



# Alberta Wilderness Association

## 2021 - 2022 Year in Review

This year, our members and supporters:

- Live in 225 Alberta communities with 500 more across Canada and around the world
- Donated \$550,000
- Include 79 active volunteers who contributed over 1,200 volunteer hours

They supported our work on:

### WILDLIFE

- Habitat and conservation measures for woodland caribou, limber and white-bark pine, native trout management, bank swallows, sage-grouse and recovery plans.



### WILD WATER

- Chair of AEN Water Caucus
- Opposing Red Deer River Water Diversion Pipeline
- Member of Board of Directors, Red Deer River Watershed Alliance
- Commenting on Integrated Water Management Plans
- Seeking federal EIA for Irrigation Modernization Program
- Efforts to reduce oilsands expansion and environmental impacts

### WILD SPACES

- Creating awareness of changes to protected areas management and need to be vigilant on government plans
- Proposing greater Indigenous Peoples engagement in planning and development of protected areas
- Opposing public lands sales
- Investigating government plans for crown lands
- Successfully challenged Grassy Mountain Coal Mine proposal

AWA received five stars and an "A" rating from Charity Intelligence



57 Years

Defending Wild Alberta through Awareness and Action by Inspiring People to Care.



# Alberta Wilderness Association

## 2021 - 2022 News & Campaigns



Summer 2021  
Caribou

AWA continues to be active in caribou sub-regional task forces and comment on sub-regional land use plans. In November, AWA co-presented a webinar for ABMI's caribou recovery series with the Fort McKay First Nations.

After Alberta opened up the mountains to coal mining, AWA hosted Town Hall evenings to discuss coal and ongoing coal developments. AWA launched a campaign against coal mining, challenging the Grassy Mountain Coal Project, encouraging members to support a "no coal" policy and demanding the release of Alberta's Coal Policy Committee Engagement Report.

September 2021 - January 2022  
Coal



October 2021 - November 2021  
Game Farms

In response to the proposal to legalize hunt farms, AWA has written to oppose game farming, particularly for the role game farms play in introducing disease to wild populations.



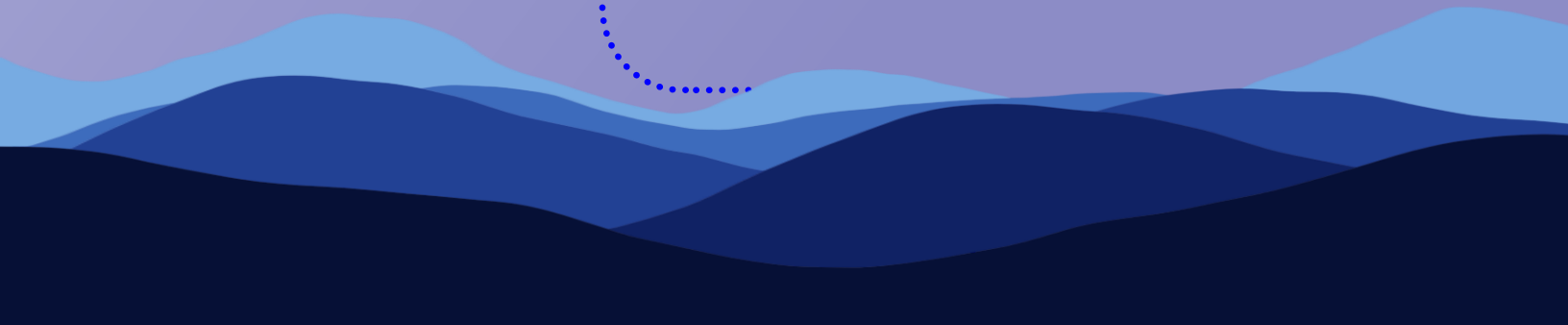
Following the announcement of expansion and modernization of Alberta's irrigation system, AWA worked with other interested parties to contract Ecojustice. AWA is working to learn more about the project, and have highlighted concerns for impacts to aquatic and grasslands ecosystems.

November 2021 - June 2022  
Irrigation



December 2021 - May 2022  
Public Lands

AWA expressed concerns on several recent legislative changes, including the Trails Act and Bill 21, for the lack of transparency and science-based decisions, the potential for privatization and the influence granted to the Minister.





# Alberta Wilderness Association

## 2021 - 2022 Outreach & Events

### Adventures for Wilderness



368 people participated in 37 Adventures, with 20 unique coordinators and 448 sponsors.

Adventures included:

- Walks and hikes
- Canoe trips
- Climb for Wilderness
- Cycling
- Discovering fossils in Calgary
- Botany and birding in the Milk River

This year, 1,161 people attended AWA events. The Wildlands Advocate published 4 issues and was delivered to 2,200 members and supporters, with more accessing the magazine online.

AWA's website had 105,616 unique visitors. We have 11,261 subscribers across our 6 social media channels, 431 more than last year.

On the Wrong Path: The Proposed Trails Act and How Trail Management Needs to Change by Jason Unger

Alberta Peatlands: A Valued Resource Under Stress by Dr. R Kelman Wieder

Advancing Energy Autonomy through Community-Based Research by Dr. Nick Mercer

Hidden Scourge: Exposing the Truth About Fuel Fossil Industry Spills by Kevin Timoney

100 Debates on the Environment

Martha Kostuch Wilderness and Wildlife Annual Lectures: AWA Executive Director Christyann Olson, and RCMP Officer Wayne Howse

### Talks



### Partnerships



- Nature Canada
- Canada Environmental Network
- SSRB Irrigation Expansion ENGO Committee
- Rocky Mountain National Parks ENGO Group
- Oil Sands Monitoring Wetlands TAC
- Keepers of the Water
- Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute
- Caribou Task Forces
- Coal Coalition
- RLBH CMB
- Sustainability Network
- Nature for All
- Cardinal Divide Conservation Coalition
- Great Plains Conservation Network
- Grasslands Roadmap
- Prairie Conservation Forum
- Responsible Tailings Management Alliance

AWA launched a *Leave no trace* campaign, reaching out through social media and our website. Volunteers engaged in conversations and surveys at 11 locations and 223 people participated in surveys.