



2017 Annual Summary Report



Help Prevent the Spread
of Invasive Plants and Animals

ckiss.ca

From the President

When I first joined the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) in 2010, it was a very different organization. The zebra and quagga mussel alarm hadn't sounded yet and as such the focus was still on plants, or weeds as people referred to them. Today our focus is broader and more complex. This growth has seen a correlating growth in staff, budget and reach in the region. The CKISS board has many long standing members and that speaks to the strength of the organization and the pride that we all have in the work that CKISS has accomplished.

None of those accomplishments could occur without the dedicated and passionate CKISS team, our 34 funders and stakeholders and our many contractors that assisted with the operational and logistical work of CKISS. The board cannot thank everyone enough for their efforts in the success of CKISS. Thank you also to the following board members that volunteered their time and wisdom in guiding CKISS forward. Your time is well spent.

Tom Bradley, Vice-President

Malcom Fitz-Earle, Secretary

Terry Anderson, Treasurer

Allan Freeborn

Heather Myers

Dale McNamar

Alan Stanley

My term as President has ended, but my work with the CKISS shall joyfully continue. The mantle has been passed to the indefatigable Tom Bradley, thank you Tom for stepping up. I would also like to give a shout out to Terry Anderson, Treasurer extraordinaire; Happy Retirement Terry. Now Terry has more time to spend with CKISS. Score!

Together we are protecting what is dear to our hearts - our lakes, rivers, mountains, landscapes and all those that live in them.



Laurie Carr
President, Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society



Laurie Carr, Bsc. F, Msc. was President of the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) from 2013-2017. Many years of working in the field of conservation biology gave her an appreciation for the importance of invasive species in current environmental issues. Laurie lives and works in Nelson where she enjoys the Kootenay life with her family.

From the Executive Director

Since its inception in 2005, the CKISS has worked diligently with its partners and stakeholders to ensure a collaborative and coordinated approach to invasive species education and management within the region. This approach has been integral to our success as an organization, particularly in regards to large scale management approaches, such as those associated with American bullfrog control.

As many of you know, Dave DeRosa moved on to a position with the Okanagan Nation Alliance in June of 2017. We are grateful to Dave for his time at CKISS and we wish him the best in his next endeavour. We were extremely pleased to have Erin Bates take over the Operation Program Coordinator position, under her expertise and guidance the program is running smoothly and efficiently.

Along with the many exciting opportunities for 2018, CKISS will be undergoing strategic planning. I hope it proves to be a gratifying experience for all those involved. That includes all our stakeholders, our membership, communities, partners and funders.

I would like to also personally thank the CKISS staff team, who complete much of the on the ground work that takes place throughout the region,

Khaylish Fraser
Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator

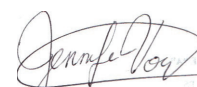
Laurie Frankcom
Education Program Coordinator

Erin Bates
Operations Program Coordinator

Morgan Sternberg
Research Program Coordinator

Summer Students: Beth Newbery, Carley Dolman, Tash Olsoff

Looking forward to a successful 2018!



Jennifer Vogel
Executive Director, Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society



Jennifer Vogel is the Executive Director of the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society. Jennifer is passionate about the work of maintaining and protecting biodiversity throughout the region, by managing high priority invasive species. Jennifer oversees the CKISS's fund development, project management and capacity building efforts and works to develop strong partnerships throughout the region and beyond.

What is CKISS?

British Columbia is the most ecologically diverse province in Canada, making the Kootenays a beautiful place to work, live and play. The Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) strives to keep our lakes pristine, forests lush, mountains healthy and economies thriving through education and managing invasive species in an effective way.

Vision Statement

A network of partners collaborating to minimize the impacts of invasive species on the ecosystems, communities, and economy of the Central Kootenay region.



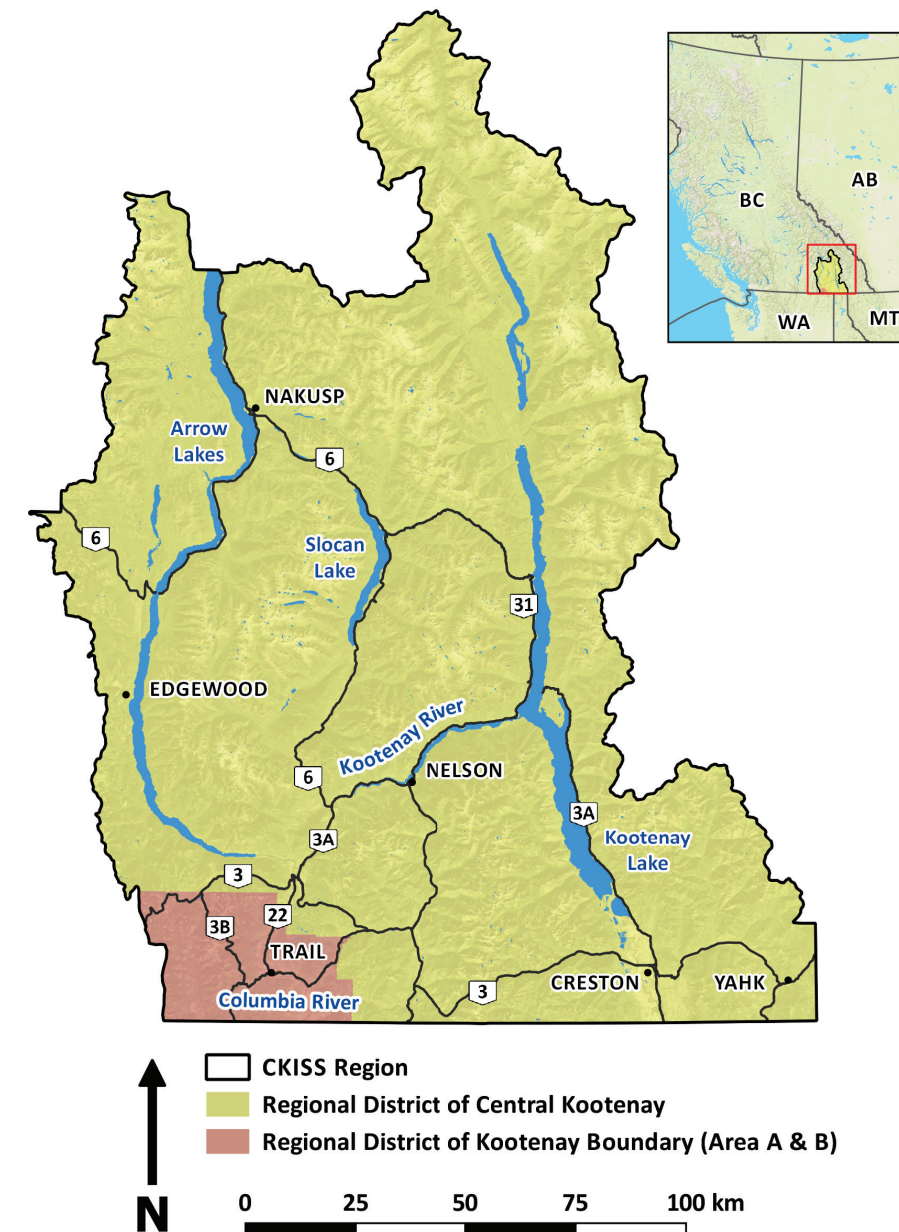
Purposes

The Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society is a non-profit society that was formed by a group of residents and company/agency representatives in 2005 who were interested in promoting collaborative approaches to invasive species management. The Society includes representatives from non-profit societies, utility companies, government agencies, and regional companies.

The purposes of the Society (as per the Committee's Constitution), within the geographic area of the Regional District of the Central Kootenay and Areas A & B of the Regional District of the Kootenay Boundary, are to:

1. Raise awareness and educate the public, government agencies, and other land managers about invasive species and their impacts in the area;
2. Prevent the further introduction and spread of invasive species in the area through education and awareness, early detection and control, and coordinated integrated weed management efforts;
3. Promote coordinated and collaborative management of invasive species between agencies and land occupiers;
4. Work towards the control/containment of highly invasive non-native species; and
5. Provide a conduit for information and a source of expertise on invasive species

CKISS is a network of partners collaborating to minimize the impacts of invasive species on the ecosystems, communities, and economy of the Central Kootenay region.



Invasive Plant Management Highlights



Priority invasive species treated in 2017

				
baby's breath	blueweed	Himalayan blackberry	hoary alyssum	hoary cress
				
knotweeds	leafy spurge	marsh plum thistle	purple loosestrife	rush skeletonweed
				
scentless chamomile	scotch broom	scotch thistle	teasel	yellow flag iris

Photo Credits: Wikimedia Commons, BStewart, JCo, BStewart, BStewart, BStewart, Wikimedia Commons, KWill, no photo credit, RMeuller, R Mueller, no photo credit, R Mueller, R Mueller, F. Swan

High priority species not found in the areas CKISS surveyed

common bugloss, longspine sandbur, puncturevine , yellow star thistle, tansy ragwort, nodding thistle



Zebra and Quagga Mussel Monitoring Highlights



STOP Aquatic Invasive Species

CLEAN + DRAIN + DRY

All watercraft & gear

 ckiss.ca

American Bullfrog Eradication Highlights



- 184 American bullfrogs eradicated
- 9 sites acoustic monitoring devices
- 45 nocturnal eyeshine surveys
- 8 sites eDNA analysis
- 1 eDNA primer validation analysis completed



The bad news...bullfrogs were detected in 4 new locations around the Creston Valley, and they're getting much closer to the endangered northern leopard frog population.

SPECIES AT RISK

AMERICAN BULLFROG



- Voracious predator that eats anything that fits into its mouth, we found a 28 g songbird in the stomach of a captured bullfrog!
- Severely reduces native biodiversity
- Carriers of several amphibian diseases
- Lays a lot of eggs compared to native frog species
- Can move overland up to five kilometres in one year

NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG



- Adult northern leopard frogs are semi-terrestrial, favouring open, grassy sites
- There are only two locations in B.C.
- The B.C. population is listed as Endangered by COSEWIC, and is on the provincial Red List
- Northern leopard frogs are vulnerable to introductions of fish or bullfrogs in the breeding ponds
- Join B.C. Frogwatch to help find new populations!

Photo credits: C. Goodwin, NLF Creston



Education and Outreach Highlights



33 NEWS STORIES

1,714 YOUTH INVOLVED



650 CKISS N'TELL NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS



8,536 WEBSITE VIEWS
60% increase over 2016!

15,250 PEOPLE REACHED



134 VOLUNTEERS

17

OUTREACH BOOTH AT COMMUNITY EVENTS

7,287 RESOURCES DISPENSED

156

MEMBERS CAN VOTE AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Special Projects

EcoAction Restoration Project

Thanks to funding from Environment Canada’s EcoAction Community Funding Program and Columbia Basin Trust, 443 native species were planted by volunteers and school groups to restore three sites; Summit Lake Provincial Park, Waneta and Kootenay Gallery.



Pre-restoration, Summit lake



Post-restoration, Summit lake



Waneta restoration site



Waneta restoration site



Kootenay Gallery restoration site



Kootenay Gallery restoration site

Yellow Flag Iris Research

In partnership with the Selkirk College Geospatial Research Centre and the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, CKISS helped determine yellow flag iris colour signature and coverage with use of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).



UAV flying, Selkirk College



UAV hoop, Selkirk College



yellow flag iris

Financial Update

2017 Program Funding



Program Funding Growth





Funders

Thank you to our funders. We appreciate your continuing support!



Stakeholders

Thank you to our stakeholders. We look forward to working together again this year!

