

Thank you for your support.

This past year has been a testament to our collective dedication to protecting and preserving Canada's invaluable freshwater ecosystems and aquatic habitat. At Trout Unlimited Canada, our mission is clear: to conserve, protect, and restore Canada's freshwater ecosystems and their coldwater resources for current and future generations.



Our work is guided by four main conservation themes: water quality, water quantity, habitat, and aquatic community. Through collaborative efforts, we have restored over 48,000 square meters of vital freshwater habitats, promoting biodiversity and resilience. Key highlights from the year include:

- The launch of our pilot program, Cooling Streams, a riparian rehabilitation and tree planting program designed to protect the health of streams and rivers. Last year, we planted over 5,000 trees to create shade and stabilize stream banks on over 21,000 sq. meters.
- LTPBR (Low-tech process based restoration) a technique that mimics beaver dams to slow the flow of water and keep the ground wet for longer reducing the impacts of drought, out-of-control wildfires, and habitat health
- Rehabilitation and replacement of culverts at watercourse crossings for fish to move freely up and downstream, which brought back the Bull Trout and Beavers to the Waiparous area for the first time in 60 years.

While celebrating our successes, we recognize the persistent challenges ahead with climate change, biodiversity loss and the threat of invasive species. With our volunteers, we are up to the challenge. TUC puts more work on the ground than any other national freshwater conservation organization and we will continue to lead now and in the future.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our dedicated team, passionate members, generous donors, committed volunteers, and supportive partners. Your passion and contributions are the driving force behind our success, and together, we will continue to make a meaningful difference in conserving, protecting and restoring Canada's freshwater ecosystems.

With gratitude,

Silvia D'Amelio
CEO of Trout Unlimited Canada



Our Values.

We actively work towards restoring degraded freshwater habitats, enhancing their resilience to climate change, pollution and other threats.

**Action
Oriented**

Volunteers are at the core of much of the work we do. Their dedication, passion, and commitment to conservation projects including habitat restoration, water quality monitoring, invasive species removal, and native species planting are core to our success.

**Volunteer
Driven**

We apply scientifically supported solutions to address current issues on the ground. We contribute to scientific studies, monitoring, and knowledge exchange initiatives to improve our understanding of aquatic systems. This ensures the sustainability of our work.

**Science
Based**

We implement targeted restoration projects to address the root cause of problems on the landscape to enable the system to continue improving and evolving post-restoration

**Solution
Driven**

We foster strategic partnerships and collaborations with government agencies, NGOs, Indigenous organizations, businesses, and local communities to leverage collective expertise, and resources while driving community learning and engagement.

**Consensus
Builders**

Our Goals.




Advocacy and Policy Influence

Advocate for evidence-based policies, regulations, and investments that advance freshwater conservation, climate adaptation, and sustainable water management goals at all levels of governance.



Education and Awareness

Conduct public education campaigns, outreach events, and educational programs to raise awareness about the importance of freshwater, foster environmental literacy, and inspire collective action.



Evaluation and Learning

Continuously evaluate, assess, and learn from our conservation initiatives, monitoring progress, measuring outcomes, staff and office footprint, and adapting strategies based on lessons learned and best practices to maximize our impact.



Mobilize People

Facilitate community engagement and initiatives that empower local communities to take an active role in protecting freshwater resources.



Conservation Strategies

Develop and implement climate resilience strategies and conserve, protect and restore native species of fish, wildlife, and plants that rely on freshwater and coldwater environments, supporting biodiversity and ecosystem health.

Our Team.

Trout Unlimited Canada is a registered Canadian charitable organization and has been improving the lives and health of Canadians for over 50 years. A leader in water and fisheries protection, TUC's renowned professional staff works with volunteers and partners to protect natural spaces and improve Canadian resources.

To our members, donors, volunteers and partners, thank you for your support and commitment to preserving Canada's freshwater ecosystems. Your generosity and partnership have been instrumental in our efforts to conserve, protect and restore these vital habitats.



We get things done.

Through partnerships and leveraging of funds, \$4 worth of work is completed for every \$1 donated. Our highly trained staff supports a network of volunteers across Canada operating through Trout Unlimited Canada volunteer chapters, from PEI to Vancouver Island.

Conserved

48,000 square meters

Protected

34,468 Fish Rescued

Restored

4,478 Native Trees Planted

Reconnected

Over 5 km of Stream

Educated

Over 5,000 Youth

Conserve. Protect. Restore.

In May 2023, TUC successfully hosted a workshop centered around Low-Tech Process-Based Restoration (LTPBR) at the MD Ranchlands and Waldron Ranch located in southwestern Alberta. The workshop featured renowned keynote speakers, including Dr. Stephen Bennett from Anabran Solutions and Dr. Scott Shahverdian from Utah State University. The attendees included a diverse group of ENGOs, municipal staff, consultants, landowners, and regulators. During the workshop, participants had an opportunity to visit Sharples Creek and Chaffen Creek, where they gained valuable insights through contrasting experiences.



Sharples Creek represented a stream that lacked beavers, while Chaffen Creek showcased a stream that was dominated by beavers. The workshop also dedicated a day at Jim Creek, located on the Waldron Ranch, where participants actively constructed beaver dam analogues (BDAs) and post-assisted log structures (PALS). This hands-on experience offered valuable insights into these innovative techniques. The LTPBR workshop organized by TUC fostered knowledge exchange, collaboration, and practical learning for all involved stakeholders. It set TUC up as a leader in this field of restoration in Canada.

Beavers play a vital role in maintaining healthy freshwater ecosystems in many regions in Canada. Their dams create wetlands, which act as natural filters, regulate water flow, and provide habitat for countless species.



COOLING STREAMS

In May 2023, a Cooling Streams pilot project was conducted at Armstrong Creek in Markdale, Ontario. The project involved planting 1000 trees and shrubs of 23 species over several days. Trout Unlimited Canada staff from Ontario and Alberta, along with 17 volunteers, participated in the project. This project is an extension of the previous efforts of the local Happy Trout Chapter and other partners working along Armstrong Creek. The project is a pilot for the Cooling Streams program and provides a model for event planning to support TUC chapters and partners in their conservation efforts.



The Future is hot, we gotta make shade!



Cooling Streams is a riparian rehabilitation and tree planting program designed to protect the health of streams and rivers from the impacts of climate change by providing shade, stabilizing stream banks, protecting and providing habitat and facilitating carbon capture.



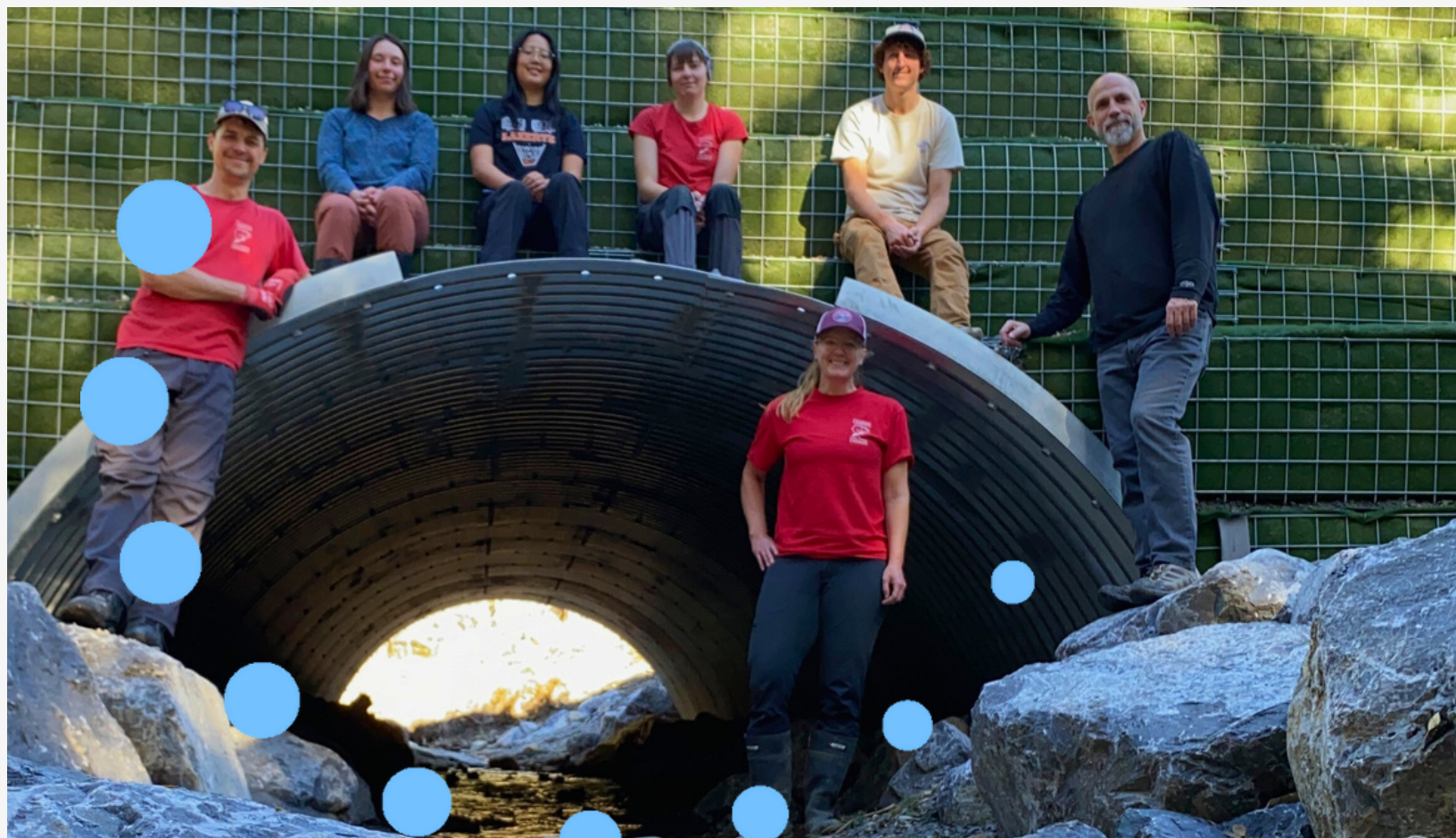
RECONNECTING



In July, surveys above a TUC project confirmed the presence of Bull Trout upstream of the project site. This confirms that fish are now able to move freely upstream and downstream of the road without impediment for the first time in over 60 years.

Youth from the Whispering Pines Bible Camp helped with the electrofishing survey that confirmed these results. The new arch has also facilitated the movement of another aquatic animal. A new family of beavers has built a set of dams and established a home immediately upstream of the beaver dam analogues that TUC installed in 2022.

The beaver dam analogues gave the beavers a head start in transforming this stream from a simple, low-quality creek that dries up in late summer to one that is complex and will eventually flow year-round



Corporate Environment Days.

In 2023 TUC organized a series of Corporate Environment Day programs in three different provinces. The events engaged six different groups, including Canon Canada, Plains Midstream Canada, CCI and TC Energy. The employees of these organizations worked hard to remove invasive species, clean up shorelines, plant trees, and install bioengineering structures like beaver dam analogues and live willow stakes. All of these events helped educate the participants and their actions enhanced water quality, promoted biodiversity, and built resilience to climate change.

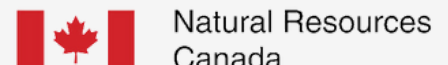


Gratitude to our Sponsors.

We extend our sincerest appreciation to our invaluable sponsors and donors whose unwavering support has propelled our conservation efforts forward. Their generosity and commitment to our cause have made a significant impact, and we are deeply grateful for your continued partnership.



Ontario
Trillium Foundation



To review the full list of our amazing donors, sponsors and supporters, please visit our website at tucanada.org/our-partners/

Dedicated & Action-Oriented.

Our chapters and volunteers are action-oriented and are involved in conservation education, stream rehabilitation, habitat restoration and habitat protection across Canada. We develop projects and programs that focus on the relationship between land, water, shorelines, river valleys and the communities that live near these natural features. The following is a summary of the activities conducted by our local chapters:



Northern Lights Fly Fishers Chapter

In May 2023, the chapter donated 1,000 hand-tied flies to the Fort Saskatchewan Kids Can Catch event hosted by the AB Conservation Association. This event engaged youth in the sport of fishing and foster appreciation for Alberta's freshwater resources. In June 2023, Northern Lights partnered with the AB Conservation Association to conduct an experimental alum treatment of Rainbow Park Pond near Westlock, AB. This initiative aimed to mitigate phosphorus pollution and reduce algal blooms in the pond. In October 2023, Northern Lights conducted a garbage cleanup at Hasse Lake to protect the lake's health and enhance the experience of visitors.



Speed Valley Chapter

In April, a cleanup event was organized along the Speed River, during which 350 lbs of garbage were collected. This event supported the health of the river, as well as local wildlife, and improved the visitor experience. In June, a tree-planting event was held in collaboration with the City of Guelph and Birds Canada. During this event, 150 trees and 100 flowering plants were planted to provide habitat and forage for local bird populations. Additionally, the Chapter conducted a water temperature survey on Hanlon Creek to investigate the warming influence of leaking stormwater management ponds.

Happy Trout Chapter

In May 2023, the chapter participated in the Cooling Streams pilot project on Armstrong Creek in Markdale, helping to plant 1,000 trees in the newly reclaimed floodplain. This marked the completion of the dam removal and riparian restoration work on Armstrong Creek that has been led by the chapter.



The Bow River Chapter

The chapter celebrated its 30th Annual Tackle Swap on April 16, 2023. They also conducted spring and fall redd surveys along Fish Creek and the Bow River, respectively, to evaluate the health of the trout population in the area.

Millbrook Chapter

In April 2023, the chapter organized the Millbrook Kids Fishing Derby in collaboration with the Millbrook Lions Club which had 170 participants. The event exemplifies their dedication to promoting outdoor activities and conservation awareness among the younger generation.

The Oldman River Chapter

The chapter participated in a project to build Beaver Dam Analogue structures on Trout Creek in June 2023. The project was aimed at supporting the native Westslope Cutthroat Trout habitat.



Middle Grand Chapter

On April 29, 2023, a community tree-planting event was organized by the chapter in collaboration with Enbridge Gas at Horner Creek. Over 40 volunteers participated in the event and planted 1,000 trees to restore creek health and provide habitat for wildlife. During the summer, woody debris management events were held at Washington, Alder, and Landon's creeks to help correct the over-widening and heating of the creek. In the fall, sediment mat installation was carried out in Landon's Creek to help narrow the over-widened creek.



Prince County Chapter

In June 2023, our chapter hosted a plant ID workshop with biologist Kate McQuarrie. The event aimed to educate the public on the importance of nature conservation.



Greg Clark Chapter

In April 2023, the chapter conducted cleanup projects at three sites on the Credit River, collecting 105kg of garbage to support river health and enhance the user experience. Additionally, the chapter hosted tree planting events in April and May to support the health of the Credit River and provide habitat for fish and wildlife.



Niagara Chapter

In June 2023, the chapter organized education and fly-tying events in collaboration with a local Scout troop. They also launched a new program called "Aliens are Invading Twelve Mile Creek" to encourage the community to identify, remove, and replace alien plants with native species. Additionally, they installed three boot brushes at the entrances to Short Hills Provincial Park to prevent the spread of invasive plant material or insects by the many visitors to the park. The group planted over 5000 native plants in the Upper Twelve Mile Creek Watershed to safeguard the coldwater stream from rising temperatures and provide local biodiversity. Furthermore, they partnered with a corporate partner to remove 240 Kg of invasive Phragmites, a species that can dominate lakeshores and wetlands, preventing the growth of native species and the wildlife that depend on them.

Love from our partners.

“Trout Unlimited Canada has been an incredible environmental partner for many years. Their commitment to environmental sustainability and community conservation is exactly why we team with them for Branch Out, Canon Canada’s volunteer program that encourages employees to spend part of their day creating green spaces and sustainable environments around the communities where they live and work. Our employees always look forward to the activities planned for them. We know TUC will continue to do great work in the community.”

**Sammy
Kobayashi**

President & CEO,
Canon Canada

“Thank you for taking us out for a great day of volunteering. It was invaluable for our team to see just one of many remediation activities that are taking place in our watersheds. We all loved it and genuinely enjoyed getting to know you and the entire team.”

Leah Hesje

Brand
Commercialization
Manager, Big Rock
Brewery

“This was a great opportunity availed to us to do something positive for the area and ensure it will be there for our kids.”

John Gosens

District Manager,
Plains Midstream
Canada

Canon

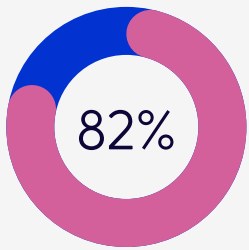


Financials.

Through partnerships and leveraging of funds, \$4 worth of work is completed for every \$1 donated. Our highly trained staff supports a network of volunteers across Canada operating through Trout Unlimited Canada volunteer chapters, from PEI to Vancouver Island.

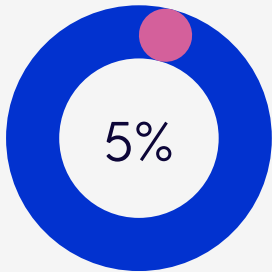


Expenditures



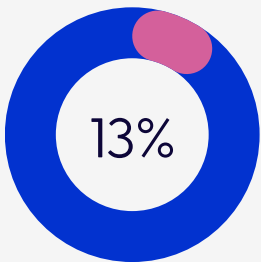
Conservation Projects

Leading the charge in aquatic restoration, TUC blends tried and true techniques with evolving research and techniques to implement lasting change on the landscape. Working with partners, volunteers and corporations, TUC's projects improve water quality, increase native biodiversity, protect wild spaces, increase climate resiliency, battle climate change and increase carbon capture



Education

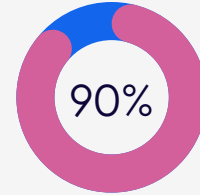
Through innovative and inclusive educational programs, we aim to inspire a generation of conservation-minded citizens who actively engage in sustainable practices, advocate for healthy waterways, and contribute to the long-term health and resilience of our freshwater resources



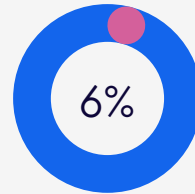
Support Services

A leader in water and fisheries protection, TUC's renowned professional staff works with volunteers and partners to protect natural spaces and improve Canadian resources. Science based and volunteer driven, Trout Unlimited Canada puts more work on the ground than any other national fresh water conservation organization.

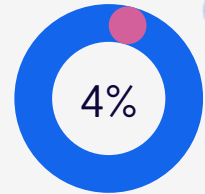
Revenue



Grants, Donations & Contract Revenue



Fundraising Events



Other Revenue

We express our gratitude to all individuals, organizations, and partners who have supported us through donations, program fees, merchandise purchases, and consulting engagements. Your contributions have been instrumental in advancing our mission to conserve, protect, and restore Canada's freshwater ecosystems. Scan to learn more or donate!

