



As flooding and landslides continue to affect parts of the Fraser Watershed, many people are dealing with evacuation orders, road closures and ongoing uncertainty. Our thoughts are with everyone impacted.

We are grateful for the care and leadership being shown by emergency responders, First Nations, local governments, and neighbours supporting one another during this time.

With more rain expected and elevated flood and landslide risks, we encourage everyone to stay informed by checking official travel and safety resources including [Drive BC](#) and [Emergency Info BC](#).

Wishing everyone a safe and caring holiday season.

Foodlands Update

Work has begun along the Bell Slough Foodlands Corridor in Chilliwack, marking an important step forward for this Foodlands site. Recently, alongside the Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition and local landholders, the first on-the-ground restoration took place at the slough.



As you can see in the photos, native species are being reintroduced to the riparian area. A newly planted Douglas fir stands at the site, and red osier dogwood live stakes were planted along the bank to support future growth and stability. Invasive plants were

also removed to make space for native species to take hold. This early work is the start of ongoing restoration that will continue to build over time.

Watershed News

Abbotsford Disaster Relief Fund reactivated following flood emergency

Community foundation, chamber of commerce, and UFV relaunch fund that raised more than \$4.4M during the 2021 floods. [Read more.](#)

Working with Indigenous Knowledge & Indigenous Knowledge holders

Released by the POLIS Project on Ecological Governance at the University of Victoria's Centre for Global Studies, a new guidance document offers practical, place-based teachings for non-Indigenous researchers, decision-makers, proponents, and allies. [Read more.](#)

Protected and Conserved Areas in Canada: Advancing Conservation Policy, Practice & Indigenous Leadership

Canada's first bilingual, interdisciplinary, open-access textbook dedicated to the evolving management and planning of protected and conserved areas. [Read more.](#)

Fire, Water, and National Security: Why Canada Cannot Backslide

In September of 2023, Michael Miltenberger, former deputy premier of the Northwest Territories, spoke at a Massey College-Forum for Leadership on Water conference called The Future of Freshwater. [Read more.](#)

Why was 'incredible' giant cedar cut down, despite B.C.'s big-tree protection law?

Yellow cedar's diameter measured 2.79 metres — a size that should have ensured protection, buffer around it. [Read more.](#)

Industries Pay Much Less for Water in BC, Report Finds

Charging rates that match Quebec would raise millions for key watershed projects, advocates say. [Read more.](#)

Fraser Canyon Slides & Impacts on Salmon

Landslides can have serious impacts on BC's communities, infrastructure and transportation routes. Slides can also have serious impacts on waterways — such as how and where rivers flow and how passable they become for fish following a slide. [Watch here.](#)

Ask Your MLA to End the Great Water Give Away

British Columbia has the lowest industrial water rates in the country, meaning very large volumes of water are used at very low cost. The BC Watershed Security Coalition has created a simple [letter writing tool](#) and [phone calling tool](#) to help you connect with your local MLA to let them know that water stewardship and long-term watershed health matters. [Read more.](#)

What Happens to a Lumber Town When it Loses its Last Mill?

The small town of 100 Mile House, B.C., has relied on the jobs from local sawmills for decades, but that last mill is about to close. [Watch the video.](#)

Empowered Stewardship: Williams Lake First Nation's Approach to Holistic Forest Health

Williams Lake First Nation's Chimney Fuel Reduction project is an excellent example of multiple organizations working toward a common goal. [Read more.](#)

Nechako Watershed Roundtable 2025 Annual Meeting Summary Now Available

The meeting summary and presentations from the October 14th Annual Meeting, entitled 'Roots of Resilience: Forests and Water for a Sustainable Future' are now available online. [Read more.](#)

Orcas and Dolphins Caught on Video Collaborating to Hunt Salmon

Orcas listen to dolphin echolocation, dolphins feed on salmon scraps: new study. [Read more.](#)

Canada's National Framework for Environmental Learning

Environment Canada has launched a National Framework for Environmental Learning to support educators in preparing the next generation to build a stronger, and more resilient future. [Read more.](#)

Hundreds of dead salmon still 'chock-full' of eggs found in Abbotsford, B.C., creek

Salmon are also being found in Stoney Creek with an unusual number of leeches around the gills and head. [Read more.](#)

Prince George, B.C., Conservation Group Fixes Deadly Problem for Nechako River Fish

A channel at Cottonwood Island Park has been reconnected to the Nechako River, ending annual die-off. [Read more.](#)

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Events

Winter Discovery Days (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)

December 20 – January 4. The Fraser River Discovery Centre is offering extra programming during winter break with Winter Discovery Days. There's so much to see and discover! [Learn more.](#)

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.](#)

Pacific Salmon Foundation's Salmon Recovery and Resilience Conference 2026 (Vancouver, Lower Fraser Region)

October 14-16. Early bird registration is now open for the second biennial BC Salmon Recovery and Resilience conference in Vancouver featuring two days of connection and knowledge exchange to advance collaborative action for salmon. [Register here.](#)

Opportunities

The **David Suzuki Foundation** is hiring an [Administrator, Communications and Engagement.](#)

Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership (SNAP) is hiring for their Field Team and Urban Forest Outreach Team [summer positions.](#)

The **Outdoor Recreation Council of British Columbia** is hiring a [Community Relations & Administration Coordinator.](#)

The **Centre for Ocean Literacy Collaboration** is hiring an [Ocean Week Canada Partner Coordinator.](#)

Nature Kids BC is looking for a [Nature Club Coordinator.](#)

Ocean Networks Canada is hiring a [Knowledge Mobilization Coordinator.](#)

Bird's Canada is hiring a [Vice-President, Development & Philanthropy.](#)

BC Parks is looking for [Park Rangers.](#)

EcoAction Stream 2: Freshwater Sustainability and Innovation across Canada is [open for application.](#)

The Canadian Water Resource Association has six [scholarships available.](#)

The **Royal Canadian Geographical Society** is [accepting nominations](#) for the Massey Medal, awarded annually for outstanding career achievement in Canada's geography.

The **Shuswap Watershed Council** Water Quality Grant Program is [accepting applications.](#)

The **Outdoor Recreation Fund of BC** is [accepting applications.](#)

The **International Water Association** is [accepting submissions](#) of technical or non-technical blog posts.

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



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, 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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