# Summary of Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society Successes 2014-2018

Compiled by Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS) for March 2019 CSRD Delegation

# Outreach Program

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL
Number of People (Direct Interactions)	1,800	2,960	3,110	4,673	3,998	16,541
Number of events attended	48	112	154	184	167	665



# **Aquatics Program**

Number of invasive mussel lake samples that all tested negative:

	2015	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL
Number of Invasive Mussel	22	16	51	118	207
Lake Samples					



# Terrestrial Program

Number of invasive plant surveys:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL
Number of	135	171	322	493	712	1,833
invasive plant						
surveys						



## Collaboration and Coordination

The CSISS has participated and led a number of collaboration and coordination activities since 2014. In 2018 alone, CSISS participated in the following collaboration and coordination events:

- Monthly conference calls and collaboration with BC Regional Invasive Species Organizations
- Invasive Species Council of BC (ISCBC) Annual Forum and Strategic Meeting, and collaboration with ISCBC
- Participated in Columbia Basin Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Steering Committee, and AIS Framework
- Hosted workshops for industry and stakeholders on invasive species management and best practices:
  - o Invasive species plant identification workshops (x 5) in Salmon Arm, Revelstoke, Sicamous and Golden (May 2018);
  - City of Salmon Arm tailgate training (May 2018);
  - o Columbia Shuswap Regional District tailgate training (May 2018);
  - Invasive Species Site Rehabilitation course (September 2018);
  - Invasive Species Education workshop at national Environmental Educators conference (October 2018).
- The CSISS supported 12 weed pulls in collaboration with community groups.
- CSISS worked with over 303 partner organizations, 60 of whom were new in 2018
- First Nations meetings and training workshops:
  - o Participation in Shuswap Salmon Symposium, Little Shuswap Lake Band's lands;
  - o Indigenous day events at Pierre's Point (Adams Lake Indian Band) and Carlin Elementary School;
  - Shuswap Trails Working Group Meetings and networking with First Nations participants who included Splatsin,
    Neskonlith, Little Shuswap, and Adams Lake Indian Bands;
  - o Presentation to Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band students at Tsútswecw Provincial Park;
  - Tsútswecw Park renaming ceremony;
  - Contacted Aboriginal education assistant at Revelstoke Secondary School to arrange for invasive species to feature in new AbEd workshops planned for 2019; and
  - Meeting with ASETS Aboriginal Employment group to discuss indigenous employment opportunities.

# **Funding Leveraged**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL
% Administrative Costs	7.45%	13.90%	8.46%	8.84%	10.56%	Average 10.29%
% Program Delivery	92.55%	86.10%	91.54%	91.16%	89.44%	About 90% of the
Costs (Outreach,						budget is spent on
Aquatic and Field						program delivery
Programs)						
CSRD Funding	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$250,000
Funding Leveraged	\$80,200	\$118,200	\$168,492	\$185,717	\$266,126	\$818,735
Total Revenue	\$130,200	\$168,200	\$218,492	\$235,717	\$316,126	\$1,068,735

# Next Steps and Recommendations

The Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society recommends and supports continued partnership and collaboration with CSRD. As a non-profit society, CSISS is able to cost effectively deliver a wide range of invasive species programs that benefit the CSRD region and its inhabitants.

The CSISS strategic goals for 2019-2024 are: Implement a collaborative and coordinated program; Educate, engage and inspire participation in invasive species management; Prevent the introduction of new invasive species; Maximize the probability of detection and eradication of new invasive species; Slow or reverse the spread of existing invasive species.

We look forward to continued collaboration and success in partnership with the CSRD! We are incredibly grateful to the CSRD Board and staff for the continued support of invasive species management in the region.



#### Mission Statement

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.



#### **Vision Statement**

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

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF 2018 CSISS ANNUAL REPORT

April 2018 marked the start of the sixth operational season of the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS). Thanks to dedicated staff, diligent directors, knowledgeable partners and inspired volunteers, the CSISS expanded its programming and made significant progress on each goal identified in the 2013-2018 CSISS Strategic Plan:



## Goal 1: Implement a collaborative and coordinated program

- CSISS strengthened and expanded its network of partners;
- CSISS Partnered with all levels of government, ISCBC, other regional invasive species groups, local stakeholders, residents and NGO's;
- CSISS worked with over 303 partner organizations, 60 of whom were new in 2018.



## Goal 2: Educate, engage and inspire local residents

- CSISS completed targeted outreach to stakeholders, First Nations and landowners;
- CSISS hosted training workshops for government staff, contractors and the public;
- CSISS engaged with over 3,998 people in the region and attended 167 events;
- CSISS directed targeted outreach to boaters and marinas, trail users, and gardeners.



### Goal 3: Prevent the introduction of new invasive species

- •CSISS inventoried 16 garden centers and delivered the 'Plant Wise' message;
- •CSISS visited boat launches, boat industry and marinas with 'Clean Drain Dry' message;
- •CSISS worked with various trail associations, collaborated with 10 trail groups and race organizers
- •CSISS completed 9 press releases and was featured in 42 news pieces; CSISS regularly created engaging posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



## Goal 4: Maximize the probability of detection and eradication

- CSISS completed 712 targeted invasive plant surveys across the region;
- CSISS engaged with 198 properties regarding invasive plant management;
- CSISS completed 118 zebra and quagga veliger samples at 42 locations across 22 waterbodies
- CSISS monitored for adult zebra and quagga mussels and completed aquatic invasive plant surveys at all shore-based sampling locations;



## Goal 5: Slow or reverse the spread of existing invasive species

- CSISS completed mechanical treatment at 44 priority locations;
- CSISS administered 3 herbicide spray contracts, treating 53 priority sites;
- CSISS installed 'Do Now Mow' signage and 'Do Not Compost' signage across the region;
- CSISS completed 12 weed pulls with 13 partner organizations.



#### Goal 6: Ensure program sustainability

- CSISS employed six staff members in 2018;
- CSISS added \$55,721 to its operating budget;
- New funding sources and increases from existing funding sources allow CSISS to continue and expand work in the Columbia Shuswap region;
- CSISS Funding Strategy implemented, and new 2019-2024 Strategic Plan developed.