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A New Face at the Kaniksu Land Trust

by Eric Grace,
Executive Director

To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.
-Winston Churchill

The Kaniksu Land Trust continues its transformation. Change is always necessary - either to fine-tune programs or to adapt to external pressures and community needs. While perfection may be our goal, we won't flatter ourselves by thinking we are there...at least not yet.

This past year we witnessed a significant increase in the number of landowners interested in pursuing conservation. This demand

has forced us to bring on additional staff to help. We are fortunate to welcome Regan Plumb to the team to coordinate KLT's conservation work.

"KLT has the tools that landowners can use to ensure the land they love remains as open space forever. My job is to work with interested landowners and explore these options with them," stated Plumb.

A native of eastern Washington, Regan came home to the Northwest in 2007, drawn by the area's beauty and outstanding natural resources. She settled with her family in Bonners Ferry before moving to Sandpoint this spring. Regan holds a B.A. in biology from The Colorado College and a research-based Master's Degree in Zoology from the University of Wyo-

ming. She has worked on wildlife issues, including the Cabinet Yaak Grizzly DNA project in Idaho and Montana. She has also directed restoration work for the National Park Service. She currently consults as a technical writer and is a certified science teacher.

In addition to Regan's science-based work, she and her husband, Chad, own a



fishing charter, providing access to the beauty of the region to hundreds of

visitors. The couple also owns a contracting business which builds locally-sourced, energy-efficient homes.

According to Regan, she is "very excited to combine all the skills I've been acquiring over the years and to use them towards something I am very passionate about.

This is a great opportunity to make a meaningful difference to the region I love." Private land conservation depends on professional staff. Projects require talented people working with landowners, coordinating contractors, and processing the necessary paperwork (projects are essentially real-estate transactions).

With the addition of Regan, KLT now has three employees: Regan; Anne Mitchell our wonderful administrative assistant; and Eric Grace, the Executive Director. Having Regan will greatly increase our productivity, moving the organization towards being an organization that is truly fulfilling the needs of the community.

Eventually the Kaniksu Land Trust will need more staff, but more staff requires more resources. Of course, if we had unlimited funding we could do unlimited projects. That would get us one step closer to perfection. You always have to dream. **For more information, please visit www.Kaniksu.org or call the office at (208) 263-9471.**