

**Alberta Conservation Association
2020/21 Project Summary Report**

Project Name: Grants Fund Annual Report

Information, Education, and Communications Program Manager: Don Myhre

Project Leader: Amy MacKinven

Primary ACA staff on this project: Charmaine Brunet and Amy MacKinven

Partnerships: N/A

Key Findings

- Provided stakeholders with information about the ACA Grants Fund process, the funding allocations, and the activities and results of the projects that receive funding each fiscal year.
- Funnelled over \$1 million to conservation work in Alberta through the grant programs.

Abstract

The aim of the Grants Fund Annual Report is to document the grants fund procedures and provide an overview of activities and results of projects financially supported through ACA grants (the Conservation, Community, and Education Grants and the ACA Research Grants) each fiscal year. ACA funnels over \$1 million into conservation work in Alberta through the grants. As of our 2020/21 grants round, we have received 2,379 grant applications, of which 1,360 projects have been awarded grants. To date, approximately \$20.6 million has been granted to conservation-related projects throughout the province.

Introduction

The aim of the Grants Fund Annual Report is to document the grants fund procedures and provide an overview of activities and results of projects financially supported through Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) grants (the Conservation, Community, and Education Grants and the ACA Research Grants) each fiscal year. ACA funnels over \$1 million into conservation work in Alberta through the grants. Since 2002/03, when we started our grant program, we have awarded just over \$20.6 million to 1,360 projects.

Some projects have benefitted from long-term funding—everything from avian monitoring and education programs to research on bighorn sheep and elk. Other funded projects include AFGA's Pronghorn Antelope Migration Corridor Enhancement, and many Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association programs, which engage youth and adults in archery, fishing, and hunting. The Conservation, Community, and Education Grants also fund outdoor education programs, such as Trout Unlimited Canada's Emerald Award-winning Yellow Fish Road program and habitat enhancement projects such as Red Deer County's ALUS program. These projects are only a small sample of the projects funded so far.

Methods

The *ACA Grants Fund Annual Report* is drafted over the summer by the ACA Grants Program project administrator. A complete draft is sent to the Information, Education, and Communications Program at the end of August. The final *ACA Grants Fund Annual Report* is posted on our website, which allows anyone interested in our grants to access information on both the operation of the ACA Grants Program and the achievements of projects we have supported.

Results

The result of the *Grants Fund Annual Report* is that the spending of the funds generated by the province's hunters and anglers is clearly outlined and available to ACA stakeholders. The report compiles the results of the funding to show the far-reaching impact of the grants program. We updated the grants section on ACA's website as needed and promoted the grants and their deadlines as they occurred.

Conclusions

The *Grants Fund Annual Report* is one of the ways ACA shares information about our grants. We feel richly rewarded in helping support diverse conservation work happening in our province. Alberta's hunters, anglers, and trappers should be proud of the work accomplished with their levy dollars.

Communications

- *Grants Fund Annual Report* (www.ab-conservation.com/grants/aca-grant-reports/)