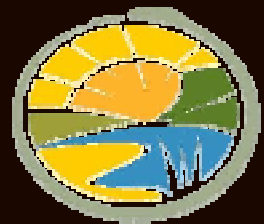




South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program



2007 - 2008
Annual Report

The core administration of the South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program (SOSCP) is supported by Partner contributions. SOSCP would also like to recognize the generous support of the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia.



THE REAL ESTATE
FOUNDATION
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SOSCP

South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program

Table of Contents

2007-2008 Award Recipients	4
Message from the Chair	6
Program Manager's Report	7
SOSCP Background	11
TEK Report	13
Stewardship Report	14
Science Report	17
Outreach Report	20
Land Use Planning Report	23
Habitat Securement Report	25
Partner Information	27
SOSCP Team Information	30



Photo Credits:

Kevin Dunn, Debbie Clarke, Keith Baric, Lucy Reiss, Barb Pryce,
Dick Cannings, Lisa Scott, Alyson Skinner, SOSCP Program

2007-2008 AWARD RECIPIENTS

“SOSCP is successful because of the dedication and contribution of organizations and individuals that advance conservation in their own unique way.”



JEANNETTE ARMSTRONG

Jeannette Armstrong is renowned in Canada and abroad as an Okanagan (Syilx) Canadian author, artist, educator and indigenous civil rights activist. Jeannette grew up on the Penticton Indian Reserve and received a traditional education from Okanagan Elders and her family.

Her formal education credentials are too long to list, as are her honorary doctorates, awards and involvement in eco-literacy, sustainability, Aboriginal language, Indigenous leadership and cultural revitalization movements around the world. She is a fluent speaker and teacher of the Okanagan Language (nsyilxcen) in addition to being Executive Director of the En'owkin Centre, a teaching institution and gathering place for the Okanagan Nation that engages culture, community and ecology, and where story, cooperation, education and artistry come together. Jeannette is also an assistant professor in Indigenous Studies at UBC Okanagan and member of the National Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK) sub-committee of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC).

SOSCP is privileged to be linked with the Syilx TEK community through partnership with the En'owkin Centre. The role of Aboriginal Knowledge in-situ as a methodology for conservation has not been well understood by the non-Aboriginal community. As Chair of the SOSCP Traditional Ecological Knowledge Team, Jeannette has nurtured an increased understanding and practical application of Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices that are clearly complimentary to our shared conservation strategy. This has been a challenging task and her patience and willingness to share these perspectives embodies her connection to the land and the En'owkin way.



HAROLD KING

Harold King has a long history of volunteering for conservation in the South Okanagan. He was a signatory to the original certificate of incorporation

forming the Osoyoos Desert Society, volunteered for the Society throughout the years and still leads guided tours at the Centre. Harold has been a Director for many years with the Okanagan Similkameen Parks Society and the Oliver-Osoyoos Naturalist Club. In this role he was instrumental in the protection of Haynes Lease, and in 2006 was recognized by BC Parks with a 25 year certificate for his years of service as an Ecological Warden for both the Haynes and Fields Lease Ecological Reserves. Harold also dedicated about 5 years on the Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) planning process and participates on the Land Use Planning Team of SOSCP. He has been a member of the Advisory Planning Committee for Electoral Area C (rural Oliver) for about 5 years and has chaired the APC for the last 2 years. In addition to all these activities, Harold still found time to work extensively with youth through the scouting movement. He has spent more than 30 years with young scouts teaching them about the environment and direct outdoor camping experiences around the valley.

2007-2008 AWARD RECIPIENTS



JOANNE MUIRHEAD

Joanne Muirhead is being recognized for her dedication to the conservation of our unique ecosystems. "As a volunteer, director and sometime president of the society, some of my most positive experiences over the last eight years have involved working closely with Joanne Muirhead. From the day I hired on with her as a volunteer guide, and through rough times and good times I

observed that Joanne's core values and passionate vocation were unwavering; she remained loyal, hardworking, compassionate, principled, stubborn and totally focused. An additional quality which Joanne has in abundance is her natural warmth and charm, her people skills personality, which inspired volunteers, donors and clients alike. This quality has been an intrinsic and priceless asset to the Society and, I am sure, is appreciated by all those who know her. I have wondered if I, or indeed others, would have been as dedicated over the years had it not been for the unique combination of the talents possessed by Joanne, in her successive roles as Site Manager, Executive Director and, currently, Board Director of the Osoyoos Desert Society, and I am very pleased to endorse this recognition of her achievements." - Roger Horton. President, Osoyoos Desert Society



DREW CARMICHAEL

Drew Carmichael is being recognized by The Nature Trust of BC for his outstanding support to the SOSCP, as a partner and Executive member over the years. During his long and distinguished career with the Ministry of Environment, Drew has been a champion for local and provincial conservation efforts, and his dedication to supporting conservation partnerships

between the Ministry and conservation agencies, such as The Nature Trust, is greatly appreciated. Thank you Drew, for all of your personal and professional support, we wish you all the best in your retirement.

We would like to thank Peter Sulzle for the donation of photography for this year's award recipients.

Peter Sulzle

There's nothing Peter Sulzle loves to do more than photograph wildlife and nature. His passion started at an early age during family vacations to the Alberta Rockies. As a child, he always wanted to be the one holding the family camera. Today, Peter lives in Kamloops, British Columbia and has contributed much of his work to conservation and naturalist organizations. Through his photography he hopes to encourage a deeper respect for the natural spaces that surround us and the creatures that call it home. For more information about Peter and a look at more of his work, you can visit www.petersulzle.com

SOSCP

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



As Chair of the SOSCP, I am pleased to present this report for the SOSCP activities and accomplishments for the reporting period April 1, 2007 - March 31, 2008.

The SOSCP has had another successful year in forwarding conservation interests in the South Okanagan Similkameen. We have made great strides in increasing the scope of the partnership and in influencing conservation planning in the region.

It has been my pleasure to work with Bryn White, Program Coordinator, over the past 12 months, in my term as Program Chair. I have greatly appreciated the support that Bryn has provided to the Executive Committee and all partners during this time. Over the past two years, Bryn has been instrumental in carrying forward the principals of the partnership in a way that makes our initiatives relevant and useful to the SOSCP partners and to the broader communities in which we work.

The success of the SOSCP is evident in its growing membership of conservation partners. In particular, significant partnerships have been forged with local governments, with the signing on to the program by the Towns of Osoyoos and Oliver and the District of Summerland. That these communities are interested in the partnership speaks to the fact that the SOSCP has much to offer to local governments in terms of land use planning and conservation. Other key partners to sign on include the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory, at White Lake, and the Resource Conservation and Development Council, of North Central Washington State.

The SOSCP has also broadened its conservation influence through a number of new working associations, including the Environmental Farm Plan Program, the Okanagan Basin Water Board, and the Fraser Basin Council.

It is critical that the SOSCP, as an organization, remains relevant to its membership partners, in setting priorities, leveraging capacity, developing conservation planning tools and coordinating conservation efforts. A good example of this collaborative planning approach is the Regional Biodiversity Conservation Strategy being launched in December of 2008. The need for a conservation framework for local and regional governments was raised in the South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy under the Environmental Goal to “*ensure the health of ecosystems in the south Okanagan*”. The SOSCP and its local government partners are pleased to collaborate on the development of this strategy, to achieve biodiversity and ecosystems protection through the implementation of policy, regulation and stewardship strategies that sustain and enhance our environment.

An important note to be emphasised is that we, the partners, are the SOSCP. What we contribute to the program is what we collectively get out of it. The degree of benefit to partners is in direct correlation to the degree to which individual partners participate in the program. I encourage all partners to make the best use of this partnership, in balancing conservation, social, and economic interests in the South Okanagan-Similkameen.

My time as Program Chair has been rewarding, and I look forward to working with the new Executive Committee over the next year as Past-Chair.

Carleton MacNaughton
Chair, SOSCP

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT



This past year has been one of the most stimulating times as Program Coordinator - with the creation of exciting opportunities for partnership and engagement with new and interesting partners and initiatives.

As we all know, there is more work to be done than capacity to do it. We continue to

sharpen our program focus to be an even more effective and relevant conservation delivery initiative in the region. Our challenge continues to be, addressing in a meaningful way, the barriers that prevent us from engaging all aspects of our community, and adequately leveraging the human and financial resources required to successfully achieve this. With the help and support of all of our partners and funders, this is entirely possible, and in fact, entirely necessary, to accomplish the goals we have set for ourselves within this globally and nationally important ecosystem.

As SOSCP Chair this year, Carl MacNaughton, South Okanagan Land Manager for The Nature Trust of BC, brought an invaluable depth of "on-the-ground" conservation perspective to the program. Carl has been involved in the SOSCP since its inception, and in addition to his demanding regular duties as a conservation land manager, he also chairs the SOSCP Habitat Securement Team. Carl has a long history in this valley and his positive working relationship with many landowners and ranchers in the area is obvious. His upbeat and helpful perspective as Chair, and his support for the program this year was greatly appreciated. We are all looking forward to his continued involvement on the SOSCP Executive as Past-Chair and Habitat Securement Team lead.

Also critical to the ongoing success of this program is the Executive Committee. These are partner representatives that come together once every month or two, to work together with the Program Coordinator on the day to day components of the program related to human resources, policy implementation, implementation of the strategic plan, and general oversight. Many thanks to the members

of the Executive for being an active, involved and supportive committee. Their commitment to the program reflects the dedication of the hard working individuals who drive the conservation ethos in the South Okanagan Similkameen.

It is a pleasure to present this Annual Report summary of SOSCP accomplishments and successes for this past fiscal year, 2007-08, and at the same time, be able to highlight a number of very successful activities that are currently underway up to and including December 2008.

Highlights of the Year's Accomplishments

The Program continues to make significant contributions to conservation and sustainability in many program areas.

Partnership Building

As mentioned by our Chair, this year the partnership has again broadened to include partnership with organizations and initiatives that will contribute to the overall conservation objectives in the South Okanagan and Similkameen.

SOSCP welcomed additional local government partners to the table, including the **Towns of Oliver, Osoyoos, and the District of Summerland**. The formal signing ceremony was conducted at the SOSCP spring meeting in Oliver where Acting Osoyoos Mayor Allan Carswell, Oliver Mayor Ron Hovanes, and Summerland Mayor David Gregory were welcomed to the program and had the opportunity to describe some of the environmental accomplishments their communities had achieved.

At the SOSCP spring meeting, Dr. Tom Landecker also signed on to the SOSCP Statement of Cooperation on behalf of the **Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory (DRAO)**. Dr. Landecker mentioned that as owners of 2,000 hectares of land in the White Lake Basin, he looks forward to continuing to steward these lands and conserve their ecological values with help from the SOSCP partners.

In our endeavour to truly maintain an ecological corridor and consider the landscape as a whole, we are pleased to announce our special working relationship with the **North Central Washington Resource Conservation and**

SOSCP

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Development Council (NCW RC&D) through its Initiative for Rural Innovation and Stewardship (IRIS).

The RC&D is also a multi-partner initiative sponsored by tri-county cities, Colville Confederated Tribes, County Public Utility Districts, Conservation Districts, and conservation NGO's working together to "facilitate and foster cooperation, local leadership, and concern for the environment".

IRIS is a self-supporting, vibrant and adaptive community based organization that works to advance the development of sustainable rural communities and natural resource-based economies by facilitating research, education, and development projects that effect positive change within these sectors. Most recently, the **NCW RC&D and SOSCP** have signed letters of cooperation specifically designed around the biodiversity interests of both organizations as **IRIS** is undertaking a significant project for regional biodiversity planning in North Central Washington.

At the last AGM, awards were presented to several individuals for their significant contributions to conservation in the South Okanagan-Similkameen; retired BC Ministry of Environment Vegetation Ecologist, Ted Lea; Canadian Wildlife Service Research Scientist, Christine Bishop; retired Fisheries Section Head (BC Ministry of Environment) and Consulting Biologist, Chris Bull; Consulting Biologist and Author, Dick Cannings; UBC Professor Emeritus, Department of Zoology, Geoff Scudder, long-time Naturalist and Ecological Reserve Warden, Eva Durance; retired Wildlife Section Head (BC Ministry of Environment), Bob Lincoln; and finally, Senior Research Biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service, Pam Krannitz. Each of these individuals are dedicated conservation practitioners and each contributes to the conservation strategy and good work of many of the SOSCP Teams.

The SOSCP Coordinator and partners FORREX and OSCA also made a connection with the Pacific Agri-food Research Centre (Summerland) viticulture research scientists and the BC Wine Institute on topics of

sustainability. The Coordinator continues to represent SOSCP on the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council, an ad-hoc technical committee to the Okanagan Basin Water Board, and is proud to have been involved with the development of the Okanagan Sustainable Water Strategy.

The Program Coordinator has also been in conversation with the director of the Similkameen Valley Planning Society (SVPS) in an effort to understand the planning support needs of that region. The SVPS is a unique partnership that includes two municipalities, two First Nations, and the Regional District. In 2007, it sponsored an Amenity Migration Survey that outlines "natural amenities" as are a primary reason for attracting and retaining residents, and that values and concerns prominently feature conservation of landscape, air and water as key findings. These results are consistent with the SOSCP public opinion polls conducted in 2004 and again in the spring of 2008 indicating pro-conservation attitudes, specifically in the Similkameen. There are a number of ways that SVPS and the SOSCP may be able to collaborate and support each other in the future.



**South Okanagan
Similkameen**
CONSERVATION
PROGRAM

Most recently, the SOSCP Coordinator was honoured to be asked to join the Real Estate Foundation of BC at their 20th Anniversary event in Vancouver, to celebrate 20 years of the Foundation's grant-making and to represent the Conservation and Stewardship sector on a panel that included Erik Karlsen, Chair of the Agricultural Land Commission; Brenda Eaton, Chair of BC Housing and former Deputy Minister to the Premier; and, Kelly Lerigny, 2006-2007 president of the BC Real Estate Association.

Long Term Program Funding

Efforts to secure long-term funding outside the partner contributions are being focused on building the SOSCP Endowment Fund now merged with the Environmental Legacy Fund both held with the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan.

The Real Estate Foundation of BC has committed to funding the program for another multi-year term and has

PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

also generously widened the capacity to include some technical and planning work that SOSCP is undertaking with local and regional governments. The REF continues to view the SOSCP as a valuable stewardship and conservation initiative that can support and reach out to many sectors involved in land use planning and development.

Maintaining the Partnership and Communications

To keep abreast of all of the progress and challenges within the provincial conservation sector, the Program Coordinator has initiated and chaired a "Conservation Program Manager's Network" that is quarterly conference calls to share information between similar initiatives throughout the province, including the East Kootenay, North/Central Okanagan, South Coast, and Garry Oak Ecosystem Programs.

The SOSCP monthly newsletter continues to be a helpful mechanism to communicate news, coming events, announcements, resources and partner profiles to better communicate the activities of the partners within the program and to the community in general. Program profile and environmental information this year was strong again in the print media, including the local newspapers.

The new website is proving to be a more effective and useful resource. The site is now hosted by the Community Mapping Network and features a land use planning page with links to tools and guidelines, news, announcements, searchable project database, and links to research, resources, and partners. The Community Mapping Network was instrumental in assisting with the website development and allows key aspects of the site to be updated and managed by the SOSCP Coordinator.

Implementing the Strategic Plan

Many of the partners and the Program Coordinator communicate and coordinate efforts in fundraising, planning and delivery of projects. The generation of science-based information and the delivery of conservation projects in this region of the province are staggering. The rest of this report is dedicated to showcasing the extent and results of those efforts and I encourage you to read on.

The Program Coordinator has been involved with partners in establishing a Grassland Recovery Implementation Group for the Southern Interior, focused on recovery for grassland species and associated ecosystems, and has also worked with the BC Ministry of Environment, Okanagan Region to develop a Wetland Stewardship Strategy.

In addition to the work of the SOSCP partners and Teams, a small amount of capacity for increased technical and planning support in the program has been instrumental in being able to deliver on the conservation strategy and objectives of the program, specifically with local government. Funding from the Real Estate Foundation of BC and Habitat Stewardship Program through OSCA has enabled the SOSCP to engage the services of Susan Austen, with over 25 years of experience in land use planning, stewardship and conservation as well as Consulting Biologist Mike Sarell and GIS Mapping Consultant Allison Haney to assist communities with their sustainable land use planning needs. The Wetland Stewardship Partnership, *Green Bylaws Toolkit* and the Grassland Conservation Council's *Planning for Change* workshop have also been valuable resources. One of the key barriers to the adoption and implementation of ecological standards and practices within small municipalities and regional districts are financial and human resources. The SOSCP is actively working with its local government partners and funders to develop a long-term capacity building strategy.



PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S REPORT

During the previous year, the SOSCP undertook a project to explore options for a Sustainability Network initiative. That report indicated consensus for the need to pursue a concentrated sustainability initiative that included a number of broader issues to be addressed, and the need to draw in a full spectrum of partners for basin-wide efforts to be built on the existing expertise and efforts already in place. Coincidentally, a shift was also taking place with the increasing profile of the Okanagan Basin Water Board and its basin-wide mandate for leadership on water issues, and some movement towards more inter-jurisdictional cooperation on a number of communal items including, but not limited to, air quality, transportation, solid waste, growth management, climate change, food security, invasive plants and fauna, and economic development. These events, coupled with sustainability goals of the South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy, and the maturing of conservation partnerships in both ends of the Okanagan Valley, have established the groundwork for truly “thinking like a Basin” and we are in a good position to establish a conservation strategy for the entire corridor.

Introducing a Regional Biodiversity Conservation Strategy

The notion for a Regional Biodiversity Conservation Strategy was raised in the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen *Sub-Regional Growth Strategy* under an environmental protection goal and policies to coordinate management of regional biodiversity conservation and support stewardship strategies. A conservation strategy is an important policy framework that set priorities for identifying, preserving and restoring important natural areas and considering options for conservation of entire ecosystems and watersheds that go beyond municipal or rural boundaries and can include all land tenures. This provides a coordinated “road map” for efforts to manage land and water of ecological value, and given the movement to a more coordinated approach to planning may be inter-regional in nature. Strategies can become important tools for local governments and other agencies to be able to incorporate habitat information and sustainability considerations into community and neighbourhood plans, park and recreation master plans, and development bylaws.

The SOSCP is well positioned to take the lead on initiating this strategy from the heart of the ecological corridor, and

developing it over the next two years with its local government partners, and the rest of the ecological corridor, including the Central and North Okanagan (OCCP) and North Central Washington's biodiversity project. The project is intended to be of value as well to Aboriginal communities undertaking strategic or community planning. It is an exciting time to be involved in the Okanagan Basin, the conservation strategy is a positive and progressive undertaking that will re-invigorate our collaboration for the entire corridor.

Evaluating Our Efforts

In the long term, the program will continue to measure its success against the overall program performance indicators set out in the Business Plan, including conservation targets, team objectives, organizational health, and landscape recovery goals (ecosystem function, species and habitat diversity).

2010 will be the ten-year anniversary of the SOSCP and it will include an in-depth evaluation of both internal and external program outcomes.

Thank you for the continued opportunity to work within this program and alongside a community of excellent, dedicated individuals and organizations involved in the SOSCP.

Bryn White
Program Coordinator



SOSCP BACKGROUND

The South Okanagan Similkameen A National Treasure

A combination of geography, geology and climate has combined to make the South Okanagan and Similkameen valleys a unique part of Canada. From the dry desert-like bench lands, shady cottonwood riparian woodlands along the rivers and tributaries, to upland forests and rocky terrains, the region has a rich variety of habitat types. Due to habitat diversity and the fact that these ecosystems are in such close proximity, the region supports one of the highest ratings for biodiversity in the country. Some of these species are found nowhere else in Canada or the world. For this reason, the South Okanagan Similkameen is known as Canada's "hotspot" for species richness and rarity.

Animals such as the American Badger, Burrowing Owl and Tiger Salamander are among some sixty-plus COSEWIC-listed species at risk (Federal) and approximately 350 animals, plants, ecological communities on the British Columbia Conservation Data Centre red and blue lists. Due to increasing human pressures within this small geographic area some species are facing local extirpation, while others have already disappeared from the region. The goal of concerned citizens throughout Canada is to ensure that the wildlife diversity of the South Okanagan Similkameen is conserved for future generations.

The Okanagan-Similkameen corridor is also integral to maintaining the biological diversity and ecological adaptation of natural environments in British Columbia. The corridor provides a vital link for plants and animals between the interior grasslands of British Columbia and the Great Basin and dry interior desert ecosystems to the south.

Program History

The South Okanagan Similkameen is a focal area for cooperative efforts to conserve biodiversity. The South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program (SOSCP) represents a unique effort of cooperation of local, regional, provincial and national and international organizations towards conservation of the wildlife and habitats of the South Okanagan Similkameen.

The formation of the SOSCP follows a long history of dedicated conservation activity in the region. Habitat conservation for wildlife began in the 1960's, with the

securement of important wildlife lands and the later formation of provincial parks and ecological reserves. The movement towards ecological sustainability continued as many local groups formed, specializing in various aspects of conservation.

On July 2, 2000, 19 government and non-government organizations formed SOSCP when they signed a Statement of Cooperation which outlined principles for partnering together in a mutual effort of cooperation. In 8 years the program has grown to include 46 Partner organizations. By working together, sharing information and resources, the Partners believe they can achieve more than they could alone. This type of partnership between Government and non-government organizations is setting a model for conservations in other areas.

The purpose of the SOSCP is to coordinate conservation efforts to maintain the rich biodiversity of the area, including species at risk, and a viable ecological corridor between the deserts of the south and the grasslands to the north.

The Partners developed a 20 year strategic plan with a vision for SOSCP. The vision is: "A healthy environment that sustains the diversity of indigenous plants and animals while enriching people's lives". This vision reflects the desire for both environmental and economic sustainability.

In order to achieve the objectives of the program, specific goals were established for conservation of the five broad habitat types that occur in the area: riparian-wetlands; grassland/shrub-steppe; rocky terrain; coniferous forests; and lakes/rivers and streams. The specific habitat goals were established in the SOSCP Prospectus report. A strategic plan was developed to guide strategies and work plans to achieve the habitat conservation goals.

The SOSCP program has six strategies, each with a team of Partners to develop and implement the work plans.



SOSCP

SOSCP BACKGROUND

SOSCP Teams:

Science

Applying scientific knowledge

Outreach

Involving the community in conservation

Stewardship

Voluntary caring for the land

Traditional Ecological Knowledge

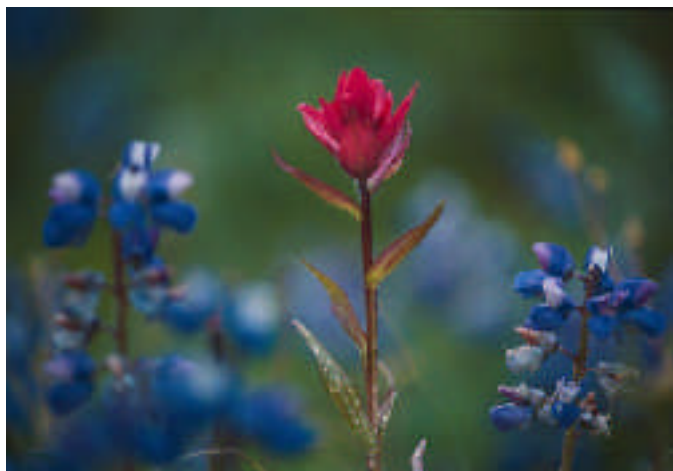
Applying first nations' knowledge and ecological heritage

Land Use Planning

Assisting in land use decisions

Habitat Securement

Securing critical habitats



Focus On Habitat

Many SOSCP efforts focus on habitats that are important to a variety of species at risk and associated wildlife. There are five main habitat types in the South Okanagan Similkameen that are of special importance to species at risk. Together these five habitat types, often occurring in close proximity in the narrow valleys, leads to the richness of the species which occur in the area.

Grassland and Shrub-Steppe

Home too many rare and endangered species, including Badgers, Sage Thrashers and the rare Behr's Hairstreak Butterfly, these habitats are extremely sensitive. Being an extension of the American deserts to the south, these grasslands are corridors for the migration of desert-adapted wildlife. With sandy soils and dry climate, these habitats are prone to damaged and the healing process is slow. Losses of the historic range of some of these habitats are over 70%. Conservation goals are to maintain corridor connectivity and to increase awareness and smart practices in these areas.

Wetland and Riparian

This moist habitat is the most biologically productive. Providing shelter and food for animals such as the Western Screech Owl, the Yellow Breasted Chat and the Great Basin Spadefoot, wetland/riparian areas are the most imperiled in the South Okanagan Similkameen. Approximately 85% of the historical riparian habitats in this region have been lost and less than 15 % of our natural wetlands remain.

Coniferous Forests

Defined by large and stately conifers such as Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir and Western Larch, these forests have often evolved with and been maintained by fire. Veteran trees provide habitat for White Headed Woodpeckers and a variety of other cavity-nesting animals. Habitat restoration in these areas often entails forest thinning and prescribed fire.

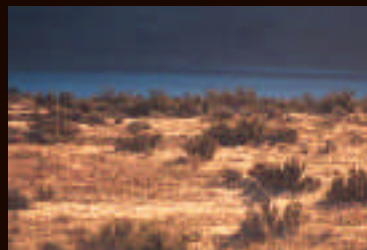
Rugged Terrain

Rock outcrops, cliffs and jumbled talus slopes provide shade and shelter for many plants and animals. Snake dens, bat roosts, bird nests and Bighorn Sheep lambing areas are frequently located in these rocky habitats.

Lakes, Rivers and Streams

Lakes, rivers, and streams are ecosystems that contain many diverse plant and animal species necessary both economically, and to sustain healthy freshwater systems. Impacts such as land development, water withdrawals, dams for flood control, channel straightening and dyking, and removal of streamside vegetation within the Okanagan Basin have negatively affected fish production and have significantly altered the amount of quality habitat for fish and other species historically found in these ecosystems.

SOSCP



TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

The goal of the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) team is to develop an integrated approach in utilizing Traditional Ecological Knowledge to foster and enhance the habitat recovery strategy of SOSCP. TEK Team members include: Chair-Jeannette Armstrong; Outreach-Judy Brock; Science-Orville Dyer; The Land Conservancy-Alyson Skinner ; Land Use Planning-Robert Hawes; The Nature Trust-Carl MacNaughton; Traditional Knowledge Keepers- Richard Armstrong/Penticton, Ron Hall/Nk'mip and Lillian Gottfriedson/Similkameen.

A key objective of the TEK team of the SOSCP is to develop a strategic conservation support system which incorporates Traditional Ecological Knowledge in a meaningful and respectful way into the conservation work of the members of SOSCP. Although a very small amount of funding was available for TEK involvement for conservation work off reserve, some of our main objectives continue to be met through support from SOSCP member organizations engagement of TEK.

The TEK Team of SOSCP relies on the advice and input from South Okanagan/Similkameen TEK Advisory Committee (SOS TEK) members which is made up of band members, who are knowledgeable about the environment as active harvesters and hunters on all parts of the Okanagan Territory, off reserve.

TEK was again utilized in aspects of O.S.C.A. Meadowlark Festival outreach activities.

TEK continued other kinds of outreach in the "Reconnecting Green Spaces Project" in partnership with O.S.C.A. which brings Aboriginal students together with non-Aboriginal students. This project combines increasing habitat for SAR by planting sage, antelope brush, rabbit

brush, water birch, willow, Saskatoon berry, elderberry, Oregon grapes and black cottonwood, into selected sites.

The TEK Committee continued to be actively involved in the White Lake Steering Committee, including a TEK seasonal burn planning and implementation.

The TEK committee continues to be involved in the Kennedy Property Steering Committee, the Vaseux Bighorn NWA Management team, as well as the Okanagan Nation Alliance Natural Resources Committee. A unique TEK perspective using a "Systems" based approach to assessment of habitats was taken in association with utilizing "lost" Penticton riparian areas of the Okanagan river system and existing oxbows. TEK was utilized in the creation of a management plan for the Spotted Lake and associated drainage system to include antelope brush habitat on how these habitats interface directly and border and provide an interesting overlap of habitats where a "systems" based approach is taken.

The En'owkin Centre hosts TEK capacity building within the South Okanagan/Similkameen. The SOS TEK committees also provides advice to the South Okanagan/Similkameen bands and the Okanagan Nation Alliance in any capacity they require for referrals and assessments, mapping traditional use areas; the development of TEK Management Plans and the provision of TEK Terms of Reference, as an active component of the South Okanagan Similkameen Syilx Environmental Committee (SOSSEC).

Lillian Gottfriedson is engaged as the TEK technician/coordinator assisting in the coordination of the meetings of the TEK advisory councils in liaison with the Band Council and community members and Richard Armstrong provides TEK biologist advice.



STEWARDSHIP

One of the many definitions for stewardship is “the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.” The members of SOSCP Stewardship Team work in partnership with owners and managers of private land to help support their voluntary stewardship efforts. In 2007-2008, there was a continued focus on habitat which supports species at risk.

South Okanagan Similkameen (SOS) Stewardship Program & Conservation Partners Program

This was the 14th year of the SOS Stewardship Program, which provides information, support, and resources to individual private landowners. *TLC* The Land Conservancy has been administering the program since 2000, and is grateful for the ongoing financial support of Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program, the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, TD Friends of the Environment, and our many partners and supporters. Contact was maintained with 134 landowners in a variety of habitat types. This included site visits, native plant re-vegetation projects, removal of invasive plants, and advice on habitat management. 550 landowners received information about the program, species at risk, and habitat relevant to their geographic area. In collaboration with other partners, the SOS Stewardship Program also delivered five community stewardship events featuring various topics relating to species at risk and community-specific issues such as habitat-sensitive fire management.

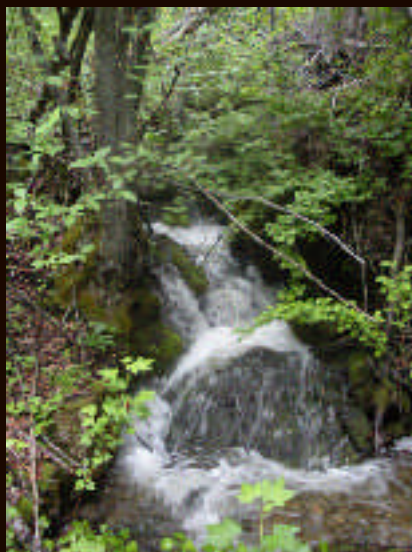
The Conservation Partners Program is delivered by *TLC* around the province, and recognises agricultural landowners who practise sustainable farming methods, including the stewardship of natural habitat. There were 13 active partners in the South Okanagan-Similkameen area this year.

Wildlife Tree Stewardship Program (WiTS)

This was a successful pilot year for the Wildlife Tree Stewardship Program in the Okanagan- Similkameen (WiTS-OS). The program extended from Osoyoos north to Kelowna and west to Keremeos, and received monetary aid from three funding agencies: Nature Canada, BC Hydro and the Mountaineers Foundation. In 2007 we were able to recruit and train volunteer monitors, coordinate with species experts, undertake a youth mentoring program and begin a monitoring program targeting four bird species at risk: Western Screech-owl, Williamson's Sapsucker, Lewis's Woodpecker and Flammulated Owl. Emphasis this year was on monitoring the re-occupancy of nest sites by Lewis's Woodpecker. The program was closely linked with Partners in Flight, as well as the South Okanagan and Oliver-Osoyoos Naturalists Clubs, with members from each club participating in the program. With the assistance of a Parks and People Program grant from Nature Canada, WiTS-OS was able to acquire all the necessary equipment to effectively conduct the monitoring program this year, and for many years to come.

Invasive Plant Education & Coordination

Invasive plant education and coordination continues to be a function of the South Okanagan-Similkameen Invasive Plant Society (SOSIPS) and the Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS). The RDOS introduced the Dirty Dozen booklet, Weed Warrior activity book for youth, and a variety of species-specific fact sheets which were posted on their website. The most successful outreach publications were a series of 17 'Weed of the Week' articles written by the Coordinator, Lisa Scott, and published in the Penticton Herald newspaper. Warren the Weed Warrior, the new mascot, was unveiled at the Penticton Peach Festival. The RDOS partnered with SOSIPS to organize two field days that focused on biological control. The Coordinator delivered presentations to a number of groups and at



STEWARDSHIP

community events. The bully plant program continues to be popular with elementary students. Direct assistance was provided to 124 landowners or land managers, in the form of invasive plant identification and technical advice on management options. Biological control agents were released to control hound's-tongue, St. John's wort, purple loosestrife, spotted and diffuse knapweed. SOSIPS managed the third successful year of the Cooperative Puncturevine Project, in cooperation with municipal Public Works Departments and the Ministry of Transportation. Additionally, SOSIPS participated in the fourth year of the Weeds Cross Borders project, which aims to achieve a long-term management plan and course of action to control invasive plants traveling across the border between BC and Washington.

Wetland Restoration & Amphibian Monitoring

In the lower valley south of Okanagan Falls, only twelve breeding sites for the Threatened Great Basin Spadefoot and six breeding sites for the Endangered Tiger Salamander were detected from 2003 to 2006. As of spring 2008, the number of ponds artificially constructed and enhanced is now up to fourteen. This has more than doubled the number of potential breeding sites available to the Spadefoot. Many thanks are due to the private landowners who are generous enough to set aside space on their property and welcome amphibians to their land.

In 2007-8, the Puddles for Peepers project presented 35 outreach events with up to 75 participants for each event. Eleven articles were published by various media outlets, and the results of the project were delivered at two scientific conferences. Over the next twelve months the Puddles for Peepers project will continue to monitor the natural and new sites, enhance wetlands through removal of

infill and garbage, native plantings, and exploring the placement of sandy areas in the upland habitat. Amphibians are on the right road, but by no means out of danger.

Bat Conservation

The South Okanagan-Similkameen Community Bat Project was initiated this summer to identify bat roosts on private land and assist landowners with roost conservation strategies. The project offered a unique multi-disciplinary approach to bat research, education and conservation. This was achieved through hosting public events, as well as site visits, which identify bat species, collect biological data, and provide rare close up educational experiences to landowners.

Riparian Rehabilitation in the South Okanagan-Lower Similkameen

This project, involving the fencing of riparian areas to prevent damage from livestock, has been very successful. The project is funded by the Habitat Stewardship Program and administered by The Nature Trust of BC. This past year, four fencing projects were completed, with three in the Oliver area and one at Cawston. Total habitat protected by this year's project is 13.2 hectares (32.6 acres), consisting of riparian thickets and wetlands, with a history of livestock grazing. The focal species for habitat protection on this project are Yellow-breasted Chat and Western Screech Owl, although benefits from the project are equally important to a broad range of species at risk.

Nature Trust Conservation Crews

The Nature Trust of BC, with partner funding from the BC Conservation Corps, the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, and Human Resources Development Canada, employed a conservation youth crew consisting of 6 individuals from



SOSCP

STEWARDSHIP

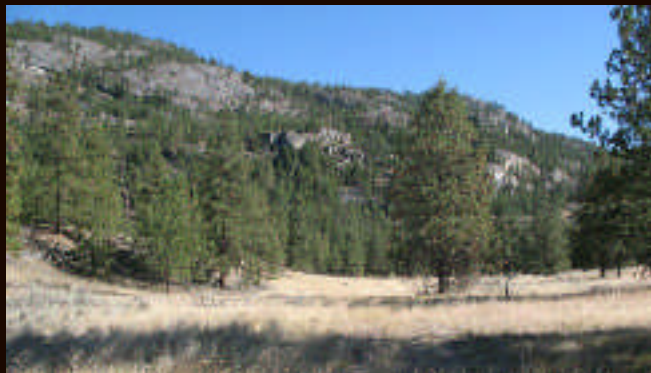
May through September. The conservation crew conducted a variety of land management activities on conservation lands throughout the Okanagan-Similkameen, including fencing, invasive plant inventory and removal, species inventories, habitat monitoring, and rubbish removal.

Okanagan River Restoration Initiative

Years of careful planning has culminated in work beginning on the restoration of 1 km of the Okanagan River to its historic configuration, just north of Oliver.

The project will:

- Replace a km of the existing dike with a new dike set further back to allow the river to meander.
- Provide critical spawning habitat for salmon and trout.
- Guard against the risk of flooding.
- Allow the growth of indigenous riparian plants providing habitat for birds and mammals, including yellow breasted chats and western screech owls.
- Enable riparian growth to shade the water, keeping it cooler and providing fish cover.



Developing a “science-based” approach to conservation is a central mandate of the SOSCP. There are many organizations providing scientific information for planning, priority setting, implementing conservation actions, and evaluating efforts. During the past year, members of the scientific network have been actively conducting research.

The South Okanagan Similkameen is home to a disproportionate number of species designated as “at risk” by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). Active habitat and species research is being conducted in this area for many species to determine their range, habitat needs and other impacts to their survival.

The Graduate Programs at UBC Okanagan are well underway for Biology and Environmental Sciences. Both programs offer thesis –based MSc and PhD degrees and the UBC O Species at Risk and Habitat Studies Centre (SARAHS) continues to foster research connections between government, academia and conservation practitioners. A number of graduate student projects under the supervision and collaboration of Dr. Karen Hodges are underway including the final completion of Emily Herdman's Nuttall's cottontail research, Katy White's gophersnake ecology research Canadian Wildlife Service scientist Dr. Christine Bishop, Natalie Melaschenko's research on communities and behaviour of small mammals in response to cheatgrass abundance, and Tanis Gieselman's research related to response of grassland plant communities to edge type and distance from edge in the south Okanagan in concert with Dr. Mark Vellend (UBC Vancouver).

A number of other research projects include invertebrate population viability analyses by Dr. Howie Richardson, Biology Professor at Okanagan College and invertebrate

genetic analyses through mark recapture through UBC O Mathematics Professor, Sylvie Desjardin. Both CWS and the University of Simon Fraser conducted research projects related to amphibians, including Tiger Salamanders and Great Basin Spadefoot toads. The Nk'Mip Desert and Cultural Centre continued to deliver on the Western Rattlesnake telemetry research project in concert with Canadian Wildlife Service scientists, and provided hundreds of curious visitors with a real-time, live and educational encounter with rattlesnakes at their Osoyoos site.

The BC Ministry of Environment, BC Ministry of Forests and Range, UBC Okanagan, National Research Council, BC Conservation Corps, Conservation Data Centre, Environment Canada-Canadian Wildlife Service, and private forest companies have supported inventory and monitoring for many of the species at risk in the region including butterflies, freshwater mussels, rare plants, amphibians, reptiles, songbirds and owls.

Further, BC Ministry of Environment (Environmental Stewardship, Ecosystems, Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Protected Areas) have conducted forest restoration activities to restore white-headed woodpecker habitat, initiated invasive plant (IP) treatments in areas that have been treated for Mountain Pine Beetle, and establish monitoring plots all in the White Lake Protected Area. Compliance and effectiveness monitoring was also conducted within five Wildlife Habitat Areas for gophersnakes, and monitoring of the Okanagan Valley bighorn sheep populations were also

Under the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) ungulate winter ranges were established for moose, mountain goat, mule deer and elk. Approximately 15 wildlife habitat areas were established; focus species included Williamson's sapsucker and yellow breasted chat. The Ministry also



SCIENCE

provided input into inter-agency and local government referrals where impacts to fish, wildlife and their habitats where significant risks were anticipated. In addition, approximately 100 ha of Sec 16 Land Act 'reserves' were initiated, and approximately 500 ha of South Okanagan Wildlife Management Area were successfully added.

Both the BC Ministry of Environment and Environment Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service are actively developing recovery strategies for species at risk in the South Okanagan Similkameen. There are 67 recovery strategies on the federal registry – see http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/sar/recovery/timelines_e.cfm for more details.

Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service, BC Ministry of Environment and the BC Conservation Data Centre undertook the development of mapping and interpretation of sensitive ecosystems. Both spatial products (GIS shapefiles) and an interpretive document called *Sensitive Ecosystems Inventory Okanagan Valley: Vernon to Osoyoos* were created to include also the Lower Similkameen Valley. This mapping builds on previous terrestrial ecosystem mapping products and is a valuable tool to support sustainable land use and management decisions.

The accompanying conservation manual highlights the connections between sensitive ecosystems and wildlife they support, provides comprehensive information about what ecosystems are of concern and why, what impacts our sensitive ecosystems and what tools are available to protect them. The inventory results for the South Okanagan and Lower Similkameen, 63.7% of the mapped area is made up of sensitive and other important ecosystems. These spatial files and the conservation manual are available on the Provincial Ecological Reports Catalogue website: <http://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/acat/public/search.do>

Special Focus on the BC Conservation Corps Program:

The British Columbia Conservation Corps (BCCC) is an exciting provincial government established by the BC Ministry of Environment and delivered in partnership with support from agencies outside government such as the BC Conservation Foundation, The Nature Trust of BC and the BC Wildlife Federation for much of the daily management. The program provides work opportunities for students and recent graduates who may be considering a career in the environmental sector.

Projects undertaken within this program provide Corps members a chance to gain valuable, first-hand experience in a wide variety of scientific and technical roles that will contribute to conserving and enhancing British Columbia's environment. Participants make an important contribution to environmental conservation, protection and stewardship, while building relationships with various partners of the respective regions.

In the 2007/08 year, six projects were supported in the Okanagan region. Here are the summaries of the work undertaken:

Okanagan Bike Trail, Fisheries and Burn Monitoring Project

This project addressed three distinct areas of work. The first part focused on increasing user safety and reducing multiple user conflicts and environmental impacts for 34 popular mountain bike trails in four North Okanagan parks and protected areas. The second component was aimed at collecting information on the Okanagan Lake recreational fishery in support of sustaining the kokanee fishery, as well as, promoting compliance with foreshore development regulations. Lastly, the project aimed to establish vegetation and fuels monitoring plots and conducted pre



SOSCP

and post treatment assessment of plant community structure, woody fuel load, and wildlife species presence/response.

Invertebrates at Risk

In this project crews concentrated on collecting inventory information for ten butterfly species, four mussels species, and one terrestrial beetle species. This project aimed at improving understanding of both the location of species occurrences and of the species distribution, and ensuring that conservation status ranking and management decisions are based on information that is current and accurate. The species inventoried included invertebrates that are either COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada) listed or could potentially be listed.

Okanagan-Boundary Species at Risk

In this project crews conducted inventory on the following COSEWIC listed species: Flammulated Owls, Western Screech Owl, Spadefoot toads, Couer D'Alene Salamander, Lewis's Woodpecker, Gopher Snake, Northern Pacific Rattlesnake, Racer, Prairie Falcon, Grand Coulee Owl-clover, Branched Phacelia, Lyall's Mariposa Lily, Showy Phlox, Mormon Metalmark, Behr's Hairstreak, Sonora Skipper, and Half Moon. This work will provide valuable information and help with the management/protection of these species.

RDOS Air Quality

This project undertook a public outreach, monitoring and compliance program. Crews worked in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment Environmental Protection division, Conservation Officer Service and the Air Quality/Waste Management divisions of the RDOS. The aim was to reduce open air burning in agricultural and rural households.

TNT South Okanagan Conservation

The Nature Trust works as a partner with the BC Conservation Corps. The work carried out by crews this year included protecting and restoring critical habitat for Species at Risk through surveys and inventories, mechanical control of invasive alien plant species and managing parks/protected areas. The work was mainly concentrated in the South Okanagan and crews occasionally provided support with conducting fisheries surveys on Okanagan Lake.

Learn to Fish

The aim of this program was to increase and enhance opportunities for recreational fishing in the province by disseminating information and technical direction on: the basics of angling, rod & reel use, angling safety, fish identification, fish biology, fish anatomy and environmental stewardship. The project was run out of Summerland.



SOSCP

OUTREACH

The SOSCP Outreach Team is dedicated to promoting education, extension and hands-on activities around conservation and sustainable development projects that influence the South Okanagan and Similkameen. The goal of the Outreach Team is to foster increased awareness and participation amongst the communities of this region. In 2007-2008, the Outreach Team was led by the Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance (OSCA) in partnership with many organizations and groups including the En'owkin Center, The Land Conservancy, the SOSCP Stewardship Team and SOS Stewardship, the BC Ministry of Environment, the Regional District Okanagan Similkameen, the City of Penticton, FORREX, Ducks Unlimited, Canadian Wildlife Service, Wildlife Tree Program and The Nature Trust of BC.

Meadowlark Festival 2007

This year the Meadowlark Festival celebrated its 10th anniversary. The festival has become an important vehicle for the SOSCP to engage the communities of the South Okanagan Similkameen to learn important messages on sustainability and conservation of the fragile landscapes of this region. It has also become a mainstay for out of town visitors to learn more about this endangered area. Many thanks to all of the organizations, partners, businesses and individuals who contributed in-kind and/or financial support to this major outreach event. There were a total of 90 events offered at the 10th annual Meadowlark Festival. This included pre-festival events, special events, field events and free community events.

Eighty-four field events were offered as the main body of the festival. New field events included the Sustainable Building Tour, the Wetland Restoration Tour, Beetles in our Forest, KVR History & Birding Tour, Xeriscape Tour,

South Okanagan Grasslands Tour, In the Thicket of Things: the elusive, endangered Yellow Breasted Chat and a Taste of the Okanagan. All of these events sold out and there has been a demand to offer them again next year. Core field events such as Saddles & Sage Horseback rides, Walking Historical Trails, all Birding tours, Geology tours, Hike to MacIntyre Bluff, McKinney Desert Tour, First Nations Cultural events, Desert Backcountry Bike Tour, Breakfast on the Lake and the Voyageur Canoe Trip all sold out. Thank you to all the tour leaders and safety volunteers who make these events educational, safe and fun!

The festival artist for the year was Lee Claremont, a local First Nations artist with the En'owkin Center. Her piece entitled "Meadowlarks Awaken Mother Earth to Spring" was a wonderful addition to the Meadowlark Festival art. To commemorate the 10th Anniversary, a special Art Exhibition was hosted from May 1st to May 13th as an opportunity to pay tribute to the artists and photographers who contributed to the Meadowlark Festival over the years. Submissions from all nine former MLF artists and from six of the photographers made a very nice exhibition at the Art Gallery of the South Okanagan.

Approximately 160 people attended the festival Banquet on May 19th. Guest speaker Dick Cannings offered a wonderful talk on the history of Meadowlark Festival and his enchantment with birds. Carol Munro was an excellent emcee and Wally Hild a great auctioneer. The Silent & Live Auction was very well put together by Barbara Bird and was a successful fundraiser. There were approximately 60 core volunteers who worked to help promote, administer and facilitate the festival. These volunteers include approximately 35 office volunteers, the volunteer Board of Directors, safety volunteers and special event volunteers. Many thanks are extended to these volunteers as without their contribution, the festival would not be possible.

SOSCP



ECOSTudies 2007

The ECOSTudies program celebrated its fifth year of delivering environmental education programming to the youth of the South Okanagan Similkameen. These programs play an important role by teaching the students of this region about local species and habitats, fostering stewardship and promoting conservation initiatives.

ECOSTudies received a contribution from TD Friends of the Environment to assist in the development, administration & promotion of the program. Ducks Unlimited and OSCA renewed their partnership for the delivery of Project Webfoot, an outdoor wetland program at Vaseux Lake. OSCA maintained partnerships with the RDOS, SOS Bear Smart Project & the En'owkin Center. New partnerships were formed with the City of Penticton through the Penticton Museum & Archives and the Water Stewardship Division. All the partnerships involve a fee for service agreement where ECOSTudies promotes, administers and refers the environmental education programs of these organizations.

A total of 132 ECOSTudies "in class" and "in nature" programs were delivered to students throughout the South Okanagan Similkameen. As well, there were 42 program referrals to other organizations which means that approximately 3800 students throughout the valleys received environmental education programming.

ECOSTudies educators Tanya Luszc, Jim Shaver, Richard Armstrong, Jacquie Likins, Shauna Sprules, Thomas Tumbach and Bobby Bovensi returned for the season. ECOSTudies welcomed Michael Bezener, Janelle Parchomchuk, Kevin Dunn, Ken Fujino and Cameron Baughen to the roster of educators. A special goodbye to Sherri Klein who has moved to Australia, Laure Neish who

has retired from many devoted years of environmental education & interpretation and Beth Cavers who has moved to a new job in Summerland. All contributed their amazing expertise and enthusiasm to their programs.

Spotlight on Species Program

The Spotlight on Species program promotes awareness and recovery action surrounding COSEWIC designated Species at Risk in the South Okanagan Similkameen valleys. It is funded by the Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Program. Targeted audiences and general public are engaged by attending workshops and community events and informed via information displays, newspaper articles and print material.

The Spotlight on Species program hosted the following events in 2007: BC Rivers Day: Riparian Habitat Awareness Event, "It's Not Easy Being Green": Amphibians of the South Okanagan Similkameen, Species At Risk Information Booth At CHBA Home Show, Similkameen Environmental Expo, "People Who Care": Environmental Expo, Western Screech Owl: Riparian Awareness Event, Species at Risk Agricultural Display/Information Panels. These programs were developed and managed by OSCA with support from the En'owkin Center, the SOS Stewardship Team, The Land Conservancy, Okanagan College, Sara Ashpole, the South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program, Lee McFadyen, Dick Cannings, the Lower Similkameen Indian Band, the Penticton Indian Band, the City of Penticton, RDOS, Okanagan River Restoration Initiative, Okanagan Nation Alliance, the BC Ministry of Environment, Chris Bull and FORREX.

The Spotlight on Species Media Campaign delivered two major articles on Badgers & Grasslands and South Okanagan Amphibians at Risk.



SOSCP

OUTREACH

Agriculture Environment Partnership Initiative (AEPI)

This was the fourth and last year of funding for this program that was co-funded by the BC Agriculture Council, The Land Conservancy and SOS Bear Smart Program. OSCA managed the delivery of Snake Management and Awareness Workshops in Agricultural Settings with the support of the SOS Stewardship Team and the Bear Smart Program Specialist. The accomplishments of this year's initiative were the delivery of twelve field seminars to agricultural workers offered in Spanish, Punjabi and English, the delivery of five presentations at tree fruit and viticulture industry meetings, the production of new print material entitled "Amphibians and Agriculture" and "Bears on your Property" as well as the distribution of a CD resource guide entitled "Snake & Species at Risk" to agricultural advisors.

Eco-Management Workshops & Media Outreach

This program was designed to address conservation initiatives and to promote environmental awareness to various audiences in the professional and private sector including public works, development industry, agricultural industry and land use planning. It is funded through the Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Program. This year's program hosted a planning workshop entitled "Community Planning for a Green Legacy", a presentation to the BC Home Builders Association entitled "Working with Nature" and hosted an awareness booth at the BC Wine Grape Council Viticulture Conference on Snakes and Amphibians at Risk. A total of nineteen interviews were conducted with key planners, politicians and agricultural industry leaders regarding environmental practices and information/resource needs.

Eco-Management also hosted a media campaign which assisted in the completion of a public opinion poll that was completed with 300 residents on conservation issues in the South Okanagan Similkameen.

The Eco-Management media campaign had the following articles published in Orchard & Vine Magazine: "Snakes at Risk", "Amphibians at Risk" and "Restoring and Protecting Wetlands". An article entitled "Snakes at Risk in Agricultural settings" was also featured in the BC Grape Growers' Newsletter.



SOSCP

LAND USE PLANNING

The Land Use Planning Team supports the goals of the SOSCP by providing tools and technical support to local governments in land use decision-making. The team members meet approximately every two months to share ideas, expertise, information, and to help ensure that there is no duplication of resources. The team includes participation by Ducks Unlimited Canada (who chair the LUPT), the Grasslands Conservation Council, Environment Canada, BC Ministry of Environment, Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Alliance, the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, BC Ministry of Forests, the Okanagan Similkameen Parks Society and a representative of the Community In Transition Program of the Real Estate Foundation.

The team was active over the year, both completing and initiating several new projects. Some of the significant work undertaken by the Ecological Land Use Team members during 2007-08 included:

Workshop for Advisory Planning Committees

The Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance coordinated a workshop in Oliver for local government's Advisory Planning Committees. The objective was to provide local government advisory planning committees with capacity support with additional environmental, land use and policy information to assist them in making recommendations on local land use decisions.

Develop Conservation Policies for the South Okanagan Sub-Regional Growth Strategy (RGS)

Team members continued to provide technical input and comment on drafts of the RGS. In particular, efforts were made to provide environmental criteria related to growth management and environmental health policies and in undertaking the initiation of a Regional Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.

Model Green Bylaws Toolkit

The Green Bylaws Toolkit was officially launched in British Columbia as part of SOSCP's annual general meeting event last November. The toolkit provides local government, and the public, with practical information for improving protection of sensitive ecosystems and green infrastructure. SOSCP, through the Land Use Planning Team, is supporting the distribution of the toolkit to local government partners in SOSCP and in organizing presentations and assisting in developing opportunities for the toolkit team to engage with communities to support their planning efforts.

Health of Our Watersheds Project

This project was undertaken in 2007-08 as a centennial project for the community of Naramata as a partnership between the Ministry of Environment and local community groups. The objectives were to provide an educational opportunity for the community to learn about the value and role of watersheds in our communities by collecting data on benthic invertebrates in the three major creeks as an indicator of relative stream health. This data would allow comparison with other creeks in the Okanagan and to establish a baseline in order to be able to compare changes in the health of these creeks over time. The community provided active participation in the data collection of benthic invertebrates and provided funding for the analysis of the samples. MOE assisted in the sample collection and interpretation of data (providing a benthic index of biological integrity). The data was presented at a community forum that had over 100 people in attendance.



LAND USE PLANNING

Developing Sustainable Land Use Planning Capacity for Local and Regional Government

SOSCP and the Green Bylaws Toolkit initiative partnered with the Summerland Environmental Science Group to provide a policy review and technical support in the form of environmentally sensitive area mapping and a complimentary host of draft bylaw language and guidelines to the District of Summerland as part of the review and update of their Official Community Plan. This project is just one part of our initiative to provide capacity building support for local governments that will lead to improved local government policies for protecting sensitive ecosystems.



HABITAT SECUREMENT

The purpose of the Habitat Securement Team is to work strategically and cooperatively to secure land and interests in land, to conserve natural habitats and priority ecosystems, as well as ensuring their appropriate management.

The Habitat Securement Team is comprised of a number of agencies and organizations involved in land securement, including Ducks Unlimited Canada, The Nature Trust of British Columbia, The Nature Conservancy of Canada, The Land Conservancy, Environment Canada, Ministry of Environment, and the Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society.

The Habitat Securement Team has been actively working to secure critical habitat in the South Okanagan - Similkameen. There are currently over 54,000 hectares of conservation land held by partners in the South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Programs. There are, however, many critical habitats that still require protection. Overwhelming development pressures have resulted in many critical habitat lands being priced out of reach for conservation agencies. This means that alternate securement initiatives, such as covenants, donations, and partnerships are more important than ever.

The Nature Trust of BC received a generous donation of land from Patricia and Jim Ryder, to protect it from development and to provide a sanctuary for wildlife and plants. The 5.18 hectare (12.8 acre) property is located in Peachland adjacent to Okanagan Lake. The terrain is rocky with Ponderosa pine, bluffs and outcroppings and grassland bench areas. The property includes 1,435 feet of lakeshore frontage. The forested portions of the property offer habitat for various species of woodpeckers including the Lewis's

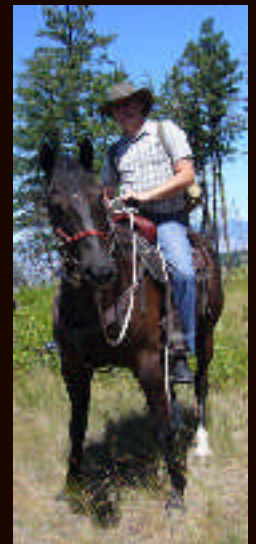
woodpecker. Several rock outcroppings and bluffs are ideal habitat for snakes and reptiles. Ephemeral streams provide forage, cover and habitat for amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

The Nature Trust of BC also received a donation of land from Murray LaBrash and Debbie Sharp at Rock Creek. Located in the Kettle Valley, the 31.9-hectare (78.8-acre) property is on the north side of the Crowsnest Highway 3 between the communities of Rock Creek and Midway. Vegetation includes mixed grasses and scattered Ponderosa Pine with clumps of Douglas fir. Several large wildlife trees, rock outcroppings and small cliffs, and an intermittent stream provide excellent wildlife habitat. This property provides a refuge for wintering ungulates, bears, and other wildlife.

In August 2007, *TLC* The Land Conservancy of BC became the grateful recipient of just over 16 hectares of land in Okanagan Falls. The "Peach Cliff" property includes important habitat for California Bighorn Sheep and other species at risk. Federally listed species observed on or near the property include Western Rattlesnake, Western Yellow-bellied Racer, Great Basin Gophersnake, Peregrine Falcon *anatum* subspecies, and Spotted Bat. Provincially designated species include Prairie Falcon, Canyon Wren, White-throated Swift, and Lark Sparrow. Habitat types on the property include cliff, talus and rock outcrop in the higher elevations, and rocky grassland and shrub-steppe in the lower elevations

Skaha Conservation Area Acquired

The Land Conservancy of British Columbia (TLC), The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), the BC Ministry of Environment (MOE) have partnered together along with



HABITAT SECUREMENT

many other supporters to purchase the 304 hectare property adjacent to the popular Skaha Bluffs recreational rock climbing area. This private land, currently known as the Skaha Conservation Area, is owned and jointly managed by TLC, NCC and MOE, with strong support from The Nature Trust of British Columbia (TNT), for its important conservation and recreation values as a Class A provincial park, including the adjacent proposed Goal 2 Skaha Bluffs site. The property has long been a Priority 1 target on the SOSCP's securement list. The purchase of this private land was completed in January 2008.

The property contains a wide variety of habitat types such as Ponderosa Pine grasslands, Douglas-fir forests, Cottonwood Water Birch riparian plant communities, shrub-steppe, rugged terrain, creeks and wetlands. This diversity of habitat types supports a large number of species at risk known to occur on the property including Western Screech Owl (Endangered), Fringed Myotis (Imperiled/Vulnerable), Western Yellow-bellied Racer (Special Concern), Western Rattlesnake (Threatened), Western Skink (Special Concern), at least three rare plant species (Critically Imperiled and Vulnerable) and California Bighorn Sheep (Imperiled/Vulnerable). The property is considered very important for California Bighorn Sheep, containing valuable summer range over most of the property, and critical winter range at low to mid elevations. The property provides a vital travel corridor for the Ellis Creek and Skaha East bands of sheep.

The value of this private land for wildlife is enhanced by the fact that it is an inholding within a broader expanse that includes the proposed Goal 2 Skaha Bluffs Protected Area and proposed Derenzy Wildlife Management Area. The Skaha Conservation Area complements these areas and without it, the ecological values of the surrounding Crown lands would be compromised.

The Skaha Conservation Area will also be managed to provide public access to the world renowned Skaha Climbing Bluffs. A road upgrade and parking area is being developed for recreationists to access the rock climbing area.

Since acquisition, the co-owners have been working together to develop interim management strategies for the property. The property (excluding the road upgrade and parking area) will be managed for non-motorized access in consideration of its critical ecological values. Creation of a Management Plan will commence in 2009.



PARTNER INFORMATION

BC Conservation Foundation

Barb Waters
Regional Manager
 #200A - 1383 McGill Road
 Kamloops, BC V2C 6K7
 Phone: 250.828.2551
 Fax: 250.828.2597
 kamloops@bccf.com
 www.bccf.com

BC Lake Stewardship Society

Carolyn Johns
Director
 4 -552 West Ave
 Kelowna, BC, V1Y 4Z4
 Tel: 250.717.1212
 Fax: 250.717.1226
 Email: carolynj-bclss@shaw.ca
 Website: www.bclss.org

BC Ministry of Agriculture & Lands

Lands: Jerry Johnson
Section Head
 1259 Dalhousie Drive
 Kamloops BC, V2C 5Z5
 Email: Jerry.Johnson@gov.bc.ca
 Agriculture: Carl Withler
Stewardship Coordinator
 200-1690 Powick Rd
 Kelowna BC
 Email: carl.withler@gov.bc.ca
 Website: www.gov.bc.ca/agf/

BC Ministry of Environment

Grant Furness
Acting Regional Manager
 102 Industrial Ave
 Penticton, BC, V2A 7C8
 Tel: (250) 490-8277
 Fax: (250) 490-2231
 Email: grant.furness@gov.bc.ca
 Website: www.gov.bc.ca/wlap/

BC Ministry of Forests & Range

Alex McLean
Range Officer
 102 Industrial Place
 Penticton, BC, V2A 7C8
 Tel: (250) 490-2222
 Fax: (250) 490-2231
 Email: Alex.Mclean@gov.bc.ca
 Website: www.gov.bc.ca/for/

BC Wildlife Federation

Paul McLean
Provincial Representative
 RR 1, Site 105, Comp. 4
 Keremeos, BC, V0X 1N0
 Tel: 250.499.0099
 Email: pmclean1@telus.net
 Website: www.bcwf.bc.ca

BC Wildlife Federation – Okanagan Region

Joan McKay
President, Okanagan Region; BCWF
 51-1840 Oliver Ranch Road
 Okanagan Fall, BC, V0H 1R0
 Tel: (250) 497-7031
 Fax: (250) 497-7032
 Email: mandjmckay@shaw.ca
 Website: www.bcwf.bc.ca

Burrowing Owl Conservation Society of BC

Mike Mackintosh
Executive Director
 2165 Palmerston Avenue
 West Vancouver, BC, V7V 2V7
 Tel: (604) 257-8528
 Cell: (604) 512-4796
 Fax: (604) 922-6502
 Email: macbeagle@telus.net
 Website: www.burrowingowlbc.org

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society – BC Chapter

John and Mary Theberge
CPAWS Representatives
 RR3, Site 25, Comp. 82
 Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0
 Tel: (250) 498-5432
 Fax: (250) 498-5432
 Email: johnmarythe@explore.net
 Website: www.cpaaws.org

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Adrian Wall
Habitat Management Biologist
 1751 10th Ave, SW
 Salmon Arm, BC, V1E 4P3
 Tel: (250) 804-7008
 Fax: (250) 804-7010
 Email: WallA@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 Website: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Destination Osoyoos

Glenn Mandziuk
Executive Director
 9912 Hwy 3,
 Osoyoos, BC, V0H 1V0
 Tel: (250) 495-3366
 Fax: (250) 495-8081
 Email: glenn@osoyoos.ca
 Website: www.destinationosoyoos.com

District of Summerland

13211 Henry Ave
 Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0
 Tel: (250) 404-4040
 Website: www.summerland.ca

Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory

Dr. Tom Landecker
 717 White Lake Rd.
 Penticton, BC, V2A 6J9
 Tel: (250) 490-4304
 Email: tom.landecker@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Ducks Unlimited Canada

Brad Amer
Manager of Conservation Programs,
Canadian Intermountain
 954-A Laval Crescent
 Kamloops, BC, V2C 5P5
 Tel: (250) 374-8307
 Fax: (250) 374-6287
 Email: b_arnier@ducks.ca
 Website: www.ducks.ca

En'Owkin Centre

Jeannette Armstrong
Executive Director
 RR2, Site 50, Comp. 8
 Penticton, BC, V2A 6J7
 Tel: (250) 493-7181
 Fax: (250) 493-5302
 Email: enowkin@vip.net
 Web: www.enowkincentre.ca

Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service Pacific Yukon Region

Barry Smith
Regional Director
 Tel: (604) 940-4700
 Fax: (604) 946-9022
 Email: Barry.Smith@ec.gc.ca
 Website: www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/en.wildlife/

SOSCP

PARTNER INFORMATION

Federation of BC Naturalists

Bob Handfield
Regional Representative
P.O. Box 2007
Penticton, BC V0H 8K3
Tel: (250) 497-8702
Email: bobnmarg@telus.net
Website: www.naturalists.bc.ca

FORREX

Chris Hollstedt
Chief Executive Officer
FORREX Head Office
Suite 702, 235 1st Avenue
Kamloops, BC, V2C 3J4
Tel: (250) 371-3929
Email: chris.hollstedt@forrex.org
Website: www.forrex.org

Grasslands Conservation Council of BC

Bruno Delesalle
Executive Director
954 A Laval Crescent
Kamloops, BC, V2C 5P5
Tel: 250-374-5787
Fax: 250-374-6287
Email: bruno.delesalle@bcgrasslands.org
Website: www.bcgrasslands.org

Habitat Conservation Trust Fund

Brian Springinotic
Manager
100 - 333 Quebec St
Victoria, BC, V8V 1W4
Tel: (250) 356-6124
Toll free: 1-800-387-9853
Fax: (250)952-6684
Email: brian.springinotic@hctf.ca
Website: www.hctf.ca

The Land Trust Alliance of BC

Sheila Harrington
Executive Director
204-338 Lower Ganges Rd.
Salt Spring Island BC, V8K 2V3
Tel: (250) 538-0112
Fax: (250) 538-0172
Email: sheila@landtrustalliance.bc.ca
Website: www.landtrustalliance.bc.ca

North Central Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council

Jay Kehne
Executive Director
2nd Ave South, Suite 101
Okanogan, Washington
98840 USA
Tel: (509) 422-2750 ext 107
Email: jay.kehne@wa.usda.gov

Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program

Magnus Bein
Coordinator
Tel: (250) 545-0504
Email: occp123@gmail.com
Website: www.okanagan.bc.ca

Okanagan College

Kaya Forest
Biology Professor
583 Duncan Ave West
Penticton, BC, V2A 8E3
Tel: (250) 492-4305
Fax: (250) 492-3950
Email: KForest@okanagan.bc.ca
Website: www.okanagan.bc.ca

Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society

John Holdstock
Treasurer
1326 Scott Crescent
Kelowna, BC, V1A 2P7
Tel: (250) 769-3952
Fax: (250) 769-0727
Email: jholdstock@shawcable.com

Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance

Kaya Forest
Chair
Box 20133
Penticton, BC, V2A 8K3
Tel: (250) 492-4422
Toll free: 1-866-699-9453
Fax: (250) 492-5275
Email: kforest@okanagan.bc.ca
Website: www.osca.org

Okanagan Similkameen Parks Society

Sheila White
Secretary of Membership
P.O. Box 787
Summerland, BC, V0H 1Z0
Tel: (250) 494-8996
Email: anglerem@telus.net

Osoyoos Desert Society

Denise Eastlick
Executive Director
P.O. Box 123
Osoyoos, BC, V0H 1V0
Tel: (250) 495-2470
Toll free: 1-877-899-0897
Fax: (250) 495-2474
Email: mail@desert.org
Website: www.desert.org

Osoyoos Indian Band

Charlotte Sanders
OIB Council
Executive Director
Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre
RR3, Site 25, Comp 1
Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0
Tel: (250) 495-7901
Fax: (250) 495-7912
Email: csanders@oib.ca
Website: www.oib.ca

Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Society

Michelle Jefferson
Director
P.O. Box 1382
Osoyoos, B.C., V0H 1V0
Tel: (250) 495-3134
Report Hotline: (250) 495-3366
Fax: (250) 495-3392
E-mail: micjef@telus.net
Website: www.dlwqs.org

Osoyoos Oxbows Restoration Society

Eike Scheffler
President
Sherry Linn
Secretary/Treasurer
PO Box 535
Osoyoos, BC, V0H 1V0
Tel: (250) 495-7891
Email: eike@vip.net

PARTNER INFORMATION

Pacific Salmon Foundation

Paul Kariya
Executive Director
300 – 1682 West 7th Ave
Vancouver, BC, V6J 4S6
Tel: (604) 664-7664
Fax: (604) 664-7665
Email: pkariya@psf.ca
Website: www.psf.ca

Partners in Flight

Tanya Luszc
BC/Yukon Great Basin Program Manager
102 Industrial Place
Penticton, BC, V2A 7C8
Phone: 250-490-8286
Fax: 250-490-2231
Email: Tanya.Luszc@gov.bc.ca
Website: www.pifbcyukon.org

Penticton Museum and Archives

Peter Ord
Manager/Curator
785 Main St
Penticton, BC, V2A 5E3
Tel: (250) 490-2451
Fax: (250) 492-0440
Email: peter.ord@penticton.ca
Website: www.penticton.ca/museum

Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen

Dan Ashton
RDOS Chair
101 Martin St
Penticton BC V2A 5J9
Toll Free: 1.877.610.3737
Phone 250-492-0237
Email: dashton@rdos.bc.ca
Website: www.rdos.bc.ca

Royal BC Museum

Rob Cannings
Curator of Entomology
675 Belleville Street
Victoria, BC, V8W 9W2
Tel: (250) 356-8242
Toll free: 1-888-447-7977
Fax: (250) 356-8197
Email: rcannings@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca
Website: www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca

Southern Interior Bluebird Trail Society

Lee McFadyen
President
P.O. Box 494
Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0
Tel: (250) 495-7891
Email: mariposaorgf@hotmail.com
Website: www.bcbluebirds.org

South Okanagan Rehabilitation Centre for Owls

Ken Fujino
Manager
P.O. Box 1166
Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0
Tel: (250) 498-4251
Cell: (250) 488-5435
Fax: (250) 485-0188
Email: sorco@telus.net
Website: www.sorco.org

The Land Conservancy of BC

Bill Turner
President/Executive Director
301-7195 Esquimalt Rd.
Victoria, BC, V9A 3N6
Tel: (250) 479-8053
Email: bturner@conservancy.bc.ca
Website: www.conservancy.bc.ca

The Nature Conservancy of Canada

BC Region
Barbara Pryce
Okanagan Program Manager
RR1 S6 C1, Kaleden, BC V0H 1K0
Tel: (250) 497-8010
Cell: (250) 487-8852
Fax: (250) 497-8014
Email: Barbara.Pryce@natureconservancy.ca
Website: www.natureconservancy.ca

The Nature Conservancy – Washington State

217 Pine Street, Suite 1100
Seattle, WA, 98101
Tel: (206) 343-4344
Fax: (206) 343-5608
Website: www.tnc-washington.org

The Nature Trust of BC

Jim Hope
Land Manager
260 – 1000 Roosevelt Crescent
North Vancouver, BC, V7P 3R4
Tel: (604) 924-9771
Toll free: 1-866-288-7878
Fax: (604) 924-9772
Email: jhope@naturetrust.bc.ca
Website: www.naturetrust.bc.ca

Town of Oliver

35016 – 97th Street
PO Box 638
Oliver, BC V0H 1T0
Tel: (250) 485-6200
Website: www.oliver.ca

Town of Osoyoos

Box 3010, 8711 Main Street
Osoyoos, BC V0H 1V0
Tel: (250) 495-6515
Website: www.osoyoos.ca

University of British Columbia

Dr. Tom Sullivan
Professor of Agroecology
180B-2357 Main Mall
Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z4
Tel: (604) 822-6873
Fax: (604) 822-2184
Email: tomsu@interchange.ubc.ca
Website: www.agsci.ubc.ca

University of British Columbia – Okanagan

Karen Hodges
Assistant Professor, Biology
Bert Brink Canada Research Chair in
Conservation Biology
University of British Columbia Okanagan
3333 University Way
Kelowna, BC, V1V 1V7
Tel: (250) 807-8763
Fax: (250) 807-8005
Email: karen.hodges@ubc.ca
Website: www.ubc.ca/okanagan

SOSCP TEAM INFORMATION

SOSCP Chair

Carl MacNaughton
The Nature Trust of British Columbia
 RR#2, Site 42, Comp. 17
 Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0
 Tel: (250) 498-5474
 Fax: (250) 498-5475
 Email: cmacnaughton@cablerocket.com
 Website: www.naturetrust.bc.ca

Science Network

Orville Dyer
BC Ministry of Environment
 102 Industrial Ave
 Penticton, BC V2A 7C8
 Tel: (250) 490-8200
 Fax: (250) 490-2231
 Email: orville.dyer@gov.bc.ca
 Website: www.soscp.org

Program Coordinator

Bryn White
*South Okanagan Similkameen
 Conservation Program*
 102 Industrial Ave
 Penticton, BC V2A 7C8
 Tel: (250) 490-8225
 Fax: (250) 490-2231
 Email: Bryn.White@gov.bc.ca
 Website: www.soscp.org

Habitat Securement Team

Carl MacNaughton
The Nature Trust of British Columbia
 RR#2, Site 42, Comp. 17
 Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0
 Tel: (250) 498-5474
 Fax: (250) 498-5475
 Email: cmacnaughton@cablerocket.com
 Website: www.naturetrust.bc.ca

Land Use Planning Team

Rob Hawes
Ducks Unlimited Canada
 c/o 2690 Noyes Road
 Naramata, BC V0H 1N0
 Tel: (250) 496-4374
 Fax: (250) 496-1314
 Email: hawesra@shaw.ca

Stewardship Team

Lucy Reiss
Stewardship Coordinator
 210-262 Main St
 Penticton, BC, V2A 5B2
 Tel: (250) 492-0173
 Fax: (250) 492-0176
 Email: ASkinner@conservancy.bc.ca
 Website: www.conservancy.bc.ca

Outreach Team

Kaya Forest
Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance
 Box 20133
 Penticton, BC, V2A 8K3
 Tel: (250) 492-4422
 Toll free: 1-866-699-9453
 Fax: (250) 492-5275
 Email: KForest@okanagan.bc.ca
 Website: www.osca.org

Traditional Ecological Knowledge Team

Jeannette Armstrong
En'owkin Centre
 Address: RR2, Site 50, Comp. 8
 Penticton, BC, V2A 6J7
 Tel: (250) 493-7181
 Fax: (250) 493-5302
 Email: enowkin@vip.net
 Web: www.enowkincentre.ca

SOUTH OKANAGNAN SIMILKAMEEN CONSERVATION PROGRAM PARTNERS

BC Conservation Foundation
BC Lake Stewardship Society
BC Ministry of Agriculture & Lands
BC Ministry of Environment
BC Ministry of Forests & Range
BC Wildlife Federation
BC Wildlife Federation, Okanagan Region
Burrowing Owl Conservation Society of BC
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society –BC Chapter
Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Destination Osoyoos
District of Summerland
Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory
Ducks Unlimited Canada
En'Owkin Centre
Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service
Federation of BC Naturalists, Thompson-Okanagan Region
Forest Research Extension Partnership
Grasslands Conservation Council of BC
Habitat Conservation Trust Fund
North Central Washington Resource Conservation Development Council
Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program
Okanagan College
Okanagan Region Wildlife Heritage Fund Society
Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance
Okanagan Similkameen Parks Society
Osoyoos Desert Society
Osoyoos Indian Band
Osoyoos Lake Water Quality Society
Osoyoos Oxbows Restoration Society
Pacific Salmon Foundation
Partners in Flight
Penticton Museum and Archives
Royal BC Museum
Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen
Southern Interior Bluebird Trail Society
South Okanagan Rehabilitation Centre for Owls
Town of Oliver
Town of Osoyoos
The Land Conservancy (TLC) of BC
The Land Trust Alliance of BC
The Nature Conservancy Canada
The Nature Conservancy, Washington State
The Nature Trust of BC
University of British Columbia, Faculty of Land and Food Systems
University of British Columbia Okanagan

Please visit www.sosc.p.org for links and information



South Okanagan
Similkameen
CONSERVATION PROGRAM

PROGRAMME DE CONSERVATION
du Sud de l'Okanagan
Similkameen

Coordination is a key principle of the Program

If you, or your organization, would like to support the coordinating functions of the SOSCP, please contact us:



Environmental Legacy Fund

Bruce Johnson

Executive Manager

P.O. Box 24081
Penticton, BC V2A 8L9
Phone: 250.493.9311
Email: info@sfso.net
Website: www.cfso.net



South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program

Bryn White

Program Coordinator

Phone: 250.490.8225
Cell: 250.462.7322
Email: bryn.white@gov.bc.ca
Website: www.cfso.net

Conserving Canada's Desert Country