

# Creating a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee

*Enhancing the work we do*

## Workshop Summary

**May 16, 2012  
Hume Hotel, Nelson**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Organizing a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee is a necessary step for successfully expanding into the West Kootenay region and transforming the East Kootenay Conservation Program into the ***Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP)***.

On May 16, 2012, twenty-five (25) of the area's leaders in stewardship and restoration formally launched a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee during a workshop entitled, *Creating a West Kootenay Stewardship Partnership*. This workshop was designed to be informal yet strategic, and to add value to the work participants were already doing. Participants interacted in small groups as much as possible to explore the breadth of issues and to further probe topics of particular interest or expertise.

The workshop achieved several key outcomes:

- The West Kootenay Stewardship Committee was formed by confirming operational issues (such as governance, structure, geographic scope, unique WK conservation attributes) that will guide the work of the new Committee.
- Participants explored new and emerging stewardship issues and solutions.
- A strategic approach to information exchange led to increased knowledge about relevant stewardship and restoration tools and issues.
- Momentum was created on issues that a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee could address.
- Participants met new people and enjoyed an engaging day networking with other land and water stewards and managers.

Nineteen (19) participants signed up as the initial founders of the West Kootenay Stewardship Committee. The first meeting of this new Committee will be held in conjunction with KCP's Annual Meeting **September 21-22, 2012, in Creston, BC.**



## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 Kootenay Conservation Program includes the West Kootenay

Over the last few years, the East Kootenay Conservation Program (EKCP) has been expanding its land acquisition and stewardship efforts in the West Kootenay. To reflect this growth and geographic expansion into the West Kootenay, the organization is in the process of changing its name to the **Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP)**, and is formally expanding its service area.

As part of this expansion of services, the new KCP offered to coordinate a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee to complement the existing East Kootenay Stewardship Committee formed by members working in that region. KCP's role within the West Kootenay Stewardship Committee will be to facilitate collaboration between organizations and initiatives, help coordinate a regional approach to stewardship on private land, and assist partners in addressing common stewardship issues on private land.

### 1.2 Launching a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee

In an effort to formalize and launch a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee, the Kootenay Conservation Program hosted a workshop on May 16, 2012, entitled, *Creating a West Kootenay Stewardship Partnership*. KCP was represented by Marcy Mahr (Stewardship & Communications Manager) and Dave Hillary (Program Manager), and professional facilitation was provided by Lynne Betts and Angus Glass.

Over 80 people were invited to the workshop, representing diverse organizations, agencies, regions and interests throughout the West Kootenay. Twenty-five (25) participants attended this workshop, with 19 of them signing up as founding partners of the West Kootenay Stewardship Committee (Appendix A). Due to scheduling conflicts we missed being able to include another 20+ people who are very supportive and would like to participate as we move forward. We will endeavour to meet with all of those people on a one-to-one basis and share this summary with them.

### 1.3 Workshop Purpose & Desired Outcomes

The West Kootenay Stewardship Workshop was designed to be informal yet strategic, and to add value to the work participants were already doing. Participants interacted in small groups as much as possible to explore the breadth of issues and to further probe topics of particular interest or expertise. During the sessions, participants identified unique West Kootenay values and stewardship needs; helped define a West Kootenay service area boundary; confirmed a Terms of Reference for the West Kootenay Stewardship Committee; learned about emerging stewardship issues in the region; and

met other people working on the same landscape. For the agenda, refer to Appendix B. For the list of participants, refer to Appendix C.

The purpose and desired outcomes of the stewardship workshop were the following.

#### Purpose

- Discuss and confirm operational framework for new West Kootenay Stewardship Committee
- Share information and resources that will build capacity of stewardship partners

#### Desired Outcomes

- Form a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee by confirming operational issues (such as governance, structure, geographic scope, unique WK conservation attributes) that will guide the work of the new Committee
- Explore new/emerging stewardship issues and solutions
- Increase knowledge about relevant stewardship and restoration tools and issues
- Create momentum on issues that a WK Stewardship Committee could address
- Have an engaging day networking with other land and water stewards and managers

### **1.4 Summary Report**

This summary report is intended as a reference for participants in that it captures the suite of values, issues and next steps that arose during small group brain-storming and discussion. The report also contains the operational outcomes of the workshop, for example, the recommended boundary for the West Kootenay service area for KCP, and suggestions for strengthening the Terms of Reference for a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee.



## 2.0 Morning Workshop Sessions

### 2.1 Morning Session A: Defining the Character & Conservation Value of the West Kootenays

Participants worked in small groups to answer a series of questions that would help characterize the uniqueness of the West Kootenay region and identify what is of value and worth conserving. Groups recorded their brain-storming on sticky notes that were clustered into themes. Bold items were emphasized in reporting out results.



#### 2.1.1 Question #1: What makes the West Kootenay unique and worthy of stewardship?

Summary of group themes: Species, Habitat, People, Land Base, Land Use, Climate

##### Species

- Large number of rare and endangered species; **high species diversity**
- In terms of stewardship & restoration, we've started thinking beyond deer and elk
- Iconic species such as: sculpin, white sturgeon, mountain caribou, grizzly bears
- Most diverse tree species in the province

##### Habitat

- Aquatic influence (there is a lot of water)
- Loss of valley bottom habitat
- **Remaining valley bottom lands & wetlands are critical**
- Ecologically unique: diverse habitats, **interior wet belt**
- Small patch size: microclimate diversity

- **Patchiness:** patches of different habitats change over a small area
- Healthy intact ecosystems; most disturbance is concentrated
- Diverse, intact alpine ecosystems; glaciers, water!
- Diverse ranges of ecotypes: for example, Inland Temperate Rainforest
- Fragmented ecosystems
- Southern part of province is transitional and diverse habitat
- Volcanic ash soils

## People

- Profound **connection of people to water** – watersheds, lakes, rivers, creeks, wells, water licences
- Many small grassroots groups
- **Low population density, spread out**
- Diverse communities and culture
- **Creative culture**, open to alternative approaches
- Less “outside” influence (Alberta’s influencing property value inflation, threat of loss of habitat/conversion)
- Cultural enclaves (Slocan Valley vs. Walmart)
- Backcountry recreation (mechanized: snow mobile, heli & cat skiing, ATVs; non-mechanized: biking, hiking)
- Hunting community active
- Lower profile First Nations
- Fractious communities and groups
- **Diversified livelihood, diverse mind-sets, tendency towards conflict?**
- Different culture in the West Kootenay than East Kootenay
- People in WK are not as unified around extraction (mining) and ranching as in EK

## Land Base

- Narrow valleys and little flat land
- **Interior Rainforest**, globally significant
- **Large lakes**
- Large amount of private land (large parcels, large percentage)
- Influenced by the international border
- Dense population to the south
- Private land ownership prevails in the valleys
- Very mountainous – mountains/rivers/lakes
- **Geographic proximity to US (high risk for climate change, invasives)**
- Vertical structure – diversity w/ elevation, dramatic changes over short distances
- **Very industrial – large scale: hydroelectric, smelter, mining, forestry**
- Relatively high percentage of developed private land
- Relatively few roads in northern part of the WK
- A lot of distance between places; relative separation from community to community
- Different fire history than EK



- Limited range land, agriculture → small, diverse farms
- Diverse/expanding economy (forestry, mining, tourism)
- WK in transition towards a more diversified economy

### Land Use

- **History of ranching in EK vs. farming in WK**
- **Dams** on the landscape influence our relationship to what is left and passion for protecting what we have – **constraints and impacts**
- Dams eliminated wetlands, create challenges and opportunities, reservoirs, controlled flows; constrained on low-elevation areas due to dams
- Diverse economies
- Black market and informal economies
- Recreation: motorized and non-motorized
- Limited protected agricultural land
- **Private land in valley bottoms**
- Small lot sizes
- Mining
- **Human development is concentrated**
- Septic and human waste
- A lot of surface water is used for drinking water
- Watershed issues, steep terrain, logging practices

### Climate

- **Micro climates/diverse climate could buffer severity of impacts of climate change**
- WK is remote with a pleasant climate





## 2.1.2 Question #2: What stewardship and restoration issues are calling for attention in the West Kootenay?

Summary of group themes: Rare Ecosystems, Corridors & Connectivity, What is Normal/Common, Intact Aquatic/Riparian Habitats, Ecological Function & Services, Watershed Integrity, Land Use & People Priorities

### Rare Ecosystems

- Conservation of rare ecosystems: **cottonwoods, wetlands, deltas** (Creston, Lardeau, Slokan)
- Rare and endangered species
- **Threats-based, integrated approach** (less species specific): habitat-based, what's threatened?
- Ecological integrity of protected areas
- Native habitat
- Invasive plants
- **Ensure invasive species are considered** in ecosystem/habitat conservation & stewardship

### Corridors & Connectivity

- Wildlife corridors, linkages, **connectivity**; connected habitat across our valleys East-West, North-South; regional, landscape and continental basis
- **Intact ecosystems and habitat; species at edge of range**
- Respect private landowners



### **What is Normal/Common**

- “Normal” – **conserve what is currently considered normal before it is gone**, such as frogs, barn swallows, pollinators
- Watch normal, common species as well as species at risk
- **Stewarding “common” species** that are not doing well elsewhere, e.g., little brown bats
- Remaining bottomland ecosystems and processes, awareness of “normal” species needs related to processes

### **Intact Aquatic/Riparian Habitats**

- Wetland and riparian habitat are rare and very important for biodiversity
- Diversity of habitat types
- Working landscapes “West Kootenay” style (food production, community forests, sustainability)

### **Money: Financial incentives for land stewardship**

- After stop the development for big dollars → **need big dollars for management & restoration**

### **Ecological Function & Services**

- **Emphasis on protecting whole watersheds and hydrologic systems**
- Lakes that are undammed; wild streams and rivers
- **Low elevation riparian/wetlands, deltas**
- **High elevation alpine areas (watershed sources, headwaters)**
- Winter range
- Mountain caribou habitat
- ICH: dry ICH forests → wet ICH forests
- Ancient forests: old, large trees and snags
- **Climate refugia, microclimates with unique zones that support specific species**

### **Watershed integrity**

- Hydrological and ecological function; **conserve functioning habitats** that support healthy wildlife populations
- **Conserve ecological processes**
- Ecosystem based conservation that balances conservation between aquatic and terrestrial

### **Land Use & People Priorities**

- Domestic priorities (community/domestic watersheds)
- Areas of cultural significance
- Working agricultural landscapes: agricultural opportunities & educational opportunities



## 2.2 Morning Session B: Drill Down into Stewardship & Restoration Issues

### 2.2.1 Stewardship & Restoration Issues

The stewardship and restoration issues identified in response to Question 2 were further explored in this session. Participants worked in small groups to answer a series of questions related to identifying pressing stewardship and restoration issues, articulating their challenges, and prioritizing steps forward. In a 'world cafe' style, participants were encouraged to move around to different tables and contribute to conversations on a variety of themes. Each theme/table had a designated person who hosted the topic, took notes, and ensured all questions were being answered. Groups recorded their key ideas on sticky notes. Bold items listed below were emphasized as groups reported out results.

The three leading questions were:

1. Why does this issue deserve attention? What can we conserve?
2. What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?
3. How can we move the edges forward? How can a West Kootenay Stewardship Committee help? What are the next 3 steps? Who needs to be involved?

Summary of group themes: Landscape Level Tools; Engagement & Awareness of Stakeholders; Engagement & Awareness of Public; Climate Change; Tools for Landowners; Managing Invasives, Restoration & Monitoring; Stable Funding

### 2.2.1 A. Landscape Level Tools (Table Host: Ryan van der Marel)

#### 1. *Why does this issue deserve our attention?*

- **Important because helps address fragmentation issues & connectivity**
- Definition of appropriate landscape depends on question/objective
- Existing stratifications: BEC zones, site series, fire regimes, watersheds
- Defining core habitat & the landscape matrix
- Framework for planning activities and prioritizing
- Political landscapes + ecological landscapes (physical, processes)
- **Disturbance regimes (large diversity in WK)**

#### 2. *What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?*

- Comprehensive enough science
- **Compliance and enforcement**
- Engaging and collaborating with all of the stakeholders
- Results from small acts, learning from past mistakes
- Capturing ecological services outside of parks and protected areas
- **Illustrating cumulative impacts**
- Addressing issues at the appropriate scale
- Individual vs. Federal government
- Jurisdictional issues private vs. crown
- External impacts

#### 3. *How can we move it forward? What are the next 3 steps?*

##### 1. Set landscape-level scale objectives

Prioritize acquisition & activities

Need clarity for conservation goals & objectives

Need to map and model what we are conserving

##### 2. Involve stakeholders

Foster collective incentives for participation

##### 3. Leverage funding for land acquisition and management

### 2.2.1 B. Engagement and Awareness: stakeholders, partners, First Nations, planners (Table Host: Lawrence Redfern)

#### 1. *Why does this issue deserve our attention?*

- Keeping like minded groups unified
- When identify your partners and opponents – can find surprises
- Broaden base of support: build awareness of how conservation benefits their own interests
- **Broaden and strengthen personal relationships between individuals representing stakeholder groups**

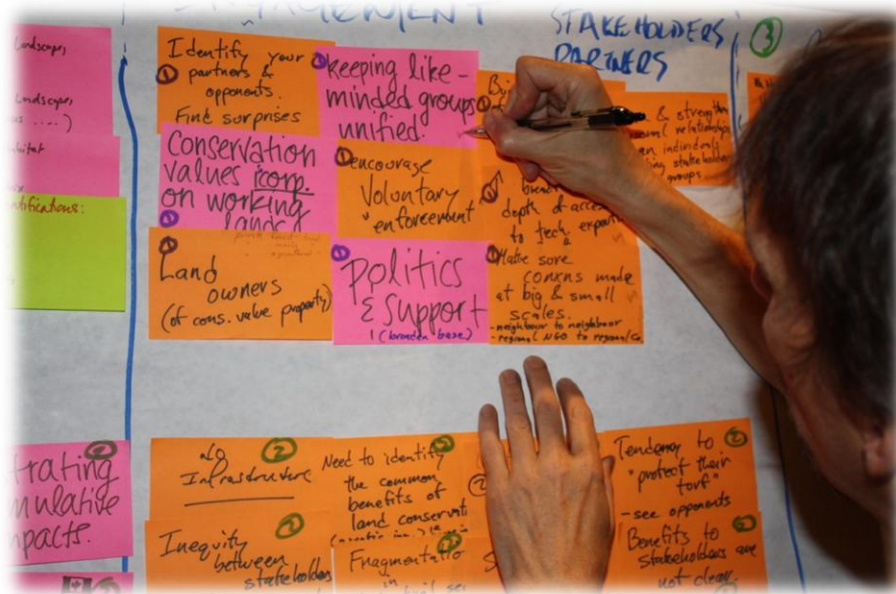
- Breadth and depth of access to technical expertise and money
- **Make sure connections are made at large and small scales: neighbour to neighbour, and regional NGOs to companies**
- Landowners of conservation value property – private forest land, mining, agricultural land
- **Conservation values incorporated on working lands**
- Encourage voluntary enforcement

*2. What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?*

- **Tendency to “protect turf”**
- See opponents
- Benefits to stakeholders are not clear
- Lack of trust and collaboration
- **Stakeholder burnout, we’ve been planning since the 1990s**
- Need to identify the common benefits of land conservation, i.e., land/water in WK, range in EK
- **Inequity between stakeholders:** access to participate, supporters, political, money
- No infrastructure
- Lack of adaptation strategies
- Fragmentation in industrial sector (7 licensees in WK vs. 1-2 licensees in EK)

*3. How can we move it forward? What are the next 3 steps?*

1. ID specific missing partners, why absent?
2. Directed/strategic partner outreach & extension
3. Achieve broader representation in WK Stewardship Partnership
4. Kootenay Conservation Program can:
  - provide a forum/venue for communication and discussion
  - provide a model for compromise, mediation, negotiation
  - represent a broader conservation consensus
  - broaden reach to include Rod & Gun Clubs, forest licensees, businesses generally, agriculture (esp. in Creston), local governments, landowners: USCC, “old time families”, School Districts 8 & 10, recreational groups (non-profit and commercial)



### 2.2.1 C. Engagement and Awareness: Public (Table Host: Juliet Craig)

#### 1. Why does this issue deserve our attention?

- Because the WK is such a rich area
- Because youth are leaders of tomorrow
- Increased economic stress and levels of poverty affecting conservation
- Working towards something together that's bigger than you
- Sense of purpose
- It is good for people to have a connection with nature (mental health)
- Create a climate of caring and connection to stewardship/nature/conservation
- **People's awareness and caring will impact political priorities, funding and success**
- **Giant workforce that can be collecting information – more eyes on the ground**
- Species at risk, critical habitat occur on private land in valley bottoms
- What people do on their land has an impact

#### 2. What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?

- Generation gap
- Money
- Economics & poverty affects choices/interests
- Decline of leadership & mentors on environmental issues
- Paradigm that environment is "out there" rather than environment part of everything
- More emphasis on physical science vs. social science
- A lot of noise/distractions/other issues



- Divisive issues (perception)
- Busy people with lives retreat into their own homes – isolation; complacency; helplessness, despair, issues too big and complex
- Burnout on environmental issues
- So many groups, agencies, organizations with a culture of independence
- Changing media landscape – not all connected in the Kootenays
- Increased urbanization

3. *How can we move it forward? What are the next 3 steps?*

1. Identify issues & who is doing what → education, engagement needs
2. Funding
3. Get the word out:
  - Community-based social marketing
  - Social diffusion

## 2.2.1 D. Climate Change (Table Host: Greg Utzig)

1. *Why does this issue deserve our attention?*

- We need a paradigm shift in conservation planning, representation
- **Restoration implies historic reference point that can longer be reached**
- How can we conserve when there is an unknown future?
- **Conserve function versus species**
- Huge impacts on every aspect of conservation
- Implications for personal choices and policies locally and globally

2. *What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?*

- Lack of locally applicable information
- Uncertainty how the climate will change and what those changes will mean
- Scale of problem – bringing the issue to individual land parcels

3. *How can we move it forward? What are 3 steps?*

1. “Mainstreaming” – US Forest Service example of incorporating climate change in everything you do. Every question needs to be followed with, *What does this mean with climate change?* Need mainstreaming across sectors – everybody needs to be involved. Build climate change awareness into program planning, activities/projects, monitoring.
2. Share stories like the recent decline and loss of birch in our forest – birch is the first tree to leaf out so is susceptible to a late frost; then birch borers hit the tops and leaf miners attack the leaves. This weakening and loss is an example of climate change analogous to putting out tomatoes too early in May.

3. Species at risk advocates/scientists need to embrace what climate change means for species distribution over time – plan for resiliency.

4. WK Stewardship Committee actively seeking climate change information and sharing it; showcasing climate change – highlight examples of how we can adapt to climate change, success stories

### **2.2.1 E. Tools for Landowners (Table Host: Eric Clough)**

*1. Why does this issue deserve our attention?*

- **Land Trust community does not have the capacity to implement conservation & restoration on all of their acquired lands**
- Building capacity to implement tools that we have, i.e., covenants
- Needs specific effort; purchase covenants
- Land trusts operating at smaller scales ramp up → landscape conservation

*2. What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?*

- Problem: financial ability of land trusts to annually inspect/monitor covenants; need for money for land trusts for monitoring small holdings
- Lease agreements between landowner and leasee (disadvantage: they are not in perpetuity)

*3. How can we move it forward? What are 3 steps?*

1. Education materials, pamphlets – Improve communication
2. Mine your science and get it out there (public)
3. Show benefits of funding small successes → larger impact
4. Set precedence – show what can be done, i.e., landowner to landowner
5. Create funding sources, i.e., within Regional District and look at different ways to spend dollars more efficiently
6. Create partnership to leverage; building relationships. WK Stewardship Committee can help build relationships; create a framework to bring together diverse groups; give and take
7. Need a one-stop shop for grantees and for funders
8. Presence of WK Stewardship Committee will help to increase credibility of proposals and projects

***Who needs to be involved?*** Land trusts, provincial government, regional govt, local non-profits, CBT



### 2.2.1 F. Managing invasives, restoration, monitoring (Table Host: Crystal Klym)

#### 1. *Why does this issue deserve our attention?*

- **Competition and predation on native species;** compete for resources
- **Short time between introduction and establishment – act fast!**
- Invasives will increase with climate change North-South, moving north from ID, MT, WA (mussels, flowering rush)
- Invasive plants (terrestrial and aquatic): invasives alter habitats/degrade ecosystems; limited funding, need to be proactive, prevention – consistent! boat inspection, enforcement across BC annually
- Conserving, maintaining healthy ecosystem
- Conserve/increase collaboration
- Restoring degraded & disturbed lands (planting, seeding)

#### 2. *What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?*

- Need tools to enable the results you want
- Need to change mind-set on restoration outcomes – appreciate the complex nature of WK ecology
- Invasives are a challenge with restoration
- **Drastically altered ecosystems in WK→supports some species, but not others**
- Monitoring→ bring results forward; will assist in securing funding; highlight trends
- Need to teach key words; be aware of ‘fast-growing’ and rapid spreader’
- **Monitoring results successful/failures need to be shared**
- Lack of consistent funding
- **One size doesn’t fit all re: restoration, monitoring**
- Mitigation needs more options that are regional in scope
- Focal point for restoration – currently disconnected, volunteer base, project list

- **Public awareness, non-invasive alternatives (agricultural and horticultural varieties)**
- Need more connectivity in WK partners, NGOs to support each other (newsletter, website)
- Communication is very disjointed – need a one-stop shop for events and news related to conservation
- Share expertise, collaborate (extend resources)
- Messaging can be too complex – simplify messaging
- Little info on post-treatment restoration techniques, what works?

### 3. *How can we move it forward? What are 3 steps?*

- Engage locals→buy-in, raise the profile of issues, local stewards are powerful
- WK Stewardship Committee can help provide landowners incentives (money, recognition)
- IAS prevention
- Restoration
- Monitoring programs
- WK Stewardship Committee outreach workers for private landowners
- Set up conservation levy like EK for the environmental stewardship (RDCK, RDKB)

1. Identify all stakeholders, potential partners
2. Compile/determine existing programs, projects
3. Provide support (cash or in-kind) to existing local groups

***Who needs to be involved?*** RDCK, RDKB, provincial, FLNRO, MOE, neighbouring states (WA, ID, MT), Alberta, NGOs (stewardship, consultants), key landowners, youth/post secondary; WK Stewardship Committee serves as a warehouse of knowledge, funding links, volunteers, resources, opportunities for sharing & collaborating.

#### **2.2.1 G. Stable Funding (Table Host: Hillary Page)**

##### *1. Why does this issue deserve our attention?*

- Don't have stable funding
- No funding=no work, no staff
- Where is the provincial government?

##### *2. What are the main challenges right now around this issue? What are the edges we are bumping up against?*

- Lack of capacity for grant writing; proposals can be time-consuming; poor grant writing for good project
- Too much reliance on CBT

- **Funding is largely project based**
- **Inequity between large and small organizations**
- Duplication of efforts, lack of coordination
- **There is a lack of long-term funding; movement among foundations to move away from multi-year funding**
- Need to diversify funding; need for more private funders
- Population base in the Kootenays limits opportunities for funding
- Lack of knowledge about funders, what will they fund?
- Money is available but there is no capacity to deliver
- Fundraising is competitive; specialized skill
- Need of funders to be recognized for flashy projects
- Too many people tapping the same sources
- **Lack of cohesion, lack of unified message among groups**

### 3. How can we move it forward? What are 3 steps?

1. Investigate processes for pooling and streamlining stewardship & securement proposals/projects
2. Bring together funders to showcase projects & groups; a one-stop shop to promote strategic funding
3. Provide support to groups to find suitable funders and write proposals





### 2.3 Morning Session C: Defining the West Kootenay Service Area—Setting the Boundary

As mentioned previously, the East Kootenay Conservation Program is expanding its work into the West Kootenay. To reflect this growth and new geographic scope, the organization is changing its name to the *Kootenay Conservation Program* and formally expanding its service area (see Figure 1). Workshop participants were asked for their suggestions on what made the most sense for defining the “West Kootenay” region ecologically, culturally and politically.

Two boundaries appeared straightforward: the **southern** boundary would be the Canada/US border; and the **eastern** boundary would coincide with the existing district boundary between the Regional District of Central Kootenay and the Regional District of East Kootenay (following the spine of the Purcell Mountains) that EKCP has used for its boundary for the past decade.

Deciding upon the northern and western boundaries inspired more discussion. In regards to the **northern** extent, should the new KCP include the entire CBT area of Valemont to the US border? Or extend south from The Big Bend in the Columbia? Or extend south from the Revelstoke/TransCanada area? Or, what about using the Arrow Lakes Timber Supply Area (Beaton Arm to Duncan) to the US border?

There was a growing sense of agreement with participants that the Arrow Lakes Timber Supply Area best captured the sense of “West Kootenay” based upon ecological, cultural and political interests (Figure 1). Rationale for choosing the Arrow Lakes TSA as the northern boundary included:

- Uniform climate of subregion
- North of Beaton Arm is more associated with Revelstoke which does not identify with WK
- Revelstoke to Mica has its own identity, i.e., Columbia Mountains
- During the CORE process the distinction ecologically and culturally between Arrow Lakes/Kootenay and Columbia Mountains was clear
- Nakusp associates with Nelson
- Preferable placement of east-west line to keep Trout Lake and the upper Duncan included in the KCP boundary
- Good use of natural boundaries/watersheds and administrative boundaries (e.g., RDCK)

The group also considered whether to include part of the Kootenay Boundary Regional District in KCP’s expanded service area. Whereas most of the proposed **western** boundary would be identical to CBT’s Columbia Basin boundary and the RDCK’s district boundary (both follow the Monashees above Upper and Lower Arrow Lakes), in the **southwestern** corner there is a difference between what the CBT and RDCK include. Most notably, the CBT boundary includes the Trail area whereas the regional district boundaries divide Castlegar (in the RDCK) from Trail (in the RDKB). From a cultural and political perspective, workshop participants thought it made good sense to include

Trail in the KCP's service area, and to follow the CBT boundary to the US border and include that corner of the RDKB (Figure 1). Selkirk College and Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee are two organizations that include the Boundary in their work. However in terms of the KCP's expanded service area, participants agreed that Christina Lake and Grand Forks are more socially connected to the Okanogan than to Trail/Castlegar. And until there's a need to go farther west, the KCP boundary should extend as far as Trail.

In conclusion, someone from Winlaw pointed out (with a smile), we needn't get too complicated; it would be a lot easier for KCP to draw a 100km radius around Winlaw as 'the center of the West Kootenay'.

The map in Figure 1 shows the proposed Kootenay Conservation Program service area outlined in red. The area includes the existing East Kootenay service area plus the new area of the West Kootenay. KCP's West Kootenay boundary extends from the upper Duncan watershed westward across Beaton Arm, south along the Monashee Mountains to Trail and the US border, and east along the crest of the Purcell Mountains and RDCK/RDEK district lines.

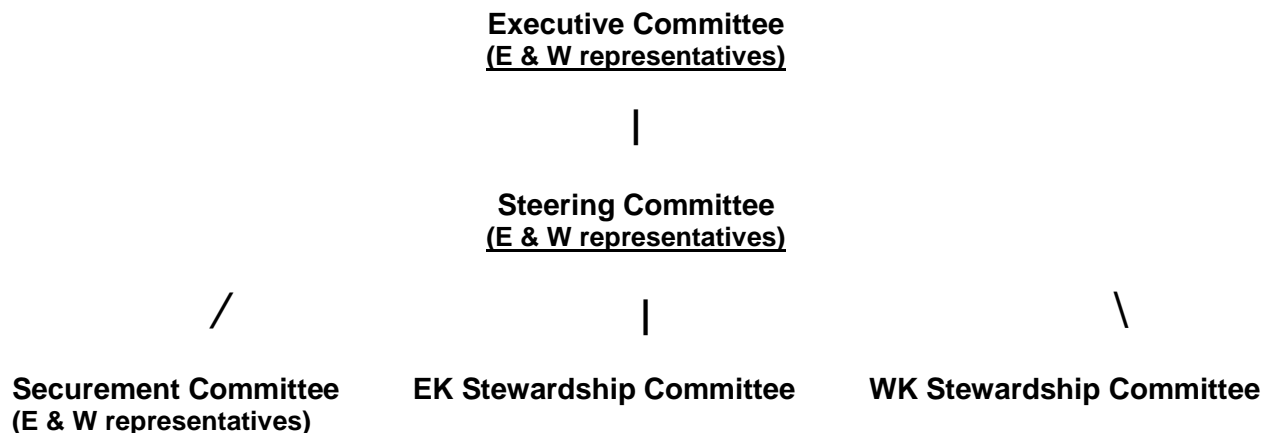


## 2.4 Morning Session D: Organizational Structure & Committee Terms of Reference

### 2.4.1 How Committees fit into the Structure of Kootenay Conservation Program

The Kootenay Conservation Program was formed as an umbrella entity to work on behalf of “partners”. There are currently 52 recognized Partners—and this number is expected to double in the next few years with the inclusion of the West Kootenay. Although KCP traditionally works with many agencies, organizations and individuals beyond this core group, Partners play an important role as leaders and funders of KCP.

The organizational structure consists of an Executive Committee led by 4-5 Partners who provide oversight of financial and administrative operations. The Steering Committee is composed of Partners interested in influencing the strategic and programmatic aspects of KCP. The Securement Committee is comprised of entities with East and West Kootenay representation that can acquire and hold land. The two (2) Stewardship Committees are comprised of entities that have an interest in land and water stewardship and restoration in their respective regions of the East Kootenay and West Kootenay, and operate autonomously.



### 2.4.2 Terms of Reference of WK Stewardship Committee

This May 16<sup>th</sup> workshop signified KCP's first call for membership for the new West Kootenay Stewardship Committee, at which time 19 participants signed up to launch the Committee (Appendix A). The first meeting of the new Committee will be held in conjunction with KCP's Annual Meeting on September 21-22, 2012, in Creston, BC. Subsequently, the Terms of Reference calls for attending 1-2 Committee meetings per year plus participating in an annual (combined) East & West Stewardship Committees meeting.



The Terms of Reference for the West Kootenay Stewardship Committee reflect the intention of KCP and its partners to remain informal with minimal structure and bureaucracy, and to focus on getting projects done on the ground. The following Terms of Reference incorporate suggestions made by workshop participants.

#### **Stewardship Committee – West Kootenay**

##### **Terms of Reference**

##### **Overview**

The West Kootenay Stewardship Committee (Committee) of the Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP) is a collaborative of individuals and organizations working together in the West Kootenay on stewardship concerns that address land and water conservation on private land in the region. The Committee's focus is to create efficiencies and synergies by partners working together, sharing knowledge, leveraging resources, and seeking opportunities to implement projects cooperatively. KCP provides the umbrella structure and coordination under which this Committee functions.

##### **Membership and Term**

Members of the Committee are KCP partners interested in stewardship who are based in the West Kootenay region of KCP's service area. Members see the value in cooperation and creating opportunities for private-public partnership. The term is for a minimum of one (1) year and members can join at any time. There is no limit on how many members can join the Committee however attendance at scheduled Committee meetings and active participation is encouraged.



## Duties and Responsibilities

1. Meet (in person or via teleconference link) a minimum of 2 times per year.
2. Share information and provide updates to partners on stewardship activities, research and news. Updates shall occur verbally and in writing to share with members at scheduled meetings.
3. Advise on and establish priorities for future KCP stewardship-related programs, projects and events.
4. Contribute to restoration and enhancement projects on private land and provide advice for partners.
5. Assist in funding stewardship projects, field tours, and landowner assistance and outreach, as needed.
6. Contribute success stories showcasing best management practices in the region.
7. Help promote the Committee's collaborative approach to a wider audience as opportunities arise.
8. Recommend individuals and projects that exemplify excellence in conservation stewardship on private land for formal recognition by KCP.



### 3.0 Afternoon Workshop Session

The afternoon session was designed to add value to participants' work and provide an opportunity for strategic thinking on important stewardship concepts. *\* No workshop notes were recorded during this session.*

#### 3.1 Sharing Resources on Stewardship Issues & Opportunities

In advance of the workshop, four participants were asked to prepare a short presentation on an emerging stewardship issue or concept that encourages strategic consideration. After giving their presentations, the four presenters hosted small group discussions on their topic. Participants had the opportunity to rotate among discussions or remain at the same table to continue the discussion. The format was a modified 'fish-bowl' style where participant questions and ideas guided the group conversations.

The topics were:

**1. Changing Climate, Changing Stewardship in the West Kootenay**

presenter: Greg Utzig, Kutenai Nature Investigations

**2. Carbon Banking and Other Innovative & Integrated Stewardship Practices**

presenter: Hillary Paige, Nature Conservancy of Canada

**3. How Winged Species at Risk are Influencing Stewardship on Private Land**

presenter: Irene Manley, FWCP/MFLNRO

**4. Local Conservation Fund: the Benefits are All in the Name**

presenter: Dave Hillary, KCP





### 3.2 Closing Comments

As the workshop came to a close, participants shared the value of the experience in popcorn style. Here is the essence of the remarks –

- Very collaborative energy
- Great networking, we need this!
- A better sense of what's going on in the region
- Lots of valuable information sharing
- Great conversations, not a lot of politics
- My head's full of new information
- Great meeting new people
- Small group 'world cafe' format worked really well
- Let's get started!

*Reminder: Attend KCP's Annual Meeting September 21-22 in Creston!*

## Sign Me Up!

19 Participants signed up to launch the West Kootenay Stewardship Committee

Marc-Andre Beaucher  
Ryan van der Marel  
Jon Wittmayer  
Lawrence Redfern  
David Reid  
Doris Hausleitner  
Juliet Craig  
Eric Clough  
Tom Braumandl  
Irene Manley  
Dave DeRosa  
Angus Glass  
Mike Lesnik  
Eva Johansson  
Slocan River Stream Keepers  
Greg Utzig  
Brenda Herbison  
Crystal Klym  
Ian Parfitt

## Creating a West Kootenay Stewardship Partnership

*Enhancing the work we do*

**Wednesday, May 16 2012**

**Hume Hotel, Nelson**

### **Purpose**

- Discuss and confirm operational framework for new West Kootenay Stewardship Partnership
- Share information and resources that will build capacity of stewardship partners

### **Desired Outcomes**

- Form a West Kootenay Stewardship Partnership
- Confirm operational issues that will guide the work of the new Partnership
- Increase knowledge about relevant stewardship and restoration tools and issues
- Create momentum on issues that a WK Stewardship Committee could address
- Have an engaging day networking with other land and water stewards and managers

8:30 Registration and Informal Networking

9:00 Discussion Begins: Introductions

9:15 Check In: Setting the Intention for the Day

9:30 What makes the West Kootenay unique and worthy of stewardship?

10:30 What stewardship and restoration issues are calling for attention in the West Kootenay?

12:00 Defining the West Kootenay Service Area: Setting the Boundary

12:30 Lunch and Informal Networking

1:00 Confirming a West Kootenay Partnership Terms of Reference

1:15 Sharing Resources on Stewardship Issues & Opportunities

Presentations and small group discussion: to explore important concepts and information relevant to all participants:

1. Changing Climate, Changing Stewardship in the West Kootenay (Greg Utzig)
2. Carbon Banking and Other Innovative & Integrated Stewardship Practices (Hillary Paige, NCC)
3. Birds, Bats & Bees — How Winged Species at Risk are Influencing Stewardship on Private Land (Irene Manley, FWCP)
4. Local Conservation Fund: the Benefits are All in the Name (Dave Hillary, EKCP)

3:15 Check Out: Next Steps

3:30 Adjourn



## Creating a West Kootenay Partnership – Participant List (May 16, 2012)

## APPENDIX C

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone	Mailing Address
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Randy	Kenny	Slocan Watershed Alliance; Perry Ridge Water Users	<a href="mailto:drrokrok@hotmail.com">drrokrok@hotmail.com</a>		
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**(continued) Creating a West Kootenay Partnership – Participant List (May 16, 2012)**

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