What’s Next? Some of GOERT’s projects for 2011-2012

Developing an outreach and communications strategy based on our public opinion survey on Garry Oak ecosystems

Launching into the first year of our 5 Year Bring Back the Bluebird Translocation Project

Publishing an updated Catalogue of Site Records and providing information on priority Garry oak and associated ecosystem sites to partners

Completing the update of the Recovery Strategy for Garry Oak and Associated Ecosystems and Associated Species at Risk and meeting with partners throughout the region to discuss implementation

Restoring habitat at priority sites with species at risk to protect populations and minimize threats

Increasing public awareness of the value of Garry oak habitat and species at risk

Completing national recovery strategies for at least 10 species and action plans for 20 species

Updating and distributing Best Management Practices, Model Bylaws and more resources

Highlights for the 2010-2011 year

Recovery planning for species and ecosystems at risk

Conducted rare plant surveys for 3 species at 17 sites.

Information from rare plant surveys was incorporated into recovery planning documents and provided to landholders to help guide management efforts. Total of 45 reports covering 12 different species created for landholders with SAR.

Worked with land trusts, conservancies, and staff from the Ministry of Environment and Parks Canada to ensure that landholder contact for species at risk is coordinated and effective.

Completed a draft single species recovery strategy for Meconella oregana (White Meconella).

Coordinated and facilitated Recovery Team meetings and projects including several single species recovery strategies.

Updated information for 44 existing priority Garry Oak ecosystem site records and created new site records for an additional 33 sites.

Landholder contact

Provided more than 40 private landholders with technical advice, information, and assistance, enabling them to protect and restore the Garry Oak and associated ecosystems and the at-risk species they sustain on their property.

Verbal stewardship agreements maintained with 7 private landowners. Habitat steward signs prepared and installed at four sites.

Worked directly with more than 9 local land trusts to coordinate and facilitate landowner contact programs and support their conservation initiatives.

Provided information on Garry Oak ecosystem values to land developers and worked with 6 potential developments to reduce ecological impacts.

Stewardship for species at risk

In 2010-2011, GOERT continued a stewardship program covering 8 priority sites. We:

- monitored sites and species at risk populations
- developed and updated restoration plans
- conducted restoration treatments specifically targeted at reducing or eliminating the threats posed to species at risk by invasive exotic shrubs, herbivory and inappropriate land use. Removed invasive, erecting fencing, and planted native species.
- maintained or increased the species at risk populations at each of the sites
- constructed more than 100 Western Bluebird nestboxes

more highlights >>
Recovery goals

Long-term goals

Establish a network of Garry oak and associated ecosystem sites and landscape linkages

Improve and secure the status of all species at risk in Garry oak and associated ecosystems in Canada so that they no longer at risk of extinction

Short-term objectives

Develop the information base necessary for ecosystem and species recovery

Protect and manage sites and species at risk to minimize immediate losses of ecosystems and species

Motivate public and private protection and stewardship activities by supplying critical information to appropriate audiences

More Highlights

Communications and Outreach

Held our annual Research Colloquium, drawing more than 70 participants. Proceedings are available at www.goert.ca/research.

Held workshops and field trips for 7 local governments and one First Nation.

Provided information and advice to local governments from Metchosin, to the Gulf Islands, to Comox. Provided Stay on Track signs and resources to local governments (see http://www.goert.ca/pubs_stayontrack.php).

Provided information at events (16), conferences (2) and public meetings (10) throughout the range of Garry Oak ecosystems in Canada, including at workshops about protection of Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystems.

Developed draft Best Management Practices for mowing in, and activities near, Garry Oak and associated ecosystems.

Conducted a telephone public opinion survey about Garry Oak ecosystems. Results demonstrate that the overwhelming majority of residents value our local biodiversity and want to learn more about it.

Formed the Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership (CPOP) with ecoregional partners in Washington and Oregon.

Distributed 1450 brochures, flyers and Gardener’s Handbooks. Printed 10,000 additional handbooks.

There were 46,000 visits to our website. E-newsletters distributed quarterly to approximately 1000 people.

New publications and resources (available at www.goert.ca)

New pages were added to our species at risk field manual for the following 4 species: Allium amplectens, Alopeucus carolinianus, Cercyonis pegala incana, and Hesperia colorado argorea

In addition, updated existing inserts with new information for 6 species: Lomatium grayii, Lupinus densiflorus, Sanicula arctopoides, Sanicula bipinnatifida, Euphydryas editha taylori, and Juncus kelloggii

New pages were added to our invasive species field manual for the following 5 species: Trifolium subterraneum, Lamium purpureum, Trifolium dubium, Silene callosa, and Operophtera rumata

The long awaited Restoring British Columbia’s Garry Oak Ecosystems: principles and practices book is now available! www.goert.ca/restoration

Thank you to our funders and donors

Government

Parks Canada Agency

Environment Canada

Government of BC

Public Conservation Assistance Fund (PCAF)

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)

Capital Regional District

Foundations and Business

Evergreen Foundation

Home Depot

Mountain Equipment Co-op

Thrift Foods

Many thanks to all the individual donors (names withheld for privacy) who have provided much-needed and valued support. Your contributions are critical to our success.

Board of Directors 2010-2011

Adriane Pollard (Co-Chair/Co-Secretary)

Brian Reader (Recovery Team Chair and ex officio Director)

Carolyn MacDonald (Co-Chair/Co-Secretary)

Dave Polster (Chair March – October, Vice Chair October - March)

Jan Kirkby (Treasurer)

Jennifer Psyllakis (Treasurer / Chair October - March)

Valentin Schaefer (Director)

GOERT Staff

Shyanne Smith, Program Manager

Betsy Rose, Financial Administrator/Outreach

Kathryn Martell, Conservation Specialist (RIGs)

Carlynn Masson, Communications Coordinator

Kersti Vaino (Lisa Dumoulin), Recovery Coordinator

Chris Junck, Species at Risk Outreach Specialist

Holly Clermont, Conservation Specialist

Todd Kohler, Recovery Planning Specialist

Thank you GOERT Society members for your support in 2010-11

Adolf Ceska

Alana Jung

Angela Mackinnon

Ann Nightingale

Betsy Rose

Beverly Vreeswijk

Bob Chapman

Brianna Fester

Brittany Dewar

Carol Mlo

Catherine Featherby

Chris Junck

Christian Johnson-Dean

Claudia Copley

Clive Stokes

Cody Klinkbeil

Colleen Long

David Blackman

David Tanne

David Trudeul

Deanna Mathewson

Deborah Gibson

Debra Dickson

Deidre Bruce

Donna Campbell

Dorothae Siegler

Doug August

Edward Pullman

Elaine Eastman

Elizabeth Cronin

Emmsy Miller

Frances Litman

Gary Smith

Genevieve Singleton

Ginoa Barchet

Hal Gibbard

Heather English

Helen Oldershaw

Helena Mahoney

Holly Clermont

Ian Burnett

Ian Moul

Jen Kirby

Jason Collier

Jeffrey Borton

Jennifer Bowles

Jennifer Kostenechuk

Jennifer Lort

Jennifer Paylalkis

Jennifer Wasylk

Jenny Clark

Joanne Whitehead

John Baine

John Rogers

Judith Carder

Judy Morrison

Judy Spearing

Julian Anderson

Juliane Leskie

June Prezler

Karen Cummins

Katherine Powell

Kathryn Martell

Keith Pincott

Ken Campbell

Kim Stathers

Kristen Harrison

Lawrence Killam

Leigh Field

Linda Langwill

Linny D. Vine

Lisa Dumoulin

Lukas Clarke

Lynnea Parker

Maire Acker

Marcel Mercier

Maria Gray

Marilyn Fuchs

Marion Grau

Mary Murphy

Mayumi Nomagi

Melissa Noel

Mike Turner

Neil Boyle

Norah Gayral

Oluna Ceska

Pat Johnstone

Paul Feldman

Pilar Rodriguez-Gomez

Rob Walker

Robert Templeman

Ron Carter

Rose Mary Ormerod

Roy Fletcher

Shelia Wallace

Shona Lawson

Shyanne Smith

Stuart Barker

Stuart Duncan

Sunny Hancock

Susan Hannon

Susan MacIsaac

Sylvia Pincott

Thomas Wheeler

Todd Carnahan

Todd Kohler

Tom Wood

Tyler Johns

Ursula Poepel

Valentin Schaefer

Wendy Szaniszlo

Wyllie Thomas

Zak Henderson