



ALBERTA INNOVATES

STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES

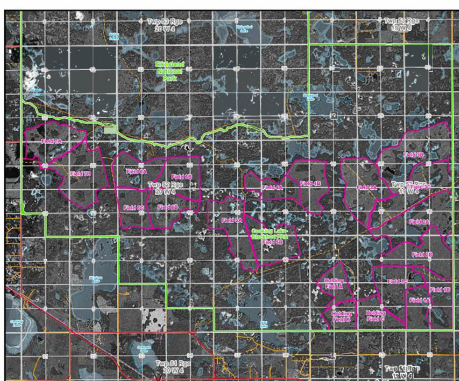
ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION

LAND MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

FUNDING DETAILS

Coexistence with Wolves: Assessing the Efficacy of Deterrents to Prevent Cattle Depredation

The project will test the efficacy of a variety of predator deterrents in the Cooking Lake Blackfoot Recreation Area (CLBRA). Remote cameras will be installed to monitor wolf use/occupancy of pastures, establish the efficacy of fencing and record wolf behaviors toward the fence and other deterrents. We will also use a pre and post survey design to measure shifts in rancher understanding of wolves and non-lethal methods for mitigating rangeland conflicts with wolves, shifts in ranchers' attitudes toward wolves and will help build best practices to prevent depredation and build support for non-lethal methods of mitigating conflicts with wolves.



RECIPIENT:

Beaver Hills Biosphere
Region Association



PARTNERS:

Parks Canada
Alberta Forestry and Parks
Friends of Elk Island Society
Blackfoot Grazing
Association



TOTAL BUDGET:

\$583,800



AI FUNDING:

\$245,000



PROJECT DATES:

JAN 2026 –
DEC 2029



PROJECT TRL:

Start: N/A
End: N/A

APPLICATION

The technologies assessed by the project and the knowledge that is generated from their testing will have direct application to current ranching practices in the Beaver Hills Biosphere and may also help to inform land management in other jurisdictions with similar land-use goals and issues.



ALBERTA INNOVATES

STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES

ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION

LAND MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

PROJECT GOALS

1. To develop, test, implement and refine a locally made fladry fence design, with and without other visual and auditory deterrents, as a way to prevent wolves from co-occurring on cattle grazing pastures in CLBRA.
2. To establish best practices for the set-up, maintenance and ongoing use of fladry to deter wolves.
3. To identify pathways to build support among ranchers and the community for the use of non-lethal predator control methods.
4. To measure the cost-effectiveness of these strategies relative to other approaches, including lethal removal of wolves.

BENEFITS TO ALBERTA

This project directly supports conservation measures to reduce human conflicts with wolves, and reduce wolf mortality. The cascading impacts of reduced wolf mortality include trophic benefits to ungulate populations and other species. In turn, this can affect the entire ecosystem health. Developing practices to help ranchers coexist with wildlife helps to modernize the industry and develop a positive public perception of cattle management.



2 Project Jobs



1 New Product/Service

CURRENT
STATUS

August 2026

Project is in progress.