

# Appendix B

## Survey Results Summary



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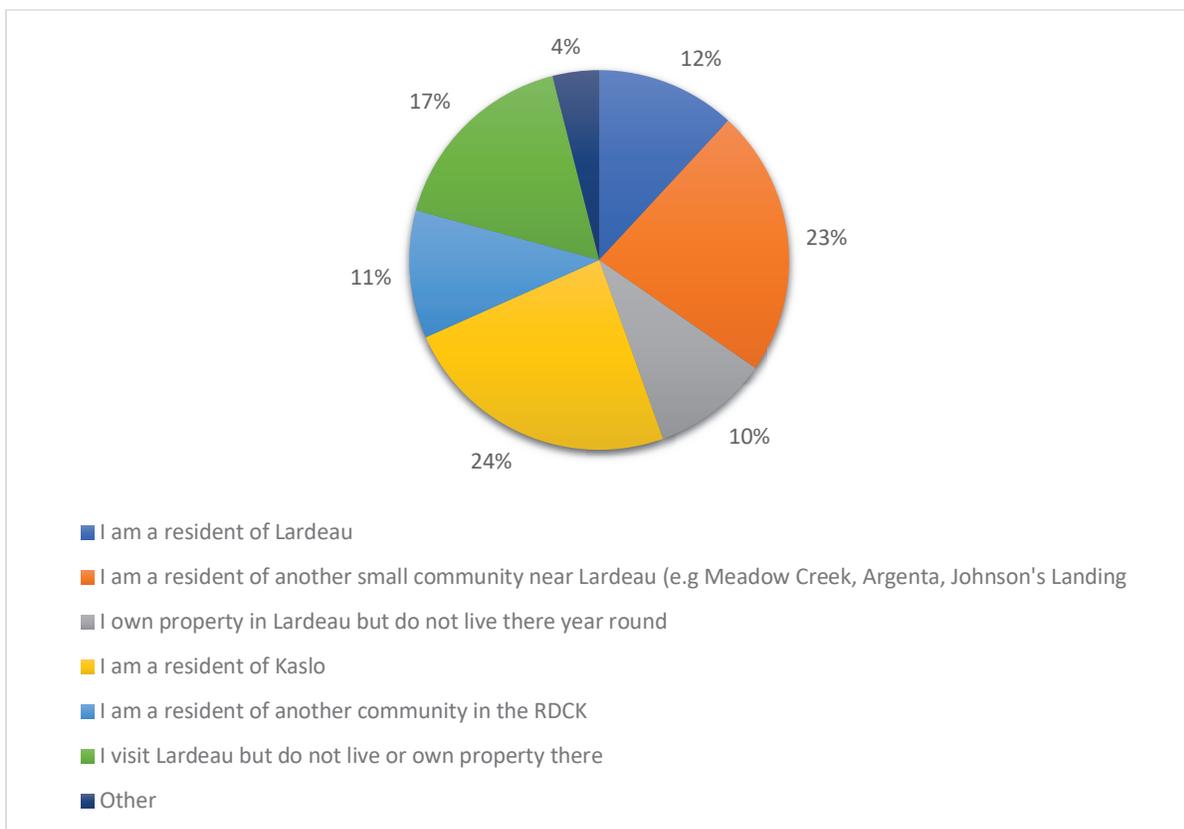
# Lardeau Regional Park Management Plan

## Summary of Community Survey Results – DRAFT Feb 7, 2019

The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK)

From November 27 2018 - January 15, 2019 an online survey was open to provide the public the opportunity to submit input on the preparation of a Park Management Plan for the Lardeau Regional Park. Hard copy forms were available upon request. There was a total of 548 responses to the survey. Of those, 190 were complete, for a completion rate of 35%.

### 1. Demographics – Please describe yourself. Check all that apply.



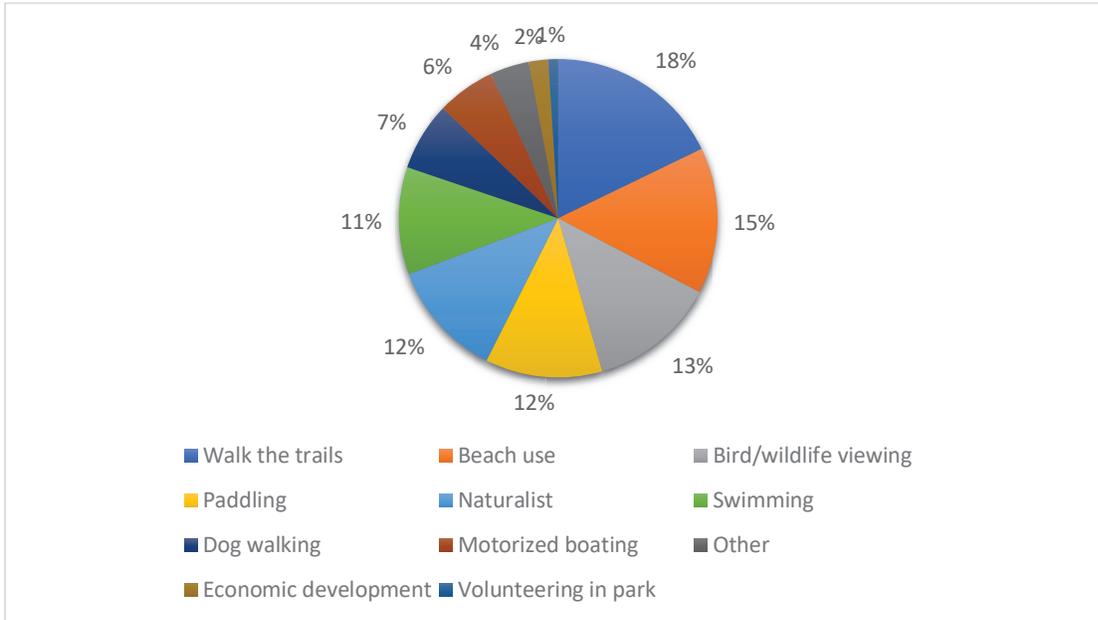
- 12% of the survey respondents identified themselves as residents of Lardeau
- The majority of the respondents do not reside in Lardeau, with most either being residents of Kaslo (24%), of another small community near Lardeau (23%) or of another community in the RDCK (11%)



## 2. What are your interests in relation to this regional park?

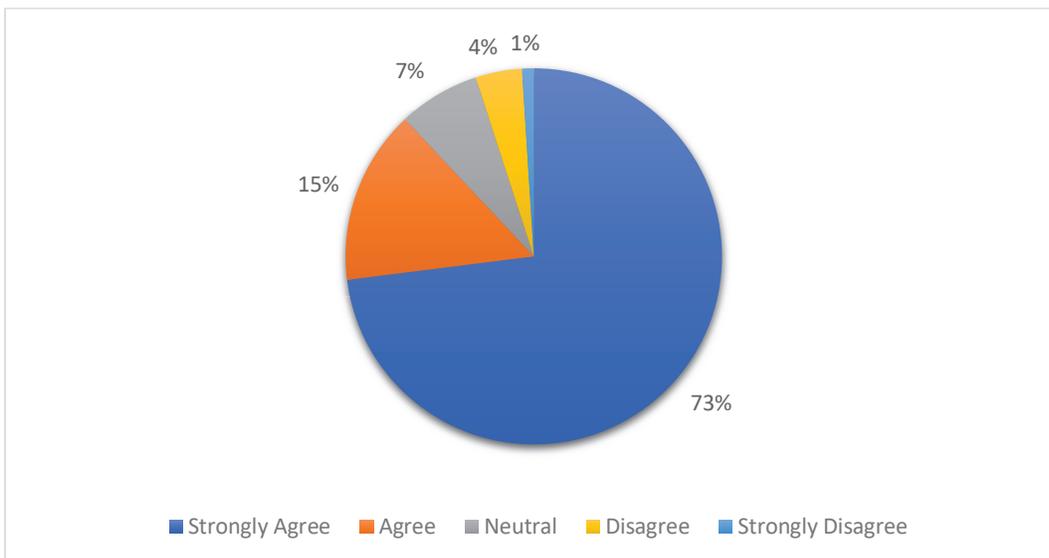
Top 3 interests:

1. Walk the trails (18%)
2. Beach use (15%)
3. Bird/wildlife viewing (13%)



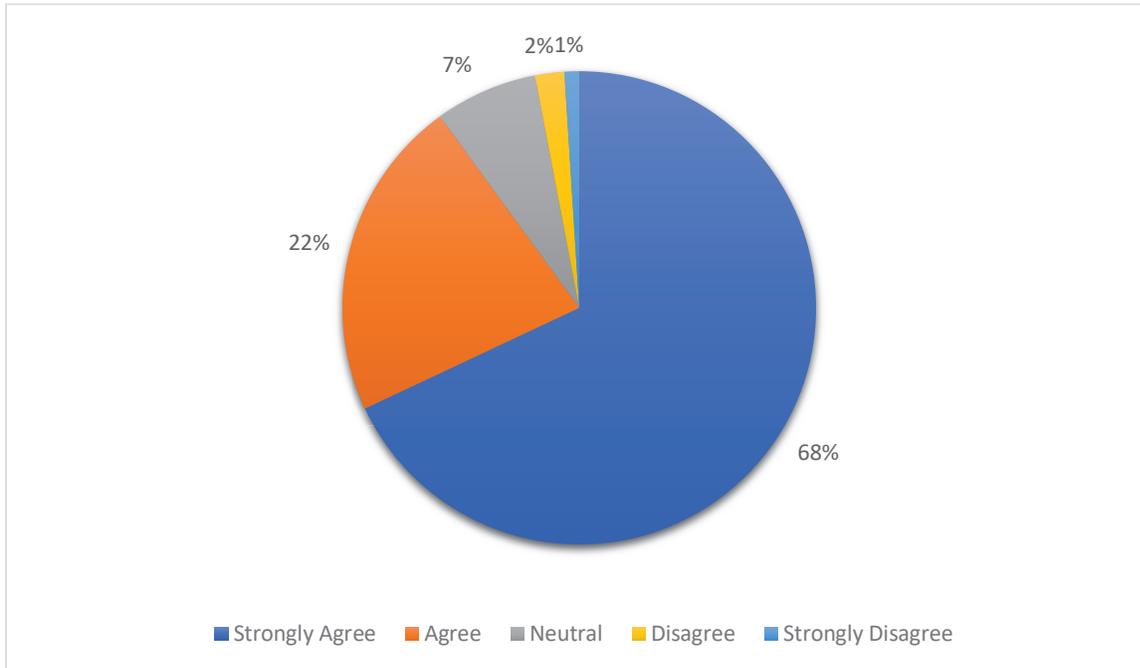
In the next section, respondents were asked to indicate support for the following statements:

### 3. Improvements within Lardeau Regional Park should be minimal and focused on protecting natural values and resources.



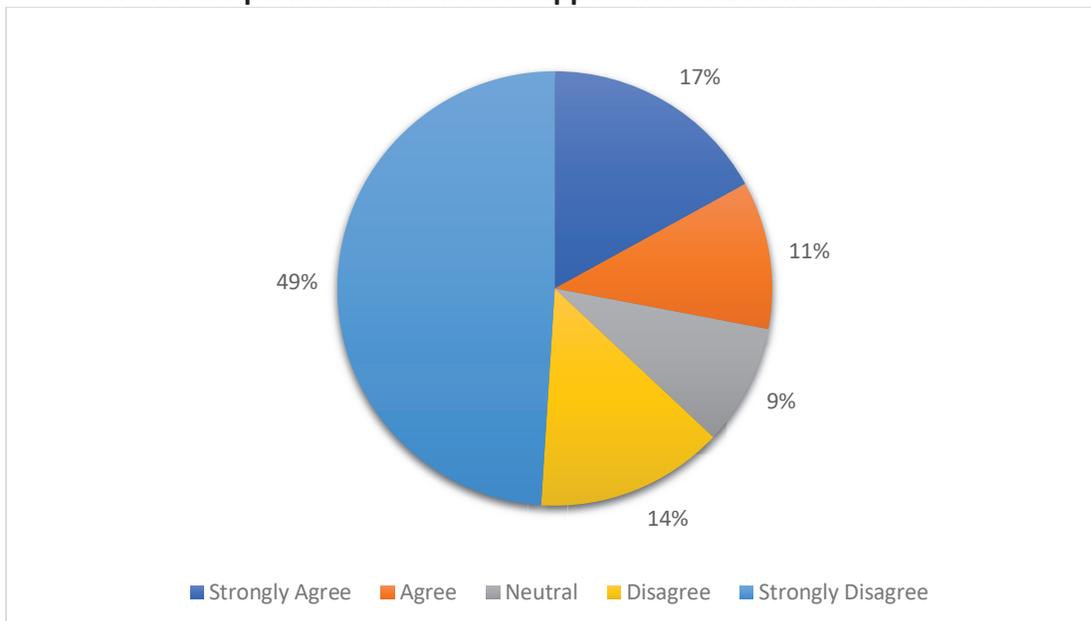
Consensus was strong with this statement, with 88% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing.

**4 . Improvements to the Lardeau Regional Park should reflect a rustic Kootenay Character.**



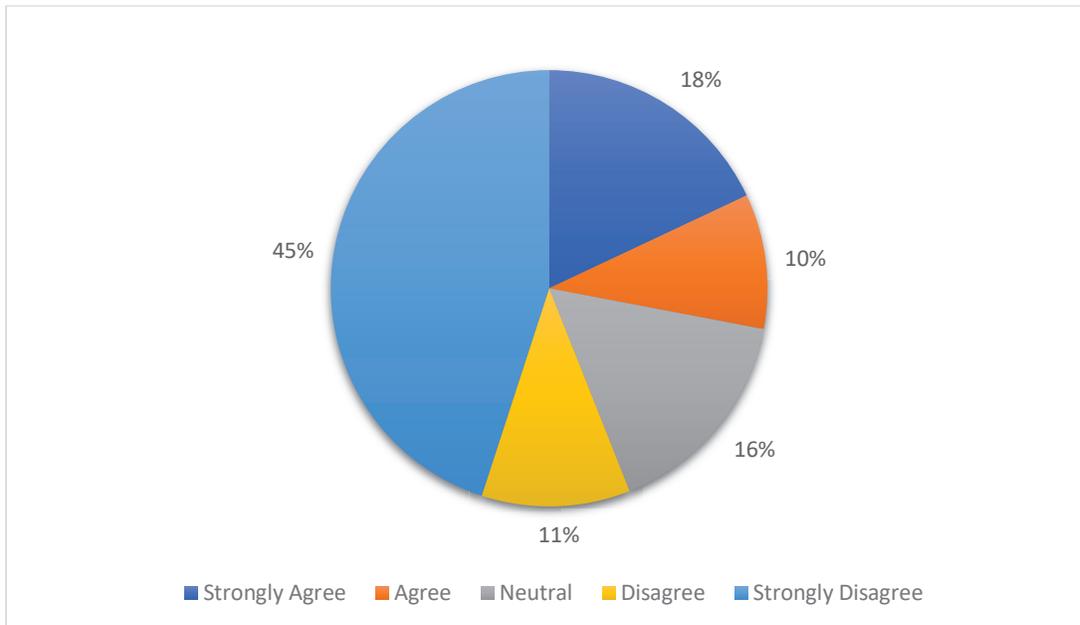
The majority of residents agree or strongly agree with this statement.

**5. Future park facilities should support motorized watercraft uses.**



Most respondents do not agree with the idea that motorized watercraft uses should be supported in the future with 63% disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

## 6. Future park facilities should include construction of a wharf



Just over half (56%) of the respondents do not want a wharf to be included in future park facilities, while 28% are in favour of it.

## 7. Please rank the following list in order of your priorities to address in the Lardeau Park Management Plan

Respondents most often chose Environmental protection as their top priority and Regulatory signage as least important.

Rankings:

1. Environmental protection
2. Limiting vehicular access to sensitive area e.g. relocating parking out of riparian areas
3. Riparian enhancements and restoration
4. Washrooms
5. Trail improvements, e.g. linkages to Davis Creek and prov. Park
6. Wild fire risk and camping on adjacent land
7. Site furnishings
8. Boat launch improvements, i.e. wharf or ramp
9. Parking and access road improvements



10. Interpretive signage
11. Designated swimming area
12. Wayfinding/ entry signage
13. Regulatory signage
14. Other-see below

## **Other**

This section was for people to write out other priorities that did not appear on the list. Some common themes were as follows:

- Many comments expressed a desire to keep changes to the area minimal. Common phrasings were “Keep it simple”, “Leave it as is”, and “Keep it natural”
- Many respondents were opposed to any action that would encourage or increase motorized water craft activity: “To be clear, it would be a huge mistake to build a wharf. Part of the attraction of Kootenay Lake is the minimal motorized traffic on it.”
- Environmental protection/stewardship-wildlife is highly valued by respondents.
- Many do not want to link the park to Davis Creek, as it would increase activities like motorized boating and camping, increasing the number of visitors to the area: “Leave it as is! The area is well used by local people who respect it and enjoy it as is. Leave it as a natural area for us. Don’t turn it into a Davis Creek campground-like area!”
- Washrooms were mentioned several times. People commented they would like them to be simple and minimal, such as a single self-composting outhouse. There were also concerns as to how a washroom would be maintained.

## **8. What else is important for the planning team to consider during the park planning process**

Listed below are some of the main takeaways from the responses to this survey question. Several common themes emerged:

### **Environment**

- -Preservation, conservation and encouraging stewardship of the local environment were often mentioned
- -management and investigation of invasive species
- -environmental concerns were mentioned very frequently in the survey, usually connected to the potential of a wharf and motorized watercraft activities.



- -The respondents value the natural environment very highly, referring to it as sacred, expressing the desire to preserve it for future generations

### **“Leave as is”/ “Keep it simple”/ “Keep it natural”**

- -Again, the desire for minimal changes and respect for the existing natural, undeveloped character of the place.
- -people also expressed the desire for Lardeau not to become a draw for visitors and to keep local use the priority in any planning

### **Cost and Maintenance**

Another common theme in the responses is concern over cost, both initial and long term.

- -where would the money come from, and would it increase taxes for residents?
- -who will maintain any improvements, how much will that cost over time?
- -related specifically to the wharf, who would be responsible for maintenance?

### **Wharf**

Many respondents used this section of the questionnaire to again voice their opinions and concerns regarding a potential wharf.

Those in favour of a wharf mentioned the following reasons:

- -Provides access for boaters, recreation
- -Many people specified they only would want a wharf that is small, inobtrusive and would cause minimal disturbance to the environment
- -Others were interested in it as a potential emergency access option

Those against the wharf expressed several concerns:

- -The potential for a wharf to increase motorized boat traffic on the lake, which they are very opposed to for environmental reasons.
- -A wharf may draw more visitors and increase traffic through Lardeau
- -Suggestion by numerous respondents that if a wharf is needed, it should be located at Lost Ledge instead.

### **Motorized watercraft and ATVs**

Many respondents opposed to any action that would encourage use of motorized watercraft and ATVs.

- -Strong desire for this area to remain an area for non-motorized activities such as kayaking and paddling.
- -Many mentions of OCP goals of being net zero carbon emissions, and how motorized boats are counter to this goal.
- -great concern for effect of these vehicles on the environment, and if they will contribute to erosion of the banks
- -Concern about the noise that comes with activities such as jet skis, ATVs, motorized boats



### **Maintaining public access and public space along the shoreline**

Several respondents voiced concerns about public access and space disappearing on the waterfront and hoped that future plans would ensure the waterfront remains public.

### **Camping**

There was concern that camping will bring excess noise, garbage, fire risk and a general desire for the area to be day use only.

### **Other**

- Again, the desire not to create a connection to Davis Creek is expressed
- Emergency access and planning – respondents wanted to know what planning and preparation has been done in cases of disasters such as landslides and wildfires.
- Accessibility and multi age use



# Lardeau Regional Park Management Plan-Community Survey

## INTRODUCTION

The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) needs your input in the preparation of a Park Management Plan for the Lardeau Regional Park. Regional parks are public recreation assets that are significant not only to their immediate communities, but the entire Kootenay region and beyond. The Lardeau Regional Park is owned by the Province of BC and is currently operated by the RDCK through a License of Occupation (LoO); an arrangement that commits the RDCK to provide appropriate facilities that encourage responsible use, protect natural resources and reflect the character of the community. The RDCK has committed to continuing public engagement to inform a park management plan that provides strategic direction for how the park is managed in the long term.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Please describe yourself. Check all that apply.

- I am a resident of Lardeau
- I am a resident of a small community near Lardeau (e.g. Meadow Creek, Argenta, Johnson's Landing)
- I own property in Lardeau but do not live there year-round
- I am a resident of Kaslo
- I am a resident of another community in the RDCK
- I visit Lardeau but do not live or own property there
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are your interests in relation to this regional park? Check all that apply.

- Naturalist
- Bird/wildlife viewing
- Dog walking
- Volunteering in park
- Paddling
- Motorized boating
- Walk the trails
- Swimming
- Beach use
- Economic development
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

## LARDEAU REGIONAL PARK QUESTIONS

Please indicate your level of support for the following statements:

3. Improvements within the Lardeau Regional Park should be minimal, and focused on protecting natural values and resources.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

4. Improvements to the Lardeau Regional Park should reflect a rustic Kootenay character.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

5. Future park facilities should support motorized watercraft uses.



Strongly agree     Agree     Neutral     Disagree     Strongly disagree

6. Future park facilities should include the construction of a wharf.

Strongly agree     Agree     Neutral     Disagree     Strongly disagree

7. Please rank the following list in order of your priorities to address in the Lardeau Park Management Plan?

- Washrooms
- Parking and access road improvements
- Limiting vehicular access to sensitive areas, e.g. relocate parking out of riparian area
- Boat launch improvements, i.e. wharf or ramp
- Wildfire risk and camping on adjacent land
- Trail improvements, e.g. linkages to Davis Creek and the provincial park
- Site furnishings- picnic tables, benches and waste receptacles
- Riparian enhancement and restoration
- Environmental protection
- Designated swimming area
- Regulatory signage
- Interpretative signage
- Wayfinding/entry signage
- Other (please specify)

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8. What else is important for the planning team consider during the park planning process?

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**Thank you very much for your participation and comments. Your voice is important to this process.**

Please complete this form to the Regional District of Central Kootenay by January 15, 2019 using one of the following methods:

- Mail or deliver a hard copy to the Regional District of Central Kootenay ATTN: Mark Crowe, Parks Planner  
Regional District of Central Kootenay, Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC V1L 5R4
- Complete this comment form online at <https://na1se.voxco.com/SE/111/LardeauRegionalPark/>

Please provide your email address if you would like further communication about upcoming community engagement events and project updates. Your email address will be used and stored to comply with the British Columbia's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA). \_\_\_\_\_



## Verbatim responses

This section lists the verbatim responses that were given to the two open-ended questions.

### Question 7-Priorities to address in the Management Plan (Other) – 50 responses

Dog Friendly Access

All the above are to be found at the Davis Creek Campground. We don't need to duplicate it.

decommission existing roads to limit future motorized access to this area, keep it as a green space

Difficult to say where Trail Improvements fits in. Use of WOOD structures for washrooms, WOOD fences for park and Firewood holding place.

Do not link Lardeau to the campground, keep them over at their site...no bridges between the 2. No camp fire rings in park.

Dogs MUST be leashed at all times

egress and access to Lardeau for emergencies; mitigate against wildfire within the designated area.

encourage wildlife/bird observation

For all north Kootenay lake to enjoy and have safe access for boating . Currently the elderly and handicapped cap persons are very limited to safe access to their boats

I am an occasional visitor from Invermere and trust those who live in your valley to protect the beauty you live in.

I did not respond to the "rustic" question as I'd like to know what this implies; I'd like to know what effects - positive and negative - washrooms and waste receptacles have (noting that along the lake shore in Kaslo where there are waste receptacles there is a great amount of litter

I support a wharf and parking upgrades and washrooms. I would like to see minimal development otherwise and no connecting trails to the provincial campground. There is a quiet remote atmosphere there and most use it for such. The boat ramp and warf should be the main priority.

I was unable to make the last 14 answered work. To be clear it would be a huge mistake to build a warf. Part of the attraction of Kootenay lake is the minimal motorized traffic on it.

If possible, I would only like to see the ones in the right column included...The ones in the left column could be eliminated. I support having no camping there at all.

If their is to be a boat launch - which I don't believe is necessary, it should be at Lost Ledge

im sure others may have opinions

In the last three years alone local people are driving machinery on the beach, dragging materials that are used by creatures as homes and safehavens, pushing habitat including natural trees and shrubs into ugly piles and etc. Firepits are being built randomly all along the beach. Garbage including human feces are commonly encountered during the summer months. This area is precious as a natural landscape and should be protected from human interventions beyond maintaining a safe fuel level.



is there any environmental baseline profiling that needs to occur with the establishment of the regional park plan?

It's fine as it is, and we'd like less tourism, not more.

Jet skis should be banned from this area

Just leave it alone.

Keep it safe, simple and as natural as possible

leave as is except for wharf

Leave it as it is! The area is well used by local people who respect it and enjoy it as it is. Leave it as a natural area for us. Don't turn it into a Davis Creek campground-like area!

leave Lardeau as it is-

maintaining and expanding public use area - ie. prohibiting accretions on lakeshore

Management plan for invasive species including aquatics (mussels, milfoil) knapweed, hawkweed, etc.

minimal improvements to respect the natural character consistent with climate change predictions and RDCK's net zero carbon goals (ie discourage increased use of carbon)

No linkage to Davis Creek

NO linkage to provincial park - no motorized boating

No more development

no more lights at night please. Few lights on the lake make it a wonderfully unique experience.

No motorized recreation vehicles (ATV and jet skis) and day use only

No waste receptacles - pack in - pack out

one single outhouse

Only the most modern, stainless steel, composting toilets

outhouse

outhouse for protection of the community and modesty

Park Attendant to clean washroom and look after the parks interests.

prevention of Fire Risk, pack in pack out signage

Proper garbage disposal and pickup

Regarding the item "wildfire risk and camping on adjacent land", PLEASE don't add camping capabilities to the park. This would not only increase wildfire risk, but encourage partying and other unwanted behaviour. Davis Creek and Lost Ledge provincial parks as well as the Glacier Creek RDCK park provide ample camping opportunities. The Meadow Creek Community Centre also offers camping.

Signage including map of the area and trails



Signage specifically targeted to the ecosystem values - eg, birds and riparian value

the camping spot is within the LoO not adjacent land

We do not need washrooms. Well managed outhouses would be fine.

Whatever the outcome, laws need to be enforced. Currently that doesn't happen and some people that use this area are in violation of several laws.

wildlife protection

with the possible exception of washrooms it is perverted the way it is and should stay that way.

**Question 8- What else is important for the planning team to consider during the park planning process? – 94 responses**

1. cost, a better boat ramp, paved parking, paved parking, washrooms, and pylons for a war already exist at Lost ledge. 2. Climate change and go with the flow- do not encourage more motorized boat traffic. Most tourists in the adjoining campground have paddle type boats which have been increasing in the last few years(confirm with Parks people. Tourists from Salmon Arm and Invermere say they cannot paddle or kayak safely on their lakes. Maintenance of peace and quiet should be a priority, Okanogan Lake where I lived before was once quiet. I ride my bike on the highway often, kayakers on tourist vehicles appears to be the growing trend. Motorized boats are not a common possession of locals, general tax dollars should not support an exclusive group with higher income or capital- a minority!

a boat ramp

A green space park with few if any facilities is more consistent with the Area D OCP input than having or encouraging increased motorized activities in this area. Consider that the most impact, negative, will be felt by the residents within Lardeau. Please consider separately and specifically the increased maintenance and associated budget if there is a wharf. There would be a need for a boat washing station, scheduled sand removal from the cement launch which accumulates quickly

Access for search and rescue boats and/or emergency access when Lardeau Bluffs are closed

Access to the lake

As a relatively new Lardeau resident (2 years) I can tell you that the primary draw for us was the remote nature of the community. I believe most other locals would express the same sentiment. Please don't over develop the park area and change that.

as the local fire warden I patrol this park frequently and can say it needs no further fire fuels mitigation as it is sparsely treed.

As with any small community, consider impact on area residents and limit non-resident encroachment of privacy, parking directly in front of private property, etc.

careless campers and campfires

Concerns of local residents being priority.



Do not allow domestic animals in the park (including cats and dogs). Too many domestic animals are being allowed to harass wildlife in their habitat including: deer, bears, cougars, Mustelids etc. Posting proper signage, and enforcing the rules would be great!

Dock is very important for boaters safety during storms...do not link Lardeau to the campground and no campfire rings.

Enhancing the existing views of the area..

Environmental values at the north end of the lake and not just Lardeau would suffer serious negative environmental impacts from increased motorized traffic

extend protected area to include crown land [south to creek and west to hwy 31]

Fishing and invasive species interpretation.

how will maintenace be funded and managed

I feel that the area in question should be left as it is. That is what makes it so special.

I have chosen Lardeau for my home because it is low density which protects the wild north lake environment. Let's keep that here instead of pushing development. Less is more for any who choose to visit that.

I have had a cabin very close to that area for 23 years. There are numerous bird species in that area including loons, herons, geese, mergansers. A wharf brings Boat traffic, fuel spills. constant noise and interferes wLth wildlife. This is a sensitive area.

I live in Lardeau because it is a quiet and undeveloped

I live in Lardeau for reasons that are already here. Why would I want facilities created to bring more people into my home. There is already a park across the creek. The boat launch is in good shape and we maintain the approach.

I strongly feel we do not want a park in Lardeau, but a wharf for emergencies would be beneficial.

I would like to see all beach areas for public use. I would like to prohibit accretions of private land onto public sites. Where possible I would like to see trail connectivity along beaches.

I would like to see the whole area remain undeveloped. I don't believe a wharf would change much. Some teeth to a camping ban is needed.

If a boat launch is seen as necessary in the area Lost Ledge campsite would be a more logical choice. Otherwise, everyone from both Davis Creek and Lost Ledge who has a motorized boat will be driving through Lardeau to launch their boat. this will compromise the area for other uses (swimming, hiking, wildlife viewing). Please consider also the level of disturbance that will be required to maintain a wharf and boat launch in a location that sees a lot of natural sand movement. It would make the most sense to have a professional review several different potential boat launch options from several different perspectives so that the feature can be installed and maintained with the least possible disruption to existing use.

if a wharf is wanted by public put it at Lost Ledge - better set up and location

if net zero is the goal, motorized water craft go against this; has any consideration gone into the potential spread of invasive species, both aquatic and land with increased traffic



if the park becomes such that it requires employees hire locally . investigate alternative forms of power if needed (ie solar lights along trails, in washrooms,etc).

I'm concerned about having a park we can't afford to maintain. There will be ongoing maintenance required.

Initial cost and ongoing maintenance cost

Interface fire (fire mitigation) to be in place. In case of forest fire community has no fire protection. Keeping park area natural - no huge development.

It is noteworthy that the migratory birds use Lardeau as a stop off point to feed and rest and they get an amazing number of species on their point. please don't develop this area to the extent that it interferes with bird or fish habitat

Keep it as it is.

Keep it natural

Keep it simple, the wharf would be find; access to the campsite is just fine the way it is; access from the HIGHWAY; I am very opposed to access from the proposed wharf.

kokanee/gerard/native fish

leave it as is. Who will be looking after whatever you do as now no body does?

Leave the parkland as is. No future improvements except for the wharf and ramp.

Leave the place alone.

Leaving the area the way it is now.

life is fleeting so be with the people you love

loud motors ruin everyone's fun

Maintain as a Natural Area

Minimal disturbance of natural surroundings. And minimal tax implications

minimal disturbance of nesting birds - ground, tree, lake area

Motorized water craft are already negatively affecting marine life. At our beach at Salisbury Creek the wake from water ski and tube ski boats is severe and causes erosion and I am sure disrupts the feeding of frogs, snakes drqgon flies small fry of all fish species, and many micro biological communities. We dpo not need to increase this. Let's not have another Waldon Pond please. Jet skis sound like Armageddon under water even from across the lake, and leave an oil slick.

No ATVs allowed in the park

No fires.....and keep us informed with a phone number that we can call to get info....

No overnight camping or fire pits

No overnight camplng



No wharf due to potential for overuse by jet skis and overnight parking

Not too much construction, signages to limit things; PLEASE PICK UP LITTER, DON'T LEAVE DOGGIE-POO BAGS AROUND, LEAVE PLEASE PARK AS IT WAS WHEN YOU CAME, THIS IS A DRY PARK (as in DRY CAMP), NO LOUD PARTIES, ...

Not too structured or regulated. We like the casual Kootenay way.

other residents of the area

Overall public boat launching capacities in Kaslo and Area D - take a regional perspective if taking Kaslo's regional money

Parking for boat trailers and vehicles

Plan access and exit road in case of landslide, fire or other natural catastrophe. Include info about invasive species.

Please do not link Davis Creek Campground directly. If people would like to access the park it is an easy and beautiful walk up to the road, across the bridge and back down the trail on the other side.

Please emphasise the ecosystem values because these are disappearing along Kootenay Lake. No motorised emphasis, no wharf at all - this is CRITICAL

Please just leave the area alone.

please note that I previously completed the survey but did not add my name to the mailout list

proper lake access

water access to lake

Put the wharf, if it's actually needed, in a more sensible location i.e. Lost Ledge.

quiet zones for enjoying the beauty and serenity are significant values of most of us who live around Kootenay Lake

RDCK's promotion of self propelled activities vs motorized activities

Regarding the wharf matter, which seems to be the key decision point in the plan, it appears that the interest in the wharf is driven by the local Lardeau boat owners who have established [through the use of public type endowment funds] a budget to build the wharf. If this is accurate then it follows the wharf will be used and monopolized by local interests. The locals want a place to park their boats first and foremost before a public access point. I have spent a fair amount of time in the bush and in 'cottage clountry' and clearly, this is what is going on. If the money was all private and the land in question open for private development than sure, these local motorized boat owners and interests would be more valid. But given the public nature of the source funding and the public nature of the land its Crown tenure, is the motivation of local boat owners for a wharf a bit of a conflict of interest?

Respect of land owners property.

safe multi age use

Saving water.



Seems like an unnecessary park since Davis creek is park is right there

Signs asking campers to be mindful of others by not playing loud music

Simple campi - no hookups - boats for fishing - no seadoos close to shore - dog control and poo pickup  
kng

stop changing everything

tendering to encourage/favour shop local. Use lowest cost design.

That the area doesn't become a site easily abused by visitors or becomes too overused or overpopulated by nonresidents.

The attractiveness of the north end of the lake is its' wilderness...any significant changes would alter the integrity of this and the ecosystem there. PLEASE protect it for the generations to come. Thank you for offering this survey.

The impact on permanent residents. Lardeau is a quiet little place that stands to be changed forever if this little park is developed to satisfy people who don't live here. The lake at this end is used primarily by kayakers, canoists, rowers and sailers. Loud motorboats and jetskis ruin the lake for quieter uses.

The nature of these questions makes it clear that the planning committee already understands that this area has wildlife values. But I wonder if you realise just how significant? For reasons which we don't fully understand, Lardeau attracts an unusual number of birds, particularly during migration. It appears to be a very attractive "oasis" in the middle of a coniferous forest. Deciduous/riparian habitat is not common in the valley, but is the favoured habitat of most birds. The list of rare and unusual species that have occurred within the Lardeau townsite is quite remarkable! Minimizing disturbance should be the number one priority of any development. A wharf would have an impact on migrating shorebirds. Increased boat traffic would create more disturbance. The logical place for a wharf would be in Davis Creek P.P.

The only thing i would like to see happen is a small warf and maybe a bathroom for any boaters that come in off the lake. I would like everything else left the same. There is no need for other improvements, keep it as rustic as it is. There is a park next door that has the day use and garbage and having a warf will already bring a steady flow of boaters to the small community. If people want more camping than there is room for Davis Creek Campground to expand. Definitely no linkages to Davis Creek, Improvements will just increase our taxes.

The other (cement) boat launch should be able to be used by the public - it was built by BC Hydro - so there would be no need for a "better" boat launch in the Lardeau park area.

The wharf needs to be protected from north winds and sand washing into the launch area (boom and large rocks on both sides of ramp)

There should be no docks or permanent mourage provided. The area needs to be left in a relatively natural state.

This area is great the way it is.

To develop the wharf and boat launch with as little impact to the surrounding area as possible. Feel it is good to have a boat launch to provide boat access for emergencies. It is ironic that the Hydro boat launch is deemed to be not used by the neighbours who reside by it even though they are seasonal



residents who do not frequent their properties very often. Feel washrooms are a must for boaters coming in and going out on the lake.

Usage which is largely recreational which contributes to global warming should be minimized ie., motorized boating

Use the same designation as the Balfour Regional Park...a perfect fit for our waterfront. Consider working with the gov't. agency responsible for the Davis Creek trail and have that start at the creekmouth of Davis creek instead of the highway. this would be a natural connection for the park and portection of the green space adjacent to the creek which is crown land.

We are so fortunate to have this beautiful, natural park to accessl Kootenay Lake. Find the balance between accessibility and protecting this green space that my husband and I consider sacred.

What do the locals want? In the face of a looming biodiversity crisis, the team should consider protecting aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat along the lake as one of the highest priorities!

What the residents of Lardeau are willing to accept.

Who is going to maintain this park?

WHO would be servicing the washrooms - picnic tables - garbage cans - swimming area bouys - etc..

wildlife and water protection

Would have liked to see garbage receptacles on its own, then benches.that would have been no. Two and three for me.

