

**Alberta Conservation Association  
2023/24 Project Summary Report**

**Project Name:** Pronghorn Fence Enhancement Partnership

**Wildlife Program Manager:** Doug Manzer

**Project Leader:** Amanda MacDonald

**Primary ACA Staff on Project:** Easton Fritz, Tyler Johns, Paul Jones, and Amanda MacDonald

### **Partnerships**

Alberta Fish & Game Association

Government of Alberta

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

### **Key Findings**

- We completed three fencing projects in partnership with the Alberta Fish & Game Association in 2023 that together modified 37 km of barbed wire over to smooth wire to meet wildlife-friendlier standards.
- We worked with a partnering landowner to remove 2 km of dilapidated barbed wire fence and reinstall new wire to wildlife-friendlier standards.
- To date, we have assisted with modifying 655 km of fencing to wildlife-friendlier standards and the removal of 34.5 km of page wire.

### **Details**

A simple and effective method to mitigate the negative impact fences have on pronghorn is to implement wildlife-friendlier fencing techniques. For pre-existing fences, the retrofitting of wires to wildlife-friendlier standards is time consuming and costly. In 2023, we were able to alleviate these burdens on landholders interested in improving fence permeability for pronghorn by replacing the bottom barbed wire of 39 km of fenceline with double-stranded smooth wire raised to 46 cm. Retrofitting was completed by volunteers with the Alberta Fish & Game Association. In total, the Pronghorn Fence Crossing Enhancement Project facilitated the establishment of

nearly 615 km of wildlife-friendlier fencing throughout the pronghorn migration corridor of southeastern Alberta.

## Photos



Photo 1. Volunteers modifying an existing fenceline to wildlife-friendlier standards at the northern extent of the pronghorn range, near Byemoor, AB. Photo: Amanda MacDonald



Photo 2. A wildlife crossing found along a fenceline recently modified to wildlife-friendlier standards. Photo: Amanda MacDonald



Photo 3. A bull contained within a fenceline recently modified to wildlife-friendly standards.

Photo: Amanda MacDonald