



## Katie Ward

### Area Manager-Roads

Operations  
West Kootenay District  
Neslon, B.C.

#### Job Stream: Trades and Operations

**1. What do you DO in your current position? Describe the responsibilities, or a day in your life.**

I work with the maintenance contractor to ensure a high level of service to road users. I also respond to public and stakeholder concerns and work to address them accordingly. My work also involves responding to emergencies on our highways.

**2. Why did you choose your current position? What was it that interested you in this line of work?**

This position is challenging and always changing. My day is never the same and can change in an instant. I also enjoy the opportunity to work both in and out of the office.

**3. What do you like most/feels rewarding about your current position?**

It's very rewarding to have the ability to make a difference in small communities or areas. Being the "front line staff" during emergency events, such as washouts, is exciting and challenging.

**4. What formal or informal education has been important to you?**

My Forestry diploma has been unbelievably applicable to my work as an area manager. Having gone through the Area Manager Certificate Program is helpful for the day-to-day work.

**5. So far, how does your current position fit into the career path you expected to have?**

I did not anticipate finding a career with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be mentored as a TELP and now be in the position of road area manager.

**6. What is your favourite thing about working at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure?**

I work with a great group of people who also happen to be very talented and passionate about their jobs.

**7. What attracted you to the area you currently reside in/ (i.e. Nelson – Skiing)**

I have a beautiful river and lake almost at my doorstep.

**8. What type of personal interests do you have? (i.e. Married, kids, single, favourite sports, hobbies, etc.)**

I enjoy almost any outdoor activity; hiking, cross-country skiing, boating, paddling. I have bought a house since starting this job which is endless fun.