



PROJECT PROFILE:

WETLAND RESTORATION AND RETENTION IN ALBERTA

ALBERTA'S LIVING LABORATORY WETLAND PROJECT

This multi-year, interdisciplinary research project is examining the science and economics of wetland restoration and retention in Alberta.

PROJECT LEAD

Alberta Land Institute

OVERVIEW

Alberta's Living Laboratory Wetlands Project is a multi-year, interdisciplinary research project examining the science and economics of wetland restoration in Alberta.

This innovative, market-based approach to wetland restoration explores the use of reverse auctions, in which landowners submit bids for wetland restoration work on their property.

OUTCOMES

Alberta Land Institute (ALI) funded this research project to determine which methods of restoring or retaining wetlands are most effective- ecologically, economically and socially.

An economic study was undertaken to examine the true cost of restoring wetlands on private land, including the cost of landowner compensation. Using a 'market-based instrument', the research team engaged with landowners to set the price for restoration. By partnering with landowners, this ongoing project will develop a deeper understanding

of the factors that influence the cost of wetland restoration, while also testing a system that might allow for more efficient use of wetland restoration budgets. This knowledge will be useful both for policymakers, and for those seeking to meet their restoration obligations under the new policy.

THE ESN CONNECTION

Both the tools and the improved understanding that accompanies this project will help inform policymakers and developers as they work with Alberta's Wetland Policy.

In addition, the research helped answer the question of what market-based instruments might be most effective in promoting ongoing restoration of wetlands in Alberta.

LEARN MORE

About the project at albertalandinstitute.ca.

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