

Together we're taking care of our natural landscapes and our Kootenay way of life.



PARTNER PROFILES

2021



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gratefully acknowledges support from our funders:*



Environment and
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Environnement et
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HABITAT
CONSERVATION TRUST
FOUNDATION

Introduction



Mission: To coordinate and facilitate conservation efforts on private land, and to generate the support and resources needed to maintain this effort.

The Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP) is a broad partnership of land and water conservation and stewardship groups, government agencies, resource industries, and agricultural producers working throughout the East and West Kootenays. The partnership seeks to cooperatively conserve the biological diversity and naturally functioning ecosystems of the region while providing mutual project support and leveraging technical and financial resources. KCP envisions vibrant communities that demonstrate the principles of environmental stewardship that can in turn support economic and social well-being. The focus of the partnership is to:

- Increase the effectiveness, collaboration and coordination of private land securement;
- Increase the effectiveness and coordination of stewardship activities taking place on private lands;
- Build and provide technical, financial and internal capacity for KCP and partner organizations to undertake securement and stewardship activities;
- Strengthen the network of conservation organizations through communication to achieve efficiencies, synergies, and ultimately greater effectiveness.

As part of KCP's role to improve communications within the partnership, this compilation of one-page profiles of our partner organizations has been created. This document is intended to be used within the partnership to clarify what each partner is working on in order to promote increased collaboration, and externally as a directory of organizations operating in the Kootenays. Each profile outlines the organization's contact information, mission, vision, and main program focus areas (a maximum of five focus areas were selected by partners).

The partnership's collaborative approach has resulted in globally significant conservation outcomes. Since 2002, KCP's partners have worked to conserve over 240,000 hectares of land and have invested \$150 million into conservation across the Kootenays. Highlights of conservation projects include: Darkwoods, The Flathead Agreement, Tembec Lands, Pine Butte Ranch, Wycliffe Wildlife Corridor, Lot 48, Hoodoo-Hofert, the Frog Bear Project and The Big Ranch. Partners have also contributed a massive effort towards stewarding the region's landscapes through projects such as Kootenay Connect, Northern Leopard Frog reintroduction, ecosystem restoration, invasive species control, and wildlife stewardship. Private land stewardship resources offered by KCP Partners can be found at www.kootenayconservation.ca/toolkit. For more information on KCP, visit www.kootenayconservation.ca.

British Columbia Backcountry Hunters & Anglers



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish & Wildlife Association
Headquarters	Cranbrook, BC
Founded	2014
Website	www.backcountryhunters.org/british_columbia
Contact Info	Levi Leyenhorst - East Kootenay Chair P: 778-220-3879 E: ekbcbha@gmail.com Andrew Van Vliet - West Kootenay Chair P: 250-521-0770 E: bcbhawestkootenay@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Land Conservation✓ Land Management✓ Landscape Connectivity✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: To ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting, through education and work on behalf of our wild public lands, waters, and wildlife.

Mission: We are a community of volunteers with a passion for wild, backcountry spaces; a natural setting where solitude demands effort as well as an appreciation for the space, fish, wildlife, and experience found within.

About: The British Columbia Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BCBHA) is a member of the North American conservation organization Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (BHA). BCBHA is a volunteer-based, not-for-profit organization. The core of the BC Chapter is based out of the East Kootenays, but now has committees in every region of the province. We have an active, rapidly growing community of members (approx. 350 in the Kootenays, over 1000 province-wide) that participate in projects and "calls to action" to influence policy for the sake of clean water, fish and wildlife conservation, wild backcountry and supporting habitats.

British Columbia Wildlife Federation



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Headquarters	Surrey, BC
Founded	1966
Website	www.bcwf.net
Contact Info	P: 1-888-881-2293 E: OfficeInfo@bcwf.bc.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement✓ Wetland Conservation✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation✓ Youth Programs and Activities

Vision:

1. To ensure the sound, long-term management of British Columbia's fish, wildlife, park and outdoor recreational resources in the best interests of all British Columbians, and to coordinate all the voluntary agencies, societies, clubs and individuals interested in that objective, and
2. To develop and support a comprehensive educational program to make all British Columbians aware of the value of British Columbia's fish, wildlife, park and outdoor recreational resources, and to arouse in the public conscience a recognition of, and a respect for, the place of fish, wildlife and outdoor recreation in the wise integrated use of the nation's natural resources.

Mission: The BC Wildlife Federation is a province-wide voluntary conservation organization representing all British Columbians whose aims are to protect, enhance and promote the wise use of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

About: The BC Wildlife Federation is British Columbia's largest and oldest conservation organization. Our 50,000 members are passionately committed to protecting, enhancing and promoting the wise use of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations. Our volunteers and donors give generously of their time and finances to support to a wide range of wildlife conservation programs and projects.

Canal Flats Wilderness Club

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Head Office	Canal Flats, BC
Founded	1982
Website	www.cfwc.ca
Contact Info	Dave White - President P: 250-349-5478 E: findlayhomej@gmail.com
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Mission:

- To ensure long term management of East Kootenay fish, wildlife and outdoor resources.
- To arouse a respect and recognition of all residents for fish, wildlife and outdoor resources.
- To obtain and maintain public access to forest and recreational areas.
- To co-operate with other clubs with the same objectives in order to prevent land, water, and air pollution.
- To encourage firearms shooting in our community with a view towards improved marksmanship and safe firearms handling.
- To promote appreciation of sportsmanship in the light of fish and wildlife regulations and promote the concept of fair chase.

About:

The Canal Flats Wilderness Club (CFWC) supports East Kootenay Fish, Wildlife and Outdoor Resources. The club was formed so that locals would have a say in decisions made about land use, hunting and fishing regulations, access management, and habitat enhancement opportunities as well as stewardship opportunities and offering a safe place for locals to practice shooting. As such the CFWC has completed many habitat enhancement projects, headed 2 major sheep projects as well as helping to transplant sheep from here to many other locations, provided input into management strategies including the recent Whiteswan lake management plan. In addition, they are nearly finished building a shooting range facility that will include 100,300, pistol and shotgun range opportunities.

Castlegar and District Wildlife Association



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Head Office	Castlegar, BC
Founded	1962
Website	www.castlegarwildlife.org
Contact Info	Scott Palsson - President E: via website
Focus Areas	✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Leadership Development

About: The Castlegar & District Wildlife Association (CDWA) is located at the juncture of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers in the heart of the West Kootenay. The CDWA was incorporated under the BC Societies Act on June 18, 1962 and is an affiliated member of both the BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF) and the West Kootenay Outdoorsmen (WKO).

CDWA boasts a current membership of some 250 individuals and families, comprising hunters, anglers, recreational shooters and others who are committed to the conservation and prudent management of the region's abundant fish, wildlife, and natural habitats.

CDWA is dedicated to the improvement of the outdoor experience for its members and the general public, promoting good sportsmanship, safety and ethics, and acting as the voice of the community on policy and management issues concerning our natural resources. CDWA endorses and encourages policies and management techniques that will ensure a harvestable surplus of fish and wildlife for the benefit of present and future generations.

CDWA welcomes all new members to take advantage of the many benefits of membership and to help promote the conservation values for which it stands.

Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Nelson, BC
Founded	2005
Website	http://ckiss.ca/
Contact Info	Erin Bates - Executive Director P: 1-844-352-1160 E: ebates@ckiss.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Invasive Species Control ✓ Inventory ✓ Research

Vision: A network of partners collaborating to minimize the impacts of invasive species on the ecosystems, communities, and economy of the Regional District of Central Kootenay and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Area A and B.

About: The CKISS is a non-profit society that was formed by a group of residents and company/agency representatives who were interested in promoting collaborative approaches to invasive plant management in 2005. The CKISS has the goals of:

- Implementing a collaborative and coordinated program.
- Educating, engaging, and inspiring residents and partners to participate in invasive species management.
- Preventing the introduction, establishment and spread of aquatic and terrestrial invasive species.
- Reducing the impacts of existing invasive species populations on biodiversity, natural resource values, and the economy.
- Building capacity to ensure program sustainability.

Some of their activities include:

- Education and outreach campaigns: PlayCleanGo, Clean, Drain, Dry, Don't Let it Loose, Burn it where you buy it, PlantWise
- Operations: coordination of treatments on behalf of stakeholders of high priority invasive plants within the CKISS region
- Aquatics: zebra/quagga mussel monitoring throughout the region, American bullfrog detection and eradication program
- Research: yellow flag iris research, drone research, risk assessments

Clear Sky Retreat Centre



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Fort Steele, BC
Founded	2004
Website	www.clearskycenter.org
Contact Info	Michelle Heinz - Director of Operations P: 250-429-3929 E: michelle@clearskycenter.org
Focus Areas	✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Leadership Development

Vision: Clear Sky. A vehicle for integrating and manifesting spiritual realization.

Mission: Clear Sky is a centre dedicated to transformative change for all beings, through an integrated, diverse path of exploration and discovery, encompassing all facets of life.

About: Clear Sky is a 'Quadruple bottom line' social enterprise: we give equal consideration to financial, environmental, social and spiritual imperatives. Our goal is to inspire and engage our community to cultivate sustainable livelihoods and lifestyles that facilitate health, abundance and diversity through holistic living, working and learning opportunities together in community.

Founded in 2004, Clear Sky runs retreats and programs, which are designed to enhance and deepen well-being and quality of life. Projects are underway to restore the endangered native grasslands ecosystem and develop ways for this erstwhile cattle ranch to coexist in balance with the areas abundant wildlife, which are under increasing pressure from human development. From 2010-12, Clear Sky created a 1500 sq. ft. reclamation plot and developed and offered two workshops on grasslands reclamation/restoration and thanks to a grant from the Agroforestry Industry Development Initiative, in 2013 Clear Sky planted and cultivated a one-acre food forest.

College of the Rockies



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Educational Institution
Head Office	Cranbrook, BC
Founded	1975
Website	www.cotr.bc.ca
Contact Info	Gaby Zezulka - Chair, Academic Innovation + Applied Research P: 250-489-8287 E: gzezulka@cotr.bc.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Water

Vision: To create and deliver the most personal student experience in Canada.

Mission: To transform lives and enrich communities through the power of education.

About: For more than 40 years, College of the Rockies has provided post-secondary education that meets the needs and aspirations of the people, industry and businesses of our region. Each year, we welcome more than 10,000 full-time and part-time students into a full range of programs, including: skilled trades, university studies, adult upgrading, early childhood education, health and human services, business, office administration, tourism, hospitality, recreation, fire services, continuing education and contract training. Through smaller class sizes, highly-personalized instruction and dedicated support services, our students are primed to succeed in the job market, or in the next stage of their academic journey.

Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Network
Head Office	Invermere, B.C.
Founded	2002
Website	www.cbeen.org
Contact Info	Duncan Whittick - Executive Director P: 250-341-6141 E: info@cbeen.org
Focus Areas	✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Leadership Development ✓ Youth Programs and Activities

Vision: People in the Canadian Columbia Basin respect the natural environment and engage in sustainable activities.

Mission: To encourage environmental stewardship and sustainability in the Canadian Columbia Basin by supporting environmental educators.

About: CBEEN acts as a regional umbrella network for environmental education that supports, encourages, and facilitates environmental education initiatives, and fosters environmental stewardship and sustainability, throughout the Canadian Columbia Basin.

CBEEN has been working since 2002 to build a community of engaged and effective educators by connecting them with the best resources, information, professional development, delivery and networking opportunities available. The network finds efficiencies associated with facilitating and strengthening environmental education throughout the region.

The goals of CBEEN are to:

- 1) Continue to grow an active network of environmental educators.
- 2) Encourage active collaboration on environmental education initiatives amongst CBEEN members, organizations and communities.
- 3) Support access to environmental education.
- 4) Strengthen the capacity of environmental educators throughout the Columbia Basin.
- 5) Maintain a sustainable organization which has effective and ethical governance in accordance with its non-profit and charitable status.

CBEEN believes that environmental education is a long-term investment in the general health and well-being of individuals, communities, ecosystems and the planet.

Columbia Basin Trust

Vision:

- The Basin is a place where social, economic and environmental well-being is fostered;
- Collaborative relationships and partnerships are established across the Basin; communities work together in a spirit of mutual support and respect for each other's differences; residents identify with a Basin culture and feel a sense of belonging to a Basin community; residents are involved in community decision making;
- A healthy environment is the basis for social and economic activities; residents are committed to long-term and enduring stewardship of the Basin's natural resources; and
- The economy of the Basin is diverse, resilient and energized; communities are responsive to both the needs of the present and the future; community enhancement initiatives are widely supported and residents share responsibility for their implementation; practical and innovative investments in the Basin serve to increase the range of options for present and future generations.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Crown Corporation
Head Office	Castlegar, BC
Founded	1995
Website	www.cbt.org
Contact Info	Tim Hicks – Senior Manager P: 250-304-1666 E: thicks@cbt.org
Focus Areas	✓ Climate Change ✓ Funding ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Water

Mission: Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) supports efforts by the people of the Basin to create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being and to achieve greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations.

About: CBT was created in 1995 to support efforts by the people of the Basin to create social, economic and environmental well-being in the Canadian portion of the Columbia River Basin - the region most affected by the Columbia River Treaty. CBT supports efforts by the people of the Basin to create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being and to achieve greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations. Using the income earned from the Investment Program, CBT's Delivery of Benefits activities supports programs and initiatives which focus on fostering quality of life and addressing critical issues in the Basin.



Columbia Lake Stewardship Society



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Headquarters	Fairmont Hot Springs, BC
Founded	2013
Website	http://columbialakess.com
Contact Info	E: columbialakess@shaw.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Citizen Science✓ Education/Outreach✓ Environmental Monitoring✓ Water

Vision: The Columbia Lake Stewardship Society (CLSS) vision is that by conducting water quality and quantity measurements, recording data, and disseminating information and reports, the CLSS will communicate with and encourage others to join its mission to preserve Columbia Lake's pristine water resources and natural environment.

Mission: The CLSS mission is to act as stewards in preserving the ecological health of Columbia Lake.

About: In July 2013, meetings were held by concerned citizens to investigate forming a group to represent those interested in preserving the health of Columbia Lake. It was noted that several other associations and partnerships existed in the area with considerable experience including Lake Windermere Ambassadors, Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners, Living Lakes Canada, Columbia Basin Watershed Network, and BC Lakes Stewardship Society. But none focused solely on Columbia Lake, so soon after the Columbia Lake Stewardship Society was created. CLSS recognizes these other groups and works alongside our partners. CLSS has representation from Columbia Lake communities and works with the Village of Canal Flats and the Regional District of East Kootenay. CLSS has a dedicated team of seven directors including concerned citizens, local business owners, individuals from geology, meteorology, engineering and nursing professions. We are both permanent and part time residents. All have a keen sense of lake pride and cherish Columbia Lake and its environs.

Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Headquarters	Revelstoke, BC (Operate across CSRD)
Founded	2013
Website	http://columbiashuswapinvasives.org/
Contact Info	Robyn Hooper - Executive Director Laura Gaster - Program Coordinator P: 1-855-785-9333 E: info@columbiashuswapinvasives.org
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Invasive Species Control ✓ Inventory

Vision: The environment, economy and society of the Columbia Shuswap region is protected from the adverse impact of invasive species.

Mission: The Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society is a network of partners who facilitate the prevention, reduction and management of invasive species through collaboration, engagement and education.

About: The Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society (CSISS) is a non-profit society founded in April 2013 by a group of individuals and organizational representatives who saw the need for a coordinated regional approach to the growing threat of invasive species in the Columbia Shuswap Regional District. The purposes of the Society (as per the CSISS Constitution) are:

- a. To educate and engage public, private landowners, land and aquatic managers, First Nations and others about invasive species and their impacts.
- b. To establish and operate invasive species management programs.
- c. To do all other things as are incidental and ancillary to the attainment of the above purposes.

Some of their activities include:

- Education and outreach campaigns: PlayCleanGo, Clean, Drain, Dry, Don't Let it Loose, Burn it where you buy it, PlantWise (in coordination with Invasive Species Council of BC)
- Operations: coordination of mapping, management and monitoring of high priority invasive plants within the CSISS region
- Aquatics: zebra/quagga mussel monitoring throughout the region
- Research: yellow flag iris research, priority ranking of invasive plants and waterbodies

Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Partnership
Head Office	Upper Columbia Valley, BC
Founded	2006
Website	www.cwsp.ca
Contact Info	Suzanne Bayley - President E: cwspcanada@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Research ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Wetland Conservation

Vision: The Upper Columbia River and the adjacent Columbia Wetlands will continue to function as a healthy flood-plain ecosystem with a complex biological community governed by natural fluvial and ecological processes. Human Communities will continue to benefit socially, environmentally and economically from this naturally functioning ecosystem and in turn the wetlands will contribute to the health and vitality of the communities in the upper Columbia River Basin. Residents in these communities will become engaged and motivated to adopt a stewardship ethic and will work collectively to demonstrate the benefits of a shared stewardship model for this important resource.

Mission: The Columbia River Wetlands Stewardship Partners (CWSP) is made up of a diverse group of community interests, First Nations, local governments, and government agencies created to develop effective stewardship and management practices for the Columbia Wetlands and the Upper Columbia River. The partnership, acting on their vision statement, will engage the general public and work with government at all levels to implement a shared stewardship model for the management of the river and wetlands.

About: The mandate of the CWSP is to steward the wetlands in accordance with our vision as a single system irrespective of ownership or jurisdiction and to take a pro-active stance in dealing with issues as they arise. We intend to take a positive, community and science based approach to issues related to the wetlands, and resolve issues neighbor to neighbor. The formation of this group is, in effect, local people taking responsibility for a natural landscape that they care deeply about.

Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Provincial Government
Head Office	Creston, BC
Founded	1968
Website	www.crestonwildlife.ca
Contact Info	Marc-Andre Beaucher - Head of Operations P: 250-402-6907 E: biology@crestonwildlife.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Management ✓ Species-at-Risk ✓ Wetland Conservation

Mission: To manage the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area (CVWMA) for conservation and natural species diversity through active habitat and wildlife management, research and education.

About: The CVWMA mandate is derived from British Columbia's Creston Valley Wildlife Act. Through the Act, a Management Authority was delegated to manage the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, a 7,000-hectare (17,000-acre) area of provincial Crown land, or an area that averages 20 km (12.4) miles long by 3.4 km (2.1 miles) wide. It contains one lake (1,500 ha or 3,700 acres) and 17 marshes plus a major river and adjoining mountain slopes. Through the Ramsar Convention the CVWMA has been classified as a wetland of international importance. The CVWMA is a provincial crown agency that operates as a not-for-profit organization with federal charitable status

The CVWMA was the first major collaboration between the Governments of Canada and British Columbia in the field of Wildlife Management. The Creston Valley Wildlife Act designates the Minister of Environment as being responsible for managing the Area. It establishes a Management Authority consisting of three individuals: a federal representative, a provincial representative and a non-governmental representative who report to the provincial Minister of Environment



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Stonewall, Manitoba Interior Mountain Region: Kamloops, BC
Founded	1937
Website	www.ducks.ca
Contact Info	https://www.ducks.ca/places/british-columbia/
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Water ✓ Wetland Conservation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: Abundant wetlands and waterfowl – today, tomorrow and forever.

Mission: Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) conserves, restores and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America’s waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.

About: DUC is the leader in wetland conservation. A registered charity, DUC partners with government, industry, non-profit organizations and landowners to conserve wetlands that are critical to waterfowl, wildlife and the environment. Using sound science, DUC delivers on-the-ground habitat conservation projects, research, education programs and public policy work to stop wetland loss. Here are some examples of DUC’s programs:

- To date, DUC has completed 9,387 habitat projects and conserved 6.4 million acres of wetlands and associated habitat.
- The Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research (IWWR) is the scientific research arm of DUC. Its respected team of biologists finds answers to important environmental questions and establishes the value of wetlands to society.
- DUC works with all levels of governments, advocating for programs and policies that benefit wetlands and stop critical wetland loss

East Kootenay Invasive Species Council



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Cranbrook, BC
Founded	2008
Website	www.ekisc.com
Contact Info	Executive Director P: 1-888-553-5472 E: info@ekisc.com
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Invasive Species Control ✓ Water

Vision: East Kootenay free of invasive species

Mission: Mitigating the negative environmental, social, and economic impacts of invasive species.

About: EKISC is a diverse and dynamic mix of government and non-government, multi-interest stakeholders with membership open to anyone. The EKISC operates under a single-agency partnership delivery model to deliver a coordinated education and treatment program within the Regional District of East Kootenay.

The board of directors of the EKISC has representation from provincial and local governments, agriculture, non-governmental environment organizations, and the private sector. An Annual report is produced summarizing education, inventory, coordination and treatment activities each year. An AGM is held in the first half of each year.

East Kootenay Wildlife Association



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Head Office	Canal Flats, BC
Founded	1967
Website	www.bcwf.net
Contact Info	Glenn Flynn - President M: via Facebook www.facebook.com/ekwildlifeassociation/
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Mission:

- To ensure long term management of East Kootenay fish, wildlife and outdoor resources.
- To arouse a respect and recognition of all residents for fish, wildlife and outdoor resources.
- To obtain and maintain public access to forest and recreational areas.
- To co-operate with other clubs with the same objectives in order to prevent land, water, and air pollution.
- To encourage firearms shooting in our community with a view towards improved marksmanship and safe firearms handling.
- To promote appreciation of sportsmanship in the light of fish and wildlife regulations and promote the concept of fair chase.

About: The East Kootenay Wildlife Association (EKWA) supports East Kootenay Fish, Wildlife and Outdoor Resources. The EKWA was formed so that locals would have a say in decisions made about land use, hunting and fishing regulations, access management, and habitat enhancement opportunities as well as stewardship opportunities and offering a safe place for locals to practice shooting. They are a Club under the Association of East Kootenay Rod and Gun Clubs which includes:

- Canal Flats Wilderness Club
- Elkford Rod and Gun Club
- Golden and District Rod and Gun Club
- Lake Windermere Rod and Gun Club
- Sparwood Rod and Gun Club
- Associate Clubs-E.K. Big Game trophy Competition Club /Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund

Eastshore Freshwater Habitat Society



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Headquarters	Crawford Bay, BC
Founded	2014
Website	www.eastshorefreshwaterhabitatsociety.org
Contact Info	Mike Jeffery - Chair P: 250-227-6807 E: mike.ivy@hotmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Water

Mission: To strive for the protection and assist, in cooperation with ministries of wildlife, fisheries and conservation, in the remediation of all rivers, creeks, streams and lakes on the Eastshore that is a tributary to the Kootenay Lake.

About:

The Eastshore Freshwater Habitat Society focuses on the East shore of Kootenay Lake from Murphy Creek north to Drewry Point. To achieve their mission, the Eastshore Freshwater Habitat Society will use educate and engage community members to adopt responsible angling methods. Their first major project is to reintroduce Kokanee back in to the east side of Kootenay Lake water tributaries.



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Fernie, BC
Founded	2010
Website	www.elkriveralliance.ca
Contact Info	P: 250-423-3322 E: info@elkriveralliance.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Watershed Planning ✓ Water quality/quantity monitoring

Vision: A place where well-managed human activities result in healthy ecosystems and a robust economy.

Mission: ERA is a community-based water group that aims to connect people to the Elk River ensuring it is drinkable, fishable and swimmable for future generations.

About: ERA is an organization that 1) stimulates conversation, shares information and facilitates community input to encourage sustainable water decision-making in the Elk Valley; 2) Promote thinking like a watershed by coordinating a community voice to contribute to watershed planning and management activities, regulatory processes and other regional water initiatives; 3) Bring together diverse points of view and offer a safe place to dialogue about the Elk River; 4) Unite not divide.

The ERA uses education to raise our collective watershed literacy stimulating person water stewardship; facilitates community dialogue and engagement to inform sustainable water decision-making; and monitors to assess aquatic health and prioritize community involvement in activities that enhance and restore aquatic ecosystems.

ERA's activities are guided by 4 strategic goals.

- 1) Increase watershed education so that residents know where their water comes from, how it is used and ways to keep it healthy for future generations.
- 2) Collect watershed science to prioritize stewardship action.
- 3) Share watershed information to engage meaningful community participation in sustainable water decision-making.
- 4) Keep the Elk River accessible and safe for river users.



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Headquarters	Vallican, BC
Founded	2018
Website	www.elkrootconservation.org
Contact Info	Kate Mizenka P: 250-226-6860 E: kate@elkrootconservation.org
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Management ✓ Species at Risk ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: Elk Root is teaming with consultant biologists, agrologists, engineers and landowners to conserve, protect and restore the productivity and biodiversity of ALR lands and its wildlife inhabitants, including identified species-at-risk.

Mission: Our not-for-profit mission is to provide inclusionary and inspiring learning opportunities through research, innovation, hands-on education and farm garden tours. Our farm garden tours showcase ecological stewardship, wildlife conservation & habitat restoration, honey bee wellness & wild pollinator gardens, sustainability, regenerative 'beyond' organic gardening, bio-diverse farming practices and local food security.

About: Elk Root Conservation's educational demonstration farm is located in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) in the Slocan Valley, British Columbia, at the confluence of the Slocan River and Little Slocan River. The reach of the confluence is a unique and ecologically important wildlife corridor. It is the perfect place to demonstrate how protecting the planet and our local food security go hand-in-hand. Not only for ourselves, but for our children and future generations to come.

Elk Root Conservation's educational demonstration gardens are in the development phase. Once completed, the gardens will provide the Basin community with an interactive living 'model' for environmental education. All members of the community will be welcomed to visit Elk Root and participate in hands-on educational programming, participate in volunteer learning opportunities and internships. Ultimately, we aspire to inspire a deeper awareness and understanding of the importance of ecological stewardship, conservation, restoration and specifically, the importance of preserving interconnected native plant pollinator habitat to the health of our Basin community ecosystem.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Headquarters	Elkford, BC
Founded	1980
Website	www.facebook.com/The-Elkford-Rod-and-Gun-Club-1527930714172982/
Contact Info	Dylan Forsyth - President P: 250-433-7517 E: elkfordrngclub@gmail.com
Focus Areas	✓ Land Conservation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Youth Programs and Activities

Vision: To protect, enhance and promote the wise use of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

Mission: Keeping the public informed on the events and issues associated with the Club, as well as habitat and wildlife within the Elk Valley.

About:

Our Club has the following purposes:

1. To ensure the sound, long-term management of fish, wildlife, park and outdoor recreational resources in the best interest of all residents of the Province.
2. To make all residents aware of the value of our fish, wildlife and outdoor recreational resources, and to arouse in the public conscience a recognition of and a respect for the place of fish, wildlife and outdoor recreation in the wise and integrated use of natural resources.
3. To make the general public aware of the dangers of land, air and water pollution, and to cooperate with groups on similar objectives.
4. To promote true appreciation of sportsmanship and sports safety in the light of fish and wildlife regulations and all the fair and accepted rules of hunting and fishing, and to foster good will between sportsmen, outdoor recreationists and land owners.

Environment and Climate Change Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service

Vision: Canada's natural environment is conserved and restored for present and future generations.

Mission:

- preserve and enhance the quality of the natural environment, including water, air, soil, flora and fauna; and
- conserve Canada's renewable resources.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Federal Government
Head Office	Gatineau, Quebec
Founded	1947
Website	www.ec.gc.ca
Contact Info	Ken Brock - Head, Stewardship P: 604-350-1981 E: ken.brock@canada.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Land Conservation ✓ Land Management ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Species-at-Risk ✓ Wildlife Conservation

About:

The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) is a branch of Environment and Climate Change Canada. Wildlife management in Canada is constitutionally a shared responsibility among the federal and provincial / territorial and aboriginal governments. CWS works closely with these governments on a wide variety of wildlife issues. CWS maintains facilities in most Canadian provinces and territories. Its core areas of responsibility are the protection and management of migratory birds and their nationally important habitats and recovery and protection of species at risk. They also work to control international and interprovincial trade in endangered species, implement provisions of international wildlife related treaties and agreements domestically, and manage federally protected areas federal (e.g., National Wildlife Areas established under the Canada Wildlife Act, and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries established under the Migratory Bird Convention Act).



Environment and
Climate Change Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada
Service canadien de la faune

Farmland Advantage

Vision: To work with farmers to conserve and enhance critical, natural values in BC.

Mission: Farmland Advantage is a research and development project that works with farmers to protect and conserve critical, natural values in British Columbia, Canada.

About: Farmland Advantage is a research and development project that works with farmers to enhance the natural values

on their land. These natural values are often referred to as 'ecosystem services'; services of a natural environment that benefits humans. They are values that are not traded in the markets but have great value to us all. They can include areas like wetlands that filter and purify water, and forests that clean the air and provide habitat for healthy wildlife populations.

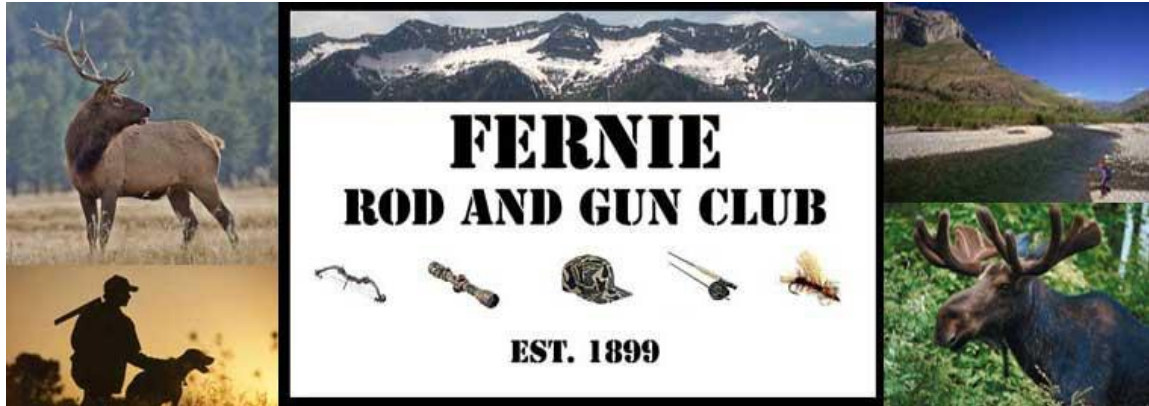
The project helps farmers identify the natural values which can be protected and enhanced, and develops recommendations and plans to preserve them. These plans can include actions such as water or stream setbacks, strategic fencing, reforestation, or rangeland enhancement. Farmers then carry out the recommendations, and Farmland Advantage helps to provide compensation based on successful implementation.

Farmland Advantage is a five-year research and development project, working towards establishing a long-term program. Farmland Advantage consists of a full complement of partners and agencies working together to develop a solid, replicable program model capable of being administered independently and sustainably. In this phase of the project we are focused on 3 targeted BC regions - the Lower Mainland, Okanagan, and Kootenays. Over 60 farmers have been contracted to conserve or enhance riparian areas and the results are being monitored and analyzed.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Partnership
Head Office	Invermere, BC
Founded	2009
Website	www.farmlandadvantage.com
Contact Info	Dave Zehnder - Coordinator P: 250-342-0325 E: dzehnder@telus.net
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Management ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Water



Fernie Rod and Gun Club



Vision: A region where people protect and conserve fish and wildlife stocks, which in turn fosters a sporting life of hunters and anglers

Mission: It is the mission of the club to enhance and maintain an environment in which populations of wildlife can thrive.

About: The Fernie Rod and Gun Club is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the sports of shooting, archery, hunting, and fishing this includes, the enhancement of wildlife habitat. The club seeks to maximize hunting and fishing opportunities while encouraging a healthy and

sustainable environment. The Fernie Rod and Gun Club is BC's oldest organization of its kind and continues to have a proud membership of men, women and their families representing a broad cross section of the community.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Head Office	Fernie, BC
Founded	1899
Website	www.ferniergc.com
Contact Info	Kevin Marasco - President P: 250.423.3495 E: president@ferniergc.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Youth Programs and Activities ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program – Columbia Region



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Partnership
Head Office	Castlegar, BC
Founded	1995
Website	www.fwcp.ca
Contact Info	Crystal Klym - Columbia Region Manager P: 250-365-4591 E: crystal.klym@bchydro.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Land Management ✓ Species-at-Risk ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: Thriving fish and wildlife populations in watersheds that are functioning and sustainable

Mission: To compensate for the impacts to fish, wildlife and their supporting habitats affected by BC Hydro owned and operated generation facilities.

About: The Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) in the Columbia Region is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., First Nations, and the Public, to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife. The FWCP was established to offset the impacts to fish and wildlife resulting from construction of BC Hydro dams in the Columbia Basin. It also operates in the Peace and Coastal regions of the province. Since 1995 the FWCP in the Columbia Region has invested more than \$90 million in fish and wildlife projects. Almost one-third of FWCP projects focus on species-at-risk. FWCP works with a wide range of partners including First Nations, local community and environmental groups, as well as industrial partners.

Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society

Mission: To protect the fish and wildlife habitat of Kootenay Lake while supporting economic, recreation, and traditional uses.

About: Established in 2012, the Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society (FOKLSS) is a stewardship group dedicated to giving community members the tools they need to protect their own water resources. FOKLSS's initiatives include:

- Lake Education – Hosting annual Lake Summit, Lake Keeper Workshops, hosting an outreach booth at markets and festivals, sharing info on best practices for living on the shoreline.
- Lake Governance – Working with the Kootenay Lake Partnership on a lake planning initiative, promotes regional watershed governance through participation in the Columbia Basin Watershed Network as well as the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Council's Aquatic Working Group.
- Shoreline Restoration – Working with the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Council to host an annual Earth Day shoreline restoration event. Planning a 2014 wetland restoration project in Harrop. In fall 2014 we are planning to conduct shoreline cleanup's around Kootenay Lake as part of the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up
- Lake Watchers Program – Engaging community members to conduct Water quality monitoring, wildlife tree surveys, and raptor nest and brood count surveys.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Nelson, BC
Founded	2012
Website	www.friendsofkootenaylake.ca
Contact Info	P: 250-777-3858 E: info@friendsofkootenaylake.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Water ✓ Youth Programs and Activities



**Friends of
Kootenay Lake**
Stewardship Society

Friends of the Lardeau River

Mission:

- To promote and establish protected area strategy status for the Lardeau River
- To coordinate and deliver a comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation strategy and habitat stewardship master plan for Lardeau, Duncan and North Kootenay Lake watersheds.
- To lobby and facilitate a series of fish and wildlife inventories and initiatives
- To provide support ensuring the Lardeau River's biodiversity is protected
- To identify the impacts of the Duncan Dam and assess the biodiversity loss to flooding
- To network with conservation groups, community, individuals, First Nations, youth, Governments, agencies, politicians and industry to meet our goals and objectives

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Howser, BC
Founded	1989, Incorporation Society Act 2006
Contact Info	Coordinator E: friendsofthelardeau@lardeauvalley.com
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Landscape Connectivity ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Water

About: The Friends of Lardeau River's key focus is in obtaining protection status for vital and crucial fish & wildlife habitats along the Lardeau River corridor. The Lardeau River with its crucial natural habitats is widely regarded as a significant wildlife refuge and landscape linkage. In terms of its fisheries values alone, the Lardeau River is internationally significant with respect to the spawning run of the Gerrard Rainbow Trout and important for Kokanee, Bull Trout and Mountain Whitefish. It is also a major feeding area for the Grizzly Bear, numerous Golden and Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons, Osprey, Marsh Hawks and Owls. It is a crucial den area for Cougar and a critical migration corridor for Waterfowl, Grizzly Bear, Wolverine, Elk, Whitetail and Mule Deer, Moose, Caribou and so many other wildlife species.



Friends of the
LARDEAU RIVER





Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish & Wildlife Association
Headquarters	Golden, BC
Founded	1930s
Website	www.goldenrodandgun.com
Contact Info	Russell Wagner - President E: info@goldenrodandgun.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Youth Programs and Activities

Vision: We encourage hunting, fishing, and shooting among the residents of the Golden district with a view towards better knowledge of the safe use of firearms and conservation ethics.

Mission: The Purposes of the Golden District Rod & Gun Club outlined in the club Constitution shall be: • To foster the propagation and conservation of the fish and wildlife of British Columbia, and the control and protection of British Columbia's ecology for the purposes aforesaid; • To foster cooperation and mutual good will between the sportsmen of Golden area and of British Columbia generally, and also with the sportsmen of the other provinces of Canada, and the states of the United States of America for the purposes mentioned herein; • To assist constituted authority in every reasonable manner in the preservation of the fish and wildlife and in the enforcement of all laws and regulations affecting the same; • To associate on an agreed basis with other bodies having like objectives in regard to fish, wildlife and related recreation activities; • To encourage preservation and the maintenance of harmonious relations between industry, land owners and sportsmen; • To conduct classes and instructions on the subjects of fish and wildlife laws, the proper, safe, and legal handling of fish equipment, boats, and firearms and the proper, safe, and legal methods of hunting, fishing, and boating and the conservation of fish and wildlife.

About: Founded in the 1930s, the Golden District Rod and Gun Club has always encouraged the propagation of fish and wildlife through conservation. We support the local community with donations and by training locals about proper use of firearms. The Golden District Rod and Gun Club is home to one of the longest ranges in British Columbia. Our facilities are conveniently located a short 15-minute drive West of Golden. We pride ourselves on being active in the community through educational events and scientific research in the regional area.

Grassland Conservation Council of B.C.



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Kamloops, BC
Founded	1999
Website	www.bcgrasslands.org
Contact Info	Managing Director P: 250-319-2840 E: gcc@bcgrasslands.org
Focus Areas	✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Inventory/Mapping ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Land Management

Vision: Working collaboratively to build a better understanding of the value of the province's grasslands and to provide methods and tools to better care for them. We pursue a vision of healthy and life-sustaining grasslands in BC for current and future generations.

Mission: The Grasslands Conservation Council of British Columbia's (GCC) mission is to:

- foster greater understanding and appreciation for the ecological, social, economic and cultural importance of the grasslands throughout BC
- promote stewardship and sustainable management practices that will ensure the long-term health of BC's grasslands
- promote the conservation of representative grassland ecosystems, species at risk and their habitats

About: The GCC is dedicated to the stewardship and conservation of the rare and beautiful grasslands of our province. Their mandate is to:

- increase awareness and appreciation for BC's rare and beautiful grassland ecosystems;
- work with land managers to achieve sustainable management practices
- protect the grasslands against threats from a number of sources
- implement proactive projects that will ensure the conservation and stewardship of BC's grasslands

Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Project
Headquarters	Meadow Creek, B.C.
Founded	2013
Website	www.facebook.com/Grizzly-Bear-Solutions-250425422121548
Contact Info	Gillian Sanders – Project Coordinator P: 250-353-1137 E: grizzlybearsolutions@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Education/Outreach✓ Land Conservation✓ Planning✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions (GBCS) is helping recovery efforts of grizzly bear populations in the south and west arm of Kootenay Lake by working to improve human-grizzly bear coexistence through education, collaboration, and the use of practical tools. GBCS also works to prevent grizzly bear conflicts in the North Arm, specifically in the area near Meadow Creek Spawning Channel.

Mission: Operating with the understanding that livestock mortality or property/crop damage perpetuates intolerance to grizzly bear presence, Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions provides grizzly bear safety and electric fencing workshops, public outreach, and a cost share with residents on electric fencing to protect livestock and crops from bears.

About: Grizzly Bear Solutions is partnered with the Transborder Grizzly Bear Project and is financially supported by the Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund, Columbia Basin Trust and Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation. The project works with the COS, local governments, and various local conservation, environmental and agricultural groups.

Groundswell Network Society



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Invermere, BC
Founded	2000
Website	http://groundswellnetwork.ca/
Contact Info	Executive Director P: 250-342-3337 E: info@groundswellnetwork.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Climate Change Action ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Wildlife Conservation

Vision: To inspire hope and action towards healthy communities.

Mission: Groundswell promotes community resilience and sustainability through innovation projects that result in health for people, the environment and the economy. We engage thousands of people in our Applied Sustainable Living programs through the Community Greenhouse and Permaculture Gardens reaching thousands of people a year directly in the inter-related topics of food, energy, water, composting and community.

About: In 2000, the Columbia Valley Botanical Gardens (CVBG) was formed and focused on the development of community and school gardens in the communities of the Upper Columbia Region. The CVBG sought to develop plant collections and gardens that protected plant species and presented them to people to advance our understanding of values associated with biodiversity, spiritual, educational and economic value – essentially show how plants are an integral part of human survival and quality of all life on earth. Today, the CVBG is now Groundswell Network Society and has broadened their scope to include all areas of human activity as it affects our sustainable future. Renewable energy, water, food, plants, green transportation, local economic development; these are just a few of the areas Groundswell delivers successful community focused projects. In reality, all of these projects relate to the living world of which plants are a vital component. Current initiatives include: running the Community Greenhouse, developing community and school gardens, and delivering sustainability related workshops, programs and events.

Kootenay & Boundary Farm Advisors



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Project (not organization)
Headquarters	Cranbrook, BC
Founded	2017
Website	www.kbfa.ca
Contact Info	Rachael Roussin - Coordinator P: 778-771-5851 E: coordinator@kbfa.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Management ✓ Research ✓ Agriculture

Vision: The Kootenay & Boundary Farm Advisors (KBFA) supports producers to improve agricultural production and efficiency by helping find solutions to farm-specific production issues, coordinating educational events and connecting producers to information.

Mission: KBFA provides producers with free, technical production support and information from a network of specialized resources, including independent consultants and academics.

About: KBFA general advisors help agricultural producers access free agricultural information, resources, and expertise to support them with technical production. KBFA services are free to agricultural producers in the KBFA region working towards commercial viability. The KBFA region is collectively the regional districts of Kootenay Boundary, Central Kootenay, and East Kootenay, and the Columbia Basin Trust region.

Specialist advisors, including government and university researchers, private sector consultants, and experienced producers, provide information to producers on specific issues.

Kootenay Centre for Forestry Alternatives

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Headquarters	Nelson, BC
Founded	1995
Contact Info	Greg Utzig – Director P: 250-352-5288 E: g13utzig@telus.net
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Climate Change ✓ Land Management ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Water

Vision: Forests are managed in a manner that: minimizes risk to forest biodiversity, guarantees long-term survival of forest ecosystems, and ensures that local communities receive the majority of any benefits from forest ecosystems.

Mission: The purposes of the Kootenay Centre or Forestry Alternatives are:

1. To exchange and disseminate practical information and ideas concerning sustainable forestry, with individuals and organisations involved with or interested in forest-related activities in British Columbia,
2. To promote and facilitate the exchange of information, experiences, and ideas concerning sustainable forestry among forest communities in British Columbia and other forest communities, in particular those in developing countries,
3. To facilitate the acquisition, dissemination and application of current research and technical information about sustainable forestry relevant to forest communities, among forest workers and the public in British Columbia and other areas, particularly in developing countries.

About: KCFA sponsors and raises funding for projects and workshops that advance the mission of the organization. KCFA also prepares submissions to processes that potentially will result in changes to legislation or regulations that may contribute to realization of KCFA's vision. For example, KCFA has organized a workshop on forest tenure reform, sponsored research projects on silviculture practices, provided input on Timber Supply Analyses, supported stream monitoring, initiated regional mapping of high quality old growth forests and supported projects that research and promote ecosystem connectivity in the face of climate disruption.

Kootenay Community Bat Project



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Project, not organization
Head Office	Kimberley, BC
Founded	2004
Website	www.kootenaybats.com
Contact Info	Leigh Anne Isaac - Coordinating Biologist P: 1-855-9BC-BATS ext. 14 E: kootenay@bcbats.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Species-at-Risk ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: To promote the conservation of bats in the Kootenay region, including species-at-risk and those at risk for White Nose Syndrome

Project Goals:

- Engage citizens in community-based bat stewardship
- Monitor bat populations
- Conserve and enhance critical bat roost habitat

About: The Kootenay Community Bat Project (KCBP) was established in 2004 to raise awareness about bats in southeastern BC and work with local residents who have bats in buildings. The KCBP provided the first recorded inventory of bats in the Slocan Valley and the first community-based bat inventory and conservation project in BC. To date, the project has conducted almost 400 site visits and identified over 300 roost sites for 8 species of bats. The success of identifying roost sites for species at risk and the enthusiasm of residents to report their bats, conserve their roost sites or consider sensitive methods for removing bats from their homes continues to drive the success of this project. The objectives of the KCBP are to:

- 1) Increase knowledge of suitable bat roost modification and bat-house design and site installation for the Kootenays and BC;
- 2) Promote education and awareness of bats and their habitats through newspaper articles, radio interviews, public outreach, and school programs;
- 3) Work with land owners to promote the conservation and enhancement of roost sites on their property through site visits, information packages, and bat-house installations;

- 4) Gather baseline data and establish permanent roost monitoring sites in the Columbia Basin prior to the potential arrival of White Nose Syndrome via an Annual Bat Count.

Kootenay Lake Partnership



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Project, not organization
Head Office	Nelson, BC
Founded	2010
Website	www.kootenaylakepartnership.com
Contact Info	Heather Leschied - Program Manager P: 250-341-5687 E: klp.coordinator@gmail.com
Focus Areas	✓ Coordination and Communication ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Fish/Wildlife Conservation ✓ Water

Mission: To develop integrated and collaborative approaches to lake management planning which will allow for a healthy and productive lake, with balanced land and water uses that support and sustain environmental, community, recreational, aboriginal, cultural, traditional and aesthetic values.

About: The Kootenay Lake Partnership (KLP) was formed in 2010 to address the increasing growth and development pressures of people desiring to live on or near Kootenay Lake. As a result, several agencies including local governments and First Nations joined and developed a strategic Terms of Reference to collaborate on lake management planning. The geographic scope of the KLP is from the mouth of the Kootenay River, including the main body of the lake (North and South Arms), up to the mouth of the Duncan River and down the West Arm to the Corra Linn dam. The scope also includes the foreshore and upland components 100 metres inland or to a logical physical break (i.e. highway or rail line).

In order to fulfill its mandate, the KLP has completed a three-part lake study including preliminary foreshore inventory mapping (FIM) followed by an aquatic habitat index (AHI), archaeological overview assessment (AOA) and cultural values study which fed into a Shorelines Guidance document for the lake. The Guidance document identifies ecologically significant areas such as wetlands, tributary outlets, native grasslands, wildlife habitat and corridors, biologically producing areas and critical areas for fish and species at risk. The document

identifies sites of cultural significance for the Ktunaxa First Nation such as traditional and contemporary use areas. The study has led to an improved scientific knowledge of lake processes and form a baseline for improved decision-making

Kootenay Livestock Association

Mission: Our mission is to maintain a healthy livestock industry that provides quality meat products to consumers and is guided by strong volunteer membership, environmental stewardship, respect for stakeholders and excellent business practices.

About: The Kootenay Livestock Association is a local association of the B.C. Cattlemen's Association. The purpose of the B.C. Cattlemen's

Association is to promote, encourage, protect and develop the livestock industry in British Columbia, in an environmentally responsible manner. Although times have changed since 1929, the BCCA's direction remains the same: To maintain and strengthen the sustainability of the BC meat industry.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Cranbrook, BC
Founded	1971
Website	www.cattlemen.bc.ca
Contact Info	Patricia Logan P: 250-426-4315 E: kla@kootenaylivestock.ca ; patricialogan@shaw.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Land Management

Objectives:

- Promote, encourage, develop and protect the livestock industry in BC.
- Represent the producers of livestock in all matters in which they are generally interested.
- Work with associations, societies and organizations having objectives similar to those of the BCCA.
- Work with Federal and Provincial governments to ensure the enactment of necessary legislation; the enforcement thereof and the improvement of transportation and market conditions in connection with the industry.
- Be proactive on livestock issues relating to the public and the government.
- Enhance strategic alliances within the meat industry and maintain a credible, broad-based livestock organization.

KOOTENAY LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION



Kootenay Native Plant Society



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Castlegar, BC
Founded	2009
Website	http://kootenaynativeplants.ca/
Contact Info	Brenda Beckwith - President P: 250-608-2115 E: kootenaywild@gmail.com
Focus Areas	✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Invasive Species Control ✓ Species-at-Risk

Mission: Promoting knowledge, appreciation, conservation and restoration of West Kootenay native plants and natural habitats through education, research, and on-the-ground activities.

About: The Kootenay Native Plant Society (KNPS) believes that learning about our native plants fosters an understanding, appreciation and respect for British Columbia's biodiversity and culture. Their initiatives include:

1. The Kootenay Camas Project which seeks to engage the public in making observations and collecting and recording data about camas populations in the Kootenays. The purpose of the project is to increase knowledge about the health and status of camas meadows, to identify opportunities for stewardship, and to promote awareness of this important natural and heritage resource.
2. The Native Plants for Native Pollinators project partners with J. L. Crowe Secondary School and Green Team, Mt Sentinel Secondary School, Twin Rivers Elementary/Castlegar Primary, Teck Metals and Columbia Basin Environmental Educator Network. Through school-based programming and public outreach activities, residents will learn of the importance of native pollinators.

Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Headquarters	Kimberley, BC
Founded	1981
Website	https://www.kwhf.ca/
Contact Info	P: 250-489-8043 E: kootenaywildlifeheritagefund@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Land Conservation✓ Land Management✓ Landscape Connectivity✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: KWHF is a non-profit, charitable society that depends almost entirely on volunteers. We raise money to acquire good wildlife land and for the purchase of high-quality hay to feed starving animals during winter.

Mission: The Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund's mission is to ensure the future of big game in the Kootenay region, to assist in acquiring specific land for that purpose, and to promote our hunting heritage.

About: Conceived in 1981, the Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund has participated in the acquisition of some 30,000 acres of big game habitat for big game species and for other wildlife that frequent these properties. Individual donations are our main source of income for helping to fund our big game resources. The Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund is autonomous and is managed by dedicated Kootenay residents, without involvement from government. "Land for Wildlife" must be acquired and maintained and we will continue to manage conservation properties to ensure continued enjoyment of our big game resources. We acquire these properties on behalf of all wildlife lovers, especially hunters, and we believe in our slogan, "For all of us, forever".

Lake Windermere Ambassadors

Vision: An ecologically healthy Lake Windermere with balanced management approaches that support recreation and traditional uses, high fish and wildlife values, and economic prosperity in the region.

Mission: Through collaboration of representatives of key community sectors, the Lake Windermere Ambassadors will serve as a resource for future projects benefiting the health of Lake Windermere.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Invermere, BC
Founded	2010
Website	www.lakeambassadors.ca
Contact Info	P: 250-341-6898 E: info@lakeambassadors.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Water

About: The Lake Windermere Ambassadors (LWA) are a group of committed citizens whose mandate is the protection of Lake Windermere, British Columbia. The Ambassadors have a vision of an ecologically healthy Lake Windermere with balanced management approaches that support recreation and traditional uses, high fish and wildlife values, and economic prosperity in the region.

The Ambassadors' activities are directed by people representing key community sectors including: business, government, First Nations, recreation, second homeowners, local residents, youth and non-government organizations. The LWA are currently directing lake water quality monitoring and conducting education and stewardship programs. They also encourage the implementation of policies & guidelines in the Lake Windermere Management Plan.



Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Head Office	Invermere, BC
Founded	1919
Website	www.lwdrodgun.com
Contact Info	Rick Hoar - President P: 250-342-9482 E: rhoar@telus.net
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Landscape Connectivity ✓ Species-at-Risk ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: Do not destroy what you have not the power to replace. This has been in place since 1919.

Mission: The Club is a conservation-minded organization dedicated to the preservation of our natural environment and the promotional of outdoor recreation activities.

About: The Lake Windermere District Rod and Gun Club is based in Invermere, BC and serving all of the Columbia Valley. They have been in operation more than 95 years and has over 200 members. The LWRGC offer an amazing variety of programs and facilities for adults and children, including angling, archery, air rifle, and trap as well as a range facility for small and large firearms. The Club is an active participant in community activities and they contribute to the betterment of everyone through such activities as:

- Scholarships
- Ungulate and fishery habitat improvement
- Construction and placement of nesting boxes
- Protection of blue heron rookeries
- Picnic/camping site maintenance
- Noxious weed control
- Children and novice archery instruction
- Children's air rifle program
- Promote various recreational activities



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Invermere, BC
Founded	2010
Website	www.livinglakescanada.ca
Contact Info	Katarina Hartwig - Executive Director P: 250-342-5445 E: kat@livinglakescanada.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Community-based Water Monitoring/ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Water policy

Vision: To empower people to take care of the water they depend on.

Mission: To enhance the protection, restoration and rehabilitation of lakes, rivers, wetlands and watersheds in Canada.

About: In 2010, with the participation of Global Nature Fund and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation, Wildsight launched Living Lakes Canada (LLC). Living Lakes Canada is a joint initiative of Wildsight, Global Nature Fund, and Lake Winnipeg Foundation that focuses on empowering ordinary people to take care of the water they depend on. We train stewardship groups in the Columbia Basin and beyond to monitor the water in their beloved lakes, rivers and streams, we connect their data to academic research and use it to form recommendations to guide policy.

LLC is part of Living Lakes International, a global network of non-government associations. Through the LLC network, organizations connect to collaborate in the monitoring, protection, restoration and policy development for long-term protection of Canada's water bodies. We focus on watershed protection through the following areas:

- Innovative policy and management planning
- Protection of sensitive or critical freshwater ecosystems
- Watershed awareness and stewardship education
- Community-based watershed monitoring
- Sustainable water use
- Restoration of degraded watersheds

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Provincial Government
Head Office	Victoria, BC
Founded	FLNRO 2010, BC Forest Service 1912
Website	www.gov.bc.ca/for/
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement✓ Environmental Monitoring✓ Land Management✓ Planning✓ Policy/Regulation

Vision: Economic prosperity and environmental sustainability

About: The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) delivers integrated natural resource management services for British Columbians. It is the main agency responsible for establishing the conditions for access to and use of the province's forest, land and natural resources. The Ministry incorporates forests and lands policy development with operational resource management while supporting strategic work in all areas of the natural resource sector. This policy alignment and streamlining of operations in delivering services enables effective stewardship and sustainable management of B.C.'s land base for a variety of uses.

Working with stakeholders, the Ministry develops policies, programs and legislation to promote industry competitiveness, and encourage investment in and development of natural resources. It also ensures that ministry activities support sustainable development and protect the public's interest in these resources. The Ministry auctions Crown timber to support the timber pricing system through BC Timber Sales. This includes preparing forest stewardship plans and logging plans; developing timber sale licences; constructing and maintaining logging roads and bridges; undertaking silviculture and forest protection treatments; and ensuring the work is carried out in a safe manner. The Ministry holds the legislative authority for provincial permitting and licensing activities which are facilitated through its coordinated, "one-window" service at FrontCounter BC offices throughout the province.

Nature Conservancy of Canada

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Land Trust
Head Office	Toronto, Ontario
Founded	1962
Website	www.natureconservancy.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement✓ Land Conservation✓ Land Management✓ Landscape Connectivity

Vision: The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) protects areas of natural diversity for their intrinsic value and for the benefit of our children and those after them.

Mission: To lead, innovate and use creativity in the conservation of Canada's natural heritage. NCC will secure important natural areas through their purchase, donation or other mechanisms, and then manage these properties for the long term.

About: NCC is Canada's leading national land conservation organization. A private, non-profit organization, they partner with individuals, corporations, other non-profit organizations and governments at all levels to protect our most important natural treasures — the natural areas that sustain Canada's plants and wildlife. They secure properties (through donation, purchase, conservation agreement and the relinquishment of other legal interests in land) and manage them for the long term. Since 1962, NCC and our partners have helped to conserve more than 2.6 million acres (1 million hectares) of ecologically significant land from coast to coast.



Nature Trust of British Columbia



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Land Trust
Head Office	North Vancouver, BC
Founded	1971
Website	www.naturetrust.bc.ca
Contact Info	Chris Bosman - Kootenay Conservation Land Manager E: cbosman@naturetrust.bc.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Land Management ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: British Columbia's rich and diverse natural habitats are conserved for future generations.

Mission: The Nature Trust of British Columbia is dedicated to conserving BC's biological diversity through securement and management of ecologically significant lands.

About: NTBC is a leading land conservation organization based in BC. They acquire ecologically significant land and care for this land in order to protect the natural diversity of wildlife and plants, and their critical habitats. NTBC is a non-advocacy group that seeks a balance between sustaining the environment and sustaining the economy. Collaboration is a hallmark of NTBC's many years of working with local communities across the province. Since 1971, NTBC along with their partners has invested more than \$100 million to secure over 71,000 hectares (175,000 acres) of land. NTBC has been active in the Kootenays for over 40 years and has conserved more than 10,000 hectares (25,000 acres) in the region for wildlife, fish and plants.



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Federal Government - Kootenay and Yoho National Parks
Head Office	Gatineau, Quebec
Founded	1911
Website	www.parkscanada.ca
Contact Info	Derek Petersen - Ecological Integrity Monitoring Coordinator P: 250-347-6171 E: Derek.Petersen@pc.gc.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Species-at-Risk

Vision: Canada's treasured natural and historic places will be a living legacy, connecting hearts and minds to a stronger, deeper understanding of the very essence of Canada.

Mandate: On behalf of the people of Canada, to protect and present nationally significant natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment in ways that ensure their ecological and commemorative integrity for present and future generations.

About: The Parks Canada Agency protects and presents nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and fosters public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations. National parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas, of which Parks Canada is the proud steward, offer to Canadians the opportunity to live meaningful experiences and to personally connect with these heritage places. In carrying out its responsibilities, Parks Canada works in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, stakeholders and neighbouring communities.

Parks Canada manages protected areas including: forty-four National Parks (including seven National Park Reserves), four National Marine Conservation Areas, one National Landmark, and 167 National Historic Sites of Canada.

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Mission: The mission of the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is to provide area residents and communities with services, governance and representation in a manner that supports the economic, social and environmental goals of the region.

About: Regional districts can provide a broad range of services, with the exception of roads and policing. The choice of services is determined by the regional board but only with the approval of the electors. The scope of services therefore varies with each regional district.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Local Government: Regional District
Head Office	Nelson, BC
Founded	1965
Website	www.rdck.ca
Contact Info	Sangita Sudan - General Manager of Development Services P: 250-352-8165 E: ssudan@rdck.bc.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Land Management ✓ Planning ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Water

Unlike municipalities, regional districts are required to match the benefits and costs of its services to the people who benefit from the services. Costs are recovered by taxing those who benefit from the services – in other words, residents pay for what they get. The RDCK provides over 160 services to taxpayers including such services as fire protection, animal and insect control, refuse, recreation, community sustainability and community recreation.

In November 2015, electors from Regional District of Central Kootenay (“RDCK”) Electoral Areas A, D and E, (collectively referred to as “the participating areas”) voted to establish the Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund (“the Fund”). The Service Establishment Bylaw was subsequently adopted by the RDCK Board of Directors. Under this Bylaw, from 2015 to 2024, property owners in the participating areas pay a parcel tax of \$15 per parcel per year towards a dedicated fund for conservation projects in the service area.



Regional District of East Kootenay

Mission: Through effective service, our organization exists to maintain and enhance the economic, physical, technological, social and environmental quality of life in the East Kootenay region.

About: The Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) is one of 28 regional districts formed by the Province of British Columbia to provide local government services to unincorporated areas. The RDEK functions as a partnership of the municipalities and

electoral areas (unincorporated areas) within its boundaries. These local governments work together through the RDEK to provide and coordinate services in both urban and rural areas. Services include:

- Building & Protective Services – building inspections, rural fire protection, emergency services, bylaw compliance and enforcement.
- Engineering Services – water and waste water utilities, water resources – dike, dam and bank protection (Lake Baptiste Dam, Cold Spring Creek bank protection, Fairmont Creek Bank Protection, West Fernie Dike System, Water control structures at Tie Lake, Rosen Lake, and Lazy Lake), and Geographic Information Systems.
- Environmental Services - invasive plant education, coordination, landowner support and compliance and enforcement activities. Solid waste management and recycling, recreation facilities, parks and trails, mosquito control, Elk Valley Regional Airport.
- Planning & Development Services – land use planning, development applications (ALR applications, bylaw amendments), floodplain management, developing and maintaining regional profile, parks planning.
- Administers CBT's Community Initiatives and Affected Areas grant program and Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Local Government: Regional District
Head Office	Cranbrook, BC
Founded	1966
Website	www.rdek.bc.ca
Contact Info	Jamie Davies - Recreation & Control Services Supervisor P: 250-489-2791 E: jdavies@rdek.bc.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Invasive Species Control ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Management ✓ Planning ✓ Policy/Regulation



Rocky Mountain Naturalists



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Cranbrook, BC
Founded	1983
Website	www.rockymountainnaturalists.org
Contact Info	Virginia Rasch - President E: virginiaainbc@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Species-at-Risk ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: To know nature and keep it worth knowing.

Mission: To foster a public awareness, appreciation and understanding of our natural environment, and to promote a better understanding of the value of our heritage in nature so that it may be wisely used and maintained for future generations;

Wherever practical and within the current legal and legislative framework, to conserve flora and fauna and all other elements of our natural world;

To provide enjoyable and informative opportunities for members and guests to learn about the natural world; and

To affiliate with and support the Federation of British Columbia Naturalists ("BC Nature") and to co-operate with groups having similar aims and objectives.

About: The Rocky Mountain Naturalists is a Cranbrook/Kimberley Club under the umbrella of BC Nature, which represents more than 50 nature clubs throughout British Columbia. We participate in diverse outdoor activities in all seasons, including hiking, biking, canoeing, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing, all with the purpose of viewing and studying our natural world.

One of our main projects is assisting with the stewardship of Elizabeth Lake in Cranbrook. We also conduct numerous bird surveys, including the Audubon Christmas Bird Counts in Cranbrook and Kimberley and friendly bird competitions such as the Winter Seekers Challenge and a Little Big Day.

Rocky Mountain Trench Natural Resources Society

Vision: A restored Trench landscape functioning at its ecological potential thereby supporting: the native and historical matrix of trees, plants and animals; a sustainable forage resource for wild and domestic grazing ungulates; and the social, economic and cultural needs of stakeholders as they relate to the open range and open forests of the Trench.

Mission: To restore and conserve grassland and open forest ecosystem health to sustain plants, animals and people in the East Kootenay and Upper Columbia.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Kimberley, BC
Founded	1996
Website	www.trenchsociety.com
Contact Info	Marc Trudeau - Coordinator P: 250-427-1138 E: marctrudeau36@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Management

About: The Trench Society coalition was formed as a vehicle for public stewardship of the low-elevation dry forests and grasslands of the Rocky Mountain Trench. Their area of interest is the portion of the Canadian Southern Rocky Mountain Trench, from Radium Hot Springs to the US border, which is classified as a fire-maintained ecosystem.

The Society will focus on five core functions to achieve its restoration vision:

- Plan and implement ecosystem restoration (ER) projects.
- Participate in the Rocky Mountain Trench Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP).
- Ensure implementation and continuation of the ERP Monitoring Protocol.
- Achieve provincial legislative and policy reforms as they relate to ER.
- Develop and deliver public communication activities.

Rocky Mountain
TRENCH NATURAL
SOCIETY RESOURCES



Rural Development Institute

Vision: The Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute (RDI) envisions a resilient region where Columbia Basin-Boundary communities thrive as a result of collaborative learning and informed decision-making.

Mission: To support informed decision-making by Columbia Basin-Boundary communities through the provision of information, applied research and related outreach and extension support.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Educational Institution
Head Office	Castlegar, B.C.
Founded	2011
Website	http://www.cbrdi.ca/
Contact Info	Adela Kincaid, PhD - Researcher E: akincaid@selkirk.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Inventory ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Research

About: RDI is a regional centre of excellence in applied research and information provision focused on strengthening rural communities in the Columbia Basin Boundary region of British Columbia. The RDI is supported through a partnership between Columbia Basin Trust and Selkirk College. The RDI is funded by Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) through an 8-year partnership agreement. Selkirk College supports the operation of the institute through its infrastructure and specific capabilities, including the Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development (RIC) who serves as the RDI Lead Researcher.

The RDI supports:

- the collection and use of economic, social, cultural and environmental indicator research;
- provides ongoing analysis of related trends and connects indicators to plans and planning processes;
- supports communities and community groups with information and data needs;
- supports the efforts of local and regional community development groups through the provision of relevant and timely research and best practice tools and processes;
- assists in regional economic diversification through the promotion of innovation and knowledge transfer;
- supports informed decision-making through ongoing research based on regional priorities; and
- builds capacity through collaborative working partnerships with existing organizations, networks and experts.



Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit, Charitable Organization
Headquarters	Salmo, BC
Founded	1997
Website	www.streamkeepers.bc.ca
Contact Info	Gerry Nellestijn - Coordinator P: 250-357-2630 E: gerry@streamkeepers.bc.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ecosystem-based Management ✓ Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Environmental/Research/ Monitoring /Education ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Green Economics

Vision: To see a Columbia Basin Culture that admires and respects Natural Systems, understands Stewardship Ethics, Values and Principles and employs Adaptive Ecosystem-based Management approaches to benefit long term human and Natural Health.

Mission: To promote awareness of threatened fish and wildlife in the Salmo watershed and beyond, produce scientific studies, monitor water resources, be involved in wetland and river habitat restoration, offer employment opportunities for youth and others, provide educational material to the public and be advocates for the environment and natural systems conservation.

About: In response to interest shown in the Salmo River during a Forestry Transition Strategy meeting held in Salmo, BC in 1997, the Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society was formed. The purpose of the Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society's is to:

- Protect and restore streams, streambeds and riparian zones that foster stream dependent biodiversity. We will do so in an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable way, giving residents and visitors alike access to a healthy watershed.
- Form collaborative partnerships with private landowners, public agencies, private forestry operations, as well as First Nations, industry and other interested and active groups.
- Recruit, train and coordinate an informed, courteous, safety oriented volunteer group to carry out stewardship principles in our watershed.
- Promote healthy watershed principles to the public, school groups and others.
- Faithfully collect, record and monitor data concerning water quality, flows, invertebrates, fish and other water bound life.
- Share our knowledge equally with all.

Selkirk College School of Environment & Geomatics



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Educational Institution
Head Office	Castlegar, BC
Founded	1966
Website	www.selkirk.ca
Contact Info	Ian Parfitt - Coordinator Geospatial Research Centre/Instructor School of Environment & Geomatics P: 250-304-6524 E: iparfitt@selkirk.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ GIS ✓ Leadership Development ✓ Species-at-Risk

Vision: Selkirk College is a learner-centred college that provides educational experiences and pathways to prepare students for work, further education, service, and lifelong learning. Their vision is to make learning authentic, inspiring, rewarding and relevant to students, the region, and the world.

Mission: Selkirk College inspires lifelong learning, transforms lives through education and training, and serves our communities.

About: Selkirk College is not only BC's oldest regional college but the first created through a community referendum. Selkirk is a leader in environmental sustainability and has implemented initiatives that improve campus life, surrounding communities and the health of the environment. The college is also home to the Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development, the Selkirk College Geospatial Research Centre (SGRC), the Rural Development Institute (in partnership with Columbia Basin Trust) and the MIR Centre for Peace.

Selkirk offers an array of programs including programs in aviation, business, environment and geomatics, health, hospitality and tourism, human services, industry and trades training, cosmetology, the arts, and University arts and sciences. Applied research and innovation at Selkirk takes many forms. Projects that have value to the Kootenay Conservation Program include web mapping applications developed and hosted by the SGRC, including the Columbia Basin Biodiversity Atlas (www.biodiversityatlas.org). As well as being a key information resource for conservation, the BioAtlas also provides tools for citizen science.

Slocan Lake Stewardship Society

Mission:

1. To research and cooperatively plan guidelines that will ensure the care and protection of Slocan Lake, its tributaries and foreshore; and
2. To support and initiate projects and programs for sustainable lake use; and
3. To facilitate education regarding Slocan Lake, its tributaries and its environments.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	New Denver, BC
Founded	2006
Website	www.slocanlakess.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Water

About: The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society (SLSS) is dedicated to protecting the beauty, health and wonder of the magnificent Slocan Lake ecosystem for future generations. We do this by investing in science that helps us learn how Slocan Lake and its surrounding ecosystems function, and what needs to be done to keep the system healthy; by developing useful, credible and accessible information that is publicly shared; and by working cooperatively with local communities and governments to set priorities for managing Slocan Lake and its environs in a manner that fosters collective responsibility.

SLSS has identified 4 areas and goals within which we focus our programs and activities for the protection, enhancement, and restoration of the Slocan Lake Watershed:

- Science: To protect, enhance, and restore Slocan Lake watershed by supporting research into its ecosystems, its cultural history and ongoing human impacts.
- Education: To protect, enhance, and restore Slocan Lake watershed by creating a culture of support and stewardship through educational programs and services.
- Advocacy: To protect, enhance, and restore Slocan Lake Watershed through advocacy taken in accordance with this principle: all advocacy decisions must reflect the SLSS mission, values, and purposes.
- Operations: To develop and sustain a viable, efficient and effective organization to support the Society's mission.

Slocan River Streamkeepers



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Winlaw, BC
Founded	2003
Website	www.slocanriverstreamkeepers.com
Contact Info	Coordinator E: info@slocanriverstreamkeepers.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Water

Mission: To work towards protection and restoration of the streams, streambeds and riparian zones that foster biodiversity in the Slocan Valley Watershed. Our goals are to increase public knowledge of aquatic ecosystems, foster stewardship of aquatic and riparian ecosystems and carry out ecologically sound restoration projects

About: The Slocan River Streamkeepers work to promote community stewardship through education, collaboration and action. We collect data that gives us information about local creeks and the river, do school field trips and presentations and restore river habitat

The Streamkeepers and local high school students collect data and information that gives us important information about local creeks and the Slocan River. Streamkeepers give presentations, do field trips, explore and learn about aquatic life with elementary students. Streamkeepers partner with other watershed groups in the Kootenays to do basin wide monitoring. On the ground, we work locally, planting trees, building fences, restoring river habitat, and completing scientific assessments of the river and riparian areas. Our current projects include:

- Riparian and in-stream restoration
- Water quality and quantity monitoring
- Elementary and high school education programs
- Annual fish counts
- Fish habitat assessments and mapping
- Sensitive Ecosystems Inventory (SEI) mapping

Slocan Wetlands Assessment and Monitoring Project

Vision: To see healthy, intact functioning wetlands and riparian areas providing home to diverse species and providing natural processes throughout the Slocan Valley.

Mission: To assess, map, and monitor native wetlands in the Slocan Watershed; to prioritize resources for this work; and to share our findings in order to inform the protection and restoration activities of associated groups and governments.

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Project, not organization
Headquarters	New Denver, BC
Founded	2013
Website	http://slocanresearch.wordpress.com/wetlands/
Contact Info	Richard Johnson P: 250-358-2590 E: richard.slrc@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Citizen Science ✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Research ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Water

About: The Slocan Wetlands Assessment and Monitoring Project (SWAMP) is a collaboration of three societies, Slocan Solutions Society, Slocan River Streamkeepers Society and Slocan Lake Stewardship Society, working with the BC Wildlife Federation, the Columbia Basin Trust, Selkirk College, Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee, and the Regional District of Central Kootenay, to provide an integrated watershed approach to wetland understanding and management. We employ technical experts, train and utilize technicians and volunteers. The project area includes the full Slocan River watershed, from the Kootenay River at the south, to the watershed divide north of Summit Lake, including the villages of Slocan, New Denver, Winlaw and Silverton, and the numerous unincorporated communities in between such as Passmore, Slocan Park and Krestova. The long-term goal of SWAMP is to utilize existing mapping and inventory data as base layers and to develop a detailed and comprehensive habitat assessment of flora and fauna of the watershed. SWAMP is a multi-year initiative to establish a community-based monitoring program to assess the abundance, distribution, and ecological integrity/function of wetlands and riparian habitat throughout the Slocan watershed.



Sparwood and District Fish and Wildlife Association

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Headquarters	Sparwood, BC
Founded	1918
Website	http://sparwoodfishandwildlife.com
Contact Info	Matthew Huryn - President P: 250-433-7249 E: sparwoodfishwildlife@gmail.com
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation ✓ Youth Programs and Activities

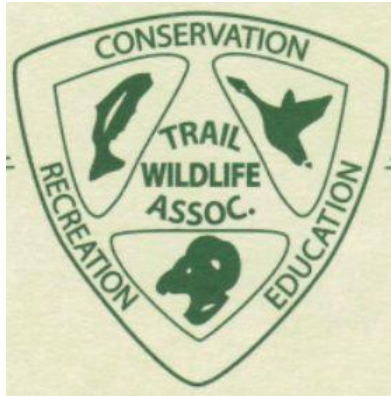
Vision: Working with local businesses, organizations and government agencies we strive to protect and maintain the wildlife, fisheries and environment in our backyard.

Mission:

- To ensure the sound, long-term management of fish, wildlife, park and outdoor recreational resources in the best interest of all residents of the province.
- To make all residents aware of the value of our fish, wildlife and outdoor recreational resources, and to arouse in the public conscience a recognition of and a respect for the place of fish, wildlife and outdoor recreation in the wise and integrated use of natural resources.
- To obtain and maintain reasonable public access to all forests and recreational areas of the province.
- To make the general public aware of the dangers of land, air and water pollution, and to cooperate with groups on similar objectives.
- To promote true appreciation of sportsmanship and sports safety in the light of fish and wildlife regulations and all the fair and accepted rules of hunting and fishing, and to foster good will between sportsmen, outdoor recreationists and land owners.

About: Formed in 1918 as the Michel-Natal Rod and Gun Club, we have evolved over the last century into what we are today. The name changed back in 1966 to the current one, but the values have remained the same. Some of the more recent initiatives we have been involved in include The Big Ranch habitat enhancement, Grave Prairie habitat enhancement, and the current elk collaring and migration study. We are always looking to attract new members and have an active youth archery program and are currently working to get a youth shooting program up and running as well.

Trail Wildlife Association



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Fish and Wildlife Association
Head Office	Trail, BC
Founded	1925
Website	www.trailwildlife.com
Contact Info	Al Mallette - Fisheries Representative P: 250-521-0567 E. blueritchey@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Land Conservation ✓ Landscape Connectivity ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: Focuses on the protection, enhancement and wise use of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

Mission: The TWA's objectives are:

- to work with appropriate government ministries and other conservation organizations to develop sustainable fish and wildlife practises.
- to encourage responsible recreation related to the enjoyment of wildlife
- to include our community's students in our fish and wildlife project work
- to manage and provide safe and secure firearms and archery facilities

About: Since it was formed in 1925, the Trail Wildlife Association has focused on projects designed to enhance local fish and regional fish and wildlife populations including:

- establish protected areas and foster sustainable land use policies
- studies regarding animal migration and habitat, locally and throughout the Kootenays
- assisting in establishing populations of game birds and animals - such as big horn sheep
- landscape designed to enhance wildlife, such as controlled burns and planting initiatives
- fisheries resource enhancement and policy advocacy
- development of an active spawning channel for Rainbow Trout at Murphy Creek

The TWA's most significant land conservation initiative, as been its stewardship of the Fort Shepherd Conservancy Area, a 967 h. property along the west bank of the Columbia River, south of Trail, B.C. The site was acquired by the Land Conservancy of B.C. from Teck Ltd. in 2007 in order to protect its unique ecological and historic values. Our group manages the property, and is part of a stewardship council that plans administrative policy and restoration activities.

Trans-border Grizzly Bear Project (Birchdale Ecological)

Quick Facts	
Group Type	Research & Management Organization
Headquarters	Kaslo, BC
Founded	2003
Website	www.transbordergrizzlybearproject.ca
Contact Info	Michael Proctor P: 250-353-8072 E: mproctor@netidea.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Land Conservation✓ Landscape Connectivity✓ Research✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: To recover and reconnect small fragmented grizzly bear populations in southeastern BC

Mission: To carry out scientific research related to the conservation problems and solutions of the small fragmented grizzly bear population units in southeast B.C. Also to develop and implement conservation management plans derived from our science-based approach.

About: We carry out scientific research about both the conservation issues and their solutions related to fragmented grizzly bear populations in southeast BC. We publish our results in the peer-reviewed scientific literature and work to develop and implement specific conservation management plans in an effort to solve those problems. Our research integrates genetic sampling and GPS telemetry. We study many facets of grizzly bear ecology and conservation including population estimation and trend, population fragmentation, linkage area identification and connectivity management, food resource mapping and management, human-caused mortality and its patterns and influences, habitat use and selection, habitat quality and security, human-bear conflict reduction and non-lethal bear management, and more. We are involved in several community-based conservation efforts including cost-share electric fencing programs, farmer and rancher working groups to minimize human-bear conflicts, a regional land conservation purchase program to enhance wildlife connectivity, and more.

***Trans-border
Grizzly Bear Project***

West Kootenay EcoSociety



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Nelson, B.C.
Founded	1994
Website	http://www.ecosociety.ca/
Contact Info	Montana Burgess – Executive Director P: 250-354-1909 E: montana@ecosociety.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Climate Change ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Policy/Regulation ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Mission: West Kootenay EcoSociety’s mission is to protect the natural environment while building a just and sustainable post-carbon world.

About: Established in 1994, West Kootenay EcoSociety is a non-profit community-driven organization that works to bring together local residents to protect the natural environment while building just, equitable, healthy, and livable communities in the West Kootenay region. EcoSociety works in three focus areas: to take action to reduce the crisis of climate change; to preserve wild places, ecosystems, air and water for future generations; and to Promote sustainable local food systems

EcoSociety organizes with grassroots, community leaders, and advocates to decision-makers on developing local social, political, and economic solutions to environmental and equity problems. Current projects include: Kootenay Rideshare website management, Kokanee Creek Nature Centre operations and education program delivery, coordination of the Nelson Markets, as well as community engagement through the campaign to Keep Jumbo Wild and 100% Renewable Kootenays. EcoSociety also runs the weekly EcoCentric radio program on Kootenay Coop Radio.

West Kootenay Naturalists' Association



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Nelson, BC
Website	https://wknats.weebly.com/
Contact Info	Peter Wood - President E: via website
Focus Areas	✓ Ecosystem Restoration/Enhancement ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Species-at-Risk ✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: To know nature and keep it worth knowing.

Mission: The West Kootenay Naturalists are a group of dedicated and energetic folk who meet regularly to achieve the following goals:

- Learn about our natural world
- Preserve the environment
- Share our interests and experience
- Make a positive contribution to our fragile planet.

About: The West Kootenay Naturalists is a Nelson Club under the umbrella of BC Nature, which represents over 52 nature clubs throughout British Columbia. The Kootenay area of our province, in a spectacular landscape setting, is home to many unique features with a broad spectrum of flora and fauna. There is something for everyone, whether you are new to the naturalist perspective or a seasoned veteran. We invite you to join us for hiking trips from easy to strenuous as we explore this abundant domain.

Wildlife Conservation Society Canada



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Kaslo, BC (provincial office) Toronto, ON (national office)
Founded	2004
Website	www.wcscanada.org
Contact Info	Dr. Cori Lausen - Associate Research Scientist, Bat Specialist P: 250-353-8204 E: clausen@wcs.org
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Citizen Science✓ Inventory✓ Research✓ Species at Risk

Vision: WCS Canada envisions a world where wildlife thrives in healthy lands and seas, valued by societies that embrace and benefit from the diversity and integrity of life on Earth.

Mission: WCS safeguards wildlife and wild places in Canada through science, conservation action, and inspiring people to value nature.

About: WCS Canada saves wildlife and wild places through science, action, education, and inspiration. Our scientists conduct comprehensive field studies and resolve conservation issues by working with people such as stakeholders, communities, conservation groups, and industry.

In British Columbia and Alberta, our focus is on bat conservation. We have a program lead by Dr. Cori Lausen which focusses on citizen science, research and monitoring of bats. These actions comprise 3 WCSC projects: Alberta Community Bat Program, North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat), and BatCaver (BatCaver.org). And in the West Kootenay, WCSC will be playing an increasing role in administering the Kootenay Community Bat Program.

Our research efforts are year-round. In winter, they are aimed largely at understanding hibernation ecology prior to the arrival of white-nose syndrome; we are also interested in characterizing microclimates selected by building roosting bats in summer, especially as it pertains to use and reproductive success in bat houses and other alternative human-made roosting structures.

Wildsight



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Kimberley, BC
Founded	1987
Website	www.wildsight.ca
Contact Info	Robyn Duncan - Executive Director P: 250-427-9325 E: robyn@wildsight.ca
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Education/Outreach ✓ Environmental Monitoring ✓ Landscape Connectivity ✓ Water ✓ Youth Programs and Activities

Vision: The Columbia Mountains and Southern Rocky Mountain area has healthy, functioning ecosystems. A network of protected wild landscapes and watersheds provide for native plant, fish, and animal populations, and maintain healthy human communities.

Mission: Wildsight works locally, regionally and globally to protect biodiversity and encourage sustainable communities in Canada's Columbia and southern Rocky Mountain region.

About: Wildsight focuses on three core areas: the southern Canadian Rocky Mountains, upper Columbia River Valley, and the Columbia Mountains. Wildsight's program areas include conservation, water, climate adaptation solutions, sustainable communities, and school-based education. For over 25 years, Wildsight has been recognized as a leader in conservation, sustainable community initiatives, and environmental education. Some of our achievements include, the creation of the Purcell Wilderness Conservancy which is considered to be the largest intact ecosystem in southeastern BC, Ramsar designation for the Columbia Wetlands, and a ban on oil and gas exploration in the Flathead Valley. We received the 2005 Canadian Environmental Award for Conservation and our water stewardship work has been recognized by the federal government as a best practices example in community based ecological monitoring.

Windermere District Farmers' Institute



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Windermere, BC
Founded	1914
Website	www.wdfi.ca/index.html
Contact Info	Peter Trescher - Secretary P: 250-346-3283 E: brisco@winkwireless.ca
Focus Areas	✓ Agriculture ✓ Land Management ✓ Landscape Connectivity ✓ Research

Mission:

- To improve conditions of rural life so that settlement may be permanent and prosperous;
- To promote the theory and practice of agriculture;
- To arrange on behalf of its members for the purchase, distribution or sale of commodities, supplies or products;
- To act generally on behalf of its members in all matters incidental to agricultural pursuits and rural development;
- To promote home economics, public health, child welfare, education and better schools.

About: The Windermere District Farmers' Institute and Livestock Association (WDFI) represents the interest of the agricultural community from Canal Flats to Golden. The Windermere District Farmers Institute (WDFI) has been an important part of this region for the last 100 years. Agricultural lands play a crucial role in a functioning ecosystem. In 2010 the WDFI was instrumental in initiating the Columbia Valley Agricultural Plan which morphed into the East Kootenay Agricultural Plan. It is expected that this plan will have a significant impact on the conservation of the region because of the connection between agriculture and the regional ecosystem.

Wings Over the Rockies



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Invermere, BC
Founded	1997
Website	www.wingsovertherockies.org
Contact Info	Jami Scheffer P: 250-342-2473 E: wingsovertherockies@gmail.com
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Education/Outreach✓ Wetland Conservation✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation✓ Youth Programs and Activities

Mission: To foster immediate and long-term positive action on behalf of birds, wildlife and habitat by utilizing and recognizing public education, research results, quality economic development, and the skills and resources of our communities, balancing the needs of humans and natural systems.

About: Every year, the Wings Over the Rockies Festival is celebrated in early May. The Wings wildlife festival offers over 100 events including guided walks and floats, evening talks, art shows, school programs and a gala dinner. Profits from the festival are reinvested into conservation and education projects within the Upper Columbia Valley.

In the words of our patron, Robert Bateman, “The Wings Over the Rockies Bird Festival conjures up an image of all that is great about Canada... spectacular scenery, abundant nature and a warm, human spirit of getting together in a worthy cause. The world over, when people think of Canada, they think of the glory of the Rockies. When you combine this with the upper reaches of the mighty Columbia, you have an unsurpassed natural setting. The continuous wetlands along the river are perfect as breeding areas and staging places for a significant number of bird species. This and the many other habitats provide a variety of ecosystems which will bring joy to any naturalist. But the idea of this festival goes far beyond a “get-together” of serious naturalists. It is an ideal chance for everyone to learn and share the excitement of nature ‘in the flesh’ so to speak.”

Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y)



Quick Facts	
Group Type	Non-Profit Organization
Head Office	Canmore, Alberta (office in Nelson, BC)
Founded	1993
Website	www.y2y.net
Contact Info	Candace Batycki - Program Director, BC and Yukon P: 250-352-3830 E: candace@y2y.net
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Land Conservation✓ Landscape Connectivity✓ Research✓ Wildlife/Fish Conservation

Vision: An interconnected system of wild lands and waters stretching from Yellowstone to Yukon, harmonizing the needs of people with those of nature.

Mission: Connecting and protecting habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive.

About: The Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) is a joint Canada-U.S. not-for-profit organization that connects and protects habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive. We are the only organization dedicated to securing the long-term ecological health of this entire region.

We take a scientific and collaborative approach to conservation, and highlight and focus on local issues that affect the region. We have worked with more than 300 partners, including scientists, conservation groups, landowners, businesses, government agencies as well as First Nations and Native American communities to stitch together this landscape.

Without a unified vision for this deeply interconnected landscape, local conservation efforts may be isolated and less effective. Y2Y seeks to ensure conservation efforts are aligned in support of large-scale objectives, and therefore become continentally significant. Today, Y2Y is recognized as one of the planet's leading mountain conservation initiatives.



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