

YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Period of April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014
Completed on July 25, 2014

PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

**WENDY KOTILLA
4327 MINTO ROAD
COURTENAY, BC
V9N 9P7
250-336-8487
wkotilla@shaw.ca
www.youthecology.ca**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Page	1
Table of Contents	2
Acknowledgements	2
1. Introduction	3
2. Progress and Outcomes	3
Youth Participant Summary	3
YERI and YERII Descriptions	4
Community Support and Partnerships.....	4
YER Youth Quotes	5
YER Caregiver Quotes	7
Program Promotion	9
Future Options	9
3. Budget	10
4. Summary	10
Table 1: Youth Participant Summary	11
Table 2: Budget for April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013	13
Appendix A: YER Community Partnerships	14

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Funding for the Youth and Ecological Restoration Program was provided by British Columbia, Ministry of Children and Family Development. Comox Valley Regional District, Grant in Aid funds allowed Professional Biologist, Ian Moul to support a Phase II project.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Youth and Ecological Restoration Program (YER) has been serving vulnerable youth in the Comox Valley since July 1, 2004. The program provides one on one work experience, training and support for youth who participate with local community groups involved in restoring our watersheds and ecosystems. To sum YER up in one word, the program is about relationships. The youth build better relationships with themselves, with community members and elders, and they build relationships with the land in this place where we live.

Our world is made smaller by boundaries created by villages, towns and cities. Urban borders contain us, creating a disconnection from the natural world. Guiding youth to step outside of the comfort zones created by technologies and municipalities expands their sense of who they are and their place in the broader world. Five YER goals encourage youth to learn and grow and strive forward: building healthy community relationships; gaining valued work experience, improving ecological knowledge, increasing personal and social skills, and enhancing communication skills.

Youth gain confidence and achieve success through this twenty hour program. Taking them out into the natural world together with the intergenerational mentoring from positive community members makes a difference. Their world opens to include people and places that were here all the time, yet formerly unknown in their lives. Circles of support are created, rippling outward the unique personal wisdom of each youth participant and inward the broader community support made accessible for them. Since 2004 two hundred and thirty-eight youth have participated in YER Phase I (YERI) and twenty-two youth have been involved in YER Phase II (YERII).

This report comprises the fiscal year of April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014. The Youth Participant Summary Table 1 represents six categories: youth completion rates (Table 1a); youth referral organizations (Table 1b); youth organization interconnections (Table 1c); ecological restoration groups (Table 1d); community presentation locations (Table 1e); and program completion rates (Table 1f). Table 2 presents the YER budget for 2013 to 2014. Appendix A records one hundred and thirty YER Community Partnerships established from 2004 to 2014.

2. PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES

For the fiscal year period of April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 the Youth Participant Summary Table 1 provides YERI and YERII details of completion rates, referral organizations, work placements and presentation locations. Youth and their caregivers were consulted about YER experiences and their voices are recounted here. Community support and partnerships explains the significance of these relationships for the program. Program promotion discusses annual advertising and marketing via presentations, the website and newspaper articles. Future options consider ways that YER can better serve vulnerable youth in the Comox Valley.

Youth Participant Summary

Twenty-four youth participated in YER from April 2013 to March 2014; twenty-two were in YERI and two in YERII. Ten girls and twelve boys were in YERI; and two boys in YERII (Table 1). Twenty-one youth completed YERI and one was incomplete; two youth completed YERII (Table 1a). Four Comox Valley groups referred youth to YER: Comox Valley School

District #71, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), Community Justice Centre and John Howard Society (Table 1b).

Referred youth had connections with fourteen other youth services that include local schools, government agencies, restorative justice, counseling groups and recreational activity centres (Table 1c). Ecological work was conducted by the twenty-four youth for seven environmental groups; twenty-two YERI youth worked with six groups on a range of ecological restoration jobs and two YERII youth setup a water monitoring project in Millard Creek headwaters (Table 1d).

Twenty-one YERI youth completed the program with presentations for eighteen groups; and two YERII youth guided a public tour of the project site (Table 1e). Twenty-one YERI youth finished the program; sixteen received fifty dollars and five completed community service hours; and all were issued a certificate, letter of reference, a crest and waterproof sticker. Two YERII youth received payment, YER hoodies, a crest and waterproof sticker on completion of the tour. They were also given a personalized photo certificate of them conducting YERII work and letter of reference customized to their specific project.

YERI and YERII Descriptions

YERI ecological work transpires in spring and fall, which is generally a busy time for local environmental groups. Youth work with four groups to gain work experience and training in a variety of situations and methods. They participate in salmon enhancement practises; upstream and downstream salmon migration estimates; water quality and quantity assessments; wildlife rescue and rehabilitation techniques; and ecological and watershed research programs. Five main groups continue to be the foundation of YER: Millard Piercy Watershed Stewards, Morrison Creek Streamkeepers, Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society, Oyster River Enhancement Society and Tsolum River Restoration Society. The program simply could not operate without their unwavering long term support.

Each YERII project creates and instills teamwork within the small group of two youth, YER coordinator, Wendy Kotilla and biologist, Ian Moul. Ian provides a stable male energy and influence for YERII youth, as well as the expertise to guide the project and provide a written report for the partnering organization. He refers to the YERII work as “a citizen science project with a goal of using scientific methods in ways that are interesting to the youth, helping them to gain a more in-depth understanding of what makes up a functioning ecosystem, while at the same time collecting information that will be useful in local land-use planning.” He is a treasure and YERII has been fortunate to secure his services for three years on six projects.

In 2013 there was one YERII project, which was mainly done with Grant in Aid funds through Comox Valley Regional District. The project was to establish monitoring sites for measurement of water quality and quantity in upper Millard Creek where groundwater surfaces as springs and seeps. We conducted the field work from August 12th to 14th, tour preparation on the 15th and the youth guided a public tour for sixteen participants on August 16th. More information is available on the YER website, where the Upper Millard Creek Headwaters Springs and Seeps Report 2013 is posted at <http://youthecology.ca/millard-creek-headwaters-springs-and-seeps-report-2013/> .

Community Support and Partnerships

Involvement with ecological restoration work in the Comox Valley keeps YER youth participants active in local watersheds and ecosystems. Youth acquire work experience and training for job readiness and employment applications. The YER letter of reference gives them job experience that is often one of the first items on their resumes.

The experience provided by Comox Valley groups is invaluable as these young people gain skills and knowledge to prepare them for their adult lives. Vulnerable youth can be unpredictable with difficult attitudes and unavailability for various reasons. That can sometimes be hard to explain, but many local groups have consistently accepted and welcomed YER youth at face value to the extent of trying again to conduct the environmental work or making a presentation another day.

YER could not exist without the tremendous community support that has been established through building relationships with local groups. For the youth these groups are not just work placements because the people involved take extra time to get to know them. A mutual exchange and respect transpires between the elder community members and youth. In 2013 and 2014 seven environmental groups and their members made work available for YER (Table 1d). There were also nineteen groups that had youth complete the program with a presentation (Table 1e).

Since the YER beginning there has been a total of one hundred and thirty groups connecting with the youth (Appendix A). Ten referral groups, thirty groups had ecological restoration services performed by the youth and ninety groups had program completion presentations from the youth (Appendix A). Referral groups and ecological restoration group numbers have remained the same for several years, but the presentation list has a small annual increase.

YER Youth Quotes

Hearing the voices of the youth is the best way to determine how the program is benefiting them. They are consulted about the knowledge they retain throughout the program. YERI quotes are listed below for each of the five YER goals, followed by two YERII youth quotes.

YERI Quotes

GOAL # 1: BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

Cooperation, Support and Compassion; Positive Role Models and Mentoring; Increased Community Capacity and Caring

- Community organizations are really important. There are lots of people who are motivated and determined to help. Lots of people care and help without expecting anything in return and they just spend lots of their time doing good for the environment and wildlife. It was a good experience to interact with kind and genuinely caring people. (*YERI Participant #221*)
- It got me more familiar with working with people I don't know and I think that is a good skill. It is a better skill than working with people you do know because it takes you out of your comfort zone. (*YERI Participant #226*)
- I learned that a lot of people get together to help protect our world and make it a better place. One thing I learned that was really important to me is you have to listen to what old people have to say because it's always true. They are speaking from past experiences and not just saying a load of bull. In the beginning I thought this program was going to be boring, but in the end it was loads of fun and gave me information that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. (*YERI Participant #236*)

- Another cool part of going to the fish hatchery was working with all the old guys that give their time to the fish. It's like a clan of salmon grandpas. They were very sweet and funny and easy to be around. I have a lot of respect for those guys and I know they appreciated my help. It feels good to be part of something big, the community and the ecosystem. *(YERI Participant #237)*

GOAL # 2: GAINING VALUED WORK EXPERIENCE

Data Collection Methods; Working with Tools; Worksite Safety; Job Variety; Good Work Ethics

- We worked for Project Watershed and seined with a net to see how many salmon lived there. To seine you need a boat, someone on the boat letting the net out and one person on land pulling the net in. When all the net is out then the person on the boat who was letting the net out gets out and starts pulling it into shore, but you have to keep the lead on the bottom so that the fish can't get out. We had to count the fish and then let them go. We got sculpin, coho, chum, chinook, gunnels, perch, flatfish and stickleback. *(YERI Participant #225)*
- We were watching the foraging behaviours of the Great Blue Herons and where they started to hunt for food. We were using a cellmaster spotter scope with a 64 x 112 power scope. We stood at the Royston Wrecks and watched the whole bay for the herons and documented where they were every 20 minutes. We would record how they move or stay in a place. As we were there we saw purple martins mating in the air, eagles feeding their kids in a nest, and then the sea otter was eating by the shipwrecks. *(YERI Participant #228)*
- We worked with little fish called minnows. We pulled the fish in the little cages out of the water and put them in a bucket full of water. In another bucket we put alka seltzer. We took a fish and put it in the alka seltzer to let it calm down. After about a minute or so we took the fish, put it on a measuring board, and wrote down its length. Then we dried the fish off, put the scale at 0, put it on and wrote down its weight, and then put it in another bucket of water. Then we released them. *(YERI Participant #234)*
- We went to a different spot on Millard Creek and got chest waders on and walked the creek counting salmon. We saw twelve coho, six males and one jack (a male that matured early). And we saw three redds (or salmon spawning area). The female makes a redd by going sideways in the water and flapping her tail to remove all the big rocks and make the ground smother and cleaner. *(YERI Participant #235)*

GOAL # 3: IMPROVING ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

Ecosystem Cycles and Interconnections; Identification Techniques for Plants, Animals and Fish; Understanding Environmental Impacts

- I learned that the great horned owl has 500 pounds of grip per square inch. It can crush your skull. People bring in animals if they are hurt. Then they put the animal in a cage and give the medicine or let them recover or they put them down if they are not going to survive; 75% of the time they die. I got to see an eagle six inches to a foot away from me. It was amazing to be able to be that close to an eagle. *(YERI Participant #218)*
- On the first day we went to Tsolum River. We counted fish and measured fish. We had to put on chest waders. We were on the Rotary Screw Trap. It's an aluminum platform with a rotating cone funneling the fish into the trap. We scooped them out with a net. We caught coho, chum and a couple rainbow trout. A coho has orange fins, purple stripes and dorsal and anal fins are sickle shaped. Chum are smaller and more silvery. Rainbow trout have a red line down their side. *(YERI Participant #223)*

- We saw a bear track and you could see the bear's claw marks. We also counted spawning salmon. Some salmon swam past us so fast it scared us. I saw female salmon digging their nest in the gravel, they are called redds. They build redds by lying on their side and flapping their tail. They lay their eggs in the redd, then the males fertilize the eggs. The female buries the eggs. A redd looks like a small hill of gravel that is cleaner than then gavel around it. Today we counted 29 coho and 21 redds. *(YERI Participant #233)*
- I learned how much the history changed for the fish. At first they were high and they started being low and now they are back to being normal again. Because of the trees being cut down, the logging. The fish benefit from the trees and without the trees they can't really survive very well. *(YERI Participant #238)*

GOAL # 4: INCREASING PERSONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS

Meaningful Participation and Empowerment; Commitment, Respect and Responsibility; Patience and Endurance; Accomplishment, Self-confidence and Success

- Patience played a huge part in all the jobs because everything takes time. The effort and commitment behind the restoration and ongoing care taken for nature was absolutely amazing. Working with other people in the community was one of my favourite things because they were all so friendly and caring and humourous. I feel it is very important to pass on this knowledge because everyone should be aware of the nature in our community. *(YERI Participant #219)*
- It feels good, it feels like I learned some new things and skills from this and it got me out of my box and did things I wouldn't have normally done. That I'm capable of more than I thought. I didn't know that I'd be able to do this kind of thing. I didn't know I would fully get involved and learn what I did. *(YERI Participant #227)*
- It feels pretty good because it is just like I completed it, I managed through it. I learned that if I really want to do something, all I have to do is try. *(YERI Participant #229)*
- This is a good side of me. I don't know; something that should be shoved back in. I don't like my good side; sometimes I like it, sometimes I don't know. I try not to be sensitive, I don't know. *(YERI Participant #231)*

GOAL # 5: ENHANCING COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Public Speaking and Leadership; Active Listening and Engagement; Interpersonal Relationships

- Now it brings me to here, doing my presentation with more knowledge than I started. I have a stronger voice than I thought. *(YERI Participant #220)*
- It was nice, they seemed pretty into it. They learned a little bit more about the fish, especially the girls. I was really happy to teach them about it because they are younger. A lot of people say they don't have the most attention spans, but I think they do. They'll pick that up more than anybody, like about the trees. I don't think they knew what the trees did. *(YERI Participant #222)*
- It was good, it was cool meeting new people and seeing new faces instead of seeing the same people every day because I get to see what their jobs are like and learn new stuff. *(YERI Participant #230)*
- I felt good, I felt fine, I liked it. I had a loud voice. I think they learned about the different birds and the Chinook and the bird in the grease and how a leaf is like a watershed. It feels good, I feel accomplished, I feel successful. *(YERI Participant #232)*

YERII Quotes

- I felt good and it helped me in a way I can't explain because it's really hard to. It's really hard for me to work with people. It's hard to work as a group. It sort of made me stronger. It made it easier for me to work in a group, the decisions and stuff that we all agreed on. Because I worked better as a group because I am learning to work together as a group. It is easier for me to work with friends in video games and stuff. Decision making and being included, it makes me feel better about myself. *(YERII Participant #21)*
- The most important thing, nothing I already knew. I learned about myself. If you have a team it's easier to work with a team than by yourself. It's good to talk things through and make a plan first. *(YERII Participant #22)*

YER Caregiver Quotes

Parents and caregivers may have another opinion of how YER is working for their youth. A set of caregiver questions are asked of people closest to the youth to investigate their perspective. Quotes are given below for YERI and YERII youth caregivers.

YERI Caregiver Quotes

- She was a very negative girl, but I was surprised with her attitude and how she learned in such a short time. You taught her so much and with bad attitude. She would come home and complain about you. She did fantastic. You handled her very well. I was impressed and being ecological, it's not something fun, pretty and tidy. It's actually learning something important and she will carry it with her. *(YERI Participant #220)*
- I was very impressed. Mostly because of the one-on-one interaction for him and that there was a woman running it. He never would have gone if you were a man. Because when you came to pick him up you walked into the house and said "let's go". It was good knowledge and he had never completed a presentation that he enjoyed doing. He's got a great work ethic now, he wants to volunteer in the community, to gain experience and have a good resume. *(YERI Participant #223)*
- I felt that he did his best. I felt him taking responsibility. It was a good feeling to see him have a sense of accomplishment at this age. It made him feel more adult and accomplished, a sense of himself and confident. It made him feel good, like a grownup when you get a job; you have that sense of feeling good. It made him feel worthwhile. *(YERI Participant #225)*
- He chose to do it for his community hours. Generally the community hour thing, he felt like he needed to give something back to rectify the situation. Having to get up early was good for him and he did this on his own. He has really needed hand holding, he has really stepped up and this has helped with that. It was a big part of it. He's in a really good place, he has another job. Just he's taking some responsibility, I really noticed a difference. It really helped him, it gave him confidence, and it made him feel good. *(YERI Participant #227)*
- The only thing I can say is I was impressed with the enthusiasm and him coming home in a good mood. He spoke highly of you. The way you were interacting with him, you didn't treat him like a child. Your eagerness to explain and talk to him on his level, it was just amazing. You actually talked to him like he was a human being and not a child. Anybody that can get this kind of enthusiasm out of him, then kudos to that person. Thank you so much for what you did for my son. *(YERI Participant #228)*
- I think you were great with her and she really made a connection with you. It was a good thing to prove to her that she is capable of doing something, any activity, from start to finish

and actually learning something. The outdoors is something she is passionate about. I just think it was a real positive in her life. She loves fishing and the outdoors and animals in the wild and she wants to be a vet and is looking forward to YERII. (*YERI Participant #229*)

- I think it's outstanding. It has a great affect, he's really pumped. He's showing off all his photos. He wants to do YERII. Whenever you are reaching in a different direction you learn. I think it's had a profound affect on him. For some people things are going to be hard to start. He speaks highly of you. He was really glad to be involved with you. You are a good leader. (*YERI Participant #233*)
- I think it helped him. I work hard at getting him to stay in a routine. I think this helped him step outside of the routine a bit and learning it is OK and safe and experiencing something new. I want him to embrace new things and I think he learned it is OK to experience new things. You provided a safe place for him. (*YERI Participant #234*)
- It's good to have. It helped her. I think it's neat to have connection to positive adult mentors besides your parents. There is not a lot of that. The work ethic of getting out there and doing hard work and discovery of more beautiful nature places in our valley. Seeing other people are helping nature and ecology by choice and being of service. (*YERI Participant #237*)
- It helped her to open up more and give her something to do other than computers. It helped her overcome those obstacles of knowing where she is and where she belongs in the world and determination to blossom and know she is worth something. You definitely put a mark in kid's lives, a positive role model when they have someone like that. (*YERI Participant #238*)

YERII Caregiver Quotes

- I was very excited for him, very pleased that he could move through his anxiety over it. Any time he's taken different programs he usually quits the first day, but all the other programs were men. Because it was outdoors and you didn't fall for his stuff and you could see his anxiety start. You saw it before it happened. For years nobody saw it or understood it and it went unnoticed. You talked to him on his level to see what was going on in his head instead of pushing him forward in what he was doing. Everybody in his life is in a hurry and we don't have time to stop and understand what is going on with him. These new kids don't understand that; we need to slow down for them. (*YERII Participant #21*)
- I was surprised at how much he retained and without notes. He was very upfront about not knowing and referred to the biologist. I saw a part of him I hadn't seen before, I was surprised about how much he retained. Given that he has lived with me for five years, I saw another part of his capability I wasn't aware of. He excelled. (*YERI Participant #22*)

Program Promotion

Promoting YER is part of the program sustainability and ensures its awareness in the Comox Valley community. This year promotion came through newspaper articles, creation of a YER power point presentation and website update. The YER brochure was to be updated this year, but it seemed a better investment to promote the website development and power point presentation. No community celebration was held this year as a ten year anniversary event is planned for 2014.

Two newspaper articles advertised the youth led tour of the YERII project in the headwaters of Millard Creek.

- August 13, 2013, Comox Valley Echo, Page A11 "Youth-Led Tour of Millard Springs Friday"
- August 13, 2013, Comox Valley Record, Page 6 "Tour Guided by Youth"

A power point presentation called “Transforming Youth from Learners to Leaders” was produced as a tool to publicize the program. The title depicts the transformation that occurs for youth through the twenty hour program. They enter YER with much uncertainty about where the journey will lead and leave YER with the skills and self confidence to teach a community group about it. The power point presentation was given to several groups: Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society, Eagle Festival in Campbell River with a theme of “The Next Generation”; Ministry of Children and Family Development in Courtenay; and John Howard Society in Courtenay. The presentation will continue to be shown to community groups to promote YER.

Continual Palingensis (CP), Social Media Solutions (<http://continualpalingensis.ca/>) updated and maintained the YER website (www.youthecology.ca). CP also assisted with preparation of the power point presentation. The website was improved with recent photos and images that gave it a fresh and unique appearance. CP updated the website news and events page during the year.

Future Options

Youth who have completed YER, Phase I (YERI) have the option to continue and complete YER, Phase II (YERII). There are two YERII projects a year that can support four youth completing the second phase. Youth who continue with YER experiences greatly benefit from participating in both phases as their personal growth and communication skills increase exponentially. YER, Phase III (YERIII) would involve youth mentoring initial YERI students, which would further ingrain their YER learning process. It would allow senior participants to fold their knowledge and skills back into junior members of the program and come full circle with their own YER practice. Increasing YERII possibilities and implementing YERIII would extend much needed support for vulnerable youth.

3. BUDGET

Budget for 2013/2014

The final budget for YER from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 is in Table 2. YER income of \$36,500.04 came from two sources: MCFD \$35,000.04 and CVRD \$1,500.00. Expenses and other YER contributions are itemized below.

- **Professional fees** included fees, administration costs and program evaluation for \$28,840.00. Professional Biologist fees were \$2,000.00.
- **Honouraria** for youth participants was \$900.00: \$50 each for eighteen youth.
- **Program Promotion** was \$630.00 for website updates and maintenance.
- **Transportation** costs were calculated at \$.50/kilometre for a total of \$2,427.90.
- **Supplies** of \$1,256.18 included office, lunch expenses and materials required for YER work.
- **Miscellaneous expenses** in the amount of \$474.88 were: \$67.20 equipment repair; \$372.68 for bank charges; and a \$35.00 membership fee. Bank fees were unusually high due to the \$100.00 business fee appearing twice (in April 2013 and March 2014) and a \$47.94 charge for YER cheques. The reason for the annual business fee change to March is unknown and resulted in a \$28.92 deficit which will be deferred to the 2014/2015 fiscal year.
- **Other Contributions** were \$2,000.00 for YERI training from experts within the community; \$500.00 for part of the YERII report supplied by Registered Biologist, Ian Moul; and \$500.00 for ecological work tools used for community work experience projects.

4. SUMMARY

YER beginnings in 2004 were formed from my own live experiences and created to present opportunities for youth who need additional support in their lives. The program takes youth outside of themselves by offering an alternative to their present circumstances through immersion in the natural world and working with positive people. YER has been very effective with a ninety-six percent achievement rate for YERI and one hundred percent for YERII (Table 1f).

YERI introduces youth to the collective ecological and social aspects of our community; YERII reinforces teamwork and collaboration principles while focusing on one environmental research project. YERIII would involve senior program graduates mentoring junior participants. YER is about building positive and respectful relationships. Now in its tenth year, the longevity of this Comox Valley program is a significant measure of its success.

From April 2013 to March 2014 twenty-two youth participated in YERI and one was incomplete; two youth concluded YERII (Table 1a). There have been a total of two hundred and thirty-eight youth in YERI and twenty-two in YERII. The program has built community relationships with one hundred and thirty groups (Appendix A) and YER youth have collectively interacted with many hundreds of people.

As eloquently expressed in the youth and caregiver interviews, the youth finish YERI and YERII having gained knowledge and wisdom they will carry within themselves for life. They discover how to give and receive respect, take responsibility and feel worthwhile, practice job readiness and good work ethics, share who they are and find their voice, and realize accomplishment and success. As suggested by the new YER power point presentation title, the program is a process of “transforming youth from learners to leaders”. YER instills personal and social skills necessary to create confident future citizens of our local and global communities.

**TABLE 1: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY TABLE FOR APRIL 1, 2013 TO MARCH 31, 2014.**

YER for Comox Valley vulnerable youth funded by BC, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD).

YERI had 22 participants; 10 girls and 12 boys. YERII had 2 participants; 2 boys.

YERII numbering: YERII is first and the original YERI number follows the hyphen.

Table 1a: YER COMPLETION

YERI initial program is 20 hours; YERII advanced program is 25 hours.

	YOUTH TOTALS
Total YERI Complete: Participant # 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238 (420 hours)	21
Total YERII Complete: # 21-223, 22-128 (50 hours)	2
Total Incomplete: # 217 (18 hours)	1
TOTAL 488 WORK EXPERIENCE HOURS	24

Table 1b: YOUTH ORGANIZATION REFERRALS
YERI and YERII participants were referred by six agencies.

CV School District: # 217, 218, 223, 224, 225, 228, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 21-223	14
Glacier View Learning Centre: Bridgeway # 230 Independent Learning # 232; Key Program # 223, 231, 233, 21-223 Cumberland Junior School: # 228, 234 Lake Trail Middle School: # 217, 218, 224, 225, 235, 236	
MCFD: # 219, 222, 229, 238	4
Mental Health Team # 219; Aboriginal Services: # 222 Over Twelve Team # 238; Foster Parent: # 229	
Comox Valley Community Justice Centre: # 221, 226, 227, 237, 22-128	5
John Howard Society: # 220	1
TOTAL 4 YOUTH REFERRAL ORGANIZATIONS	24

Table 1c: YOUTH ORGANIZATION INTERCONNECTIONS
YERI and YERII participants are interconnected with other Comox Valley youth services.

SD #71: # 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 21-223, 22-128	24
The Linc: # 217, 218, 220, 225, 227, 229, 230, 232, 233, 235, 236, 237, 238, 22-128	14
MCFD: # 217, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 229, 231, 233, 238, 21-223, 22-128	13
Comox Valley Community Justice Centre: # 221, 226, 227, 237, 22-128	5
Comox Valley Boys and Girls Club: # 217, 218, 227, 232, 238	5
Counseling - Source Unknown: # 220, 227, 228, 235, 236	5
Lake Trail Middle School Counseling: # 218, 225, 235, 236, 238	5
John Howard Society: # 219, 220, 227, 22-128	4
Wachiy Friendship Centre: # 224, 229, 238, 22-128	4
Comox Valley Family Services: # 224, 229, 232, 234	4
Vancouver Island Health Authority (Dr. Coxon; Dr. Lupton; Dr. Somers): 219, 232, 233, 234	4
Pacific Therapy: # 229, 230	2
Cumberland Junior School Counselling: 231, 234	2
Glacier View Learning Centre Counseling: # 232	1
TOTAL 14 YOUTH ORGANIZATION INTERCONNECTIONS	

TABLE 1 (Cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY TABLE FOR APRIL 1, 2013 TO MARCH 31, 2014.

Table 1d: ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION ORGANIZATIONS

YERI work events were attended by 1387 community members; average 58 per youth.

YERII projects were collaborative teams of two youth and two adults.

	YOUTH TOTALS
Oyster River Enhancement Society: # 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 235, 236, 237, 238	21
Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society: # 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 238	20
Millard/Piercy Watershed Stewards: # 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238	18

Tsolum River Restoration Society: # 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 225, 226, 227, 231, 232, 234, 235, 237	15
Morrison Creek Streamkeepers: # 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 224, 225, 227, 228, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237	14
Comox Valley Project Watershed Society: # 225, 226	2
Comox Valley Regional District, Millard Creek Headwater Springs: # 21-223, 22-128	2
TOTAL 7 ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	

Table 1e: COMMUNITY PRESENTATION LOCATIONS

Each YERI youth gives an oral presentation; two YERII youth co-facilitate and guide a public tour.

Community members at presentations/tours are in brackets in the youth total column.

Glacier View Alternate School: # 221, 227, 230, 232	4
Senior Alternate # 221 (19); Independent Learning # 227 (20)	(19, 20, 4, 13)
Bridgeway # 230 (4); Key # 232 (13)	
St Joseph Hospital, Transitional Ward: # 223 (9), 224 (10), 231 (9), 236 (8)	4 (9, 10, 9, 8)
Comox Valley Regional District, Millard Creek Headwater Springs: # 21-223 (16), 22-128 (16)	2 (16, 16)
John Howard Society: # 220 (4)	1 (4)
Cumberland Lodge: # 218 (8)	1 (8)
Fanny Bay Old Age Pensioners, Seniors Craft Group: # 234 (12)	1 (12)
The Linc, Staff: # 225 (4)	1 (4)
Island Early Childhood Education: # 237 (7)	1 (7)
Saltwater Waldorf School: # 226 (25)	1 (25)
Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary School, Kindergarten/Grade 1 (Miss Leslie): # 233 (20)	1 (20)
Cumberland Elementary School, Grade 2 (Mrs. Ellis): # 222 (21)	1 (21)
Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 2/3 (Miss May): # 238 (23)	1 (23)
Cumberland Elementary School, Grade 5/6 (Mrs. Klassen): # 229 (21)	1 (21)
Arden Park Elementary School, Grade 6 (Miss Ainsworth): # 219 (35)	1 (35)
Lake Trail Middle School, Grade 8 Science Class (Mr. Follis): # 235 (22)	1 (22)
Cumberland Junior School, Grade 8 Social Studies Class (Mr. Curtin): # 228 (30)	1 (30)
TOTAL 19 COMMUNITY PRESENTATION LOCATIONS; 356 AUDIENCE PARTICIPANTS	23 (356)

Table 1f: YER COMPLETION RATES

YERI: Total number of 238 youth participants; 228 completed the 20 hour program	96%
YERII: Total number of 22 youth participants; 22 completed the 25 hour program	100%

**TABLE 2: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
BUDGET FOR APRIL 1, 2013 TO MAR 31, 2014.**

Expenses, income and other contributions are required to conduct YER work experience and training for vulnerable youth in the Comox Valley. YER 2013/2014 funding was provided by BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Grant in Aid funds were received to hire a biologist for a YERII project. In kind contributions are provided by Comox Valley groups for training and tools to complete projects to restore local watersheds and ecosystems.

Expense Item	Expenses	Income	In Kind Contributions
Program Delivery Biologist	\$28,840.00 \$2,000.00	MCFD \$35,000.04 CVRD \$1,500.00	Training \$2,000.00 Report 500.00
Youth Honouraria	\$900.00		
Program Promotion	\$630.00		
Mileage	\$2,427.90		
Supplies	\$1,256.18		
Other Bank Fee	\$474.88 -\$28.92		Tools \$500.00
TOTALS	\$36,500.04	\$36,500.04	\$3,000.00

**APPENDIX A: YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER)
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Page 1 of 3)**

YER partnered with one hundred and thirty groups July 2004 to March 2014.

Ten groups referred youth clients from July 2004 to March 2014:

- BC Children’s Hospital www.bcchildrens.ca
- Comox Valley Community Justice Centre www.cjc-comoxvalley.com
- Comox Valley Family Services Association www.comoxvalleyfamilyservices.com
- Comox Valley School District: Lake Trail Middle School; Mark Isfeld School
- Comox Valley Youth Resource Society
- Glacier View Learning Centre: web.sd71.bc.ca/glacier_view/

Bridgeway; Independent Learning; Key Program; Nalata'atsi; Sandwick; Senior Alternate

- John Howard Society of North Island www.jhsni.bc.ca/
- Ministry of Children and Family Development: www.gov.bc.ca/mcf/
Probation Services; Mental Health; Parent Teen Mediation; Over Twelve
- Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health www.queenalexandra.org
- Wachiay Friendship Centre, Raven Back Youth Group www.wachiay.org

Thirty groups had youth conduct ecological restoration work from July 2004 to March 2014:

- Brooklyn Creek Watershed Society www.bcws.ca
- BC Hydro, Bridge Coastal Fish & Wildlife Restoration Program
- BC Ministry of Environment www.gov.bc.ca/env
- BC Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection www.gov.bc.ca/env
- BC Ministry of Transportation www.gov.bc.ca/tran
- Comox Valley Environmental Council
- Comox Valley Land Trust www.cvlandtrust.org
- Comox Valley Natural History Society www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Project Watershed Society www.projectwatershed.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Regional District www.rdcv.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Sustainability Network
- Comox Valley Water Watch
- Comox Valley Watershed Assembly
- Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association www.courtenayfishandgame.org
- Cumberland Community Forestry Society www.cumberlandforest.com
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- Fanny Bay Enhancement Society www.fbses.ca
- Garry Oak Ecosystem Recovery Team www.goert.ca
- Georgia Strait Alliance www.georgiastrait.org
- Hart Watershed Society
- Millard/Piercy Watershed Stewards www.millardpiercy.org
- Morrison Creek Streamkeepers www.morrisoncreek.org/
- Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society www.wingtips.org
- Natural Journeys Society
- Oyster River Enhancement Society www.oysterriverenhancement.org/
- Perseverance Creek Streamkeepers
- Streamside Native Plants http://members.shaw.ca/nativeplants/streamside_home.html
- Sunrise Rotary Club www.strathconasunrise.bc.ca
- Tsolum River Restoration Society www.tsolumriver.org/
- World Community Development Education Society www.worldcommunity.ca

APPENDIX A (cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER) COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Page 2 of 3)

YER partnered with one hundred and thirty Comox Valley groups July 2004 to March 2014.

Ninety community groups had youth presentations from July 2004 to March 2014:

- Airport Elementary School, Grade 1
- Airport Elementary School, Grade 2/3

- Arden Park Elementary School, Kindergarten
- Arden Park Elementary School, Grade 1
- Arden Park Elementary School, Grade 4
- Arden Park Elementary School, Grade 6
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 3
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 4
- Aspen Park Elementary School, Grade 7
- Berwick Retirement Society www.berwickrc.com/comox
- Brooklyn Elementary, Grade 5
- Casa Loma Seniors Village www.retirementconcepts.com/homes/comox-valley
- Comox Rotary Club www.comoxrotary.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Aboriginal Head Start Program, Pre-School Group
- Comox Valley Boys and Girls Club, Voices Choices Group www.cvboysandgirlsclub.ca
- Comox Valley Community Justice Centre www.cjc-comoxvalley.com
- Comox Valley Land Trust, Annual General Meeting www.cvlandtrust.org
- Comox Valley Land Trust, Board Meeting www.cvlandtrust.org
- Comox Valley Natural History Society www.comoxvalleynaturalist.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Senior Peer Counselling www.comoxvalleyseniorpeercounselling.com
- Comox Valley Project Watershed Society www.projectwatershed.bc.ca
- Comox Valley Regional District, Community Services Branch www.comoxvalleyrd.ca
- Comox Valley Watershed Assembly
- Comox Valley Women's Resource Society
- Comox Valley Youth for Christ www.comoxvalley.yfccanada.org
- Comox Valley Youth Resource Society
- Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association www.courtenayfishandgame.org
- Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 2/3
- Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 3/4
- Courtenay Elementary School, Grade 5/6
- Cumberland Elementary School, Grade 5/6
- Creekside Commons www.creeksidecommons.ca
- Cumberland Elementary School, Grade 2
- Cumberland Elementary School, Grade 5/6
- Cumberland Junior School, Grade 8
- Cumberland Lodge
- Cumberland Rotary Club www.rotarycc.org
- Earth Day Festival
- Eureka Clubhouse
- Fanny Bay Enhancement Society www.fbses.ca
- Fanny Bay Old Age Pensioners, Seniors Craft Group
- Glacier View Lodge Society www.glacierviewlodge.ca
- Glacier View School, Brideway Program
- Glacier View School, Independent Learning Program
- Glacier View School, Key Program
- Glacier View School, Senior Alternate Program
- Island Early Education Centre, After School Group

- John Howard Society, Staff Meeting www.jhsni.bc.ca/

APPENDIX A (cont.): YOUTH AND ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (YER) COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Page 3 of 3)

YER partnered with one hundred and thirty Comox Valley groups July 2004 to March 2014.

Ninety community groups had youth presentations July 2004 to March 2014 (cont.):

- Kidzone Daycare
- Kiwanis Club of Courtenay www.facebook.com/pages/Kiwanis-Club-of-Courtenay-BC
- Lake Trail Middle School, Grade 8
- Lake Trail Middle School, Grade 9
- Lake Trail Middle School, Pride Program
- Lewis Centre, Youth Program, Day Camp www.courtenay.ca/recreation/programs.aspx
- Lighthouse Early Learning Centre www.cvcdcs.com/
- Linc Youth Centre, Action Committee
- Linc Youth Centre, Staff
- Linc Youth Centre, Youth Council
- Merry Andrew Day Care
- Millard Piercy Watershed Stewards www.millardpiercy.org
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Mental Health Team
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Over Twelve Team
- Ministry of Children and Family Development, Probation Services
- Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society, AGM www.wingtips.org
- Nala'atsi Alternate School
- North Island College, Human Service Worker Program
- North Island College, Human Services Articulation Conference
- Oyster River Enhancement Society www.oysterriverenhancement.org/
- Puddleduck Daycare
- Pumpkin Patch Daycare
- Puntledge Park Elementary School, Grade 4
- Puntledge Park Elementary School, Kindergarten
- Queneesh Elementary School, Earth Day Celebration
- Queneesh Elementary School, Kindergarten to Grade 4
- Roseberry Pre-School
- Royston Elementary School, Grade 7
- St. Josephs Hospital, Adolescent Support Group
- St. Josephs Hospital, Residential Care Facility
- St. Josephs Hospital, Transitional Ward
- Saltwater Waldorf School
- Scouts Canada, First Comox Scout Troup
- Scouts Canada, First Tsolum Cubs Group
- Stevenson Place (Seniors Independent Living) www.novapacific.ca/page131.htm
- Tsolum River Restoration Society www.tsolumriver.org/
- Vanier Senior Secondary School, Counseling Group
- Vanier Senior Secondary School, Grade 8 English
- Vanier Senior Secondary School, Grade 8 Science

- Wachiay Friendship Centre, Elders Lunch www.wachiay.org
- Wachiay Friendship Centre, Raven Back Youth Group www.wachiay.org
- Youth and Ecological Restoration Program, Annual Community Celebration