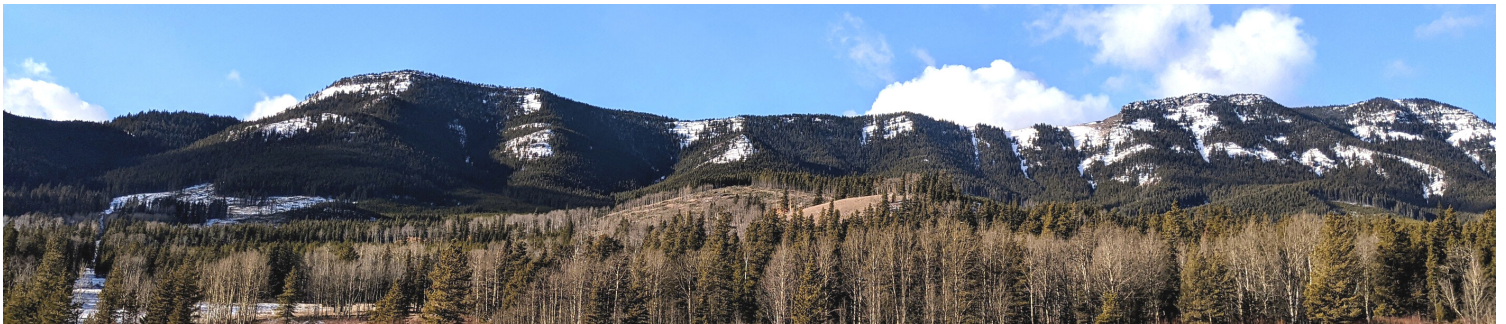


MD OF RANCHLAND AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



RANCHING IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

Climate change is impacting many industries, and ranching is no exception. Livestock are dependent on a number of climate-related factors for their productive growth, namely feed, water, and tolerable heat and humidity.

Climate change models project an overall hotter climate, reduced precipitation, and more frequent extreme weather. Ranchers will experience longer, hotter, and drier summers with short-lived, very intense precipitation events. Droughts, floods, and fires will become more severe and more common.

These changes threaten the fundamental aspects of livestock production. Reduced feed availability, less water, and intolerable levels of heat and humidity causing heat stress and decreased weight gain are all issues ranchers will have to face.

Thankfully, ranchers can begin adapting to make their future in ranching secure. Strategies include establishing and protecting reliable water sources, using dynamic grazing management driven by actual forage availability, incorporating drought and heat resistant livestock breeds, closely controlling fire-causing invasive species and fuel loads, and restoring degraded lands using drought tolerant native species. With these methods, ranchers can be successful despite climate change.

GRANTS TO APPLY FOR

<https://afsc.ca/income-stabilization/agrirecovery/>

AgriRecovery: 2021 Canada-Alberta Livestock Feed Assistance Initiative Phase 2

Additional funds through AFSC to cover costs beyond initial payment. Eligible activities include livestock feed, water access, fencing, mileage, pregnancy tests, etc. Do not need to have received Phase 1 to receive Phase 2. Visit the website for more information.



WEED TO WATCH

Houndstongue

Cynoglossum officinale

ID characteristics: oblong, pointed leaves in rosettes and up the stem; red-purple flowers with five petals in small clusters at the tops.



Peter M. Dziuk 2012

2021-2022
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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

Grassland Restoration Forum

<https://grasslandrestorationforum.ca/>

The main goal of GRF is to promote conservation and restoration of native grasslands through education, outreach, and research. They focus on improving reclamation practices and fostering environmental stewardship. GRF is particularly interested in management for a multiple use landscape, collaborating with provincial agencies, ranchers, conservation organizations, industry, plant ecologists, and reclamation practitioners. To learn more, please visit the website.

