

Ktunaxa Culture and Conservation Values Study: Kootenay Lake



Presented by:

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Ktunaxa Nation Council

- The KNC originated in 1970 and is the governing body of the Ktunaxa Nation.
- The KNC represents Ktunaxa citizens and is accountable to the Chiefs and Councils of the Ktunaxa Nation Communities (ʔakisqnuq, ʔaqam, ʔakinkumʔasnuqʔiʔit, and yaqan nuykiy)
- One Goal: ensure lands and resources within the Territory are effectively managed and protected for the benefit of citizens of the Nation and their neighbors

Background

- As a part of our mandate, the KNC joined the Kootenay Lake Partnership in order to participate in a process aimed at managing development along the foreshore of Kootenay Lake in a way that is economically, socially, environmentally and culturally sustainable

Background

- At the request of Ktunaxa citizens and leadership, the KNC developed a program to identify Ktunaxa Cultural Values and try to integrate management of those values into the overall shoreline guidance document for Kootenay Lake
- This is known as the Ktunaxa Culture and Conservation Values Study (CCVS)

What is Ktunaxa CCVS?

- A project that identifies and maps areas that have cultural, ecological, socio-economic or spiritual value to the Ktunaxa and creates management strategies to ensure that these values are maintained/enhanced or that impacts to those values are mitigated

Methodology

- CCVS links different levels of planning
- More than just spatially identifying areas of use for traditional activities
- Identifies areas of *potential use* based on values and proposes management strategies to keep those **VALUES** available for future use

Methodology

- Ktunaxa review existing values and management strategies from AHI (Ecological Study) and AOA (Archaeological Study) to determine commonalities
- Through workshops and interviews, further identify cultural values and map areas along the lake where these values occur

Results



- Interviews with Knowledge Holders in March and early September
- Shoreline Survey to ground truth the interviews

- Oral histories/Knowledge associated with the lake were collected and mapped including:
 - Ancestral village areas
 - Current camping areas
 - Fishing, hunting, waterfowl harvesting areas
 - Place names, ceremonial areas
 - Water routes and trail access points
 - Fish spawning and foreshore habitat areas



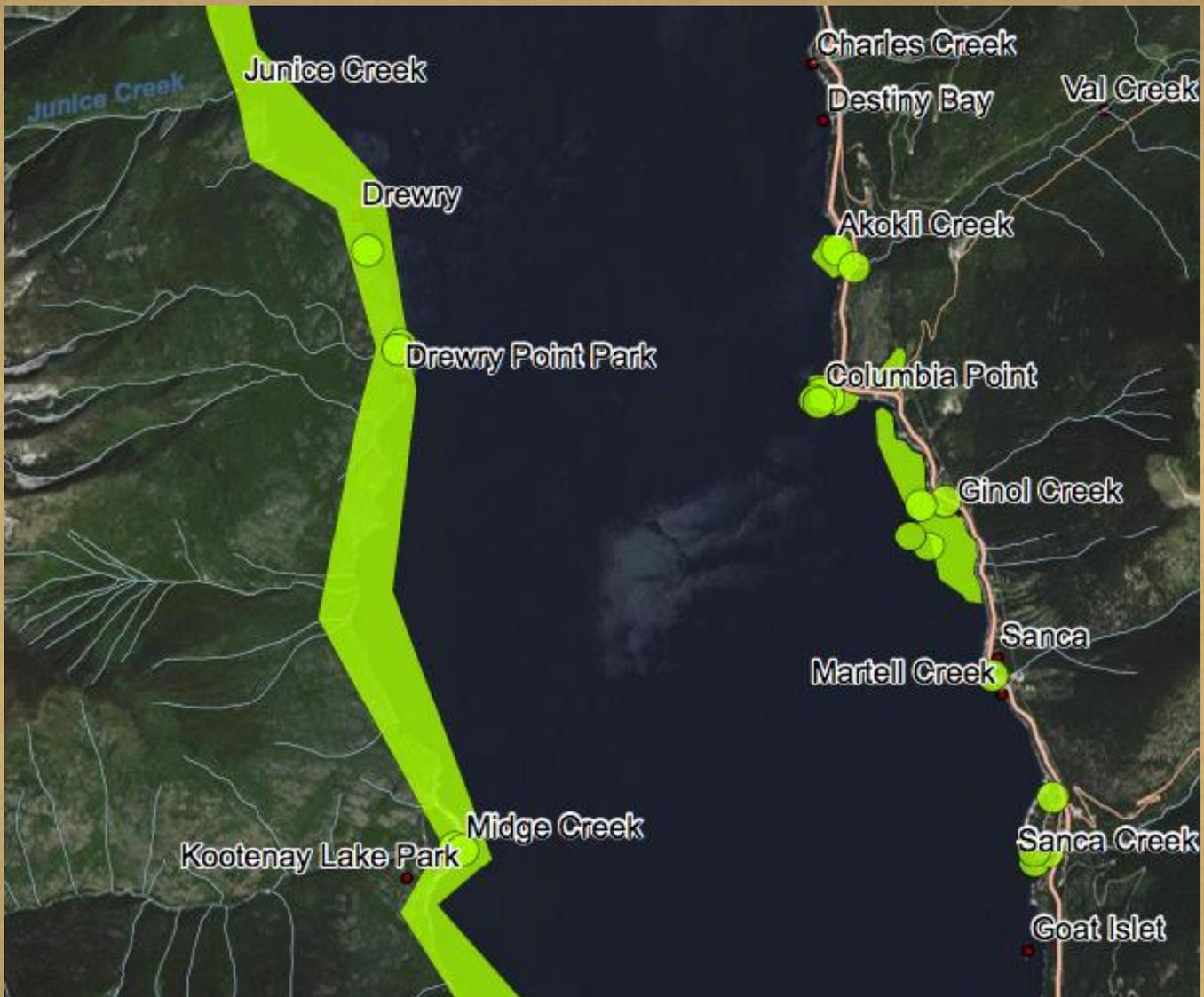
➤ Lakeshore conservation and stewardship priorities were identified by Ktunaxa

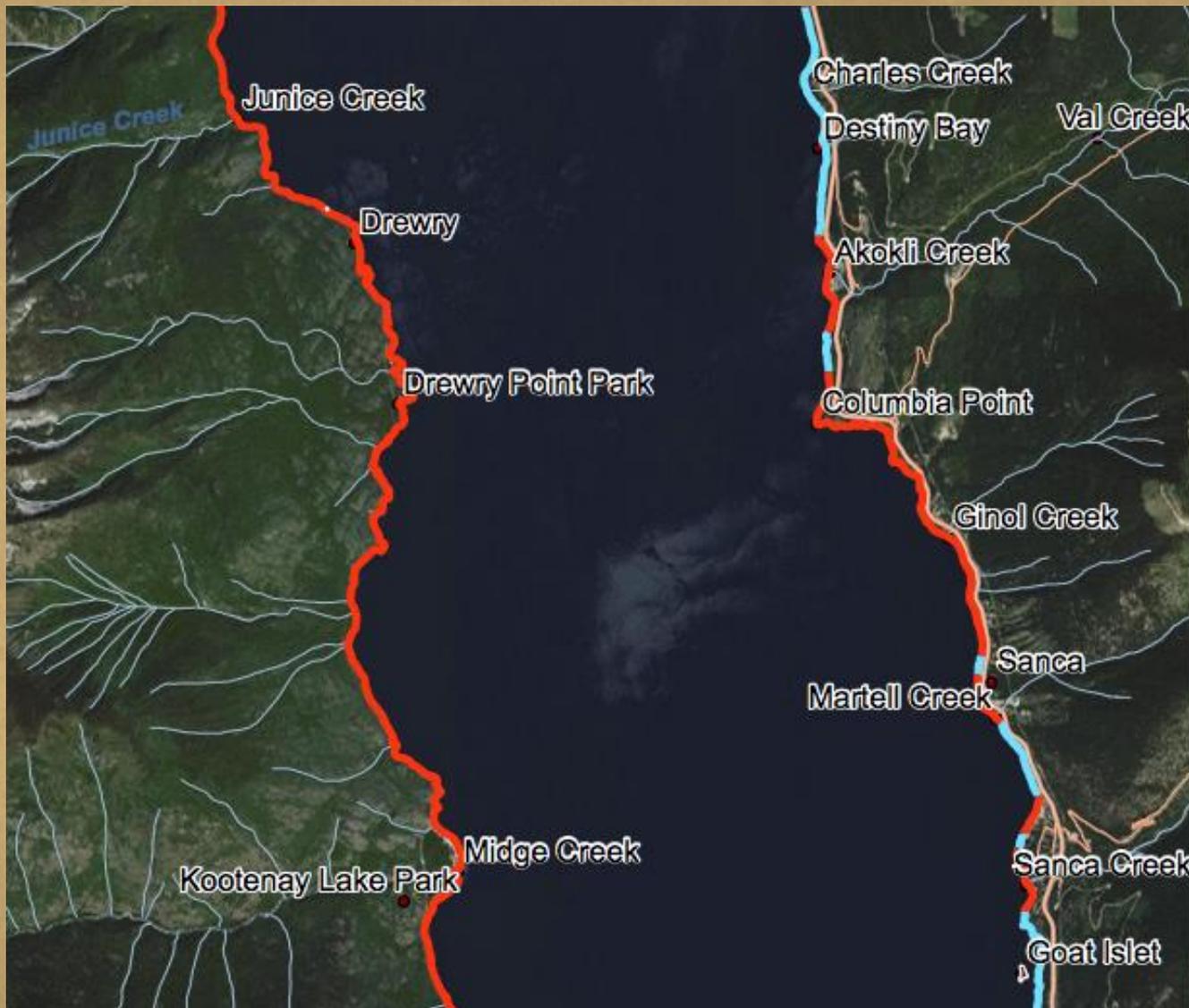
➤ Key areas were visited to identify condition of areas and influences on them



The C CVS results will be added to the Archaeological and Ecological data previously collected to create a Shoreline Guidance Document (SGD)

Lakeshore will be divided into linear segments and will correspond with particular recommendations and actions





- SGD available to developers and decision makers (Province, RDCK, Ktunaxa Nation Council, Yaqan Nukiy) to assess development applications and provide guidance for stewardship/management
- KNC will eventually develop a Lakeshore Monitoring, Education and Stewardship Plan

Questions?

