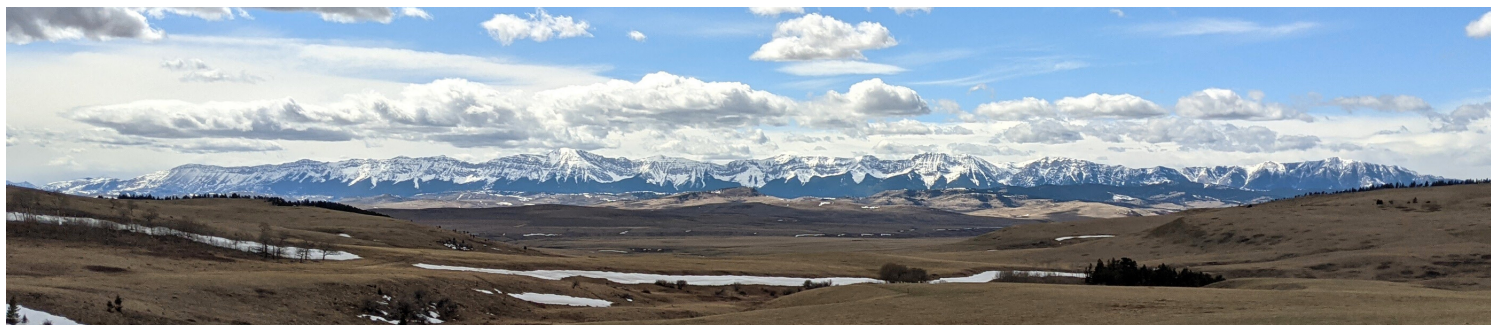


MD OF RANCHLAND AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



SPRING GRAZING ON NATIVE RANGELANDS

Spring is a sensitive time for rangeland grazing. Turning livestock out early is tempting, as pastures turn green and ranchers face dwindling feed supplies. However, most grasses in Alberta produce >60% of the season's growth in the spring. If grazed heavily during this rapid growth period, it can impact forage availability for the rest of the season.

It is recommended to implement a conservative range management approach during the sensitive spring season. One way to do this is to shorten rotations. "Top grazing" or "Skim grazing" is a method where cattle are moved very rapidly (usually every 24 hours) through the pastures so they only take the vegetative tops of the plants off and leave the reproductive tillers to support regrowth. This can be very beneficial in the spring. If that isn't possible, any shortening of rotations (eg. from 4 weeks to 2 weeks) can still help provide enough forage while not stunting grass growth. It's also important to plan the rotation so pastures that were grazed later in the fall are given extra rest in the spring. If interested in discussing further, please contact Erin at erin@ranchland66.com or 403-646-3131.

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

www.watertonbiosphere.com

Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association - Supporting Landowners in Conservation Stewardship

Supports producer projects that benefit local biodiversity (e.g. wetland and grassland areas, water quantity/quality, wildlife habitat corridors). Funded with 50-50 cost-share including in-kind materials, planning time, and labour. If interested, contact Erin at 403-646-3131 or erin@ranchland66.com.



WEED TO WATCH

Dame's Rocket

Hesperis matronalis

ID characteristics: leaves dark green, pointed, and with serrated edges; flowers purple, pink, or white, with four petals and growing in clusters.








Katy Chayka, 2010

RDAR ROUND-UP
 Enlighten. Engage. Energize.
 June 8, 2023 | Telus Spark Science Centre, Calgary | 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
rdar.ca/round-up

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If you would like to contribute to this bulletin by writing an article, submitting a photo to be featured, recommending an organization, noxious weed, or grant, or any other suggestions, please send an email to erin@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

Wildlife Habitat Canada

<https://whc.org/>



Wildlife Habitat Canada supports a range of habitat conservation projects and initiatives. They aim to provide financial assistance to projects especially related to waterfowl and migratory bird management. Over \$55 million in funding has been provided to over 1500 habitat conservation projects across Canada since initiating the program in 1985. They work alongside communities, landowners, governments, NGOs, and industry, and are active on several committees. For more information, visit the website above.

