



ORGANIZATION NAME: Columbia Basin Trust

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	TOTAL BioCO <sub>2</sub>	TOTAL EMISSIONS	TOTAL OFFSETS
GHG EMISSIONS CREATED	0.825	287.115 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	286.290 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
ADJUSTMENTS TO GHG EMISSIONS OF PRIOR YEARS			0.000 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
GRAND TOTAL OFFSETS (rounded to whole number)			286 tCO <sub>2</sub> e

OFFSET INVESTMENT (\$25 per tCO<sub>2</sub>e) \$7,150

*Declaration statement: This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2024 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2025 and beyond.*

Actions taken in 2024 to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and/or improve sustainability

**Delivery of Benefits Programs and Initiatives:**

- The Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation, a subsidiary of the Trust, supports residents and businesses to work, study and attend appointments remotely, reducing carbon emissions associated with commuting.
- Through the Columbia Basin Wildfire Resiliency Initiative, a project was approved to implement wildfire fuel management treatment on 17.7 hectares of land near Golden, BC.
- The Housing Initiatives program supported:
  - The creation of 16 new affordable housing units designed to meet Energy Step Code 3 or 4.
  - Installation of solar PV arrays for 25 affordable housing units.
  - Delivering the Recharge Program, in partnership with BC Housing and BC Non-Profit Housing, to install solar PV arrays and improve energy efficiency in up to 158 affordable rental housing units.
  - Signing a partnership agreement with BC Housing to create up to 160 new affordable housing units designed to meet Energy Step Code 3 or 4.
- The First Nations Housing Sustainability Initiative supported the creation of four new energy-efficient affordable housing units and the installation of solar PV arrays on 25 affordable housing units in First Nations communities.
- The Non-profit SMART program enabled 27 organizations to make operational and infrastructure upgrades that support climate adaptation and GHG reduction. Projects included the purchase of electric vehicles (EVs) and charging stations, installation of solar PV arrays, and implementation of energy efficiency and resiliency measures.
- The Small Community Wildfire Readiness Support program helped 21 communities by funding training, assessments and equipment to enhance wildfire preparedness.

**Corporate Operations:**

- Completed major renovations at the Golden office, including installation of a new heat pump and improvements to the building envelope.
- Hired a consultant through an RFP process to assess clean energy generation opportunities in the Basin.
- Purchased an EV truck and installed an additional EV charger at the Castlegar office parkade.
- Continued LED light upgrades at the Castlegar office.
- Used recycled paper and Forest Stewardship Council-certified printers that default to low power mode when not in use.
- Prioritized the use of Energy Star-certified devices where possible.

## How we plan to continue minimizing greenhouse gas emissions

Looking ahead, the Trust will continue to support residents and communities in building a more climate-resilient Basin, and in mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Planned actions include:

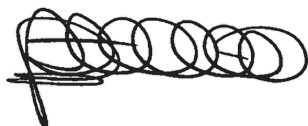
- **Ongoing support for community resilience, including:**
  - Amplifying the success of Basin residents who are rising to the challenges of climate change and inspiring optimism and commitment in communities.
  - Helping communities, including First Nations and Métis Peoples, as they prepare for and take actions to adapt to and mitigate climate change.
  - Improving climate resilience in the Basin by supporting:
    - Communities facing risks like wildfire, extreme weather, drought and lack of access to water
    - Food producers and processors so they can ensure the availability of local food
    - Housing providers, community centres and internet service providers to improve their emergency readiness
    - Basin residents who are most susceptible to the impacts of climate change.
  - Exploring clean energy generation options and ensuring energy-efficiency and energy-saving measures continue to be available in the Basin.
- **Program and infrastructure initiatives:**
  - Launching the Non-profit SMART program and Affordable Housing Emergency Readiness Program (2025).
  - Supporting a project to inventory, quantify and map water resources available for wildfire suppression in five rural Basin communities. This work will produce community-tailored reports and maps for use during a wildfire response.
  - Completing solar panel installation on the Castlegar office roof (early 2025).
  - Installing solar panels at the Cranbrook office (scheduled July-August 2025).
  - Constructing a new office in Nakusp, featuring a solar PV array and EV charging stations. The building has undergone energy modelling and is expected to meet Energy Step Code 4 (completion in 2026).
  - Establishing a Clean Energy Task Force to advise the Trust on clean energy projects, initiatives and related matters across the Basin (2025).

## Actions taken in 2024 to strengthen our ability to manage the likely effects of climate change

The Trust helped Basin communities reduce their vulnerabilities to both current and anticipated climate change impacts, such as wildfire, flood and drought, through the following initiatives:

- Supported emergency readiness for nine buildings owned by non-profit affordable housing organizations by funding back-up power systems through the Seniors Housing Livability and Emergency Readiness Program.
- Helped nine internet service providers improve their infrastructure's resilience to wildfires.
- Supported eight projects through the Community Readiness Program to help community centers prepare for emergencies such as floods, wildfires, extreme temperatures, and prolonged power or communication outages.
- Assisted 21 communities increase wildfire preparedness and implement prevention measures through the Small Community Wildfire Readiness Support program.
- Funded 10 ecosystem enhancement and restoration projects to improve ecosystem health, support native biodiversity, and reduce vulnerabilities to climate change.
- Renewed a partnership with the Province of BC, Ministry of Forests and BC Wildfire Service to continue building wildfire capacity in Basin communities through the Columbia Basin Wildfire Resiliency Initiative.

*Retirement of Offsets: In accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Accountability Act and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation, Columbia Basin Trust (the Organization) is responsible for arranging for the retirement of the offsets obligation reported above for the 2024 calendar year, together with any adjustments reported for past calendar years (if applicable). The Organization hereby agrees that, in exchange for the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions (the Ministry) ensuring that these offsets are retired on the Organization's behalf, the Organization will pay within 30 days, the associated invoice to be issued by the Ministry in an amount equal to \$25 per tonne of offsets retired on its behalf plus GST.*



Johnny Strilaeff, President and Chief Executive Officer

May 22, 2025

Date