

# Clayoquot Biosphere Trust

## Final Report Template for Grant Recipients

*The CBT wants to know about the success of your project!*

Final reports are due twelve months from receipt of funds. Once complete, please submit electronically to [rebecca@clayoquotbiosphere.org](mailto:rebecca@clayoquotbiosphere.org). In addition, please attach any press materials or other appropriate materials such as scientific reports, brochures and newspaper articles. Photos are greatly appreciated! All final reports will be posted on the CBT website. Proponents are strongly urged to present their project results at CBT sponsored events in the region. Note: Mac users will not be able to save this form. Please print and submit a hard copy.

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### 1. Organization Information

Organization Name: Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds

Address: P.O. Box 927, Ucluelet, B.C. V0R 3A0

Contact person: Barb Beasley Job Title: Project Leader

Telephone: 250-726-2536 Fax:

E-mail: [wetlandstewards@gmail.com](mailto:wetlandstewards@gmail.com)

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### 2. Project Details

Project Title: Conserving Amphibian Populations and Connecting Habitats

CBT Funding received: \$ 6,000 Total Project Budget: \$ 21,050 to-date

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### 3. Final Report Questions: Please briefly answer the following questions in point form or paragraph format.

a. If your project has changed from your original proposal, please describe how and why it has changed.

The project has not changed from our original proposal. We have completed the deliverables for the CBT funding. We will continue the project until April 2011 with support from other funders.



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b. What was the impact of your project at the individual, community and regional level?

This project has provided information to help our local community members and government agents, at all levels, act in ways that will maintain the integrity of local wetland ecosystems, connected habitats, and the biodiversity that they support. Amphibians are particularly sensitive to changes in water quality and quantity, and amphibians are an integral part of the food webs within wetlands and surrounding forests. By tracking the status of amphibian populations within the Clayoquot Biosphere Reserve Region over time, this project has helped to identify ways to mitigate threats to our ecosystems. By sharing information the project has effectively promoted stewardship. For example, in May 2010, the B.C. Ministry of Environment established a Wildlife Habitat Area for Red-legged Frogs at Swan Lake (B.C. Ministry of Environment 2010) as a direct result of the exceptionally high number of egg masses that we documented there. The Wildlife Habitat Area designation protects 18.6 ha of forest surrounding Swan Lake from road-building, logging, and pesticide use (except by special application for controlling invasive plants or noxious weeds, if necessary).

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

Community members and other agencies have been actively involved in the project in a variety of ways:

- Thirteen community members volunteered to help with survey work and four people agreed to listen for bullfrog calls in the evenings throughout the summer.
- We conducted a workshop with the summer interpretive staff from the Raincoast Education Society and Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. Staff from both organizations incorporated information from the workshop into their interpretive walks and a Young Naturalist program.
- We held species identification workshops with the stream restoration crew working for Central West Coast Forest Society and the Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks Guardians in the fall. Uu-a-thluk's species-at-risk intern organized the workshop with the TFN Tribal Park Guardians.
- Pacific Rim National Park Reserve provided funding and in-kind support for conducting wetland surveys and highway monitoring.
- The B.C. Ministry of Transportation, Habitat Stewardship Program for Species At Risk and the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation provided funding.
- Dr. Wendy Palen (SFU) and Dr. Purnima Govindarjulu (B.C. MoE) provided expert guidance.

d. What lessons were learned along the way that should be shared with other groups and/or projects?

Our organization was able to find substantial financial and INKIND support by being engaged with multiple partners and sharing our concerns about the threats to amphibians in our region with them. For example, we were able to promote stewardship efficiently/effectively by providing workshops to local naturalists and educators working with the Raincoast Education Society and the Park. So instead of spreading information only by ourselves through slideshows, other organizations helped spread information through their existing programs. We have also learned that it takes a variety of approaches to reach a broad audience about invasive species. Each year we try new ways of recruiting and training volunteers for bullfrog surveillance, i.e., having a display at the Coop Grocery stores in addition to print media, and each year the number of people involved has increased.



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e. How have you communicated the results of your project to local residents?

We used a variety of ways to involve local residents and communicate our project results:

- We placed advertisements in the Westerly Newspaper and Westcoaster, to inform local residents about bullfrogs, and request their sightings. We directly contacted people who we knew lived near wetlands in the region.
- We set up a display booth in the Coop Grocery stores in Ucluelet and Tofino during two afternoons in June. The display had photos of each species and playbacks of their calls.
- We prepared a “Froggy Fact Sheet for Frequently Asked Questions” to help staff answer questions at the Visitor Information Centres on Highway 4.
- We presented a slide show at Greenpoint Theatre in August, and we plan to present our results during the Whale Festival in March.
- Our Wetland Survey Report has been distributed to Pacific Rim National Park Reserve and the B.C. Ministry of Environment. Some of the wetland survey results will be incorporated into the next State of the Park Report. Information specific to sites is being made available to planners and resource managers at the District Offices of Ucluelet, Tofino and Alberni-Clayoquot, as well as, private landowners and lease holders.

f. How did your project help to achieve the CBT’s *Mission*?

By funding the project the CBT has supported 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 and amphibians are good indicators of ecosystem health. Monitoring populations of amphibian species-at-risk enables communities of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Reserve to take an ecosystem-based approach to management and conservation. Local residents and staff from a variety of organizations were trained in monitoring skills and learned about wetland and amphibian conservation. Educational resources were made available to those who do educational programs and field work in the region.

g. How did your project contribute to the CBT’s *Measuring Community Health Initiative* and/or our *Core Priorities of Healthy Food, Healthy Communities or Youth and the Biosphere*? Please see our website for a description of these projects, including a list of indicators that we are interested in.

The project contributed directly to the CBT’s Measuring Community Health Initiative by monitoring breeding populations of two species-at-risk in our region, the Red-legged Frog and the Western Toad. Some of the information collected can be linked to other indicators, such as climate change (timing of amphibian movements, egg laying/egg hatching varies with temperature and rainfall each year), and water quality (amphibians are sensitive to pollution). Water quality also influences salmon returns. The integrity of amphibian populations within wetland ecosystems would be a useful measure to add to the Initiative.



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#### 4. Project Budget

We require a detailed budget reconciliation . The originally submitted budget should be directly compared to the actual expenses and explanations for any variances should be provided. Please include contributions from partner organizations and all other sources of funding.

Item & Description	Anticipated cost (from original application)	Actual Cost	Other Contributions (including source)	Total Cost
Salaries & Benefits				
Project Leader	3600.00	3600.00	10200.00	13800.00
Field Assistants	1500.00	1420.00	1810.00	3230.00
Facilities Rental				
Greenpoint Theatre, Meeting Space			InKind	
Materials & Supplies				
pinflags, inner tubes, batteries	300.00	115.07		115.07
fencing, plastic tubs, bags, shipping			740.00	740.00
equipment - PIT tag reader, camera			1400.00	1400.00
Other (please specify)				
Travel to SFU & wetland surveys	600.00	556.30		556.30
Admin: Raincoast Education Society	0	308.63		308.63
Liability insurance			900.00	900.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>6000.00</b>	<b>6000.00</b>	<b>15050.00</b>	<b>21050.00</b>



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