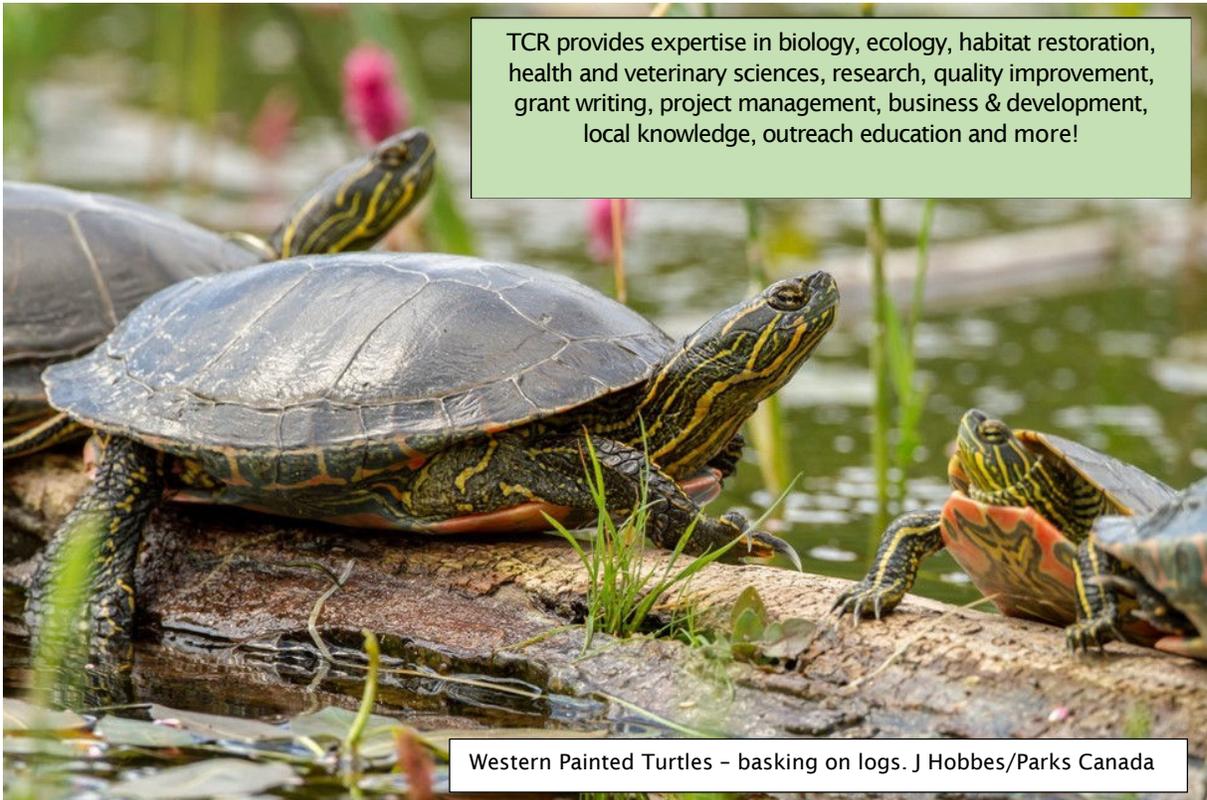


Turtle Conservation Revelstoke (TCR)

TCR is a community partnership working to develop and implement comprehensive strategies to protect and conserve Revelstoke's Western Painted Turtle population.

Formed in 2023, TCR welcomes new members and partners to broaden support and expertise.



TCR provides expertise in biology, ecology, habitat restoration, health and veterinary sciences, research, quality improvement, grant writing, project management, business & development, local knowledge, outreach education and more!

Western Painted Turtles - basking on logs. J Hobbes/Parks Canada

Members (as of July 2023):

Partners

Okanagan Nation Alliance
Wildsight
Cabot Revelstoke

Advocate Organizations

BC Hydro

&

Community Volunteers

Contacts

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Purpose

1. To improve Western Painted Turtle population and survival rates in the Revelstoke Reach by implementing actions to improve habitat and mitigate anthropogenic factors.
2. Demonstrate that the citizens of Revelstoke can successfully co-exist with wildlife by improving current habitat conditions to support the biological requirements of Western Painted Turtles through all their life-cycle stages.

Background & Issue

Like most native wildlife species in BC, the Painted Turtle is protected under the provincial *Wildlife Act*.

Western Painted Turtles in Revelstoke are facing many threats & are designated as Special Concern (blue listed) in BC, meaning they are vulnerable to further declines.

The main pressures causing these declines across BC, including Revelstoke, are extensive loss of wetland habitats, and increases in human settlement and road development.

TCR formed with the understanding that through dedicated collaboration, these threats can be effectively mitigated.

Strategic Priorities

Long-term desired Strategic Priorities for the project include:

- ◆ Road mortality mitigation(s)
- ◆ Reduce nest predation and increase hatchling survival
- ◆ Enhance and expand nesting habitat
- ◆ Enhance basking opportunities
- ◆ Community engagement and education

Western Painted Turtle - Fun Facts

- ◆ **Long - lived (30-40 years)** 🐢
- ◆ **Reaches sexual maturity around 7-8 years of age**
- ◆ **Lays eggs in nesting sites between mid-May to mid-July**
- ◆ **Has high “nest fidelity”, returning to the same nesting sites year after year**
- ◆ **Ideal nesting sites are within 150m from ponds, are composed of a mix of sand & gravel in direct sun, and are free of weeds, vegetation, and human interference.**
- ◆ **Eggs are laid in clutches of 1-23 eggs; soil temperature influences sex determination**
- ◆ **Baby turtles (~ 1" long) hatch in 70-80 days; most hatchlings remain in the nest until the following spring, then journey to habitat the following March.**
- ◆ **Estimated that 90% of nests are predated, of those that make it to hatching, only 20% survive.**