

# Clayoquot Biosphere Trust 2008 Call for Projects

## Application for Funding

All applicants must complete this form (available on our website -- [www.clayoquotbiosphere.org](http://www.clayoquotbiosphere.org)). Please save the document under a new file name before completing. Once finished, please submit electronically to Curtis Cook, CBT Executive Director, via email at [curtis.cook@clayoquotbiosphere.org](mailto:curtis.cook@clayoquotbiosphere.org). In addition, please electronically attach any letters of support specific to your application. Additional information should not exceed 3 pages. Please contact CBT staff if you need assistance or have any questions. Applications must be received by our office by 4p.m. September 30, 2008. Applicants will then be invited to meet with a committee to present their application. Approval of funding will be announced by December 18, 2008.

### 1. Lead Organization

Organization Name: Wetland Stewards of the Clayoquot Biosphere Reserve Region  
Mailing Address: [REDACTED]  
Contact person: Barb Beasley Job Title: Biologist  
Telephone: [REDACTED] Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Has this organization applied for CBT funding in the past? Yes, in 2008  
Has this organization received CBT funding in the past? Yes, in 2008

### 2. Project Details

Project Title: Wetland Surveys for Breeding Amphibians  
Funds Requested: \$6,300 Total Project Budget: \$12,650  
Start Date: February 2009 End Date: December 2009  
Is this a new or an existing project? Existing When are the funds required? March to Oct. 2009

### 3. Project Partners (please use additional pages if required): The CBT considers project partners to be organizations or individuals that are contributing to the project either financially or in-kind.

Organization Name: Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Fisheries Program, Katie Beach  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Contact person: Katie Beach Job Title: Fisheries Biologist  
Telephone: [REDACTED] Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: [REDACTED] Is this partnership confirmed? Yes

Organization Name: Pacific Rim National Park Reserve  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Contact person: Yuri Zharikov Job Title: Monitoring Ecologist  
Telephone: [REDACTED] Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: [REDACTED] Is this partnership confirmed? Yes



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4. Application for Funding Questions: Please briefly answer the following questions in point form or paragraph format. Please limit your responses to the space provided.

a. Introduction to your organization:

Wetland Stewards of the Clayoquot Biosphere Reserve Region are a group of local residents from the region who interested in maintaining the ecological integrity of wetland ecosystems and their connections to surrounding lands and waters. The goals of the group are threefold:

- 1) Monitor the condition of local wetland ecosystems,
- 2) Raise community awareness about the ecology and economic value of wetlands.
- 3) Maintain and/or restore local wetlands as healthy, functioning parts of the larger coastal biome.

b. Tell us about your project. Include a description, goals and a timeline for completion:

The overall goal of the project is to better understand and protect wetland habitats used by aquatic-breeding amphibians, including the Red-legged Frog, a species of Special Concern listed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Red-legged Frogs and other species of amphibians are threatened by habitat loss due to development and by the introduction of bullfrogs, an exotic species in western North America. Bullfrogs are predators and competitors of our native species and transfer diseases. Amphibians play important roles as predators and prey within both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The Clayoquot Biosphere Region is important for amphibians because bullfrogs have not been introduced to the region yet. The closest population of bullfrogs is in Port Alberni.

The project objectives are:

- 1) To locate and survey freshwater wetlands for breeding populations of Red-legged Frogs and Northwestern Salamanders in and around Ucluelet, Tofino and the Long Beach Unit of Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. These areas are being developed and are easily accessed.
- 2) To describe vegetation and hydrological conditions of the wetlands.
- 3) To do surveillance for introduced bullfrogs.
- 4) To provide opportunities for local youth and adults to learn skills involved in surveying and doing surveillance at wetlands.

The project will build on data collected in spring of 2008. We will begin surveying wetlands in spring of 2009. Community members will be invited to a presentation to introduce the project and sign up if they want to participate. Field work, in March and April, will consist of surveying wetlands (by foot, snorkel and kayak or canoe) to map the distribution of egg masses, and measure vegetation and hydrological conditions. From May to July, surveillance teams will be established to listen for bullfrogs at wetlands close to roads, visitor centres and parks. Mapping, analyses, report writing, and presentations will be completed by December 2009.



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c. What will be the impact of your project at the individual, community and regional level?

The project will provide information to help us maintain healthy functioning wetland ecosystems so all communities in the region will benefit from what we learn. Functioning wetland ecosystems provide a variety of important ecological services, such as regulating water flow and improving water quality through filtration. Much like a giant sponge, wetlands absorb water, then release it gradually as the surrounding vegetation dries out. Wetland vegetation slows the speed of water flow and prevents river- and lake-edge erosion, as well as preventing washout, erosion and siltation of downstream spawning beds, and other ecologically sensitive habitats. Wetlands are transitional between upland and open-water aquatic environments and therefore support a wide range of plant and animal life from both habitats.

More immediately, the project will provide learning opportunities for a few local community members and youth who are interested in getting involved. This project will increase the breadth of experiences and skills that can be offered to people interested in learning and working in aquatic sciences resource management. An honorarium will be provided to those who assist with wetland surveys.

d. Describe the community involvement and collaboration with other agencies.

NTC Fisheries Program will assist in finding Nuu-chah-nulth community members who are looking for opportunities to be trained in aquatic monitoring skills.

Ucluelet Secondary School will help identify students who are interested in natural sciences so they can be invited to participate as part of their work study program.

The Raincoast Education Society and the Clayoquot Field Station will provide support by advertising opportunities to participate in the project to local community members and by providing a venue for communicating the results of the project.

Pacific Rim National Park Reserve will provide funding and in kind support for amphibian breeding surveys within the Park, as part of their program to monitor the ecological integrity of the Park. Park staff will help with the GIS and mapping work by providing equipment, software, hardware and expert guidance. Results from surveys within and adjacent to the Park will be reported in the PRNPR State of the Park Report. The indicators reported will be useful for communities to gauge how well conservation efforts are working within part of the core protected area of the Clayoquot Biosphere Reserve Region.



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e. How do you plan to communicate the results of your project?

We will communicate the results in the following ways:

- Newspaper articles
- Presentations in Ucluelet and Tofino at public venues and the secondary school
- PDF report for the CBT to post on their website
- State of the Park Report for PRNPR

f. How will your project help to achieve the CBT's *Mission*?

By funding the project the CBT will be supporting research that gathers information, organizes knowledge and helps us achieve the wisdom necessary for conservation. Wetland habitats are a critical component of our coastal ecosystem. Amphibians are good indicators of ecosystem health. Monitoring their populations will enable communities of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve to model an ecosystem-based approach to management and conservation. Local youth and adults will be given an opportunity to be trained in monitoring skills and learn about wetland conservation. Educational resources, developed as part of the training can be shared with those who do educational programs in the region.

g. How will your project contribute to the CBT's Measuring Community Health Initiative?

*Please see our website for a description of this project and a list of indicators that we are interested in.*

The project contributes directly to the CBT's Measuring Community Health Initiative by monitoring breeding populations of one of the more prominent species-at-risk in our region, the Red-legged Frog. Some of the measurements will also contribute information that can be linked to other indicators, such as climate change (timing of amphibian egg laying/egg hatching varies with temperature and rainfall each year), drinking water quality (wetland filtration influences water quality), and salmon returns (wetland flood control influences downstream fish habitat). The integrity of amphibian populations within wetland ecosystems would be a useful measure to add to the Initiative.



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## 5. Project Budget

Please complete the following project budget including contributions from partner organizations and any other funding sources.

Item & Description	CBT Funds Requested	Confirmed Contributions	Unconfirmed Contributions	Total Cost
Salaries & Benefits	5000	5000		10000
Project Leader	3000	3000		6000
Honoraria for Assistants & Park Staff Assistance	1500	1500		3000
GIS Specialist	500	500		1000
Facilities Rental		100		100
Venues for Presentations		100		100
Materials & Supplies	400	650	300	1350
Inflatable boat & safety gear	300		300	600
Chest Waders, Wet suits		500		500
Miscellaneous: Disinfectants, dinnets, sunglasses, flagging tape	100	150		250
Other (please specify)	900	300		1200
Hydrophone		300		300
Mileage	600			600
Administration (5%)	300			300
<b>Total</b>	<b>6300</b>	<b>6050</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>12650</b>



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