

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



# ANNUAL REPORT

2018 - 2019



KOOTENAYCONSERVATION.CA





*The KCP partnership seeks to cooperatively conserve and steward landscapes that sustain naturally functioning ecosystems. We envision vibrant communities that demonstrate the principles of environmental stewardship that can in turn support economic and social well-being.*

The Kootenay region of southeastern British Columbia is a unique landscape of global ecological significance. The East and West Kootenay still function as a natural ecosystem with a full complement of ungulates and carnivores and are home to a variety of both common and rare or endangered plants, wildlife and fish species.

However, development pressures throughout the region continue, leading to significant and irrevocable loss of wildlife habitat and the loss of other natural assets including clean water, clean air, food production, timber production, and carbon storage and sequestration.

Valued habitats occur throughout the Kootenays, but the valley bottoms have the richest diversity of habitats and biodiversity values.



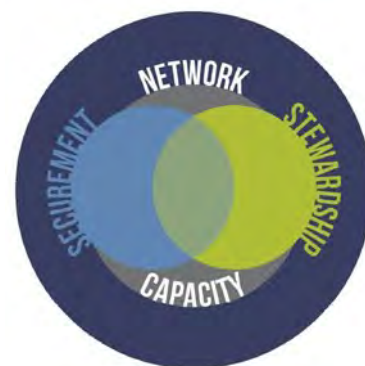




Many of these important habitats are located on private land. There remains a viable opportunity to conduct private land securement and stewardship activities in the Kootenays that conserves and enhances these lands.

The foundation of KCP partnership is a common approach to land conservation through our strategic goals:

- 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 communications to achieve efficiencies, synergies and ultimately greater effectiveness.





# From the Chair

The 2018-19 year was another productive one for the Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP). This year focused on *Conservation in the Context of Climate Change* and this theme was carried through the workshops, Fall Gathering and webinars. Highlights of 2018-19 include:

- Co-facilitating the Lower Columbia Conservation Neighbourhood Action Forum
- Finalization of the updated KCP Stewardship Framework
- Launching the Stewardship Solutions Hub for landowner outreach materials
- Successful hosting of a Fall Gathering including a field tour to the Slocan Valley and hosting spring tours at Balfour and the Fernie area
- Hosting a webinar series on the theme of “Conservation in the Context of Climate Change – Restoration in Action”
- Promoting the concept of “Kootenay Connect” which identifies high priority landscape connectivity and biodiversity hot spots in the Kootenays.
- Hosing a Local Government Forum on Tools for Conservation
- Co-hosting Critter Day with the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program
- Administration and delivery of the Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund (CVLCF) with over \$413,000 being disbursed to eight conservation projects
- Providing a 10-Year Celebration of the Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund in Invermere
- Administration and delivery of the Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund (KLLCF) with over \$52,000 awarded to four local conservation projects
- Completion of a market survey of Kootenay residents as a first step in expanding the Local Conservation Fund
- Assisting the RDCK with the development of the KLLCF Guidance Document
- Continued coordination of land securement amongst land trust organizations in the region with one major property acquired through this collaborative approach
- Finalization of the *Securement Private Land for Conservation in the Kootenays - Frequently Asked Questions* document

We would like to express thanks to our ongoing and new funding partners, for without their support KCP would not exist. Also, a note of special thanks to the Nature Trust of British Columbia for their willingness to continue as the fiscal sponsor of KCP, another contribution critical to the ongoing and successful operation of KCP. We, too, appreciate the diversity and participation of the partners in the ongoing activities of KCP, and the program’s dedicated staff who work tirelessly to ensure that KCP remains our “Way of Life” Insurance for the Kootenays.

Derek Petersen  
Chair, Kootenay Conservation Program



## DEREK PETERSEN

Derek Petersen is the Chair of the Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP) Executive Committee. Derek currently coordinates the Ecological Integrity Monitoring Program for Banff, Yoho and Kootenay National Parks. Derek’s 30-year career with Parks Canada has spanned responsibilities ranging from integrated land use planning, to social science, to conservation biology and has included postings across Canada. Derek has a Master of Science, an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies and Economics, and a diploma in Renewable Resources Technology. Derek splits his personal time between the East and West Kootenays.





# From the Program Manager

This year has been another busy and productive one for KCP.

We continue to be extremely grateful to our partners who work tirelessly and passionately towards conservation in our region. We sincerely appreciate your contributions to the success of KCP including hosting and participating in field tours to showcase your on-the-ground efforts, coming together in collaboration to identify shared priorities in the Lower Columbia, providing your “stewardship solutions” for the online hub, maintaining a coordinated approach to securing the most important conservation lands possible, and contributing your success stories to our e-newsletter.

I am grateful to our KCP team whose energy, enthusiasm, knowledge and skills moved forward our initiatives this year. Our Board dedicated their time to offer experience and insights into the direction of the program. Adrienne Shaw brought her wildlife ecology experience to the role of Stewardship Coordinator and Nicole Trigg brought her communications experience to provide the monthly e-news, guide the development of the Stewardship Solutions Hub, manage the website, and coordinate events.

Last, but certainly not least, we continue to be extremely grateful to our funding partners this year: Columbia Basin Trust, Real Estate Foundation BC, Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Schad Foundation, The Nature Trust of BC, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, and the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation.

Thank you for your continued support!

Juliet Craig  
Program Manager, Kootenay Conservation Program

## JULIET CRAIG



Juliet Craig sees KCP as a valuable platform to connect people, the land, and each other in the important role of private land conservation. She has a Master of Science in ethnobotany and is a Registered Professional Biologist and Professional Agrologist. When not working, she enjoys camping and exploring the beautiful Kootenay region with her family.

## ADRIENNE SHAW



Adrienne Shaw is KCP's Stewardship Coordinator. Adrienne works with KCP's diverse partners to develop and implement innovative solutions to challenging stewardship issues throughout the Kootenay Region. She has an M.Sc. in Conservation Ecology and Ecological Restoration and is a Registered Professional Biologist. She lives with her three daughters and husband in Pass Creek.

## NICOLE TRIGG



Nicole Trigg is the Communications Coordinator for KCP. Nicole is an accredited journalist and communications contractor whose career has spanned diverse sectors. Originally from the West Coast, she now resides in the Columbia Valley where she can be found paddling the wetlands or exploring the nearby mountain ranges in her spare time.





# KCP Board

**Derek Petersen (Chair)** - Parks Canada



Derek currently coordinates the Ecological Integrity Monitoring Program for Banff, Yoho and Kootenay National Parks. Derek's 30-year career with Parks Canada has spanned responsibilities ranging from integrated land use planning, to

**Candace Batycki** - Yellowstone to Yukon



Candace Batycki is the B.C. and Yukon Program Director for the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y), a joint Canada-U.S. not-for-profit organization that connects and protects habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive.

**Dr. Suzanne Bayley** - Columbia Wetland Stewardship Partners *(as of Oct '18)*



Dr. Suzanne Bayley is an expert in wetlands ecology hailing originally from the U.S. An Emeritus Professor of Ecology with the University of Alberta, she became the President of the Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners in 2016. Suzanne lives in Brisco in the East Kootenay with her husband Dr. David Schindler.

**Chris Bosman** - The Nature Trust of British Columbia



Chris Bosman is the Kootenay Conservation Land Manager for The Nature Trust of British Columbia. Chris has an Honours Bachelor of Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism and a Bachelor of Arts in Geography from Lakehead University in Ontario. He enjoys hiking, skiing, fly fishing, canoeing and hunting.

**Ken Brock** - Canadian Wildlife Service *(until Oct '18)*



Ken Brock is currently Head of Protected Areas and Stewardship for Environment Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from McGill University and a Master of Environmental Studies from York University.

**Doris Hausleitner** - Selkirk College



Doris Hausleitner is an instructor at Selkirk College. She teaches first year Terrestrial Ecology and Applied Biology and Systems Ecology in the Integrated Environmental Planning Program (IEP) and Ecosystems Management for the Recreation Fish and Wildlife program.





Photo courtesy of Marc-Andre Beaucher

The KCP Board is made up of elected representatives and provides strategic direction to the KCP including funding, budget, program priorities, annual workshop themes and recognition awards.

**Rick Hoar** - Lake Windermere Rod & Gun Club



Rick Hoar went to work for the BC Conservation Officer Service in 1974 and worked around the province before retiring in 2006. He currently is President of the Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club and sits on the Boards of the Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners and Rocky

**Adrian Leslie** - Nature Conservancy of Canada



Adrian Leslie, MSc, RPBio is the South Selkirk Program Manager for the Nature Conservancy of Canada and has been working in the Columbia Basin on ecosystem conservation, restoration and research for over 10 years, with experience working in both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

**Tasha Sargent** - Canadian Wildlife Service (*as of Oct '18*)



Tasha Sargent is the coordinator of the Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture, a bird habitat conservation partnership, and has worked for the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment and Climate Change Canada since 2010. Tasha has worked primarily in habitat conservation for birds and species at risk.

**Jennifer Vogel** - Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (*until of Oct '18*)



Jennifer is a Professional Agrologist and the former Executive Director of the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS). Jennifer has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and has spent her career working in the field of stewardship and invasive species management.





City of Nelson. Photo courtesy of Marc-Andre Beaucher



# KCP Strategic Priorities

## GOAL 1

## SECUREMENT

INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS,  
COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION OF  
PRIVATE LAND SECUREMENT.

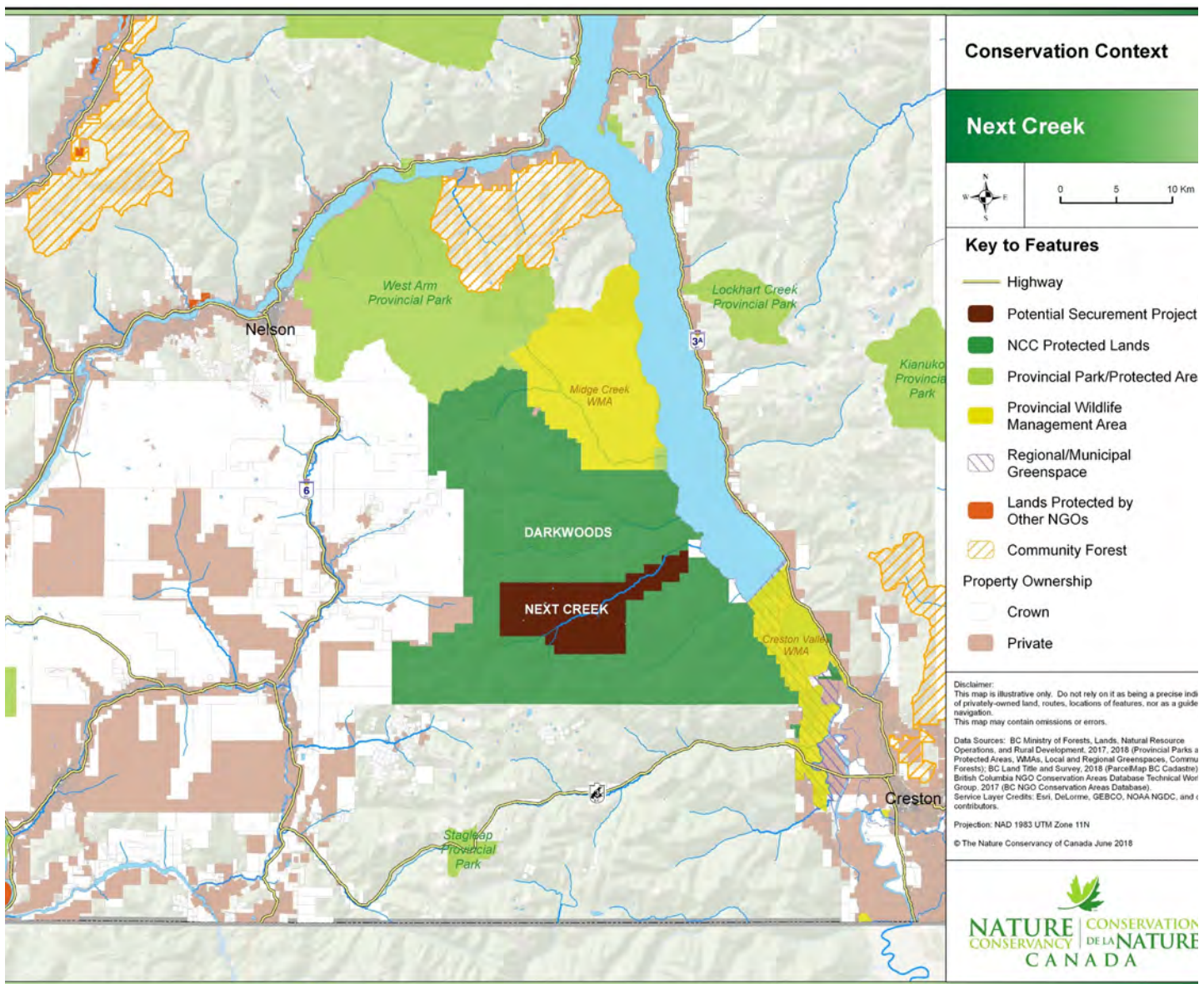
Over the past 16 years, the KCP has helped partners in their work to conserve over 230,000 hectares of land and invest \$160 million into conservation projects across the Kootenays. These world-class conservation efforts include properties that protect fish and wildlife, movement corridors, grasslands, old forests, and riparian areas.

In 2018-19, KCP continued to coordinate communication between the land trusts in the region. KCP received three land securement referrals from with KCP partner organizations or directly from interested landowners and undertook three property evaluations. The document *Securing Private Land for Conservation in the Kootenays - Frequently Asked Questions* was completed.

Based on the dedication and hard work of our partners, particularly the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), Next Creek was acquired this year.

Next Creek (Nature Conservancy of Canada): This large land acquisition (7,881 ha) grows the size of the Darkwoods Conservation Area by 14% and protects the ecological integrity of a conservation network that has national and international significance and protects habitat of wide-ranging species like grizzly bear and wolverine. It is the last, missing piece in a vast conservation landscape puzzle that extends over 1,100 km<sup>2</sup>. The long-term vision for this landscape, the only inland temperate rainforest in the world, is that it is a global example of effective, large landscape conservation through a connected network of private and public conservation lands.





Next Creek. Map courtesy of Nature Conservancy of Canada





## GOAL 2 STEWARDSHIP

INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND  
COORDINATION OF STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES  
TAKING PLACE ON PRIVATE LANDS.

The KCP continued with its focus on stewardship guided by the KCP Stewardship Framework. The goals of collaborative stewardship include increasing coordination between partners, facilitating neighbourhood conservation planning to identify conservation targets and high priority actions, promoting a coordinated approach to landowner outreach for conservation, and supporting local governments to incorporate and apply conservation principles into local land use planning.

### SPRING TOURS

In spring 2018, KCP hosted full-day East and West Kootenay Stewardship Committee meetings that included a morning business meeting and networking lunch for committee members, followed by local field tours in the afternoon (which were open to all KCP partners).

Participants in both the east and west were extremely engaged and shared many ideas around promoting conservation, and KCP's collaborative role in the region. Most valuable, perhaps, was the opportunity for partners to learn firsthand about each other's projects and activities, with many synergies identified, ultimately promoting increased cooperation and effectiveness in each region.



West Kootenay Stewardship Committee Spring Tour, May 2018





East Kootenay Stewardship Committee Meeting in Fernie, June 2018

Highlights from the West Kootenay tour included showcasing water sampling and monitoring by the Friends of Kootenay Lake, protecting bat roost sites by the Kootenay Community Bat Project, great blue heron conservation by Pandion Ecological Research, and outreach materials from a variety of KCP partners.

Highlights from the Elk Valley included visiting restored beaver habitat, discussing the Elk River Alliance's latest Cutthroat Trout Research Initiative, visiting Alexander Creek to talk about restoration and community water monitoring, seeing a collaborative approach to wetland restoration near Hosmer and discussing protecting private land and stewardship with the Nature Conservancy of Canada and The Nature Trust of BC.



East Kootenay Stewardship Committee Spring Tour, June 2018



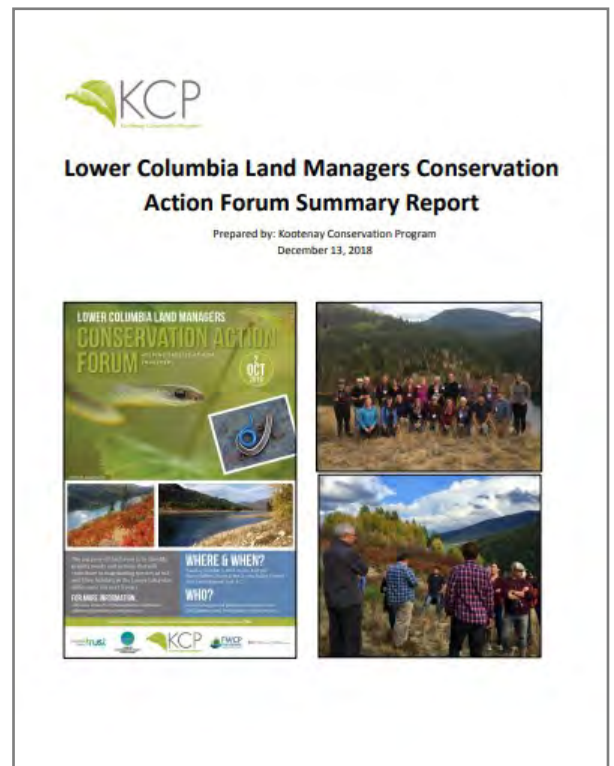


## NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSERVATION ACTION FORUM

In October, KCP hosted its third Conservation Action Forum in the Lower Columbia (Trail area). KCP partnered with Pandion Ecological Research and Jakob Dulisse Consulting to bring together researchers, land managers, stewardship organizations, first nations, and other government partners to identify conservation action priorities for the Lower Columbia. This Forum included speed presentations by six researchers focused on best practices for land managers to conserve for species and habitats at risk. The Forum included break-out sessions to identify priority actions under the themes of planning/permitting and data management, invasive species and vegetation management, development and field operations, and access management. The afternoon field tour showcased an on-the-ground look at species and habitats at risk in the Lower Columbia.



Lower Columbia Conservation Action Forum, October 2018







## LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM: TOOLS FOR CONSERVATION IN THE KOOTENAYS

In March, 2019, KCP hosted a Local Government Forum to identify specific tools and resources required by local governments of the Kootenays to integrate conservation principles into their activities. Designed for local government elected officials and staff, this Forum provided an opportunity to learn more about examples of how local governments have successfully integrated conservation into their activities. Special guests included:

- Deb Curran, author of the Green Bylaws Toolkit and specialist on local government regulatory tools in BC.
- Dr. Michael Proctor, grizzly bear biologist, shared his recent research on key corridors for bears and other wildlife in the Kootenays including important private land corridors.
- Scott Boswell from the Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Partnership showcased an ecological corridor protection model being used in the Okanagan that has been designed by a Steering Committee of local governments, the Province, First Nations, academia and environmental organizations.
- Kootenay Conservation Program shared recent market research on the values of residents of the Kootenays and potential for expansion of the Local Conservation Fund.



KCP Local Government Forum in Creston, March 2019

This forum also provided an opportunity to network, learn about local topics, and be the first to see new resources that encourage private land stewardship for residents.





2018 West Kootenay Stewardship Committee Spring Tour.

## STEWARDSHIP SOLUTIONS HUB

KCP moved forward in the coordinated landowner outreach initiative by finalizing the online and print hub of “Stewardship Solutions”. This hub showcases the services that many KCP partners offer to promote private land stewardship in the Kootenays. These local organizations may offer information, tools, incentives, services, learning opportunities, and/or funding for stewardship activities. They focus on such topics as wildlife, species at risk, invasive plants, water quantity and quality, forest and grassland ecology, fire interface management, and habitat restoration to name a few.

This online toolkit serves as a central hub for this information and features Kootenay-based resources for stewardship solutions that address issues on private land. This toolkit is designed for stewardship practitioners, local government planners and other service providers as well as a one-stop shop for private landowners interested in stewardship options for their property.

**STEWARDSHIP SOLUTIONS ELK VALLEY**

**SWALLOWS**  
THE FIRST BIRDS TO COLONIZE  
OF BURN SWALLOWS IN YOUR  
AREA

**NIGHTJARS**  
VOLUNTEER TO CONDUCT  
NOCTURNAL MONITORING  
NIGHTJARS SURVEYS

**OWLS**  
JOIN THE NOCTURNAL OWL  
HAWK TO HELP MONITOR  
TRENDS IN OWL POPULATIONS

**BAT ROOSTS**  
REPORT COLONIES OF BATS  
AND MONITOR POPULATIONS  
AT THESE ROOST SITES

**SHEEP**  
HELP KEEP BACKGROUNDS  
SEPARATE FROM DOMESTIC  
SHEEP AND GOATS

**WILDLIFE**  
KNOCK OUT ABOUT WAYS TO  
PREVENT HUMAN WILDLIFE  
CONTACT

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**BIRD STORIES CANADA**  
200-866-363-6363  
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**BC SHEEP SEPARATION PROGRAM**  
200-866-363-6363  
kootenaysheep@kcp.ca

**WILDSIDE BC**  
200-866-363-6363  
kootenaywildside@kcp.ca

**ELK VALLEY  
STEWARDSHIP SOLUTIONS**  
FOR LANDOWNERS & LAND MANAGERS

Do you need help with wildlife  
issues or invasive plants?

Would you like to enhance  
wildlife habitat on your  
property?

Are you interested in funding  
opportunities to help you?

Would you like to be involved  
in monitoring programs?

Do you want to protect the  
natural environment on your  
property?

If you've answered yes to any of these questions then  
this is the guide for you!

**Find Local Services to Help with  
Conservation on Your Property.**

**KCP**  
Kootenay Conservation Partnership  
Together We're Taking Care of Our Natural  
Landscape and our Kootenay Way of Life







## GOAL 3 CAPACITY

BUILD AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL, FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL CAPACITY FOR KCP AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE SECUREMENT AND STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES.

### WEBINAR SERIES

KCP coordinated and delivered another 'Winter Webinar Series' under the theme of "Conservation in the Context of Climate Change – Restoration in Action". The four-part webinar series included:

- Whitebark Pine Restoration – Adrian Leslie, Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Wetland Restoration in the Kootenays – Neil Fletcher, BC Wildlife Federation
- Riparian and Wetland Restoration in the Slocan Valley – Gregoire Lamoureux, Slocan River Streamkeepers Society
- Rocky Mountain Trench Ecosystem Restoration Program – Marc Trudeau, Rocky Mountain Trench Ecosystem Restoration Program



Presenters in the KCP Winter Webinar Series. Left to right: Adrian Leslie, Neil Fletcher, Gregoire Lamoureux, Marc Trudeau





Photo courtesy of Nicole Trigg

## LOCAL CONSERVATION FUNDS

In 2008, KCP was instrumental in establishing the first Local Conservation Fund in Canadian history in the Regional District of East Kootenay's Upper Columbia Valley. The Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund (CVLCF) has now invested over \$1.7 million in more than 80 securement and stewardship projects which address local priorities including ecosystem restoration, invasive species control and lake stewardship. This critical funding has helped leverage \$17 million in conservation investments in the local area. In 2018-19, the CVLCF was awarded to seven stewardship projects receiving almost \$110,000 in funding as well as one securement project that received \$303,000 in 2018 (and the remainder in 2019).

In April, KCP hosted a 10-Year Celebration of the Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund in Invermere. This information-packed evening included display booths and presentations from organizations who have received CVLCF funding over the years and some of their major achievements. This opportunity allowed participants to get a better understanding of the importance of this funding to local conservation in the Columbia Valley.



Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund 10-Year Anniversary Celebration in Invermere. Right photo courtesy of Pat Morrow





In 2018, the Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund (KLLCF) funded its third year of projects in the Kootenay Lake area after becoming a service of the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) in 2015. KCP worked with the RDCK to coordinate funding \$53,000 to four high priority projects in the region including projects western toad mitigation, bat surveys, grizzly bear co-existence, and north Kootenay Lake water monitoring. KCP also assisted RDCK with the development of a Guidance Document for the KLLCF to identify priority conservation actions for the region and delivered three Open Houses (Kokanee Creek, Boswell and Argenta) to promote the KLLCF.

KCP took first steps towards expanding the Local Conservation Funds by engaging a market research company to conduct telephone polling in the Kootenays. Similar to the polls conducted in 2006 and 2012, the questions focused on residents' values, their support for a dedicated conservation fund, and their willingness to pay towards this concept. From this report, KCP will be developing a strategy to expand the current Local Conservation Fund areas in the coming years.



Left to right: Northern Leopard Frog Reintroduction Project (CVLCF), Lake Windermere Community Based Watershed Monitoring Project (CVLCF), Fish/Bear Lake Western Toad Study (KLLCF), North Kootenay Lake Water Monitoring Project (KLLCF).





## GOAL 4 NETWORK

STRENGTHEN THE NETWORK OF CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS TO ACHIEVE EFFICIENCIES, SYNERGIES AND ULTIMATELY GREATER EFFECTIVENESS.

### ANNUAL GATHERING AND AGM

The KCP Fall Gathering & AGM serves as one of the primary opportunities to connect and re-connect KCP partners from across the region. We provided a valuable professional development and networking experience for our partners at our Fall Gathering and AGM held in Nelson on October 12 and 13, 2018, on the theme of “Conservation in the Context of Climate Change”. We explored rare habitats and species of the Kootenays and how to work together to steward them. The field tour included visits to Marsden Face, Crescent Valley Park, Crooked Horn Farm and the Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative forest tenure. Presenters including representatives from The Nature Trust of BC, Kootenay Native Plant Society, Selkirk College, Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative, MFLNRORD Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program section, and Slocan River Streamkeepers Society.



Fall Gathering Field Tour presenters, left to right: Irene Manley (MFLNRORD-FWCP), Doris Hausleitner (Selkirk College), Stephan Martineau (Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative).





## NETWORK NEWS

We continue to maintain and optimize our website and monthly eNews which is distributed to almost 700 recipients across the region. Our “Faces & Places” features continue to have high uptake and offers the opportunity for KCP partners to showcase their current projects on our website and Facebook page, and in our eNews.

## CRITTER DAY

Once again, KCP co-organized Critter Day in May with the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program to raise awareness of the valuable conservation opportunities in the Trail area. The event brought together 10 conservation partners, five funders, and approximately 700 community members to learn about local critters that inhabit the area.



Critter Day 2018. FWCP Photos





## KOOTENAY CONNECT

KCP joined forces with Dr. Michael Proctor, a leading Grizzly Bear Biologist, to collaborate on the concept of “Kootenay Connect”, an initiative to identify key landscape linkage corridors and biodiversity hotspots in the Kootenays. At this meeting, Michael provided background on the concept and KCP partners strategized on how to best apply the concept locally. This research will inform many conservation activities including securement acquisitions, stewardship opportunities, and policy applications.



Kootenay Connect meeting

## KCP CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The KCP awarded the annual Conservation Leadership Award as part of our Annual Gathering and AGM in Nelson. This award showcases some of the outstanding work being done in conservation in our region. This year Gerry Wilkie and Rob Frew were the recipients of the 2018 Conservation Leadership Award.





Photo courtesy of Marc-André Beaucher

**Rob Frew** is an active member of the Trail Wildlife Association. A lifelong Trail area resident, Rob has been involved in conservation since childhood, assisting with wildlife conservation efforts to preserve wildlands as conservation areas. Rob has always recognized the link between vibrant wildlife populations and healthy ecosystems. He was a member of the group that was instrumental in securing the Fort Shepherd Conservancy south of Trail and has also been involved in planning and implementing restoration projects, such as the Murphy Creek Spawning and Rearing Channel Restoration.



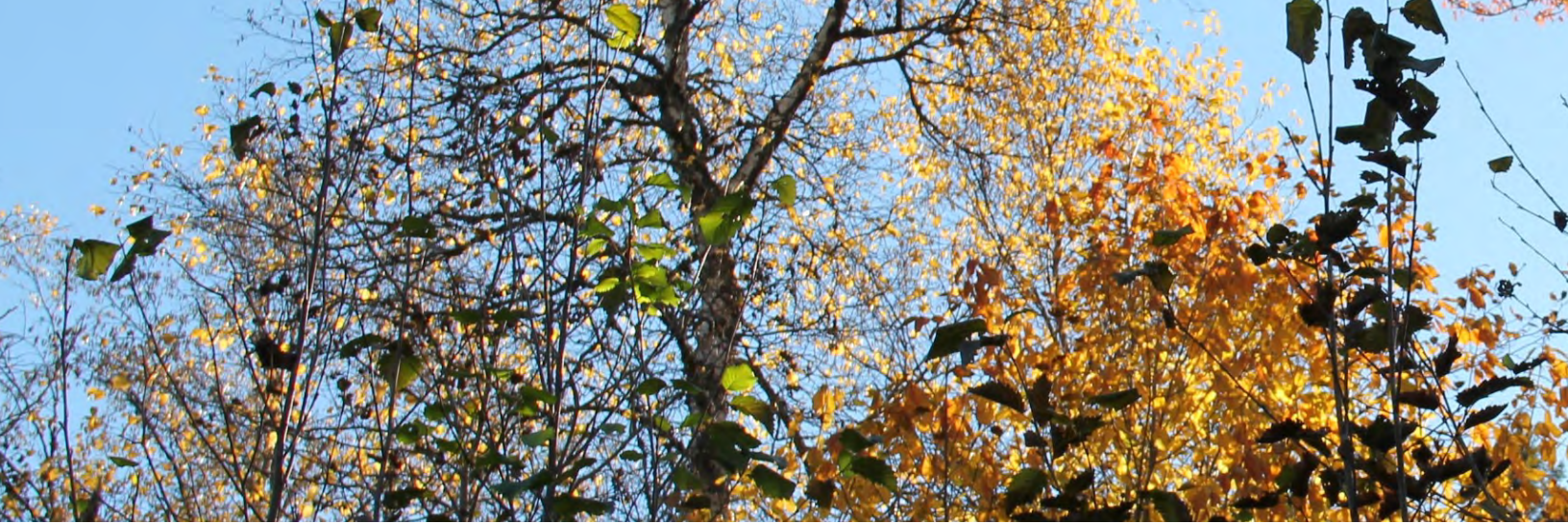
KCP Chair Derek Petersen (left) presents a 2018 Conservation Leadership Award to Rob Frew(right).

**Gerry Wilkie** is a Director of Electoral Area G of the Regional District of East Kootenay and was instrumental in helping establish the Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund. Gerry gave tremendous support for starting the CVLCF and continues to champion the fund on the RDEK Board. Over the past years, Gerry has also worn many different conservation hats (he is a past presidents of both Wildsight Invermere Branch and Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners, and has been very instrumental in advancing conservation initiatives in the Columbia Valley. As past presidents of both Wildsight Invermere Branch and Columbia Wetlands Stewardship Partners, His ability to bring the community together in sensible dialogue makes him a well-respected communicator, and tireless defender of our wild spaces and community and rural values.



KCP Chair Derek Petersen (left) presents a 2018 Conservation Leadership Award to Gerry Wilkie (right).





## Our Supporters

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Basin **trust**



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Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
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THE SCHAD FOUNDATION





For more information on the Kootenay Conservation Program, please email [info@kootenayconservation.ca](mailto:info@kootenayconservation.ca) or call 1-844-775-2722.



KCP 2018 Fall Gathering Field Tour