**DRAFT (1)**

25 January, 2017

Re: The Spokane Regional Toxics Taskforce (SRRTTF) Letter of Support for The Lands Council’s (TLC) Riparian Restoration, Stormwater and LID Education, and Stormwater and LID Outreach in the Spokane River Watershed Project Proposal under the National Fish and Wildlife Fiver Star Urban Waters grant

To Whom It May Concern:

The SRRTTF works collaboratively to restore water quality by identifying, characterizing, and reducing sources of toxics to the Spokane River. Our studies show the impact that urbanization has on the river. Education and outreach is an essential way to address this impact and ensure the health of the Spokane River.

The SRRTTF hereby supports the TLC proposal because it educates local residents and students about stormwater pollution impacts, provides public health and safety information to users of the Spokane River that focuses on low-income communities thereby addressing local environmental justice concerns and susceptible populations, instructs underserved student populations on urban water runoff pollution, stormwater and LID concepts, and addresses local environmental degradation by restoring riparian cover along Hangman Creek, a major source of pollution to the Spokane River.

Consistent with the SRRTTF’s collaborative efforts, The Lands Council’s project will provide needed public education and engagement to advance the understanding of Spokane River toxics issues. SRRTTF believes that the scope of TLC’s proposal will be a major benefit to our region’s work on controlling the impacts of stormwater pollution affecting the Spokane River. Moreover the TLC proposal augments local efforts to create healthy and accessible urban waters environment that in turn helps grow local businesses, and enhance educational, recreational, employment and social opportunities for the community

TLC’s Low Impact Development (LID) education will provide a very constructive influence on the safety, improved quality and environmental health of the Spokane River and will be a positive achievement in the interests of public health. Funding the TLC proposal will also provide much needed community education of LID storm water techniques, help promote storm water treatment at its source, and reduce the discharges of contaminated stormwater to the Spokane River

The SRRTTF in its efforts to address the many challenges effecting the Spokane River and specifically to reduce PCB’s from non-point sources such as stormwater believes the TLC Riparian Restoration, Stormwater and LID Education, and Stormwater and LID Outreach in the Spokane River Watershed Project will provide an essential component to achieve that goal. Furthermore the TLC project’s focus on providing LID concept education complements our region’s efforts on environmental sustainability and future workforce development.