

**Alberta Conservation Association  
2008/09 Project Summary Report**

**Project name:** *Fisheries Access Site Management*

**Land Management Program Manager:** Darren Dorge

**Project leader:** Brad Taylor (Prairie SO), Diana Rung (Parkland SO), Ed Kolodychuk (Boreal NW), Roy Schmelzeisen (Boreal NE), Marco Fontana (East Slopes ES)

**Primary ACA staff on this project:**

Boreal (NE): Roy Schmelzeisen, Dan Sturgess

Boreal (NW): Ed Kolodychuk, Dave Jackson, Ken Wright, Oksana Izio

East Slopes: Marco Fontana, Thomas Winter, Kelly Hooey, Nevada Collins-Lee, Reese Harrison

South (Parkland): Diana Rung,

South (Prairie): Mike Uchikura, Brad Taylor

**Partnerships:**

Alberta Environment

Alberta Fish and Game Association

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

- Fish & Wildlife Division

- Public Lands Division

Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation

Burnstick Lake Campground

Canfor

Caroline Chamber of Commerce

Clearwater County

County of Newell

County of Stettler

County of Warner

Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd.

Devon Canada

Grimshaw Agricultural Society

Lamont Fish and Game

Municipal District of East Peace

Municipal District of Greenview

Municipal District of Rocky View

North Raven River Working Group

Rocky Riparian Group

Town of Fairview

Town of Lamont

TransCanada

Trout Unlimited Canada, Central Chapter  
Volunteer Stewards  
Weyerhaeuser  
Zama Lake Society

## **Key Findings**

- Management, inspections and site maintenance were completed on 30 fisheries access sites (FAS) across Alberta.
- Site upgrades and enhancements were completed on nine fisheries access sites across the province.
- The number of in-kind and financial partnerships increased from 2007-2008 by 47%.
- Fisheries access sites provided anglers with access to 4 rivers and 26 lakes throughout the province.

## **Abstract**

Alberta Conservation Association's (ACA) Land Management Program (LMP) encompasses activities intended to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and to increase sustainable recreational opportunities including angling and hunting. One of the activities of the LMP is the management of fisheries access sites across the province. The Fisheries Access Site Management Program is intended to ensure that sites are available that provide public access to key streams, rivers, and lakes throughout the province. ACA maintained 30 Fisheries Access Sites across the province in 2008-2009 and upgraded nine sites with new picnic tables (two sites), garbage cans (two sites), gravel (four sites), gravel walkway (one site), and sanitary facilities (three sites). Overall partnerships increased from 19 partners in 2007-2008 to 28 partners in 2008-2009.

## **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 activities of the LMP is the management of Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) Fisheries Access Sites.

The Fisheries Access Site Management Program is intended to increase recreational opportunities by providing a public site for anglers to access key streams, stocked ponds and lakes throughout the province. Specific objectives for this project include:

- Project is delivered in an efficient and timely manner throughout the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

- Inspections and necessary maintenance are completed on all Fisheries Access Sites throughout the 2008-2009 fiscal year.
- Establish and maintain successful partnerships with industry, government, municipalities and other organizations to discuss Fisheries Access Sites management issues and recreational access opportunities.

**Methods**

Fisheries Access Site Maintenance is a provincial program that is delivered regionally to maximize local knowledge and partnership opportunities. We completed field inspections on 30 fisheries access sites throughout the province. Field inspections involve a visual survey of a site to assess damages to infrastructure, identify concerns (e.g. weeds), ensure contractor compliance, and identify a course of action. Inspections are completed 2-3 times per year.

All routine maintenance (e.g. grass cutting, fence maintenance, garbage removal, weed control) is generally contracted out to private individuals or completed by volunteer stewards whenever possible. Infrastructure upgrades and replacements are becoming a larger part of this project due to the age of structures and damages caused by vandals. Sanitary facilities, garbage cans, and picnic tables are all types of infrastructure that have had to be replaced over the past year. Also new ACA Conservation Site signage has been developed for fisheries access sites and installation of these signs has been initiated. Signage is generally erected at the main access points of each fisheries access site.

**Results**

We managed, inspected, and maintained 30 Fisheries Access Sites throughout Alberta (Table 1). Enhancements were completed at nine sites. Three sites (Tyrrell Lake, McVinnie, and McKinnon Flats) had significant vandalism resulting in the loss of four single outhouse facilities, one garbage can, and project signage. New facilities were installed at three sites (Heninger, Tyrrell Lake, and Lees Lake) to replace aging infrastructure, as well as new garbage cans and picnic tables at three additional sites (Weberville Pond, East Dollar Lake, and Lees Lake). Road upgrades were completed at four sites (Beaver Lake, Boehlke Pond, Hansen Reservoir, and Nugent Pond) and a gravel pathway was constructed at Weberville Pond.

The number of collaborative partnerships increased to 28 partners in 2008-2009 from 19 partners in 2007-2008. Partnerships include both financial and in-kind support. These partnerships enabled us to complete more site upgrades and enhancements at various fish access sites.

**Table 1. ACA Fisheries Access Sites**

		Facilities maintained/inspected
Site Name	Access Type	
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Site Name	Access type							
		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
Mitchell Lake	stocked, aerated waterbody	X	X					
Beaver Lake	stocked, aerated waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		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
<b>McVinnie Trout Pond</b>	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X

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## Conclusions

We managed 30 fisheries access sites across the province to provide angling opportunities on 26 lakes and 4 rivers. Nine sites received upgrades and enhancement to address concerns over aging infrastructure and damages caused by vandals. All sites were inspected throughout the province and all routine maintenance tasks were completed. The number of partnerships for the delivery of this program increased 47% from 2007 levels.

## Communications

- Conservation / Fisheries Access Site locations and descriptions were posted on the ACA website, as well as in the ACA Conservation Site guide.

## Literature Cited

NA

## Pictures:



**Parking Lot at McKinnon Flats**

**Photo Credit Brad Taylor**



**Beaver Lake Parking Lot**

**Photo Credit Marco Fontana**



**Anglers at McVinnie Conservation Site**

**Photo Credit Randy Lee**