

Climate Change Accountability Report 2025



ORGANIZATION NAME: Columbia Basin Trust

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	TOTAL BioCO ₂	TOTAL EMISSIONS	TOTAL OFFSETS
GHG EMISSIONS CREATED	5.864	396.597 tCO ₂ e	390.733 tCO ₂ e
ADJUSTMENTS TO GHG EMISSIONS OF PRIOR YEARS			0.000 tCO ₂ e
GRAND TOTAL OFFSETS (rounded to whole number)			391 tCO ₂ e

OFFSET INVESTMENT (\$25 per tCO₂e) \$9,775

Declaration statement: This PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for the period January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 summarizes our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions we have taken in 2025 to minimize our GHG emissions, and our plans to continue reducing emissions in 2026 and beyond.

Actions taken in 2025 to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and/or improve sustainability

Delivery of Benefits Programs and Initiatives:

- The Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (a Trust subsidiary) enables residents and businesses to work, study and attend appointments remotely, reducing commuting-related emissions.
- Through the Columbia Basin Wildfire Resiliency Initiative, 18 projects were approved to implement fuel management treatments across 259 hectares.
- The Housing Initiatives program supported:
 - Construction of six new affordable housing units meeting Energy Step Code 3 or 4.
 - Installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays on six affordable housing buildings.
 - Delivering the Affordable Housing Renewable Energy Initiative and Recharge Program (with BC Housing and BC Non-Profit Housing), installing solar PV arrays and improving energy efficiency in four buildings (87 units total).
- The Non-profit SMART program supported 31 organizations in operational and infrastructure upgrades, including electric vehicles (EVs), EV charging stations, solar PV arrays, and energy efficiency improvements.

Corporate Operations:

- Completed installation of a 68-kW solar array at the Castlegar office, generating 69,000 kWh in 2025.
- Replaced the make-up air unit at the Castlegar office with a 91% efficient model (compared to the 80% standard).
- Replaced three end-of-life heat pumps with more efficient, environmentally friendly models.
- Purchased over 20 ENERGY STAR® laptops containing up to 93% recycled content and over 7% renewable, sustainably forested materials.
- Began phasing out legacy IT systems; removed a dual power supply and 12 servers and appliances.
- Improved data centre efficiency through:
 - Server rightsizing, reducing power supplies by half.
 - Installation of a high-efficiency air conditioning unit (replacing a 20-year-old system).
- Continued use of recycled paper and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-certified printers with low-power defaults.
- Replaced emergency lighting with LED bulbs to reduce energy use and extend lifespan.

How we plan to continue minimizing greenhouse gas emissions

The Trust will continue supporting climate resilience, mitigation and adaptation across the Basin. Planned actions include:

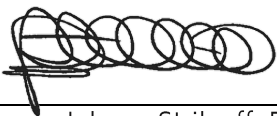
- **Community Resilience**
 - Amplifying stories of Basin residents addressing climate challenges to inspire action.
 - Supporting communities, including First Nations and Métis Peoples, in climate adaptation and mitigation.
 - Enhancing climate resilience by supporting:
 - Communities facing wildfire, extreme weather, drought and water access risks
 - Food producers and processors to maintain local food supply
 - Residents most vulnerable to climate impacts.
 - Exploring clean energy generation and expanding energy-efficiency initiatives.
- **Program and Infrastructure initiatives:**
 - Launching Farm Solar Grants to support primary producers to install solar PV arrays (closes June 2026).
 - Delivering Non-profit SMART Grants (closes May 2026) and the Energy Retrofit and Recharge Program for affordable housing providers (closes April 2026).
 - Supporting clean energy generation projects.
 - Maintaining a Clean Energy Task Force to advise on regional initiatives.
 - Advancing affordable housing projects meeting Energy Step Code 3 or 4.
 - Completing construction of the Nakusp office, featuring a solar PV array and EV charging stations. The building is expected to meet Energy Step Code 4 (completion in 2026).

Actions taken in 2025 to strengthen our ability to manage the likely effects of climate change

The Trust supported Basin communities in reducing vulnerability to climate impacts (e.g., wildfire, flood, drought) through:

- Supporting 31 communities with wildfire preparedness via the Small Community Wildfire Readiness Support program.
- Funding back-up power systems for 12 non-profit housing buildings through the Seniors Housing Livability and Emergency Readiness Program.
- Funding eight ecosystem enhancement and restoration projects to support biodiversity and resilience.
- Supporting four farms to trial climate-resilient crop varieties.
- Assisting municipalities through the Community Readiness Program to prepare for climate-related emergencies.

***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 2025 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 28, 2026

Date