

August 28, 2025

Department of Finance Canada
90 Elgin Street
Ottawa ON
K1A 0G5

Re: 2025 Federal Budget Recommendations

On behalf of the 65 undersigned organizations, we respectfully request that the Government of Canada increase investments in protecting and restoring nature. We are pleased to see the Government of Canada's continued commitment to national biodiversity targets and protecting nature as evidenced in the Throne Speech. Continued investment in protecting and restoring nature is necessary amidst the interrelated crises of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Beyond the conservation of species and ecosystems, investments in nature and climate resiliency have proven to bolster the economy, maintain affordability, secure critical job sectors, reduce risk from natural disasters, and facilitate public mental and physical health. Additionally, investing in nature, and specifically Indigenous-led conservation initiatives, will aid Canada in its reconciliation efforts.

Since committing to the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework in 2022, Canada has shown global leadership in its efforts to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. However, renewed and expanded funding is essential to ensure that our commitments can be met by adequately funding the 2030 Nature Strategy and ensuring that a nature accountability law is successfully passed and implemented.

With proposed budget reductions across departments, the Government of Canada must ensure effective and efficient investments in nature continue based on the recommendations below.

Recommendations for Budget

Echoing the recommendations put forth by the Green Budget Coalition¹, we urge the Government of Canada to advance key elements of the 2030 Nature Strategy. In particular, the following funding should be prioritized:

- Renew or replace the Enhanced Nature Legacy Fund with \$2.5 billion over five years to protect 30% of land and water by 2030, including Indigenous-led conservation initiatives and building on the National Ecological Corridors Program.
- \$675 million over five years, then \$400 million annually in long-term funding to Parks Canada for expanding protected areas and supporting ecological connectivity to

¹ Delivering on Nature Commitments, Green Budget Coalition - [Delivering on nature commitments - Green Budget | Budget Vert](#)

meet national targets, in partnership with Indigenous Nations.

- \$500 million over five years to support a nation-wide connectivity fund for wildlife crossings to preserve biodiversity.
- Accelerating efforts to identify federal subsidies (approximately \$5.6 billion) that harm nature and reform them to benefit nature.
- \$520 million over four years to establish a National Restoration Fund to support local and private partners to manage natural infrastructure and restore critical ecosystems.
- Renew the Habitat Stewardship Program for species at risk by \$32.5 million over four years to support tangible and measurable conservation outcomes.
- \$250 million over five years to effectively manage and mitigate the significant economic, social, and environmental impacts of invasive species.

As it stands, there is a global funding gap of between \$589-824 billion per year to sustainably manage biodiversity and maintain ecosystem integrity. Canada must continue to set an example as a global leader in nature and climate action by following through on its international commitments. Now more than ever is the time to increase investments in protecting nature and building climate resiliency.²

Nature is a fundamental part of Canadian identity and in the face of global instability and economic uncertainty it is essential we protect this natural legacy for future generations.

Sincerely,

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² [Transformative Change for Biodiversity Urgently Needed - Ontario Nature](#)

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