

MD OF RANCHLAND

AG BULLETIN

News, updates, and information for our community.



KEEPING MOTORIZED RECREATION ENVIRONMENTALLY COMPATIBLE

Motorized recreation can be a touchy subject when it comes to environmental protection. Used irresponsibly, Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) can significantly damage the landscape through soil compaction/erosion, vegetation destruction, transfer of weeds, water contamination, wildfires, and wildlife disruption. However, OHV users can enjoy their activities while protecting the environment by following a few simple rules:

- 1) Use well-defined trails. Off-trail driving leads to multiple "bowled-out" trails, damaging vegetation and compacting soil.
- 2) Avoid streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands, and use legal watercourse crossings. Driving in these areas creates ruts and erosion problems, and contaminates water with sediments that harm aquatic wildlife, including threatened native trout.
- 3) Keep vehicles free of debris to avoid starting wildfires.
- 4) Avoid travel on wet trails, as most trail damage occurs after rainfall or snowmelt when trails are soft.
- 5) Go in small groups to lessen damage to soil and vegetation.
- 6) Respect reclamation and reforestation efforts. Traffic in these areas harms vulnerable grass and tree seedlings.
- 7) Wash vehicles between uses to prevent weed seed transfer.

By implementing these practices, motorized recreationists can have fun and still be environmentally responsible.

GRANT TO APPLY FOR

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/75f71cce3b1c4c0ea991c52a8742d963>

Cows & Fish Follow Up Project

Designed for landowners who have worked with Cows & Fish in the past. Funding to support implementation of best management practices and monitoring of riparian or range health. If interested, contact Erin at 403-646-3131 or erin@ranchland66.com.



WEED TO WATCH

Black Henbane

Hyoscyamus niger

ID characteristics: thick stems, large lobed leaves, pale yellow flowers with dark purple veins and centres, whole plant hairy and with an unpleasant smell.



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ALBERTA
invasive species
COUNCIL

presents:

**SQUEAL
ON PIGS!**

VIRTUAL FORUM

May 11, 2022 at 6 PM

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about wild boar at large!
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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 erin@ranchland66.com with the subject line "Bulletin". Thanks for reading and I look forward to your feedback!

ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT

MultiSAR

<http://multisar.ca/>

Multiple Species at Risk (MultiSAR) works with landowners and various partners to conserve species at risk by maintaining wildlife habitats and creating beneficial agricultural operations. They offer four main services: habitat conservation strategies, species at risk conservation plans, beneficial management practice assessments, and public education and awareness. MultiSAR mostly focuses on natural grasslands in southern Alberta, operating on over 473,400 acres. For more information, please visit the website above.

