

**Alberta Conservation Association
2021/22 Project Summary Report**

Project Name: Grants Fund Annual Report

Information, Education, and Communications Program Manager: Don Myhre

Project Leader: Amy MacKinven

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Partnerships

Not applicable

Key Findings

- Provided stakeholders with information about the ACA Grants Program funding process, the funding allocations, and the activities and results of the projects that receive funding each fiscal year.
- Funnelled about \$1.5 million to conservation work in Alberta through the ACA Grants Program.

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 ACA Conservation, Community, and Education Grants [CCEG] and the ACA Research Grants [RG]) each fiscal year. For 2021/22, the Grants in Biodiversity will again be added to the *Grants Fund Annual Report* as the program is now operated by ACA. ACA funnels over \$1.5 million into conservation work in Alberta through the grants. For the 2021/22 grants funding allocation, we received 2,518 ACA CCEG and ACA RG applications, of which 1,453 projects have been awarded grants. As of 2021/22, approximately \$21.9 million has been granted to conservation-related projects throughout the province.

Introduction

The aim of the *Grants Fund Annual Report* is to document the ACA Grants Program funding procedures and provide an overview of activities and results of projects financially supported through Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) grants (the ACA Conservation, Community, and Education Grants [CCEG] and the ACA Research Grants [RG]) each fiscal year. The Grants in Biodiversity (GIB) post-graduate granting program has been added to the *Grants Fund Annual Report* as the program is now operated through ACA. ACA funnels about \$1.5 million into conservation work in Alberta through the grants. Since 2002/03, when we started our Grants Program, we have awarded just over \$21.9 million to 1,453 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 Alberta Fish & Game Association's (AFGA) pronghorn antelope migration corridor enhancement, Red Deer County's and Mountain View County's habitat enhancement programs with landowners, and many Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association (AHEIA) programs, which engage youth and adults in archery, fishing, and hunting. The ACA CCEGs also fund outdoor education programs, such as Nature Alberta's Nature Kids Family Nature Nights and various Kids Can Catch events. 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 for editing, designing, and finalizing. 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*

Literature Cited

Not applicable

Photos

Not applicable