CONSERVATION

MOOSE MOUNTAIN LAND GIFT

Members of the Kalispel (Q'lispe') Tribe, who are seeking to revive their historic canoe culture, were able to reclaim an important area of their traditional homeland along the Pack River through the facilitation of a land donation from The Idaho Club. Moose Mountain lies within a wildlife travel corridor and is adjacent to state and federal lands along the Pack River. The Tribe intends to manage conservation efforts and develop a public access space while reviving their rich canoe heritage on the waters of the Pack River and Lake Pend Oreille.

THE BIG CONSERVATION PICTURE





CONNECTION

SANDERS COUNTY RECREATION & OUTREACH

Western Montana's outstanding outdoor recreation assets became the focal point of the EPA's Recreation Economy for Rural Communities (RERC) planning initiative. Aimed at boosting the economy and bringing residents outdoors, the RERC plan is guiding the work of KLT's first Montana staff member, Recreation and Outreach Coordinator, Kayla Mosher. That work includes:



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Kaniksu Land Trust acknowledges that Pine Street Woods lies within the adjudicated lands of the Kalsipel (Q'lispe) Tribe.

Kaniksu Land Trust acknowledges that its work is within the traditional territories of the Schitzu'umsh (Coeur d'Alene), Ktunaxa (Ktunaxa Nation) Kootenai Tribe of Idaho and Q'lispe (Kalispel) tribes.

Community surveys to identify recreation-related needs and priorities

Weekly outdoor recreation newsletters

• An interactive recreation map for Sanders County

Classes and events that bring families outdoors



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

KANIKSU — land trust —



Photo credit: E. Curtis 1908

REWILD THE CHILD

Even in the natural surroundings of the great Northwest, not all children have equal access to outdoor experiences. Reaching kids with the wonder of nature means meeting them where they are. Through school outreach, affordable seasonal camps, and special events, more kids experienced the exhilaration of the outdoors this year.



OUTREACH TO 7SCHOOLS

KLT's Rewild the Child initiative makes nature immersion a part of every child's education. Our project includes rewilding a portion of each school yard through tailored designs that invite exploration and discovery. Outdoor learning spaces on school grounds make sense for limited school day schedules, overcrowded classrooms, and access for teachers. Through support from United Way North Idaho, work has already begun to rewild the play yards at three local elementary schools.



COMMUNITY



Adults love to learn too! In the spring of 2021, KLT launched a folk school for adults and teens that seeks to enrich lives through the sharing of traditional crafts and music. Talented artisan instructors from the local and regional community conduct beginner-level classes on such topics as wood carving, leather craft, stringed instruments, food preparation, and timber frame construction. Each seasonal line up is unique and kicks off with a community gathering that is open to the public.

CLASSES TAUGHT



"We start to create a community story through craft that weaves us together and helps us feel as if we belong to this land." - HILARY PETTERSON, KANIKSU FOLK SCHOOL COORDINATOR

SAVE THE SLED HILL

Photo credit: Fiona Hicks Photography





When the privately-owned community sledding hill on Pine Street recently closed to the public after years of open access, hundreds of families lost more than a place to go sledding. For many, this was the only source of truly accessible winter recreation. Just minutes from town, this hill has a rich history of welcoming community members for winter fun, recreation, and adventure dating back to the 1940s. The 48-acre property went on the market in the fall of 2021 and was later purchased by friends of KLT who offered to hold it for 18 months to give the community time to fundraise and acquire the property.



S1.25 MILLION RAISEE

TOTAL COST (land purchase + stewardship)



"The work ahead of us is going to take the entire community. We know that together, we can all sled the great hill again!" - KATIE COX, KLT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR