



# Annual Report 2019-2020

# Mission

To protect ecosystems and communities by preventing and reducing the harmful impacts of invasive species.

An invasive species is a species that is not native to a specific location, and that has a tendency to spread to a degree that causes damage to the environment, human economy or human health.

## Purposes of Society

### Education



To raise awareness and educate about invasive species and their impacts in the area

### Prevention



To prevent further introduction or spread of invasive species in the area

### Collaboration



To promote coordinated and collaborative management of invasive species

### Action



To work towards the control or containment of highly invasive species

### Inventory



To develop and maintain a comprehensive inventory of invasive species within the area

### Expertise



To provide a conduit for information and a source of expertise on invasive species

## Vision

Ecosystems, communities and the regional economy are healthier because the harmful impacts from the spread of invasive species have been reduced. The Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) educates, works with, and calls to action area residents, visitors, and a diverse range of communities and organizations.

# Team and Board of Directors

This past year has seen a few changes at CKISS, including moving to a new office in Nelson. We formed some exciting new partnerships, and continued to deliver and build on our existing programs. The final weeks of our operating year saw the onset of a global pandemic, which brought a new set of challenges. Along with the rest of the world, we are now working hard to protect our loved ones and fellow citizens, and hoping that the coming year will see a successful recovery. I would like to thank our many funders whose support helps to protect our region from the impacts of invasive species.



Along with all of the staff at CKISS, I am deeply grateful to our amazing Board for their dedication and support during the past year. Thank you!

*Erin Bates*

**Erin Bates**  
Executive Director

**Khaylish Fraser**  
Aquatic Program Coordinator

**Kalenna Olnyk**  
Operations Program Coordinator

**Chanel Gagnon**  
Technician

**Laurie Frankcom**  
Education Program Coordinator

**Laurie Carr**  
Development Coordinator

**Angela Beaton**  
Technician

During the 14 years since CKISS was founded, our organization has seen continual growth and evolution as we find new opportunities to prevent and manage invasive species in the Central Kootenays. 2019-20 was no exception, with new projects starting up while our long-term programs continued to thrive. We are excited to have finalized a new 2020-2025 Strategic Plan in the spring of 2019, which will help to guide our fundraising and planning throughout the next five years.



On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our dedicated staff and contractors, who work hard every day to carry out our mission and protect this beautiful region that we call home.

*Tom Bradley*

**Tom Bradley**  
President

**Heather Myers**  
Vice President

**Tom Newell**  
**Janine Dougall**

**Malcolm Fitz-Earle**  
Secretary

**Eleanor Duifhuis**  
**Allan Freeborn**

**Terry Anderson**  
Treasurer

**Graham McKellar**  
**Lisa Tedesco**



# Invasive Plant Management Highlights

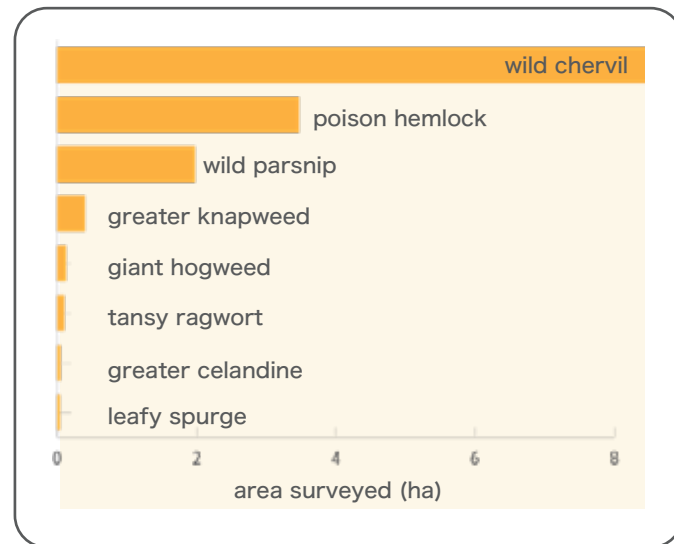
 **102** landowners received support

 **21** Species treated in Weed Control Act

 **52** Species Treated over 130 ha

 **8** High priority species surveyed

Watch out for high priority plants



Don't plant these!



With the help of the British Columbia Wildlife Federation, FortisBC Energy and private property owners, CKISS controlled a high priority and toxic plant, **poison hemlock**, at an elementary school in Creston.



Through the RDKB Area A noxious weed program, **25** landowners received invasive plant control on their property.

Chanel Gagnon, Technician, installs one of **65** No Mow Signs to help prevent the spread of knotweed along roadsides.



CKISS partnered with the Ministry of Forests, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Interfor and True North Forestry to control the high priority plant, **marsh plume thistle** in Arrow Park.

Laurie Carr, Development Coordinator congratulates the **City of Nelson** for managing their knotweed. **3** Knotweed treatment signs installed.



Kalenna Olynyk, Operations Coordinator, conducts one of **301** powerline surveys.

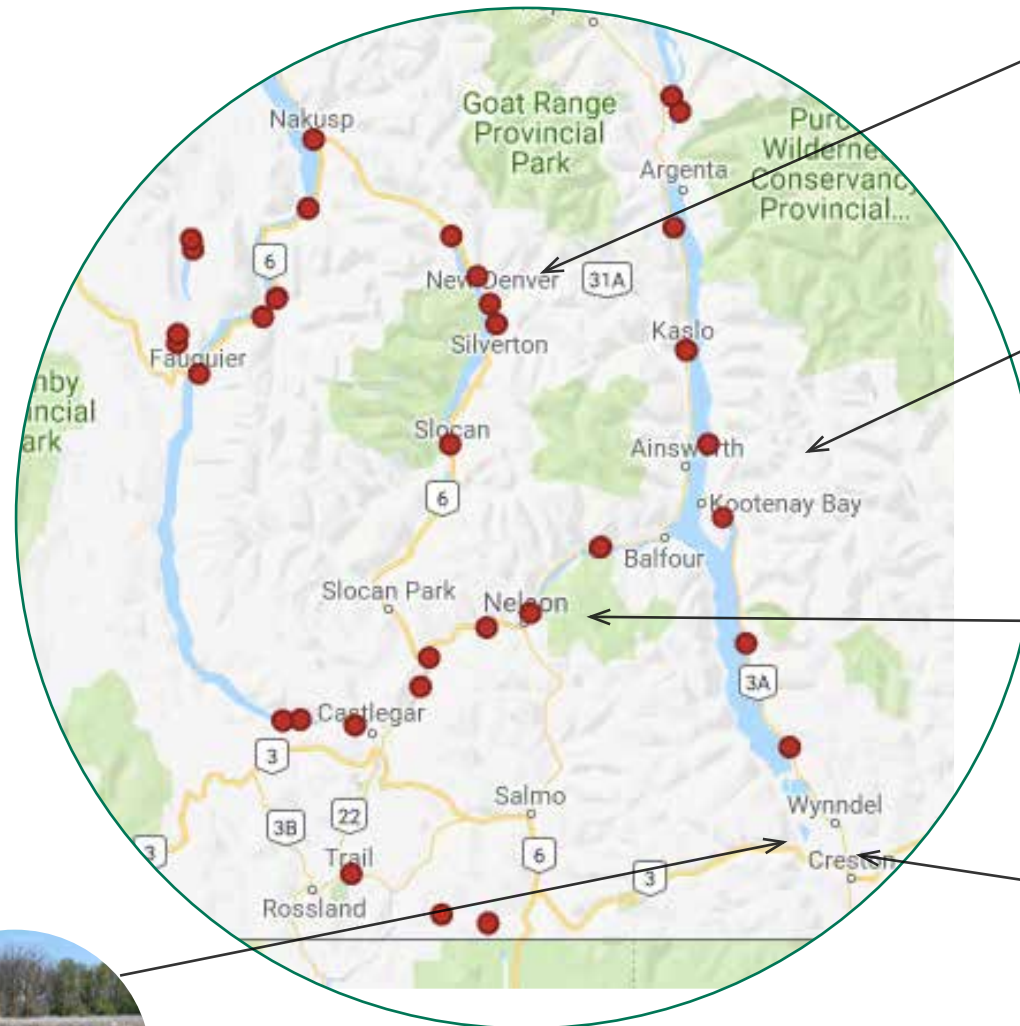


# Aquatic Invasive Species Program Highlights



Khaylish Fraser, Aquatics Invasive Species Program Coordinator, examines a substrate sample from the Pend d'Oreille

**NO** zebra or quagga mussels detected in **350** veliger samples **5** substrate samples at **34** sites on **9** waterbodies



● Zebra and quagga mussel sample sites

The New Denver Marina is the first Invasive Wise Marina in the Central Kootenays to help protect Slocan Lake from the threat of invasive species.



The Clean, Drain, Dry program provided **7** new signs that were installed at Scottie's Marina, Beaver Creek, Wragge Beach, Howser Creek, New Denver and Kaslo boat launches.



**5** pet stores display the Don't Let it Loose program poster which aims to prevent pets and from becoming invasive species in our ecosystems.



Volunteers joined Angela Beaton, Technician, in a community weed pull of yellow flag iris at the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area.

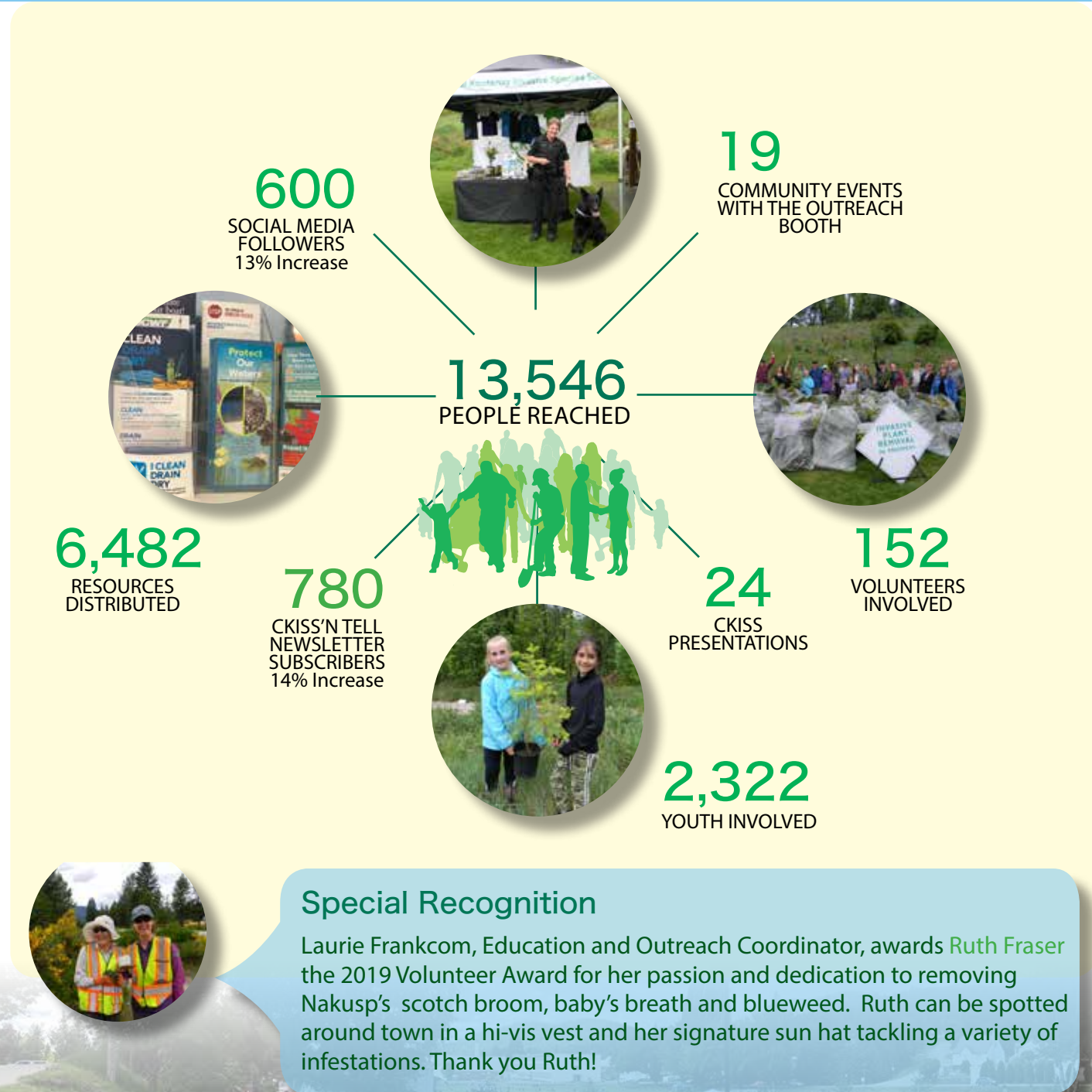


## American Bullfrog Action Team

**1732** bullfrogs in Kootenay River Valley area were eradicated in partnership with provincial and Yaqan Nukiy crew



# Education and Outreach Highlights



**30,712**  
Website hits  
**6,842**  
Resources distributed  
**501**  
Social media posts

## Workshops

Invasive Plant Training and Management Workshops were well received by public works staff of the cities of Nelson, Creston and the village of Nakusp. RDCK landfill staff and BC Parks operators for Kokanee, Syringa, Champion Lakes and Kootenay Lake Provincial Parks also had the opportunity to participate and learn.



## Restoration

### Summit Lake Provincial Park

The planting party at Summit Lake Provincial Park was a success! A shout out to the students from Nakusp Elementary School who helped CKISS with restoration work by planting native shrubs and trees.



### EcoAction Projects

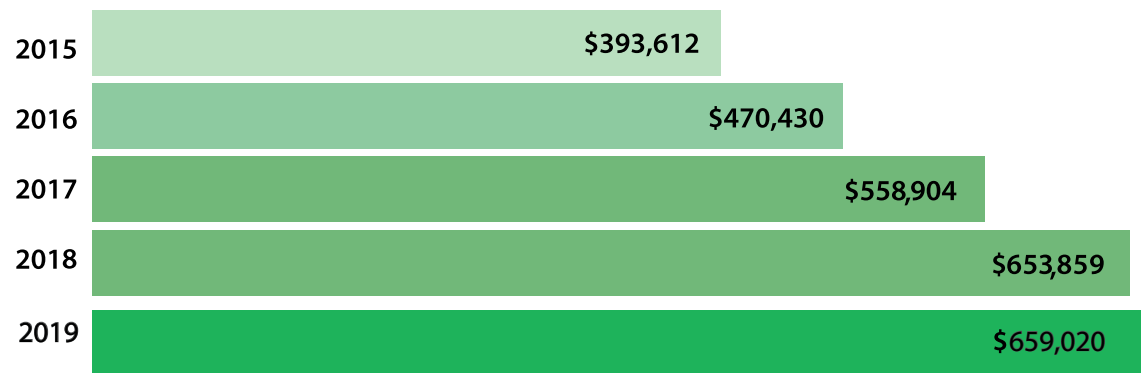
Through EcoAction multi-year funding community members are taking action to remove invasive species in riparian zones and replant with native plants to improve ecosystem health. Thank you to J.L Crowe Secondary and Selkirk College students who volunteered at Beaver Creek Provincial Park and Lucern School students in collaboration with the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology, who helped restore the new wetland at Snk'Mip Marsh Sanctuary. In addition yellow flag iris was removed in Erie Lake and the area was replanted.



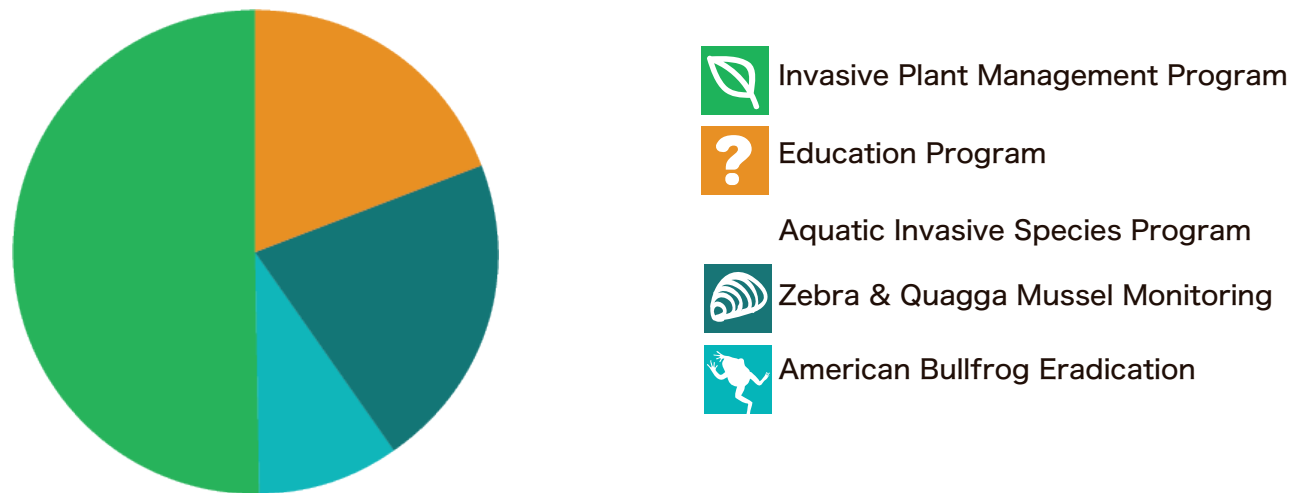
# Financial Management Highlights

## Financial Update

### Funding History

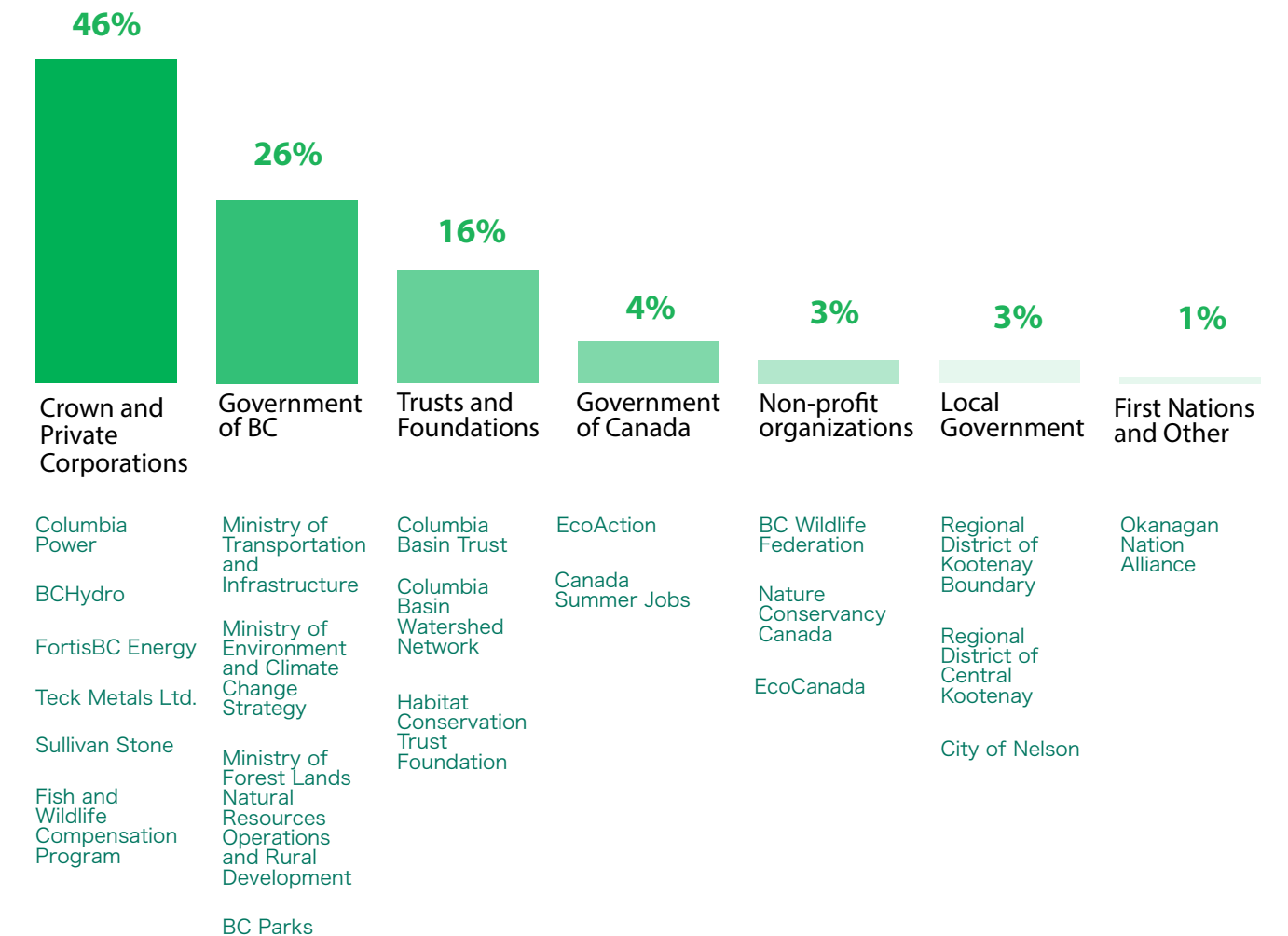


### 2019 Program Budget



None of our accomplishments could occur without our many funders, stakeholders and contractors who help implement the operational and logistical work of CKISS. The Board thanks everyone for their efforts and contributions to the success of CKISS. - Tom Bradley, President-

### 2019 Funding Sources





The Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society's working region is approximately 30,500 km<sup>2</sup>. It encompasses the Regional District of Central Kootenay, as well as Areas A and B of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary. This region is located in the southwestern portion of the Canadian Columbia River basin, in southeastern BC.



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