

## Resilience matters

In the original project proposal, planting native riparian vegetation was anticipated as the primary restoration activity. However, preliminary field assessments indicated that controlling invasive species took precedence over the reintroduction of riparian native species. For most properties, "Step One" of this restoration program started with the control of Yellow Flag Iris, Himalayan Blackberry, Daphne, and Reed Canary Grass followed by the planting of native shading trees and bushes.

## Accomplishments



1000 RACK CARDS DISTRIBUTED

	# OF PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS COMPLETE	# OF RESTORATION SITES
SOMENOS	11	11
QUAMICHAN	7	8

### AREA OF INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Somenos 4979.8 m<sup>2</sup>

Quamichan 3351 m<sup>2</sup>

### AREA OF NATIVE PLANTINGS BY END OF PROJECT

Somenos 17482 m<sup>2</sup>

Quamichan 3508 m<sup>2</sup>

### INVASIVE SPECIES IN FOCUS

Yellow Flag Iris  
Reed Canary Grass  
Himalayan Black Berry  
Daphne



*"There is so much value in this work and I hope that it will continue and expand in its scope. Our community is fortunate to have the SMWS's forward thinking into the future of this area."*

~ Stacey McDonald, 2020

# Clean Water Action Project



## PROJECT SUMMARY

Since it was launched in 2018, the Clean Water Action project has been supporting the health and resilience of riparian areas around Somenos and Quamichan lakes and tributaries by improving salmon habitat, educating about the ecological, aesthetic, and cultural significance of the riparian area, and controlling the spread of invasive species along the lakes shore and surrounding creeks.

## Thank you | Huy tseep q'u

Thank you | Huy tseep q'u to all the volunteer participants who contributed to this project! Your stewardship and care for the Somenos and Quamichan watersheds are catalyst to the protection and restoration of our waterways.



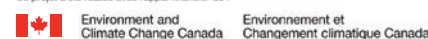
[www.somenosmarsh.com](http://www.somenosmarsh.com)



[www.cowichanlandtrust.ca](http://www.cowichanlandtrust.ca)

### SPONSORS

This project was undertaken with the financial support of:  
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :



The Clean Water Action Project was launched in response to the increasing ecological stresses experienced in the S'amunu | Somenos watershed and Kw'amutsun | Quamichan watershed and subsequent threats impacting the cultural heritage, water quality, and biodiversity of these places.



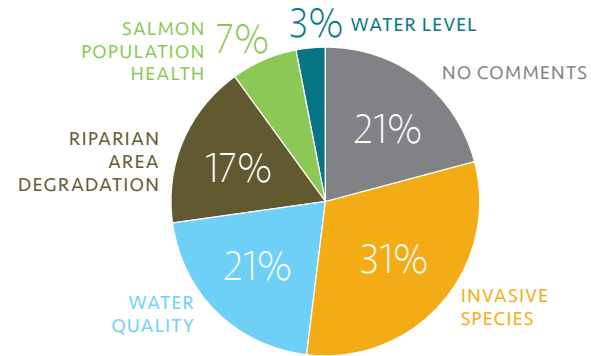
## CWAP ACTIVITIES HAVE INCLUDED

- Community education through rack cards, event attendance, and canvassing neighborhoods
- Lakekeepers workshop with the BC Lake Stewardship Association
- Preliminary site visit and riparian area assessments for voluntary participant properties
- Recommendation reports outlining our riparian area restoration suggestions
- The restoration work with in-kind contribution from the Clean Water Action Project
- On-going monitoring by our team for the following 1 to 2 years following the start of this project
- On-going support via phone calls, emails, and site visits

# SOCIAL SURVEY

# CLEAN WATER ACTION PROJECT 2018 - 2021 Somenos and Quamichan Watersheds Assessment and Restoration

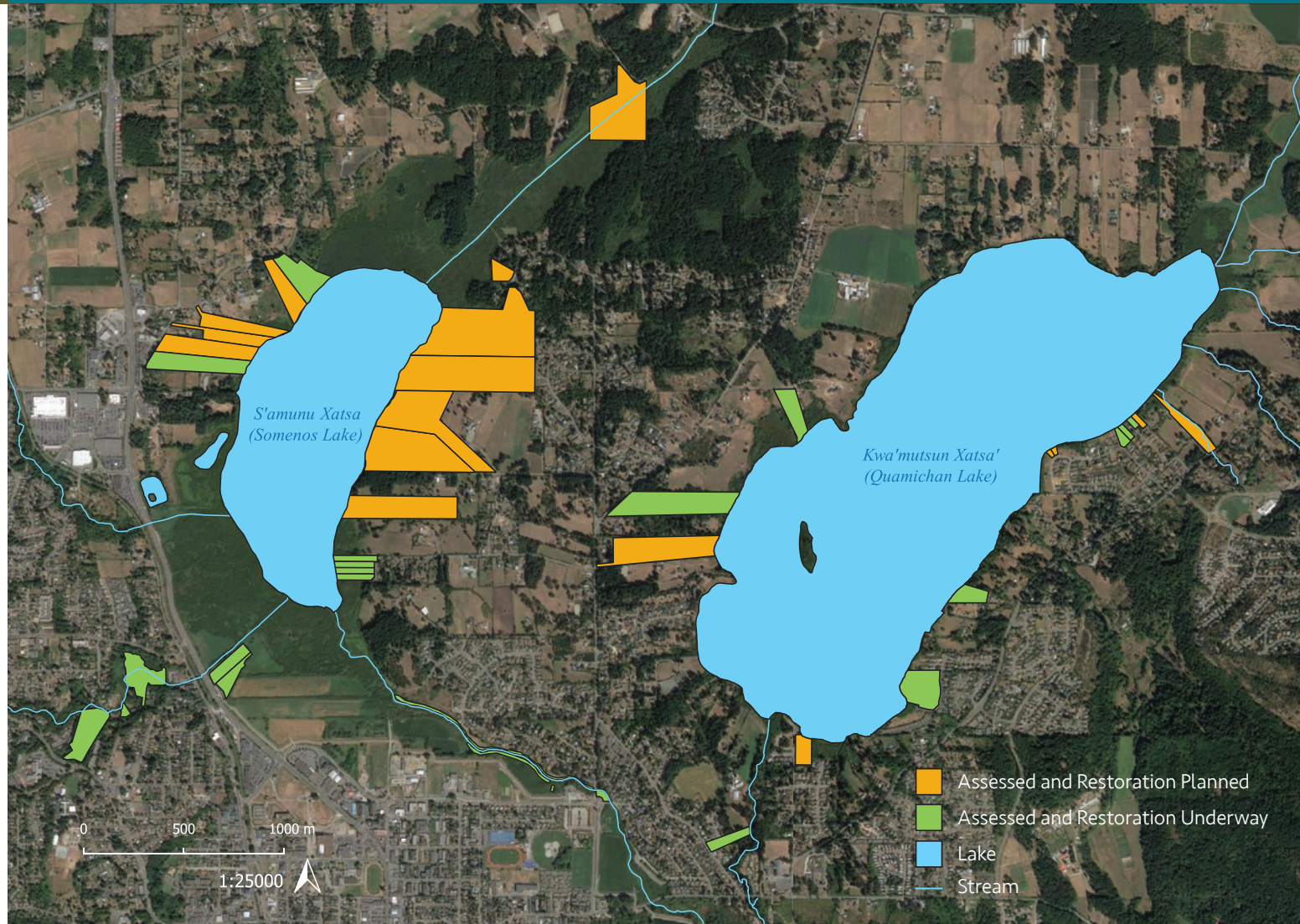
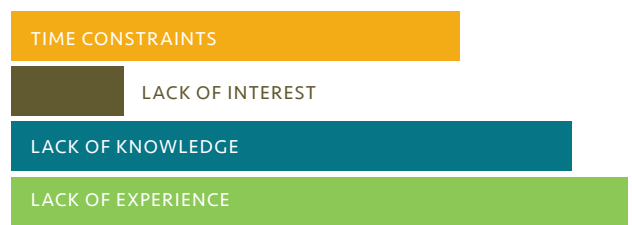
## NATURE OF THE CONCERNS



## WHAT PEOPLE HOPED FROM THIS PROJECT AND VISIT

RECEIVE GUIDANCE ON:	
Riparian Restoration	●●●●●●●●
Water Conservation	●●●
Invasive Species	●●●●●●●●
Blue Birds Conservation	●
Plant ID	●
SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON:	
Source of Native Plants	●
Conflict Resolution Support Towards Natural Resources	●
Updates on Restoration Efforts	●

## WHAT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST THE LIMITING FACTORS TO SUPPORT THE ECOLOGICAL HEALTH OF THIS RIPARIAN AREA?



### What's next?

We will continue to build our relationships with residents and landowners as we work to monitor and restore riparian habitat around Somenos and Quamichan Lakes. We have taken the lessons learned from the CWAP and are extending our restoration efforts to Bings and Menzies Creeks, through a new project called the *GreenStreams Strategy*. This project seeks to assess and restore the riparian area and creek channel to enhance salmon habitat and improve water quality.

### How to continue the work

It's not over yet! Riparian areas need our care and we encourage you to continue restoring it. Stay in touch and we will gladly help as much as we are able.



*The water quality program gathers volunteer citizen-scientists and stewards from around our lakes to monitor and assess water levels and quality on an on-going basis through photo-documenting, knowledge sharing, and weekly data surveys.*

- ### OTHER WAYS YOU CAN LEARN AND BENEFIT FROM THIS PROJECT
- Volunteer with our organizations on other restoration sites and learn from it
  - Join other local stewardship groups such as Quamichan Stewards
  - Become a citizen-scientist with SMWS
  - Send us a testimonial, our funders like to hear from you