



Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund:

Approved Projects: 2016 – 2021



Photos (clockwise from top left): Gillian Sanders, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Wildlife Conservation Society Canada, Valerie Huff

2021

Landowners and Citizen Scientists as Allies in Local Bat Conservation: Direct Action Preparing for White-Nose Syndrome - \$14,000 to the Wildlife Conservation Society Canada to continue to engage landowners and help them protect their bat colonies through a variety of actions, ranging from disease surveillance and ensuring safe bat boxes are in place to testing and applying a prophylaxis treatment that has been developed.

Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions - \$11,000 to the Friends of the Lardeau River to assist private landowners with reducing grizzly bear conflicts through a 50% cost share with residents for electric fencing equipment to protect their livestock and/or crops from bears.

2021 Harrop Wetland Restoration Monitoring and Assessment Project - \$10,000 to Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society to address declining critical habitat for western toad, blue heron, painted turtle, and other at-risk species that depend on ephemeral wetlands along the West Arm of Kootenay Lake, while ensuring the wetland sustains essential habitat values in a changing climate.

Land Securement for Conservation Purposes at Cottonwood Lake - Cottonwood Lake Preservation Society, a project of RDCK - \$10,000 to the Cottonwood Lake Preservation Society to acquire the land that surrounds Cottonwood Lake that is slated to be clearcut.

North Kootenay Lake Water Monitoring Project - \$7,500 to Living Lakes Canada to collect scale-appropriate climate data that will enable and inform land-use response in the face of climate change to better conserve and restore ecosystems, support sustainable community development, and prepare for increased hazards.

Wildflowers for Pollinators: Building Communities, Year 3 - \$7,500 to the Kootenay Native Plant Society to enhance and restore the ecosystem process of pollination by facilitating the enhancement of meadow habitat to sustain the diversity of native pollinators, including at-risk bumble bees and butterflies and the native plants with which they co-evolved, in the Kootenay Lake area.

Fish/Bear Lakes Western Toad Mortality Mitigation Implementation Along Highway 31A - \$6,000 to the Valhalla Wilderness Society to enhance the survivability of both adult toads and toadlets at the mountain pass of Fish & Bear Lakes wildlife corridor along Highway 31A in the face of increased motorized use of the highway and the threat of climate change.

Habitat Restoration for Beavers along the Duncan Lardeau River Floodplains - \$5,000 to BC Conservation Foundation to encourage a healthy population of beavers to re-establish along both the Lardeau and lower Duncan Rivers by encouraging improved habitat conditions.

2020

Evaluating Bat Boxes as a Mitigation for White-Nose Syndrome - \$15,000 to the Wildlife Conservation Society Canada to help landowners protect their bat colonies through a variety of actions, ranging from disease surveillance and ensuring safe bat boxes are in place to testing and applying a prophylaxis treatment that has been developed.

Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions - \$12,000 to the Friends of the Lardeau River to assist private landowners with reducing grizzly bear conflicts through a 50% cost share with residents for electric fencing equipment to protect their livestock and/or crops from bears.

North Kootenay Lake Water Monitoring Project - \$12,000 to North Kootenay Lake Water Monitoring Project to collect scale-appropriate climate data that will enable and informed land-use response in the face of climate change to better conserve and restore ecosystems, support sustainable community development, and prepare for increased hazards.

Knotweed Removal on Private Lands - \$10,000 to the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society to work towards the eradication of knotweed from Areas A, D, and E of the RDCK.

Beavers along the Lardeau and Duncan River floodplains: a Population Survey and Habitat Assessment - \$6,000 to BC Conservation Foundation to collect the information needed to begin beaver restoration in the Kootenays.

Fish/Bear Lake Western Toad Ecology and Hwy 31A Mortality Mitigation Study - \$5,000 to the Valhalla Wilderness Society to enhance the survivability of both adult toads and toadlets at the mountain pass of Fish & Bear Lakes wildlife corridor along Highway 31A in the face of increased motorized use of the highway and the threat of climate change.

Wildflowers for Pollinators: A Citizen-Science Meadowsclaping Initiative - \$5,000 to the Kootenay Native Plant Society to enhance and restore the ecosystem process of pollination by facilitating the enhancement of meadow habitat to sustain the diversity of native pollinators, including at-risk bumble bees and butterflies and the native plants with which they co-evolved, in the Kootenay Lake area.

2019

Next Creek Property Acquisition - \$93,000 to the Nature Conservancy of Canada towards the purchase of the last missing piece in a vast conservation landscape puzzle of inland temperate rainforest that extends over 1,100 km².

Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions - \$12,000 to the Friends of the Lardeau River to assist private landowners with reducing grizzly bear conflicts through a 50% cost share with residents for electric fencing equipment to protect their livestock and/or crops from bears.

Wildflowers for Pollinators: A Citizen-Science Meadowscaping Initiative - \$11,696 to the Kootenay Native Plant Society to enhance and restore the ecosystem process of pollination by facilitating the enhancement of meadow habitat to sustain the diversity of native pollinators, including at-risk bumble bees and butterflies and the native plants with which they co-evolved, in the Kootenay Lake area.

Kootenay Lake Kokanee Salmon Spawning Habitat Research and Restoration Project - \$10,000 to Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society for enhancing habitat for Kokanee salmon through shoreline restoration and citizen science to ensure continued support for Kokanee populations within the Kootenay Lake area.

Fish/Bear Lake Western Toad Ecology and Hwy 31A Mortality Mitigation Study - \$8,000 to the Valhalla Wilderness Society to enhance the survivability of both adult toads and toadlets at the mountain pass of Fish & Bear Lakes wildlife corridor along Highway 31A in the face of increased motorized use of the highway and the threat of climate change.

North Kootenay Lake Water Monitoring Project - \$20,000 to North Kootenay Lake Water Monitoring Project to collect scale-appropriate climate data that will enable and informed land-use response in the face of climate change to better conserve and restore ecosystems, support sustainable community development, and prepare for increased hazards

Evaluating Bat Boxes as a Mitigation for White-Nose Syndrome - \$10,000 to the Wildlife Conservation Society Canada to prepare the Kootenay Lake region for the arrival of White-Nose Syndrome (WNS), a disease that decimates bat populations, such that the impact of this disease can be minimized.

Western Painted Turtle Conservation - \$5,750 to the BC Conservation Foundation to develop conservation actions for the blue-listed Western Painted Turtle in order to enhance populations.

2018

Water Quantity Monitoring Project - \$20,000 to Kootenay Centre for Forestry Alternatives to undertake water quantity monitoring to inform land use planning decisions in preparation for climate change.

Kootenay Community Bat Project - \$12,922.50 to Wildlife Conservation Society Canada and Kootenay Centre for Forestry Alternatives to promote and conserve the variety of bat species and their associated habitats that exist in the Kootenay Lake area.

Grizzly Bear Co-Existence Solutions - \$12,000 to BC Conservation Foundation and Friends of the Lardeau River to provide a 50% cost share with residents for electric fencing equipment to protect their livestock or crops from bears.

Fish/Bear Lake Western Toad Ecology and Hwy 31A Mortality Mitigation Study - \$8,000 to Valhalla Wilderness Society to substantially reduce roadkill of western toads and help maintain a healthy toad population in the area.

2017

Water Quantity Monitoring Project - \$20,000 to Kootenay Centre for Forestry Alternatives to undertake water quantity monitoring to inform land use planning decisions in preparation for climate change.

Kootenay Community Bat Project - \$16,025 to Wildlife Conservation Society Canada and Kootenay Centre for Forestry Alternatives to promote and conserve the variety of bat species and their associated habitats that exist in the Kootenay Lake area.

Grizzly Bear Co-Existence Solutions - \$9,080 to BC Conservation Foundation and Friends of the Lardeau River to provide a 50% cost share with residents for electric fencing equipment to protect their livestock or crops from bears.

Fish/Bear Lake Western Toad Ecology and Hwy 31A Mortality Mitigation Study - \$8,000 to Valhalla Wilderness Society to substantially reduce roadkill of western toads and help maintain a healthy toad population in the area.

Kootenay Lake Shoreline Guidance Document Outreach - \$4,000 to Kootenay Lake Partnership to direct shoreline development in a manner that will protect and restore the ecological, archaeological and cultural values of the foreshore of Kootenay Lake.

Kootenay Lake Osprey Nest Monitoring - \$8,024 to Friends of Kootenay Lake to increase information on the status of breeding ospreys on Kootenay Lake and to develop a dedicated team of volunteers with the knowledge and equipment required to conduct long-term monitoring of breeding ospreys.

2016

Kootenay Community Bat Project - \$15,000 to Wildlife Conservation Society Canada and Kootenay Centre for Forestry Alternatives to promote and conserve the variety of bat species and their associated habitats that exist in the Kootenay Lake area.

Fish/Bear Lake Western Toad Ecology and Hwy 31A Mortality Mitigation Study - \$7,500 to Valhalla Wilderness Society to substantially reduce roadkill of western toads and help maintain a healthy toad population in the area.

Kootenay Lake Osprey Nest Monitoring - \$6,370 to Friends of Kootenay Lake to increase information on the status of breeding ospreys on Kootenay Lake and to develop a dedicated team of volunteers with the knowledge and equipment required to conduct long-term monitoring of breeding ospreys.

Darkwoods Ecosystem Restoration at Tye - \$14,650 to Nature Conservancy of Canada to restore the most heavily impacted and degraded habitat at the Tye town site by implementing an integrated pest management strategy, introducing biocontrol agents to deal with invasive weed species, and planting native shrubs and trees.