



BRITISH COLUMBIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Beef Cattle Industry of British Columbia

AGRI CENTRE - #4 - 10145 DALLAS DRIVE, KAMLOOPS, B.C. V2C 6T4 PHONE (250) 573-3611 FAX (250) 573-5155

November 10, 2023

Wayne Salewski, President
Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society
PO Box 2576
Vanderhoof, BC V0J 3A0
salewski@telus.net

BCCA File: 2023-041
SENT BY EMAIL

**Re: Letter of Support for the Nechako Environment and Water Stewardship Society
Project Proposal - Beaver Dam Analogs, Salmon and Agricultural Recovery**

The BCCA Board of Directors is pleased to write a letter in support for the Society's proposal for a Beaver Dam Analog, Salmon and Agricultural Recovery project that is being submitted to the Nechako Environmental Enhancement Fund (NEEF) for the 2023 intake of proposals.

Ranchers are facing very dry conditions in most areas of the province, particularly in the Nechako region.

As our climate changes, and increased demands are placed on our watersheds, having the ability to store or 'hold water' on the landscape is vital. We need both large aquatic bodies, like lakes and reservoirs, as well as many smaller water bodies, like wetlands and dugouts, across the landscape

BC Cattlemen's Association supports this project for the following reasons:

- ✓ Supports drought prone landscapes
- ✓ Reduce the severity and frequency of flooding and droughts
- ✓ Water on the landscape slows the progression of wildfires
- ✓ Aquatic plants found in wetlands ecosystems sequester carbon in a stable form
- ✓ A rancher has the water they need to sub-irrigate pasture lands and to water livestock on range
- ✓ Wildlife and livestock have refuge in times of climate stress and during wildfire events

On behalf of our rancher members, I am pleased to support the efforts of NEWSS as they seek funding for a program that will have mutual benefit for both agriculture and salmon in the Nechako Valley.

Best regards,

Brian Thomas,
BCCA President