

FOKLSS Potential Project Partnerships

Our Recent Keystone Projects:

- **Osprey & Bald Eagle Monitoring (citizen science):** are individuals still monitoring on their own?
- **Watershed Monitoring (citizen science):** at least 10 tributaries.
 - *Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network (CABIN) protocol training for volunteers. Living Lakes continues work.*
- **Kokanee Lakeshore Spawning Pilot Project:** 3 years of data & monitoring, training/workshops, future project?
- **Harrop Wetlands Restoration:** Western Toad monitoring and habitat revitalization. *Showcase efforts, build on momentum.*
- **Voices of the Lake Podcast: (2022?)**

Our Current Ongoing Operations::

Empowering Lake Stewardship; Restore/Conserve; Enhance/Protect:

- **Shoreline Care:**
 - **Monthly Beach/stream clean ups:** *Lily - event for August.*
 - *Volunteer training:*
- **Education & Communication:**
 - *Knowledge of lake systems, stewardship actions, Reconciliation, decolonization & Indigenous knowledge.*
 - *Website, Email, Social Media (ongoing)*
 - *support/encourage/advocate for water quality & biodiversity.*
- **Kootenay Lake Summit:** *Fall 2024.*
 - *Indigenous/traditional knowledge focus (Robin? others?)*
 - *Storytelling: our work to revitalize the lake? (Harrop?)*

Board Vibrancy & Organizational Sustainability Planning:

- Charitable status, Lake Fund, partnerships, volunteer cultivation.

Future Aspirations: *(gleaned from June meeting)*

- **Shoreline Ambassador Program**
- **State of the Lake: Story of the lake & impact of climate change.**
 - Ongoing through emails, website, Summit, but could become a pivotal project, engaging partners, looking at data and communicating the “story” out.
- **Lake Stewardship Action Plan**
- **Lake Map** (user generated, wildlife sightings, photos, water quality.)
- Continue Osprey & Bald Eagle Monitoring
- Continue Kokanee Lakeshore Spawning Restoration
- Wetlands Restoration Projects.

Existing and Potential Partners:

Ktunaxa Nation/Yakan Nukiy: (Robin Louie)

- Current Lake Related Programs/partnerships:
 - **Return of the Kokanee Salmon Project:** Restoration of Kokanee and spawning (with Rod & Gun Club, local governments etc.) (Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC)
 - <https://thenelsondaily.com/2023/06/creston-valley-rod-gun-club-steward-restocking-kootenay-lake/>
 - <https://www.gofishbc.com/news/conservation/restoring-kokanee-numbers-in-kootenay-lake/>
 - <https://www.crestonvalleyadvance.ca/news/b-c-hydro-companies-feds-accused-of-ignoring-kokanee-salmon-in-kootenays-5301495>
 - **Wetlands Restoration on Yakan Nukiy reserve lands.** (Regional District, Kootenay Conservation Program, Nature Conservancy (Frog Bear Nature Conservancy Corridor) (BC Watershed Federation)
 - <https://www.natureconservancy.ca/en/where-we-work/british-columbia/featured-projects/west-kootenay/frog-bear-conservation-corridor.html>

- <https://kootenayconservation.ca/creston-duck-lake-nesting-area-wetland-enhancement/>

Sn̓ayckstx (Sinixt)

- **Colville Confederated Tribes (Sinixt members)**
 - Bringing the Salmon Home Project (Columbia system), partnering with Ktunaxa and others.
 - Interested in fish restoration :<https://sinixt.com/our-homeland/fish-restoration/>
- **Syilx Nation (Okanagan & Sinixt members)**
 - Bringing the Salmon Home Project (Columbia system), partnering with Ktunaxa and others. <https://syilx.org/fisheries/>
- **Autonomous Sinixt:**

Metis Nation: <https://www.mnbc.ca/citizens-culture/chartered-communities/west-kootenay-metis-society>

Cities/Villages of: Nelson, Creston, Kaslo, Balfour, Harrop, Proctor, Ainsworth, Riondel, Crawford Bay, RDCK (areas around lake).

Other Governments: Canada, BC, RDCK

Schools: Selkirk College (science department, Fish & Wildlife Program), SD8 (ATLAS Program, Graeme Marshall, Biology teachers), Waldorf, St. Joes, Christian School, Yasodara Ashram

Lake vicinity larger organizations/businesses who may

contribute: CBT, FortisBC, BC Hydro, Nelson Hydro, Teck, Golden Life Management, Canadian Mountain Holidays, WhiteWater Ski Resort, RBC and other banks, Kootenay Savings, Nelson District Credit Union, Walmart, Saveon Foods, Kootenay Coop, Labatt Brewery (Creston), Safeway, Ainsworth Hotsprings, Prestige Lakeside Resort, HuB International Insurance, YRB, Sutco, Kalesnikoff Lumber, Trainor Mechanical, Jones Boys Boats, Shambhala Music Festival, Martin Hospitality Group, Coles Books, Nelson Brewery, Western Pacific Marine Ltd, Mainjet, Nelco Marine, Hellman Canoes, Nelson

Airport, Kootenay Springs Golf Resort, construction firms, real estate agencies, radio stations, Chambers of Commerce, service clubs (Lions, Rotary etc).

In-Kind publicity has been offered by:

- Kootenay Coop Radio (Michelle Oakley)
- The Bridge (Storm Lennie)
- Simon De La Salle (web developer)

Other Non Profits with similar mandates/potential partners:

Living Lakes:

- (2024 Redi Grant) Water Monitoring for Local Change Adaptation (RDCK/Nelson, Creston, Lardeau, Castlegar etc.)
- (2024 Redi Grant) Cottonwood Creek Stewardship & Restoration:
 - <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/51895974ae.html#page/14>
 - https://livinglakescanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/thomson_watershedhealth_cottonwood_2024.pdf
 - The goal of the Cottonwood Creek Revival (CCR) Project is to assess the condition of the creek and explore opportunities that could improve the health of the creek in the long term. Living Lakes Canada, [Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society](#) and the [Nelson District Rod Gun Club and Conservation Society](#) are partnering to assess the condition of the creek and explore opportunities which could improve the health of the creek in the long term.
- Note: We were identified as a potential partner in this project... further action?

BC Wildlife Federation (Watershed Team):

- <https://bcfwatershedteam.ca/#:~:text=Protecting%20BC's%20watersheds%20and%20promoting,enhance%20British%20Columbia's%20natural%20environments.>
- Wetlands Institute (Sept. 15 - 21) Creston
- Yakan Nukiy Wetlands Project
- Beaver Restoration Projects

Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC:

- Received 2024 RediGrant (RDCK, Nelson)
 - FFSBC Outreach programs.
 - Kokanee Revitalization:
<https://www.gofishbc.com/news/conservation/restoring-kokanee-numbers-in-kootenay-lake/>

Kootenay Conservation Program:

- <https://kootenayconservation.ca/> has RDCK local conservation fund, coordinates stewardship in the region.
- Events Calendar: <https://kootenayconservation.ca/events-calendar/>
- <https://kootenayconservation.ca/north-kootenay-lake-water-monitoring-project/>
- Fall Gathering : **Oct. 4/5**

Wildsight:

- (2024 Redi Grant) RDCK/Redi Grant: Classroom with outdoors
- Focusses on education, mostly East Kootenay?

Columbia Basin Environmental Educators Network:

- Environmental education, outdoor learning
- Youth Leadership: <https://cbeen.ca/youth-leadership/>
- Inquiring Voices Gather for Educators (Riondel)
<https://cbeen.ca/gathering/> **(Sept. 27 - 29)**
- Partners with First Nations, educators and others.

West Kootenay Watershed Collaborative:

- <https://www.westkootenaywater.ca/>
- RDCK: 2024 Redi Grant: Branding out for watershed understanding.
- “We will establish a three-year pilot project with the Dr. Younes Alila’s Forest Hydrology Research Lab, UBC – Vancouver, Department of Forestry to interrogate and revitalize hydrological models. This new climate driven research; focuses on land-based operations to inform actions to mitigate the effects of flooding, sliding and forest fires projecting into the future. This work will initially focus on Laird and Redfish Creeks, tributaries of the West Arm of Kootenay Lake, with the intention of extrapolating to similar watersheds throughout the region.”

Kootenay Columbia Discovery Centre:

- <https://discovery-centre.ca/>
- RDCK 2024 Redi Grant: Wetlands Education (Environmental Education)

Kokanee Creek Nature Centre Society:

- <https://www.facebook.com/KokaneeCreekNatureCentre/>
- Partnership with BC Parks
- Ecosystem education at Kokanee Creek Provincial Park.
- *** Potential for partnership /beach clean up?** Stewardship education

Neighbors United: <https://neighboursunited.org/>

- *Deep canvassing (conversations/listening/climate action)*

Nelson Izushi Friendship Society: <https://www.nelsonizushi.com/>

(friendship garden at Cottonwood Creek).

Nelson Rod & Gun Club & Conservation Society: <https://www.nrgcbc.ca/>

(also has a hall bordering Cottonwood Creek).

Creston Valley Rod & Gun Club: <https://crestonvalleyrodandgunclub.com/>

The Nature Conservancy: <https://natureconservancy.ca/en/>

Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society <https://ckiss.ca/>

- Clean, Drain, Dry : Zebra Mussels - <https://ckiss.ca/action/on-the-water/>
 - Whirling Disease
- Aquatic Invasive Species: <https://ckiss.ca/species/aquatic/>
- Partner for weed pulls?

Climate Risk Institute:

- <https://climateriskinstitute.ca/2020/05/20/webinar-helping-canadians-do-the-right-thing-green-shores-for-shoreline-development-2020/>

Other:

- Individual waterfront home owners?

- Large lakefront property owners?
- Nelson, Kalso & Creston Public Libraries (education/communication)
- Nelson, Kaslo & Creston Museums (education/communication)