



# Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition

## January 2013 Update

### SIBAC Executive and Board of Directors

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**Chief Judy Wilson,**  
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council

**Sally Watson,**  
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#### Staff:

Dalyce Brandt, Administrator

Email: [admin@sibacs.com](mailto:admin@sibacs.com)

*The Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition (SIBAC) is committed to helping communities understand the probable effects of the mountain pine beetle (MPB) epidemic; and to develop and implement appropriate MPB mitigation measures in the southern interior of BC. A membership based organization; SIBAC represents local and First Nations governments from across the southern interior.*

### Overview:

In October 2009, SIBAC submitted its' final Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) Assessment and Mitigation Plan to the Province of BC. The plan represented two years of work studying the current and expected impacts of the MPB epidemic in the southern interior on the forest sector, the socio-economic health of communities, the environment and First Nations. The SIBAC final report includes 24 recommendations to assist in mitigating the anticipated impacts of the MPB epidemic. Of these recommendations, SIBAC identified 6 that were an immediate priority. Copies of the Executive Summary and full final report are available on the SIBAC website at [sibacs.com](http://sibacs.com).

The SIBAC Board believed that it was vitally important that the organization continued to provide a coordinated voice for southern interior communities and take an active role in addressing the 6 priority recommendations. In December 2009, the Province of BC provided SIBAC with \$450,000 in funding so that SIBAC could begin to develop and implement projects.

In April 2011, SIBAC received from the Province a cheque for \$3 Million — funding of \$1 Million per year for each of the next three years to support the continued efforts of SIBAC to implement projects that will greatly reduce the impact of the MPB epidemic, particularly to communities identified as most at risk.

For the year 2012, the SIBAC Board and staff worked with partner groups and approved \$499,728.00 for 16 projects with a total value of \$2,205,508.00, that will help address these priority issues and recommendations.

### SIBAC – PROJECT FUNDING CRITERIA AND CURRENT INITIATIVES

To assist in developing and selecting projects for SIBAC support, the Board adopted several funding criteria:

- Strength of Partnership Participation
- Project Sustainability
- Reach of Project
- Regional Inclusion
- Expert Involvement
- Timing of Project

The following pages provide a brief description of some of the major projects SIBAC is currently supporting or developing and some already completed. Please feel free to contact the noted project contact person or Dalyce Brandt, SIBAC Administrator for more information on any of the following projects (e-mail: [admin@sibacs.com](mailto:admin@sibacs.com)).

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### **SIBAC 2012 FUNDED PROJECTS:**

#### **St. Mary's Band Biomass District Heating**

*Total Project Value: \$500,000.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$40,000.00*

The St. Mary's Band is installing the first phase of a biomass thermal district heating system in conjunction with the construction of a new school facility. The system will be scalable to allow for the next stage of capital expenditures and retrofits for the Community's existing public administration buildings. This project will benefit all other communities interested in developing a bioenergy industry. **Contact: Becky Pelkonen: Email: [BPelkonen@aqam.net](mailto:BPelkonen@aqam.net)**

#### **CFDC Boundary Business Retention and Expansion**

*Total Project Value: \$40,500.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$10,000.00*

Community Futures Boundary wish to complete a business retention and expansion study and report that will enhance information available to decision makers about the needs and concerns of the Boundary Business community, and make available to the region best practises and tools in business retention and expansion. The findings will ultimately strengthen the competitiveness of Boundary communities. **Wendy McCulloch: Email: [wendy@boundarycf.com](mailto:wendy@boundarycf.com)**

#### **CFDC Shuswap Moving Forward Together Workshop Sponsorship**

*Total Project Value: \$11,000.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$3,000.00*

*Project completed*

The Eagle Valley Community Support Society is hosting a workshop series funded by Learning Initiative for Rural and Northern BC (LIRNBC). Workshops are facilitated by Fraser Basin Council, Social Planning and Research Council of BC, and Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) Economic Development office. **Contact: Tanja Carlson: Email: [tcarlson@FUTURESHUSWAP.COM](mailto:tcarlson@FUTURESHUSWAP.COM)**

#### **St'át'imc Comprehensive Silviculture Training Program**

*Total Project Value: \$10,484.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$9,984.00*

*Project completed*

Sponsored by the Lillooet Tribal Council, the program will promote success of new entrants to the silviculture sector. Our proposed training/mentorship program will provide participants with the necessary on the job training in the technical aspects of tree-planting, general issues around workplace health and safety (specifically as it relates to forest work), and issues around camp life, health, and nutrition. **Contact: Matt Manuel: Email: [MManuel@statimc.net](mailto:MManuel@statimc.net)**

#### **Mapping Visitors to the Columbia Valley Area**

*Total Project Value: \$47,000.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$47,000.00*

Economic gardening is a service that uses technology based research tools to gather detailed market information for businesses and communities. This project will provide targeted marketing intelligence to communities in the Columbia valley so that businesses can more effectively market to key client groups in order to maintain and grow their businesses. **Contact: Su Baker: Email: [su@bfokanagan.com](mailto:su@bfokanagan.com)**

#### **Web Based Mapping and Reporting Tool (Phase 2)**

*Total Project Value: \$31,700.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$31,700.00*

To enhance the utility and functionality of the web mapping tool, hosted by the Nicola Similkameen Innovative Forestry Society (NSIFS) and previously funded by SIBAC. This project aims to incorporate additional information layers and to provide capability to produce reports that support users in their planning and decision-making in managing resources impacted by the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic. **Contact: Glenn Thiem: Email: [g\\_thiem@forsite.ca](mailto:g_thiem@forsite.ca)**

#### **Wood Waste to Heat in Rural Communities -Multi-BAC project**

*Total Project Value: \$300,000.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$60,000.00*

This multi-BAC project has 3 primary objectives: (i) to work with small tenure holders in nine areas of the province to help them understand the financial opportunities of supplying bio-energy fuels to regional bio-energy users; (ii) to actively assist with the business planning and development of at least nine wood biomass heating systems in the interior of BC; and (iii) to work with CFDCs and other lending and funding organizations to help them better understand the regional business development opportunities of the bio-energy sector in their regions. **Contact: David Dubois: Email: [david@greenheatinitiative.com](mailto:david@greenheatinitiative.com)**

#### **Non-Timber Forest Resource Forum**

*Total Project Value: \$57,750.00*

*SIBAC Contribution: \$25,000.00*

Splatsin First Nation is coordinating a two-day workshop in the southern interior region to bring together all interested Non Timber Forest Resource (NTFR) practitioners, business owners, industry, First Nations, and federal and provincial representatives. **Contact: Mike Christian: Email: [mike\\_christian@telus.blackberry.net](mailto:mike_christian@telus.blackberry.net)**

#### **SIBAC 2012 FUNDED PROJECTS - CONTINUED...**

##### **Beaverdell Museum / Recreational Services Feasibility Study**

*Total Project Value: \$6,030.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$3,900.00*

With funding support from SIBAC, the Beaverdell Heritage Society will complete a feasibility study to determine the viability of operating a museum with a café and local services to travelling public that drive through Beaverdell along Highway 33 from Kelowna to Rock Creek. The small community has taken a downturn due to the closure of the local restaurant and hotel, leaving travelers no place to stop, rest, eat and use washroom facilities.

**Contact: Lisa Lamm: Email: [lisa@lammcs.ca](mailto:lisa@lammcs.ca)**

##### **Similkameen Watershed Water Quantity and Quality Sustainability Plan**

*Total Project Value: \$530,000.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$30,000.00*

The main goal of this project is to develop and implement a Sustainable Resource Management Plan for the Similkameen Valley Watershed. The project will include production of a valley-wide management program. SIBAC funding will be used specifically for the completion of phase 1, a study examining the forest cover of the catchment and impact to the watershed. **Contact: Doug French: Email: [dfrench@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:dfrench@rdos.bc.ca)**

##### **Lardeau Valley Forestry Inventory - Investors Package and Template**

*Total Project Value: \$22,500.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$10,000.00*

This project aims to provide an investors package including a forest resources and amenities inventory in order to attract investment to the Lardeau Valley in the North Kootenays where the local sawmill has been shut down over the past year. The investors package can serve as a template for other small, rural communities facing similar challenges due to declines in the forest industry. **Contact: Don Edwards: Email: [dwardwards@lardeauvalley.com](mailto:dwardwards@lardeauvalley.com)**

##### **Bridges II: Creating More Regional Economic Value from Regional Forests (SIBAC/OBAC Project)**

*Total Project Value: \$200,000.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$60,000.00*

Building on the success of the Bridges Project, the Bridges II project will work intensively in two sub-regions of the MPB epidemic zone – the purpose, to create greater collaboration between small tenure holders and value from regional fibre supply as noted in the Bridges Project regional consultations. **Contact: Chris Ortner: Email: [chris.ortner@shaw.ca](mailto:chris.ortner@shaw.ca)**

##### **Historic Equestrian Trail Rehabilitation**

*Total Project Value: \$7,050.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$5,050.00 Project completed*

The project provides funding assistance for the rehabilitation of the Cariboo Wagon Road to address impacts to the trail from pine beetle salvage harvesting. The trail is used extensively by hikers, hunters, ATV's, equestrians and, in particular, the Cariboo Trails Combined Driving Event. **Contact: Sally Watson: Email: [director.watson@tnrd.ca](mailto:director.watson@tnrd.ca)**

##### **Enhancement of Wildland Fire Suppression Services, Safety and Leadership**

*Total Project Value: \$200,000.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$50,000.00 Project completed*

This project's objective is to train individuals in transferable skills that focus on emergency management, forest fuel management, employment and entrepreneurial skills to First Nations communities affiliated with the Lillooet Tribal Council. The program is to enhance local capacity and economic opportunities for current and future Lillooet First Nations emergency service providers, assist the employability of the participants and prepare qualified individuals to provide community wildfire protection on and off reserve. **Contact: Brent Langlois: Email: [blanglois@FNESS.bc.ca](mailto:blanglois@FNESS.bc.ca)**

##### **Secwepemc Tourism Conference**

*Total Project Value: \$100,000.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$60,000.00*

Shuswap Nation Tribal Council is coordinating/hosting a two-day invitational conference to foster tourism opportunities and marketing strategies within the region. The conference is intended to include all southern Secwepemc communities and Municipal/Regional/Provincial organizations in the region. **Contact: Bonnie Leonard at: [bleonard@shuswapnation.org](mailto:bleonard@shuswapnation.org)**

##### **Grass-fed Beef Marketing Plan and Materials**

*Total Project Value: \$76,094.00 SIBAC Contribution: \$51,694.00*

Building on the Field to Plate: Grass-Fed Beef Value Chain Analysis Report completed in 2011, the First Nations Agricultural Association's (FNAA) proposal is to conduct a thorough grass-fed beef marketing research study involving three First Nations regions; 1) Nicola Tribal Association; 2) Okanagan Nation Territory; and 3) Shuswap Nation Tribal Council area. The results will inform a business plan and marketing materials.

**Contact: Trevor Kempthorne: Email: [trevor@fnala.com](mailto:trevor@fnala.com)**

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### PROJECTS IN PROGRESS FROM 2010-2011

#### Developing a Strategic Framework and Action Plan for the Completion of a Watershed Management Plan for the Kettle River Watershed

Total Project Value: \$168,000.00

SIBAC Contribution: \$30,000.00

SIBAC has partnered with the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, the Real Estate Foundation of BC and others to design a strategic framework and action plan for the completion of a comprehensive watershed management plan for the entire Kettle River Watershed.

**Project Contact: Grace McGregor, Director Regional District of Kootenay Boundary E-Mail: [gem9293@gmail.com](mailto:gem9293@gmail.com)**

#### Gold Country Communities—Geo-tourism

Total Project Value: \$350,000.00

SIBAC Contribution: \$20,000.00

This project is to assist the Gold Country Communities Society (Gold Country) to complete the next phase of the GeoTourism Program. This phase of the project entails identifying key sites of significance within the region, researching and writing interpretive site pages on each location and then utilizing GeoTourism to preserve heritage, educate youth and attract visitors to support local businesses and economic development.

**Project Contact: Terri Hadwin, Gold Country Communities Society. Email: [goldcountry@telus.net](mailto:goldcountry@telus.net)**

#### Organic Field Crop Production Education

Total Project Value: \$70,000.00

SIBAC Contribution: \$30,000.00

With funding support from SIBAC, the Organic Farming Institute of British Columbia (OFIBC) will develop and implement an educational program for organic field crop production through an online learning platform and practical learning field excursions to prospective farmers.

**Project Contact: Kevin Klippenstein, Chair, Organic Farming Institute of BC. E-mail: [klippersorganics@nethop.net](mailto:klippersorganics@nethop.net)**

#### Southeast BC Employment Lands Inventory

Total Project Value: \$132,800.00

SIBAC Contribution: \$25,000.00

SIBAC provided partnership funding to Community Futures East Kootenay to complete the Southeast BC Employment Lands Inventory Project.

**Project Contact: Rob Gay, General Manager Community Futures East Kootenay. E-mail: [Rob@cfek.ca](mailto:Rob@cfek.ca)**

#### Thomson Shuswap Food Connections

Total Project Value: \$70,000.00

SIBAC Contribution: \$15,000.00

SIBAC provided partnership funding to Community Futures Thompson Country to identify specific opportunities to provide more local food supplies to three major public institutional buyers in Kamloops and to complete a feasibility analysis to determine the viability, design, function, and implementation of a commercial production kitchen for the Thompson Shuswap Region.

**Project Contact: Shirley Culver, Community Futures Thompson Country. E-mail: [sculver@communityfutures.net](mailto:sculver@communityfutures.net)**

#### Ferguson Creek Run of River Hydropower Project

Total Project Value: \$75,000.00

SIBAC Contribution: \$30,000.00

SIBAC has provided partnership funding to the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District to complete the Pre-Development Application component of the proposed Ferguson Creek run-of-river hydropower project.

**Project Contact: Kim Needham, Director of Planning and Development, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District. E-mail: [KNeedham@sldr.bc.ca](mailto:KNeedham@sldr.bc.ca)**

#### The Rural BC Project — Multi-BAC Project

Total Project Value: \$102,050.00

SIBAC Contribution: \$20,000.00

SIBAC has partnered with the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition and the Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition to fund the Rural BC Project. The intent of the project is to increase public awareness of the issues rural BC is facing in a constructive and politically non-partisan manner and to present a convincing case of the resources, programs, planning and policies that rural BC needs to meet these challenges. **Project Contact: OBAC. E-mail: [ruralbcproject@shaw.ca](mailto:ruralbcproject@shaw.ca)**

#### Simpew First Nation

Total Project Value: \$26,700.00

SIBAC & Green Energy Project Contribution: \$21,700.00

With funding from the Green Energy as a Rural Economic Development Tool Project, Simpew First Nation completed a pre-feasibility study of three potential micro-hydro sites. **Contact: Doug Brown. E-mail: [dougbrown1@shaw.ca](mailto:dougbrown1@shaw.ca)**

## COMPLETED PROJECTS:

- 2012 Regional Economic Development Strategy for Kicking Horse Country
- 2012 Southern Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Plants Project (SOSIPS)
- 2012 A New Direction for Okanagan Falls
- 2012 Grass-fed Beef: Field to Plate Program
- 2012 Invest Kootenay Partnership
- 2012 CFDC Boundary Rural Communities Summit Sponsorship
- 2012 City of Armstrong—Green Energy pre-feasibility study
- 2012 District of Clearwater—Green Energy pre-feasibility study
- 2012 Columbia Headwaters Community Forest (CHWCF)
- 2012 Thompson Rivers University—Tourism Project
- 2011 Web Based Mapping (Viewer) Tool (Phase 1)
- 2011 Bio-Energy Feasibility Study– Cranbrook
- 2011 Bridges – Linking Resources for Community Forests
- 2011 BC Log Home & Timber Frame Building Manufacturers – Business and Market Expansion Initiative
- 2011 City of Kimberley—Watershed Assessment
- 2011 Boundary Communities Regional Chamber of Commerce
- 2011 Extension and Expansion of the Green Heat Initiative Project
- 2011 North Thompson Agriplex
- 2011 Wildfire Enhancement Training
- 2011 Split Rock Sekw’el’was Wild Plant Nursery
- 2011 Coldwater River Watershed Workshop
- 2011 Futures Game Training
- 2010 Lillooet Pellet Plant Business Plan
- 2010 Mountain Pine Beetle and Water Management Workshop
- 2010 Fuel Management for MPB Impacted First Nations
- 2010 Princeton Bioenergy and Residual Fibre Use Project
- 2010 Scenario Planning and Leadership Workshops

## SIBAC SPECIAL PROJECTS

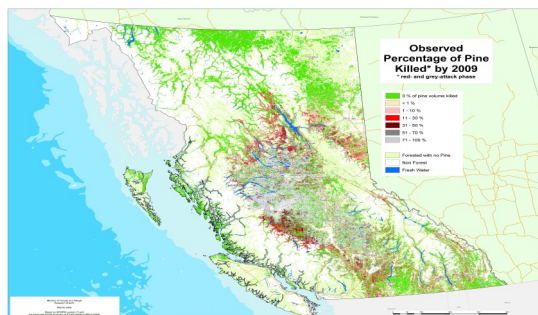
### Green Energy as a Rural Economic Development Tool.

SIBAC has partnered with the other two Beetle Action Coalitions in the province (CCBAC & OBAC) and the Pine Beetle Epidemic Response Branch to develop a new project on renewable energy (“green energy”). The focus of this project is to assist small MPB “at-risk” communities to develop a renewable energy project in their community, and to develop and widely circulate information and resources about green energy development and business opportunities.

The funding partners, (SIBAC, CCBAC, OBAC, Provincial Pine Beetle Epidemic Response Branch, & Columbia Basin Trust) through application, successfully leveraged matching funds from the Federal Rural Secretariat. This is a two year project that will end March 2013.

Project Contact: Gordon Borgstrom, MPB Epidemic Response Branch, MJTST. E-mail [Gordon.Borgstrom@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gordon.Borgstrom@gov.bc.ca)

Project Coordinator: Dalyce Brandt, SIBAC Administrator. E-mail: [admin@sibacs.com](mailto:admin@sibacs.com)



**Please contact us at:**  
Box 3006  
Kamloops, BC V2C 6B7  
Ph; 250-378-1929  
Email: [admin@sibacs.com](mailto:admin@sibacs.com)