

**CLRSS Mission Statement** Our purpose is to act to ensure the health and protection of the Cowichan watershed; to inform and educate landowners, other citizens and governments about the environmentally sustainable use of the upper Cowichan watershed and its riparian zone; and to work with schools, citizens and other like-minded groups for this purpose.

**Our Vision for 2020** CLRSS is dedicated to raising awareness through consensus and collaboration within our community towards creating a resilient and diverse watershed.

**Our Values**

We acknowledge that we live and work on the traditional territories used by the Cowichan, Lake Cowichan and Ditidaht First Nations for centuries. Our aim is that the work of our organization will make a positive contribution to our shared future in this valley.

We conduct our business using the Fourfold Way:

- We respect each other by having just one speaker at a time;
- We expect people to speak from the heart with passion;
- We expect people to show up to solve problems; and
- We expect people to speak without blame.

We believe we are facing a climate emergency and must act accordingly.

**Our Place**

Our stewardship actions are focused in the Cowichan Lake and upper Cowichan River in active partnership with residents of Honeymoon Bay, Youbou and Town of Lake Cowichan as well as the CVRD, Cowichan Watershed Board, British Columbia Conservation Foundation, Cowichan Stewardship Roundtable and other active valley organizations.

**For More Information**

[Cowichan-lake-stewards.ca](http://Cowichan-lake-stewards.ca)

[Weirready.ca](http://Weirready.ca)

Our On-going Core Activities	Timing
<b>Upper Cowichan River Clean Up</b> August 16, 2020	Planning begins in May
<b>Salmon Fry Rescue</b>	April to August as needed
<b>Water Quality Monitoring on the Lake</b>	Weekly June to September
<b>Shoreline Owner Education &amp; Promoting Riparian Restoration</b>	On-going
<b>Gerald Thom Bursary</b>	May
<b>Gerald Thom Memorial Native Plant Garden</b>	April to October
<b>Monthly Meetings</b>	First Monday of each month 6:30 PM Country Grocer mtg room
<b>Regular Member Newsletter</b>	

**Strategic Priorities 2020-2022**

**1. Increase awareness of and support for building the new weir**

**Goals**

- Increase public support
- Increase community understanding of new weir benefits
- Increase public awareness of how climate change is driving the need for a new weir

**2. Increase Youth Engagement**

**Goals**

- Increase youth membership
- Re-establish Lake Studies program
- Collaborate with other valley youth programs
- Establish youth roundtable

**3. Protect Lake Shore Lands**

**Goals**

- Protect critical undeveloped shoreline and tributary habitat
- Promote protection for Shaw Creek watershed
- Expand shoreline riparian habitat restoration work to tributary creeks

