

Creston Region

The following are interests area residents identified in past public engagements.

Category	Sub-category	Objective	Notes
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kootenay Water Use Plan (WUP) • Ecosystem integrity • Climate Change • Balance competing land use needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate future Libby Dam operations • Public input on Libby Dam operating plans and decisions. • Support ecosystem resilience and productivity • Understand impact of climate change and glacial recession on water levels 	
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and shoreline access for recreation • Water access for boating and fishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize quality and diversity of recreational activities • Sufficient beach area • Boating access • Boating/swimming safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boating access for both recreational and fish harvest.
Quality of Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetic impacts for beach front properties • Water quality • Nuisance issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize periods of deep draw downs • Minimize health and nuisance issues eg Kuskanux mosquitoes 	
Flood and Erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Damage • Flood management at Creston Valley Water Management Area and Creston Flats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevated summer/ fall flows and water levels in the Kootenay River may increase flooding risk/ dike erosion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kootenay River Region (Duck Lake) Detrimental elevation(s) >1749', <1744' (May 15 – Aug 31)
First Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation of aboriginal interests • Understand and protect cultural sites and artefacts • Support and ensure First Nations' ability to harvest for food, cultural and ceremonial purposes • First Nation involvement in research, monitoring and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase understanding of sites and their locations • Minimize erosion impacts • Minimize impact of destructive human behaviour • Access to archaeological sites by appropriate people • Abundance/ diversity of traditional plants, fish & wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate First Nations consultation process under the Columbia River Treaty Review • BC Hydro Reservoir Archaeology Program (excludes Kootenay Lake and Lake Kooconusa)

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Wildlife and vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riparian Habitat • Littoral Productivity • Floodplain ecology • Protected Areas • Nesting Habitat • Wildlife habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase restoration activities • Improve ecological functioning of the flood plain (Creston Valley) • Mitigate flooding impacts of protected areas (e.g. Wildlife Management Areas) or other important habitats (Northern Leopard Frog breeding grounds) • Maximize abundance and diversity of wildlife populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Invasive plant control on Kootenay River • Restoration in the Yaqaan Nuki Wetlands, south of Creston and several smaller wetlands - 2003-2005 • Wetland enhancement in Corn Creek Marsh in 2006 and Leach Lake water control structure upgrades in 2009 • Painted Turtle nest site protection – enhancement and monitoring at Elizabeth Lake (2003) • Columbia Basin Amphibian Inventory • Kootenay River Region (Duck Lake) Spring preferred elevation range 1744' – 1746'
Fish and Aquatic Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Sturgeon • Bull Trout • Cutthroat Trout • Salmon • Sturgeon • Nutrient restoration • Water temperature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize the abundance, diversity and condition of priority species • Minimize possible negative effects on fish and their habitats • Bring Salmon up the Columbia if technically and economically feasible • Sturgeon fish ladders at Brilliant dam • Mitigate effects of Libby dam on nutrient levels in the Kootenay River /Kootenay Lake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VarQ flood control to assist in the recruitment of juvenile sturgeon and benefit bull and cutthroat trout. • Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan • Burbot Conservation Strategy for Kootenay Lake and Kootenai River

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize impacts to fish from rising water temperature 	
Cross border collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsiveness of Libby Dam operations to public concerns Cross border conference to understand issues Water quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborative cross border engagement to greater influence US authorities. Work with U.S. to improve/maintain water quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial biologists working with U.S. on Kootenay River White Sturgeon program & a bulltrout enhancement program
Commercial Interests/ Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Navigation/Commercial transport Tourism and other waterfront businesses Aesthetic impacts for beach front commercial properties Guide Outfitter and Angling Guide Reduce barriers/increase opportunities for economic diversification Agriculture Dykes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize business activities Boating access Navigation issues associated with lower levels and sand bars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize wildlife viewing opportunities Quantity and size of fish – angling tourism Fluctuating water levels reduces quantity of fish Maintain flood plain land available for dairy, grains, vegetables and fruit 	<u>Kootenay River Region (Duck Lake)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferred elevation range 1744’ – 1746’ Detrimental elevation(s) >1749’, <1744’