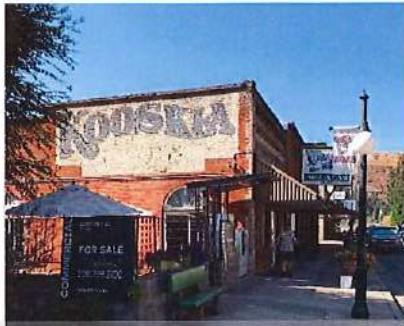


City of Kooskia Comprehensive Land Use Plan

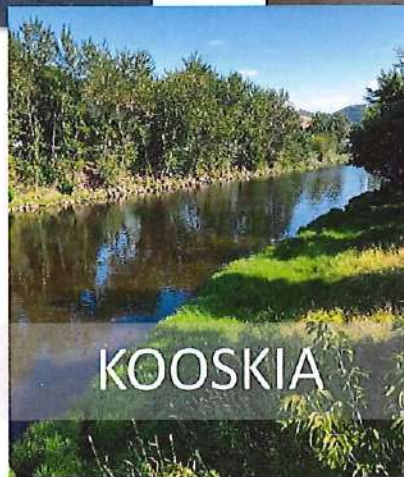
A Ten-Year Strategy for Development



A place



to call HOME!



KOOSKIA

26 Main Street

PO Box 126, Kooskia, Idaho 83539-0126

<https://cityofkooskia.myruralwater.com>

(208) 926-4684

Adoption Date: March 9, 2022

City of Kooskia, Idaho

Community Vision

At City of Kooskia, small town values, guided growth, preservation of historical, cultural, and natural heritage are just a few of the core principles that make our city a wonderful place to call home.

City Council of Kooskia Mission Statement:

Committed to leadership characterized by wisdom, integrity, fiscal responsibility, and equitableness in the use of city resources to help ensure the safety, health, security, and preservation of the way of life that our citizens enjoy.

Values of the City of Kooskia:

The legitimate object of Government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done but cannot do at all, or cannot so well do, for themselves in their separate and individual capacities. But in all that people can individually do for themselves, Government ought not interfere.

President Abraham Lincoln

The proper goal of all who use other people's money is to be parsimonious (stingy). With our own money we can do as we please. Knowing the difference between what is ours, and when we are using that of others, tell us much about integrity in both the public and private sectors.

James L Hayes

President, American Management Associations



A Place to Call Home

Resolution # 162
Adopting the Kooskia Comprehensive Land Use Plan

WHEREAS, Idaho's Local Planning Act, Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 65, requires Idaho cities to carry out planning duties necessary for the development and amending of a comprehensive plan and

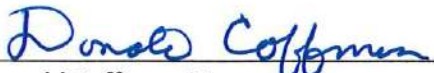
WHEREAS, the City of Kooskia, with the participation of its residents, has prepared a new comprehensive plan, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held within the City in compliance with provisions of the Local Planning Act,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Kooskia, Idaho as follows:

1. That the Kooskia City Council hereby adopts the City of Kooskia Comprehensive Land Use Plan, dated March 9, 2022.
2. Said adopted plan is a final print of prior drafts which have been the subject of the public hearings referenced above and which reflect responses to public comments upon the proposed amendments.
3. Copies of said Comprehensive Land Use Plan shall be maintained on file in the office of the city clerk. Individual copies may be purchased at the cost of production from the City of Kooskia. An electronic copy is available free-of-charge.

This Resolution is ADOPTED and made EFFECTIVE this 9th day of March, 2022.


Donald Coffman, Mayor

Attest:

(seal)


Teresa Lytle, City Clerk/Treasurer

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Introduction

The Planning Process

The Comprehensive Plan is the adopted ten-year planning document for the City of Kooskia's growth and development. This plan, with periodic review and timely updates, is the guiding document toward the City of Kooskia's attainment of an exceptional quality of life and assuring economic vitality into the future.

The Idaho Local Land Use Planning Act (Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 65) outlines how governmental entities within the state are to implement planning tools. These planning tools include comprehensive planning, zoning, the regulation of subdivisions, and other land use issues. The purpose of the Planning Act (67-6502) is to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the state of Idaho as follows:

1. *To protect property rights and enhance property values.*
2. *To ensure that adequate public facilities and services are provided to the people at reasonable cost.*
3. *To ensure that the economy of the state and localities is protected and enhanced.*
4. *To ensure that the important environmental features of the state and localities are protected and enhanced.*
5. *To encourage the protection of prime agricultural, forestry, and mining lands for production of food, fiber, and minerals.*
6. *To encourage urban and urban-type development within incorporated cities.*
7. *To avoid undue concentration of population and overcrowding of land.*
8. *To ensure that the development of land is commensurate with the physical characteristics of the land.*
9. *To protect life and property in areas subject to natural hazards and disasters.*
10. *To protect fish, wildlife, and recreation resources.*
11. *To avoid undue air and water pollution.*
12. *To allow local school districts to participate in the community planning and development process so to address public school needs and impacts on an ongoing basis.*

The preparation of the Comprehensive Plan is the result of efforts by interested citizens and elected officials. A planning team of the following people guided the development efforts:

1. Don Coffman, Mayor
2. Teresa Lytle, Clerk-Treasurer
3. Carlos Martinez, Public Works Superintendent
4. Dena Puderbaugh, Kooskia Community Library Branch Manager

Research data was obtained from sources that are documented at the end of each planning chapter. A public hearing was held on March 9, 2022. The final plan was adopted on March 9, 2022.

Scope of the Comprehensive Plan

The City of Kooskia Comprehensive plan is the official public statement of the city's planning goals, objectives, and strategies for implementation. These provide the position of the community and provide the basis for policy decisions that are made on land use. They are intended to maintain and improve the quality of life enjoyed by those who live in Kooskia. The responsibility of maintaining and improving the quality of life in the city is a responsibility shared jointly by the city's governmental officials and citizens alike.

The Comprehensive Plan provides:

1. A document that meets the requirements of the Idaho Local Planning Act.
2. A Land Use Map that indicates the general land use goals. The current land use map was adopted with the adoption of the Comprehensive Land Use plan.

Purpose of the Comprehensive Plan

The Planning Act (67-6502) defines the purposes of a city's Comprehensive plan:

1. *To improve the physical environment of the community as a setting for human activities - to make it more functional, beautiful, decent, healthful, interesting, and efficient.*
2. *To promote the public interest and the interest of the community at large rather than the interest of individuals or special groups within the community.*
3. *To facilitate the democratic determination and implementation of community policies on the physical development of the city.*
4. *To effect political and technical coordination in community development.*
5. *To inject long range considerations into the determination of short range actions.*
6. *To bring professional and technical knowledge to bear on the making of political decisions concerning the physical development of the community.*

The essential characteristics of the plan are that it is comprehensive, general, and long range. Several other documents used in local planning are often confused with the Comprehensive Plan. One particularly troublesome point is that the land use section of the plan is often confused with a zoning

ordinance. The plan indicates only broad categories for general areas of the city. A zoning ordinance, a document which is totally separate from the Comprehensive Plan, must be created to delineate the exact boundaries of districts and to specify the detailed regulations that will apply to them.

An important aspect of the planning process is recognition that the plan will require periodic review and updating. Conditions and attitudes will change with time.

The most important point to be made in this introduction is that benefits flow from the use of the Plan, not from its mere existence. When the plan is adopted, it should represent the policies of the governing body, which must be committed to it and ready to follow its policies in their future actions. Frequent changes to the plan for individual convenience and the excessive issuance of exceptions to its implementing ordinances will destroy the credibility of the planning process and invite legal challenges. Consistency in the application of planning tools is essential.

Plan Uses

The City of Kooskia Comprehensive Plan has several important uses:

1. **Legislative:** To meet the requirements of the 1975 Land Use Planning Act of the State of Idaho (Idaho Code, Title 67, Chapter 65). This also establishes general land-use guidelines that later zoning regulations must be consistent with.
2. **Policy:** To clarify and articulate public policies and the intentions of the City of Kooskia with respect to the rights and expectations of the general public, private enterprise, and local government.
3. **Educational:** To enable local residents, public agencies, and economic interests to become informed of the city's plans and priorities.
4. **Coordination:** To establish a basis for coordination and understanding among residents, economic interests, city officials, private landowners, and public agencies within the City of Kooskia and the Kooskia Area of Impact.

To effectively analyze the opportunities and challenges Kooskia faces, the Plan addresses the following components, as required by Chapter 67-6508 of the Land Use Planning Act:

1. **Property Rights** discusses the provisions that may be necessary to ensure that land use policies, restrictions, conditions, and fees do not violate private property rights.
2. **Population** contains information on past, present, and projected future trends in population.
3. **School Facilities and related Transportation** discusses the public school capacity and related transportation and the considerations associated with future development.
4. **Economy** presents an analysis of the economic base of the area, including employment, industries, economies, and jobs.
5. **Natural Resources and Agriculture** gives an analysis of the rivers and other waters, forests,

ranges, soils, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and watersheds of the Kooskia area and their economic uses. These factors are useful in establishing limitations and potentials of land use.

6. Hazards and Hazardous Areas is an analysis of known natural and manmade hazards within the area.
7. Public Facilities and Services is an analysis of the city's water, sewer, and power systems, police and fire protection, health and welfare facilities, libraries, solid waste disposal facilities, public safety facilities, and related services.
8. Transportation is an analysis, prepared in coordination with the local jurisdiction of the Idaho Transportation Department, of the highways, streets, and sidewalks of the city.
9. Parks and Recreation is an analysis of the city's parks and recreational facilities and expected future needs.
10. Historic Resources and Special Sites is an analysis of areas, sites, or structures of historical, archeological, architectural, or scenic significance.
11. Housing is an analysis of housing conditions and needs, including goals and objectives for providing safe, sanitary, and adequate housing.
12. Community Design & Business District is an analysis of needs for governing landscaping, building design, tree planting, signs, and suggested patterns and standards for community design, development, and beautification and the downtown business district.
13. Land Use describes the current vision for a mix of future land uses that will realize the community's diverse goals.

Location and History

The following history of the City of Kooskia was developed through information found in the City of Kooskia 2014-2015 Comprehensive Plan and information from Idaho's 200 Cities, The North published by Ridenbaugh Press in cooperation with the Association of Idaho Cities on October 15, 2017.

The City of Kooskia is located in Idaho at the confluence of the Middle Fork and South Fork of the Clearwater River in Idaho County where the two rivers merge to become the main Clearwater River. At Kooskia, State Highway 13 – the Northwest Passage Scenic Byway, an All American Road – connects with US Highway 12. The city lies below an extension of Mount Stuart.

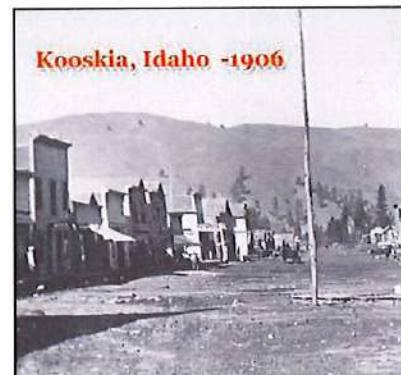


Kooskia is within just a few miles of the Nez Perce–Clearwater National Forest. The name of “Kooskia” was derived from a mispronunciation of “Koosk-koos-Kia” found in the Lewis and Clark Corp of Discovery journals. It is a Nez Perce Tribe name for the Clearwater River meaning “this is the little one” or “little river” or “where the two rivers meet.”

Pre-Incorporation Years

In 1895, the federal surveyors set aside 104 acres for a townsite. This was done as a result of the 1887 Dawes Severalty Act that allotted tribal lands to tribal members and making surplus reservation lands free for development. James Stuart, the surveyor, platted the land and named it Stuart. In 1896, a post office was established. The Northern Pacific Railroad reached Stuart in 1899 and a train depot was built.

In 1901, Stuart was incorporated. Because the railroad served another community by the name of Stewart, residents agreed to change the name to Kooskia. The new name was formally recognized in 1902. In the early settlement years, the area was served by two ferries that crossed the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River. The train carried passengers, mail, and freight. Freight included grain, livestock, and lumber. Timber and agriculture provided the underpinnings of the local economy.



City History

By 1910, the community's population had grown to 301 people. In 1913, a New Year's Day fire destroyed most of the business section of the town. A new school was built with \$1,500 in bonds. One of the first automobiles reached Kooskia in 1916.

To serve the agriculture industry, a one and one-quarter mile tram with two cables was built to bring grain from the Camas Prairie to the railroad on the west side of the South Fork of the Clearwater River transporting grain in 30 buckets. The local flour mill produced nearly 200 barrels of flour per day. It also produced the first hydro-plant that supplied electricity to the city. The grain tram was discontinued in 1940.

Between 1902 and 1940, the First Baptist Church was built. A new school on Kooskia Flat was constructed. In 1926, the Kooskia Highway Bridge that crosses the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River was built. During prohibition, bootleggers operated in the area. City business included the forest service, farming, gold shipments, a movie theater, hotel, drug store, general stores, a furniture store, a harness shop, a law office, photography, a gallery, and a blacksmith shop. During the Depression, the local bank closed. In 1993, the Civilian Conservation Corp began hiring men for fire fighting and construction work. By 1938, the town had grown to 411 residents.



From 1941-1980, Kooskia experienced some major development. By 1946, the town had grown to 550 residents. In 1948, the City of Kooskia experienced a major flood event on May 22. The Lochsa Ranger District offices were moved to Kooskia and the Kooskia land strip was completed. By 1949, the East Kooskia levee and the South Fork levee were built to minimize the negative impact of future flood events. The Village of Kooskia became a "second class" city. During this time, the Kooskia High School burned.

By 1961, a new sewage treatment system had been built. The Lewis and Clark Highway (U.S. Highway 12) was officially dedicated in 1962 linking north-central Idaho to western Montana with a paved two-lane highway. The Lion's Club brought the community its first connection to television. A new community hall was built. The National Fish hatchery was built on Clear Creak. During this time, Kooskia and Stites consolidated schools and a new high school was built between the two communities. A new elementary school was built on the flat in the Kooskia city limits. In 1974, an ambulance service was established with a new ambulance being purchased two years later. By 1980, the Selway Addition had been annexed into the City of Kooskia.

Between 1981 and 2000, more important development occurred. In 1981, new roofs were installed on each of the two, 44,000 gallon water tanks. The City assumed responsibilities for the library in 1983. A new shelter in the Kooskia Community Park was completed by the Lions Club in 1988. In 1989, a 360,000 gallon water reservoir was constructed with 330 new water meters and 18 new fire hydrants installed. The city's 2.8 miles of water main was set up on a computer controlled system. A new post office was opened that same year.

By 1990, the population had grown to 830 residents. In 1991, the City of Kooskia began the construction of a \$1.26 million wastewater system expansion. In 1992, a new sprinkler system was installed in the park. Another water system upgrade was completed in 1995 with a new backstop and fences built in the park. Improvements to infrastructure continued through the years with backup generators installed on the water and wastewater systems in 1999. In 2000, Kooskia began a major Main Street project with the construction of sidewalks, curbs and gutters, as well as a new storm drain system.

By 2000, the population of the City of Kooskia had dropped to 675 due to changes in the sizes of families and diminishing forestry activities and automation of the agriculture industry.

Between 2001 and 2020, the City of Kooskia focused on major infrastructure improvements, the needs of emergency management services, and the community park. In 2001, The Friends of the Library moved the library into the City Hall building and the Idaho County Sheriff's Department moved into the old library site. A new 7,200 square foot emergency service building was completed. In 2002, the city's personnel manual was revised, a community technology learning center was established on the second floor of the Kooskia City Hall, and the city worked with Syringa General Hospital to establish a medical clinic on Main Street. In 2003, new playground equipment was installed in the city park and a new ambulance was purchased for emergency services.

Senior Food Service was discontinued by Lewis-Clark State College in Kooskia due to waning interest and expenses. In 2005, the City of Stites wastewater collection system was connected and brought on line to the Kooskia Wastewater Treatment Plant. A regional transportation plan was developed that included Kooskia.

In 2006, Jacobs Lumber closed it's Kooskia store and Clearwater Forest Industries closed. Park restrooms were completed. A project to construct two new wastewater buildings began with the upgrade completed in 2007. A water facility plan was completed. An additional new ambulance was purchased providing two ambulances for emergency use. Additional new playground equipment was erected at the city park.

In 2008, the City of Kooskia applied for funding for water system improvements. QRO, a local telecommunication company, installed fiber optic to City Hall. In 2010, a pedestrian kiosk was installed outside Kooskia City Hall. A water rate study was completed with the assistance of Idaho Rural Water Association and the water facility upgrade project was constructed.

The fire department purchased a new fire engine in 2011. It arrived in December of 2019. In December 2012, the Kooskia City Council adopted an Inter-Municipal Contract with the City of Stites. New fiber optic lines were installed in the City of Kooskia in 2013. Another new ambulance was purchased in 2014.

Kooskia Today

Amenities and Attractions: The City of Kooskia has one municipal park. It's most prominent historical building is the Old Victorian Opera Theater that was built in 1912. It is now privately owned as a private residence. In July, the city hosts "Kooskia Days." With access to the river, Kooskia attracts outdoor enthusiasts and travelers. The Norwest Passage Scenic Byway—All American Road (U.S. Highway 12) commemorates the 1805 to 1806 trail of the Lewis and Clark Corp of Discovery. The city is in close proximity to one of the Nez Perce National Historical Park sites—the Lookingglass Camp. Following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, the Kooskia Internment Camp was established, imprisoning American cities of Japanese descent. It is located 30 miles east of the city. Inmates volunteered to work on the construction of U.S. Highway 12.



Economy and Major Employers: The Mountain View School District, U.S. Forest Service, and Idaho County are the City of Kooskia's largest employers. The Kooskia Business District that is primarily along Main Street has a wide range of retail and service businesses. Clearwater Valley Market Place, owned by Cloninger, Inc., is the largest main street employer, employing 30-40 people.

Education: Mountain View School District, with district offices in Grangeville, provides elementary and secondary education for Kooskia youth.

The nearest institution of higher learning is Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC), located 79 miles northwest in Lewiston.

The Kooskia Technology Learning Center and Kooskia Library offer public access to computer stations and the internet.

Healthcare: Syringa General Hospital & Clinics operates a medical care facility in Kooskia. Syringa Hospital & Clinics is headquartered in Grangeville. The City of Kooskia's emergency services operates with two ambulances.

Transportation: Idaho Highway 13 connects with Grangeville to the south. U.S. Highway 12 connects Kooskia to Lewiston traveling west and to Montana traveling east. Paved and gravel county roads connect to the surrounding prairies and mountains.

The municipal airport at Kooskia is a general aviation airport and offers grass runway service to small private and charter aircraft. The Idaho County Airport at Grangeville, also used by the U.S. Forest Service, has a 5,101-foot runway. The nearest commercial career airport is the Lewiston-Nez Perce County Airport in Lewiston.

Kooskia no longer has rail service.

Utilities: Electricity, telephone, satellite, and wireless services are available from private businesses. The city provides water and sewer services. The Kooskia Fire Department provides fire protection. The Idaho County Sheriff's Department has a contract with the City to deliver police protection. Simmons Sanitation provides solid waste transport services.

Sources:

1. *City of Kooskia 2014/2015 Comprehensive Plan*
2. *Idaho County Voices: From the Pioneers to the Present* published by the Idaho County Centennial Committee, 1990.
3. *Idaho's 200 Cities, The North* published by Ridenbaugh Press in cooperation with the Association of Idaho Cities
4. *News and Notes from the Kooskia Mountaineer*



Property Rights

The U.S. Constitution and the Idaho State Constitution mandate protection of property rights. Property rights will be considered and protected at every level in evaluating land use decisions within the City of Kooskia.

The Kooskia City Council shall endeavor to respect the rights of property owners who desire to put their property to its highest and best use. The City of Kooskia seeks to balance private property rights with community planning, public health, and safety needs within the accepted confines of the national, state, and local laws.

In making land use decisions, the Kooskia City Council will consider the rights of other property owners and residents to the continued peaceful enjoyment and use of their property while considering the long-term public interest. The City of Kooskia will consider the real costs of development. It may control uses when they are deemed a detriment or expense to other property owners in the community.

Population and Growth

Kooskia's population has held steady since the 1990s, as its economy grew slowly.

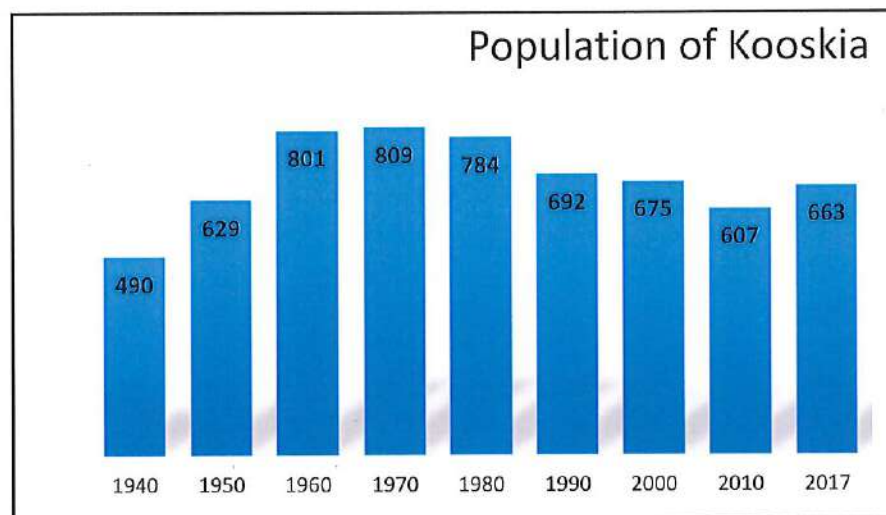
Industries

Idaho County's traditional mainstay industries—agriculture and forest products—have lost employment over the last 40 years. At its peak in 1977, Idaho County's forest products industry employed 1,166 people. In 2017, it employed 280. In addition, Forest Service employment fell from 551 in 1990 to 270 in 2017. In the last 20 years, health care, manufacturing (except wood products), and tourism have added hundreds of jobs making up for the forest products job losses but paying lower than forest products and Forest Service jobs. Kooskia residents also were affected by a similar decline in forest products jobs in the Kamiah area of Lewis County. At its peak in 1962, Lewis County's forest products industry employed 357 people. In 2017, it employed 232.

According to the Census Bureau's "On the Map," there were 224 payroll jobs in the Kooskia zip code in 2015. Its largest industrial sectors were trucking, 45; construction, 41; education, 33; logging and related fields, 30; motels and restaurants, 28; and retail, 16. Employers may find it more challenging to replace aging workers over the next decade. The number of workers older than 54 years grew from 21 to 58 between 2005 and 2015. In 2015, 529 area residents held payroll jobs. About 403 residents worked outside the area, mostly in the Kamiah, Grangeville, Lewiston, Cottonwood, and Orofino areas.

Population

Kooskia's population peaked at 809 in 1970. The decline in logging and mill work led the population to fall to 607 by 2010. In recent years, its population is growing at a fairly strong clip.



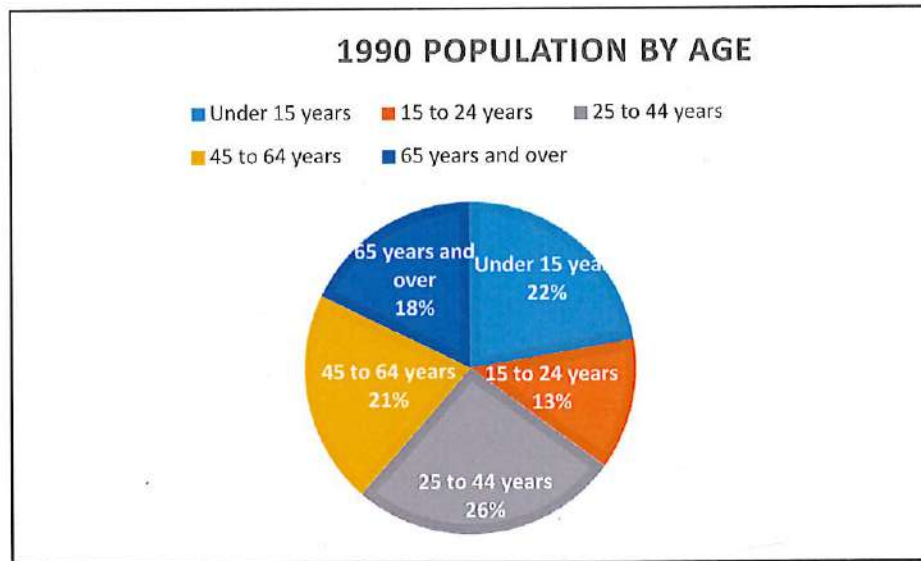
Below is a table showing possible growth paths for the city's population.

Population Projections for Kooskia: 2020-2035				
Basis of Projection	2020	2025	2030	2035
Growth rate since 2010	664	666	668	670
1% Annual Growth	683	718	755	794
1.5% Annual Growth	693	747	805	867
2% Annual Growth	704	777	858	947

Age of Population

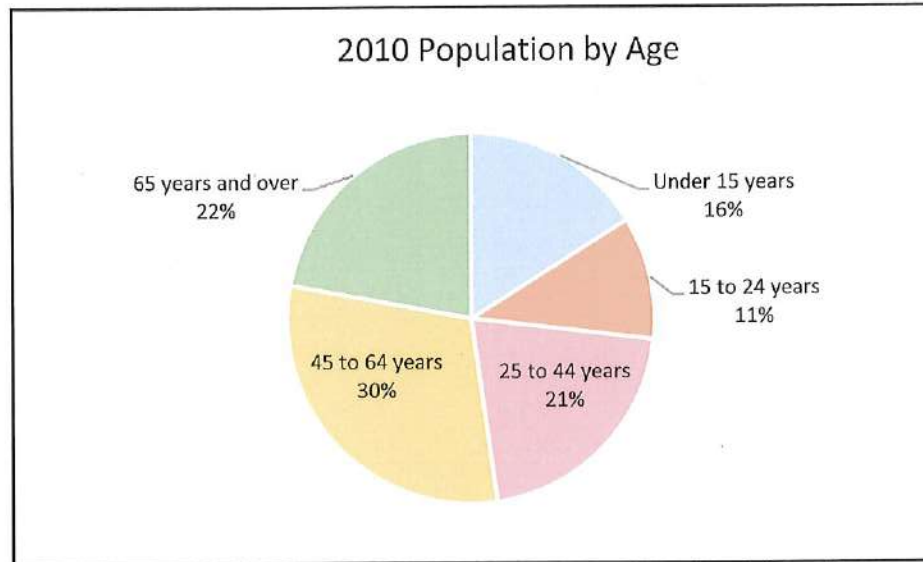
Kooskia's population skews older. While 22 percent of the city's population in 2010 were 65 years and older, 13 percent of the U.S. population and 12 percent of Idaho's population were.

In 1990, 154 children under 15 years old lived in Kooskia. By 2010, only 98 did. The number of young adults (25 to 44 years old) went from 182 in 1960 to 127 by 2010. Senior citizens grew from 123 in 1990 to 134 in 2010.



Households

At the time of the 2010 Census, Kooskia had 272 households—149 were families, 101 were people living alone, and the rest were people living with roommates or unmarried partners. The average household size in Kooskia was



2.17. In 37 percent of Kooskia households, people lived alone. In contrast, people lived alone in 24 percent of Idaho households. That difference is mostly due to the higher proportion of people 65 and over in the city. Senior citizens are more likely to live alone. About 44 percent of families in Kooskia had children under 18 years old, while 51 percent of Idaho families did. That's another reflection that Kooskia's population skews older than the state's population.

Children in Kooskia are slightly more likely than children in the rest of the state to live in single-parent households. In 2010, about 72 percent of Idaho families with children were headed by married couples, while 64 percent of Kooskia families with children were led by married couples.

Kooskia has a high level of home ownership. Of the households in Kooskia, about 72 percent live in their own homes, while 69 percent of households in Idaho are owner-occupied, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey five-year estimate for 2013-2017.

Income

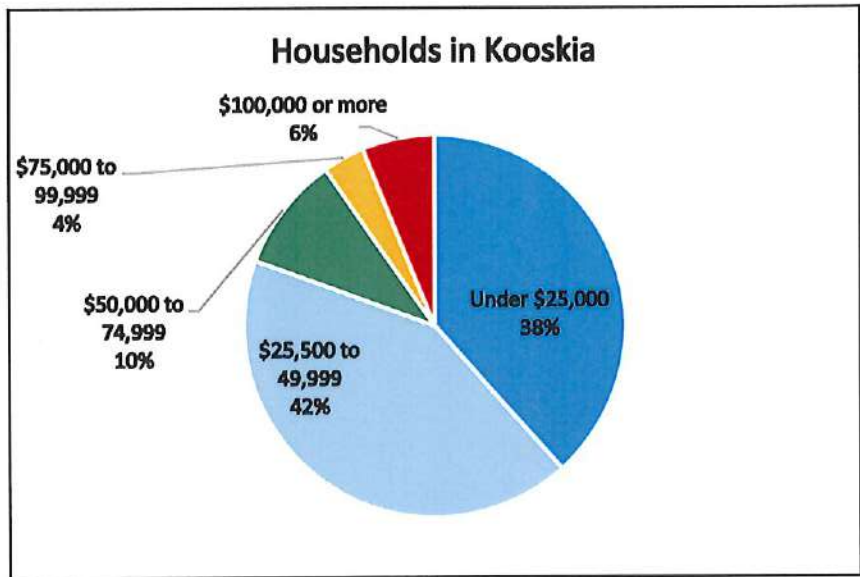
Income in Kooskia is relatively low, considerably below Idaho County and the state. The table below depicts the median income of families and households and per capita income in Kooskia compared to the Kooskia zip code (which also includes Kooskia), the county, and state in the 2013-2017 five-year estimates from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Median means that half earn more and half earn less. Per capita income is income per person.

2013-2017 Income in 2017 Dollars				
	City of Kooskia	Kooskia Zip Code Area	Idaho County	State of Idaho
Median household income	31,806	39,102	40,299	50,985
Median family income	39,821	49,429	49,955	62,196
Per capita income	16,875	19,934	20,741	25,471

Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates

Income distribution of households in the City of Kooskia.

Source: 2013-2017 five-year estimates, American Community Survey. U.S. Census Bureau



The American Community Survey estimated that 162 people in Kooskia lived in households with incomes below the poverty level. That is 23.7 percent of the city's residents. The city's poverty rate is especially high as the table below illustrates.

Percentage of Families and Persons with Income Below Poverty Level 2013-2017			
	City of Kooskia	Idaho County	State of Idaho
All families	17.4%	7.0%	10.0%
All people	23.7%	13.5%	14.5%
Under 18 years	26.8%	15.4%	17.8%
18 to 64 years	25.0%	14.6%	14.4%
65 years and over	19.0%	9.6%	8.8%
<i>Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates</i>			

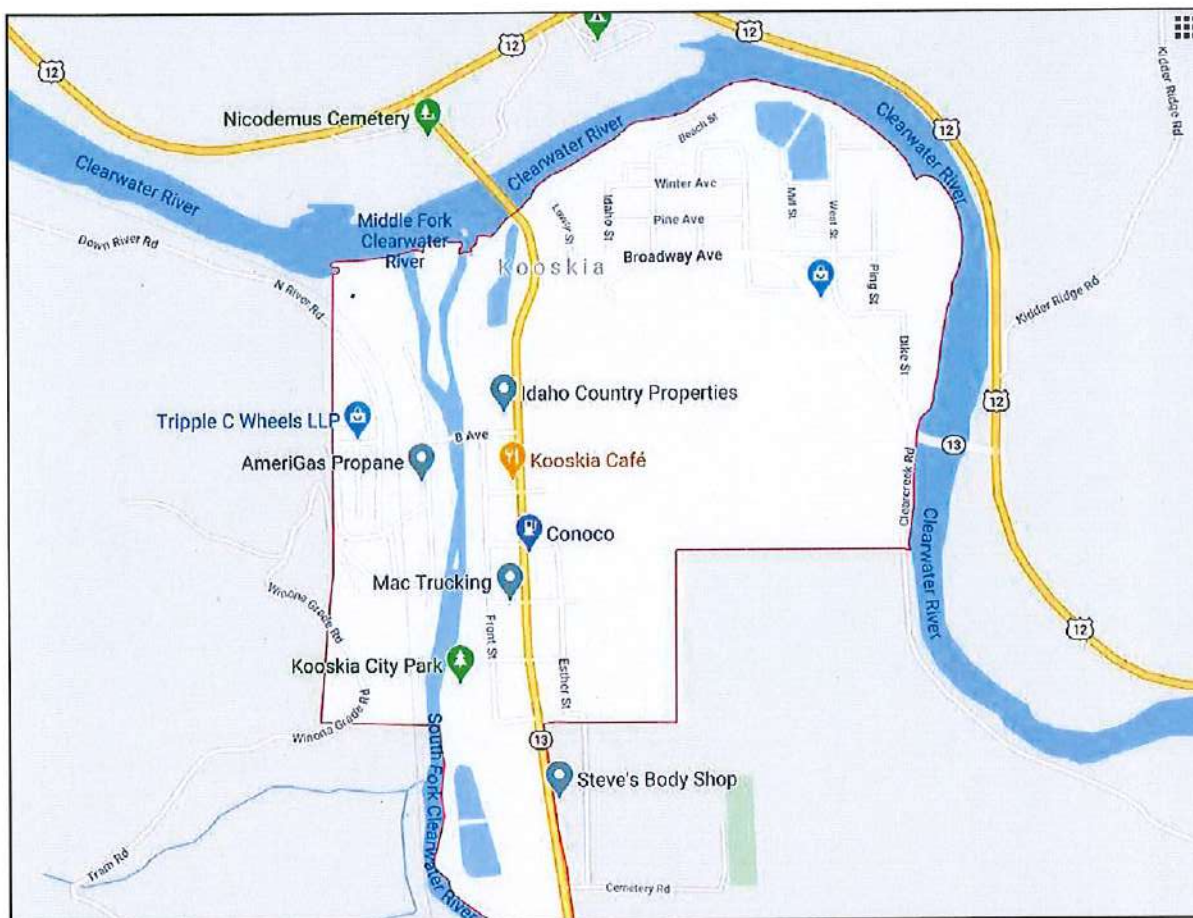
Sources:

The narrative and the data were provided in its entirety by Regional Economist, Kathryn Tacke, Idaho Department of Labor, Lewiston, Idaho, December 2018.

The Economy

The following is primarily an excerpt from the 2019-2024 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy: Clearwater Economic Development District.

The City of Kooskia's economy is mostly influenced by the activity in Idaho County. Idaho County measures 8,485 square miles, making it the state's largest county and one of the largest counties in the continental United States.



More than four-fifths of the county is covered by national forests so the Forest Service is a major employer. The City of Kooskia is on the western perimeter of the Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest. The Lochsa-Powell Ranger District and the Moose Creek Ranger District offices are located in Kooskia.

Increasingly known for its spectacular scenery, whitewater rafting, fishing, hunting, hiking, and camping, the county attracts growing numbers of visitors. The Clearwater River Basin and the Salmon River attract rafters, kayakers, and anglers in the summer. Steelhead runs in the fall attract anglers from far and wide. Campers and hikers love many areas including three wilderness areas—the Selway-Bitterroot, Gospel Hump, and Frank Church River of No Return. Hunters find plenty of game in the county's forests. Snowmobilers and off-road vehicle enthusiasts love the thousands of miles of trail in the county's forests.

Located at the mouth of the South Fork of the Clearwater River, Kooskia is a transportation route to connect outdoor enthusiasts to attractions such as Red River Hot Springs and Lodge in the Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest—two and one-half hours southeast of Kooskia. Whitewater fun abounds on the Lochsa and Selway Rivers just 27 miles east of the city. The Elk City Wagon Road can be accessed just a few miles from the community. The leisure and hospitality—a sector that includes amusement, recreation, lodging, restaurants, and bars—employs up to 480 people in Idaho County at the peak of the summer season. Its employment drops to 290 in the winter. About 9 percent of the county's nonfarm payroll jobs are in the leisure and hospitality sector, while 11 percent of U.S. nonfarm payroll jobs are.



Although in the Clearwater Basin, Kooskia is just a few miles from Tahoe Ridge and the Camas Prairie. The county's 708 farms and ranches cover about 537,400 acres and primarily produce wheat, forage crops, barley, canola, and grass seed. Other crops include garbanzos, barley, and lentils. In 2012, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture economic survey conducted every five years, the county's farms were homes to about 26,200 cattle and calves. Some farms also raise bees, horses, pigs, and sheep. In 2017, the county's agricultural products were valued at \$43.7 million.

Abundant forests traditionally have provided hundreds of logging and wood products jobs. Technology and changes in U.S. Forest Service management have reduced those jobs over the years while the national housing crisis that began in 2007 caused further erosion. Jobs in logging and wood products fell from 476 in 2000 to 389 in 2007 and then to just 188 in 2009. Today, about 280 people work in the industry. Idaho Forest Group with more than 160 employees at its mill in Grangeville is the county's largest manufacturer. Clearwater Forest Industries is located just a few miles south of Kooskia. Kamiah Mills is eight miles north of the community.

Manufacturing Jobs



Kooskia is less impacted by the non-wood manufacturing occurring in other parts of Idaho County—although there are likely residents who work for some of these businesses. Non-wood manufacturing employment increased from 108 in 1993 to about 250 today. Manufacturers include Pacific Cabinets, which employs 50 people making cabinets in Ferdinand; Anderson Aeromotive, whose 35 employees refurbish airplane engines at the county airport in Grangeville; Idaho Sewing for Sports near Grangeville, which employs more than 20 people making custom padding for ski resorts, baseball stadiums, Olympic sports centers, and other sports venues; and six machine shops and metal fabricators on the Camas Prairie. Advanced Welding & Steel, a Grangeville company that makes iron skeletons for buildings from beams and columns to stairs and handrails, is classified in the construction industry, so its 80 employees are not counted in manufacturing.

The federal and state government sectors provide 10 percent of the jobs in the county, while they provide 5 percent of U.S. nonfarm payroll jobs. The U.S. Forest Service is the county’s largest employer, employing more than 360 people in August and an average of 240 throughout the year. Twenty years ago, its employment averaged 460. The Bureau of Land Management employs nearly 40 people, and the state’s minimum-security prison on the Cottonwood Butte employs more than 60. Other relatively large employers include the Postal Service, Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

The decline in Forest Service employment explains the decrease in federal jobs over the last 20 years.

Federal and State Government				
	Employers		Jobs	
	1993	2018	1993	2018
Federal	26	18	580	316
State	10	8	133	132

Idaho County's population grew 7 percent from 15,418 in 1998 to 16,513 in 2018, while the state's population grew 40 percent and the nation's population grew 19 percent. The relatively slow population growth dampened employment in construction, service, local government, and retail.

The county's aging population made the health care sector a fast-growing sector. Health care more than doubled from 288 jobs in 1993 to 654 in 2018. Syringa Hospital and Clinics in Grangeville and St. Mary's Hospital and Clinics in Cottonwood employ 360 people,



while 31 other health care providers employ 300 people. Syringa Hospital and Clearwater Valley Hospital have clinics in Kooskia. Among the largest health care providers are Grangeville Health & Rehabilitation Center and Idaho County Nursing Home.



Primary employers for the City of Kooskia's residents include Mountain View School District, the Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest, Idaho Forest Group, the Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho County Sheriff's Office, the Idaho County Road Department, Nature's Spirit, and Clearwater Valley Market Place. Tourists including bicyclists, motorcyclists, hunters, and fishermen frequent the gas stations, grocery store, and the city's three restaurants.

Source:

Most of the narrative and the data were provided in its entirety by Regional Economist, Kathryn Tacke, Idaho Department of Labor, Lewiston, Idaho.

Community Design and Business District

Incorporated in 1901, the City of Kooskia was constructed and built out along the South Fork of the Clearwater River and along the south side of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River. The design of the city is impacted by the narrow river corridor, the two rivers, State Highway 13, and its early years of existence. The majority of industrial, commercial, and residential is on the south and east sides of the river limited to the base of Mount Stuart. Many trees and natural vegetation align the river.

The commercial district is along Main Street (State Highway 13) between Broadway Street on the north end of town and 2nd Avenue on the south end of town. A secondary area is along



Broadway Avenue that runs east and west connecting to ID 13 north of the business district.

Kooskia's Business District along Main Street has an open, welcoming feel. In 2001-2002, the City of Kooskia, in cooperation with the Idaho Transportation Department, completed a lighting project along Main Street. Large overhead lights were placed along the street. The decorative lights were strategically placed for safety and aesthetics. The City of Kooskia has an attractive informational kiosk just along a Main Street sidewalk near city hall and brick planters that make the business district more attractive during the growing months of the year.

As the City of Kooskia gives consideration to development, it will be using Smart Growth. The methodology historically applied by the City of Kooskia is compatible with Smart Growth. Smart Growth is an approach to development that encourages a mix of building types and uses, diverse housing and transportation options, development within existing neighborhoods, and community engagement. The 10 principles below are considered the foundation of a Smart Growth approach.

Smart Growth Principles:

1. Mix land uses
2. Take advantage of compact design
3. Create a range of housing opportunities and choices
4. Create walkable neighborhoods
5. Foster district communities with a strong sense of place
6. Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas
7. Direct development toward the existing community
8. Provide a variety of transportation choices
9. Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost effective
10. Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions



Sources:

<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/>

Public Services and Facilities

City Hall & Maintenance Facilities

Located at 26 Main Street, Kooskia City Hall houses city administration, council chambers/community hall, an Idaho County Sheriff's Office, the library, and emergency services. The City of Kooskia has office space that is leased in the same building. The 11,000 square foot facility is cinderblock construction.



The City's 2,000 square foot maintenance shop located at 401 Front Street was built in the 1950s and is also of cinderblock construction. The building needs a new roof, insulation, siding, and roll up doors.

The City of Kooskia's 1,200 square foot Wastewater Treatment Plan Facility includes 600 square feet of office space.

Water Treatment and Distribution

The City of Kooskia uses ground water for 100% of the drinking water supply. The city is supplied by two wells (Well #3 and Well #4). Well #1, constructed in 1953, is the oldest well and is located approximately 100 feet South of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River. Well #2 was constructed in 1966 and is located 50 feet East of Well #1 near the river. Both wells are not currently being used. They are a backup, or emergency basis, and are listed in good condition with acceptable performance. Well #3 was constructed in 1974 and is located on the hillside of Mt. Stewart South in the City of Kooskia. Well #4 is the newest well-constructed in 1993 and is located in the city park. Both wells are used for primary use and are listed in good condition with acceptable performance.

All of the water service connections and wells in the city's systems are metered. Radio meters were installed in 2008 on all residential homes. Average discharge for the wells in the community range from 10 gallons per minute (GPM) to 400 GPM. Well #1 produces approximately 200 GPM (report also lists 190 GPM), Well # 2 produces about 180 GPM (report also lists 210 GPM), Well # 3 produces 230 GPM and Well #4 produces 375 GPM. Total meter well reading is 25-28 million gallons per year.

Well Number	Use of Well	Year constructed (drilled)	Location of Well	Gallons Per Minute (GPM)
Well #1	Back-up (emergency)	1953	100 feet South of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River	200 GPM
Well #2	Back-up (emergency)	1966	50 feet East of Well #1 near the river	180 GPM
Well #3	Primary Use	1974	On the hillside of Mt. Stewart South in the city of Kooskia. 500 foot depth	230 GPM
Well #4	Primary Use	1933	In the City Park, 300 foot depth	375 GPM

The water for the city wells is stored in a 364,00 gallon (another report lists this at 324,859 gallons) above ground steel reservoir constructed in 1989. It is located on the West side of the South Fork Clearwater River. Currently, the storage tank has enough storage capacity to meet the needs of the water system. The water is not treated.

There are 56 fire hydrants in the city. The city has a current fire flow storage of 240,000 gallons and is at a fire insurance rating of TC5. The city is in need of two additional fire hydrants.

The City of Kooskia's water system currently serves approximately 692 people through 340 connections. As of September 2007, the number of inside the city limits water connections are 302 along with 22 out of city limits water connections. The city is served by approximately 6.5 to 7 miles of piping line.

Annually, the City of Kooskia distributes a water quality report to city residents. Water quality from the aquifer is of excellent quality. Every three years, the City of Kooskia requests a waiver from the Idaho Department of Water Quality for testing requirements.

Recent updates to the water system of the city of Kooskia include the purchase and installation of backup generators and digital radio read meters. They have also purchased Surface Water Protection Plan (SWPP) area signs. The city completed a water main replacement in 2008 that reduced leaks to less than 4%.

The city is looking for funding to construct a new well house for Well #3. In 2019, they have completed implementation of GPS digital mapping on all water lines and meters. In 2017, the city removed 300 feet of leaky and/or disintegrating steel lines and replaced them with updated materials. More is still

needed. There are plans to remove any leaky and/or disintegrating steel lines and replace them with updated materials. There is also an old, non-operational reservoir that will be removed. There are also plans to purchase a new utility building, software program, and replace larger water meters. The city has purchased and installed larger water meters for the business community.

The City of Kooskia replaced the water mains on Esther Street, Front Street, Mill Street & Park Avenue, Highway 12 & Ping Street, West Street, Ping Street & Clearwater Street, Winter Avenue & West Street, Idaho Street, Depot Street, and Thenon Street. Meters along Winter Avenue still need to be done.

There is a need to build an enclosed structure for Well #3. The city could also benefit from the purchase of an above ground check valve.

Wastewater Treatment and Collection

The City of Kooskia uses the Kooskia Sewage Treatment Plant for wastewater treatment. Wastewater is treated through a lagoon with a U.V. light disinfection system. The collection type for wastewater is mainly a gravity system. There is a pressure force main for the city that uses three lift stations with two pumps at each station. There is one backup generator. The system serves 310 households with an estimate of 66 snowbirds. The annual collection of the system is 28.8 million gallons from the City of Kooskia and 14.8 million gallons from the City of Stites.

The last major improvement upgrade to the system was in 2006. At that time, the plant switched to U.V. lights; added screen building headworks, electrical and water hook-ups and a mechanical building; and an influent flowmeter was installed. There were also spot repairs and minor replacement of sewer lines completed. Although other improvements were, and are still needed, funding did cause a short fall for these projects.

The Kooskia wastewater system plant is located at the south end of the city. Throughout the collection system, there are deteriorating, aging and leaking old, cracked sewer lines that need to be replaced. The lift station pumps and railing system are worn out and in need of repair or replacement. A generator needs to be purchased for lift station #3. There are decaying and crumbling manholes throughout the city that are leaking surface and ground water that need to be replaced. There is also a need for an upgrade to both the aerated lagoon system and the solids removal system within the lagoon influent. The City of Kooskia is working on this need and at the time of this writing, waiting for DEQ rules. The project is 100% funded.

The City of Kooskia mapped all water and sewer mains showing meters and service lines on a digital map. There is current work being done to replace the pumps in the lift stations and to reduce inflowing surface water into sewer service lines and mains. Upgrades will be made to the sewer mains in old sections of town where houses have reported clogging problems. There are a few manholes that are buried underground and are being raised to the surface to be replaced. . Also, there is planning for wastewater collection system and treatment facility upgrades and repairs.

Stormwater System

In 2021, the City of Kooskia took steps to mark storm drains and/or replace damaged markers.

Police Services

The City of Kooskia contracts with the Idaho County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement services. The county provides two deputies that reside in the city or no more than 10 miles outside of the city. Police protection is administered through general patrol and response for law enforcement services within the city. The city is able to request additional deputy support if needed.

Fire Suppression

The City of Kooskia fire house/emergency services facility was built in 1998. The 5,000 square foot facility includes six bays, two bunk houses, and a training center. It will be needing new siding within the next 10 years.

They have an all-volunteer fire department that operates with approximately 16 volunteers with varying certifications. The fire rating is 5 in the city and 8 for rural areas. The fire department services the city of Kooskia and some rural areas. They currently have cooperative agreements with BPC, Kamiah, Stites, Harpster, and Ridgerunner. The fire code is enforced by the Fire Chief. The city is equipped with 56 fire hydrants of varying age. They receive approximately 30-40 calls a year for the city of Kooskia.



Kooskia Fire Department's greatest challenges are funding.

Emergency Management Services

The City of Kooskia's emergency management services is operated from the Kooskia Emergency Service building. They have 18 non-paid volunteers that carry EMT and EMT certifications. They service Kooskia and the surrounding rural areas and receive approximately 300 calls per year.

If hospitalization is needed, patients will be transported to Syringa General Hospital in Grangeville, Clearwater Valley Hospital in Orofino, or St Mary's Hospital in Cottonwood. Occasionally, patients will be transferred to Missoula Community Hospital or St. Pat's Hospital in Montana. Kooskia Ambulance also uses the Life Flight Network for air transport.

Kooskia has two, type one ambulances (2014 and 2020) that are 4x4s.



Kooskia Ambulance's greatest challenges are volunteers and funding.

Library

The Kooskia Library is located at 26 South Main Street in the same building as City Hall. The building is 20 years old and 1500 square feet. Hours of operation are from 12 pm to 6 pm on Monday and from 8 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Friday. The library is staffed with one branch manager and one assistant.

The Kooskia Library is part of the Prairie River Library District and has a rotating library. Currently they have 403 DVDs, 182 audiobook CDs, 5073 books, and 12 kindergarten readiness kits available. Other services offered at the library are public computers, 24-hour 7 day a week free hi-speed wifi, a weekly story hour (cancelled due to COVID), summer reading program (held as an outreach at the park due to COVID), copying, faxing, and other assorted public services. For the fiscal year of October 2018 through September 2019 the library circulated 18,159 items. This has been impacted by the pandemic as the library was closed for three months and they have limited checkout options.

Cemetery & Funeral Services

The City of Kooskia is serviced by five cemeteries: Pine Grove Cemetery, Tahoe Cemetery, Harpster Cemetery, Clearwater Cemetery, and Nicodemus Cemetery. Pine Grove Cemetery is located outside of the Kooskia city limits and is in their own taxing district. The Tahoe Cemetery is located 16 miles Northeast of Grangeville. The Harpster Cemetery is located just above the City of Harpster. The Clearwater Cemetery is located near the City of Stites. Finally, Nicodemus Cemetery is located North of the City of Kooskia near the Clearwater River.

Trenary Funeral Home is located at 18 First Avenue in Kooskia and provides full-services including burial, cremation, urns, caskets, memorials, monuments, and pre planning.



Solid Waste

The City of Kooskia contracts with Simmons Sanitation to collect, haul and dispose of the community's refuse, rubbish, and garbage. Simmons is required to furnish covered clean trucks that are kept in good working order and maintained at all times. Refuse, rubbish, and garbage are disposed of at Simmons transfer station that is located adjacent to Highway 162 which is then transferred to a permitted municipal waste landfill. Currently this is located in Missoula, Montana. All non-municipal waste shall be disposed of at a permitted non-municipal landfill.

Curbside services are offered for customers on a weekly basis. Waste containers will be furnished for customers and must not exceed 32 gallons in capacity or 50 pounds in weight. A new dump site is available on the north end of Thenon Street.

Power

Avista Utilities began providing services in the 1970s under the name of Washington Water Power (WWP). The Grangeville office has eight staff with an additional three staff in the Grangeville District

(one in Kamiah and two in Orofino). Avista is an investor-owned electric and natural gas utility governed by a Board of Directors. It is regulated by the Public Utilities Commissions in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon.

Avista Corporation is involved in the production, transmission, and distribution of energy as well as other energy-related businesses. Avista Utilities is the operating division that provides electric service to 382,000 customers and natural gas to 347,000 customers. Its service territory covers 30,000 square miles in Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho, and parts of Southern and Eastern Oregon with a population of 1.6 million.

The Grangeville office is located at East 201 Main Street and serves Clearwater, Nez Perce, Idaho, and Lewis County (Orofino, Weippe, Pierce, Greer, Kamiah, Kooskia, Elk City, Dixie, Grangeville, Cottonwood, Craigmont, Nezperce, Reubens, and Winchester).

Propane Services

- **AmeriGas**

AmeriGas provides propane delivery, installation, and maintenance services to homes and businesses in Kooskia. They have an office location at 180 Thenon Street, Kooskia.

- **Idaho County Light and Power**

In 1997, Idaho County Light and Power established Idaho County Propane. It provides residential and commercial propane and propane appliance repair for customers in North Central Idaho from the City of New Meadows to Riggins to Orofino. It is governed by a six-member Board of Directors and has six paid staff. Sharing space with Idaho County Light and Power, its office is located at 1065 State Highway 13. It annually serves approximately 3,500 customers. Its greatest need is high speed internet connectivity to assist in delivery to remote parts of its service area.



Medical Services

- **Syringa Hospital and Clinics**

The Syringa General Hospital District began providing services in 1939. Governed by an elected Board of Trustees, the district provides Primary Care, Cardiology, Diabetes Management, Behavioral Health, Obstetrics, Podiatry, Surgery, Therapy Services, Women's Health, Colonoscopy, Emergency Services, Hospice, In Patient Care, Laboratory, Radiology, Swingbed (post-surgery rehabilitation), Cancer Resource, Childbirth Education, Discharge Planning, Financial Assistance, and Telehealth Education & Support Groups services to its customers. It operates with 99 healthcare professionals and 71 administrative and support personnel.

The hospital is located at 607 W Main Street, Grangeville. It operates a clinic at 022 North Main Street in Kooskia. The district serves approximately 9,000 people in most of Idaho County (including Kooskia).

- **St. Mary's Clearwater Valley Hospital and Clinics**

St. Mary's/Clearwater Valley Hospital and Clinics offer general medical and surgical care for inpatient, outpatient, and emergency room patients. It participates in Medicare and Medicaid programs. St. Mary's Hospital is a critical access hospital located in Cottonwood, Idaho, approximately 33.6 miles from the City of Kooskia.

Clearwater Valley Hospital is a critical access hospital located in Orofino, Idaho, approximately 30.5 miles from the City of Kooskia. Both hospitals have 24-hour, seven days a week emergency room services.



Food Bank

The City of Kooskia citizens are served by the Kamiah Food Bank located at 4224 Highway 12, Kamiah. The Idaho Food Bank also distributes food on the third Wednesday of every month from Kooskia City Park.

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

The Grangeville office of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is located in the Camas Resource Center at 216 South C Street. The office has eight paid staff who provide services in four areas: Child Protection, Self-Reliance, Behavioral Health, and the Infant Toddler Program. Self-Reliance deals with the Food Stamp Program, Medicaid, and cash assistance. The Behavior Health program serves adults and children with mental health issues. The Infant Toddler Program serves 0-3 year old children with developmental delays. The office primarily serves Idaho, Lewis, and Clearwater Counties. Staff sometimes provide services in Nez Perce and Latah Counties.

Idaho Department of Labor

The City of Kooskia is serviced by the Idaho Department of Labor from its Orofino office located at 410 Johnson Avenue. It is also serviced through online portals. The Grangeville area also has mobile office services from the Umpqua Bank building at 147 W. Main Street (grangevillemail@labor.idaho.gov).

For job seekers, the Idaho Department of Labor helps with job searches, resume development, preparation for interviews, and job applications. The department assists veteran's services, unemployment insurance, and business services with job postings, employee searches, unemployment insurance tax, and training and hiring incentives. The Workforce Innovation & Opportunities Act provides funding to support training and employment services for adults, out-of-school youth, and dislocated workers. The Idaho Department of Labor provides resource information(www.labor.idaho.gov).

Communication

Newspapers

The City of Kooskia is serviced by the Clearwater Progress, Idaho County Free Press, and Lewiston Morning Tribune for printed news services.

Radio

KORT-AM	AM 1230, FM 96.9
KORT-FM (Big Country)	FM 92.7

Television

The City of Kooskia is serviced by DirectTV and Dish Network for television services. Streaming services are also available through the internet.

Landline Telephone Service Provider

The City of Kooskia is serviced by Lumen Technologies for landline telephone services.

Cellular Phone Services

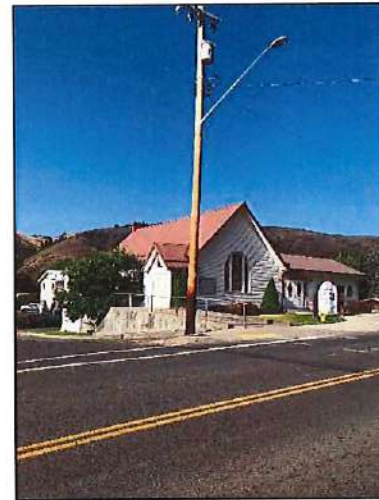
The City of Kooskia is serviced by Inland Cellular and Verizon for wireless telephone services.

Internet Providers

The City of Kooskia is serviced by Airbridge Broadband and Lumen Technologies.

Churches

Church of God	406 Main Street, Kooskia
Valley Bible Church	319 Main Street, Kooskia
Gateway Christian Fellowship	502 Idaho Street, Kooskia



Animal Control

The City of Kooskia follows the city's ordinance for dogs at large. No person shall keep a horse, jack, bull, cow, calf, llama, sheep, emu, or hog within 200 feet of a residence or corporate limits of the city. Fowl or poultry must be kept on own premises at all times. Animals are not allowed to run at large. Those at large can be impounded at the cost of the owner. Animals being driven or herded through city must be done so with a harness or be hauled. It is unlawful to own a goat. Dogs must be licensed and registered if over the age of 6 months. Prohibited breeds are pit bull, wolf hybrid, or wolf.

Postal Service

The Kooskia Post Office is located at 110 South Main. Their hours of operation are from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM and they are closed from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM for lunch.

Sources:

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School Facilities and Transportation

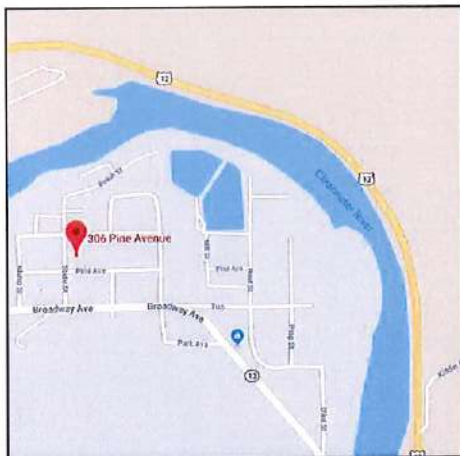
Mountain View School District

The Mountain View School District #244 serves the citizens of the City of Kooskia, City of Stites, City of Grangeville, the community of Elk City, and surrounding non-incorporated areas of Idaho County, Idaho. Its mission is “Educational Excellence for All.”

With its eastern border defined by the Idaho-Montana Border, the District is the largest geographical school district in the state of Idaho and the sixth largest in the continental United States. The District provides public education from Kindergarten through the 12th Grade. The School District serves five schools to include Clearwater Valley Elementary School and Clearwater Valley Junior Senior High School. The Clearwater Valley Elementary School is located within the city limits of Kooskia at 306 Pine Avenue. The Clearwater Valley Junior Senior High School is approximately 1.5 miles from the City of Kooskia along State Highway 13, equidistant between the City of Stites and the City of Kooskia.

School	Student Population (May 2018)
Grangeville Elementary & Middle School	576
Grangeville High School	259
Clearwater Valley Elementary School	205
Clearwater Valley Junior Senior High School	222
Elk City Elementary School	5

Clearwater Valley Elementary School



Clearwater Valley Junior Senior High School



The School District is governed by a five-member Board of Trustees with each member representing one of five zones.

Facility:	Address:	Buildings & Facilities:	Replacement value:	# of Staff:
District Office	714 Jefferson Street, Grangeville	Office, 1960 Office addition, 1975 Office Garage, 1975	\$.36 Million	10
Clearwater Valley Elementary School	306 Pine Avenue Kooskia, ID 83539	School Building, Gym, Shed, Tennis Court	\$2.29 Million	25
Clearwater Valley Junior Senior High School	4638 Highway 13 Kooskia, ID 83539	School Buildings (5), Metal/Wood Shop, Computer Building, Ram Shack, Bus Garage, Pump House, Tennis Court, Baseball Field, Football Fields (3), Concessions/Bleachers	\$7.8 Million	31

The 25,720 square foot Clearwater Valley Elementary School building (brick, concrete, and metal construction) was built in 1965. The brick/block Clearwater Valley Middle School building was built in 1973 and has 18,042 square feet. Two of the four high school buildings were constructed in 1959, have a combined square footage of 38,741 square feet, and are metal buildings. In 1973, two additional steel-framed buildings with 15,839 square feet were constructed.

The total cost of District operations is over \$13 million (including \$2.15 million in grants, contributions, and charges for services). Approximately 61% of the revenue is provided by the State of Idaho Foundation Program based on student enrollment and attendance. State revenues only fund a portion of the total cost with the balance being made up by local property taxes and use of federal forest funds. The District must run an annual, supplemental levy. Revenue that comes through the Forest Reserve Fund is not stable.

The District has 10 bus routes, 34 buses, and 22 bus shop employees including bus drivers, bus aides, and bus maintenance staff.

Year of Purchase	# of busses:
2001	5
2002	2
2003	2
2006	2
2008	2
2010	2
2013	4
2015	3
2016	2
2017	3
2018	3
2019	3



Safe Routes to Schools

The City of Kooskia has worked on projects to improve the safety needed on school routes.

Phase I – In 2011, the city constructed a new sidewalk on State Highway Business Loop 13/Broadway Avenue, Lowry Street to Idaho Street.

Phase II – In 2021, the city completed a new sidewalk, retaining wall, and ADA truncated domes for intersections from Idaho Street to State Street along State Highway Business Loop/Broadway Avenue, and on State Street from State Highway Business Loop/Broadway Avenue to Pine Avenue.

Phase III – In 2014, the city completed a new sidewalk and ADA truncated domes for intersections from State Street to Clearwater Street along State Highway Business Loop/Broadway Avenue.

Phase IV – In 2016, the city completed a new sidewalk and ADA truncated domes for intersections from Clearwater Street to West Street.

Phase V – The city is seeking funding for a new sidewalk and ADA truncated domes from West Street to Ping Street. The sidewalk will connect into the levy trail at the end of Broadway Avenue.

Sources:

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2. Eimers, Chandra. Grangeville School District, 2018.
3. www.sd244.org

Historical Resources and Special Sites

The City of Kooskia (originally known as “Stuart”) got its beginning when federal surveyors set aside 104 acres for a townsite. It was originally named after James Stuart—the surveyor that platted the land.

The Nez Perce Tribal clans, the Nimiipuu (pronounced nee-mee-poo), resided along the Clearwater River for what is now believed as many as 12,000 years. In 1806, the Lewis Clark Corp of Discovery members passed near what is now the City of Kooskia while returning from the Salmon River on a hunting and fishing expedition to a camp near Kamiah, Idaho. White explorers and trappers, Christian missionaries, prospectors, and settlers followed. After gold was discovered near what is now Pierce, Idaho in 1860, miners and settlers came into the region as they traveled to mining camps near what is now known as Elk City, Idaho.

After the first battle of the Nez Perce Indian War on June 17, 1877, non-treaty Indians assembled near what is now Stites (three miles north of the City of Kooskia). On July 12, 1877, a battle took place near Stites on a ridge east and southeast of Stites.

The area was opened for settlement on November 18, 1895 as a result of the 1887 Dawes Severalty Act. The City of Kooskia has deep historical roots because of the Nez Perce, the Corp of Discovery, and mining that began after 1860 that continued in the Elk City, Idaho region until World War II. Historical information is available through the Idaho County Historical Society and the Idaho County Genealogical Society and artifacts can be viewed at the Bicentennial Historical Museum in Grangeville, Idaho.

The Idaho County Historical Society

The Idaho County Historical Society, who operates from the Bicentennial Historical Museum located at 305 N. College in Grangeville, is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that was established in the 1940s. It has a seven-member Board of Directors and approximately 30 members. It meets in the resource room at the Bicentennial Historical Museum on the second Tuesday of each month and uses the Bicentennial Historical Museum for its mailing address. The Historical Society also manages a mining cabin that is located at the end of Main Street on the east side of Grangeville. It works on a number of projects such as the German U-boat UB-77 sinking of a WWI luxury liner, the SS Tuscania, near Scotland in 1918, that was transporting American Troops to France (over twenty local men were on board the ship). The Historical Society’s greatest challenges are getting younger volunteers and storage room.

Idaho County Genealogical Society

The Idaho County Genealogical Society was established in 1975 for the purpose of aiding members and the public in searching and preserving family heritages and preserving public records. It is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization and its office is located at 11 South Idaho Street at Grangeville.

Bicentennial Historical Museum

Located in Grangeville at 305 North College Avenue, the Bicentennial Historical Museum offers local artifacts, early mining exhibits, military artifacts, and other early Idaho history. It was established by Carmen Spencer. The museum was constructed and opened in 1984. It has a paid, part-time curator. It

operates mainly with local volunteers and donations. It is open year-round on Thursdays from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm.

Historic Attractions

Some nearby attractions include:

- **The Nez Perce National Historic Trail:** Adventurous explorers can start at Stites (three miles south of Kooskia) and retrace portions of the exact routes used as the Nez Perce fled Howard's army in 1877 by following the Nee-Me-Poo National Historic Trail, the Lolo Motorway, the Lolo trail – all part of the Lolo Trail National Historic Landmark and still sacred to the Nimiipuu – and the historic Elk City Wagon Road.
- **Clearwater Battlefields:** An interpretive roadside pullout marks the location of the Clearwater Battlefields, one of the Nez Perce National Historic Park sites. It is on the west side of State Highway 13, approximately two miles south of Stites. The Nez Perce occupied the ravines above the plateau. The stone rifle pits and barricades raised by the Nez Perce are still present.
- **The Northwest Scenic Byway:** The Northwest Scenic Byway (All American Road) parallels or crosses the trail used by Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery when they crossed Northern Idaho in 1805 and again in 1806. The Byway has two segments. The longest segment, Idaho Highway 12, extends from Lewiston, southeast to Kooskia, then east to Lolo Pass and the Lewis and Clark Interpretative Center on the Idaho Montana border. The southern segment, Idaho Highway 13, extends from Kooskia south through Stites to Grangeville.
- **Civilian Conservation Corp/Kooskia Internment Camp:** In 1993, the Kooskia Civilian Conservation Corp Camp was established 30 miles east of Kooskia where Canyon Creek flows into the Lochsa River. Beginning in 1935, the camp became a federal prison camp. The prisoners helped to construct U.S. Highway 12 between Lewiston, Idaho and Missoula, Montana. In 1943, the federal prison camp closed. Between May 1943 and May 1945, the camp operated as a World War II detention facility. It was operated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. It was the only work camp for 290 Japanese internees. They also worked on construction of U.S. Highway 12. The Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest owns the site.

Historic Buildings

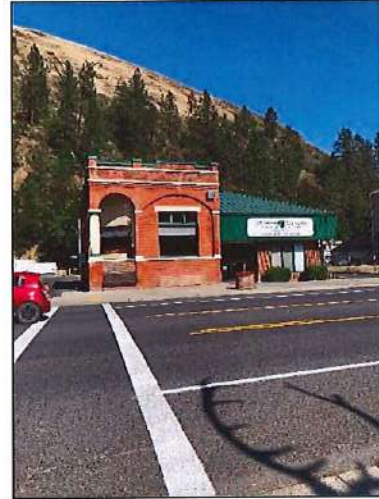
The following listing is of historic buildings that remain within the city limits of Kooskia.

- **The Kooskia Opera House** (11 Main Street) was built in 1912. It was the second floor of a hardware store. It was purchased by George Trenary in 1916. According to cinematreaasures.org, the Opera House "was used for silent movies, vaudeville acts, and community events." It operated until 1948. In 1994, Mike and Marcia Graves restored the building. The building had been in their family since 1917. They opened the facility and produced musicals for community entertainment. Musicals included "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Oklahoma." In 2012,



Brandon Graves purchased the building. The building has been used for numerous city activities including weddings and funerals. It is currently owned and used as a private residence. It is not on the National Register of Historical Places.

- **State Bank of Kooskia** (1 S. Main Street) was listed in the National Register of Historical Places on May 24, 1978 (#78001067). According to the Idaho State Historical Society, "The State Bank of Kooskia is a one story 25' x 50' brick building distinguished by the typical inset corner entry used on early banks and stone and brick ornamentation. A stone column supports the round arched corner porch. Brick pilasters rise from a terra cotta band molding and support round arches of two differing arcs with brick keystones. Above the key stones is a corbelled brick banding which is capped by a stone band. The structure terminates with a brick parapet with stone capstones. The windows have stone sills and lintels and three-square transoms." It was remodeled with an addition of the right rear of the building. It was built in 1912 and the architect/builder was Ralph Loring. The building is currently owned by Cottonwood Community Credit Union.



Sources:

1. Elsensohn, Sister M. Alfreda. *Pioneer Days in Idaho County Volume One*. 1947: The Caxton Printers. LTD. Caldwell, Idaho
2. Hansen, Clyde. Idaho County Historical Society, 2018.
3. [https://encyclopedia.densho.org/Kooskia_\(detention_facility\)/](https://encyclopedia.densho.org/Kooskia_(detention_facility)/)
4. https://www.idahocountyfreepress.com/community/group-effort-to-revitalize-kooskia-opera-house/article_baa716e7-5344-5bbc-8910-7fc8e979f96c.html
5. *Idaho's 200 Cities, The North* published by Ridenbaugh Press in cooperation with the Association of Idaho Cities on October 15, 2017.
6. www.historic.idaho.gov/national-register-historic-places
7. www.idahocountygenealogicalsociety.com/home.html

Housing

According to the 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables, the City of Kooskia has 314 housing units with 245 occupied and 69 vacant. Of the household units, 193 units are detached, one-unit housing units and 100 are mobile homes.

▼ UNITS IN STRUCTURE	
▼ Total housing units	314
1-unit, detached	193
1-unit, attached	3
2 units	8
3 or 4 units	4
5 to 9 units	0
10 to 19 units	4
20 or more units	0
Mobile home	100
Boat, RV, van, etc.	2

The City of Kooskia has old housing stock with 25% of the housing units built in 1939 or earlier. Only 7 of the 314 housing units were built within the last 10 years. Seventy-three percent of the units were built prior to 1980. Forty-six percent of the units have more than 2 bedrooms. Of the occupied housing units, 70.6% are owner-occupied. The rest are renter-occupied. The City of Kooskia has little housing unit turnover with 28.5% of the units occupied by the same people or families for 20 or more years and with only 7% of the housing units changing occupation in the last five years.

Total housing units	314
Built 2014 or later	2
Built 2010 to 2013	5
Built 2000 to 2009	15
Built 1990 to 1999	33
Built 1980 to 1989	30
Built 1970 to 1979	78
Built 1960 to 1969	37
Built 1950 to 1959	18
Built 1940 to 1949	16
Built 1939 or earlier	80

Of the occupied housing units, 38% heat with electric, 34% heat with wood, and the rest heat with gas, oil, or some other type of fuel. Ninety-nine percent of the housing units have plumbing. Although housing valuation may have gone up since U.S. Census information was updated, the 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles has 100% of the housing units valued at less than \$299,999 with the median housing unit valued at \$88,100. Forty-two percent of owner-occupied units are housing units with a mortgage.

Owner-occupied units	173
Less than \$50,000	52
\$50,000 to \$99,999	45
\$100,000 to \$149,999	35
\$150,000 to \$199,999	34
\$200,000 to \$299,999	7
\$300,000 to \$499,999	0
\$500,000 to \$999,999	0
\$1,000,000 or more	0
Median (dollars)	88,100

Eighty-four percent of the rental units pay between \$500 and \$999 per month in lease payments with the median monthly rent at \$622.

The City of Kooskia believes that the non-occupied housing units are high in the U.S. Census estimates. It is difficult for people to find housing units for purchase or for rent. This is a consistent issue throughout the communities of north-central Idaho.

There are approximately 157 families in the City of Kooskia with the average family size in the City of Kooskia being 2.80 people. Over 62% of the households have one or more people 60 years or older living in the household. Almost 21% of households are 65 years and over. There are approximately 50 housing units out of 245 that have children living in the household that are under 18 years.

Sources:

1. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=Kooskia%20city,%20Idaho%20Housing&tid=ACSST5Y2019.S2501>
2. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=Kooskia%20city,%20Idaho%20Housing&tid=ACSST5Y2019.S1101>
3. <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>
4. United States Census Bureau, American FactFinder,

Parks and Recreation

Kooskia City Park

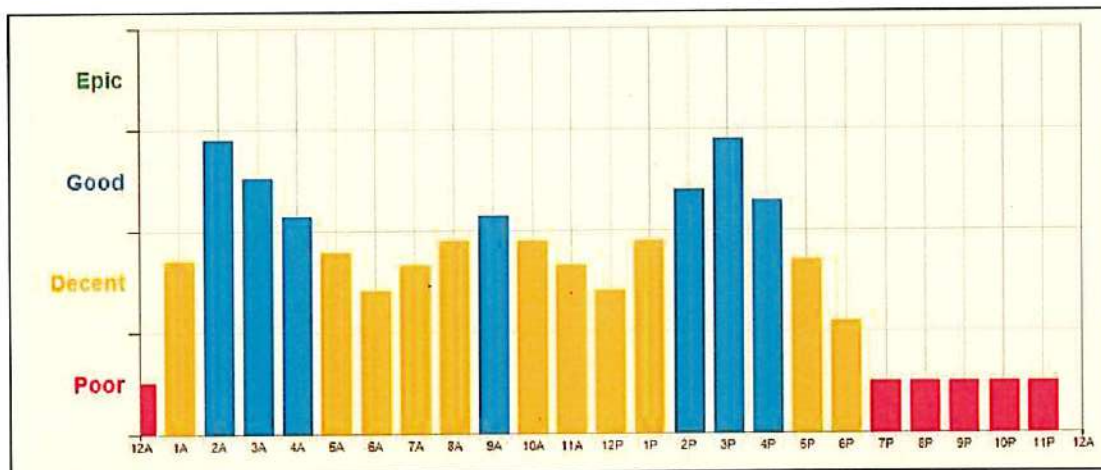
The 6.5-acre Kooskia City Park is located on Front Street adjacent to the eastern shore of the South Fork of the Clearwater River. The park is owned and managed by the City of Kooskia. Amenities include a children’s playground, splash pad, covered/uncovered picnic tables, barbecue pits, restroom facilities, ballfield, bandshell, and RV Park.



The splash pad was dedicated in 2017 and was financed by Freedom Northwest Credit Union (FNCU). It included amenities such as benches, waste containers, and lighting.

Fishing – Clearwater River

The free-flowing South Fork and Middle Fork of the Clearwater River have a variety of fish to include chinook salmon, rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, and steelhead trout. It provides fishermen with wonderful recreational opportunities where they are spinning, fly fishing, or baitcasting.



Kooskia Days

Hosted by the Greater Kooskia Chamber of Commerce, Kooskia Days is held annually on the last weekend of July. The celebration features a parade, logging show, ping pong drop, children’s

games and activities, three-on-three basketball tournament, horseshoe competition, street dance, and auction. It is also a time for the Clearwater Valley High School All Class Reunion.

Other Social Activities

The community provides numerous recreational activities to include a classic car club, the Kooskia Youth Recreational Program (providing football and basketball activities for K-6th grade), Youth USA Wrestling Club (K-8th grade), and AAU Basketball (K-8th grade).

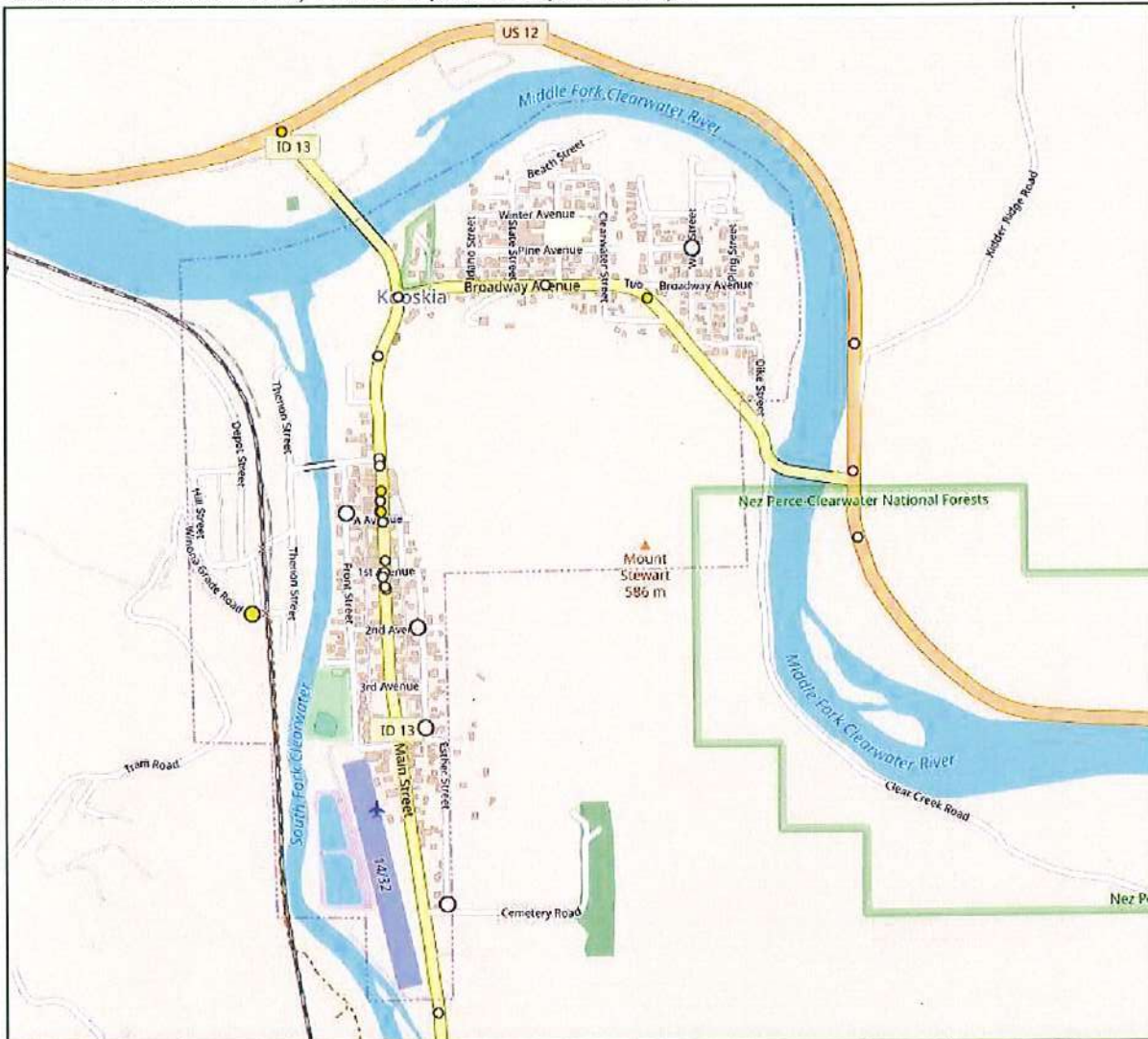
Sources:

1. <https://www.hookandbullet.com/fishing-south-fork-clearwater-river-kamiah-id/>
2. Kooskia Comprehensive Land Use Plan Committee
3. *Kooskia Comprehensive Land Use Plan Document Committee*

Transportation & Airport

The City of Kooskia is located on the north end of State Highway 13 with the highway connecting with U.S. Highway 12 on the north side of the Clearwater River. Highway 13 acts as the city's Main Street. State Highway 13 connects to U.S. Highway 95 at Grangeville (28 miles from Kooskia).

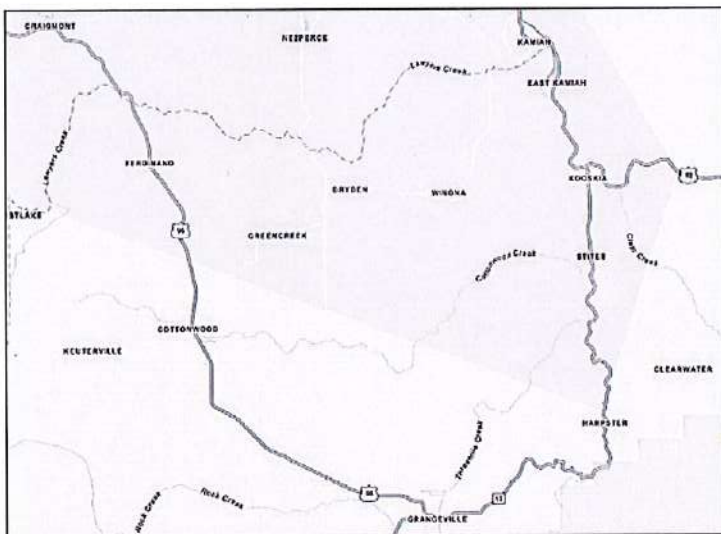
With the exception of Highway 13, the City of Kooskia maintains all roads within the city limits. It has approximately six miles of asphalt roadway that includes Highway 13. There is approximately one mile of unpaved roadway. Speed limits within the city are 25 miles per hour with traffic slowing on the south end as it comes into the city from 55 mph to 35 mph to 25 mph.



The right-of-way width for the Minor Arterial and Major Collectors to include Hwy 13 and Bridge Street are a width of 80 feet. All residential streets have a right-of-way width of 40-60 feet. All alleys have a right-of-way of 15 feet width.

The city has three bridges—two that cross the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River and one bridge that crosses the South Fork of the Clearwater River.

According to the American Community Survey (2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables), approximately 155 residents of the City of Stites are workers 16 and older. Eighty percent travel by car, truck, or van to work with 4.5% walking to work. Approximately 14.8% work from home. Sixty-one percent of workers do work with Idaho County while 38.7% work in another county. Average commute time is almost 18 minutes. The heaviest commute traffic is from 5:00 am to 5:29 am with 17.5% of commuters traveling during this time period.

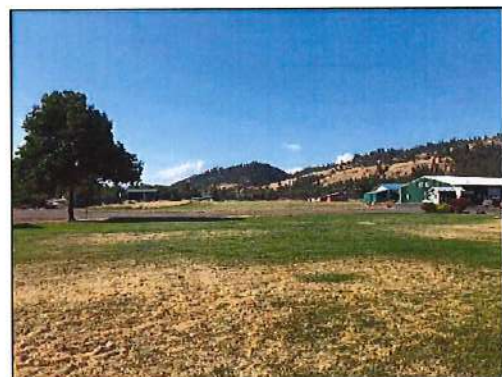


Kooskia Municipal Airport

The Kooskia Municipal Airport-S82 is located one mile south of Kooskia. The airport is at 1263 ft. elevation. It is a General Aviation Airport that became active in March 1949. It is an unattended airport.

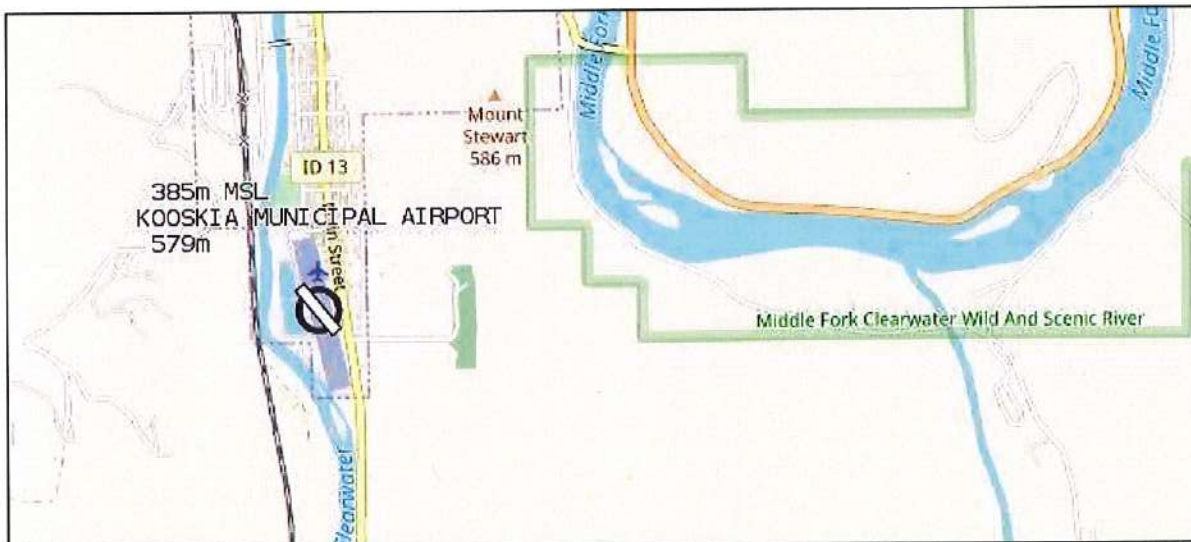
It does not have airframe service and powerplant service. No fuel is available. It does have tiedowns for parking. The turf-ed runway is 1900 ft x 100 ft. Width varies with mowing and maintenance. It has one runway.

The Airport is owned and managed by the City of Kooskia. It is primarily used for recreational purposes. There are four aircraft based on the field; each is a single engine airplane. The airfield is used a few times per month for medical evacuations by LifeFlight. The U.S. Forest Service also uses it for staging for firefighting activities. Training



activities by law enforcement and emergency services are also conducted at the airport. In addition, it is used every July during Kooskia Days for a ping pong drop.

The Airport averages 46 aircraft operations per month. Eighty-two percent of operations are transient general aviation. The remaining 18% of airport operations is local general aviation. There are no published instrument procedures at the airport.



The 2020 Idaho Airport System Plan Update: Airport Economic Impact Analysis Update identifies two and recommends these upgrades:

Airside Facilities	Runway Lighting Reflectors	\$6,000
Landside Facilities	Restrooms	\$55,000
Future Projects	Airport Layout Plan	\$30,000
Future Projects	Close-in Obstruction	\$15,000
Future Projects	Apron Tie-Downs	\$3,100

Commercial Airport

The closest commercial airport is the Lewiston-Nez Perce County Regional Airport. It is located 78 miles west of the City of Kooskia. It currently is served by Delta Airlines with service to Salt Lake City with three flights a day (in and out) and recent service from United Airlines (two flights a day). Charter private plane and helicopter flights are offered by Hillcrest Aircraft Company, Lohman Helicopter LLC, Odonata LLC, and Frontier Aviation and Jet Center.

Port Facilities

The nearest port is in Lewiston. It provides barge loading and unloading facilities for agricultural and timber products and is available for other types of shipping.

Rail Facilities

There are no rail facilities near the City of Kooskia.

Freight Transportation Services

Freight transportation providers that serve Kooskia include United Parcel Service, FedEx, Huber Freight, Baker Trucking, KBC Trucking, and Fastway Freight.

Transit Services

COAST Transportation provides coordinated transportation and brokerage services to seniors and disabled citizens based upon proof of eligibility in Kooskia. They operate Monday through Friday from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Riders can only request rides one day per week. Greyhound that stops in Grangeville is the nearest bus transportation service that provides daily passenger and freight transportation services. The Grangeville bus station is located at Cenex, 901 W. Main Street. Private taxi services that will service Kooskia include Prairie Transportation (Cottonwood), Tolo Transport, and another seven taxi services operating out of Lewiston and Orofino.

Freight and Truck Traffic

There is a substantial amount of truck traffic within the City of Kooskia along Main Street (Highway 13).

Sources:

1. *2020 Idaho Airport System Plan Update: Airport Economic Impact Analysis*
2. <http://www.airnav.com/airport/s82>
3. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=kooskia%20idaho&tid=ACST5Y2019.S0801>
4. <https://locations.greyhound.com/bus-stations/us/idaho/grangeville/bus-station-770176>
5. www.coacolfax.org
6. www.golws.com

Natural Resources and Agriculture

Climate and Topography

The City of Kooskia is located 1,293 feet above sea level. At the confluence of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River and the South Fork of the Clearwater River, the City of Kooskia is also situated at the base of Mount Stuart.

The city has a relatively mild climate, receiving on average 31.2 inches of rain annually and averages 136.3 days of precipitation (rain, snow, sleet, or hail). The community averages 171 days of sunny weather. The annual, average high temperature is 59F and annual, average low temperature is 38F. Average annual precipitation is 24.89 inches.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Average high in °F	36	43	51	58	67	73
Average low in °F	22	25	31	37	44	49
Av. precipitation in inch	1.97	1.57	2.64	2.76	3.94	2.36
◀ ▶						
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average high in °F	83	86	75	61	44	36
Average low in °F	54	53	46	37	30	23
Av. precipitation in inch	0.94	0.87	1.22	2.09	2.60	1.93

U.S. Climate Data

August is the city’s hottest month with an average high temperature of 86F. The most pleasant months of the year are June, July, and September. The City of Kooskia has an average growing season of 165 days. It typically experiences warm days and cooler nights because of the low elevation and the protection of the mountains that surround it.

Geology and Soils

Kooskia is situated on relatively flat river bottom terrain sloping gently to the north, between north-south trending valley hillside to the east and to the west. The surrounding area is comprised of woodlands, rangeland, and dry farming prairies. Ponderosa Pine and Douglas Fir predominate the woodlands while natural rangeland includes wheat grass, Idaho fescue, Sandberg, bluegrass, and annual bromes.



The area is geologically mapped as Holocene Alluvial deposits, Alluvial fan deposits, and Terrace gravel deposits overlying and bounded by the Miocene Grand Ronde unit of the Columbia River Basalt Group.

The soils in around and the City of Kooskia include:

ITEM NO.	SOIL NAME	SOIL DESCRIPTION	% OF THE AREA
1	Kooskia-Caribel Association	Deep and very deep, nearly level to steep soils that have a surface layer of silt loam and a subsoil of silt loam to silty clay; on broad ridge tops	18%
2	Lochsa-Yakus Association	Very deep to shallow, moderately steep to very steep soils that are coarse sandy loam or loam throughout; on canyon sides	7%
3	Suttler Association	Deep, rolling to very steep soils that are dominantly loam throughout; on uplands	20%
4	Jughandle Association	Deep or very deep, hilly to very steep soils that are dominantly sandy loam throughout; on uplands	18%
5	Klicker-Gwin-Melhourm Association	Moderately deep and shallow, hilly to very steep, stony and rocky soils that have a surface layer of silt loam and loam and a subsoil of silt loam to silty clay loam; on canyon sides	23%
6	Molly Association	Deep and very deep, hilly to very steep soils that have a surface layer of loam and subsoil of loam or silt loam; on uplands	4%
7	Helmer-Brody Association	Very deep to moderately deep, undulating to very steep soils that have a surface layer of silt loam and a subsoil of silt loam and silty clay loam; on uplands	10%

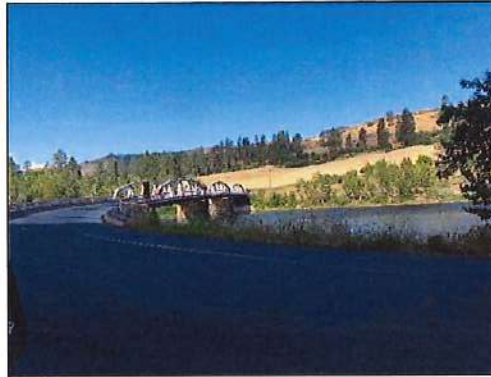
Source: Soil Conservation Service, Soil Survey Report of Kooskia Area, Idaho, October 1971

Water

The City of Kooskia is located at the confluence of the South Fork of the Clearwater River and Middle Fork of the Clearwater River. The headwater of the South Fork is located near Elk City, Idaho around 43 miles from Kooskia. The Middle Fork of the Clearwater starts 23 miles east of Kooskia at the confluence of the Lochsa River and Selway River. The rivers are easily accessible for anglers. They are popular rivers for steelhead, rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, and chinook salmon fishing.

Timber

Like mineral resources, timber has formed of the valuable off-site natural resources for nearby communities. The nearby Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest and numerous private timber holdings supply local mills and forest product industries high grade timber.



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with

Major commercial timber species include:

Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir, Grand Fir, Lodgepole Pine, Alpine Fir, Western Red Cedar, Engleman Spruce, Western Larch, and Western White Pine. The bulk of the volume is made up of the first three species.

Local mills handle all these species though there is a limited supply of Western White Pine. Cedar is transported to local sawmills for lumber and to specialty mills for conversion to cedar products including shakes and split rail fencing. Pole quality Cedar is sold to in-state manufacturers of Cedar Poles for power line construction.

Wildlife

Small and big game is abundant in and around the City of Kooskia. Elk, deer, coyote, cougar, moose, bear, mountain sheep, and mountain goats can be seen within the vicinity with the most common big game being white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, and black bear. Smaller game includes coyotes, weasels, mink, marten, and beaver. Though elk harvests have been lower in recent years, hunting success for deer and bear remain high and limited numbers of other big game may be hunted. Game birds also provide a recreational opportunity based upon wildlife.

Fishing enthusiasts can find Rainbow, cutthroat, and Dolly Varden Trout in the rivers along with chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The mountain streams in nearby forest lands are low in nutrients and therefore are not as highly productive for fishing as most streams west of the Rocky Mountains, but mountain lakes still carry sufficient stock to satisfy the sports fisherman. Closed seasons on salmon and steelhead have further limited fishing resources due to the necessity of protecting the few anadromous fish which succeed in running the gauntlet of dams on the Snake and Columbia Rivers.

Agriculture

Idaho County's 708 farms and ranches cover about 537,400 acres and primarily produce wheat, forage crops, barley, canola, and grass seed. Other crops include garbanzos, barley, and lentils. In 2012, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture economic survey conducted every five years, the county's farms were homes to about 26,200 cattle and calves. Some farms also raise bees, horses, pigs, and sheep. In 2017, the county's agricultural products were valued at \$43.7 million.

Abundant forests in Idaho County traditionally have provided hundreds of logging and wood products jobs. Technology and changes in Forest Service management have reduced those jobs over the years while the national housing crisis that began in 2007 caused further erosion. Jobs in logging and wood products fell from 476 in 2000 to 389 in 2007 and then to just 188 in 2009. Today, about 280 people work in the industry.

Private property surrounding Kooskia is used for the production of livestock and cereal grains as well as timber production. Some National Forest and State of Idaho lands are leased to local livestock producers in grazing allotments. Purchase of private property through local real estate establishments, by outside interests for high-end ranchette type residences, is becoming mentionable as a land use.

Sources:

1. *2019-2024 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* of the Clearwater Economic Development District. Author, Regional Economist Kathryn Tacke, Idaho Department of Labor.
2. City of Kooskia – Water Study. TD&H Engineering
3. <https://www.bestplaces.net/climate/city/idaho/Kooskia>
4. <https://www.usclimatedata.com/climate/kooskia/idaho/united-states/usid0135>

Hazards and Hazardous Areas

The Idaho County, Idaho Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan revision of the 2015 plan, was adopted October 18, 2016. This is the official planning document that guides the city's actions on natural hazards such as floods, landslides, severe weather, earthquakes, and wildland fires. The contents of this section are adapted from the planning document.

Hazard mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Mitigation activities may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Hazard mitigation is most effective when based on the inclusive, comprehensive, long-term plan that is developed before a disaster occurs.

Flood

The City of Kooskia is located at the confluence of the South Fork of the Clearwater River and the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River. The drainage area is approximately 4,300 square miles comprising the Lochsa and Selway River basins with water flowing into the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River.

The City of Kooskia is subject to spring rain runoff flooding. On occasion during the river, a rain on snow event will saturate soils and cause flooding. Approximately 20 acres are subject to 100-year floods.



During the warmer months, a thunderstorm may result in intense rainfall.

In 1948 and then in 1964, there were large flood events. Several people were evacuated during both events.

Impacts are mainly restricted to roadways and bridges when full culverts restrict waterflow and backup water in areas. Many businesses and structure are in the floodplain but are rarely influenced.

Access routes are Kidder Ridge Road, Clear Creek Road, Winona Grade Road, and North River Drive. In past events, very little damage was done during a flood event in the area.

The main issue with flooding is water backing up in the wastewater system. Backup can lead to basements flooding.

A dike and levee system has been constructed along both rivers in the Kooskia area. On the South Fork, a levee extends from the mouth to Third Avenue on the west bank. On the east bank, a levee was constructed below B Street and upstream to almost First Avenue. In 1964, a dike was constructed on the south side of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River.

Most of the City of Kooskia is at risk of flooding. The levee system will likely protect the City of Kooskia; however, the system is over 50 years old and could fail during an event.

Risks include:

1. Contamination of the groundwater supply.
2. Shallow flooding because of culvert capacities.
3. Backup of wastewater into basements.

There is an estimated 233 structures in the City of Kooskia that are in the flood zone. There are no issues with critical infrastructure.

Landslide

Located in the canyon at the confluence of the Middle Fork and the South Fork of the Clearwater River, the City of Kooskia has been in the area of active landslide activity. Landslides occur with unusual climatic events and land-use changes.

The City of Kooskia's main access route is U.S. Highway 12 and State Highway 13. Events along these highways can impact the City of Kooskia by cutting off access.

With slopes at greater than 35%, the city has a low to moderate probability of experiencing a landslide that is damaging.

Impacts from a landslide event could include damage to:

1. Water supplies
2. Fisheries
3. Wastewater systems
4. Forests
5. Dams
6. Roadways

Severe Weather

Although negative impacts are normally minimal, severe weather impacting the City of Kooskia on an annual basis is very high.

Winter storms may cause damage to roofs and frozen water pipes. Other damage may be from the loss of electricity (which may result in the loss of heat), inability to receive emergency services, or the inability to get to and from work due to road closures. Schools may be closed as a result of severe weather.

Although thunderstorms are common in the summer, they are not usually severe enough to cause extensive damage. Hail can cause loss to structures and other property as well as cause severe economic loss to the agriculture community surrounding the City of Kooskia.

High winds may result in damage to structures, fencing, and landscaping.