

**Alberta Conservation Association  
2011/12 Project Summary Report**

**Project Name:** *Overwintering Habitat and Distribution of Arctic Grayling in the Christina River Watershed*

**Fisheries Program Manager:** Peter Aku

**Project Leader:** Peter Aku

**Primary ACA staff on project:**

Peter Aku

**Partnerships**

N/A

**Introduction**

Increased industrial development activities, particularly winter water withdrawals, road and pipeline crossings continue to put pressure on Arctic grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) populations within the Christina River watershed. Yet, very little information currently exists on winter habitat requirements and distribution of Arctic grayling within this watershed, making it difficult for fisheries managers to make sound decisions with respect to location and/or timing of these disturbances, particularly with respect to winter activities. The objective of this project was to undertake a winter habitat use and distribution assessment of Arctic grayling to provide watershed-specific information to fisheries managers with respect to key overwintering areas. Our goal for 2011/12 included scoping activities to identify logistic needs and develop a robust study design for implementation in 2012/13. Implementation of this project was contingent upon acquisition of partner funds (Environment Canada – Environmental Damages Fund) that we did not acquire; hence, we suspended the project.