the Foodlands Corridor Restoration Program. This work, carried out in collaboration with local First Nations and communities, focuses on creating restored riparian corridors in places where conditions and capacity make it possible.

These corridors take time and care. They help to heal damaged riverbanks and wetlands that support salmon, local ecosystems and the people who depend on them.

You will receive updates in the coming weeks as the Giving Tuesday and year-end campaign rolls out. We wanted to share the context first and highlight how this campaign strengthens the Foodlands Corridor Restoration program and contributes to the health of the Fraser Watershed.

Thank you for your support.

What we're watching

Nechako: It Will Be a Big River Again is a powerful documentary from Stellat'en filmmaker Lyana Patrick about the decades-long resistance of the Saik'uz and Stellat'en First Nations against the operation of the Kenney Dam on the Nechako River in northern BC. The film is available on the National Film Board of Canada Website, here.

Watershed News

Provincial forecast points to historic low steelhead returns in Thompson, Chilcotin watersheds

For decades, steelhead trout populations have been declining, but a recent report from the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship has 2025 as the worst year on record for the spawning population in both the Thompson and Chilcotin Rivers. Read more.

B.C. investigating possible case of 'zombie deer disease' in Okanagan

Chronic wasting disease is a fatal, infectious illness affecting cervids like deer, elk, moose and caribou. Read article.

These B.C. wolves figured out how to pull up crab traps to get food

Researchers who looked at wolves in Heiltsuk First Nation say it opens up possibilities for future study. Read more.

Proposed Costco in Surrey's Grandview Heights sparks petition from neighbours

A petition states the proposed site is in an ecologically sensitive area and the development could be detrimental to local wildlife and the Fergus Creek Watershed, which is located a few blocks south near 14th Avenue. Read full article.

'Who is going to pay?': Climate and energy experts question B.C. government's plans to electrify heavy industry

From building the North Coast transmission line to reducing electrification costs for industry, the B.C. government is planning big changes to energy policy with Bill 31. Experts have big questions. Keep reading.

Accelerated B.C. North Coast Transmission line risks Site C failure repeat: critics
The rush to develop BC's $6-billion North Coast Transmission Line risks charging down the same troubled path of poor oversight and cost over-runs faced by the Site C dam, critics warn, pointing to a new report. More information.

B.C. fish farm fined $350K misses court deadline to remove illegal equipment, says group
Company says removal process is still ongoing and that a federal policy to phase out open-net pen fish farms has made selling off the equipment difficult. Explore further.

2 men filmed dumping substance in Tri-Cities fish-bearing creek
Multiple investigations have been launched after security camera footage captured two men throwing cans of what appears to be paint or other construction material into Noons Creek in Coquitlam, upstream of a fish hatchery. Watch video.

City of Kamloops adopts wildlife corridors into Official Community Plan
The City of Kamloops has formally adopted the Thompson-Nicola Conservation Collaborative's (TNCC) mapped wildlife corridors into its Official Community Plan (OCP) — known as KAMPLAN. This milestone marks an exciting step toward integrating ecological connectivity into long-term land-use and climate resilience planning. Read full article.

Mapping the impact of the Community Salmon Program
In the 35 years since its inception, the Pacific Salmon Foundation's Community Salmon Program (CSP) has distributed $31 million in grants to more than 3,500 projects across B.C. and the Yukon. Keep reading.

Chilliwack angler floats petition for gear restrictions to reduce foul-hooking
Chilliwack-Hope MP Mark Strahl is backing a sportfishing petition started by a Chilliwack resident to reduce snagging and foul-hooking of salmon in the Chilliwack-Vedder River system. Read more.

Aaron Hill, Executive Director of Watershed Watch Salmon Society, joins Lawrence Gunther on 'The Blue Fish Radio Show' to discuss why B.C. needs its creek walkers more than ever
More than providing crucial information about when and how many salmon are returning to B.C.'s rivers, the data collected and reported is vital to managing fisheries, assessing climate change impacts, evaluating restoration initiatives, assessing watershed health, responding to fish health emergencies, and more. Listen here.

Is it too late for the Western Sandpipers of Roberts Bank?
A major expansion of a British Columbia port threatens the sandpipers' feeding grounds. Read more.

After fuel spill, early tests show no water contamination in B.C. lake
Over 80,000 litres of fuel spilled into Kamloops Lake after a Canadian Pacific Kansas City train derailed. Read article.

Tŝilhqot'in call for end to political fear-mongering about title

The Tŝilhqot'in Nation is calling for an end to the political fear mongering about Aboriginal title coming from all levels of government and across political parties in British Columbia. Keep reading.

Opinion: The Fraser Valley shows why protecting nature is essential to BC's farming future

Dr. Stefania Pizzirani and Dr. Renee Prasad argue that the divide between farming and the environment is an illusion—and bridging it will define BC's future. More information.

Great numbers return in this year's Shuswap sockeye salmon run

Great numbers of sockeye salmon are returning to the Shuswap this year — higher than the parent year observed in the Adams River at Tsútswecw Provincial Park. Watch video.

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Events

Water and Wells in the Township of Langley (Langley, Lower Fraser Region)

December 2. Join Langley Environmental Partners Society for an interesting webinar about water resiliency and local decommissioned wells. Register here.

McLeod Lake Habitat Enhancement Presentation (Prince George, Nechako Region)

December 3. Brandon Geldart (SERNbc) will share insights on "seeing the forest for more than just the trees" in this habitat enhancement session. Register here.

Chronic Wasting Disease Update (Virtual, Watershed-Wide)

December 3. Join the BC Wildlife Federation and Cait Nelson, Wildlife Health Biologist, BC Ministry of Forests, for an update on the status of Chronic Wasting Disease, including latest surveillance, and the Cranbrook area hunt scheduled to take place in January 2026. Register here.

Evening at the Museum, Invasive Species Council of BC (Port Coquitlam, Lower Fraser Region)

December 4. Join the Invasive Species Council of BC for an evening talk where you will learn about invasive species, their impact, and what can and is being done to help. More information.

The Adams River Salmon Society AGM (Virtual, Watershed-Wide)

December 9. Join the Adams River Salmon Society for their virtual 2025 Annual General Meeting. More information.

The Christmas Bird Count (Multiple Locations, Watershed-Wide)

December 14 – January 5. The Christmas Bird Count, North America's longest-running Citizen Science project, is delivered by Birds Canada, in partnership with National Audubon Society. Results are used by conservation biologists, environmental

planners, and naturalists to assess the population trends and distribution of birds. Find an event.

Invasives 2026 Annual Forum and AGM (New Westminster, Lower Fraser Region) **February 9-12**. Invasive species practitioners, researchers, Indigenous and youth leaders, industry partners, and community members come together to tackle invasive species head-on. Register here.

Opportunities

Watershed Watch Salmon Society is hiring a Fisheries Biologist.

West Coast Environmental Law is hiring a Climate Campaign Strategist.

The **Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program** has multiple streams of funding open.

BC Conservation and Biodiversity Awards is open for applications until December 31.

EcoAction Stream 1: Community-led freshwater action across Canada is open for applications until December 4.

The **Outdoor Recreation Fund of BC**'s next grant cycle opens December 8.

The **Shuswap Watershed Council's Water Quality Grant Program** opens for applications on December 1.

The **Environmental Damages Fund** has funding available for projects in the Omineca region of BC.

The **Canada Water Agency's Fraser River Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative is** open for applications until December 18.

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

If you found interest in topics covered in this newsletter, please forward it to a friend or family member. The

more people we can connect with who are interested in the health and resiliency of the Fraser, the greater our collective impact to protect and restore the watershed will be.

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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