

**Alberta Conservation Association
2024/25 Project Summary Report**

Project Name: Fish Stocking Evaluation

Fisheries Program Manager: Peter Aku

Project Leader: Kevin Fitzsimmons

Primary ACA Staff on Project: NA

Details

Evaluation of our Fish Stocking project suggests that poor water quality (high temperatures and low dissolved oxygen) and avian predation at some of our ponds may limit their ability to support stocked trout throughout the summer months. To remain accountable to our stakeholders, we continue to evaluate our stocking program and our stocked ponds to increase efficiencies where possible. Beginning in 2010, we have evaluated various aspects of our stocking project including physical and chemical properties of ponds, angler effort, avian predation, and trout survival and abundance. The objective for 2024/25 was to develop an eDNA assay for detection of Prussian carp. However, the objective was not pursued as we learned the Government of Alberta is developing a Prussian carp eDNA assay with the University of Alberta. Once validated, we will have access to this assay to determine the prevalence of Prussian carp in our stocked ponds.