



Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grants – 2011 Successful Recipients

Organization	Project Title	Funding Received
Okanagan Science Centre	Water, Water (Every) Where?	\$22,000
Greater Vernon Water	Stormwater Outfall Improvements	\$20,000
UBC-O	Groundwater discharge	\$10,000
Otter Lake Water District	Ultrasonic Flow Meter	\$4,500
Bishop Wild Bird Foundation	Bishop Wild Bird and Native Plant Garden	\$2,000
		\$58,500
RDCO	Silvopasture Pilot Program - Phase 1	\$20,800
Okanagan Xeriscape Association	Promoting Xeriscapes in the Okanagan	\$20,000
District of Peachland	Peachland Creek Water Monitoring	\$27,500
District of West Kelowna	Water Systems Master Plan	\$22,500
Okanagan Greens Society	Okanagan Wetlands Generation Alliance	\$20,000
City of Kelowna	Mill Creek Riparian Management Plan	\$25,000
City of Kelowna	Water Cons. Manual for Green Spaces	\$20,000
City of Kelowna	SHIM (within city boundaries)	\$20,000
		\$175,800
Town of Osoyoos	Osoyoos Lk FIM & AquaticHabitatIndex Proj.	\$27,450
ONA (Fisheries)	Ok. River Water Intake Feasibility Study	\$12,000
RDOS	Water Ambassador	\$10,000
Okanagan Falls Parks/Rec	Park Beautification and Water Conservation	\$8,500
District of Summerland	Stream Assessment	\$4,000
RDOS	Hart's Pond Fencing	\$3,750
		\$65,700

Regional District North Okanagan

Project Title: **Water Water (Every) Where?**

Organization: **Okanagan Science Centre**

Description: The OSC will create new interactive water exhibits at the centre and develop three new programs including outdoor water use camps for youth, lake tours, and low impact gardening.

Staff Notes: The project fits well with the OBWB's focus on outreach and education and will work with the OBWB's WaterWise program. The OSC has a wide reach in the Okanagan and has shown a high degree of collaboration.

Project Title: **North Kalamalka Intake Protection Zone – Storm Water Outfall Improvements**

Organization: **RDNO – Greater Vernon Water**

Description: The project will develop a locate storm outfalls, develop a sampling/monitoring plan to

determine the risk that storm water outfall poses to water quality, and work with District of Coldstream to plan improvements to the system.

Staff Notes: This project addresses both storm water management, identified as a priority in the OBWB's Sustainable Water Strategy, and works to improve water quality. The report may be of benefit to other areas looking to do similar projects.

Project Title: **Groundwater Discharge to Okanagan Lake from Deep Creek Watershed**
Organization: **University of British Columbia Okanagan**
Description: The project will quantify groundwater discharge into Okanagan Lake.
Staff Notes: Groundwater monitoring and regulation has been identified as a priority for the basin by the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council and others. The results of the project can be used to evaluate models used in the OBWB's Water Supply and Demand study.

Project Title: **Ultrasonic Flow Meter**
Organization: **Otter Lake Water District**
Description: A flow meter will be installed to measure flow and draw down on the well.
Staff Notes: Groundwater monitoring has been identified as a priority by the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council and others.

Project Title: **Bishop Wild Bird and Native Plant Garden**
Organization: **Bishop Wild Bird Foundation**
Description: The foundation will convert a large area of turf grass and perennial flower bed into low-water demonstration gardens using native plants. An outreach and education component will include on-site signage and hosting of public workshops.
Staff Notes: This project promotes best practices in water conservation and exhibits a high degree of collaboration. It is tangible and on-the-ground.

Regional District Central Okanagan

Project Title: **Silvopasture Pilot Project – Water Stewardship Phase 1**
Organization: **Regional District Central Okanagan**
Description: Project is an operational trial of integrating livestock and forest production with conservation practices and water stewardship.
Staff Notes: The projects focuses on risks identified in the recently developed source water assessment plans for Oyama and Vernon Creeks. It is very collaborative and has received many letters of support from both local and provincial stakeholders.

Project Title: **Promoting Xeriscapes in the Okanagan Valley to Reduce Outdoor Water Consumption**
Organization: **Okanagan Xeriscape Association**
Description: OXA will continue their very successful workshops and educational presentations, develop a demonstration rain garden, work with strata complexes to convert to xeriscaping, and establish a pilot rebate program for homeowners go xeri.
Staff Notes: OXA's website and materials have value valley-wide, and they continue to be a collaborative success story with outreach and education.

Project Title: **Peachland Creek Water Monitoring**
Organization: **District of Peachland**
Description: The District will update existing Water Survey of Canada infrastructure to collect real-time stream flow and water quality data.
Staff Notes: The proposed monitoring station was identified as a priority in the 2007 Hydrometric Network Requirement report, and will extend the period of record for the existing station. The data

collected will allow better management of fish flows.

Project Title: **Water Systems Master Plan**
Organization: **District of West Kelowna**
Description: The plan will provide direction for infrastructure development, water conservation policies, regulatory requirements, and identify source protection priorities.
Staff Notes: The District has recently merged five separate water utilities, and there are opportunities for implementation and promotion of best practices that will improve water conservation and source protection for the area, benefitting the valley as a whole.

Project Title: **Okanagan Wetlands Regeneration Alliance**
Organization: **Okanagan Greens Society**
Description: The project will form a multi-stakeholder committee that will inventory and map wetland areas in and around Lake Country, work with landowners to remediate wetlands where possible, and develop a public outreach program on the importance of wetlands.
Staff Notes: This project is very collaborative and could set a precedent for working with wetlands in the Okanagan. Wetlands play an invaluable role in maintaining water quality, but are often seen by the public as low-value lands.

Project Title: **Mill Creek Riparian Management Plan**
Organization: **City of Kelowna**
Description: The City will identify areas of the creek in need of protection and restoration, identify possibilities for mitigation, evaluate strategies to minimize storm runoff into the creek, and identify areas of land acquisitions required for compensation areas.
Staff Notes: Mill Creek is a major fish bearing stream in the Okanagan that drains into Okanagan Lake. Improvements to the creek will benefit all downstream users, as well as improve fish habitat.

Project Title: **Water Conservation Manual for Municipal Parks & Green Spaces**
Organization: **City of Kelowna**
Description: The City of Kelowna will complete assessments and compile the results of the numerous projects undertaken since 2005 to reduce the amount of water used in city parks and green spaces, including research into the use of compost tea as fertilizer and use of drought tolerant grasses.
Staff Notes: The City of Kelowna has been a leader in water conservation in city parks. The report delivered from this project will benefit all Okanagan municipalities, most of which would not have the capacity to do the research on their own.

Project Title: **SHIM Mapping within city boundaries**
Organization: **City of Kelowna**
Description: This project will locate and describe remaining streams, wetlands, and springs within city boundaries and local Agricultural Land Reserve lands.
Staff Notes: This project complements the numerous other Sensitive Habitat Inventory Mapping projects that have occurred throughout the valley.

Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Project Title: **Osoyoos Lake Foreshore Inventory Mapping and Aquatic Habitat Index Project**
Organization: **Town of Osoyoos**
Description: This project will inventory and map the shoreline of Osoyoos Lake and develop an aquatic habitat index that will be shared with the Community Mapping Network.
Staff Notes: This FIM work complements other FIM work done in the valley and will also aid in our milfoil

permitting processes.

Project Title: **Okanagan River Water Intake Feasibility**
Organization: **Okanagan Nation Alliance**
Description: The ONA will identify water licences with intakes on the Okanagan River and connecting oxbows to determine which intakes would be negatively impacted if mid-summer flows were reduced (which would aid with water management for Sockeye).
Staff Notes: This project is highly collaborative and could lead to water conservation, benefitting valley residents and sockeye.

Project Title: **Water Ambassador**
Organization: **Regional District Okanagan Similkameen**
Description: RDOS will hire a summer student who will work in the Naramata area to promote water conservation methods through public visits and print material, assisting with setting of irrigation timers, and identifying water restriction violations.
Staff Notes: This is a good fit with the OBWB's Okanagan WaterWise program.

Project Title: **Park Beautification and Water Conservation**
Organization: **Okanagan Falls Parks and Recreation**
Description: Ok Falls will convert their flower beds/gardens to xeriscape demonstration gardens, update their irrigation systems, and set up a school stewardship program to maintain the gardens.
Staff Notes: There has been limited promotion of xeriscapes in the South Okanagan, despite the greater need for it. The project will result in water conservation, promotion of best practices, as well as education and outreach.

Project Title: **Stream Assessment**
Organization: **District of Summerland**
Description: District of Summerland and the South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program will inventory and mapping unconfirmed watercourses within Summerland, which are currently not included in the District's Watercourse Development Permit Area (and so receive no protection from development).
Staff Notes: The water courses are too small to justify/prioritize full SHIM mapping, but identification of the watercourses by a Qualified Environmental Planner will enable protection and regulation of the activities around the streams.

Project Title: **Hart's Pond Fencing**
Organization: **Regional District Okanagan Similkameen**
Description: RDOS will install cattle fencing to exclude cattle from the pond and reduce coliform and E. Coli contamination by manure.
Staff Notes: Hart's Pond is on crown land and in spring discharges into Okanagan Lake north of a water intake. This project will improve water quality both at the pond and within Okanagan Lake.