

PROJECT

Quintal



BC INTERMOUNTAIN Okanagan Valley just north of the Canada-USA border.



Wood Duck

COMMON WILDLIFE

- Mallard
- Wood Duck
- Northern Pintail
- Blue-winged Teal
- Cinnamon Teal
- Green-winged Teal
- Northern Shoveler
- Gadwall
- American Wigeon
- Canada Goose
- Rainbow Trout
- Steelhead Trout

Highlights

The Quintal project area totals 49 hectares along the Okanagan River and includes haylands, oxbows and floodplain wetlands.

Under the Intermountain Wetland Conservation Program, the Quintal project aims to restore some of the floodplain habitats that made up much of the valley floor along the Okanagan River. Floodplain wetlands are especially important to migrant waterfowl, fish, amphibians, and a host of songbirds.

The project area has been used for hay and pasture, with some of the property within the ALR. While some agricultural use will be maintained, future management will include the needs of wildlife. The project is immediately adjacent to the South Okanagan Wildlife Management Area, now creating a larger piece of contiguous wildlife habitat. The Quintal project is an important parcel in DUC's effort to restore wetlands in the Okanagan valley.



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Ducks Unlimited Canada conserves, restores and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.

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Background

Over the past 50 years, the Okanagan Valley has experienced intense pressures from agriculture and urban expansion. It's estimated that only 15% of wetlands remain intact and only about 2% of wetland habitats are considered to be in an undisturbed state. The Okanagan River was channeled and diked in the late 1950's, eliminating the natural water supply and drastically altering the natural flood regime of the floodplain. Ground observation and aerial photos reveal with some accuracy where the natural swales and oxbows formed and where saturated areas continue to exist. These wetland areas vary from bulrush marsh to wet meadow classification. During spring freshet, most of the land is inundated with water from the Okanagan River.

This is an opportunity to restore some of the Okanagan River channel and floodplain to its natural state and protect this portion of floodplain from urbanization. Our efforts will reduce some of those impacts and re-create high quality contiguous habitat. To achieve our overall goal of no net losses, acquisition and restoration of properties such as the Quintal Property is necessary and effective. The overall goal is to restore the property to natural floodplain habitat while also maintaining some agriculture presence.



THIS PROJECT IS THE RESULT OF COOPERATIVE EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM:

- Environment Canada (Canadian Wildlife Service)
- The BC Ministry of Water, Land & Air Protection
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- The Nature Conservancy



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Ducks Unlimited Canada, founded in 1938, is a private nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to the conservation of wetlands for the benefit of North America's waterfowl, wildlife and people.