Photo: Ryan Dorgan

IN THIS UPDATE:

1. Wild & Scenic Film Festival: Tickets
2. Get involved: Green festival & volunteers
3. Thank you to our festival sponsors!
4. Auction is live
5. Bighorn Sheep monitoring
6. Home Retrofit Fair
7. Wild Ideas: Turn your passion into action
8. Meet our Board
9. Apply now: Provincial wildlife & habitat committee
10. East Kootenay Wildlife & Habitat Advisory Committee Call for members
11. Climate Friendly Home Tour inspires
12. We are hiring
13. Upcoming events

Photo: Ryan Dorgan

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023

10th Wild & Scenic Film Festival

The countdown is on, and our film fest committee is working hard to pull the final details together. Now, friends, it's up to you to act now and buy your tickets before they sell out! Tickets are selling fast! Hurrying online, email inspiremee@wildsight.ca and we can pull tickets at the door.

While for most of the year our feet are firmly on the ground and we focus on local issues like forestry, wildlife and habitat conservation (eg. our Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep project), and climate change resiliency, the Wild & Scenic Film Festival is a chance to stretch our imaginations and reach out beyond our mountain boundaries and tap into the global community.

Whether it's a documentary about water issues in Chile, a deep reflection on bees or a gutsy adventure on Baffin Island, we know that the films will resonate with you and your friends. Wildsight's mission is to "inspire people to care about nature". There are many passionate people amongst us, as well as all over the world, who are need to draw inspiration from each other. We hope that the film festival's lofty ambitions achieve its intended – resonates with you. You can check out the evening program here.

Being a member of Wildsight means valuing wilderness, wildlife and healthy communities. Believing that by taking care of the things we love, collectively, through action, we can change the world. As a small grassroots, all new membership bought up until the intermission at the film festival will get entered into a special prize draw. Add your voice by buying a membership here.

As you know, it's our annual fundraiser and so, however you decide to get involved, please know we appreciate your support. See you on November 18th at our 10th Wild & Scenic Film Festival.

BUY TICKETS

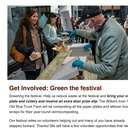


Photo: Ryan Dorgan

Get involved: Green the festival

Greening the festival: Help us reduce waste at the festival and **bring your own plate and cutlery and receive an extra door prize raffle**. The Wilkins from The Old Bank Tea Room will be composting all the paper plates and leftover food scraps for their round vermicomposting.

Our festival relies on volunteers helping out and many of you have already stepped forward. Thanks! We still have a few volunteer opportunities that need to be filled. Come, join the fun and volunteer a bit of your time and a slice of pizza is your reward! Contact Ryan at 250-342-9293 x 101 for more volunteer details. Thanks so much to all those who have already signed up – we couldn't do this without you!

VOLUNTEER

Thank you to our Festival sponsors!

What do the following have in common? A lawyer, dentist, brewer, physiotherapist, insurance broker, hairdresser, tax specialist, mortgage broker, real estate agent, next gen ornithologist, wilderness lodge owner, solar energy fanatics ... They are all sponsors for our 10th Wild & Scenic Film Festival. They are our community. And we love them all!

We are always honoured and humbled by the "this, of course!" response we get when we approach our past Visionary sponsors. They are there year after year again: Steph and Aaron Vandenhome from Columbia Automotive, Morgan Blanks with Blanks Insurance, Jeff Wilkins from Wilkins Brewing, Ryan Dorgan, Sara Sue, and Meredith Hamstead and Paul Demchuk from Kootenay Homes.

Thank you also goes to our Catalyst sponsors: Collective Carpentry, Columbia Basin Trust, Energy Economics, Jungian Basics & Hotel, Premier Physical Therapy, Outback Orthotics, Radium Brewing, and Vertex Integrative Healing. The seven sponsors who have supported the festival for the last three years: Cedar Ridge Dental, Lake Lodge Adding Horse Coffee, Rockhaven, Savage & Company, The Rocks, and Turning Point Advisory.

A special shout out goes to Wilkins brewer-launcher-spokesperson Ryan Dorgan and his company Basecamp Innovations! He has supported the festival the longest, ever since we began our sponsorship program in 2016.

So when you see any of these people or visit their businesses, give them your gratitude, too!

Auction is live

What's priceless? Shed no, it's not something from a Mastercard ad (Our answer: a thriving ecosystem with abundant wildlife, fresh flowing water, clean air, and healthy communities.

What has a monetary value? Ah unique items in our AUCTION FOR THE WILD! Bid on items such as a Tour de Rockies Package, Ski Lessons, Tickets to a Scenic Film Fest on November 18th. We're hoping that you'll be inspired to be generously during this, our annual Wildsight Invertree fundraiser. Your support helps keep our environmental and educational initiatives going, including the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep conservation & biodiversity program, responsible outdoor recreation, climate change resiliency, and restoration at Lake Enid.

We are grateful to all our friends and the businesses that have donated services and items to the auction. Without them, there would be no auction. And now that you "forgot", many come filled with rich stories and a love for the arts!

Have about Mt. Everest? (No, we're not offering a trip to Nepal.) Did you ever tap into the experiences of Pat Morrow, successful summitter on the first Canadian Everest Expedition in 1982 and Winter resident, by bidding on his photo workshop. Following on the mountain theme is a quilt made specially for the auction by the Valley Piecemakers. This awesome group of women like to pull out all the stops when it comes to creating a stunning quilt for our auction. Do you love Jumbo Wild? The Columbia Valley Fire Society is once again donating a two-night stay at the Jumbo Cabin. Talk about a place that comes with history!

This is just a small sampling of what you'll find in our online auction that reflects the Columbia Valley's wellness, artistic and outdoor community. The auction items are all listed on our website. Bidding is easy, fun and safe. Regardless of what you're not computer savvy and need to bid on something, there will be someone there to help you set up an account with your credit card.

So, back to the initial question. What's priceless to you?

AUCTION

Photo: Ryan Dorgan

Bighorn sheep citizen monitoring

We are looking a monthly Bighorn sheep monitoring event for the next 18 months. Why? Because we need to know if the reintroduction of the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep matters, just the ability to walk and be outside for 3-4 hours. We will provide you with orientation and tools to do the monitoring. This is in support of the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep conservation & biodiversity program. Our program volunteers actively contribute to the project's objectives by assisting in monitoring activities such as observing and documenting bighorn sheep sightings, recording behavioural observations, and collecting data on habitat use.

Please register if you are interested.

The November event will be on November 11. Time: 10am - 3pm. The sheep herd is located near Canal Flats. We will meet at the Local cafe in Fairmont.

REGISTER

SUNDAY NOV. 12, 1-4 PM

Home Retrofit Fair

Living in a heated home with drafty windows in the winter, hot and stuffy in the summer? Or, maybe you're just ready to make your home as that it is more energy efficient and comfortable, while saving money on utility bills. We'll have tradespeople, building suppliers, energy advisors and others available to answer your questions. Or attend a workshop to gain more in-depth information on Provincial and Federal rebates, building envelope, heat pumps, HVAC, and other home energy related subjects. Refreshments and lots of door prizes available! Join us at the CV Chamber of Commerce, Invermere 1-4 pm November 12th. Sponsored by Wildsight Invermere, Columbia Valley Economic Development, and East Kootenay Climate Hub.

Photo: Ryan Dorgan

Wild Ideas: Turn your passion to action

As we head towards a new year, do you want to make more of a difference in your community? Join us on **Sunday, November 26, from 3-5pm**, for a fun and informal gathering to put our hearts and minds together (+ brainstorm). Help us develop our ideas for the upcoming series of strategic focus: Community, Conservation and Climate Change.

Check out our Branch page to read about our current programs and our vision and mission statements.

Add your voice and turn your passion into a powerful force of action for 2024. Please let us know if you will be attending by emailing inspiremee@wildsight.ca

MORE INFO

Photo: Ryan Dorgan

Meet our Board of Directors

Join on **November 29th at 7 pm**, CV Chamber of Commerce Office. We'll be alone us and hear firsthand about our projects. Welcome to just come check us out, no pressure, no commitment if you have any questions please email inspiremee@wildsight.ca

Photo: Ryan Dorgan

RDEK Climate Action Plan: Survey

The RDEK is in the process of developing a Climate Action Plan that will cover our six electoral areas. The plan is intended to increase resilience and reduce emissions in both the region and our corporate operations and we are looking for your input. If you live in the RDEK and want to have a business in an RDEK electoral area, we want to hear from you.

You can share your thoughts and ideas in the Climate Action Survey found HERE.

In addition to the survey, we have created a new project page where additional information and resources will be posted. You can check it out HERE.

The Climate Action Plan will focus on mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation measures are actions that reduce or prevent the emission of greenhouse gases (greenhouse gases) and is an important part of responding to climate change. The plan will set targets to reduce community and corporate greenhouse gas emissions, identify actions in key areas that will set out how the RDEK will help meet these targets, and provide meaningful guidance on the expenditure of the RDEK's Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) funds.

Changes in our climate include more extreme wildfires, flooding, hotter summers, and more frequent and severe storms. These changes have a direct impact on our health of residents, including the direct threat of rising temperatures, increased exposure to poor air quality, and challenges to mental, emotional, and community health.

The survey will be open until November 30, 2023.

If you have questions about the project, please contact Project Coordinator Rodrigo Basilio at rodrigo@rdeka.ca or RDEK Planner Kristy Gilbert at kgilbert@rdek.bc.ca. Kristy can also be reached by phone at our Cranbrook office at 1-866-478-7355.

Apply now: Provincial wildlife & habitat committee

The Province is now accepting applications for members on the East Kootenay Wildlife & Habitat Advisory Committee. The committee is responsible for providing advice on the regional implementation of the Together for Wildlife Strategy.

Members must have a demonstrated commitment to wildlife and habitat conservation, and have a broad understanding of conservation issues in the region and have the time to be an active and engaged member of the newly formed committee.

If you're interested, email backyardwildlife@gov.bc.ca with the subject line "East Kootenay Wildlife & Habitat Advisory Committee membership" to learn more. Apply by December 4, 2023.

Climate Friendly Homes Tour inspires

Last month's Climate Friendly Homes Tour showcased inspiring examples of how homes can be built or retrofitted to be more comfortable and healthy for people and the planet.

A lot of the climate pollution in our area comes from heating and cooling buildings. In order to meet climate targets, we will need to embrace electrification and energy efficiency. Homes on this tour showed specific examples of how this can be done.

Participants learned first hand about heat pumps, high efficiency building envelopes and renewable energy sources such as solar panels.

The tour was organized by the Community Energy Association with local support from the East Kootenay Climate Hub and Wildsight Invermere. We look forward to taking what was learned this first year and making it even better next year.

Deep gratitude to all the homeowners who opened up their homes to us!

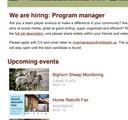
Photo: Ryan Dorgan

We are hiring: Program manager

Are you a team player anxious to make a difference in your community? Are you a self-starter who can work well with others? Wildsight is looking for a program manager. See the full job description, and please share widely within your friends and networks.

Please apply with CV and cover letter to inspiremeadmin@wildsight.ca. The posting will stay open until the best candidate is found.

Upcoming events



Bighorn Sheep Monitoring
CANAL FLATS
NOV. 11

Home Retrofit Fair
INVERMERE
NOV. 12

10th Wild & Scenic Film Festival
INVERMERE
NOV. 18

Passion to Action
INVERMERE
NOV. 26

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