

Spring 2021



Alberta Hunter Education
Instructors' Association

Conservation Education Magazine

The Voice of
Conservation Education
in Alberta



AHEIA's Mission is to Make Wildlife and Fish Part of the Value System of Every Albertan

It's an Alberta thing.



wildlife | fish | habitat

President's Message

“ We continue to be diligent with AHEIA expenditures and make the best possible use of every dollar earned ... ”

By Bob Gruszecki



Bob Gruszecki
President - AHEIA

Conservation Education plays an ever increasingly important role in the perpetuation of the principles involved in making wildlife and wild places part of people's value systems.

During this tumultuous year of dealing with the global pandemic, it has become abundantly clear that the

sustainability of our natural resources remains a priority for Albertans.

As we look back at 2020, there are many ways to deliberate on the significant challenges of the year and how we have been affected. The trials and tribulations of 2020 brought into focus that “health” is the lens in which we will reflect on all that happened: the health of friends and family, the health of the economy, and the health of the province and nation. It is my hope that you and your family have stayed safe in these most unusual times.

We were all tested last year like never before, and many have suffered adversity while trying to adapt to this period of challenges. Closures, restrictions and implemented rules forced us to make significant changes to AHEIA operations in order to keep our staff, volunteers, and program participants safe. Even among these obstacles, the demand for AHEIA programs was high and we identified new ways to diversify our programs for Albertans staying at home.

In 2020 we continued our progressive approach to the digital and virtual age. We introduced our new “O.W.L.” (Outdoor Wildlife Learning) Series of free workbooks and videos, which became extremely popular with people shut-in at home and teachers providing online classes looking for unique and informative activities for their students related to the outdoors. During the shut down and for the entire year, we provided our Alberta Fishing Education Program free of charge through the AHEIA website, which was extremely well received by both COVID-weary Albertans and members of our Provincial Government, who assisted in the promotion of the program through social media posts and word of mouth.

Building on the success of our online offerings, we expanded our social media presence, resulting in a tremendous increase of website visitors, over 57% from 2019, and over six times the visits to our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter social pages. This social engagement dramatically increased public awareness of the many programs that AHEIA provides. Another contributor to the

increased traffic was the launch of our new and improved website, aheia.com. This updated platform is easier to navigate and allows AHEIA's online programs to be delivered on tablets and mobile devices. In addition, there is a new on-line store where people can purchase AHEIA branded merchandise which helps support our conservation education efforts.

Due to public health restrictions, all our facilities closed to the public in March, and other than a short time in the summer and early fall when we were allowed to run educational classes and events with restricted numbers, our Calgary, Edmonton, and Alford Lake facilities remain closed to public access and classes are not being offered at this time.

“ People have adapted, as we all have, and are looking for outdoor activities close to home. As the desire to turn to nature increases, AHEIA will continue to support Albertans with our world-renowned educational programs which will enhance their safety and outdoor experiences! ”



The Calgary Firearms Centre re-opened to the public on May 23, 2020 and continues to remain open as an approved outdoor facility that offers activities following specific restrictions and recommended social distancing guidelines. Several competitive shoots took place, plus the summer and fall sessions of the Women's and Youth Shooting Leagues. We credit increased attendance at the Calgary Firearms Centre to people taking up new activities, particularly participation in outdoor recreation, as a result of the pandemic. In 2021 we are scheduled to run our full compliment of leagues and competitions and will be hosting the Provincial Trapshooting Championships in July.

Last year we took advantage of the shutdown to tackle some projects at the Alford Lake Conservation Centre for Excellence. Although we are preparing for and remain hopeful that we can run our popular summer Youth Camps and Outdoor Women's Program in 2021, and to allow private group bookings at the facility, we await news of health restrictions and social gathering restrictions to allow us to re-open to the public. One thing for sure is that when the time comes, we are up for the challenge to offer the cadre of safe and quality training once again at Alford Lake.

Financially, individual donations were reduced significantly in 2020, however, we successfully ran six small raffles plus our new 100 for \$100 Raffle, which became the single largest fundraiser in AHEIA's history. Soon we will be launching a new 100 for \$100 Raffle and already have several new firearm raffles available. With our donations and event income severely reduced due to closures and cancellations, the revenue from these raffles is crucial to maintaining our economic objectives and stability. Unfortunately, some of our major revenue-building opportunities, including the Calgary, Red Deer and Edmonton Sportsmen's Shows, have been cancelled for 2021. In anticipation of these cancellations, we were proactive by increasing our requests for sponsorships, including corporate partnerships, grants and new funding opportunities that surfaced due to the economic downturn caused by the pandemic. We continue to be diligent with AHEIA expenditures and make the best possible use of every dollar earned to support ongoing operations and growth. While it has been a truly difficult year, I am confident that this too shall pass.

In 2020 it was evident that people put a greater value on nature, realizing the health benefits associated with an increased sense of wellbeing and state-of-mind. People have adapted, as we all have, and are looking for outdoor activities close to home. As the desire to turn to nature increases, AHEIA will continue to support Albertans with our world-renowned educational programs which will enhance their safety and outdoor experiences.

We never could have predicted the extent of the crisis that we currently face, but the health of AHEIA remains intact. On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, the staff and volunteers who make up the AHEIA family, thank you for your continued support and all the best in 2021.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Gruszecki
President, AHEIA

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Update Regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic

In light of the Global COVID-19 Pandemic, AHEIA may be forced to postpone or change the dates of our programs and events. Please check with us to confirm any of the program or seminar details you see in this magazine.

Alberta Hunter Education
Instructors' Association
**Conservation
Education**
Magazine

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Front Cover Photo
courtesy Dale Paul, Calgary, Alberta

Completed Careers

Recently two members of our organization completed their journey, and our thoughts and prayers are extended to their families and friends. They may be gone, but their energy, friendship and service will not be forgotten.



Rod Boll

Passed away January 28, 2021

Rod Boll, AHEIA member, long time friend, fierce competitor, and dedicated family man, passed away suddenly on January 28th, 2021. Rod was 68 years of age and leaves behind his wife Terry, sons Schon and Kahl and four grandchildren—all of whom made him extremely proud! He lived his life in his hometown of Fillmore, Saskatchewan and some might say he put Fillmore "on the map"! Rod was a great trapshooter who competed on every continent except Antarctica. Winning far too many championship titles to mention while proudly displaying his green Saskatchewan flag on his cart, Rod was a pleasure to be around before, during and especially after the competitions were over! He will be remembered for many things, not the least of which was his ability to make people laugh and enjoy his presence. We will miss his camaraderie and good cheer, and send our condolences to Terry and family at this difficult time.

Harold Fukuda

Passed away January 18, 2021

Harold Fukuda passed away in Medicine Hat on January 18, 2021 at 58 years of age. He was born in Brooks and retired to his family farm in Patricia in 2007 after a career in the RCMP. Harold was an avid outdoorsman, a lifetime member of AHEIA and supporter of all things Conservation Education. He not only loved dog training, but distinguished himself as one of the very best "dog whisperers" and passed on his skills to numerous people. He was active in hunter education and was truly a great ambassador for the hunting community. He was extremely generous of his time and energy, especially when it came to mentoring youth—something he truly enjoyed. Harold was a kind, gentle man and time spent with him was never wasted. We express our sincere condolences to his family and will remember Harold and the days shared afield, on the range and in good cheer.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT MATTERS MOST.

Start on the trail to a rewarding career with a degree in **Ecosystem Management at Lethbridge College**. This degree has been recognized as a first step in becoming a Professional Biologist (P. Biol) by the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists.

lethbridgecollege.ca/em

BE READY.





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Discovery Passes or
Daily Entry Passes
today!**



Available beginning April 1, 2021 at AHEIA's Calgary and Edmonton offices:

**Parks Canada
Discovery Passes***
(Annual)

Family/Group \$139.40
(up to 7 adults traveling together)
Adult Individual (ages 18-64) \$69.19
Senior Individual (ages 65 or more) \$59.17

* Discovery Passes are valid for a minimum of one full year from date of purchase, expiring on the last day of the month in which it was purchased.

**National Park
Entry Passes****
(Daily)

Family/Group \$20.00
Adult Individual \$10.00
Senior Individual \$8.40

** Daily Entry Passes expire at 4pm the day after entry date indicated on pass.



pc.gc.ca

All prices include tax.



Edmonton Report

“ Check our website for new online registration capabilities and more event information. ”

By Len Gransch



Len Gransch
Program Coordinator
AHEIA Red Deer - North

The world of COVID-19 continues to affect us all, but there seems to be a little light at the end of the tunnel, so to speak.

The 2021 Edmonton Boat and Sportsmen's Show has been postponed. The show organizers have come up with the Alberta Sportsmen's Digital Marketplace (<https://abss.masterpromotions.ca/>). Even though they aren't able to have a live event, they still want you to be able to interact with exhibitors and take advantage of show deals. So they are pleased to present this new digital format. Show runs until March 31.

Please check out the website for show specials, the digital seminar stage and to enter to win an ultra-deluxe massage chair. AHEIA also has an exhibitor site in the Digital Marketplace. Visit us there and enter for a chance to win a Prize Package consisting of Celestron Outland X 10x42 Binoculars, Celestron Lens Pen, and a Spudz Lens Cleaner.

The following upcoming events, subject to AHS COVID protocols that are in place at the time, are being held at our Alford Lake facility west of Caroline. Check our website for new online registration capabilities and more event information.

Our 2021 Youth Hunter Education Camps are scheduled for July 4-9, July 11-17, July 18-24 and July 25-30.

The 2021 Youth Hunter Education Camp is a five-day event of fun-filled learning activities. Financial support has been provided by Wildlife Habitat Canada. Experts will be sharing their knowledge and providing instruction in the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education Program, the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and much more. Students will become certified in the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education Program and the Canadian Firearms Program. They will then qualify to apply for their Wildlife Identification Number (WIN Card) through any private license issuer and be able to apply for their Minor's Possession Licence for firearms.

The Outdoor Youth Seminar is slated for August 20-22.

Designed to increase awareness of outdoor recreational opportunities, the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association (AHEIA) is holding their 19 Annual Outdoor Youth Seminar for young outdoor enthusiasts (ages seven and up) and their parent(s) or guardian(s). The seminar is a two-day event filled with fun and learning activities. Numerous experts will be sharing information and instruction in various outdoor pursuits.

Provincial Hunting Day will be held on September 25.

The fourth Saturday of every September has become a special date within Alberta. The Alberta

Government declared this day each year to be Provincial Hunting Day, with the first annual event held in 2007. This year's event marks the 14th annual event, and is a reminder to all Albertans of our hunting heritage, and of the importance of securing a future for wildlife and wild places, especially within our province. All sessions are hands-on and provide the opportunity to learn by doing. This event is completely free and is fun for the whole family! A partial listing of sessions we are hoping to offer include: Crossbow Basics, Shotgun for Beginners, Centrefire Rifle Shooting, Rimfire Rifle Shooting, Archery Basics, Predator Awareness, Black Powder Shooting, plus additional sessions to be added (subject to change). Choose your sessions of interest on-site the day of the event (as space permits).

Provincial Hunting Day events will also be offered at the Calgary Firearms Centre at DeWinton. Please contact our Calgary office at 403-252-8474 or toll free at 1-866-852-4342 for additional details about the event at this location.

We continue to look for volunteers help for all of our courses, camps, events, etc. as well as with our day-to-day office workings. If you, or any of your friends, wish to become part of something rewarding please let me know.



*Take care and enjoy
the Great Outdoors!*



CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Gift certificates can be used for:

- Rounds
- Coaching
- Ammunition
- Firearms Rental
- Merchandise
- Firearms Purchase

Please call our Calgary office as gift certificates are issued from our head office:

403.252.8474

Gift certificates can be picked up in Calgary, at the Calgary Firearms Centre, or mailed.





Fifth Annual

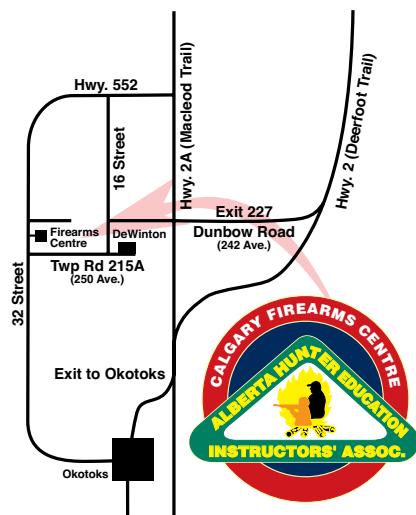
NEW & USED GUN SALE

**SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021
1:00 - 4:00 PM
CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE**

AHEIA WILL BE SELLING A SUPPLY OF GENTLY USED FIREARMS AND OFFERING DISCOUNTS ON SOME NEW INVENTORY & SELECT AMMO.

In the course of a year, AHEIA trains tens of thousands of students of all ages in the safe and responsible use of firearms. Annually, portions of our inventory are "retired" or declared surplus to our training needs, and will now be offered for sale. Expect a variety of rifles and shotguns at VERY affordable prices!

DIRECTIONS TO CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE: From the North, on Deerfoot Trail, exit on 227, go across Hwy. 2A and follow the signs. From the South, on Deerfoot or Macleod Trail, exit onto Hwy. 2A (Macleod Trail), then onto Dunbow Road West and follow the signs.



AHEIA Recipient of The Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund Grant



Tim Brown, General Manager of Bass Pro/Cabela's (left) and Cody Gross, Co-General Manager of Calgary's Cabela's location (right) presenting grant cheque to David Dolph, Vice President and Executive Director, AHEIA.

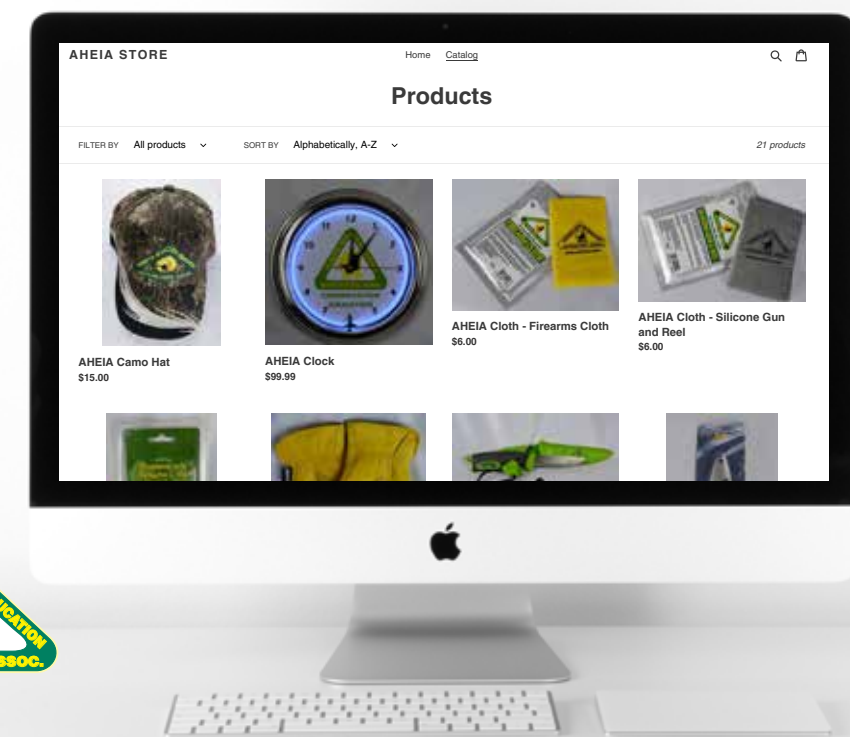
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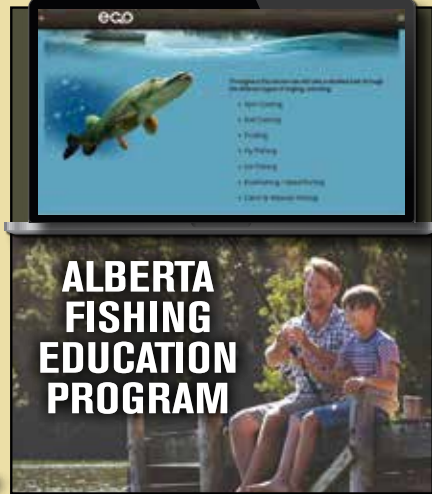
Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's has recognized AHEIA's conservation education programming by awarding AHEIA a grant from The Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund. Tim Brown, General Manager of Bass Pro/Cabelas, and Cody Gross, Co-General Manager of Calgary's Cabela's location, were on hand to present the grant to David Dolph, Vice President and Executive Director of AHEIA. This grant of \$9,662.00 is earmarked towards programming equipment at our Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence.

AHEIA is very appreciative of our relationships with these organizations and encourages AHEIA members to support our partners in conservation education.



VISIT AHEIA'S ONLINE STORE NOW AT AHEIA.COM





Go to our website and click on "online training" to launch these programs, view demos or sign up.



CONSERVATION EDUCATION ONLINE PROGRAMS

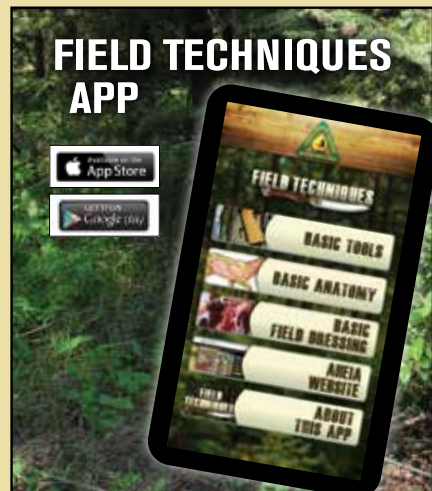


FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON ANY OF THESE COURSES, CONTACT:

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Firearms Education Report

"... the Federal Government announced this February Bill C-21 ..."

By John Morrissey



John Morrissey
Firearms Education
Coordinator
AHEIA

As we move into spring the CFSC/CRFSC student numbers remain strong, with all instructors reporting full classes, plus some instructors now experiencing wait lists for their courses. All this despite the COVID-19 pandemic and a less than favourable economy. Just to reassure our instructors as far as the COVID-19 protocols are

concerned, please continue to follow all social distancing, sanitizing, and masking as per Alberta Health Services directives. By following the protocols, we are able to maintain our programs and services to our Alberta communities.

In other news, the interviews for the Alberta Chief Provincial Firearms Officer should be well under way, if not completed, at the time of publication. As noted, the Province plans to implement this position in the late spring or summer of 2021. As a reminder to our CFSC/CRFSC instructors, when the Alberta Chief Firearms Officer has been appointed it will not affect our delivery of the CFSC/CRFSC programs.

As we approach a year since the passing by Order in Council of the May 1, 2020 Firearms Prohibitions, which affected over 1500 restricted and non-restricted legally owned firearms, the Federal Government announced this February Bill C-21, *An Act to amend certain Acts and to make certain consequential amendments (firearms)*.

As the title of Bill C-21 gives very little insight into what the bill will address, let's take a snapshot look at the proposed amends or changes to the Firearms act:

- **Combat intimate partner and gender-based violence and self-harm involving firearms.**
Introduce a red flag and yellow flag regime that would allow reporting an individual who may pose a danger to themselves or others.
- **Fight gun smuggling and trafficking.**
Increase maximum penalties for firearms trafficking and other firearms offences.
- **Help municipalities create safe communities.**
This is an interesting one as it would allow the municipalities to restrict handgun ownership or to regulate how firearms are stored.
- **Give young people the opportunities and resources they need to resist lives of crime.**
Starting in 2021 or 2022 provide \$250 million dollars over a five-year period to communities to support anti-gang programs.

- **Protect Canadians from gun violence.**
This would further regulate ammunition importation as well as the altering of a cartridge magazine to exceed the legal capacity which is currently five cartridges for a semi-automatic centre fire rifle and 10 cartridges for a handgun. We also have a new definition of "replica" firearms. This would now include BB, pellet, and airsoft guns. Apparently, these have been deemed as "gateway" guns, and may lead youth into gun violence. This section also deals with prohibiting advertising that depicts, councils or promotes firearms violence again a person. So much for "Call of Duty" advertisements or action movie trailers!

- **Require owners of firearms (and variants) prohibited on May 1, 2020, who do not participate in the buyback program, to comply with a non-permissive storage regime.**
In short, you may choose to keep your firearm that was deemed prohibited as of May 1, 2020 Order in Council, however, it cannot be used, sold, transferred, or bequeathed. Details of the proposed buyback program have not been made public.

- **Additional changes.**
This is the section where we would see additional reclassification of firearms by style instead of by make and model. Also, a review of the current language in the regulation pertaining to prohibited weapons, devices, and prohibited ammunition. This section also seeks to amend permission to obtain an Authorization to Carry (ATC) a firearm for protection of life. If passed it would give the Commissioner of Firearms the sole responsibility and authority to issue said permits. Additional changes would allow Crown employees tasked with security to carry a firearm to assist in protection of premise and of the public.

Well, that is just a short overview of Bill C-21 as proposed by our current Federal Government on February 17, 2021. Please remember, at the time this article was written, Bill C-21 has not been passed by Parliament. Will it pass as presented? Only time will tell. However, what we do know is that it would have a profound effect on not only the firearms and sporting community, but also on Canadians as a whole.

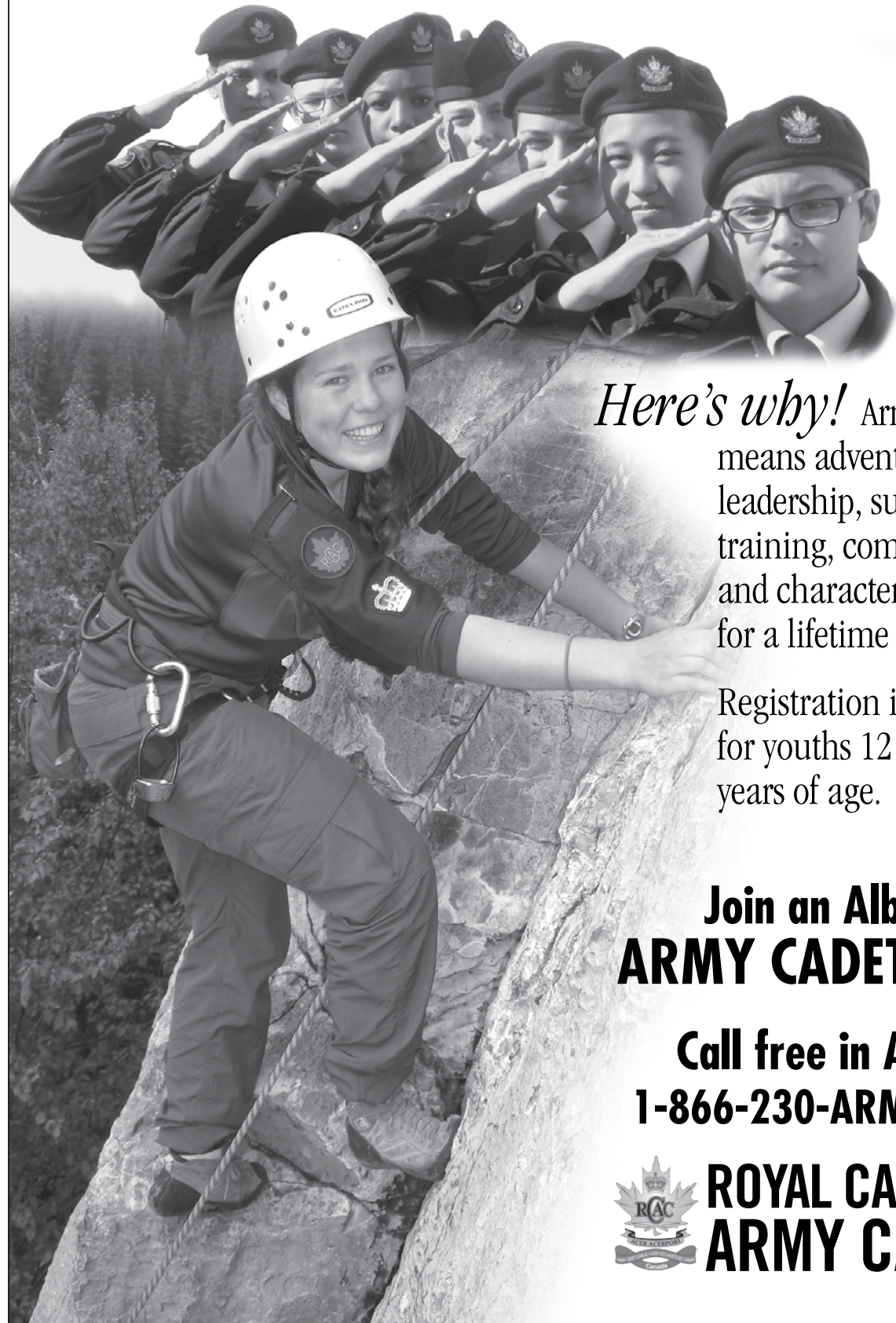
On a brighter note, I am hopeful with the decreasing COVID-19 numbers that we will once again be able to offer our spring and summer programs at the Calgary Firearms Centre, as well as at Alford Lake. There will be a bit of a change this year as we are moving to online registration for programs. This should streamline the process for participants, as well as our administration staff.

In closing, it has come to my attention that instructors are slowly increasing the cost of the CFSC and the CRFSC. Please remember the cost for each course should not exceed \$100.00. On top of the \$100.00 course cost you may add the cost of materials to teach the course, classroom rental, and other reasonable expenses to deliver the courses in a professional manner. Remember, our goal as an association is, in part, to make outdoor education affordable.

Which brings me to the next topic, the dreaded course reports. Please review your reports prior to sending for data capture. The CFO office has noted a number of reports are missing information, such as correct date of birth, test scores, the number of students, and the fees charged for the course. Please remember this is a Government form that must be completed by the instructor and the examiner, and must be treated as an official document. To be blunt, instructors who choose not to fill in the forms correctly may risk decertification.



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ARMY CADETS**

“When we finished, my brother got some blood and put it on my cheek, saying, ‘Welcome to the hunting club!’ ”

Fall 2020 Mentored Hunt Stories

Kaden's Story

(Age 14)

Hi. My name is Kaden. On November 2, 2020 I was able to partner hunt with my Mom's antlered moose tag. We had spotted a bull in some bush, but he got out the other side of it. We tried to plan to get around him, but gave up soon because he just kept going. So, we got back in the truck and headed out to look for another one. Then, we got a call from a farmer friend that there was a bull moose in a coulee in his pasture, so we drove over. We were having trouble spotting the moose in the bushes, but then my little sister saw him. My auntie and I got out and closed the distance in half to about 160 yards. We waited quite awhile for him to step out from the bush. When he did, I shot, but missed. It didn't phase him. I shot again and this one hit him. We had some friends who came to help us gut him and then the farmer came with his tractor to hang him. Then, we took him to a shop and skinned and quartered him.

After that, we went out and tried to find my sister and I a mule doe, but didn't find one for the rest of the afternoon. The next morning, we went out again. We soon found a group of a doe, two fawns, and three bucks. We went on a stalk. They went into a finger of a coulee, so we went over. It was quite a walk and when we found them, they were skylined, so I didn't shoot. They busted into the field where they were before, which is where the truck was, and when they saw the truck, they turned around and came back towards us, so my aunt, my sister and I sat down on the side of the hill and waited for them. My aunt said that once they crossed the fence line, they would be within range, and I could shoot. It took them awhile, but when they crossed, I shot the doe.



Mikayla's Story

(Age 12)

Hi, I am Mikayla. I am a first-time hunter that just shot a mule doe near Oyen.

On November 1, 2020, my family packed up our vehicle and we headed to Oyen. We met my aunt and uncle at their trailer because we would be hunting with them. After two days of scouting, at about 3:00pm, we found a herd of mule deer and went to walk over the hill to follow the does. Then, a doe stood up in front of us from the buckbrush so my aunt, brother and I crouched down. My aunt set up the shooting sticks very low and my brother turned down the scope. I aimed right at the heart and after less than a minute, I shot her. When I shot, she started running and I was disappointed because I thought I had missed, then my aunt said I got myself a deer. I ran up to where my deer was, my uncle drove the truck over, and after pictures, I helped get my doe on the back of the truck and started cutting the hide off and getting all the meat off. When we finished, my brother got some blood and put it on my cheek, saying “Welcome to the hunting club!”



**“1 Bullet,
1 Kill.**

**1 Kill,
1 Full Freezer!”**

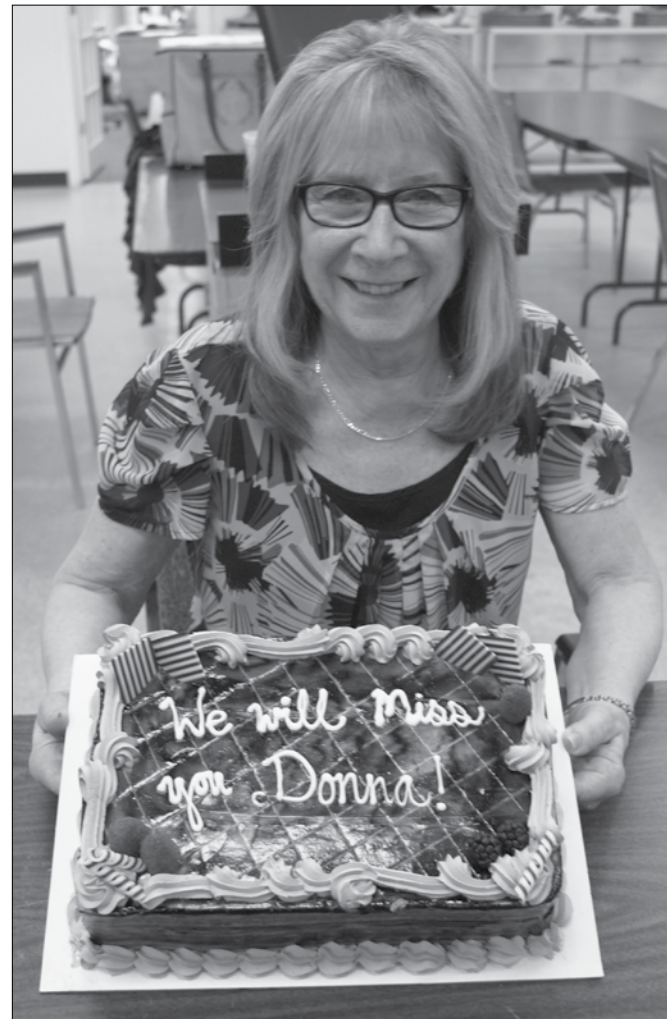
“Donna’s departure is a big loss for the Calgary office,
and we will all miss her ...”

Donna Hansen Retires

By Bob Gruszecki

Donna Hansen has entered a new phase of her life as she has retired from the day-to-day activities at Calgary’s AHEIA office. Donna began her association with AHEIA back in 2003 when she was involved at our Alford Lake Camp. In April 2012 Donna began full-time employment in AHEIA’s Calgary office where she soon became Calgary’s familiar “welcoming ambassador” to all who visited the office, and a tireless, driving force in making sure staff were supplied and ready to hold our various AHEIA events and activities. Donna’s departure is a big loss for the Calgary office, and we will all miss her as she now moves to Edmonton to enjoy her retirement and spend time with her daughter, Candice. Luckily for AHEIA, however, Donna will be helping out part-time in our Edmonton office.

I, along with all AHEIA staff and AHEIA members, wish her well as she embarks on this new chapter of her life and thank her for her tremendous service to AHEIA over the years.



*Thank You,
Donna!*

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National Park Annual and Daily Fishing Permits

Beginning April 1, 2021.

\$34³⁰ Annual
Valid April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022

\$9⁸⁰ Daily
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Fishing Regulations Summary - Mountain National Parks in Alberta and British Columbia
will be provided with each permit.

Permits will be valid in the following National Parks:
Jasper, Banff, Yoho, Kootenay *or* Mount Revelstoke, Glacier *or* Waterton Lakes.
Note: Does not include National Parks entrance Day Pass or Discovery Pass.

  Parks Canada  Parcs Canada

Pick up your fishing permits today at:

AHEIA Calgary
911 Sylvester Crescent SW *or* **AHEIA Edmonton**
#88, 4003 - 98 Street

“When these fish grow up, the hope is that they will become nursery populations and could migrate downstream where other Westslope cutthroat trout live ...”

Remote Site Incubation of Westslope Cutthroat Trout



Initial incubation in quarantine trailer.

Submitted by Alberta Environment and Parks

Westslope cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii lewisi*) are a native trout that have been calling southern Alberta's eastern slopes home for thousands of years. Unfortunately, these fish are currently facing the same challenges as other native trout; loss of habitat, accidental harvest and hybridization with other trout species. Genetically pure Westslope cutthroat trout populations now have a significantly limited range and small populations, which has led to their population decline and the species being listed as Threatened under Alberta's *Wildlife Act*. Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) staff are working on several projects to support native trout populations, but one goal we are working towards is to reconnect isolated populations and expand where Westslope Cutthroat Trout are calling home.

Remote site incubation (RSI) is one method staff are using to establish a new population in streams where these fish could survive but are not currently found! During spawning season in June, adult fish are captured to collect their eggs and milt, and the eggs are fertilized streamside. The adult fish are released back into the stream, while the eggs are taken back to a provincial fish hatchery where they will incubate for a short period of time in a quarantine trailer. The eggs are then taken to locations selected by AEP fisheries biologists that do not have any fish living in them and are isolated by barriers. This allows biologists to utilize local genetic adaptations to the fish's advantage, and also supports the fish's ability for natal homing, where they use their sense of smell to return to their egg site when they are spawning.

RSI units are very cost effective, and there is no feeding of the fish required. The RSI units are easy to build and are essentially a bucket filled with artificial substrate simulating gravel for the eggs to rest, with water flowing through. The remote streamside incubator allows the eggs to hatch naturally, so the young fish, known as alevin, can then find their way to a comfortable home. When these fish grow up, the hope is that they will become nursery populations and could migrate downstream where other Westslope cutthroat trout live, resulting in a larger population!



Westslope Cutthroat Trout

In 2019, AEP staff began a pilot RSI project in a stream in Southern Alberta, where 779 eggs were collected from eight Westslope cutthroat trout. A total of 499 (64%) of those eggs hatched and swam out of the RSI units into their new habitat. AEP fisheries biologists will repeat stocking in the same location several times and will continue to monitor the effectiveness of this method for establishing a new population! AEP isn't the only jurisdiction to use this technique, as it has been effectively used in Montana in multiple watersheds for several years. Parks Canada will also be doing RSI projects.

There are many ways that you can help Westslope cutthroat trout—if you are lucky enough to see an RSI project at work, please make sure to leave all equipment in place and don't disturb the fish. Do your part to help keep their habitat cold, clean, clear and connected by always keeping your wheels out of water, cleaning, draining and drying all of your gear between waterbodies and reporting poorly maintained stream crossings to the Alberta Watercourse Crossing Inventory App. Consider joining a stewardship group to get more involved!



Learn more about native trout and how you can help by searching “native trout” on www.alberta.ca

Photos courtesy: Andreas Luek (Senior Fisheries Biologist) and Brian Meagher (Fisheries Biologist), Alberta Environment and Parks.



Remote Site Incubation (RSI) Unit and fisheries biologist.



Neutrally bouyant “Bio Saddles” mimic stream gravel and protect eggs.



Remote Site Incubation (RSI) Unit in place.

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Special Harvest Licence Update

Submitted by Alberta Environment and Parks

Thank you for participating in Alberta Environment and Parks 2021-2022 sportfishing regulation engagement. In this engagement, many stakeholders supported changes to the Special Harvest Licence (SHL) program.

For the 2021-22 sportfishing season, to increase the sharing of fish and allow more anglers to obtain a licence, the following change will be in place:

- If successfully drawn, an SHL licence holder receives two walleye tags, for Class B (43–50cm) or Class C (<43cm walleye) licences. The Class A licence is unchanged with two tags for >50cm walleye.

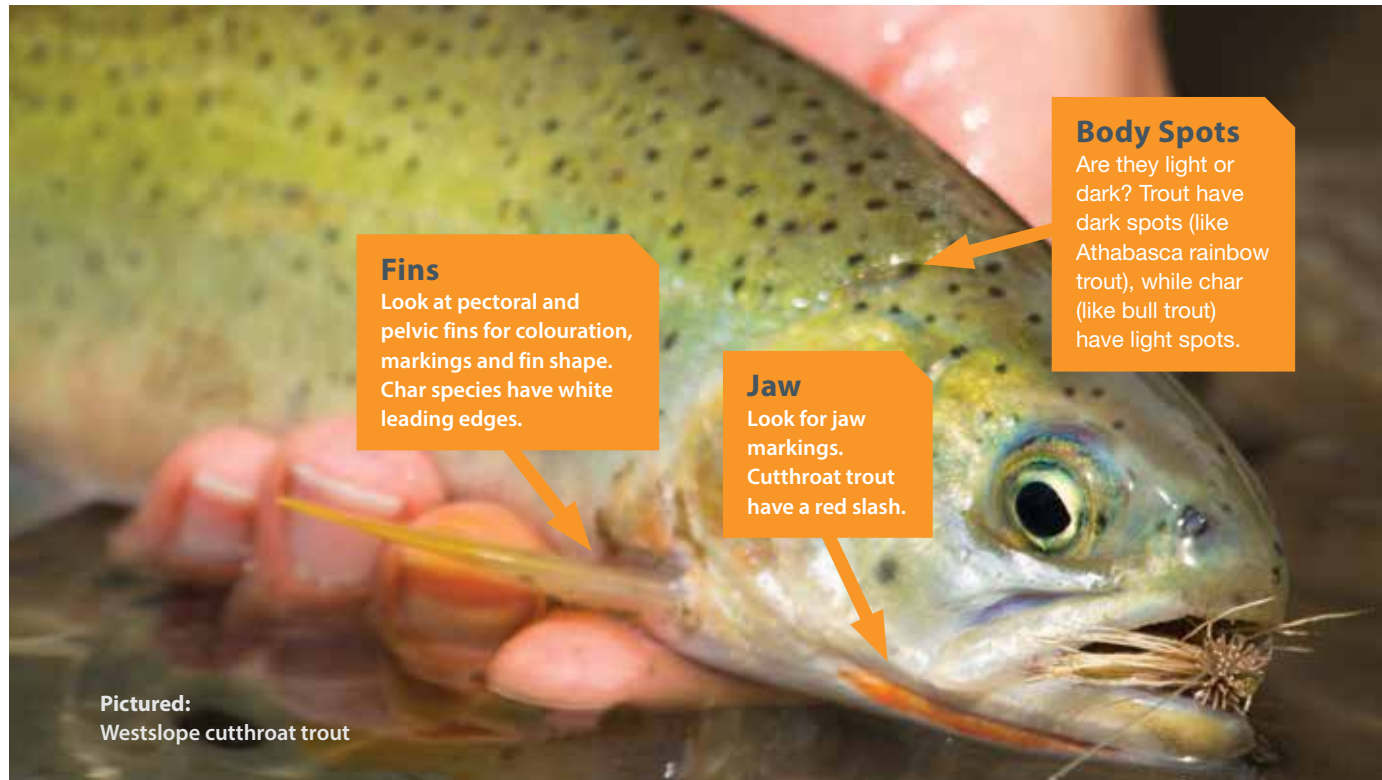
For the 2022-23 sportfishing season, to increase opportunity and reduce costs, the following will be in place:

- Class C priority points will no longer be valid.
- Class C walleye licences will only be offered through a process similar to the undersubscribed process.
- **As priority points for Class C licences will not be valid in 2022, it is recommended anglers apply their Class C priority points to draws in 2021.**

Draw applications for the 2021-22 sportfishing season may be purchased for \$3.35 (plus GST) from March 30 – April 22, 2021 on albertarelm.com or at licence issuers. Draw results will be available on albertarelm.com on May 5, 2021, and special harvest licences (including undersubscribed licences) can be purchased for \$11.00 (plus GST).

All public engagements on Alberta's Fisheries Management can be found at www.alberta.ca/fisheries-engagements.aspx. Visit the site to follow along as outcomes from recent public engagements are updated including information from the sportfishing regulation engagement, "What We Heard" reports, and future opportunities to provide input. We look forward to continuing the conversations!





Pictured:
Westslope cutthroat trout

Alberta's native trout have been in the cold, clean and clear waters of the province for thousands of years. They are an important part of healthy ecosystems, supporting diverse food webs and acting as indicator species of high quality habitats. We all play a role in protecting native trout populations while fishing in the east slopes. As an angler, there are easy steps that you can take to keep fish in our future.

Before heading out onto the water, check local sportfishing regulations, such as catch and size limits, for the waterbody you want to fish. Regulations are in place to help protect Alberta's native trout, including Athabasca rainbow trout, bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout. Be prepared to release your catch quickly and safely.

Fish Identification

It's hard to predict what will bite the end of your line, so it's important to be able to identify your catch in order to follow the regulations. There are three key features (see above) to look for while trying to identify native trout. Remember, if you don't know, let it go!

Keep Fish Wet

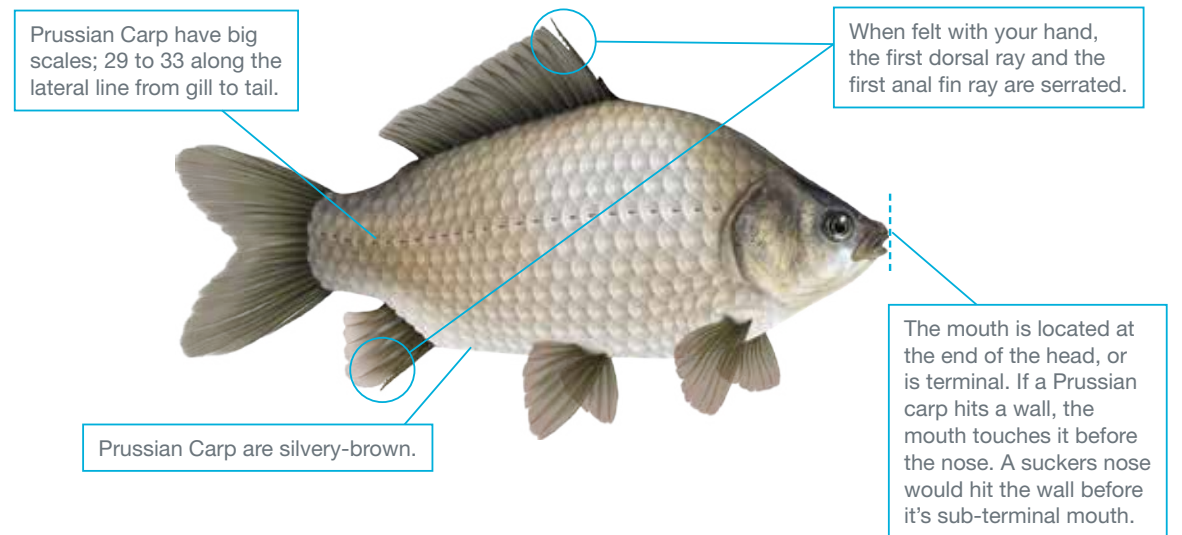
Be ready to release your catch quickly and safely to give the fish the best chance of survival.

- 1. Minimize air exposure** – Keep the fish's mouth and gills fully submerged in the water as much as possible. Lifting the fish fully out of the water for even short durations where the fish is unable to breathe is harmful.
- 2. Use wet gloves and a net** – Fish are covered in a protective mucus layer that prevents bacteria and diseases from entering through their skin. Every time the fish comes in contact with a dry surface this layer is removed.
- 3. Limit handling time** – Consider using barbless hooks for quick removal and have your pliers or hook removal tool at the ready! Keep the fish in the water as much as possible when removing a hook, taking a photo and releasing it. When a fish is kept wet and released quickly, it is less stressed from being caught and has the best chance of survival.

Alberta

Prussian Carp

Carassius gibelio



CATCH IT KILL IT

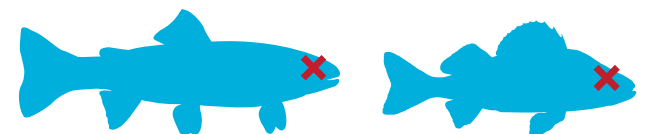
If you catch a Prussian carp, kill it and dispose of it or eat it. Do not put it back in the water.



Alberta was the first jurisdiction in North America to have invasive Prussian carp and can be found in the main stem and tributaries of the Bow, Red Deer, Oldman and South Saskatchewan Rivers.

3X

Females can spawn up to three times in one year, making them prolific invaders.



Prussian carp are bad news for native fish populations as they out-compete them for food and habitat.



Likely introduced by intentional releases, response or eradication is challenged by spread through connected waterbodies.

Intentional release of invasive species is illegal.



Releasing Prussian Carp into any waterbody can start an invasion; but you can stop it!

Report aquatic invasive species to
1-855-336-BOAT

Alberta

Safe Boating Checklist

Heading out on the water this summer? Here is a pre-departure checklist you can use to ensure you are safe and legal.

☐ Lifejackets: Wear them!

- Carry a Canadian-approved lifejacket for everyone on board.
- Make sure they are in good condition (check the zippers, buckles, fabric, seams, etc).
- Check that they are properly sized to fit each person on board.

☐ Operator Competency: Are you ready to head out on the water?

- Take a boating safety course.
- Keep your Pleasure Craft Operator Card or other proof of competency on board.

☐ Weather: Check and monitor the Marine Weather Forecast.

☐ Sail Plan: File your plan before heading out.

- Tell a person you trust where you are going and when you will be back.

☐ Safety Equipment: Essential and required by law.

- Make sure all equipment is on board, in good working order, and is easy to reach.
- Carry a First-Aid Kit, basic tools, and spare parts.

☐ Charts, Compass and Local Hazards.

- Make sure you are aware of all local hazards, water levels and tides.

☐ Fuel: Check your fuel supply.

- Remember – 1/3 to go out, 1/3 to return, and 1/3 in reserve.

☐ Boat Condition: Should your boat leave the dock?

- Check the hull for cracks or other damage.
- Check the electrical, fuel, propulsion, and cooling systems.
- Make sure the throttle and steering work well.
- Check the engine and hydraulic oil.
- Check all hoses and lines for leaks and cracks, and replace if necessary.
- Make sure all clamps and belts are secure and in place.
- Inspect spark plugs. Clean and replace if necessary.
- Check oil and water filters. Change if necessary.
- Check the battery's charge.
- Make sure the drainage plug is in place.
- Carry spare plugs for all through-hull fittings.
- Make sure the load (gear and occupants) on your boat is well distributed.
- Run the blowers for four minutes before starting the engine(s) where applicable. Check for airflow.

☐ Safety Briefing.

- Show everyone where the safety equipment is located and how to use it.
- Make sure the communication equipment works and everyone knows how to use it.

Remember: Canadian Federal Law states that anyone operating a motorized (gas or electric) pleasure craft in Canada must carry proof of competency. If you do not have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card, go to

www.albertaboatsafety.com

to obtain one. If you have lost your card call AHEIA at 1-866-852-4342 to obtain a replacement.

Certain age restrictions apply to pleasure craft operators under the age of 18. Be sure you are familiar with these restrictions.

If you have any questions about boating safety or boating safety laws, contact Allan Orr at

403-319-2281

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May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9

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July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4, 11

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September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

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Beretta 690 Field I Over/Under 12ga Shotgun

Steelium barrels, 3" chamber, floral engraving,
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Draw Date: Sunday, August 22, 2021

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VARMINT/TARGET RIFLE RAFFLE



Retail Value:
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Tikka T3X Varmint/Target Bolt Action Rifle

.223 calibre, stainless free floating heavy contour barrel.



Retail Value:
\$1332.45

Browning T Bolt Varmint Bolt Action Rifle

.22 L.R., grey laminate stock, Monte Carlo.

Draw Date: Friday, May 14, 2021

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License #566434 • 7000 Tickets Printed

UPLAND/WATERFOWLER/ SPORTING FIREARM RAFFLE



Retail Value:
\$3100.00

Benelli Ethos Engraved Nickel-Plated Semi-Automatic 12ga Shotgun

3" chamber, features 5 Crio choke tubes.



Retail Value:
\$1500.00

Winchester SX4 Semi-Automatic 12 ga Shotgun

Cerokote FDE, camo stock, features 3 inv. chock tubes.

One lucky winner will receive both firearms!

Total Retail Value: \$4600.00

Draw Date: Friday, September 3, 2021

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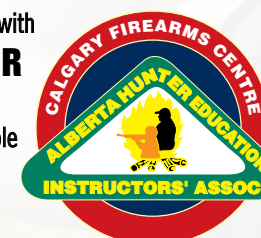
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“In modern times, small manufacturing companies saw a need to meet the demand for high quality muzzleloaders ... and became early innovators.”

Muzzleloaders: Old and Modern

By Len Gransch



Len Gransch
Program Coordinator
AHEIA Red Deer - North

Black powder shooting has always had some degree of popularity in modern times. Over the last number of decades or so its popularity has increased dramatically. This is due in part to our need to revert back to older, less hectic times and the more modern manufacturing practices that now make it much easier to

use and maintain muzzleloading firearms.

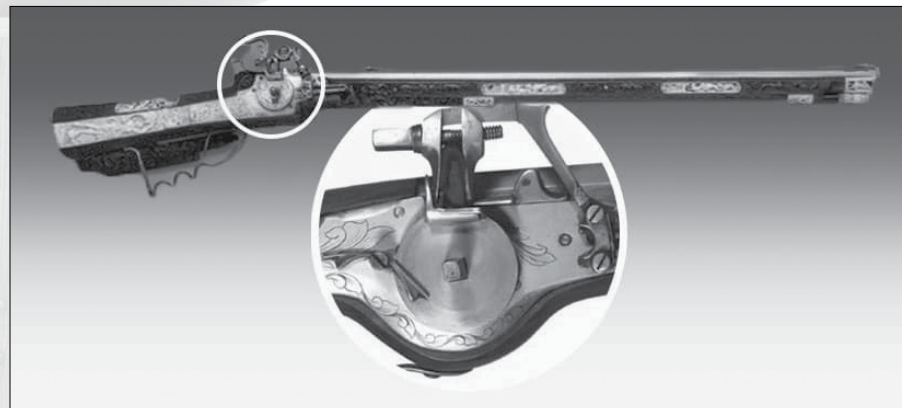
Let us look at the evolution of muzzleloading firearms. Firstly, we might not have had firearms development as we know it today had it not been for the development of black powder. There is some discussion whether black powder was of Arabic or Chinese invention. Most agree, however, that in the 13th Century the first rudimentary firearm was developed, namely the Cannon.



The next firearm in the evolutionary chain was the Matchlock. This design made it possible to use both hands while shouldering the firearm. It would have been extremely difficult to hold a firearm in this manner and then try to light the priming powder with a match or other such

source of ignition. This also gave one the freedom to move around in search of game. Early settlers would find an area of high game activity, sit down, build a fire and wait. The fire was used to light the match, which was basically a wick. Here comes the deer, grab a burning stick from the fire and try and get the match to light. Now you patiently wait until the match was glowing, then squeeze the trigger and hope for the best!

Striving to improve firearms design gave way to the invention of the Wheel-lock. The first one appeared around 1525 and some say it came from the designs of Leonardo da Vinci. The Wheel-lock principle was very similar to today's BIC lighter. When you pulled the trigger, a spring would rotate a notched wheel which rubbed against a piece of iron pyrite, causing sparks to ignite the priming powder. This style of action was initially very expensive to manufacture and typically found favour with more affluent people. Keep in mind that this type of firearm was becoming a little more refined and included muskets, pistols, and a variety of rifles.



By the early 1600s the Flintlock was starting to appear. This system was cheaper to produce and was quite reliable. During its reign of approximately 200 years, we saw the development of superior quality materials and designs. Multi-barrels and rifling also came into the muzzle-loading forefront. Some of the best flint materials came from England and once you had it shaped and set up properly, it was a thing of beauty. Today we tend to use synthetic flints that are pretty much pre-shaped and ready to be used.

We need to give thanks to Alexander Forsyth, who apparently was so discouraged by poor ignition from wet and damp conditions, that he dedicated himself to solving the problem. He developed a combination of gunpowder and metallic salts (fulminates). This combination proved just the ticket. After much trial and error, he developed a modified hammer which had a flat surface, thereby giving positive contact to the pan and making better ignition that was not nearly as susceptible to moisture. He patented his invention in England in 1807. Shortly after, his invention gave rise to the nipple and percussion cap system. By this time manufacturing principles and materials were far superior to earlier times. Settlers and explorers had the freedom to roam pretty much wherever they desired with quality, dependable firearms.

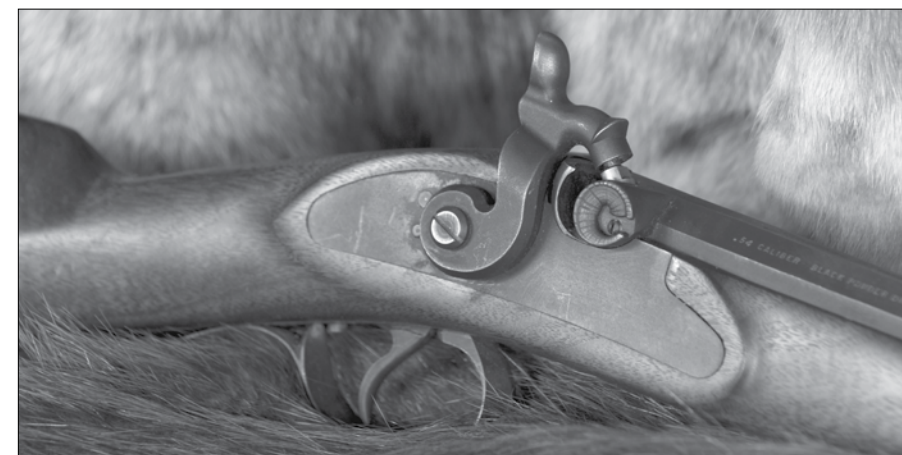
The use of Flintlocks and percussion cap firearms saw limited use after the next development of metallic cartridges in the 1860s.



Muzzleloading firearms popularity resurfaced again in the 1930s due in part to the formation of the National Muzzleloading Rifle Association. Traditional muzzleloading firearms continue to be popular to this day.

In modern times, small manufacturing companies saw a need to meet the demand for high quality muzzleloaders. Companies like Gonic Arms, Dixie Gun Works, Lyman, Navy Arms, CVA, Thompson Center, Davide Pedersoli, Knight and others became early innovators.

It is our nature to always look for the next best thing. All traditional Muzzleloaders were loaded via the muzzle, hence the name Muzzleloader. These firearms had a closed breech and ignition came from the rear top of the barrel. Enter the in-line style of Muzzleloader. The bigger manufacturers, like Remington and Savage, decided they wanted to get into the action to increase their market share, and added some new modern designs. Some simply adapted their regular bolt action centre fire rifles for the job and others built new designs from the ground up. Check the new entry from Gunwerks that sells for about US\$10,000.00. Perhaps this would make a great birthday gift to yourself?



With in-lines, the ignition of the muzzle-loaded powder was now done from the breech. This gave a more positive ignition and also made it easier to clean by removing the breech plug. Ignition initially came from the same old percussion caps we used on the older ball and cap firearms. Not being satisfied with this, people started using the larger and "hotter" ignition of shotgun primers. Currently they offer specially designed shotgun primers specifically made for these modern in-line Muzzleloaders.

The variety of modern in-lines is staggering. There are bolt action styles, break actions, synthetic stocks, stainless and nickel finishes,

Continued ➤

Muzzleloaders *cont.*



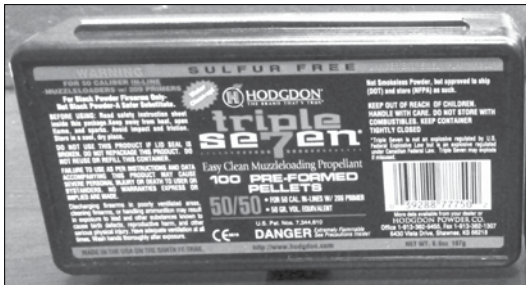
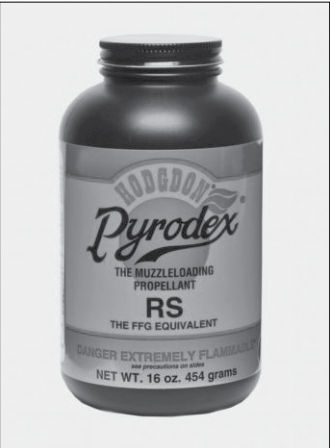
recoil reducers, fluted barrels, fiber optic sights, and the list goes on. Tradition Performance Firearms, in conjunction with Federal's award-winning FireStick, have come out with a new style of Muzzleloader. The waterproof FireStick is part of a whole new Muzzleloader system that uses a shotgun primer inserted into a waterproof encapsulated powder charge. The bullet is still loaded from the muzzle end and gets seated on a clever shelf system. This method allows for consistent location and setting of the bullet. Next you open the break action and insert the FireStick which sets right up to the bullet for more accuracy. The FireStick utilizes a 209 shotgun primer for

more positive ignition. They also use Hodgdon Triple 8 muzzle loading powder, which is very clean burning and reduces the frequency one has to clean the firearm between shots. Pretty cool!

Powder has also followed the progression of the firearm. Of course the first firearms all used the basic black powder formula with brands like Elephant, Goex and the now discontinued KIK. The development of Pyrodex powder in the early 1970s gave the shooters another option. This new "tweaked" formula gave better ignition and ballistics and made clean-up a bit easier. Pyrodex also developed compressed powder pellets as an option to loose powder. To make the powders cleaner burning, manufacturers have developed new powders. Pyrodex Triple 7, Triple 8 and American Pioneer are modern black powder substitutes that are incredibly clean burning. Although a bit more expensive, they do save time when it comes to cleaning between shots.

"If you have never had the experience of shooting a muzzleloader, you should consider giving it a try.

It is always a very popular event at our Youth Camps, Seminars and the Outdoor Women's Program."



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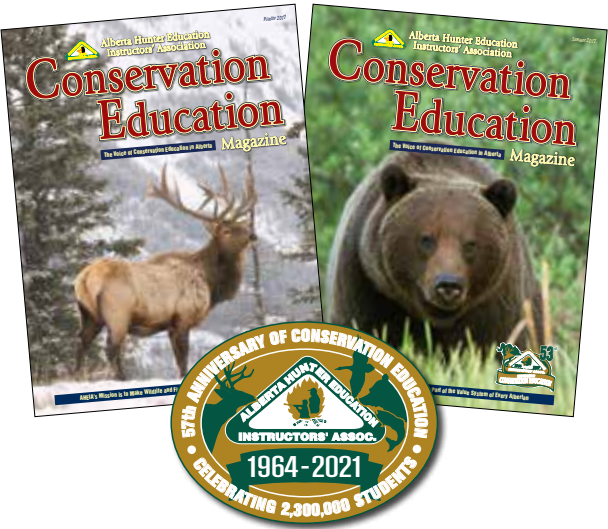
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“While hunting knives are handy tools to have for field dressing your animal, they are not always the greatest for processing and butchering work ...”

Selection of Knives and Equipment: Slaughtering and Boning

By Chuck Strong



Chuck Strong
Assistant
Program Coordinator
A.H.E.I.A. - Edmonton

For numerous reasons, more and more hunters are trying their hand at processing their own game animals.

Everyone who hunts big game has at least one “hunting knife” of one sort or another that they carry into the field. In most cases, these are heavy bladed with clip point or normal point blade shapes. Over the last

20 or so years, fixed-blade (sheath type) hunting knives have lost market share to quality folding knives with blade-locking features and many with replaceable blades.

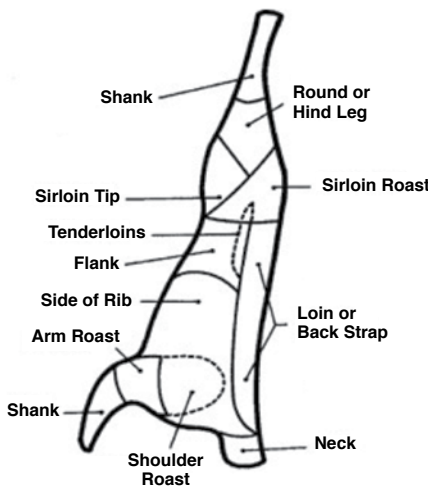
While hunting knives are handy tools to have for field dressing your animal, they are not always the greatest for processing and butchering work back at camp or at home. Additionally, most hunting knives have smooth handles and bolsters which can contribute to “stubbing” injuries (hand sliding up the knife to the blade) when your hands are slippery with blood.

The purpose of this article is to suggest a few types of knives and some equipment to make butchering tasks easier, safer, and more comfortable.

Knives

For normal processing/butchering operations I would recommend the following knives:

- **5" (12.7cm) Straight Boning Knife**
- **5" (12.7cm) Curved Boning Knife**
- **6" (15.24cm) Beef Skinning Knife**
- **10" (25.4cm) Curved or Straight Butcher Knife (optional)**



For all of these knives, the plastic/synthetic handled, stainless steel commercial packing plant knives are recommended. These knives need not be expensive, but the better the quality of blade steel the longer they will hold an edge and be easier to keep sharp. Remember that the knives you purchase, if taken care of properly, will last a lifetime. These knives come with non-slip handles made from plastic or resins that will withstand high temperatures, although I don't recommend putting your knives in a dishwasher. Hand fit is also important, so I would advise trying a number of different brands for fit prior to purchasing.

5" (12.7 cm) Straight Boning Knife

Straight boning knives come in lengths of 4" to 8". They have a stiffer blade than a curved boning knife and are particularly handy for the tasks of separating joints and cutting tendons at the origin or insertion ends of muscles. I would recommend a 5" knife. This is because 4" knives are generally too short for boning of rounds (hind legs) or shoulders (front legs) of larger game animals. 6" knives can lead to too much wrist fatigue for part-time butchers like us because of the extra effort required at the handle to get the same pressure at the tip as when using a 5" knife. You can prove this to yourself by trying to cut a thick carrot in half with just the tip of a very short knife and a very long one. If both knives are



Straight boning knife.

equally sharp, you will find that you have to use a lot more wrist torque with the longer knife. Over a period of three or four hours of boning work, this will lead to a sore wrist.

5" (12.7 cm) Curved Boning Knife

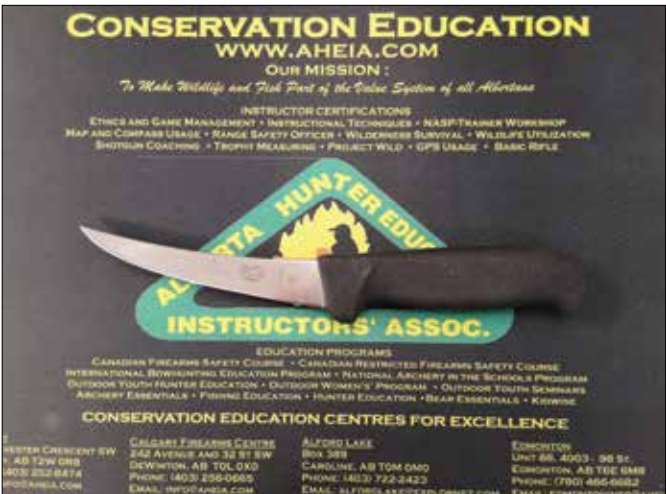
Curved boning knives come in the same lengths as straight knives. For the same reasons as mentioned with the straight boning knife, a 5" length is recommended. Curved boning knives have a little more length to the blade edge, so you can make a longer cut with each draw. They are well-suited to the tasks of separating meat from long bones, flat bones, and vertebrae. They are also very useful for skinning of the legs because of the small amount of exposed work area.

6" (15.24 cm) Skinning Knife

A beef skinning knife has a very curved blade with a blunted point. As with the curved boning knife, the curvature allows for longer cuts with each draw. The blunted point helps reduce accidental punctures of potentially valuable trophy hides. Because skinning is a smaller percentage of the total butchering job, a 6" tool is OK here. Also, when properly done with a sharp knife, very little force has to be applied to separate the hide from the carcass.

10" (25.4 cm) Butcher's Knife

If you will be doing a lot of steak cutting from the loin, short loin, sirloin or round, you may want to consider purchasing a 10" butchering knife. The long blade allows for long, deep cuts in a single draw. The same work can certainly be done with the 5" boning knife, or your standard 8" chef's knife, but it will tend to leave a “choppy” surface on the steaks because multiple cuts are required to go all the way through. For professional looking steak cutting, a 10" straight or curved butcher knife is nice to have.



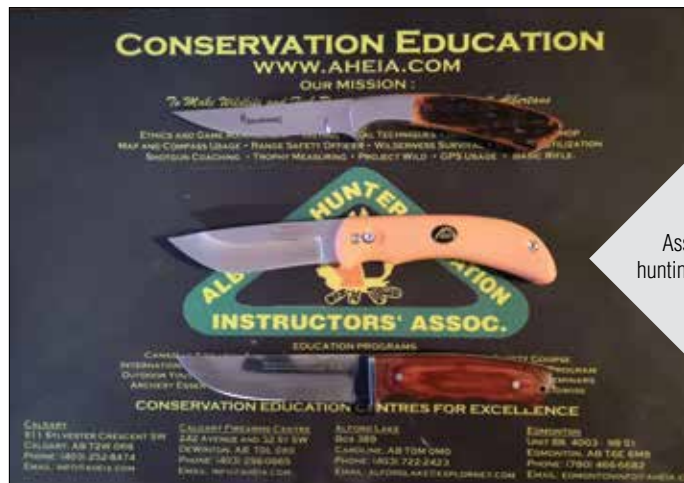
Curved boning knife.



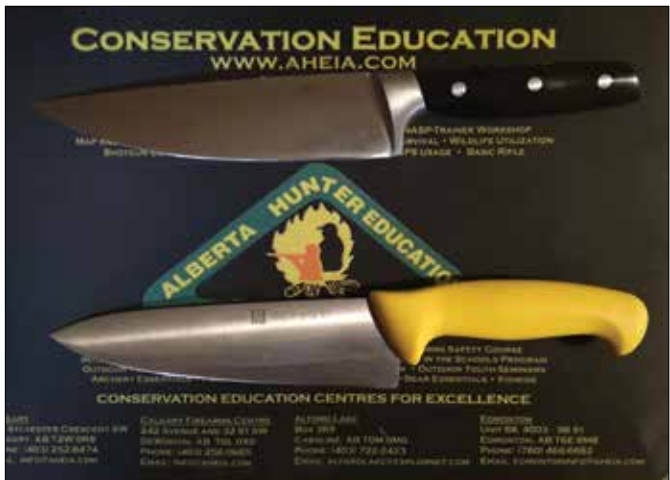
Skinning knife.

“ For numerous reasons, more and more hunters are trying their hand at processing their own game animals. ”

Continued ➤



Assorted hunting knives.



Chef's knife.



Butcher knife.

Selection of Knives and Equipment *cont.*

Steels

There are four primary types of knife sharpening steels:

- **Smooth Steels**
- **Rough (Sharpening) Steels**
- **Combination Steels**
- **Diamond Steels**

Smooth Steels

If you look at the blade of a properly sharpened knife under a microscope, you will see that the edge looks very much like the edge of a feather. There is a row of very fine serrations at the thinnest part of the blade that act like saw teeth when cutting. If you are experienced and skilled enough to produce this very fine edge, then you probably only need to use a smooth steel. Smooth steels do not sharpen knives. They work by “truing up” the feather edge and realigning the “teeth”. Experienced meat cutters keep their smooth steels shiny bright and perfectly smooth with emery cloth and steel wool so that there are no imperfections that could interfere with the feather edge.

Rough (Sharpening) Steels

The opposite of a smooth steel is a rough or “sharpening” steel. Rough steels have very fine grooves along the long axis of the tool. When a knife is drawn over the steel at the proper angle, it actually creates the feather edge noted above. Rough steels are a better choice for once-a-year butchers because they do produce a better-cutting tool more easily. The downside of a rough steel is that when used alone, the knife will never be quite as sharp as when trued on a smooth steel.

Combination Steels

Combination steels have two smooth and two rough faces in 180° opposition. To put a new edge on the knife, you draw it over the rough sides. To true a knife edge, you rotate the steel 90° and draw over the smooth sides. If you have reasonable knife-sharpening skills and butchering experience, this is the recommended tool.

Diamond Steels

Diamond steels are truly a sharpening tool. Very fine industrial diamonds are embedded in the surface of the steel. Just a few passes on each side of the blade will produce a new cutting edge very quickly. If you are very inexperienced or have knives with very hard Rockwell-test metal (e.g. Buck Knives), you should consider a diamond steel.



Rough (sharpening) steel.



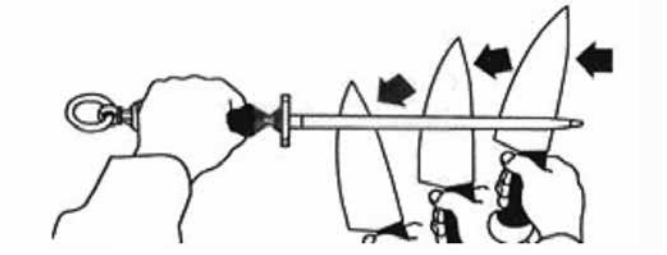
Combination steel.



Diamond steel.

Using a Steel

With all steels, proper technique is important: Hold the knife at a 30° angle to the steel and draw it slowly from hilt to tip. Repeat this on the other side of the blade. Speed or “looking like a real butcher” is not nearly as important as proper blade angle.



1. Hold the steel firmly in your left hand with the guard positioned to stop the blade should it slip. **DO NOT PLACE FINGERS ABOVE THE GUARD!**
2. Hold the knife in your right hand and place on the top part of steel as shown.
3. Raise back of blade one-eighth inch.
4. Now, moving the blade only, draw it across the steel in an arcing curve, pivoted at your wrist. The blade tip should leave the steel about two-thirds the way down.
5. Repeat the same action with the blade on the bottom side of the steel. Always maintain the same pressure and angle on both sides of the steel.
6. Repeat five or six times.

Saws

Commercial Band Saws

If you want to cut wild game carcasses into commonly known, bone-in meat cuts, you will need some kind of a meat saw. Commercial band saws used for meat are of stainless steel and aluminum construction. Even on the used market, the price can run well over \$1,000. There are a couple of companies offering small-format, meat band saws for the home butcher, but the construction is so light-duty, it's hard to recommend them. Unless you are cutting up venison for your entire neighbourhood, you may want to consider purchasing a meat hand saw.

Meat Saws

Meat hand saws are constructed just like a hacksaw with a tensioned, thin blade. They are available in blade lengths of 17"-30". Costs range from \$40-\$70. For the widest range of use, select a saw that is 25"-30" (63.5-76.2 cm) in length. Blades are available with several options for “teeth per inch (TPI)”. For a good general-purpose blade, select 10 teeth per inch. The meat saw works well for:

- Separating the shoulder from the loin;
- Separating the round from the sirloin;
- Splitting the shoulder into the chuck and shank halves;
- Splitting the loin from the sirloin;
- Removing hocks.



Meat hand saw.

Splitting a carcass into right and left halves (down the centre of the back-bone) can also be done with a meat hand saw. However, if you own a reciprocating saw (“Sawzall”) and have the experience to use it safely, this is even easier. Just use a 10" (25.4 cm), 10 tooth-per-inch blade. Instead of taking 3-4 minutes to saw down the spine, you can do it in about 30 seconds.



Reciprocating saw.

Safety Equipment

All the safety equipment noted here is recommended! This is even more important if you only kill and cut meat one or two times per year.

Knife Scabbard

A scabbard gives you a safe place to put your knives when you are not using them and keeps them within easy reach. Plastic scabbards only cost about \$8.00 to \$10.00. It's cheap insurance to prevent injury. If you've ever gone to a commercial butcher, you might have noticed that he is wearing a scabbard or has one attached to the side of the boning table. This is because it helps to prevent injury. Leaving knives lying loose on the table will lead to accidental cuts.



Knife scabbard.



Boning glove.

Boning Glove

This is a cut-proof glove made of stainless steel mesh or Kevlar worn on the hand that does not hold the knife. Its value is obvious. The most common accidental knife cuts are on the left hands of right-handed people and on the right hands of left-handed people. I never used to wear a boning glove until one evening, while butchering a deer, I had to make an unplanned trip to emergency and received five stitches to sew up my thumb. Note: The Kevlar versions are less effective against stabbing, so don't sharpen your knives to a stiletto point and NEVER wear a boning glove when running a meat band saw. Boning gloves are constructed of very strong materials that will not come apart. If the teeth of the band saw catch on the boning glove, your hand will be sucked into the saw right along with the glove.

Wrist Guard

This is worn on the wrist above the boning glove. Plastic “tube” guards and woven Kevlar versions are both available. The Kevlar version is a lot more comfortable, but is less effective against stabbing.

Knife Hand Glove

Same as the Kevlar boning glove, but thinner, making it easier to grasp the knife. This prevents “stabbing” injuries where your hand slides up the slick handle onto the blade of the knife.

Belly Guard

This is a 20" x 20" (50.8cm x 50.8 cm) cut-proof, stab-proof guard worn around the waist and fastened by an integral belt. Chain mail types are very expensive and hard to find. The ones made from cut-proof plastic belting are lower cost, more comfortable and just as effective. Cost is about \$40, but what is forty bucks compared to stabbing yourself in a femoral artery or doing an accidental sex change?

Clean Up

When you have completed processing for the day, it is important that you do a thorough clean of all work surfaces and tools to prevent bacteria from setting up home, which could lead to a source for food-borne illnesses. I do not recommend putting your knives in the dishwasher, as it will dull the blades. Just use hot soap and water and dry immediately. If you don't mind having to sharpen your knives go ahead and run them through the dishwasher. All the rest of your tools except the steels should be run through the dishwasher on high heat, including your gloves; just make sure you take the gloves out prior to the dry cycle and hang them to air-dry.



Knife hand glove.

Staff Appointment



Rose Bouffard

It gives me great pleasure to announce that, effective Monday, February 22, 2021, Rose Bouffard has accepted the position of Administrative Assistant in the Calgary office. Rose grew up in Prince George, British Columbia eventually landing in Vancouver, British Columbia. For the past five years she has been living in Calgary, Alberta with her partner Jeff and her many pets, including her bird dog Molly. Rose has worked in Administration for about 17 years before joining AHEIA in Calgary.

Rose enjoys several hobbies such as motorcycling, painting, target shooting, hunting, dog training and dirt biking. She also enjoys time spent in her garden, with her tropical plants and time in the outdoors. This summer Rose will be spending some of her time volunteering with the David Suzuki Foundation as a Butterflyway Ranger to help Calgary's native pollinators.

Rose can be reached through the Calgary office and via email at rose@aheia.com. Please join me in welcoming Rose to the AHEIA family!

Robert A. Gruszecki, President - AHEIA

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Sport fish may only be released back into the waters from which they were caught. Never move a sport fish from one waterbody to another to create angling opportunities - this is illegal, can introduce diseases, and negatively impact the ecosystem.

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Great Meals

from the

Harvest

with Len Gransch



Len Gransch
Program Coordinator
AHEIA Red Deer - North

Venison and Wild Rice

1/2 pound venison, 1" cubes	1/2 cup green pepper, finely diced
1/2 cup celery, finely diced	3 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 clove garlic, minced	1/4 teaspoon good curry powder
1/2 teaspoon chili powder	1/2 cup sweet onion, finely minced
2 cups tomatoes, diced	1 cup wild rice, uncooked*
1/4 cup parsley, chopped	Salt and pepper to taste
2 tablespoons flour	1 1/4 cups water

Season flour with salt and pepper. Dredge venison cubes in the flour and shake off the excess.

In a skillet, brown venison over medium-low heat using the butter. Add onion and garlic. Cook for 5 minutes stirring frequently so the garlic does not burn.

Add the remaining ingredients except the wild rice and bring to a boil. Once boiling add the wild rice and remove from the heat. Stir well to make sure everything is combined.

Pour mixture into a 2-quart ovenproof casserole dish. Cover and bake at 350°F for about an hour. Stir a couple of times during the cooking process. Check the wild rice for doneness at about the 50-minute mark. The rice should be soft, but not mushy.

All you need to add is some homestyle bread and a nice red wine. This recipe also works well with moose or elk.

*Make sure the wild rice is clean and well rinsed prior to use.

Bacon-Wrapped Grilled Moose Backstrap

2 pounds moose backstrap, cut in 2 ounce strips

1/2 teaspoon onion powder	1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes	1 tablespoon liquid smoke
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder	1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
16 slices thick cut bacon	

Preheat outdoor grill/barbeque to medium heat.

Place meat in a bowl. Sprinkle with the liquid smoke and Worcestershire sauce and mix to coat. Sprinkle with garlic powder, onion powder, red pepper flakes and black pepper and mix well to coat the meat evenly.

Wrap each piece of meat with a strip of bacon and place on a metal skewer. Cook the moose on the preheated grill/barbeque for 15-20 minutes until the bacon is slightly burnt and the meat is cooked to medium-rare.

Serve with a side of garlic mashed potatoes, a salad and veggie of your choice. I like brussel sprouts. Add a craft beer to complete the meal. Oh yeah, and apple pie à la mode to finish it off.

Enjoy!



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