




HCTF 2015-16 Approved Projects - Kootenays

Project Name	Project #	Project Description	Approved Funding	Project Leader
Gerrard Rainbow Trout Critical Monitoring	4-248	This project monitors the conservation status of Gerrard rainbow trout by estimating escapement through spawner counts, protecting spawners, estimating harvests of these fish in the Kootenay Lake sport fishery, and monitoring critical spawning habitat parameters.	\$34,000	Matt Neufeld Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource 250 354 6353
East Kootenay Grassland Ecosystem Restoration	4-299	Conduct Ecological Restoration planning, on the ground treatments, and pre and post treatment monitoring activities for priority fire maintained ecosystems to restore and conserve habitats and the wildlife dependent on these areas.	\$189,000	Allana Oestreich Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-489-8540
Kootenay Conservation Program (KCP) 	4-345	The Kootenay Conservation Program will expand the scope and regional impact of our operations, focusing our efforts on securement and stewardship of high value conservation lands coupled with building the capacity of our 70+ partner organizations. We will implement our new Kootenay Conservation Stewardship Strategy including producing a region-wide annual Stewardship Report and Stewardship Map which will identify key gaps and opportunities. We will also continue to build the capacity of our partner organizations through new initiatives such as a Professional Development Bursary Program, Network Mapping Initiative, Conservation Webinar Series and Capacity Re-grant Program.	\$30,000	Dave Hillary The Nature Trust of British Columbia 250 688-1508
South Rockies Grizzly Bear Inventory	4-410	Monitoring grizzly bear populations in the management units 4-01, 4-02 and 4-23. High human-caused mortality of grizzly bears paired with substantial resource extraction in this area necessitates accurate population monitoring. Analysis will focus on identifying factors that are limiting grizzly bear populations and landscape features that directly influence bear abundance and movements.	\$10,000	Garth Mowat Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-354-6142
Kootenay Region River Guardian Program	4-444	This project supports River Guardian presence in seven Kootenay Region classified watersheds to measure and protect the quality of angling in these systems. River Guardians will provide a compliance presence, educate public, anglers and other stakeholders, and collect angler survey data and biological/inventory data.	\$84,500	Kevin Heidt Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-489-8556
Boundary Restoration and Enhancement Program	4-461	This project will improve habitat quality, resiliency and forage availability for ungulates and other native species by restoring or enhancing degraded habitats in low elevation ecosystems of the Boundary. This	\$100,834	Lisa Tedesco Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource



		project will build community stewardship and technical capacity through the use of partnerships.		Operations 250-354-6352
<p>Kootenay Lake Bull Trout Productivity and Capacity for Defining Management Reference Points</p> 	4-465	This project will provide informative quantitative data on stock dynamics to assist with managing the bull trout fishery on Kootenay Lake. Defining the productivity, capacity and compensatory ability of this stock will assist in better understanding the rearing environment and the impact of the recreational fishing on this important blue listed species	\$51,360	Greg Andrusak Redfish Consulting Ltd. 250-825-2729
<p>Determination of Gerrard Rainbow Trout Parr Productivity and Capacity; Required for Defining Management Reference Points</p>	4-478	This project will provide informative, quantitative data on stock dynamics to assist with managing the "trophy" Gerrard rainbow trout fishery on Kootenay Lake. Defining the reproductive performance and capacity of this stock will assist in better understanding the rearing environment and the impact of the recreational fishery on this unique ecotype	\$31,600	Greg Andrusak Redfish Consulting Ltd. 250-825-2729
<p>Columbia River Northern Pike removal – Risk and feasibility of control</p> 	4-493	This project will assess the potential impacts of invasive Northern pike (NP) populations in the Columbia and Pend d'Oreille Rivers, and determine the feasibility of a long term control program. The spread of NP into these rivers likely pose significant risks to native species, important sport fisheries, local ecosystems and Species at Risk recovery work. This collaborative project focuses on determining the spawning behaviour, recruitment, feeding and movements of NP in the Columbia and Pend d'Oreille River sections within BC, including an assessment of the risk of movement and colonization into the Arrow Lakes.	\$38,019	Brian Heise Thompson Rivers University 250-371-5530
<p>Kootenay Mule Deer Survival Monitoring</p>	4-510	This project will monitor mule deer doe survival and cause of mortality in 4 Kootenay populations. This information is needed to identify factors contributing to population declines and will support management actions to increase mule deer abundance.	\$68,150	Patrick Stent Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-489-8578
<p>Feasibility of large lake/reservoir nutrient addition to restore and enhance recreational fishery on Whatshan Reservoir</p>	4-516	This project is designed to provide background information on the current state of the recreational fishery on Whatshan Reservoir (1691 ha). Following the collection of background information, potential partnerships going forward include; FFSSBC, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, BC Hydro and FWCP. These potential partners have expressed their interest in exploring options of nutrient addition to enhance and restore the fish populations and improve the recreational fishery on this reservoir.	\$37,844	Greg Andrusak Redfish Consulting Ltd. 250-825-2729



East Kootenay Mountain Goat Population Assessment	4-517	Most mountain goat populations have not been inventoried in the East Kootenay for at least 8 years (15 years in some areas). Surveys in 2013 and Year 1 of this project (2014) found that 69% of populations have declined, with most of declines >30%. We propose to expand the inventory to verify and further determine the extent and magnitude of these declines. Up-to-date inventory data would ensure that hunting opportunities are not reduced unnecessarily.	\$87,000	Irene E. Teske Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-489-8551
Predicting grizzly bear food – Huckleberries, and trend monitoring	4-523	This project will spatially identify and predict the most important food source for grizzly bears in the West Kootenays - huckleberries - and radio collar females for trend monitoring 2 threatened populations. Our results will inform future food resource supply management and conservation decisions.	\$39,270	Michael Proctor Birchdale Ecological Ltd. 250-353-7339
Elk Valley Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Inventory	4-526	This project will update population estimates for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep along the East and West side of the Elk Valley. To reduce costs, we will conduct flights cooperatively with Teck Coal wildlife flights on the East side of Elk Valley. HCTF funding will be used to complete the inventory along east side outside of Teck survey area and inventory the entire west side.	\$12,200	Irene E. Teske Ministry of Environment 250-489-8551
Columbia River Water Quality Objectives Monitoring Program Update	4-527	The Columbia River Integrated Monitoring Program (CRIEMP) will be updating the Water Quality Objectives monitoring program between Hugh Keenleyside dam and the international boundary to improve the current understanding of water quality in the Lower Columbia.	Under Review	Barb Waters British Columbia Conservation Foundation (Kamloops) 250-828-2551
Reinforcing spring migratory behaviour of bighorn sheep at Radium Hot Springs	4-532	This project will develop a management strategy which discusses and recommends methods for encouraging bighorn sheep migration in the spring.	\$10,000	Mark Read Village of Radium Hot Springs 250-347-6455
West Kootenay Mule Deer Habitat Restoration	4-535	This project will identify important mule deer habitats in the West Kootenay and plan ecosystem restoration activities to improve quality of habitat.	\$24,750	Patrick Stent Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations 250-489-8578

