

Koocanusa Reservoir Region

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

Category	Sub-category	Objective	Notes
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reservoir Levels Koocanusa Water Use Plan (WUP) 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Hydro does not hold a water licence for Koocanusa Reservoir and therefore no WUP has been completed.
Cross border collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsiveness of Libby Dam operations to public concerns Manage Koocanusa Reservoir as a whole 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborative cross border engagement to greater influence US authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial biologists working with U.S. on Kootenay River White Sturgeon program & a bull trout program
Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water and shoreline access for recreation Water access for boating and fishing Fisheries management plan 	<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"> Preferred elevation range 2445ft to 2455ft from Victoria Day to Labour Day Boating access for both recreational and fish harvest.
Quality of Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dust Storms Aesthetic impacts for beach front properties Water quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize periods of deep draw downs 	
Flood and Erosion	Property Damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize frequency and impact of deeper draw downs - Called Upon Flood Control 	
Wildlife and vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riparian Habitat Littoral Productivity Grassland Floodplain ecology Protected Areas Nesting Habitat Wildlife habitat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase restoration activities Mitigate loss of grassland at Northern end of reservoir Minimize flooding impacts of protected areas or other important habitats Maximize abundance and diversity of wildlife populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic Invasive plant control on Kootenay River Wetland enhancements Painted Turtle nest site protection – enhancement and monitoring - Elizabeth Lake (2003) Columbia Basin Amphibian Inventory
Fish and Aquatic Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White Sturgeon Bull Trout Cutthroat Trout Salmon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize the abundance, diversity and condition of priority species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VarQ flood control to assist in the recruitment of juvenile sturgeon and

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burbot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize possible negative effects on fish and their habitats Bring Salmon up the Columbia if technically and economically feasible 	benefit bull and cutthroat trout. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan Burbot Conservation Strategy for Kootenay Lake /Kootenai River
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 implementing research/monitoring/ management activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize understanding of sites and their locations Minimize erosion impacts Minimize impact of destructive human behaviour Appropriate access to archaeological sites Abundance/ diversity of traditional plants and fish and wildlife populations 	<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 Koocanusa)
Commercial Interests/Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Navigation/Commercial transport Tourism and other waterfront businesses (houseboats) Aesthetic impacts for beach front commercial properties Increased cost to harvest reduced timber resources Guide Outfitters and Angling Guides Reduce barriers/ increase opportunities for economic diversification Commercial ranching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize business opportunities Boating access Navigation issues associated with lower levels and sand bars Raised spring water levels may allow marinas to open earlier Wildlife viewing opportunities Access to wildlife for guide outfitters Quantity and size of fish – angling tourism Fluctuating water levels reduces quantity of fish Maximize grazing land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferred elevation range 2445ft to 2455ft Victoria Day - Labour Day El 2420ft lowest level for operation of CDN houseboat business El 2434ft lowest level for shore-based recreation Loss of grazing lands – particularly at the North end of the reservoir Maximizing grazing land conflicts with recreational water levels

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