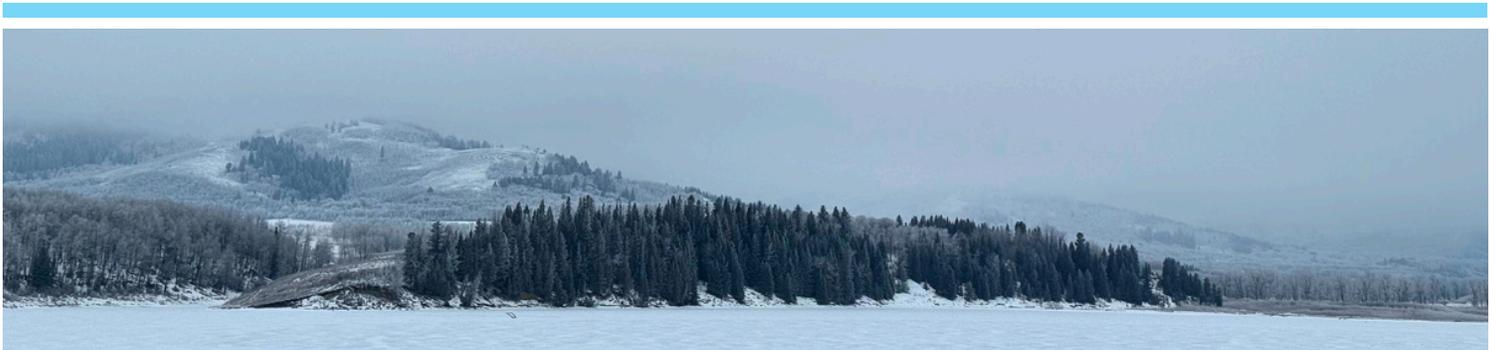


MD OF RANCHLAND AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



DECLINE OF GRASSLAND BIRDS

Grassland birds in Alberta are facing a significant decline in the Prairie regions. Since 1970, the populations of grassland birds have decreased by 67%, with species like the Burrowing Owl and Chestnut-collared Longspur being significantly affected. The decline of these birds is attributed to habitat loss and changes in land use, which have reduced the vast native grasslands they depend on. Conservation efforts are crucial to preserving these species and the rich biodiversity of Alberta's grasslands. Native grasslands used for cattle grazing, rather than crop production, can support grassland bird populations if appropriate management practices are implemented. The MD of Ranchland's Agriculture Service Board is committed to preserving native grasslands. Their suggested management efforts include controlling agricultural pests and weeds as per the Agriculture Pests Act and adopting sustainable land use practices in line with the Soil Conservation Act.

To discuss further, please contact Erika at ag3@ranchland66.com or 403-646-3131.

Source(s): 1) <https://www.birdscanada.org/bird-science/grassland-birds-at-risk>
2) <https://naturealberta.ca/diminished-chorus-oct-2022/>

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

<https://www.watertonbiosphere.com/projects/carnivores-communities/>

Carnivores and Communities Program

The Carnivores and Communities Program (CACP) was established to address the rising conflicts between large carnivores and humans in southwestern Alberta. Attractant Management projects, such as deadstock removal, electric fencing, and securing grain, feed, and garbage, may qualify for funding.

Contact Erika at 403-646-3131 or ag3@ranchland66.com with any questions.



WEED TO WATCH

Blueweed

Echium vulgare

ID characteristics: Blueweed has narrow leaves covered with stiff hairs and dark flecks on their undersides. It has reddish-purple flower buds that turn bright blue upon opening. Stems grow 30-80 cm tall and are covered in short, stiff hairs.



Source: <https://abinvasives.ca/fact-sheet/blueweed/>

RANCHING OPPORTUNITIES
February 5, 2025 - Olds College

SAVE THE DATE

Logos include: Mountain View County, Kneehill County, Union Forage, Olds College of Agriculture & Technology, Red Bow Agriculture Partnership, Lakeland Forages, Grey Wooded Forage Association, Rocky View County, Wheatland County, and Peace River County.

Find us online!

-  MD of Ranchland Ag
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-  <https://mdranchland.ca/>

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 ag3@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

Alberta Conservation Association

<https://www.ab-conservation.com/>

Since 1997, Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) has encouraged all Albertans to enjoy the outdoors. Conserving the fish, wildlife and habitat resources we enjoy makes Alberta the beautiful and balanced place it is. Conservation is about keeping our connections to the past, getting outdoors now, and most of all—shaping our quality of life as we take on tomorrow.

