

West Kootenay Outdoorsmen  
1541 Pass Creek Rd  
Castlegar, BC V1N 4S2

Les Carter  
Friends of the Rossland Range Society  
Box 701  
Rossland, BC V0G 1Y0

January 29, 2011

Dear Les Carter:


**Re. Designated Recreation Area proposal for Old Glory Alpine and Nancy Greene Pass Areas**

The West Kootenay Outdoorsmen (WKO) congratulates the Friends of the Rossland Range (FORR) on the work completed on their proposal for a designated recreation area in the Rossland Range. Our membership is generally in support of this proposal but offers the following comments:

- There is historic and current use of the area for recreational hunting. This recreational use must be recognized and included in any management planning for the area. The WKO can provide input with regards to this use.
- The area is grizzly bear habitat. The Kettle-Granby Grizzly Bear Population Unit is considered Threatened and its recovery is of international importance. We recognize the FORR proposes to complete an inventory of sensitive species and habitats. The highest priority must be given to managing recreational activities such that the grizzly bear population recovery is supported.
- Much of the DRA area is good mule deer habitat and incorporation of the life requisite needs of this ungulate is required.

The WKO recognizes that this initiative is being undertaken in part due to inadequate provincial government attention to the issues regarding the rapidly expanding recreation footprint and its potential impact on ecosystem health. We agree with the proposals statement that "all recreational use and planning throughout the Rossland Range be done with regard to the overarching importance of protecting ecosystems."

Yours in conservation,

  
Liz Thorburn, President  
West Kootenay Outdoorsmen

cc. WKO member clubs  
Ministry of Natural Resource Operations and Ministry of Environment; Tom Bell