

# Wildsight Revelstoke Strategic Plan

## 2023 - 2028

Wildsight Revelstoke was established in January 2021 having evolved from the former North Columbia Environmental Society (established 1999). Wildsight Revelstoke encompasses the North Columbia region and works together with Wildsight Regional and five other branches (Creston Valley, Elk Valley, Kimberley/Cranbrook, Invermere & Golden).

**Vision:** Wildsight Revelstoke's vision is to inspire a shared community desire to protect our natural world for future generations. We envision:

- extensive and connected wild spaces for wildlife—such as grizzly bears, mountain caribou & salmon.
- clean air and clear water running from mountain watersheds to our lakes.
- thriving and sustainable communities with citizens empowered to protect nature.
- collaboration with First Nations, educational institutions, all levels of government, community members, environmental organizations, other organizations and Wildsight Regional.

**Mission:** To protect and promote environmental sustainability in the North Columbia region by monitoring, empowering community, and taking actions For the Wild.

### Core Values:

- **Collaboration:** Working together with others respectfully is essential:
  - To increase the likelihood of protecting the environment and retaining and enhancing biodiversity now and for future generations.
  - Given the interdependent coexistence of humans and nature.
  - We strive to work with communities in a way that serves all members.
- **Conservation:** Restoring and protecting biodiversity.
- **Education:** Promoting science-based environmental understanding because knowledge is a key foundation for change.
- **Stewardship:** Advocating for sustainable use and protection of the natural environment.

We acknowledge and honour the First Peoples of the North Columbia region: The Sinixt, the People of the Place of the Bull Trout; The Okanagan, Secwepemc, and Ktunaxa who existed and thrived on this land long before colonization. We acknowledge with respect their unceded, traditional, and ancestral land, and the vibrant and flourishing cultures that were here since time immemorial. We honour First People's resilience, traditional knowledge & connections to this land.



wildsight  
Revelstoke

**Goal 1: Advocate for municipal government (City of Revelstoke & Columbia Shuswap Regional District) to allocate resources to develop & implement a biodiversity, pollution, climate change mitigation & adaptation plan (BPCMAP) in partnership Wildsight Revelstoke and other key stakeholders.**

Definitions (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

Mitigation: Efforts to prevent or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the causes of climate change or enhance greenhouse gas removal from the atmosphere by “sinks” (forests, vegetation or soils that can reabsorb carbon dioxide).

Adaptation: Efforts to respond to the actual or expected impacts, effects, or consequences of climate change to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities.

*Objectives*

- 1.1 Assess the current state of municipal government status related to this goal.
- 1.2 Research best practices.
- 1.3 Communicate with municipal government to advocate for goal.
- 1.4 Request participation as a key stakeholder based on outcome of objective 1.3.
- 1.5 Assist with implementation, monitoring and evaluating effectiveness.

**Goal 2: Empower community members to take actions to protect the environment.**

*Objectives*

- 2.1 Provide community members with environmental opportunities to engage with nature.
- 2.2 Provide community members with environmental opportunities for education.

**Goal 3: Protect natural spaces, especially primary forests, within the North Columbia region. Protect 30% of regions land and water by 2030.**

*Objectives*

3.1 Monitor and advocate for the implementation of the Old Growth Strategic Review

Panel 14 recommendations within the North Columbia region as committed to by the provincial government and documented within the report: [A New Future for Old Forests. A Strategic Review of How British Columbia Manages for Old Forests Within its Ancient Ecosystems.](#)

3.2.a Ensure old growth forest deferrals in the North Columbia region continue to be deferred/protected from logging.

3.2.b Lobby for the inclusion forests previously approved for logging within deferral areas to be included within the government deferral area as logging/clear cutting of these forests were allowed to proceed.

3.3 Advocate for the adoption/implementation of the Rainbow/Jordan area park proposal submitted to the provincial government by the Valhalla Wilderness Society.

3.4 Identify in collaboration with First Nations high biodiversity areas and natural spaces in need of protection.

3.5 Promote research in the North Columbia region to gain scientific evidence of natural spaces in need of protection.

3.6 Protect natural spaces needed for survival of at-risk species in the Species at Risk Act. (e.g., Mountain Caribou, Western Toads, Western Painted Turtles).

3.7 Monitor & advocate for compliance with environment related by-laws, Revelstoke Official Community Plan, provincial and federal laws/regulations for building & development.

3.8 Promote respectful sustainable tourism/recreation to protect natural spaces & species at risk.

**Goal 4: Build organizational capacity and the financial sustainability necessary to achieve our goals.**

*Objectives*

4.1 Financial capacity – Establish sustainable funding sources.

4.2 Build organizational human capacity - knowledge, skills, systems, and processes for efficient and effective functioning of Board of Directors, Staff, Members and Volunteers.