

**Alberta Conservation Association  
2007/08 Project Summary Report**

**Project Name:** Fish Access Site Maintenance and Management

**Project Leader:** Darren Dorge

**Primary ACA staff on this project:** Boreal (NE): Velma Hudson, Roy Schmelzeisen, Dan Sturgess; Boreal (NW): Dave Jackson; East Slopes (ES): Marco Fontana, Kelly Hooey, Corey Rasmussen, Thomas Winter; South (Parkland): Jim Potter, Diana Rung; South (Prairie): Darren Dorge, Brad Taylor

**Partnerships:**

Alberta Environment  
Alberta Fish & Game Association  
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Fish & Wildlife Division and Public Lands Division  
Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation  
Canfor  
Clearwater County  
Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd.  
Grimshaw Agricultural Society  
La Prairie Group  
Municipal District of East Peace  
Municipal District of Greenview  
Rocky Riparian Group  
Shell Canada  
Stettler County  
Town of Fairview  
Weyerhaeuser  
Zama Lake Society  
Trout Unlimited Canada Central Chapter

## **Introduction**

The Land Management Program (LMP) encompasses activities intended to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and to increase consumptive and non-consumptive recreational opportunities including angling and hunting. One of the core activities of the LMP is annual maintenance and management of Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) Fisheries Access Sites.

Access for angling is becoming increasingly more difficult due to private land ownership which has resulted in issues in accessing the fishery resource in many areas. A majority of fisheries access sites were developed using trust fund dollars prior to the onset of the ACA. Many of these sites are maintained by the ACA to provide anglers continued access to key streams, stocked ponds and lakes throughout the province.

ACA's land management team is responsible for maintaining and managing many of these fisheries access sites. Any potential or planned development of new sites is directed to the ACA's Fisheries Program and Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (ASRD).

## **Results**

Throughout the province, we maintained 29 fisheries access sites (Table 1). Details on each area are provided below.

### ***Boreal (NE)***

We managed one fisheries access site – Lamont Pond. Facility maintenance, including grass mowing, garbage and outhouse maintenance, was completed by the Lamont Fish and Game Association. We are in the process of negotiating a management agreement with this club for future management and maintenance at this site.

### ***Boreal (NW)***

We maintained two fisheries access sites. We completed four inspections at East Dollar Lake and used contracted services for outhouse maintenance. At Weberville Pond, we completed five inspections. The Municipal District of Northern Lights was contracted to cut the grass in July around the pond and along the access road allowance. We cleaned the outlet structure (screen), as required, from May to the end of October. Two issues were identified at or near the water control structure: 1) the outlet had continuing beaver dam issues; a trapper may need to be hired to alleviate this concern, and 2) the inlet culvert and screen need a safety/warning sign installed. There was a slight deviation from original beautification plans; gravel pads were upgraded to cement pads. Installation of two cement picnic tables was completed, but the accompanying garbage cans were not added because they were not bear-proof. A few other activities occurred throughout the season. We completed a prescribed burn around one of the fisheries access sites on 14 and 15 May. The municipality assisted with maintenance of the site by adding several loads of gravel to the access road. The Junior Forest Rangers helped with maintenance by assisting with the installation of cement pads, picnic tables and painting.

### ***East Slopes (ES)***

We maintained one fisheries access site on the North Raven River, one at Ironside Pond, and one at Beaver Lake. In addition, we jointly maintained a fisheries access site on the Bow River (McKinnon Flats) with the Prairie ACA staff. At the North Raven River access site, we maintained a small parking lot, garbage disposal, and outhouses. At Ironside Pond, we maintained a small parking lot and foot access to the pond. At Beaver Lake, we maintained an access road, parking area, barrier fencing, outhouses, garbage disposal, and a picnic area. Additional efforts were required to improve the access road to Beaver Lake, including tree cutting by ACA staff and road grading by Clearwater County. At McKinnon Flats, we maintained a parking area and fencing around the upland portion of the property. In addition, we maintained a fireguard along the ditches during peak use periods when roadsides were used for overflow parking. We also assisted ASRD during the construction of an additional parking lot for overflow use and assisted with improvements of a historic farm house located onsite. This included repairing and painting a spit-rail fence and gate.

### ***South (Parkland)***

We maintained and completed site inspections at nine fish access sites. Contracted services were used to maintain garbage and outhouses at Hansen Reservoir, Kerbes Pond, Kramer Pond, Mirror Reservoir, Nuggett Pond and Windsor Lake. We inspected the road and water control structure at Shuster Lake. We inspected and maintained the fence, signage and weed control issues at all sites. Most of the facility maintenance at Dickson Trout Pond was completed by Alberta Environment and Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation.

### ***South (Prairie)***

We maintained and completed site inspections at 14 fish access sites. Regular maintenance was completed through contracts. Additional minor repairs were completed at Bathing Lake (fencing), Burmis Lake (access road re-gravelling), Dipping Vat Lake (outlet structure screen), and Lees Lake (replacement of garbage cans). Major repairs identified for 2008-2009 include sanitary facility replacement at Heninger Reservoir and Lees Lake.

**Table 1. Table of provincial fisheries access sites and facilities maintenance.**

Site Name	Access Type	Facilities maintained/inspected						
		Road Access	Parking Lot	Washrooms (outdoor)	Garbage Cans	Boat Launch	Fish Cleaning Stand	Fences
Boreal – NE								
Lamont Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Boreal – NW								
East Dollar Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	
Weberville Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X		X			
East Slopes								
North Raven River	river access		X	X	X			X
Ironside Pond	stocked, aerated waterbody		X				X <sup>1</sup>	X
Beaver Lake	stocked, aerated waterbody	X	X	X	X	X	X <sup>2</sup>	X
South – Parkland								
Boehlke Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Dickson Trout Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			
Hansen Reservoir	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	X
Kerbes Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Kramer Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	X
Mirror Reservoir	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Nuggent Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Shuster Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X					
Windsor Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
South – Prairie								
Lees Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		X
Burmis Lake	stocked waterbody, river access	X	X	X	X			X
Waldron Falls	river access	X	X	X				
Bathing Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Butcher Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X					
Dipping Vat Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		

Heninger Reservoir	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		
Tyrrell Lake	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		X
Brooks Aqueduct Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			
McKinnon Flats	river access	X	X	X	X	X		X
Bow Site #10	river access							X
Lake McQuillan	stocked waterbody							
Kenex Trout Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X					X
McVinnie Trout Pond	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X

<sup>1</sup>walking path,<sup>2</sup> picnic area

## Conclusion

We ensured that all maintenance standards were met on ACA's Fisheries Access Sites. All maintenance and repair issues were dealt with in a timely, efficient and professional manner. We also ensured that our partnerships (in-kind and monetary) were nurtured and maintained.

## Communications:

- Site information for each of the fisheries access sites was added to the ACA website.

## *Boreal (NW)*



Junior Forest Rangers constructing cement picnic table, Weberville Pond, 2007.  
(Photo: David Jackson)





Finished pad and cement picnic table, Weberville Pond, 2007. (Photo: David Jackson)

### *East Slopes*



Footpath leading to Ironside Pond. (Photo: Corey Rasmussen)



*South (Parkland)*



Aerial view of Mirror Reservoir. (Photo: Alberta Sustainable Resource Development)



*South (Prairie)*



Overview of McKinnon Flats fisheries access site during construction of the over-flow parking lot. (Photo: Marco Fontana)





Butcher Lake (NW 15-4-1-W 5 M). (Photo: Brad Taylor)



Waldron Falls – access to the Oldman River (NW-6-10-1-W5M). (Photo: Brad Taylor)



Heninger Reservoir (SW16-3-12-W4M). (Photo: Brad Taylor)