



The GUMBOOT GAZETTE



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Follow Our Social Media



@lakelse_watershed_society



@Lakelse Watershed
Stewards Society



(Jordan, 2014)

Northern Goshawk

Lakeshore Development Guidelines for Lakelse Lake

- Looking to do some work on your property?
- Not sure what environmental regulations and policies are required for your work?

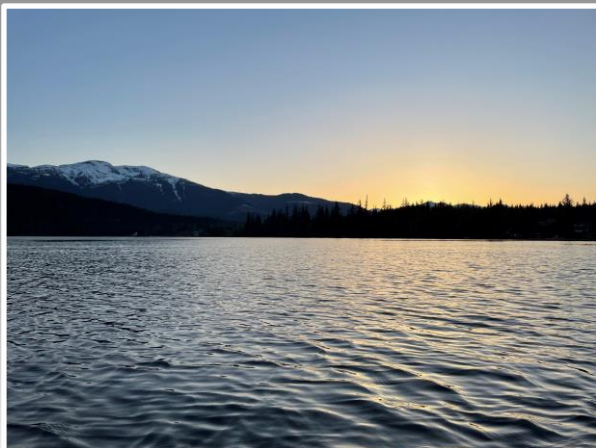


Have a look at the:

[Lakeshore Development Guidelines for Lakelse Lake!](#)

The goals of these guidelines are:

- To condense information for the public from agencies who have jurisdiction and regulatory responsibility within the Lakelse area
- To provide educational information and conservation guidelines for those intending to develop land adjacent to lakeshore areas



These guidelines and other related information can be found on the [RDKS website](#)



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine

Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

Throughout 2022 and into 2023, an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1 strain) has been occurring in wild and domestic birds across Canada. This virus can cause severe illness and even death in birds. Avian flu can cause disease in humans on rare occasions, however, transmission only occurs when people have had close contact with infected birds or severely contaminated environments.

Wild birds, especially waterfowl, are natural reservoirs for influenza viruses. They can spread the disease to domestic birds even though they are not normally affected by it. The disease can also spread to birds through contact with infected poultry and poultry products, contaminated manure, litter, clothing, footwear, vehicles, equipment, feed, and water.

Clinical signs of avian flu in infected birds:

- A drop in egg production (can be soft-shelled or shell-less)
- Diarrhea
- Haemorrhages on the hock
- High and sudden mortality rate
- Quietness and extreme depression
- Swelling of the skin under the eyes
- Wattles and combs become swollen and congested

INVASIVE GOLDFISH



Goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) are a species of domesticated carp from China that have become a widespread invasive across North America, likely due to their release by pet owners.

Released goldfish quickly cause serious effects on a waterbody by eating fish eggs and small invertebrates, while also reducing water clarity and aquatic plant growth. Breeding rapidly, they can live up to 30-40 years and reach 20 cm long.

Although goldfish are not currently listed as invasive on the federal Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations in Canada, it is prohibited at a federal level to release any aquatic species into a region or body of water where it is not indigenous.

If you can no longer care for your goldfish, it's essential that you don't release it into a natural environment.

Consider the following:

- Return the pet to where you bought it
 - Rehome the pet to another owner
 - Donate the pet to a local aquarium or school for educational purposes
- X **DO NOT** flush fish down the toilet. It can pass disease to other fish species whether it is alive or not
 - X **DO NOT** release it into the wild



(Dawson, 2019)

**National Invasive Species
Action Week
May 14th to 20th, 2023**

Geothermal Energy Project Lakelse Lake



- Project partnership between Kitselas Geothermal Inc. and Borealis GeoPower Inc.
- Goal of using geothermal energy as an alternative energy source for industrial heating in the Terrace area.
- Geothermal energy is a renewable energy source that comes from within the earth and can be used as heating or turned into electricity.
- Geothermal plants tap into hot water reservoirs and use the steam to turn power-producing turbines before the water is cycled back underground to be reheated.
- Previous pilot drilling confirmed commercial viability. Drilling was conducted near Lakelse Lake, across from the Mount Layton Hot Springs.

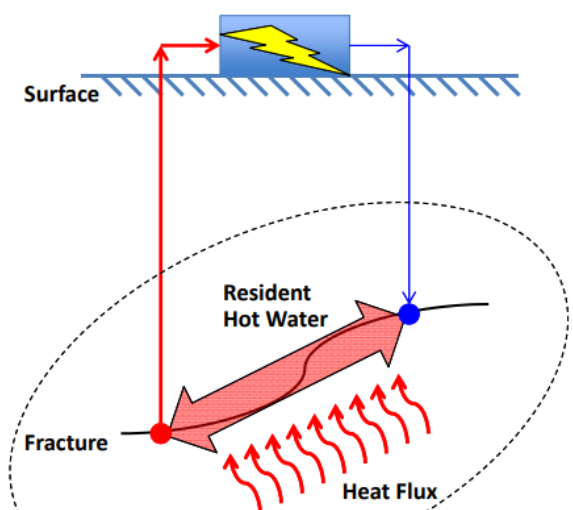
→ Public comments can be submitted to the BC Energy Regulator at WrittenSubmissions@bc-er.ca until **April 6, 2023**.

GP 2014001 Permit Area (Red)



Source: Borealis, Ministry of Energy (BC)

Simplified Volcanic Geothermal System



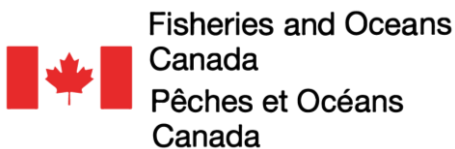
Source: Borealis

LWSS SUPPORT

Last year's projects saw support from many funders and partners – old and new!

With their support, we were successfully able to:

- Deliver our ongoing interpretive program
- Continue water quality monitoring of the lake and its tributaries
- Survey plant species in the Lakelse Lake Wetlands Provincial Park
- Conduct creek walks to count coho in Williams Creek
- Produce and install new interpretive signage on trails and in environmentally sensitive areas



Recreation Sites
and Trails BC



BC Parks



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine



Terrace
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Your Gift. Your Community. Your Legacy.



BCLSS



northern health
the northern way of caring

Thank you to all our 2022 supporters! We are looking forward to an exciting 2023!

Water Quality Monitoring Program

Throughout the summer months, 15 tributaries of Lakelse Lake are tested using a YSI ProDSS Water Quality Meter. We record temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, conductivity, and pressure which all help to determine the health of the lake. These water quality parameters are also monitored at four locations on Lakelse Lake by boat.

- The Watershed Circuit and Lake Sampling will be **starting soon!** We need volunteers to help with this weekly monitoring from April until September
- If you are **interested in volunteering**, please send us an email: watershed.coordinator@gmail.com



Cutthroat Trout Camera

THE UNDERWATER CAMERA WILL BE BACK IN ACTION THIS SPRING!

The camera, which is equipped with a motion sensor, will be set up on a tributary of the lake to monitor cutthroat trout numbers during spawning season, from late April to early June



This project includes **volunteer opportunities!**

- Volunteers are needed to help clear debris from the camera fence every few days
- Volunteers can also help us watch the footage and count fish passing by the camera

Check out some underwater camera footage from previous years on our [website!](#)

Fauna Feature

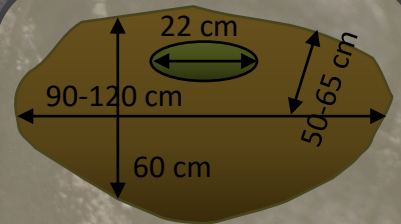
Northern Goshawk

Accipiter gentilis

Origin of the species name *gentilis* is not because they're gentle, it's because they were the preferred hawk for medieval falconers of nobility!

Coastal (*laingi*) subspecies is federally and provincially listed as "At Risk" (COSEWIC)

Easiest to spot when performing their 'sky dance' as they mate.



Their body is built for dodging and diving while flying through forests at high speeds!
Prey size ranges from small songbirds to hares.

They make large nests! About a meter long, half a meter wide, and over half a meter tall, with only a small 25 cm opening for their young. They like to line the nest bowl with tree bark and leaves/mosses.

This map shows the range of all subspecies; however, the boundary between the coastal (*laingi*) and the interior subspecies (*atricapillus*) is still being established through research.

For more information on these topics, check out these websites!
[BC Government fact sheet](#)
[Bulkley Valley Centre](#)
[The Cornell Lab](#)
[Center for Biological Diversity](#)

- Year-round
- Breeding
- Migration
- Nonbreeding



SKEENA VALLEY FARMERS MARKET

Open Saturdays from 9 to 1
George Little Park



We are excited to be hosting another booth with SkeenaWild at the Skeena Valley Farmers Market this summer!

Sign up as a member or volunteer

Learn about our ongoing projects and programs

Support your local watershed initiatives through our clothing and greeting cards fundraiser

Come by and say hi!



WANT TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL WATERSHED SOCIETY?



- BECOME AN LWSS MEMBER!
- VOLUNTEER WITH US!

\$10 Annual Membership – Includes the whole family!

Membership Benefits:

- Covers insurance for volunteer activities
- Subscription to our volunteer email list for first access to opportunities
- Newsletter subscription to keep you informed
- Contribute to LWSS programs including stewardship projects and community outreach events

To become a member, send us an email for info:
watershedcoordinator.lakelse@gmail.com

Clothing and Greeting Card Fundraiser Continues!

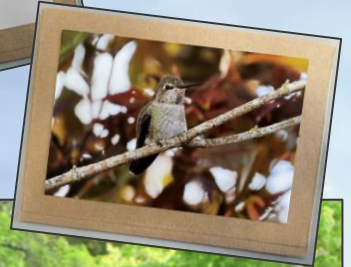
Hoodies – \$45

T-Shirts – \$25

Hats – \$25

UNISEX SIZES S-XL
AVAILABLE

Greeting
Cards – \$5



Funds raised support your local watershed projects and programs

If interested, email:
watershedcoordinator.lakelse@gmail.com

Keep in Touch!

- **Visit our website:**



<https://www.lakelsewatershedsociety.com/>

- **Follow us on social media:**



Instagram: @Lakelse Watershed Stewards Society



Facebook: @lakelse_watershed_society

- **Reach us by email at:**



watershedcoordinator.lakelse@gmail.com

- **We're always looking for neat photos of Lakelse Lake to feature on our pages, send them along!**