



**CSISS**

**COLUMBIA SHUSWAP  
INVASIVE SPECIES SOCIETY**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

# WHAT WE DO



Himalayan Balsam  
Revelstoke Greenbelt

## A message from our Executive Director:

Thank you for your support of CSISS in 2022!

As you'll read about in the coming pages, our team accomplished quite a lot and we were able to engage again in more in person activities, while still maintaining some online outreach.

We celebrated successes, such as many invasive plants treated and no invasive zebra and quagga mussels found across the region!

We are extremely grateful to generous funders and partners. A huge thank you as well to Board members, volunteers and members who continue to support CSISS and our goals of protecting this region's biodiversity from the impacts of invasive species.

Finally, a huge thank you to the staff of CSISS - they have remained dedicated and enthusiastic throughout the year! We saw some staff changes and departures, so it was great to see them work together so well.





## OUR OBJECTIVES:

- a) To educate and engage public, private landowners, land and aquatic managers, First Nations and others about invasive species and their impacts.
- b) To establish and operate invasive species management programs.
- c) To do all other things as are incidental and ancillary to the attainment of the above purposes.

## OUR MISSION:

The Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society is a network of partners who facilitate the prevention, reduction and management of invasive species through collaboration, engagement, and education.

## OUR VISION:

The environment, economy and society of the Columbia Shuswap region are protected from the adverse impacts of invasive species.



## WHERE WE WORK:

Salmon Arm, Revelstoke, and Golden Invasive Plant Management Areas (IPMAs) and entire Columbia Shuswap Region





# IN THE FIELD - TERRESTRIAL PROGRAM

Himalayan Balsam in Cress Creek, Salmon Arm

688

Targeted  
Invasive Plant Surveys

28

Mechanical Treatments  
at Priority Locations

64

Priority Sites Chemically  
Treated

108

Requests for  
Information

28

Invasive Plants Reports

189  
Sites  
Inventoried

Inventory  
Golden IPMA  
Revelstoke IPMA  
Salmon Arm IPMA

ATTENTION  
INVASIVE PLANTS

Installed 'Do Not Mow'  
signage across the  
region

Leafy spurge,  
Salmon Arm

Blueweed,  
Revelstoke

Hoary alyssum,  
Salmon Arm

Teasel,  
Salmon Arm



# IN THE FIELD - AQUATIC PROGRAM

Pierre's Point ZQM Sampling Site

12

Water bodies Sampled

20

Sample Locations

116

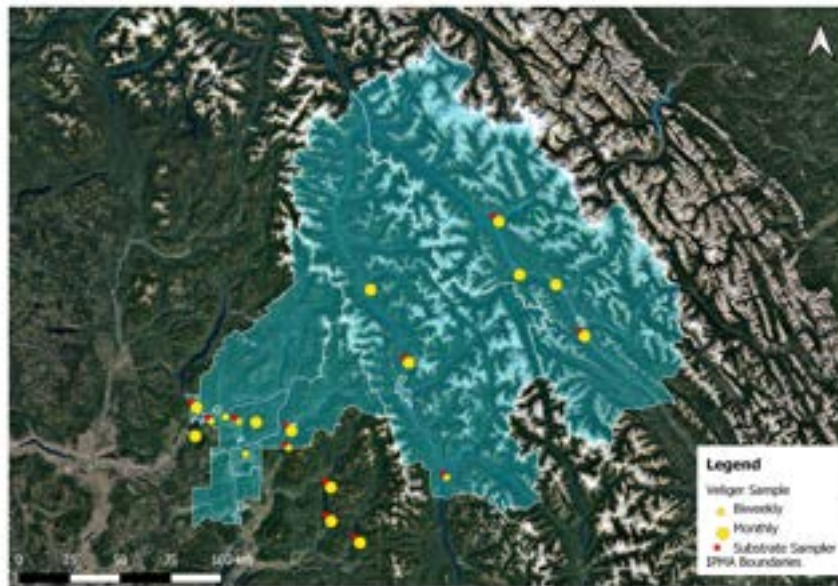
Water Samples Collected

20

Substrate Samplers Deployed

NO

ZEBRA OR QUAGGA  
MUSSELS  
DETECTED



NO NEW aquatic  
plant infestations  
detected.

Collecting water samples

Photo credit: Shoal Raymond

pH meter in water sample

Photo credit: Shoal Raymond

Collecting water samples with  
Shuswap Watershed Council

Sampling on the  
Kinbasket Reservoir



# EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

The outreach team continues to educate, engage and inspire our community to be involved with invasive species management. In 2022, CSISS resumed in person events, directly communicating with **4803** people across the Columbia Shuswap region.

## OUTREACH EVENTS



**13**

Farmers  
Markets



**4**

Youth & School  
Events



**120**

Community  
Events



**23**

Garden Center  
Visits

## COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media  
following:

 **1 047**

 **800**

**8** Press releases

**6** Radio features

**45** news articles

**4** Newsletters

**470** Subscribers

**4746** website

**5**  
Community Weed  
Pulls



Weed Pull volunteers from Back Country  
Horsemen of BC- Shuswap Chapter at  
Skimikin Lake.

**22**  
Workshops &  
Presentations

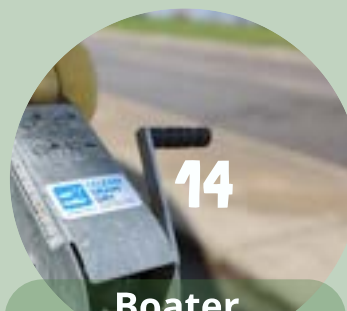


## AQUATIC OUTREACH



**38**

Marina,  
Campground &  
Park Visits



**14**

Boater  
Events



**3**

Pet Store Visits



# PROJECT UPDATES

Through the removal and/or displacement of invasive plants and the re-establishment of native species, these projects aim to encourage natural regeneration of local habitats and promote a resilient native plant assemblage for the future.

## BLANKET CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK RESTORATION

With guidance from Shearing Consultants Ltd., and the help of **40 VOLUNTEERS**, **185 NATIVE PLANTS** were planted in 2022.

Following restoration efforts in 2020 and 2021, CSISS watered the site weekly throughout the summer months. This fall, CSISS hosted a volunteer event focusing on education, indigenous storytelling and planting indigenous vegetation.

Support from BC Parks, allowed for the production and installation of an educational sign to provide information to park visitors about the restoration project (pictured below).



## SHUSWAP YELLOW FLAG IRIS

Little White Lake CSISS staff, Invasive Species Council of BC Stronger BC Team, and local volunteers **DEADHEADED YELLOW FLAG IRIS SEED PODS AND FLOWERS.**

CSISS completed detailed site inventory and post treatment monitoring for invasive yellow flag iris in sites around the Shuswap, including: White Lake, Turner Creek, McGuire Lake, Gardom Lake and Little White Lake

The Shuswap Trail Alliance crews, mechanically treated all infestations of yellow flag iris at White Lake(highest priority) Turner Creek and McGuire Lake.

The Invasive Species Council of British Columbia (ISCBC) supported the Project with Stronger BC Action teams completing work on both projects.

These projects are made possible from the funding support of :

- **BC Parks**
- **Environment and Climate Change Canada**
- **Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, and others.**



# FUNDING

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2022

Ministry of Lands, Water, and Resource Stewardship

Ministry of Forests

Employment and Social Development Canada (Canada Summer Jobs Program)

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation

Columbia Shuswap Regional District

BC Community Gaming Grant

Shuswap Watershed Council

City of Salmon Arm

Parks Canada

BC Hydro

BC Parks

Nature Trust of BC

Columbia Basin Trust

Invasive Species Council of British Columbia

Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (Restoration Seed grant)

### **In-kind contributions from:**

Revelstoke Tree Care and Jake and Jay (Blanket Creek Provincial Park Resotation)

ISCBC Stronger BC Salmon Arm Team

Weed pull volunteers

Numerous professional support

### **Other contributions received from:**

Revelstoke Grant In Aid, Sustain the Stoke Ambassador Program, Salmon Arm Garden Club, Revelstoke Accommodation Association

Plus other small donations, in kind supports and honorariums

*See CSISS 2022 Financial Report for more details*



# FINANCES

**Funding in 2022:**

**\$326,054.75**

in new revenue confirmed

**Funders:**

**25**

**In-kind Contributions:**

**\$ 27,344**

**Expenses in 2022:**

**\$ 329,400**

CSISS Programs

**88%**

Administration

**12%**



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS & TEAM

## 2021-2023 CSISS Board of Directors

Hamish Kassa - *Chair 2021-22*

Chris Chochran - *Vice Chair 2021-22, Chair 2022-23*

Peter Tarleton - *Director 2021-22, Vice-Chair 2022-23*

Laurel Corrigan - *Director*

John Braisher - *Director*

Adam Croxall - *Director*

Chris Gill - *Director*

Diane Millar - *Director*

Jeromy Schuetze - *Director*

Erin Vieira - *Director*

## 2022 CSISS Staff

Robyn Hooper - *Executive Director*

Sue Davies - *Interim Executive Director, Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator*

Kim Kaiser - *Interim Field Operations Program Coordinator*

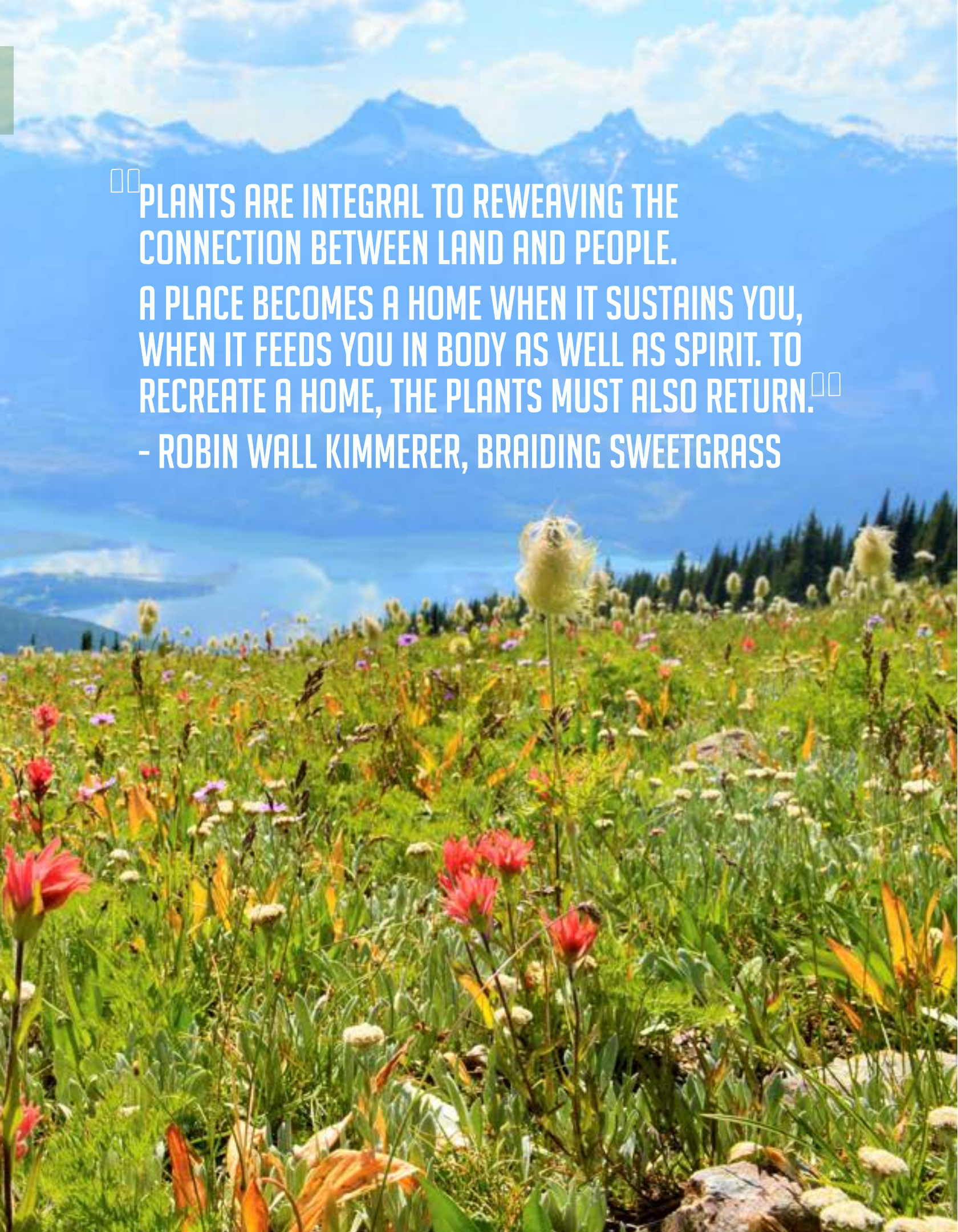
Jess Booth - *Interim Education and Outreach Program Coordinator*

Kelsey Desilets - *Interim Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator*

Marlee Verleih - *Invasive Species Program Assistant*

Nolan Novonty - *Invasive Species Program Assistant*





□□ PLANTS ARE INTEGRAL TO REWEAVING THE  
CONNECTION BETWEEN LAND AND PEOPLE.  
A PLACE BECOMES A HOME WHEN IT SUSTAINS YOU,  
WHEN IT FEEDS YOU IN BODY AS WELL AS SPIRIT. TO  
RECREATE A HOME, THE PLANTS MUST ALSO RETURN. □□  
- ROBIN WALL KIMMERER, BRAIDING SWEETGRASS





## COLUMBIA SHUSWAP INVASIVE SPECIES SOCIETY

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 **facebook** [@ColumbiaShuswapInvasives](https://www.facebook.com/ColumbiaShuswapInvasives)

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