

**Alberta Conservation Association  
2009/10 Project Summary Report**

**Project Name:** *Fisheries Access Site Management*

**Land Management Program Manager:** Darren Dorge

**Project Leader:** Marco Fontana

**Primary ACA staff on project:**

Boreal (Northeast): Roy Schmelzeisen and Stefanie van Huystee; Boreal (Northwest): Dave Jackson and Ed Kolodychuk; East Slopes: Marco Fontana, Corey Rasmussen and Erin Vandermarel; South (Parkland): Diana Rung; South (Prairie): Brad Taylor and Mike Uchikura

**Partnerships**

Alberta Environment  
Alberta Fish and Game Association  
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Fish and Wildlife Division and Lands Division  
Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation  
Burnstick Lake Campground  
Canfor  
Caroline Chamber of Commerce  
Clearwater County  
County of Camrose  
County of Newell  
County of Stettler  
County of Warner  
Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd.  
Devon Canada  
Grimshaw Agricultural Society  
Hillcrest Fish and Game  
Lamont Fish and Game  
Municipal District of Rocky View  
Municipal District of Sunrise County  
North Raven River Working Group  
Shell Canada  
Town of Fairview  
Town of Lamont  
Trout Unlimited Canada, Central Chapter  
Volunteer Stewards  
Weyerhaeuser

## **Key Findings**

- Completed management, inspections and site maintenance on 31 fisheries access sites across Alberta.
- Completed site upgrades and enhancements on six fisheries access sites across the province.
- Maintained 28 in-kind and financial partnerships, the same number as the previous year.
- Fisheries access sites provided anglers with access to four rivers and 27 lakes throughout the province.

## **Introduction**

Conserving, protecting and enhancing fish and wildlife 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 program of the LMP is the management of our 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 for the 2009/10 fiscal year 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 fisheries access sites 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 a visual survey of a site to assess damages to infrastructure, identifying concerns (e.g., weeds), ensuring contractor compliance, and identifying a course of action. Field inspections were generally completed two to three times per year or monthly, if required.

Routine maintenance (e.g., grass cutting, fence repairs, garbage removal and weed control) was 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 damage caused by vandals. Sanitary facilities, garbage disposal bins, and picnic tables are all types of infrastructure that required replacement. Also, new ACA Conservation Site signage has been developed for fisheries access sites and installation of these

signs was a priority. Signage was generally erected at the main access points of each fisheries access site.

## **Results**

We managed, inspected and maintained 31 fisheries access sites throughout Alberta (Table 1). We completed enhancements and installed new facilities at six sites to improve the overall image of our fisheries access sites and enhance the experience of anglers visiting these sites. At Webberville Pond we installed two additional bear-proof garbage disposal bins, removed a large beaver dam and secured the full quarter section. At the North Raven River fisheries access site we painted the outhouses and garbage cans, re-graveled the parking lot, installed new parking blocks, removed dilapidated access barriers and replaced them with boulders, rebuilt fencing and constructed new angler ladders. At Beaver Lake we re-graveled the access road, parking lot and boat launch and painted the outhouses. We installed new project signage at Windsor Lake and have six signs in production scheduled to be installed in the spring (East Dollar Lake, Fiesta Lake, North Raven River, Webberville Pond and two for McVinnie Reservoir). At McKinnon Flats, we replaced a small portion of fence and installed new outhouses. At Heninger Reservoir, we installed a new outhouse and garbage disposal facilities.

The number of collaborative partnerships remained the same from the previous year at 28 in 2009/10. Partnerships included both financial and in-kind support. These partnerships enabled us to complete more site upgrades and enhancements at various fisheries access sites.

Table 1. Facilities maintained and inspected at Alberta Conservation Association 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			
North Raven River (ES)	River access		X	X	X			X
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					

Site name (region)	Access site type	Facilities maintained/inspected						
		Road access	Parking lot	Washrooms (outdoor)	Garbage disposal bins	Boat launch	Fish cleaning stand	Fences
Boehlke Pond (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Dickson Trout Pond (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			
Hansen Reservoir (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	X
Kerbes Pond (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Kramer Pond (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X		X	X
Mirror Reservoir (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Nuggent Pond (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Shuster Lake (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	X					
Windsor Lake (Parkland)	stocked waterbody	X	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
Lees Lake (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		X
Burmis Lake (Prairie)	Stocked waterbody river access	X	X	X	X			X
Waldron Falls (Prairie)	River access	X	X	X				
Bathing Lake (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X
Butcher Lake (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X					
Dipping Vat Lake (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		
Heninger Reservoir (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		
Tyrrell Lake (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X	X		X
Brooks Aqueduct Pond (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			
McKinnon Flats (Prairie)	River access	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
Bow Site #10 (Prairie)	River access							X
Lake McQuillan (Prairie)	stocked waterbody							
Kenex Trout Pond (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X					X
McVinnie Trout Pond (Prairie)	stocked waterbody	X	X	X	X			X

## Conclusions

We managed 31 fisheries access sites across the province to provide angling opportunities on 27 lakes and four rivers. We completed upgrades and enhancements at six sites to improve recreational access, address concerns over aging infrastructure, and repair damage caused by vandals. We inspected all sites throughout the province and completed all routine maintenance tasks. The number of partnerships for the delivery of this program remained the same as 2008/09 levels.

## Communications

- Posted fisheries access site locations and descriptions on ACA's website and included them in our *Discover Alberta's Wild Side – Guide to Outdoor Adventure*.
- For the first time, promoted fisheries access sites in our *Conservation Magazine* in 2009/10, including Fiesta Lake, Lees Lake and North Raven River.

## Literature Cited

NA

**Pictures:**



Picnic table and bear-proof garbage disposal bins at Weberville pond. (Photo: Dave Jackson)



Improvements being made to North Raven River Access Site. (Photo: Corey Rasmussen)





Overview of Shuster Lake. (Photo: Diana Rung)



Overview of Butcher Lake. (Photo: Brad Taylor)



Overview of Tyrrell Lake. (Photo: Brad Taylor)



Overview of Lees Lake. (Photo: Darren Dorge)