

Alberta Conservation Association (ACA)

Date: 2014-2015

Project Name: Swan River Arctic Grayling Stock and Watershed Connectivity Assessment

Fisheries Program Manager: Peter Aku

Project Leader: Peter Aku

Primary ACA staff on project:

N/A

Partnerships

N/A

Introduction

Arctic grayling populations in Alberta have been severely declining since the 1950s, due primarily to habitat fragmentation resulting from improperly installed road crossings. Arctic grayling in the Swan River watershed (Athabasca drainage) are of concern because of increasing industrial development, access and angling pressure. Our goal in 2014/15 was to assess the distribution, relative abundance and population structure of Arctic grayling and determine the level of fragmentation due to stream crossings in the Swan River watershed. The data will be used by provincial managers to support regulatory actions that minimize the effects of industrial and recreational activities on Arctic grayling stocks in the watershed. Implementation of this project was deferred until 2015/16 as a result of the departure of the project's lead.