

[2018 John B. Holdstock Scholarship Successful Recipient \(1\) \[1\]](#)

Congratulations to Torry Hoffos, one of two successful recipients of the 2018 John B. Holdstock Scholarship!

"I was born and raised just outside Williams Lake and was lucky enough to spend significant time outdoors learning and exploring," says Torry, which, he explains, has nurtured his passion for natural history and conservation. "I have always been an active camper and hiker. In recent years I have become an avid fisherman and am now engaged in hunting."

"Over the past three years I have had the opportunity to apply those interests to fisheries projects, working for BCCF. After this coming summer, I will have spent two summers working as Dean River Guardian, collecting data and monitoring anglers on a river considered to be the "Holy Grail of Steelhead Fishing". Prior to working as a guardian I worked on a variety of fisheries projects around Williams Lake including the installation of water temperature gauges on the Horsefly River and monitoring temperature changes within the river system."

Torry is currently completing his third year of a degree in Natural Resource Management with a focus on Fish and Wildlife. "While at university I have also joined the fish and wildlife chapter of the wildlife society. Through that group I have participated in many field trips focused on the conservation of species in the Omineca region.

Torry admits he has kept himself to a high standard throughout his academic years and has reaped rewards as a result; the Canadian Institute of Forestry Bursary, the Vernon C. Brink Scholarship for the Study of Biological Diversity, and the Steadman Family Matching Grant from UNBC, to name a few of the more recent achievements.

"Following graduation, I plan to work as a biologist and gain accreditation as an RP.Bio. My goal is to continue work within the field of fish and wildlife conservation and I hope to find employment in central or northern BC.

"Some current issues of personal interest are declining steelhead and salmon stocks, predator-prey relationships, especially caribou-moose-wolf dynamics, and the cumulative effects of increasing habitat disturbance on sensitive species. I believe it is important to maintain healthy populations and ecological resilience within natural systems particularly in the face of climate change and the cumulative effects of development activities. Maintaining healthy fish and wildlife populations, including sustainable recreational harvests represents a significant challenge but one that I believe is achievable in B.C.."

Well done, Torry, and keep up the great work!

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