

Monday, July 13, 2026

The Honourable Kelly Greene
Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Re: Follow-up to BC Nature's February 5, 2025 Letter Regarding Your Ministerial Mandate

Dear Minister Greene,

On February 5, 2025, BC Nature wrote to congratulate you on your appointment as Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness while expressing concern that your mandate letter did not explicitly recognize the critical role of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems in strengthening British Columbia's resilience to climate change. While we appreciated the opportunity to share our perspective, we are disappointed that we have not received a response.

Over the past year, British Columbians have continued to experience the growing impacts of climate change through wildfire, drought, flooding, and extreme weather. These events reinforce the importance of integrating nature-based solutions into emergency management and climate adaptation planning.

Healthy forests, wetlands, grasslands, rivers, floodplains, and coastal ecosystems provide essential services that help reduce disaster risks. They store carbon, moderate flooding, improve water security, reduce erosion, support wildfire resilience, and provide habitat for the wildlife that defines British Columbia's natural heritage. Investing in ecosystem protection and restoration is therefore an investment in public safety, community resilience, and long-term economic stability.

We continue to encourage your ministry to recognize ecosystem conservation as a core component of climate readiness by supporting nature-based solutions, protecting and restoring natural infrastructure, and working collaboratively across government to ensure biodiversity considerations are integrated into emergency management and climate adaptation initiatives. These actions will strengthen British Columbia's ability to prepare for and respond to the increasing challenges posed by a changing climate.

BC Nature represents 64 naturalist clubs and more than 6,000 members across British Columbia. Our members include scientists, naturalists, educators, conservation practitioners, and community volunteers who contribute thousands of volunteer hours each year to stewardship, citizen science, habitat restoration, and environmental education. We are committed to working collaboratively with government to help build a more resilient and sustainable British Columbia.

We respectfully request a response to our original correspondence and would welcome the opportunity to meet with you or members of your ministry to discuss how BC Nature can support the Province's climate resilience and emergency preparedness objectives through nature-based solutions.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold Sellers", written in a cursive style.

Harold Sellers
President, BC Nature

Reference: <https://bcnature.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-02-Ministerial-Mandate-Letter-Honourable-Kelly-Greene.pdf>