



EcoServices
NETWORK

PROJECT PROFILE:

ALBERTA

BIODIVERSITY

CONSERVATION

CHAIRS

SUPPORTING ON THE GROUND RESEARCH

The Alberta Biodiversity Research Chairs Program (ABC) is intended to fast-track biodiversity science by providing funding and support to implement on-the-ground research in the boreal forest of northern Alberta.

PROJECT LEAD

University of Alberta

OVERVIEW

The Alberta Biodiversity Research Chairs Program (ABC) is intended to fast-track biodiversity science by providing funding and support to implement on-the-ground research in the boreal forest of Northern Alberta.

This project will establish two Biodiversity Conservation Chairs at the University of Alberta in Edmonton who will provide dedicated science capacity to link monitoring outcomes with policy development and strategic planning. Currently, there is no dedicated capacity to ensure that the information produced by monitoring programs is used to test and confirm cause-and-effect relationships and to inform policy.

Two chairs will be established to tackle the front and back ends of resource development, looking at planning and conservation and reclamation and restoration, respectively. The program has proposed to work towards understanding cause-and-effect relationships between industrial development and biodiversity; developing land management strategies; and developing strategies and tools for biodiversity restoration. These efforts will result

in scientific findings largely beneficial to the scientific community and Government of Alberta.

OUTCOMES

The results of the field research is knowledge that can be shared across Canada, to be used to avoid or minimize environmental effects across the nation's boreal forest. Research will also be looking at more rapidly and effectively removing or mitigating effects, when they do occur.

THE ESN CONNECTION

There are many ecological benefits from the establishment of these Conservation Chairs in Alberta. The subsequent applied research conducted by the Chairs will increase understanding of the effects of human footprint and activities on biodiversity, the effectiveness of local mitigation strategies and enable a better understanding around the cumulative effects challenge.

LEARN MORE

About the project at abconservationchairs.biology.ualberta.ca/

About the ESN at ecoservicesnetwork.ca and follow us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn