

INVASIVE MUSSELS LAKE MONITORING GRANTS



The Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) has created a new granting program to fund invasive mussel monitoring in British Columbia's lakes and rivers. This program is made possible by a \$450,000 contribution from BC's Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV).

Purpose of the Program

The purpose of the Invasive Mussels Lake Monitoring Fund is to ensure BC's lakes and rivers are actively sampled and monitored for the presence of invasive zebra and quagga mussels. HCTF is administering this fund and will provide grants to various agencies and community organizations to sample BC water bodies and test for the presence of these invasive mussels. The monitoring of water bodies to ensure early detection of zebra and quagga mussels feeds into the provincial [Emergency Detection and Rapid Response Plan](#).

Who can apply?

Invasive Mussels Lake Monitoring Grants are available to community groups, non-profit organizations, local, regional and provincial governments, First Nations and others. In order for applicants to be successful, they must show in their application that they have proven experience, knowledge, and capacity to carry out the activities in the proposal. Activities may be conducted by paid staff, volunteers, or a combination, but the applicant must provide a compelling case that they have the experience necessary to complete the proposed activities according to the sampling methods outlined in the ENV Field Protocol, including direct experience with sampling water bodies. Applicants with less experience may choose to undertake a modest level of sampling in the first year of funding (e.g. substrate monitoring in a single water body).

INVASIVE MUSSELS LAKE MONITORING GRANTS FAQs



Eligible Activities and Expenses

These grants provide funding for the following activities when conducted as described in the ENV Field Protocol:

- Collecting water samples to test for the presence of zebra and quagga mussel veliger larvae
- Sampling for the presence of adult or juvenile zebra and quagga mussels, including the installation of substrate samplers
- Preserving, packaging and mailing of samples to the designated lab

Eligible expenses for these activities include:

- Labour costs for sampling
- Support costs for volunteers conducting sampling
- Equipment, materials and supplies directly relating to sampling
- Travel expenses
- Costs for shipping samples (analysis costs covered by ENV)
- Administration fees in some cases (max of 13.5%)

Ineligible expenses for these activities include:

- Salary expenses for regular provincial government employees
- Training costs
- Volunteer recruitment expenses
- Overhead costs if an administration fee is charged

- Any expense unrelated to sampling activities

For full details, see www.hctf.ca/apply-for-funding/invasive-mussel-monitoring.

How much money can we apply for?

There is \$450,000 available to fund this entire program over two or more years. While there's no upper limit for funding requests, we anticipate that individual grants may range from \$500 to \$20,000.

When does the sampling need to be done?

This application call is for the 2018 field season only. The timing of sampling will vary by geographic region but typically occurs between May and September.

How do we apply?

Grant application forms, instructions and the ENV Field Protocol are available on the HCTF website at www.hctf.ca/apply-for-funding/invasive-mussel-monitoring. The deadline for submitting completed applications is **March 5th, 2018 at 4:30 pm**.

For questions about the ENV Field Protocol, please contact Martina Beck at martina.beck@gov.bc.ca or 250-208-6520

For application questions, please contact Christina Waddle, christina.waddle@hctf.ca or 250-940-3011

