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Kelowna posted April 15, 2017 by [Laurence Watt](#)

17 Projects approved to conserve and improve Okanagan Valley water

Water quality in the Okanagan Valley could be about to improve.

The news comes following an announcement from The Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) last week that they approved \$300,000 in funding for 17 projects that will help conserve and improve the quality of water in the valley.

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The decision was made to approve the Water Conservation and Quality Improvement (WCOI) Grants by the directors at their regular board meeting on

Tuesday, April 5.

"This year we saw a lot of very strong applications focused on action for conserving water or improving its quality," said James Littley, OBWB's Operations and Grants Manager.

In particular, three projects were funded for the North Okanagan, four for the South Okanagan and ten for the Central Okanagan.

In particular, the North Okanagan will benefit from \$15,427 be used to fund Sqilxw Apna, a local nonprofit, that aims to help protect and restore the lower reaches of Bradley Creek. This particular project combines traditional ecological knowledge of Okanagan Indian Band elders with scientific data regarding the current health of the creek, located near the head of Okanagan Lake.

One project in the South Okanagan regards the first phase of a Land Use and Water Quality Assessment for Vaseux Lake. This project, which received a \$25,440 grant, will assess how certain land uses affect water quality in Vaseux Lake.



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In the Central Okanagan, \$20,000 will go towards the Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program for a project that aims to increase public awareness on the importance of foreshore ecosystems in protecting water quality and establish a demonstration restoration site.

The brief descriptions of three above projects only offer a small taste of what is in store for water conservation and quality in the Okanagan.

To find out more about efforts to conserve and increase water quality in the Okanagan, view the full list of projects and their descriptions [here](#).

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