



2017 Fall Gathering and Annual General Meeting
“Grasslands to Wetlands: Connecting Diversity”
September 29-30, 2017
Prestige Rocky Mountain Resort, Cranbrook, B.C.

About the Fall Gathering

The KCP Fall Gathering serves as one of the primary vehicles to connect and re-connect KCP partners from across the region. The organizing theme for this year’s Fall Gathering is “Grasslands to Wetlands: Connecting Diversity”. We will explore how these ecosystems provide important valley bottom habitat and how to connect both as partners and on the landscape to conserve these habitats.

About the Annual General Meeting

We will take advantage of this opportunity to also have a very short (1 hour) Annual General Meeting for KCP partners.

About the Kootenay Conservation Program

The Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP) is a partnership of over 80 conservation, industry, government and business organizations dedicated to conserving natural areas for Kootenay communities. The partnership coordinates and facilitates acquisitions, covenants and stewardship projects on private land. In addition, we work to build the organizational capacity of all of our partner organizations. Our vision is to have landscapes in the East and West Kootenay that sustain naturally functioning ecosystems that can in turn support economic and social well-being. We envision vibrant communities that demonstrate the principles of environmental stewardship for future generations.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Derek Petersen – Parks Canada (Chair)
Dave White – East Kootenay Wildlife Association
Adrian Leslie – Nature Conservancy Canada
Jennifer Vogel – Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society
Ken Brock – Environment Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service
Chris Bosman – The Nature Trust of British Columbia

SUPPORT TEAM

Juliet Craig – Program Manager, Kootenay Conservation Program

Marcy Mahr – Stewardship Coordinator, Kootenay Conservation Program

Nicole Trigg – Communications Coordinator, Kootenay Conservation Program

GUEST SPEAKERS

Robin Annschild – Wetland Restoration Consulting

Tom Biebighauser – Wetland Restoration and Training LLC

DG Blair – Stewardship Centre for BC

Chris Bosman – The Nature Trust of BC

Richard Klafki – Nature Conservancy of Canada

Deb MacKillop – Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Marcy Mahr – Slocan Lake Stewardship Society

Hillary Page – Nature Conservancy of Canada

Michael Proctor – Trans-Border Grizzly Bear Project

PROGRAM SUPPORTERS AND SPONSORS



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada



Environment and
Climate Change Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada
Service canadien de la faune



MEAL SPONSORS



AGENDA

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Friday, September 29, 2017

12 pm to 12:45 pm HOSTED LUNCH (sponsored by Keefer Ecological Services Ltd. and Lotic Environmental)

12:45 pm to 1 pm – WELCOMING REMARKS

- Welcome and KCP Updates: Derek Petersen, Chair of Kootenay Conservation Program

1 pm to 1:15 pm - SETTING THE STAGE

- Status of private land conservation in the Kootenays: Juliet Craig, KCP Program Manager

1:15 to 2:30 pm GRASSLANDS TO WETLANDS

Given that grasslands and wetlands are two of the rarest ecosystems in the Kootenays, how can we best steward these ecosystems? 20 minutes each plus questions.

- The new BC guidebook for classifying grasslands and wetlands: Deb MacKillop, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
- What every landowner should know about wetlands, riparian habitats and species at risk conservation: DG Blair, Stewardship Centre for BC
- What every landowner should know about grasslands and conservation: Hillary Page, Nature Conservancy of Canada

2:30 pm to 2:50 pm HOSTED COFFEE BREAK

2:50 pm to 3:45 pm CONNECTING DIVERSITY

The collaborative advantage, how does working together in diverse partnerships serve biological diversity? 20 minutes each plus panel questions.

- Valley bottom hot spots for connecting grizzly bear habitat in the Kootenays: Michael Proctor, Trans-border Grizzly Bear Project
- Developing a community and ecosystem-based conservation plan: Marcy Mahr, Slocan Lake Stewardship Society

3:45 pm to 4:30 pm KCP CONVERSATION CAFÉ: BURNING QUESTIONS FOR

CONSERVATION: *Objective/Question: Brainstorm of most burning questions and hot topics for working in the context of connected landscapes. Breakout discussion*



4:30 pm to 4:45 pm CLOSING

4:45 pm to 5 pm BIO BREAK

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm KCP AGM

- Report from Chair (Derek Petersen)
- Year in Review – Annual Report; Financial Report (Juliet Craig)
- Motion to Present: *That the KCP Executive makes a notice of motion to xxx*
- Elections of Executive Committee

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm HOSTED BANQUET & EVENING PROGRAM

- Cash Bar – Social; Banquet dinner
- KCP Conservation Leadership Award for 2017
- Connecting Diversity: Amazing Corridors in the Kootenays (Richard Klafki, Nature Conservancy of BC; Chris Bosman, The Nature Trust of BC)
- “On the Shoulders of Giants” Feature Film Presentation: A 21-minute film about the value of private land conservation to Montana’s landscape, economy and way of life.

Saturday, September 30, 2017

BREAKFAST – ON YOUR OWN

8:30 am to 3:30 pm FIELD TOUR: AMAZING CORRIDORS IN THE KOOTENAYS

Network with partners, see a wetland construction site on the ground and visit a stunning working ranch for conservation.

8:30 am – 8:45 am: Meet and introductions

8:45 am – 9:30 am: Bus to Cherry Bummers Conservation Area

9:30 am – 9:45 am: Welcome & background by Chris Bosman, The Nature Trust of BC

9:45 am – 11:45 am: Wetland restoration and construction by Tom Biebighauser, Wetland Restoration and Training LLC and Robin Annschild, Wetland Restoration and Consulting

11:45 am – 12:30 pm: Travel to Wycliffe Regional Park. LUNCH PROVIDED.

1:15 pm – 1:30 pm: Travel to Pine Butte Ranch

1:30 pm – 1:45 pm: Welcome & background by Richard Klafki, Nature Conservancy of Canada

1:45 pm – 3:00 pm: Grassland ecology, working landscapes and species at risk, TBD

3 pm – 3:30 pm: Travel back to Cranbrook.

3:30 pm ADJOURN