

**Alberta Conservation Association  
2010/11 Project Summary Report**

**Project Name:** Fisheries Access Site Management

**Land Program Manager:** Darren Dorge

**Project Leader:** Marco Fontana

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**Partnerships:**

Alberta Environment  
Alberta Fish and Game Association  
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Fish and Wildlife Division and Lands Division  
Alberta Tourism  
Parks and Recreation  
Braxxon Excavation  
Canfor  
Clearwater County  
Compton Petroleum  
County of Camrose  
County of Newell  
County of Stettler  
County of Warner  
Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd.  
Devon Canada Corporation  
Dickson Fish and Game  
Grimshaw Agricultural Society  
Hillcrest Fish and Game  
Lamont Fish and Game  
Mancal Energy Inc.  
Municipal District of Sunrise County  
Municipal District of Rocky View  
North Raven River Working Group  
North Shore Environmental Consultants  
RTC Services Ltd.  
Shell Canada Energy  
TAQA North  
Town of Lamont  
Trout Unlimited Canada - Central Chapter and Yellowhead Chapter  
Volunteer stewards

## **Key Findings**

- Conducted management, inspections and site maintenance on 31 fisheries access sites across Alberta.
- Completed site upgrades and enhancements on 10 fisheries access sites across the province.
- Increased the number of in-kind and financial partnerships in 2010/11 by 15% from the previous year.
- Provided anglers with access to four rivers and 27 lakes throughout the province.

## **Introduction**

Conserving, protecting and enhancing wildlife and fish habitat, as well as increasing sustainable recreational opportunities including angling and hunting, is the focus of Alberta Conservation Association's (ACA's) Land Management Program (LMP). One facet of the LMP is the management of ACA's fisheries access sites.

The Fisheries Access Site Management Program is delivered throughout the province and provides sites for anglers to access key streams, stocked ponds and lakes, thereby increasing recreational opportunities for public use. Specific objectives in 2010/11 included: delivering the project in an efficient and timely manner, completing inspections and necessary maintenance on all fisheries access sites, establishing and maintaining successful partnerships with industry, government, municipalities and other organizations to discuss management issues and recreational access opportunities.

## **Methods**

Fisheries Access Site Management is a provincial program that is delivered regionally to maximize local knowledge and partnership opportunities. We completed field inspections on access sites throughout the province, which involved visually surveying a site to assess damages to infrastructure, identifying concerns (e.g., weeds), ensuring contractor compliance, and identifying a course of action. We generally completed two or three field inspections per year or monthly, if required.

We typically contracted out routine maintenance, e.g., grass cutting, fence repairs, garbage removal and weed control, to private individuals/companies or employed volunteer stewards whenever possible. Infrastructure upgrades and replacements are becoming more prevalent due to the age of structures and damages caused by vandals. Sanitary facilities, garbage disposal bins and picnic tables are all types of infrastructure that required replacement. We also continued to prioritize the installation of ACA Conservation Site signage for fisheries access sites. We generally erected signage at the main access points of each fisheries access site.

## **Results**

We managed, inspected and maintained 31 fisheries access sites with a variety of site infrastructure in four regions throughout Alberta (Table 1). We completed enhancements and

installed new facilities at 10 sites to improve the overall image of our fisheries access sites and enhance the experience of anglers visiting these sites. At East Dollar Lake, we installed a new project sign and replaced the outhouse and septic tank with new facilities. At Weberville Pond, we installed a new project sign and improved the trail and access around the pond. At Birch Lake, we improved the access trail and added gravel to improve the parking lot. At Beaver Lake, we painted and repaired the outhouses. We graveled the parking lot and built a foot access trail at Fiesta Lake. At Mitchell Lake, we built an access trail to the aeration shed. At Mirror Reservoir, we pumped the reservoir to full supply level. At Boehlke Pond, we graveled the perimeter road. We replaced old garbage cans at Brooks Aqueduct and at McVinnie Trout Pond.

Table 1. Facilities maintained and inspected at ACA fisheries access sites.

Site name (region)	Access site type	Facilities maintained/inspected						
		Road access	Parking lot	Washrooms (outdoor)	Garbage disposal bins	Boat launch	Fish cleaning stand	Fences
Lamont Pond (NE)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
East Dollar Lake (NW)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	
Weberville Pond (NW)	stocked waterbody	X	X		X			
McKinnon Flats (ES)	river access	X	X	X	X	X		X
Bow Site #10 (ES)	river access							X
North Raven River (ES)	river access		X	X	X			X

Site name (region)	Access site type	Facilities maintained/inspected						
		Road access	Parking lot	Washrooms (outdoor)	Garbage disposal bins	Boat launch	Fish cleaning stand	Fences
Ironside Pond (ES)	stocked, aerated waterbody		X					X
Mitchell Lake (ES)	stocked, aerated waterbody	X	X					
Beaver Lake (ES)	stocked, aerated waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		X
Fiesta Lake (ES)	stocked, aerated waterbody	X	X					
Boehlke Pond (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Dickson Trout Pond (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			
Hansen Reservoir (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	X
Kerbes Pond (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Kramer Pond (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	X
Mirror Reservoir (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Nuggent Pond (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X

Site name (region)	Access site type	Facilities maintained/inspected						
		Road access	Parking lot	Washrooms (outdoor)	Garbage disposal bins	Boat launch	Fish cleaning stand	Fences
Shuster Lake (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X					
Windsor Lake (ES)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lees Lake (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		X
Burmis Lake (SO)	stocked waterbody river access	X	X	X	X			X
Waldron Falls (SO)	river access	X	X	X				
Bathing Lake (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Butcher Lake (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X					
Dipping Vat Lake (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		
Heninger Reservoir (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		
Tyrrell Lake (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		X

Site name (region)	Access site type	Facilities maintained/inspected						
		Road access	Parking lot	Washrooms (outdoor)	Garbage disposal bins	Boat launch	Fish cleaning stand	Fences
Brooks Aqueduct Pond (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			
Lake McQuillan (SO)	stocked waterbody							
Kenex Trout Pond (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X					X
McVinnie Trout Pond (SO)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X

The number of collaborative partnerships in 2010/11 (33) increased 15% from the previous year. Partnerships included both financial and in-kind support. These partnerships enabled us to complete more site upgrades and enhancements at various fish access sites.

## Conclusions

We successfully managed 31 fisheries access sites across the province to provide angling opportunities on 27 lakes and four rivers. We completed upgrades and enhancements at 10 sites to improve recreational access, address concerns over aging infrastructure and repair damages caused by vandals. We inspected all sites throughout the province and completed all routine maintenance tasks. We increased the number of partnerships for the delivery of this program by 15% from 2009/10 levels. We anticipate continuing to ensure anglers have high quality experiences at ACA fisheries access sites and we are continually pursuing additional funding to enhance facilities in the future.

## Communications

- Posted fisheries access site locations and descriptions on our website and listed them in *Discover Alberta's Wild Side: Guide to Outdoor Adventure*.
- Held meetings and site tours with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development partners to discuss ongoing management issues at McKinnon Flats.

## Literature

NA