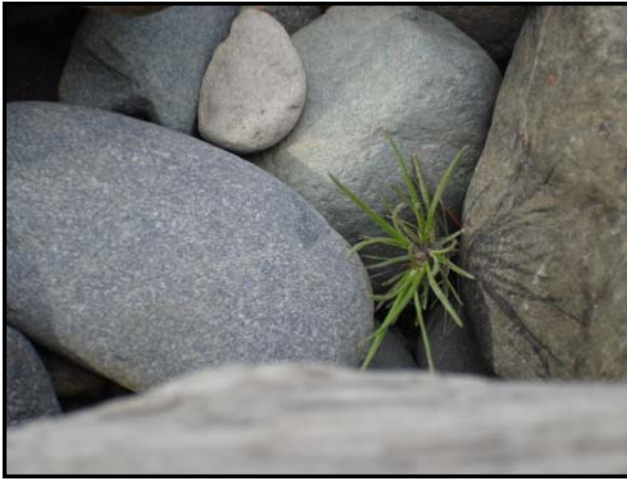




Powerhouse Foreshore Restoration Project

FINAL REPORT 2007



Project Number: 07.W.BRG.05

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Executive Summary

The following report, and the preceding report of 2006, were commissioned by the Lillooet Naturalist Society to gauge the potential and feasibility of undertaking restoration work at the Powerhouse Foreshore site with the aim of creating a more diverse and healthy habitat for wildlife, with a special focus on species-at-risk. The Society also needed to ensure that the communities of Lillooet would be willing to support a project of this scope on the shores of the Fraser River within the St'at'imc territory and the District of Lillooet boundaries.

The Powerhouse Restoration project will mitigate damage caused by the construction and operations of the BC Hydro Seton Dam and Cayoosh Creek Canal complex.

The Lillooet Naturalist Society has been successful in generating community partnerships. We are working in close partnership with the Cayoose Creek St'at'imc. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ministry of Environment, Rivershed Society of BC and the District of Lillooet are also supporting the proposed project by providing both expertise and in-kind support.

We have held numerous public outreach activities including presentations, information booths, field walks, surveys and a “visioning” session. The Powerhouse project has been featured in the Bridge River-Lillooet News, the St'at'imc Runner and on Radio Lillooet broadcasts.

We carried out field research during both 2006 and 2007. This research has now been compiled into a Restoration Plan, which will guide the restoration project into its first year. Historical data has been collected, community ideas and concerns have been recorded, plant and bird surveys have been undertaken, and an ecological restoration study has been completed.

The Lillooet Naturalist Society has developed a detailed Restoration Plan for the site. Extension activities, which will be researched in greater detail in the first year, have also been identified and will guide work into the future.

The Lillooet Naturalist Society is eager to work on this project. We realize that it is a large project with some challenges. However, with community support, and the expertise of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Ministry of Environment, and with guidance from a qualified restoration specialist, the Powerhouse site could provide enhanced habitat for wildlife, in particular species-at-risk with a focus on the Western Screech Owl. It will also provide a community “commons” for the citizens of Lillooet and surrounding areas, where education on the importance of healthy and diverse habitats will be showcased.

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