



## Many battles still ahead to protect special areas

By Andy Marshall

Alberta's Special Places program is over, a government official has confirmed, meaning protection for any more ecologically significant lands will no longer be a priority.

While this statement and Alberta's record for setting aside sensitive natural areas from industrial and commercial development dismay some conservationists, others believe the door remains slightly ajar for future action. Tipping the mood to the more pessimistic side, though, was news of the Group of Eight (G-8) 2002 summit in Kananaskis, as well as the announcement of a 20-year Forest Management Agreement (FMA) with Spray Lake Sawmills (1980) Ltd. which will give the Cochrane company control of more than 4,000 square kilometres of public forest, including about 1,200 sq. km. in Kananaskis Country.

"The aggressive side to acquiring land has concluded," said Kathy Telfer, a spokeswoman for Alberta Community Development Gene Zwozdesky who was responsible for Special Places. With the announcement in July of five new sites totaling 6,973 sq. km. and including in the Caribou Mountains Wildlands Park, the largest site ever established by the province, Alberta's 5 1/2-year commitment to Canada's Endangered Spaces program

through its Special Places 2000 strategy was more than fulfilled, she said. This brings Alberta's protected areas system to more than 18,000 sq. km., or 12.4 per cent of the province's total land base, and includes representative examples of 20 different natural sub-regions, from subarctic to dry mixed grass.

"Now the focus will be on how to manage these lands," Telfer said in an interview. But she added that some sub-regions, particularly grasslands in southeast Alberta, were not well



Joleen Timko

Don Getty Wildland Provincial Park

represented: "There are still some things to do, but they're not the number one priority."

The Alberta Wilderness Association and other conservation groups offer a long list of sites they feel must be better protected and point out what they believe are serious shortcomings in several designated areas. Kananaskis Country, with just over half its landmass protected, and the whole Foothills region, with little more than two per cent now under Special Places, have prompted particular anguish in the face of forestry and oil and gas ambitions there.

**Conservation biology shows us that to protect species with big ranges, we need large connected protected areas, not small isolated islands.**

- Jillian Tamblin, AWA

Chinchaga, Little Smoky, Pouce Coupe, Kakwa, Birch Mountains, Bighorn Country, the Castle region, Bodo Sounding, Milk River and Sage Creek are just a few of other regions they say are woefully deficient. Even the unprecedented 5,910 sq. km. to be dedicated in the Caribou Mountains misses out the old-growth forest lands that are vital habitat for the caribou, explained Jillian Tamblin, an AWA conservation specialist from Edmonton.

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*Sheep River Wildland Provincial Park*

*Joleen Timko*

One designated area, the new Don Getty Wildland Provincial Park, comprises several smaller, separated areas despite the government description of its "ecological integrity and contiguity" to adjacent protected areas. "Conservation biology shows us that to protect species with big ranges, we need large connected protected areas, not small isolated islands," said Tamblin.

The Don Getty, Bluerock Wildland and the Sheep River provincial parks, southwest and west of Calgary, are much smaller than what conservationists have been pushing for in the past 30 years, said Stephen Legault, with Wildcanada.net and the AWA. The government has done the bare minimum, he said, noting that apart from Alberta's federal parks protected long before Special Places, barely three per cent of the province has been affected. "It might be over for them, but it's not over for us," he said, adding 90 per cent of Albertans have indicated in polls they want all of Kananaskis protected.

**If there are areas which the environmental community believes should be off-limits for oil and gas and it is not addressed by government, then the industry does not have certainty or predictability.**

*- David Luff, CAPP*

While acknowledging deficiencies, Peter Lee of the Federation of Alberta Naturalists and well connected with the Alberta government, said the official conclusion of the Special Places program "categorically doesn't close the door to new protected areas." It was significant, he explained, that the provincial energy and forestry departments were not granted their wish of eliminating the possibility of any further protected areas occurring under a different program.

The biggest challenge, Lee said, will be the Foothills region where "multiple industrial interests are already locked in place.

Breaking those contractual arrangements will cost taxpayers billions of dollars." Although Zwozdesky is low down the cabinet totem pole, "I have more hope with him than I've had with any other minister I've seen for a long time." With growing anxiety about the impact of the forestry and oil and gas industries, particularly among rural people, and with Premier Ralph Klein's keen antenna for his rural constituents, "more designations can certainly happen," Lee said.

The significance in signalling the end of Special Places, said the government's Telfer, was to "give certainty where business can or cannot operate." She did not directly respond to questions as to whether the remaining 87.4 per cent of the province is now open for business. But she did note the government's system of "protective notations" for other lands that may face limitations on industrial activity. She also said under the Eastern Slopes Policy "the government has very successfully protected that whole land area."

Some conservationists were not even aware of the protective notation system, and Lee called it meaningless. They scoff at the Eastern Slopes Policy as having proven too easy to change to accommodate business interests. Aside from the Spray Lake FMA, an estimated 150 oil and gas leases exist in Kananaskis Country alone, according to AWA estimates. More than 30 wells operate there. It is still unclear what will happen to current leases in newly designated lands.

David Luff, vice-president of environment and operations for the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, said he expects existing agreements to be honoured. But CAPP looked to the government for further direction. "If there are areas which the environmental community believes should be off-limits for oil and gas and it is not addressed by government, then the industry does not have certainty or predictability," he said. In the meantime, new technologies such as directional drilling and helicop-

ter-supported seismic techniques using lasers greatly reduce the industry "footprint" on sensitive lands.

Also of immediate concern to conservationists is the potential for severe damage to Kananaskis from the G-8 summit next year. The prospect of thousands of officials, security forces and demonstrators will place massive stress on the fragile area, said Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society executive director Dave Poulton.

### **The FMA is bad news for Albertans who want clean water, wildlife and wilderness in Kananaskis.**

*- Stephen Legault, Wildcanada.net*

Telfer's response was that the summit will be smaller than others in recent history and that demonstrators will be asked to respect the valley. "This is an opportunity to showcase the beautiful environment we have in Alberta." The government line on converting Spray Lake's timber quotas into an FMA is that it will benefit the environment. Longer-term FMAs give companies greater certainty about future supplies and allows them to take more of a planned approach to their harvesting.

Spray Lakes has been operating for 40 years with a good record, said Telfer, and provides lots of jobs. The Spray Lake FMA only applies to multiple use areas that allow resource development anyway. No new harvest areas are being added. Besides, she added, the public will have a yearly opportunity to comment on Spray Lake's plans.

The AWA and other groups will continue to fight the FMA. It hands over accountability for a vital area to a private company, they say. "The FMA is bad news for Albertans who want clean water, wildlife and wilderness in Kananaskis," said Legault.

The groups are calling for the FMA to be scrapped and a Regional Sustainable Development Strategy (RSDS) to be formulated for Kananaskis. Klein promised an RSDS for Kananaskis nine years ago, said AWA's Timko, and announcing the FMA first is a reneging of that promise.

The RSDS concept originated as a way to integrate community values with ecological and economic interests. A prototype for the concept is being tested in the Hinton-Jasper area, said Telfer, and it could still be applied to Kananaskis later. "But, the

fact is, we have already done a lot of planning in Kananaskis."

CAPP also sees hope in the Regional Sustainable Development Strategy concept. An RSDS could be a vehicle for resolving conflicting interests, said Luff, and "the government should be providing leadership and direction in that regard."

The issue of grazing rights in designated areas also worries conservationists. Although damage from cattle is not as serious as from forestry and oil and gas activities, "grazing is far from benign," said Lee.

While much of the concern about the size and configuration of designated areas relates to wildlife and diversity needs, another issue likely to cause problems is the failure of the designations to protect watershed areas. For example, the bottom reaches of the Elbow River and some tributaries are not protected, Timko pointed out. Because the City of Calgary draws more than a third of its water from the Elbow, city officials worry about the designations. <



*Peter Lee*

*Caribou Mountains Wildland Provincial Park*



*Joleen Timko*

*Little Elbow River, Don Getty Wildland Park*

### **Special Places five new sites:**

- **Bluerock Wildland Provincial Park**, 127 sq. km., preserves the valley of the Sheep River between the Elbow-Sheep Wildland and the eastern boundary of Kananaskis Country.
- **Sheep River Provincial Park**, 62 sq. km., includes the former Sheep River Wildlife Sanctuary.
- **Don Getty Wildland Provincial Park**, 628 sq. km., consists of several parcels that add to adjacent protected areas such as Ghost River Wilderness Area, Banff National Park, Bow Valley Wildland Park, Elbow-Sheep Wildland Park.
- **Peace River Wildland Provincial Park**, 246 sq. km., preserving the south bank of the Peace River from the town of Peace River west to Dunvegan.
- **Caribou Mountains Wildland Provincial Park**, 5,910 sq. km., representing the diversity of the subarctic subregion and the boreal forest.

# Penned Hunts Panned by Coalition

By Andy Marshall

Alberta elk and deer growers have their sights set on amendments to provincial laws before winter that would allow shooting in fenced enclosures of their domestic stock by high-paying marksmen.

"We hope the changes will happen this fall," says a confident-sounding Ian Thorleifson. Owner of a ranch west of Edmonton with 600 elk and 600 bison, he's spearheading the campaign by the Alberta Elk Association and the Alberta Whitetail and Mule Deer Association to prod the government into bringing the required amendments to the next sitting of the Legislature and approving what promoters call Cervid Harvest Preserves (CHPs).

A coalition of hunting, conservationist and animal-rights interests is equally determined to bring down the proposal they believe will threaten wildlife generally, spread deadly diseases and turn once-majestic animals into commercial commodities to benefit a few ranchers with close ties to the Ralph Klein Tories.

"Domesticating wildlife to provide live targets for paid 'hunts' of animals trapped inside a fenced compound is just a new low," says Darrel Rowledge of the Alliance for Public Wildlife and an outspoken critic against game ranching ever since it was first raised in Alberta 15 years ago. "It contradicts everything we know about conservation ethics."

Vociferous opponents like Rowledge and Alberta Wilderness Association director Vivian Pharis suspect the government may regard hearings on the issue mounted around the province in June and July by the game ranchers as sufficient for the "thorough and public assessment" promised by Klein nine years ago as a condition for legalizing penned hunts.

The hearings, attracting up to 200 people at some sessions, have been "conceived, controlled and dominated by game farmers," charges Pharis. The coalition has announced its own public hearing sessions on the issue in the late fall when the public will be able to "hear the whole story," according to Pharis.

Officials from Alberta Sustainable Resource Development and Alberta Agriculture have been observers at the game rancher sessions. Changes to the Wildlife Act and the Livestock Industry Diversification Act, administered by each department respectively, would be required for the shooting preserves to go ahead. Department spokespersons have taken pains to sound neutral,

although Chuck Huedepohl, a livestock diversification officer, has been quoted in the mainstream media as saying the hunting ranches are inevitable "because to deny Alberta producers the opportunity to reap the benefits of that kind of value-added processing goes against Alberta government philosophy."

He and other government officials have studied game preserves in Saskatchewan and other Canadian provinces where penned shooting is permitted. It is already legal to kill gaming birds, wild boar and domestic bison on private ranches in Alberta. "We'll take a look at what they (the game farmers) come to us with to determine what our next steps will be," says a guarded Alberta Agriculture spokeswoman, Janice Harrington.

In their hearings, the game farmers fire their best shots for their case. An audio-visual presentation by the affable Thorleifson trots out an impressive array of points. "After seeing the presentation, people have a much different impression," he says.

Game ranching is already a \$25-million-a-year operation in Alberta, producing \$200 million in capital investment. About 590 active ranches here will contain an expected 40,000 elk by the fall, double estimates of the wild population. Breeding stock is still the primary source of revenue, and officials acknowledge that high venison prices have prevented the industry from cracking the consumer market. Despite declines in the sale of velvet antler, particularly to Korea, as a health tonic, Thorleifson is bullish about ongoing prospects. While proponents attribute the drop to depressed Asian markets, opponents contend it stems from fear of disease and the development of pharmaceuticals such as Viagra. Allowing the Cervid Harvest Preserves as a "value-added" activity is just one more way for ranchers to survive, Thorleifson argues

In Saskatchewan's first year of harvesting, revenues from a handful of ranches was \$5 million. Penned hunting is a \$700-million-a-year business in the United States. Harvesting of trophy bulls could fetch as much as \$10,000 to \$20,000 per animal. Preserves would be a minimum of 600 acres and would involve only private land. Terrain would be such as to allow for a "quality experience" and a "fair chase," Thorleifson explains. Animal and trophy identification would be done through leading-edge scientific methods.

Thorleifson speaks proudly of the Alberta industry's tightly controlled, tamper-proof tag system that would prevent the bagging or selling of diseased or poached animals. There are plans for a proposed code of ethics for "humane harvesting." The hunts would relieve the pressure on wildlife hunting. Opportunities for tourism and education about wildlife would abound. And, reaching for further positive arguments, he mentions that people with handicaps would now have the chance to shoot game.

With ranches elsewhere developing ancillary facilities from swimming pools to golf courses,



© C. Wallis

Elk

the preserves are depicted as a major potential boost for Alberta's agricultural economy. Because they would more likely be in the forest fringes of remote areas, the rural economy would also enjoy a shot-in-the-arm. The term "world class" peppers the presentation, as in: "We want this to be a model for the world."

Supporters line up at the microphone after the presentation. "I harvest my wheat . . . harvesting is a natural thing," says Simon Elgersma, a third generation farmer from just north of Edmonton. "This is no big deal, we're just harvesting animals we bought."

Corinne Alm from near Olds pleads for a chance to keep the family farm through diversification into private game hunting. "We're looking for an opportunity to get a return on our investment," she says. Besides, in comparison with the way other livestock are slaughtered, "a hunter's bullet is not an inhumane way of dying."

Rob Dunham, whose ranch straddles the provincial border near Lloydminster, notes the irony of raising his herd in Alberta and then taking them across the border for the legal Saskatchewan hunts.

Most of those speaking against the penned killing are hunters, fearing loss of habitat and the

spread of disease. A tuberculosis scare in the early 1990s, which caused Canada to lose its TB-free status and in which thousands of domestic elk had to be slaughtered, was linked to domestic animals imported from the U.S.

The latest disease scare results from the confirmation of spongiform encephalopathy, or chronic wasting disease, similar to the dreaded mad cow disease, on Saskatchewan game farms. More than 5,500 domestic animals have been killed to try and halt its spread. Hundreds of wild elk have also been slaughtered on both sides of the border to determine whether it is in the wild. Although there's no evidence of the disease yet among wild Alberta animals, it was found within a Saskatchewan herd of wild deer that opponents say contracted it from game ranch elk. Contaminated U.S. imports are being blamed for the origins of the disease in Canada.

Responding to sharp questions about the disease question, Norm Moore, head of the elk association and brother to former cabinet minister Marvin Moore who led Klein's election campaign, says the TB outbreak was dealt with. A "vigorous" response to the chronic wasting disease has resulted in no cases here, he notes. He calmly defends the Alberta industry's escape record, pointing out just 20 have escaped out of the tens of thousands of elk properly contained. "We have the ability to control disease on our farms," says Terry Church, a veterinarian and manager of a game farm south of Calgary.

Officials say the amount of land that would be set aside for preserves is infinitesimally small when compared with the amount of public land still available for hunting. Opponents point to the referendum in Montana that led to a reversal of the laws allowing penned hunting. But Moore believes a court challenge may lead to yet another change and notes game ranching there was much more poorly handled than in Alberta. And so the

debate rages on, a torrent of point, counter-point.

Creation of the shooting preserves "will bring shame on the tourism industry," says activist Madeleine Oldershaw of the Alberta Green Party, one of the few non-hunters who have so far locked horns with the industry promoters. "The vast majority of tourists to Alberta will be disgusted to learn of the practice."

Alberta groups in the coalition opposed to penned hunting have teamed up with the Toronto-based International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW). They plan to launch an international campaign against penned hunting similar to that for the seal hunt. "You can dance all you want to but the average person who sees tame animals inside fenced compounds says it's wrong," says Rob Sinclair of IFAW. "My belief is Albertans have a strong tradition of ethical hunting. In the case of Canada, this is not a difficult campaign to win."

Author, conservationist and hunter Kevin Van Tighem is confident the public reaction will harden if details about the hunts become better known. He worries, though, the controversy could hurt the public's view of legitimate hunting. Non-hunters may fail to draw a distinction between the captive shoots and wilderness, con-

servation-based hunting.

Van Tighem takes aim at other significant societal values the proposal threatens. Turning revered, wild animals into livestock whose only value is economic undermines our relationship with the world around us, he suggests. "This is an example of an uneconomic industry doing increasingly more perverse things to try and make itself economic, and, in doing so, compromising things we value about who we are," he says. "People need to see beyond the surface of this issue and look at its deep implications." <

**This is an example of an uneconomic industry doing increasingly more perverse things to try and make itself economic, and, in doing so, compromising things we value about who we are. People need to see beyond the surface of this issue and look at its deep implications.**

*- Kevin Van Tighem*

## Coalition Opposed to Penned Hunts

- Alberta Fish and Game Association (Rod Dyck (403) 823-8871)
- Alberta Wilderness Association (Vivian Pharis (403) 283-2025)
- Alliance for Public Wildlife (Darrel Rowledge (403) 284-5927)
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Edmonton (Sam Gunsch (780) 432-0967)
- International Fund for Animal Welfare (Rob Sinclair (403) 289-1961 ext 310)
- Southern Alberta Bowhunters Association (Dennis Meyer (403) 380-2626)

See [www.albertaoutdoorsmen.org](http://www.albertaoutdoorsmen.org) for a copy of the brochure "REAL Hunters Don't Shoot Pets" and fill in an email form with your comments on penned hunts. It will be sent to Al Cook, Fish and Wildlife Service, Alberta Sustainable Development.

# Can We Share the Forest with Mountain Pine Beetles?

By Dr. Mary Reid

Mountain pine beetles are very small beetles but they kill big trees. This lifestyle puts them in conflict with people who would like to use the same resource. However, they're a native species with a long evolutionary history of inhabiting pines in western North America, with some intriguing natural history.

Among the dozens of species of bark beetles (Scolytidae) in North America, mountain pine beetles, *Dendroctonus ponderosae*, are one of the few that breeds almost exclusively in live trees. Live trees are challenging prey, since they have active defences that they mobilize in response to an attack by bark beetles. To overcome this defence, mountain pine beetles have two main tactics.

First, they have a symbiotic blue-stain fungus that is carried within a special structure near the beetle's mouthparts. Once inoculated into the tree's inner bark, the fungi spread and disrupt the tree's vascular system. The other main tactic is to mass-attack the tree, overwhelming the tree's ability to respond effectively to each attack. This mass-attack is coordinated by pheromones that are released by beetles that have successfully penetrated the tree's bark and that are attractive to other beetles. If the attack is successful, female mountain pine beetles bore long straight tunnels through the inner bark up the tree, laying eggs along the side. The eggs hatch within the summer and develop as far as larvae or pupae by the time winter arrives. This also can girdle the tree, further ensuring its death. Beetles complete development the following summer, and then disperse in search of suitable live trees to attack.

Mountain pine beetles reach large populations only periodically. Overwintering mortality is thought to be one of the main controls of mountain pine beetle populations, with younger larvae being most susceptible to cold temperatures. Woodpeckers and insect predators also take advantage of the abundance of beetles. Another contributor to natural bark beetle mortality is likely the cost of finding a vulnerable host tree. However, when mountain pine beetle populations are large, there are enough beetles available to overwhelm almost any tree so they may no longer be limited by this cost. At this stage, populations can increase rapidly and kill most of the larger trees within large areas. This has been happening in eastern and central BC in recent years. Eventually, however, large live trees become scarce, and beetle success at finding them likely becomes low as well.

In Alberta, mountain pine beetles have been historically rare, despite the abundance of Lodgepole pine and the frequent outbreaks just across the border in BC. Currently, several hundred trees have been killed in Banff, and there have been a few trees killed in Jasper and the Willmore Wilderness Park. The historical lack of success of mountain pine beetle in Alberta is attributable to the colder climate that can both kill overwintering larvae directly and slow their development such that beetle populations grow slowly and asynchronously. Without the critical mass of synchronously emerging beetles, the beetles' success at overcoming tree defences is low. Currently in Alberta, beetles have

emerged and attacked trees quite late in the summer, likely contributing to the complete overwinter mortality of beetles in trees monitored in Willmore and asynchrony in offspring development times among neighbouring patches in Banff.

However, the spectre of global warming may reduce Alberta's natural resistance to mountain pine beetles. Models developed by the US Forest Service predict that with the projected increase in temperature in the next few decades, mountain pine beetle populations may develop sufficiently quickly and synchronously to reach outbreak proportions in Alberta and to survive further north than its current range. If the beetles spread into the range of jack pine, they could then spread eastwards across the boreal forest.

Are mountain pine beetle outbreaks bad? Certainly they can be costly and disruptive to the forest industry that relies on the same trees that the beetles do. Beetle-killed trees remain of good quality for lumber for only a few years after death. Ecologically,



Beetle galleries under pine bark

AWA photo file

however, beetles are a natural part of lodgepole pine ecosystems over most of lodgepole's range. The exact nature of their impact on ecological processes is surprisingly poorly understood. For example, they are often linked with fire, either by responding to fire because of the production of weakened trees, or by increasing the risk of fire after an outbreak. Neither of these relationships has been well substantiated, although work is currently underway in western Canada to address these questions. Other expected impacts, such as on overstory and understory forest dynamics, on nutrient dynamics, and on predators such as woodpeckers also remain to be more clearly understood. So while the sight of dead trees may seem alarming, they actually reflect the success of another, less visible part of the natural forest community.

Options to reduce beetle outbreaks are fairly limited because the beetles are usually well-protected beneath the bark of trees. In the short term, small numbers of trees can be treated with a systemic insecticide applied to individual trees that kills beetles at a certain stage of development. The tree can then remain standing in the forest. Somewhat larger number of trees can be burned, often after felling them, but the insulative bark may mean only a proportion of beetles are killed, though perhaps enough to reduce their effectiveness in mass-attacks. These control measures can be used on baited trees to concentrate beetles into the

management area. In the longer term, landscape manipulation has been considered as a means of reducing the continuous spread of host trees of suitable size. The design of such landscape patterns is currently handicapped because we know relatively little about the dispersal capabilities of mountain pine beetles and their response to forest stands of different ages and composition.

The decision about how to respond to these Alberta beetles is tricky. Mountain pine beetles are a natural component of lodgepole pine ecosystems, though rarely in this province. Their current increase may or may not expand into an extensive outbreak, for reasons that may or may not be related to a warming climate. Management options are not guaranteed to be effective. The problem is compounded because forest companies expect access to all the trees the beetles can potentially use, leaving little room to accommodate beetles. Perhaps the prudent response to dealing with ecological "surprises", of which mountain pine beetle is just one possible one, is to leave more land and resources unallocated, particularly with the increased uncertainty caused by climate change. <

*(Mary Reid is a professor in Biological Sciences and the Environmental Science Program at University of Calgary, where she studies the breeding ecology of bark beetles.)*

## BOOK REVIEW

### Home Range: Writings on Conservation and Restoration

Kevin Van Tighem, Altitude Publishing, Canmore, © 2000

Kevin Van Tighem is well known to the AWA membership and once served as president. Currently he is Manager, Ecosystems Secretariat of Jasper National Park. He lives in Jasper with his wife, Gail, and their three children. Home Range is a selection from more than 200 articles, stories and essays on conservation and wildlife that he has written.

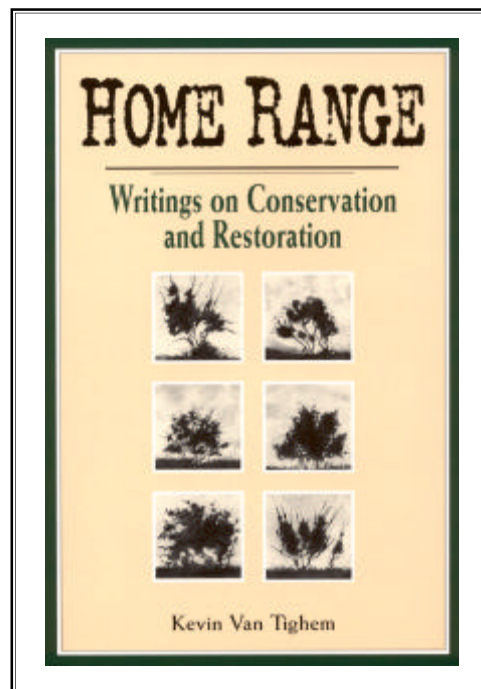
"In Home Range, Kevin details a litany of ecological abuse and mistakes during the first 100 years of settlement in western Canada, including his home province of Alberta," writes Bruce Masterman in the preface." He talks of the ecological perils posed by dams, excessive logging and other resource exploitation, and the reluctance, often driven by fear or myth, to accept other living things such as grizzly bears and wolves. He criticizes engineers who perceive Creation as God's first draft, which can surely be improved on with a little human intervention.

"Home Range, however, is not a long-running rant or ecological funeral notice. Quite the contrary; it is a story of hope and optimism. Kevin writes, "Most of us, after all, love this place and mean to stay...And for all the losses ignorance and haste have wrought, much of this land's original living wealth survives. It isn't too late...."

"In Home Range, Van Tighem appeals for mutual acceptance among groups and individuals with diverse opinions - all for the sake of the common ecological good. He encourages people to be better environmental stewards within the larger community of people, while at the same time looking inward at

their won relationship with nature to determine where they came from and where they are going.

"Kevin calls it coming home. Fairly resonating with grace, passion and eloquence, this book is Van Tighem's personal homecoming."



## New Parks and a Forest Management Agreement for Kananaskis Country

By Joleen Timko, AWA, Conservation Specialist

Two and a half new parks were announced for Kananaskis Country on July 24! Although the protected areas are smaller than what the AWA had proposed, the Bluerock Wildland Park and the Sheep River Provincial Park (formerly the Sheep River Wildlife Sanctuary) will contribute to protection along the Sheep River as they extend from the eastern edge of the Elbow-Sheep Wildland Park to the Death Valley Creek area.

In comparison, the Don Getty Wildland Park lies half within the Kananaskis, with half north of the Transcanada in the Ghost region. Portions of this park, scattered throughout the eastern and southern Kananaskis, will add on to the Elbow-Sheep Wildland Park, while other outlying areas are essentially islands surrounded by land open for development. It is a significant park in that it protects Zone 1 lands that are valuable as ecological, esthetic, or watershed areas or provide suitable wildlife habitat. Unfortunately, it is the Zone 2 lands, the critical wildlife zones providing crucial habitat to wildlife and having less stringent measures on industrial development than Zone 1 lands, which are still open to development.

The zone 2 lands of the eastern Kananaskis still remain largely unprotected, and now fall under the Spray Lake Sawmills' Forest Management Agreement (FMA) along with the rest of the region's designated recreational and multiple-use lands. The FMA will turn control of roughly half of Kananaskis over to Spray Lake Sawmills of Cochrane, who will determine their Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) and are not required to leave buffer zones around the outlying portions of the new Don Getty

Wildland Park. The FMA extends north to the Red Deer River, and in the Kananaskis includes about 168 000 hectares.

The AWA has been opposed to the FMA since negotiations began over a year ago, and we continue to demand that the Provincial Government fulfil its promise made in May 1999 to carry out a meaningful Regional Sustainable Development Strategy (RSDS) for this region. The RSDS would integrate community values, and economic factors, as well as the ecological context in which developments would occur. It is a responsible planning tool that would allow for a long-term vision of the land to be established. Pursuing a FMA in tandem, or worse prior to, a RSDS, demonstrates that the government is neglecting its duty to the citizens of Alberta in deference to industrial pressures. A number of news releases related to this FMA can be found on the AWA website.

Prior to the FMA being signed, the AWA managed to raise public awareness regarding the implications it would have on the Kananaskis' recreational and watershed values. I attended an open-house in Turner Valley on July 4 which was organized to address the public's fears about how their water security could be affected by logging in the Sheep River region. We also teamed up with Wildcanada.net to establish an on-line Kananaskis Action Centre where concerned individuals can take a virtual tour of the Kananaskis and then send a free fax to the relevant decision makers. Over 2000 faxes have been sent, and a new version of the Action Centre can still be accessed from the main page of the AWA's website. <

### The G8 in Kananaskis?

By Joleen Timko, AWA, Conservation Specialist



As most of you have heard, the 2002 G8 Summit will be held in Kananaskis Country. We are deeply opposed to this decision as the scale of security measures and the number of people (delegates, protesters and security forces) are incompatible with the needs of a protected area. We are so concerned that we united with two other equally concerned conservation groups, CPAWS and Wildcanada.net, and held a news conference on July 25. I acted as the AWA representative for all Kananaskis-G8 issues. The media coverage that entire week was intense, but it was critical to relay our message that the Kananaskis is an inappropriate choice for such a large scale Summit.

Following the press conference, and in response to Premier Klein's challenge that our conservation groups should work to ensure the Kananaskis is safe from reckless demonstrators, our three groups again issued a joint news release accepting the Premier's challenge. We remain committed to working with all those involved in the G8 Summit, including the Summit organizers, security forces and protest groups.

Our main message will be that it does not serve anybody's credibility, particularly those voicing concerns about the state of the earth's natural environment, to make their concerns known while degrading the sensitive environment of the Kananaskis. Our two G8-related news releases can be found on the AWA website. <

### Evan-Thomas

By Joleen Timko, AWA, Conservation Specialist

After months of hard work, the "Report of the Evan-Thomas Local Advisory Committee" has been completed. The report is intended to identify options and provide recommendations in order to assist the management planning team during the preparation of the official Evan-Thomas Management Plan. I have read the report a number of times and will submit my comments and recommendations for review before the final draft is released later this year. I have an electronic copy of the Report at the office and can send it to those who wish to review it. The Local Advisory Committee welcomes comments from a broad range of user groups, and I can supply you with the relevant person to whom you can send your comments. Comments need to be received by the Committee by August 30, 2001. <



## New Parks in Northern Alberta

By Jillian Tamblyn, AWA Conservation Specialist

With the conclusion of the Special Places Program in late July many people heard about the new parks and Forest Management Agreement in Kananaskis Country. You might not have heard about the two latest parks in Northern Alberta.

The 246 km<sup>2</sup> **Peace River Wildland Provincial Park** protects the south bank of Peace River from the town of Peace River west towards Dunvegan. The park area includes aspen and spruce forests, grasslands and shrublands that are habitat for deer, elk, black bear and wolves in the area. Helene Walsh from the local committee is glad to see the area protected after all their hard work, but was "disappointed that the north side of the river was not protected as well." The local group wanted to see protection status for the north bank that included OHV use, but that was incompatible with the protected status. Nonetheless, important riparian areas are now protected along the Peace River and part of the Smoky River where the two meet.

The **Caribou Mountains Wildland Provincial Park** was the largest area protected under Special Places at 5,910 km<sup>2</sup>. We can no longer say that the provincial government has not protected any Caribou habitat because this new park protected eighty percent of the range of the Caribou Mountain Herd. There is some concern that only areas of peatland that are not viable for forestry were protected. During deep snow periods, Caribou often use upland areas that have commercial forests. The Caribou Mountains have been featured in our Northern Wilderness brochure and Endangered Wilderness map.

All of the new protected areas are a step forward for conservation. Although there is still a great deal of work to do to have adequate representation of all of the ecosystems in Alberta's protected area system, we are making gains. Let us use these gains to promote proper management of our protected areas and the preservation of more important areas. <



## Alberta's Environmental Concerns Must Be Solved Before Trade

By Jillian Tamblyn, AWA Conservation Specialist



During the last few months I have been looking into the issues around lumber trade in Alberta to develop a position for the Alberta Wilderness Association. Why should we care about all the politics surrounding the Softwood Lumber Agreement and other trade agreements?

Trade issues surrounding our natural resources, such as the Softwood Lumber Agreement, are putting a spotlight on Canada's Forestry Practices. To date, Alberta has missed much of the turmoil and focus, as its forest industry is dwarfed by the controversy and scale next door in BC. With a 586% increase in the volume of timber harvested in Alberta since 1961 and three billion dollars in exports in 1999, the forest industry in Alberta is becoming hard to ignore. Alberta has serious environmental concerns with land use management and forestry that need to be addressed.

The Alberta Government's policy for our forests continues to be based on a sustained yield of timber, not on sustained ecosystems. As a result the continued supply of timber is the primary value of our forests. Natural forests with ecological, recreation and tourism values as well as water protection capabilities are being lost under required cutting levels.

With the Alberta Government's blessing, few if any of the environmental costs of forestry are being incurred by the logging companies. As a result, the public and the environment are bearing the costs of the logging of our forests. The lack of strong environmental regulations, and cumulative effects assessments reduce industry operating costs, this in effect produces a subsidy. As taxpayers, we end up paying the price down the road when we need clean drinking water or lose tourism because of devastated landscapes.

If we want to see more parks and the protection of our water, we need strong policies to make it possible. We also need to include the true environmental costs in production. If industry is not required to pay for habitat destruction or to participate in cumulative effects assessment, there is no incentive to change their practices. If Alberta is going to have sustainable future the government and industry has to deal with these problems before trade agreements are signed and environmental and social concerns must be included in trade agreements.

The Alberta Wilderness Associations full position statement is available at: [www.AlbertaWilderness.ca/news/press/press2001.htm](http://www.AlbertaWilderness.ca/news/press/press2001.htm) <



© Jack Grundle

## Meridian Dam: How do you put a cost on the loss of a species?

By Shirley Bray, WLA Editor



I attended the last of five public meetings regarding the Meridian Dam Preliminary Feasibility Study along with a group of about 80 other people. The goal of the meetings, according to the backgrounder, was "to get the public's help to identify topics and issues that may have been missed in preparing the framework for the study but need to be included in the study."

Terry Sly from Alberta Environment began by explaining the nature of the preliminary feasibility study and its parameters. People were then allowed to express concerns or raise questions they thought the study should address and these were written up and displayed on a screen.

Some of the many concerns raised were as follows. Kerry Brewin from Trout Unlimited wanted to know why the dam had never proceeded before, despite being studied several times. It seems that previous studies never considered all the issues. There was concern regarding the objectivity of the study, how much detail it would have, and who would be assessing the final numbers, conclusions, assumptions and making the final decision about whether to proceed. Lorne Taylor, a proponent of the dam, an MLA in the area and also Environment Minister was perceived as being in a conflict of interest.

A number of people suggested using the money to research alternatives to the dam, especially ways of gaining energy by conserving energy and non-storage options. Other issues raised were water supply from the watershed and the effects of global warming, water supply to users downstream, instream flow needs (not well known for the South Saskatchewan River), the unsuitability of the soil for irrigation and potential for salt buildup in a short period



*Hognose Snake*

© Cliff Wallis

of time, and the use of the water for export. Dr. Dixon Thompson from the University of Calgary, noted in a written statement that "according to the government's own modeling studies, there is little, if any water available for storage...Even if some water were available for irrigation licences, they would be the most junior licences in the Province and...would be first to be cut off when supplies were limited..."

One person questioned how much water would be lost into somewhat porous sandstone ground given the pressure of the water in the reservoir and how much would be lost by evaporation in the hot dry climate of southeastern Alberta. How many farmers would benefit and what would the water cost? Less than a hundred farmers live along the proposed reservoir and not all would necessarily switch to the expensive irrigation agriculture. How much electricity would actually be generated and how much would be required to pump the water up from the reservoir to the irrigation sites? The cost of the irrigation infrastructure would



*Kangaroo Rat*

© Cliff Wallis

have to be added to the cost of the dam. Irrigation would only make more farms dependent on a fixed supply of water.

One person said that the cost-benefit analysis should not follow the one done for

the Oldman Dam. Among other questionable things in that analysis, he noted construction costs were listed under benefits. One must weigh the economic benefit from the dam and reservoir against the economic opportunities lost by the flooding. One person at the Medicine Hat meeting suggested that eco-tourism is growing faster than motorboating on lakes. Perhaps the simplest solution suggested was that if only a few farmers were going to benefit from the irrigation, why not just pay them each a couple of million and save.

Finally, how do you put a cost on the loss of habitat or the loss of a species. How one values a species depends on one's perspective. A species that is a pest to one person can be seen as an invaluable part of the ecosystem by another. There appears to be a movement towards a consensus around the idea of assigning a range of values to various species. One person has suggested that since Lorne Taylor puts a dollar value on his life through the value of his life insurance, we could use that amount to assign a value to individual animals.

Proponents of the dam expressed concern over the loss of their farms, their livelihoods and their communities. Bill Dearborn, of the Sandhills Economic Development Association, pushed the benefits of power generation and value-added agriculture. He was allowed a protracted speech at the end, unlike the other participants who were required to express their concerns in the form of suggestions or questions for the study to address.

Overall the mood was polite but decidedly against the dam. Next door, Cliff Wallis, spokesperson for the AWA on the Meridian Dam issue, held his own meeting. He announced that AWA is calling for the protection of the South Saskatchewan River Valley and adjacent uplands from the Saskatchewan-Alberta boundary to the vicinity of Medicine Hat as a "wild and scenic river" under the Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves and Natural Areas Act.

All comments from all meetings will be available by the second week of September at [www.saskwater.com](http://www.saskwater.com) or [www.gov.ab.ca/env](http://www.gov.ab.ca/env). Comments can be sent in until September 30, 2001 to: Ms. D. Chan-Yan, Golder Associates Ltd., 10th Floor, 940 - 6 Ave. SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P 3T1 Fax: (403) 299-5606 e-mail: [Meridian\\_Consultation@Golder.com](mailto:Meridian_Consultation@Golder.com) and the study will be completed Jan. 10, 2002. The organizers reiterated the commitment to release the study to the public at the same time that it will be given to the Minister of Environment. <

Meridian Dam forum, September 29, 2001  
Medicine Hat College  
Contact: Dawn Dickinson (403) 526-6443  
[grassnat@memlane.com](mailto:grassnat@memlane.com)

# Flying Over Bighorn Country

By Mary-Beth Acheson, AWA Conservation Specialist



were also involved in this tour.

Our first stop was the Shell Burnt Timber gas fields south west of Calgary. What stood out to me the most as we flew west of Panther Corners was the immense amount of logging. The clear cuts seemed to extend the whole way to the Front Range of the mountains, with no regrowth in sight.

Alongside the clearcuts was the unmistakable extensive evidence of ATV use. One particularly memorable site was an ATV track that went straight up a ridge on the border between Banff National Park and the Front Range. Located by the headwaters of the Sheep River, it is known as a favorite place for Bighorn Sheep.

We set down for a tour of a 3-D seismic site in operation and observed how non-invasive it is. 3-D seismic is the successor to 2-D seismic, and is done in areas where 2-D has already been done. 3-D is a more precise technique used to pinpoint exact oil or gas reserves. I equate it to wringing out a wet towel to get the last drops of water out.

It was my first helicopter flight EVER. On Tuesday, July 9th, I was invited to fly over the Burnt Timber, Panther Corners and Limestone Ridge by Shell Canada to view future and re-entry drilling sites, and to be given a tour of a 3-D seismic site that overlaps Panther Corners. Vivian Pharis, Dave Poulton (CPAWS), Roger Creasey (AEUB) and Kevin May from Shell Canada



ATV Track

D. Poulton



Reclaimed drilling pad

D. Poulton

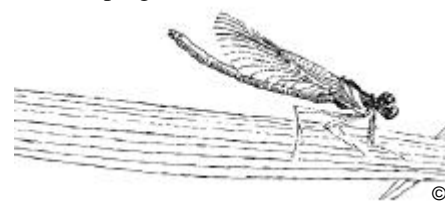
While 2-D traditionally has employed the technique of cutting 'seismic lines', 3-D is heliportable and no extensive tree cutting is necessary. The areas we visited where the helishot equipment had been dropped had only 2 - 3 trees cut down. The people who lay the geophone cables down for the shooting are given a preferred set of coordinates, but the cable layers have a leeway of 30 meters either

side of the cable, hence no need to cut trees.

On the way back to Calgary, we requested to visit the site of the abandoned and reclaimed drilling pad where the AWA successfully stopped Shell Canada from drilling in 1983. Because it had been re-seeded with grasses (mainly Timothy) there was almost no reforestation after 20 years.

The Limestone Ridge site north of the James River was particularly depressing because of the large amount of clearcutting in the region in all directions as far as can be seen. I estimate that at least 50% of the forests have been removed. The extensive cutting overshadows the increasingly careful and lower impact practices of the petroleum industry. While Shell and other petroleum companies reduce the size of drilling pads, pipeline widths and the bulldozed straight-lines of 2-D seismic, clearcutting is eliminating the impact of these advances.

On July 27, Vivian Pharis, Roger Creasey (AEUB), two Talisman Energy employees and I met to discuss the future of energy development in the Bighorn. We will continue to meet to discuss future progress and issues related to this area. <



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## Waterton Gate Affair Update

Concerned citizens in the area have formed the Prairie Crocus Ranching Coalition. They hope to work with neighbours and elected officials to come up with democratic, realistic solutions to the threat of haphazard development and ranchland fragmentation. You can show your support by becoming a member (\$10 individual and \$12 family) and/or sending a donation to PCRC, Box 127, Hill Spring, AB T0K 1E0, Phone: (403) 626-3658, Fax: (403) 626-3247, e-mail: bgrinder@telusplanet.net. <  
**- Cheryl Bradley (403) 328-1245, cbradley@telusplanet.net**



Limestone Ridge clearcuts

D. Poulton

## Castle-Crown Wilderness

(From a CCWC/CPAWS news release, July 19, 2001)



South Castle

W. Michalsky

The Castle-Crown Wilderness Coalition (CCWC) and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) have established an Information Centre located approximately 4km south of Shell's sour gas development near the Castle Falls Provincial Recreation Area. The groups charge that the Alberta government has ignored its own

land use, health and safety guidelines in order to allow Shell to drill this hazardous sour gas well. The Information Centre has been set up for the summer to show Albertans the beauty of the Castle Wilderness, and what we stand to lose by allowing Shell Canada to continue to drill in the Castle.

The groups are encouraging Albertans who visit the Castle Wilderness, as well as people who are concerned over the future of the province's wilderness and wildlife to take action. One of the tools the groups are using is an online Action Centre that allows one to send free faxes to the Alberta government.

"Shell's ongoing activities in this ecologically sensitive Castle region, is another example of Ralph Klein's "energy to burn" policy in action," says Stephen Legault, Executive Director of Wildcanada.net. Legault's group, along with the Alberta Wilderness Association developed the Castle Action Centre

([www.wildcanada.net/new\\_site/action\\_centres/castle-crown/castle-crown.asp](http://www.wildcanada.net/new_site/action_centres/castle-crown/castle-crown.asp)). So far over 2,000 letters have been sent to the Premier and other decision makers.

Recently, Shell rejected to support a proposal by the CCWC and CPAWS that would have accommodated further limited industrial activities in the Castle as well as the establishment of legislated protected areas.

"It is time that Shell acknowledge its corporate social responsibility," said James Tweedie, spokes person for the Castle-Crown Wilderness Coalition, a local conservation group. "The expansion of Shell's activities into the north end of the Castle is against public interest because these developments significantly impact the quality of watersheds, wildlife habitat and recreational wilderness experiences."<

## A Chance for Chinchaga

By Jillian Tamblyn, AWA Conservation Specialist

There is a new opportunity for protection in the Chinchaga Region. August 3, 2001 the news broke that Grande Alberta Paper's (GAP) \$900 million paper-mill agreement with the Alberta Government was cancelled after they failed to submit their Environmental Impact Assessment on time.

Helene Walsh of Albertan's for a Wild Chinchaga remains cautiously optimistic. "If the project had a full hearing then the ecological concerns would have been studied. Since the environmental concerns weren't evaluated, there is still the potential for the wood to be allocated to other companies in Northern Alberta instead of protecting the Chinchaga."

In forestry terms, the right to log 500,000 cubic metres of forests per year in a 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> area is now up for grabs by the logging industry. In ecological terms there is the opportunity to enlarge the Chinchaga Provincial Wildland Park and preserve a natural benchmark forest for comparison in sustainable forestry, while saving old growth forests and the habitat for Woodland Caribou and Trumpeter Swans. <

Contact your MLA: See our actionkit at [www.AlbertaWilderness.ca/AWRC/actionkit.htm](http://www.AlbertaWilderness.ca/AWRC/actionkit.htm). If you would like us to mail you a copy of contact names and numbers, call us at 283-2025 (Calgary area) or 988-5487 (Edmonton Area).



## "The Nuts & Bolts of Nature Photography"

*An all-day seminar with Dr. Wayne Lynch*

Calgary - Saturday, October 27, 2001, University of Calgary  
Edmonton - Saturday, November 3, 2001, University of Alberta

- The rewards of closeup photography
- Flash photography made easy
- Simple solutions to common mistakes in composition and background control
- New photo equipment and gismos
- Problems of metering that never seem to go away
- The stock photography business
- And More!

*Lynch is Canada's best known and most published professional wildlife photographer. His photo credits include hundreds of magazine covers, thousands of calendar shots, and tens of thousands of images published in over two dozen countries. As well, he is the author and photographer of a dozen highly acclaimed natural history books. He is also a popular guest speaker, and audiences worldwide have acclaimed his practical and entertaining approach to photography.*

Registration fee: \$65.00 (in advance) • \$70.00 (at the door)

Registration forms are available from: Aubrey Lang, Photography Seminar Coordinator  
3779 Springbank Drive S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T3H 4J5, E-mail: [lynchandlang@home.com](mailto:lynchandlang@home.com)

## Summer Hikes and Displays: Connecting People and Wilderness

By Nigel Douglas



Porcupine Hills hike

This summer's Open House program of hikes continued with 3 walks in June and July. Hikes at Rumsey Natural Area (June 16th, led by Dorothy Dickson ), Porcupine Hills (June 23rd , with Vivian Pharis) and the Big Sagebrush Natural Area in the Castle Wilderness (July 7th, led by Reg Ernst and Dave Sheppard) were all well attended. These hikes gave participants a welcome opportunity to explore some of the slightly lower-profile parts of the province, each with its own wilderness threats, and its dedicated team of voluntary protectors. There was a lot to learn about the ecology of the areas, and the huge amounts of behind-the-scenes work that is involved in fighting for their protection.

The hike season continues on August 25th with a second trip to the Whaleback (fully booked), and an extra date is Vivian Pharis' Picklejar Hike in Kananaskis in September. If you would like to book up for the hike, then please call 283 2025; cost is \$15:00 per person.

The Outreach season has also been getting into full swing, with displays being held at Writing-on-Stone and Cypress Hills Provincial Parks, as well as the Barrier Lakes Visitor Center, Kananaskis and the Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC) in Edmonton. With the help of a small but enthusiastic band of volunteers, we've been speaking to lots of people about wilderness in Alberta. Wherever possible, we've been taking 'KC' with us. If you haven't met him before, he's a larger-than-life size model of a grizzly bear, lovingly created by an amazing AWA volunteer, Zoe Preston. He has to be seen to be believed!

Apart from the bear, interest at the last few venues has mostly focused on Kananaskis Country, and the numerous issues which keep coming up there. Just about everybody knows about the G-8 Summit there next year, but very few people are aware of the recently-signed Forest Management Agreement (FMA) with Spry Lakes Sawmills, which is giving over management of half of Kananaskis Country (the half which has no formal protection) to a private logging company.

Raising awareness of issues such as this is what our Outreach work is all about!

Further displays are planned at the MEC store in Calgary and the Millarville Farmers' Market as well as various other provincial parks. If you are interested in spending a bit of your time helping out on the displays, spreading the word about the AWA and its good works, then please contact Nigel Douglas, AWA Outreach Officer on (403) 283-2025. <



A display with KC the Grizzly Bear

## Staff Profile: Mary-Beth Acheson



My name is Mary Beth Acheson, and I recently graduated from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario with a B.A. in Geography. A Calgary native, I graduated from Mount Royal College in 1998 with a diploma in Outdoor Pursuits. For the past two summers I was an instructor at Outward Bound Wales, and as fate had it, was able to join this

Association as my British visa ran out this year. My main area of concern will be the Bighorn area, and I will be looking at measures to get legislative protection of this area. As I had the great fortune of being able to do some backcountry expeditions in the neighboring White Goat Wilderness Area when I was younger, I realize how beautiful and important maintaining this stretch of land is not only to wildlife, but also to Albertans.<

## In Memorium



The AWA mourns the loss of Dr. Ron Aldous, a fine gentleman and friend. Ron and his wife Shirley are well-known members and supporters of the Association. Ron lost a brave struggle with cancer on July 8th at the age of 67 years. His passion for the out of doors and his foresight in the need to protect wilderness were sincerely appreciated. Ron and his family chose to have memorial donations made to the association and we are grateful for his recognition and support of our work. It is with great sadness that we offer our sincere sympathy to Shirley and family

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### KANANASKIS COUNTRY: The Vision

The Alberta Wilderness Association is pleased to announce that we have designated September as our Kananaskis Awareness month!!

*With our esteemed guests, the AWA invites you to attend one or all of our exciting events:*

#### September 1 and 2

BARRIER LAKE INFORMATION CENTRE with Nigel Douglas

*Come find out about other public outreach activities the AWA runs throughout the summer.*

#### September 8

PLATEAU MOUNTAIN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE, an interpretive hike with Dr. C.C. Chinnappa, University of Calgary plant biologist.

**\$15**

#### September 15

AN INTERPRETIVE BUS TOUR USING THE KANANASKIS LOOP with Dr. Peter Sherrington, renowned environmentalist.

*Learn about the ecological significance of, as well as industrial and commercial threats to Kananaskis Country. A light lunch will be provided.*

**\$25**

#### September 23

PICKLEJAR LAKES, an interpretive hike with Vivian Pharis, biologist and educator.

**\$15**

**Call 283-2025 to register for hikes and bus tour.**

**November 2, 2001**

### Alberta Wilderness Trust Annual Lecture

with **Dr. David Schindler**

THE COMBINED EFFECTS OF CLIMATE WARMING AND OTHER HUMAN ACTIVITIES ON FRESHWATERS AND WETLANDS OF WESTERN CANADA

Join Dr. David Schindler for a look at the future of Alberta's freshwaters and wetlands and what we can do to protect them.

*Dr. Schindler is the Killam Memorial Professor of Ecology at the University of Alberta. For over 30 years he has engaged in interdisciplinary research in Canada's boreal and Rocky Mountain ecosystems.*

**Wine and Cheese Reception, 6:30 pm**

**Lecture: 7:30 pm**


**Cost: \$25.00**

**Call: 283-2025 for information and reservations**


*The Alberta Wilderness Trust is the endowment arm of the Alberta Wilderness Association dedicated to the protection of Alberta's wild lands and waters for future generations.*



**Wilderness Celebration**



**Alberta Wilderness Association  
13th Annual Fundraising Celebration  
With Amos Garrett  
Saturday, October 20th, 2001 @ 6:00 pm  
Glenmore Inn, Calgary  
Call for tickets 283-2025**



**\$75  
a ticket**

### Open House Program

#### Calgary:

Location: Hillhurst Room, AWA  
455 - 12 St. NW, Calgary  
Time: 7:00 pm  
Cost: \$4.00 per person, children free  
Contact: 283-2025 for Information and reservations  
Web site: [www.AlbertaWilderness.ca/news/events](http://www.AlbertaWilderness.ca/news/events)

#### September 11, 2001

#### Sour Gas and Public Safety

with Richard Secord

#### October 16, 2001

#### Alberta's Grizzly Bears: Cause for Concern?

with Dr. Brian Horejsi

#### December 2001

#### Flight of the Golden Eagle

With Dr. Peter Sherrington

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[awa.wrc@home.com](mailto:awa.wrc@home.com)  
[www.AlbertaWilderness.ca](http://www.AlbertaWilderness.ca)

### Amos Garrett supports AWA 13th Annual Fundraising Celebration



Guitar Player magazine calls him "one of the most lyrical and original guitarists playing today...his single note solos and melodic figures are so distinctive that it is virtually impossible to mistake them for anyone else's."

The Alberta Wilderness Association Annual Fundraising Wilderness Celebration promises to be an outstanding event with the support of Amos Garrett and his veteran band. Amos has been a supporter of the AWA for a number

of years and is known throughout the Calgary region not only for his outstanding skill as an entertainer but also for his support of worthwhile charitable events.

However busy Amos Garrett is with a guitar in his hands, there is always time for fishing. A float trip on the Bow River with Amos has become tradition as one of the AWA's most prized auction items.

*We look forward to an entertaining evening as we celebrate wilderness with Amos and friends, colleagues and supporters. Order your tickets early for this outstanding event by phoning the AWA office (403) 283-2025 seating is limited.*

# SUPPORT ALBERTA WILDERNESS

"Our quality of life, our health, and a healthy economy are totally dependent on Earth's biological diversity. We cannot replicate natural ecosystems. Protected areas are internationally recognized as the most efficient way to maintain biological diversity" - **Richard Thomas**

The Alberta Wilderness Association (AWA) is dedicated to protecting wildlands, wildlife and wild waters throughout Alberta. Your valued contribution will assist with all areas of the AWA's work. We offer the following categories for your donation. The Provincial Office of the AWA hosts wall plaques recognizing donors in the "Defender" or greater category. Please support Alberta's wilderness by supporting the conservation work of the AWA.

Alberta Wilderness Association	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Defender	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Philanthropist	\$1000
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness Circle	\$2500 - \$5000

Alberta Wilderness Resource Centre	
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Partner	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$1000
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron - greater than \$1000	



## Wild Lands Advocate Journal

Research and Investigative Reporting, Publication and Distribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Alberta Wilderness Trust** - an endowment fund established with The Calgary Foundation to support the long-term sustainability of the Alberta Wilderness Association. For further details, please contact our Calgary office (403) 283-2025.

The AWA is a federally registered charity and functions through member and donor support. Tax-deductible donations may be made to the Association at:  
 Box 6398 Station D, Calgary, AB T2P 2E1. Telephone (403) 283-2025 Fax (403) 270-2743  
 E-mail a.w.a@home.com Website <http://www.AlbertaWilderness.ca>

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# Notice of Annual General Meeting

**November 17, 2001**

The Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Wilderness Association and the Alberta Wilderness Institute will be held in Edmonton.

**Date: November 17, 2001**  
**Time: 1:00 pm**

Please call the office for further details (403) 283-2025.  
*All members are welcome to attend.*



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**The Alberta Wilderness Association**  
 Box 6398, Station D  
 Calgary, Alberta T2P 2E1

