



MARCH 2021

LIVING LAKES CANADA NEWS STREAM



TODAY IS WORLD WATER DAY

World Water Day is of particular relevance to Canadians since **Canada's watersheds contain one fifth of the world's fresh water**, most of which are under pressure from a range of environmental stressors and data-deficient when it comes to assessing watershed health. Innovative solutions for watershed management are needed now.

In honour of World Water Day, we are formally launching the **Columbia Basin Water Hub**, an open source data repository for water-related data in the Canadian Columbia Basin watershed.



[CLICK THE LOGO TO ENTER THE WATER HUB](#)

The Columbia Basin Water Hub will support the development of a Basin-wide water balance approach, which will be necessary for subsequent water budgeting in an era where climate continues to impact hydrological flows.

Thank you to all our funders, partners and volunteers who made this ambitious water data project possible!

Details on this and other exciting announcements — including our free 4-part **STREAM Webinar Series** starting March 25) — can be found in our Program Updates section below. And please take a moment to visit our newly designed [website!](#)



DAVID SCHINDLER

It's with deep sadness that we said goodbye to our friend, esteemed advisor and invaluable Living Lakes Canada Board member [David Schindler](#) earlier this month, whose brilliance, humility and dedication to fresh water protection is legendary. He will be greatly missed and our condolences go out to his wife Suzanne and family. For an excellent article dedicated to David's life and career, please read *The Tye* article [David Schindler, the Scientific Giant Who Defended Fresh Water](#) by award-winning journalist Andrew Nikiforuk.

Click the categories below to navigate to content.

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For the community



PROGRAM UPDATES

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE: ENTER HERE



\$1 MILLION FOR WATER MONITORING IN COLUMBIA BASIN

Coordinating the collection of important water data to build climate resilience throughout the region is a project of Living Lakes Canada that is now receiving support through the Healthy Watersheds Initiative, which is delivered by the Real Estate Foundation of BC and Watersheds BC ... [READ MORE](#)



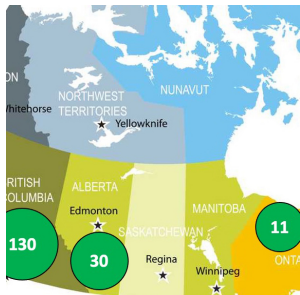
COLUMBIA BASIN WATER HUB FORMALLY LAUNCHED

An open source database using a CKAN instance customized to house water-related data in the Upper Columbia Basin (UCB), the Columbia Basin Water Hub is an initiative that was begun by Living Lakes Canada in 2017 in response to a series of reports pointing to the need for increased ... [READ MORE](#)



ENJOY A REVELSTOKE LAGER AND DONATE TO FRESH WATER PROTECTION!

Starting this spring, the Mt. Begbie Brewery will be donating \$1 to Living Lakes Canada from every 12-pack of their 25th anniversary edition Revelstoke Lager that they sell. The campaign is expected to begin late April/early May and will run for most of 2021. The special edition beer will ... [READ MORE](#)



UP-TO-DATE STATS ON STREAM PLUS UPCOMING WEBINARS

The STREAM (Sequencing The Rivers for Environmental Assessment and Monitoring) project was able to demonstrate how resilient community-based water monitoring can be in uncertain times, like those we've been experiencing due to COVID-19. For the 2020 field season ... [READ MORE](#)



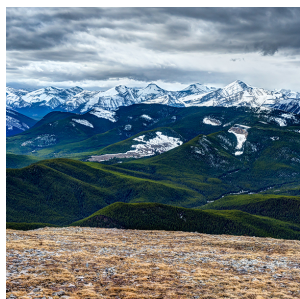
STREAM WEBINAR SERIES STARTS MARCH 25, SIGN UP TODAY

The purpose of this four-part webinar series hosted by Living Lakes Canada is to introduce the STREAM (Sequencing The Rivers for Environmental Assessment and Monitoring) project to anyone interested in community-based water monitoring. Guest presenters will include representatives ... [READ MORE](#)



COLUMBIA BASIN GROUNDWATER DATA AVAILABLE IN REPORT FORM & ONLINE

We are excited to announce that the data are now available on the Columbia Basin Water Hub as well as the BC Real-time Water Data Tool. The data collected to date are also summarized in a recently published technical report. The report provides information on the wells and ... [READ MORE](#)



NEW: EASTERN SLOPES AQUATIC MONITORING COLLABORATIVE

Living Lakes Canada is supporting the facilitation of an Eastern Slopes Aquatic Monitoring Collaborative, a group of local water stewardship organizations, Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils, Parks Canada, Environment and Climate Change and consultants that are coming together with a ... [READ MORE](#)



INTRODUCING KOOTENAY WATERSHED SCIENCE

Kootenay Watershed Science (KWS) is officially the new name for the long-running North Kootenay Lake Water Monitoring Project (NKLWMP) to better represent the project's main goal: monitoring Kootenay watersheds. KWS is working to fill the gap in hydrometric monitoring on small- to ... [READ MORE](#)

EARLY RESULTS DEMONSTRATE BENEFIT OF TARGETED eDNA RESEARCH

Living Lakes Canada has been involved in Targeted eDNA research as part of the Flow H2O project. The Targeted eDNA



research is being led by the University of Victoria (U of Vic) Dr. Caren Helbing Lab and assisted by LLC ... [READ MORE](#)



WATER RANGERS TESTKITS AND SUMMER LAKE BLITZ

Last summer, Living Lakes Canada partnered with the Water Rangers on the Western Canada Water Ranger Pilot Project to engage volunteers across Western Canada to investigate their lake water quality by using the Water Rangers water quality testkits. The testkits as a user friendly, low ... [READ MORE](#)



PLANS TO EXPAND NEW RESTORATION PROGRAM

In 2020, Living Lakes Canada branched out from our historical monitoring and assessment programming to participate in several restoration projects. We are excited to further develop this new Restoration Program and are currently completing planning, preparation, and relationship ... [READ MORE](#)

FIND OUT HOW WE'VE ADAPTED TO COVID-19



IN THE NEWS

[Healthy Rivers: Communities use DNA tool to keep tabs on freshwater quality.](#)

By Chloe V. Robinson and Mehrdad Hajibabaei, Canadian Geographic, March 10 2021

Originally published by [The Conversation](#) on February 16 2021

- *An excellent article about how the STREAM project is empowering community groups to collect data and monitor their freshwater systems. LLC is partnering on STREAM with the University of Guelph, WWF-Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada.*

[Columbia Basin Water Hub - A Shining Example of Collaboration!](#)

Waterbucket Enews, The Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC, March 2 2021

Read the full-length version on the website [HERE](#).

- *This newsletter edition is dedicated to the history of LLC since inception and the steps that led to the development of the Columbia Basin Water Hub.*

[Empowering communities through open access to water data in the Columbia Basin](#)

Our Stories, Our Living Waters, February 2021

- *An overview of the Columbia Basin Water Hub training webinar series that LLC held for water monitoring groups in the Columbia Basin in December 2020.*

[Living Lake Canada joins panel for Canada Water Agency BC Freshwater Forum](#)

Living Lakes Canada, February 10 2021

- *LLC Executive Director Kat Hartwig was one of the panelists for the Canada Water Agency BC Freshwater Forum that took place on February 16, 2021.*

[Living Lakes Canada presents at virtual water conference for youth](#)

Living Lakes Canada, February 1 2021

- *LLC Program Manager Raegan Mallinson and Database Manager Santiago Botero presented at the Water Innovation Lab Mexico-Canada 2021 that took place virtually from January 29-31.*

[Bulkley River Watershed Fish Passage Restoration](#)

Living Lakes Canada, December 1 2020

- *In Fall 2020, LLC assisted completing fish passage assessments, fish habitat confirmation surveys, and fish sampling on high priority streams in the Bulkley Watershed near Smithers, B.C.*

[Monitoring River Health in Indigenous Communities](#)

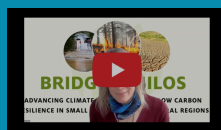
Portico Magazine, University of Guelph, October 2020

- *An article highlighting the involvement of Indigenous communities in the STREAM project,*

[Foreshore Inventory Management Planning on Lake Windermere](#)

Columbia Valley Pioneer, October 2020

- *An article with a focus on LLC's Foreshore Integrated Management Planning (FIMP) work on Lake Windermere last summer.*



Bridging Silos through Local Partnerships: Reconciling working together for effective climate action

LLC Program Hydrologist Paul Saso presents on Kootenay Watershed Science (formerly NKLWMP) for the Bridging Silos Conference. Starts at 33:06.

March 5, 2021



Treaty Negotiations and Ecosystem Monitoring

LLC team members discuss monitoring water quality, training both Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, and sharing data on an open source data hub. Hosted by Jonathan O'Riordan, former Deputy Minister of the Environment. Starts at 30:01.

November 22, 2020



Discover Canada's Watershed Health - The Watershed Reports 2020 Live

A discussion about the 2020 Watershed Reports and the role of the STREAM project, hosted by WWF-Canada's Freshwater Specialist Catherine Paquette and LLC Program Manager Raegan Mallinson.
November 9, 2020



NEW TEAM MEMBERS



BOARD MEMBER: LAURA BELL

Laura Bell is a retired forester with 30 years experience in natural resource management and forest operations, primarily in the Columbia Valley and on Vancouver Island. She loves long-distance outdoor adventures and is most at home in the ... [READ MORE](#)

PROGRAM MANAGER: MARK ELDER

Mark Elder has been living, working and playing in the Kootenays since 2003, working primarily in the forestry sector in the field of wildfire mitigation planning. As a Kaslo resident, Mark serves as a member in a variety of projects in the area ... [READ MORE](#)

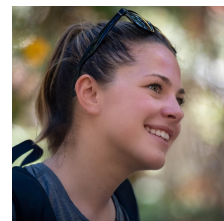


DATABASE ASSISTANT: PAIGE THURSTON

Paige Thurston grew up on Vancouver Island and moved to the Kootenays in 2015. She completed the Forest Technology program at Selkirk College, and a BSc. in Environmental Science at Royal Roads University. Paige has experience conducting aquatic ... [READ MORE](#)

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: GEORGIA PECK

Georgia grew up in Southern Ontario and was raised by a family of biologists. She developed a love for wildlife, conservation, and education through a childhood of travelling, reading, and exploring the environment around her ... [READ MORE](#)





RESEARCH INTERN: ANWEN REES

Anwen Rees grew up in Saskatoon on Treaty 6 territory spending summers exploring lakes around Saskatchewan with her family. After attending an outdoor school program, she knew she wanted to pursue a career learning about the environment. ... [READ MORE](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS



STREAM WEBINAR SERIES

A four-part webinar series hosted by Living Lakes Canada about the STREAM project featuring 13 guest presenters from across Canada

MARCH 25, APRIL 8, APRIL 29, MAY 27 - ONLINE

[VISIT THE REGISTRATION PAGE FOR FULL DETAILS](#)



ONLINE FORUM: BOATING ON BC LAKES

The BCLSS, Lake Windermere Ambassadors, and Living Lakes Canada will host this forum to examine the environmental impacts of boating, discuss regulatory issues and identify potential solutions.

APRIL 28 - ONLINE

[VISIT THE EVENT WEB PAGE](#)



CANADIAN WATER SUMMIT

The Canadian Water Summit has the mission to help realize Canada's potential to be a world leader in water expertise, management, and technology innovation.

JUNE 8-11 - VIRTUAL EVENT

[VISIT THE EVENT WEBSITE](#)



REPORTS & RESOURCES

[Real-time Water Data](#)

The Aquarius Time-Series database is the B.C. Province's primary repository of continuous surface, groundwater and snow data from monitoring stations across the province.

[The Groundwater Project: Online Platform for Groundwater Knowledge](#)

The mission of The Groundwater Project is to provide accessible, engaging, high-quality, educational materials, free-of-charge online in many languages, to all who want to learn about groundwater and understand how groundwater relates to and sustains ecological systems and humanity.

[Opinion: Waiting for Water Leadership](#)

The Province, February 28 2021

[New northeast B.C. water research program will gather scientific and Indigenous knowledge](#)

Alaska Highway News, February 23 2021

[Opinion: The time for water security is now](#)

The Vancouver Sun, February 7 2021

[Watershed Security Agenda for British Columbia: Setting direction for the next mandate](#)

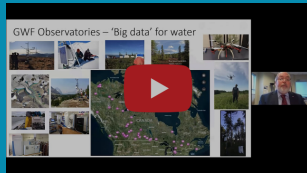
POLIS Water Sustainability Project, University of Victoria, November 30 2020

[Canada's Columbia glaciers unexpectedly big, but at climate risk](#)

UVic News, University of Victoria, November 24 2020

[Focus on freshwater conservation, and land gets swept along for the ride](#)

Anthropocene Magazine, November 11 2020



Designing the Canada Water Agency: What We Have Heard

A 90-minute national webinar that featured Parliamentary Secretary for the Canada Water Agency, Terry Duguid, M.P., and moderator Tom Axworthy who led a panel of guests through a discussion on what is needed in order to realize a modern and leading Agency necessary to ensure water security for all.

December 10, 2020



An overview of CABIN by a Parks Canada Biologist Live From Banff National Park

Shelley Humphries at Banff NP held a live virtual outdoor classroom specific to CABIN sampling for the "Exploring by the seat of your pants" series directed at middle school students.

October 27, 2020



OPPORTUNITIES

WATER'S NEXT AWARDS

The nomination period for the 2021 Water's Next Awards is closing soon. The Water's Next national awards program honours the achievements and ideas of individuals and companies that successfully work to change water in our country. Do you know an individual, project, or technology that has made significant contributions to the Canadian water industry? Be sure to submit a nomination by March 31.

[SUBMIT A NOMINATION](#)

PROPOSAL TO UPDATE BC'S DROUGHT LEVELS

The Province of British Columbia is proposing to change its existing drought levels to better align with North American best practices. The revised levels would more accurately describe drought and water scarcity conditions and allow experts to better protect local aquatic ecology and make useful comparisons between B.C. and other jurisdictions across the continent. The Province wants to know what you think about the proposed changes. Once you've had an opportunity to review this proposal, please share your feedback using the contact information provided on page 3.

[READ THE PROPOSED CHANGES](#)



Living Lakes Canada is able to advance practical, national solutions that have the potential to positively impact how Canadians take care of the waterways and systems that are essential to our communities and ecosystem health.

Your support helps communities and decision makers access tools, training and data that help them create sustainable and healthy communities and ecosystems.

Visit the 'Invest' section on our website to learn about the many ways your donation can support our water stewardship work and the protection of fresh water in Canada; the giving options available; and how to contact us to learn more.

INVEST IN WATER



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