

SQUAMISH- LILLOOET ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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***Keeping Wildlife Wild and
Communities Safe***



SQUAMISH - LILLOOET
REGIONAL DISTRICT



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Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	1
Program Coverage Area/Map.....	1, 2
2025 Highlights.....	3
Conservation Officer Service Reports.....	4, 5, 6,
Community Groups.....	7
Electric Fencing.....	7
Display Booths.....	8, 9
Collaborations.....	10
Bin-Tagging.....	11, 12, 13
Social Media and Press.....	14
Press.....	15
Challenges and Future Goals.....	16, 17
Acknowledgements.....	18

Executive Summary

This report describes the activities of the WildSafeBC Squamish-Lillooet Regional district program for the 2025 season between June 1st and November 30th. The main goal of the WildSafeBC Community Coordinator is to assist communities in preventing human-wildlife conflicts through educational programs, collaboration, and community solutions. The following report summarizes key program deliverables over the course of the 2025 season, and will help shape the delivery of the program for the 2026 based on coordinator, community, and sponsor needs.

Program Coverage Area

The WildSafeBC Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) program covers approximately 16,310 square kilometres. SLRD consists of four member municipalities (District of Lillooet, Village of Pemberton, resort Municipality of Whistler, district of Squamish) and four unincorporated rural Electoral Ares (A, B, C, D) including D'arcy, Britannia Beach and Furry Creek. The SLRD is located within the unceded traditional territories of the Líl'wat, Squamish, St'at'imc, Stó:lō, Tseil-Waututh, Nlaka'pamux, Tsilhqot'in, and Secwepemc Nations.



Program Coverage Area



Figure 1. WildSafeBC Squamish-Lillooet Regional District program coverage area



Figure 2. Map of the SLRD showing the electoral areas and member municipalities (credit: SLRD)

2025 Highlights

520

Community Members Reached

10

Community Event Booths

60

Bins Tagged

50%

Reduction in Garbage Bylaw Violations

81.5K

Facebook Users Reached

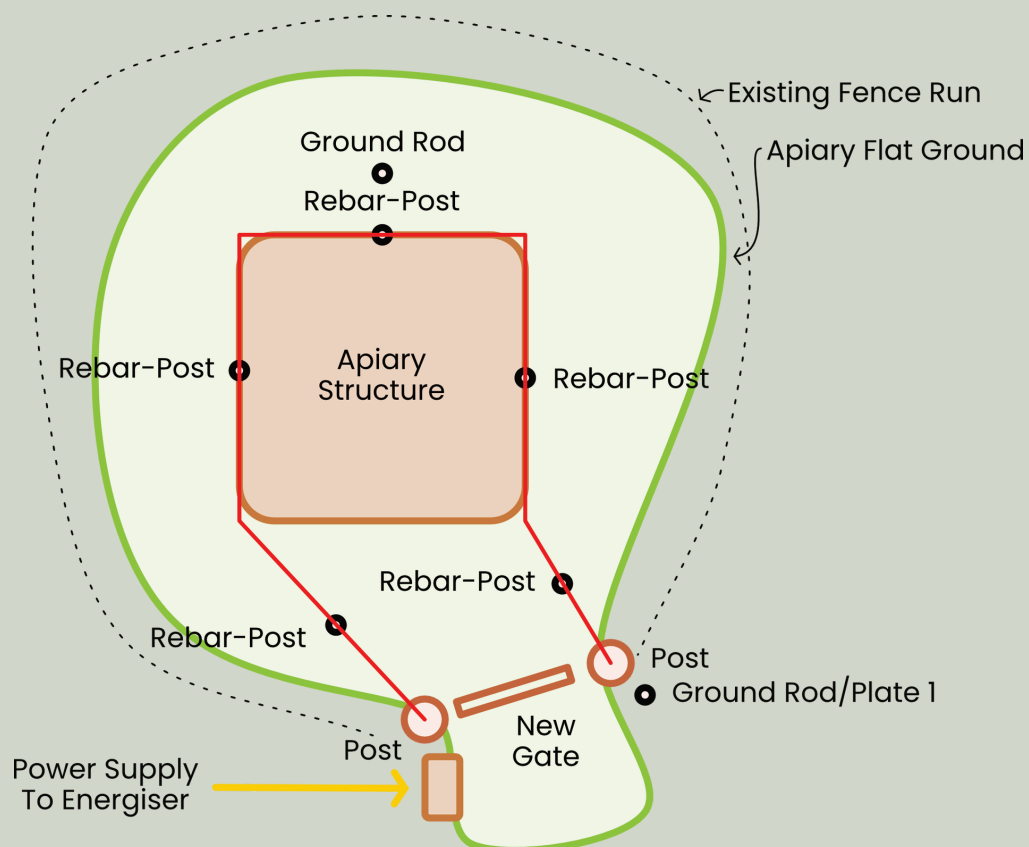
Community Groups

WildSafeBC SLRD Community Coordinator delivered three Bear Safety and Bear Spray workshops during the season. Six members of the SLRD team, 25 Capilano University Students, and one resident were trained on the safe use of bear spray.

Electric Fencing

Electric fencing advice and guidance was offered to residents and local organizations across several events.

Two electric fencing designs were produced with one pending installation later this year/early 2026.



An electric fence design for Capilano University will protect their restored on-site apiary.

Display Booths

Display booths allow the public to view and interact with our educational materials, learn about wildlife safety, discuss wildlife attractant management, and network our program offerings to various groups of residents. In 2025, over 500 residents engaged in meaningful conversations about human-wildlife conflict, with many leaving having learned something new.

WildSafeBC attended various events, including the several RecycleBC Popup Depots at Britannia Beach and Furry Creek, Pemberton and Lillooet Farmers Markets, Capilano University's MountainFest, Pemberton Beer Farmers Grizzly Event, and a Grizzly Bear Art Show event.



Display Booths



Collaborations

Throughout the season, WildSafeBC SLRD collaborated with several organizations including, but not limited to:



- WildSafeBC's Provincial Program
- BC Parks
- Coast to Cascades Grizzly Initiative
- Stewardship Pemberton Society
- Pemberton Farmers Market
- Lillooet Farmers Market
- The Conservation Officers Service

By maintaining and developing these working relationships we can all work together to
keep wildlife wild and communities safe.



Bin Tagging

This year, WildSafeBC SLRD worked closely with the SLRD to tackle bylaw infractions through attractant management at Britannia Beach and Furry Creek. Early in the season a black bear was destroyed due to food conditioned behaviour. In order to tackle this and prevent such an occurrence again, we engaged in regular bin tagging exercises. In addition to the standard warning sticker, we developed a letter which is attached to the bin which explains the reason for the tagging, the importance of attractant management, and provides information about the local attractant bylaw.



WE TAGGED YOUR BIN. WHY?


Dear Resident,

Recently there has been a continuing trend of waste containers being moved to the curbside on the night before the scheduled collection day. This provides wildlife with easy access to unsecured waste containers, posing a serious threat to your community and wildlife safety. The SLRD's Wildlife Attractant Bylaw aims to reduce human-wildlife conflict by regulating how residents manage attractants, such as garbage:

SLRD BYLAW No. 1551-2018 states that waste containers can be left out for collection by the curbside only between 06:00 AM and 07:00 PM on the DAY OF COLLECTION.

As a result, WildSafeBC has been conducting waste bin tagging in your area. Your waste container was placed at the curb outside the hours allowed in the bylaw, which is a violation and may result in a fine.

Scheduled Collection Date:	
Date/Time Observed:	
Container:	



WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO MANAGE WILDLIFE ATTRACTANTS

Managing wildlife attractants is the most **effective** way to prevent **dangerous wildlife encounters**, both on your property and in the surrounding area.


As part of a wider program to better address the storage of garbage, WildSafeBC have developed a quick guide on how to secure garbage containers when it is not practical to store the garbage indoors. This guidance may have already found its way to you, but if not and you are interested, please get in touch.

Together we can keep wildlife wild and communities safe. Thank you.


If you have further questions about securing wildlife attractants, please get in touch or contact your local WildSafeBC Community Coordinator.

Niall Bell - SLRD@Wildsafebc.com


LEARN MORE



WildSafeBC is funded through the province of British Columbia and in partnership with communities and organizations throughout BC.



To report wildlife in conflict contact the Conservation Officers Service via the RAAP hotline.



For more information, visit our website www.wildsafebc.com

Bin Tagging

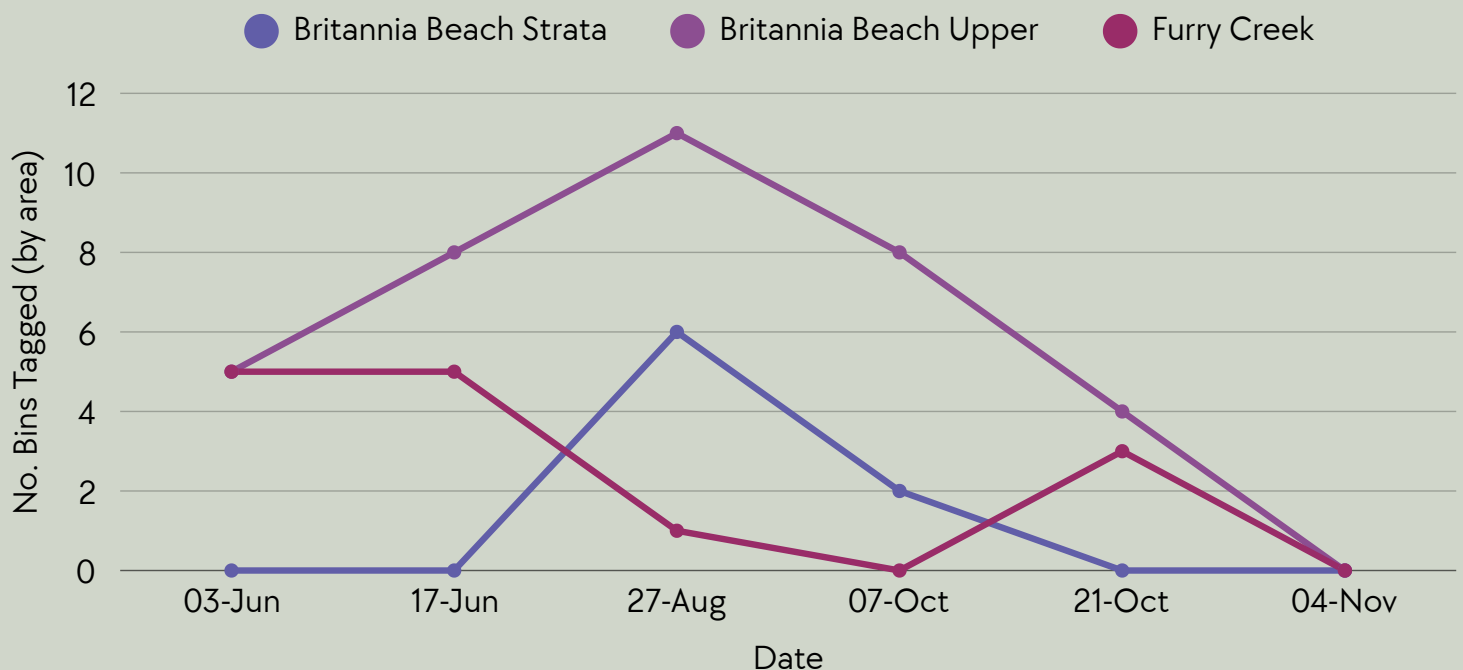
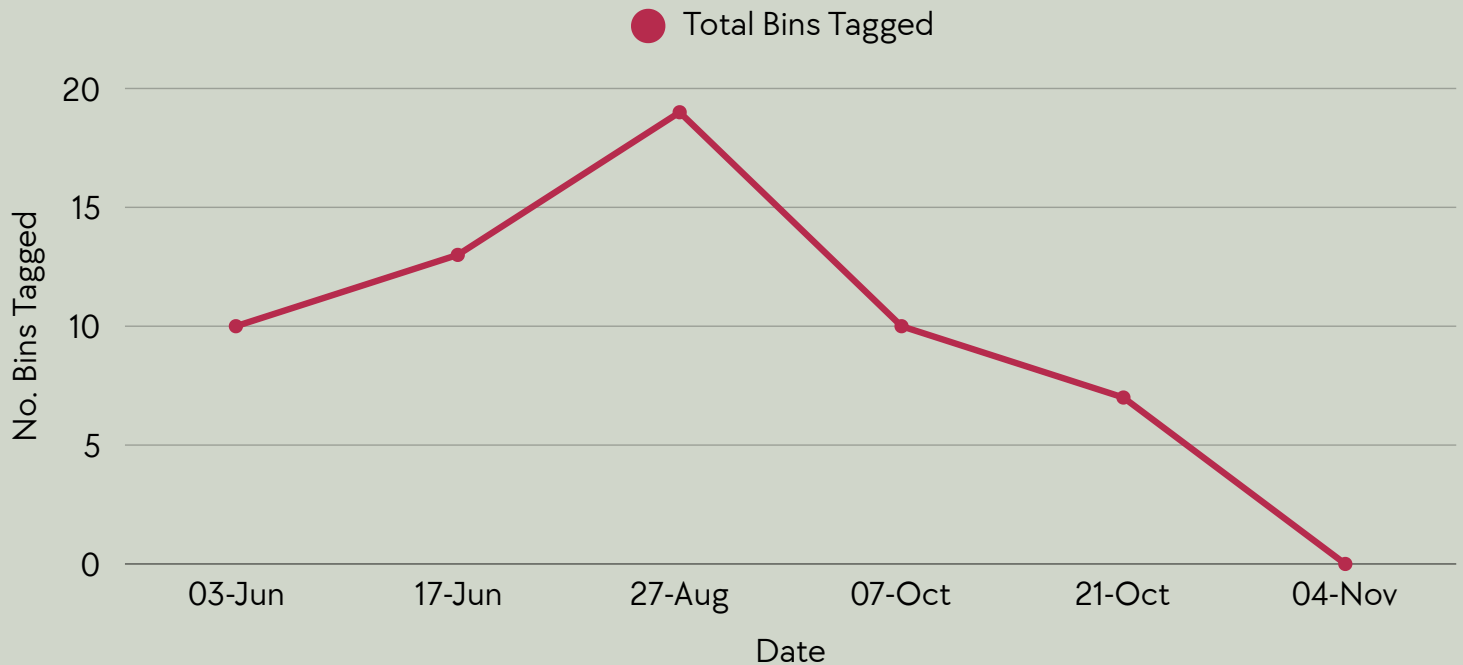
In addition to the historic areas of upper Britannia Beach and Furry Creek, the WildSafeBC Coordinator worked with strata managers to bring Britannia Beach Strata into the tagging program. This allowed more residents to be educated about attractant management, and tackled additional occurrences of garbage bins being left out early.



Our first outing at Britannia Beach Strata in August saw 6 bins tagged. Since then only 2 bins have been tagged here.

Bin Tagging

Overall we saw a reduction in bins being presented for collection early. During the season there was more fluctuation. Most infractions came from first time offenders. We saw 8 repeat offenders who received infractions up to 3 times before changing their behaviour. One resident went 3 months without infraction only to reoffend after the break.



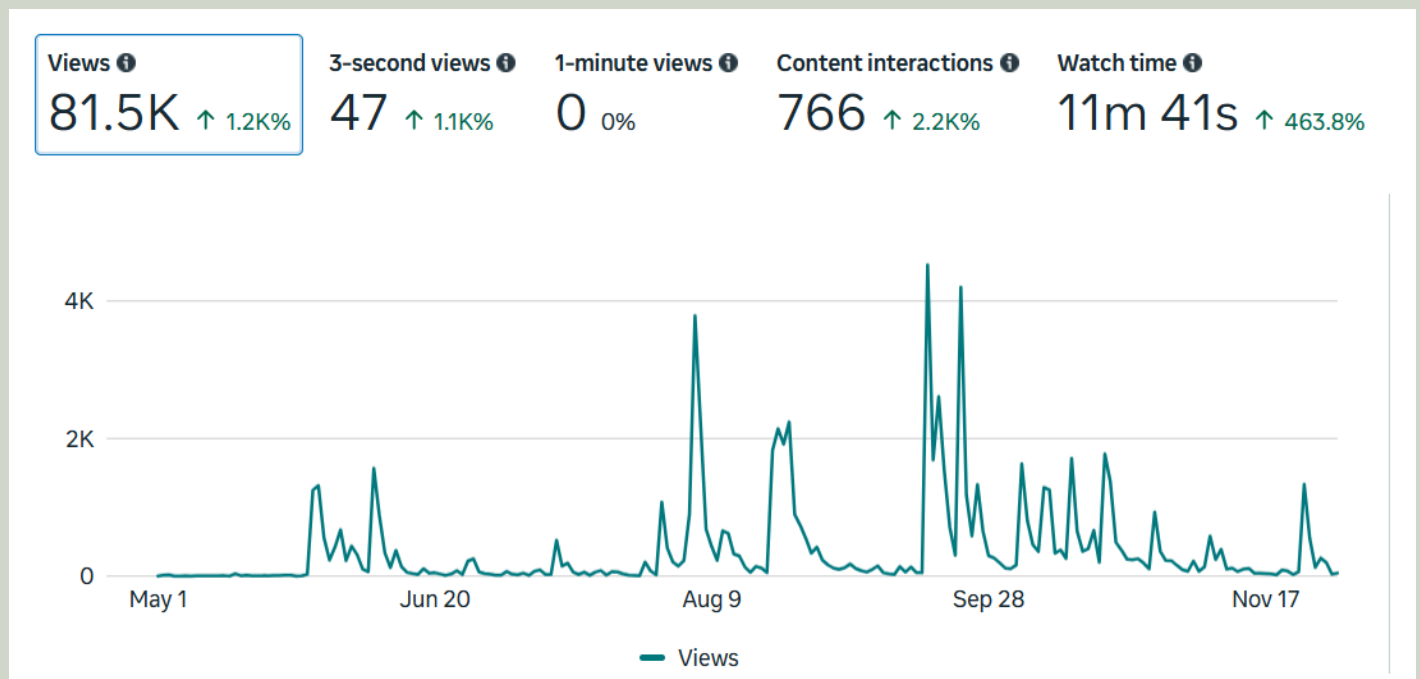
Social Media

The WildSafeBC SLRD Facebook page came out of hibernation on May 24th 2025 with an introductory post. Over the season, the page gained 33 new Facebook followers to surpass 1k total, and the page was visited by residents 998 times during this same time period. Throughout the season, the WildSafe coordinator engaged with posts relating to wildlife activity.

In order to stay better informed, and to more accurately reach residents about local issues, the many local community groups were joined, with approval from admins. The support from group admins was resounding and made for a strong working relationship.

Our posts were shared 87 times and reached over 20k people!

At the time of writing, 51 Facebook posts were created and reached over 80k users. Many posts reached over 100 Facebook users, with the most impactful posts being those which addressed a local issue.



The media in our region were not highly receptive to sharing content or press releases, however the coordinator did launch a small initiative which was picked up a local media outlet.

This initiative was to give residents an opportunity to share their positive stories about living with wildlife. This initiative was aimed at bringing the community together around a common theme which had a positive theme in order to tackle the frequent negative content we often see around human-wildlife conflict.

At the time of writing the stories are not yet shared on our social media, but they are scheduled to be shared as a way to wrap up the season.

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3.0 °C

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WildSafeBC invites Sea-to-Sky residents to share positive stories of living with wildlife

The new storytelling project seeks to highlight positive encounters as part of the long-running effort to reduce human-wildlife conflict in B.C.

[Luke Faulks, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter](#)
 Sep 30, 2025 9:15 AM
 Updated Sep 30, 2025 11:07 AM

TRENDING

- Opinion: The real monsters of Whistler
- Opinion: The spooky loss of cultural traditions
- Developer lays out vision for Alders neighbourhood in Pemberton ahead of Nov. 15 info session
- Museum Musings: 2102 Lake Placid Road—the Southside Diner
- Fifty years of Freedom: Jim Godfrey

COMMUNITY POLL

Participate in our next community poll.

What party would you vote for if a federal election was

Challenges and Future Goals

Attractants continue to be the main source of conflict in the SLRD, drawing wildlife into residential areas. Bears accessing garbage and fruit continue to be a concern in most areas in the SLRD Region. Deer continue to be problematic in Lillooet, and efforts are in motion to address this. Further roll out of wildlife deterrents, such as electric fencing, are required to reduce incidences of human-wildlife conflict in hotspot areas.

Looking forward to the 2026 season, the following initiatives should be developed and implemented in the community to further address key issues experienced in the Region:

- Further develop partnerships with community groups focused on fruit picking and redistribution to support the reduction of excess fruit in residential areas and better educate the public about the dangers of not picking fruit.
- Further engagement in Britannia Beach and Furry Creek to better understand the issues faced with securing garbage attractants, and ways to reduce breaches in wildlife attractant bylaw infractions.
- Renewed initiative focussing the dissemination of electric fence education and delivery on the Electric Fencing Cost Share Program. Further collaboration with other groups working in this area too such as Coast To Cascades Grizzly Initiative.
- Develop and install new wildlife focussed signage at trailheads managed by the regional district to further improve safe recreation practices.
- Develop community engagement events to share WildSafe's message more deeply into the community. Partner with other events where possible to deliver education.
- Early engagement with schools to better understand how we can help with our WildSafe Ranger Program, and identify any areas for improvement.

Developing the above initiatives alongside the usual education booths, door-to-door, and wildlife-in-area response education will allow WildSafe to influence more behaviour change across the region, and reduce human wildlife conflict occurrences.

Acknowledgements

The WildSafeBC SLRD Community Coordinator would like to thank the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, the Province of British Columbia, and the BC Conservation Foundation for funding the WildSafeBC SLRD project. Thank you to the Conservation Officer Service for their direction and support of the program. Lastly, the WildSafeBC SLRD Community Coordinator would like to send an enormous thank you to all the British Columbia Conservation Foundation staff and fellow provincial WildSafeBC Community Coordinators for their encouragement and support. This program would not be able to succeed without the collaboration of all those mentioned.

Thank You!



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Communities Safe***