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PRESS RELEASE

2024-25 Minister's Special Licence Auction (MSLA) Funding Recipients

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On behalf of our fellow Minister's Special Licence (MSL) stakeholders, the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society (APOS) is thrilled to announce that recipients for the 2024-25 Minister's Special Licence Auction Grants funding have now been selected.

The Minister's Special Licence (MSL) has been a resounding success story for our province, channelling millions of dollars into the conservation of Alberta's fish and wildlife resources since 1995. The licences have been administered by various organizations over the years, but APOS took on the role for the auction licences as part of its new Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Alberta in 2022. The corresponding resident raffles remain with an organization selected by the Minister, currently the Alberta Conservation Association (ACA).

We have enjoyed working cooperatively with our fellow stakeholders over this past year to update the terms of reference, application process, and desired outcomes of the MSL," states APOS President, Corey Jarvis, "The revenue generated through these special opportunities has incredible potential to enhance the health and future of the wildlife resources that we love and enjoy here in Alberta."

With improved licence terms and conditions for prospective bidders, the auctioned licences sold for excellent prices through our partners at Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF), and Western Hunting and Conservation Expo, generating \$ 965,195.19 CAD for the MSLA in 2024.

Here are the recipients and approved projects which will be funded by the 2024 MSLA funds:

Alberta Hunter Education Instructor Association:

- National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) - \$15,000
- Outdoor Women's Program (OWP) - \$15,000
- Youth Hunter Education Camp (YHEC) - \$15,000

Alberta Trappers Association:

- Youth Camp and Winter Youth Mentoring - \$15,000

Alberta Conservation Association:

- ABHuntLog: A Tool for Hunters to Contribute to Wildlife Conservation- \$40,000
- Pronghorn Winter Survival and Migration - \$100,000
- Restoring Habitat for Mule Deer, pronghorn, and Greater Sage Grouse in Southeastern Alberta - \$36,480.69

Alberta Wildlife Federation (AFGA):

- Pronghorn Antelope Migration Corridor Enhancement - \$20,120
- Operation Grassland Community-Conserving and Enhancing Wildlife Habitat in Alberta's Grasslands - \$48,000

University of Calgary:

- Optimizing Invasive Wild Pig Control and Disease Prevention through Movement and Behavioural Patterns - \$115,000

Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association:

- Introduction to Hunting - Level 1 - \$15,000

Laval University:

- Population Ecology and Demography of Mountain Goats in Alberta - \$44,444

University of Montana:

- Assessing the Effects of Disease on Western Alberta Elk - \$77,849

University of Alberta:

- Habitat Selection of Feral Horses and Cattle in Alberta's Foothills: Implications for Biodiversity - \$46,000
- One Health Approaches for Coexistence with Urban Coyotes - \$42,815.50
- Effects of Winter Severity of White-Tailed and Mule Deer Hunter Success in Alberta - \$32,760
- Bighorn Habitat Use, Movement Ecology and Disease Risk - \$59,190

Wild Sheep Foundation Alberta:

- WSFAB Youth Camps - Hinton and Kananaskis - \$15,000
- Managing Disease Risk for Bighorn Sheep - M.Ovi Testing and Education - \$62,500
- Bow Valley Mechanical Habitat Enhancement - \$150,000



About the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society (APOS)

The Alberta Professional Outfitters Society (APOS) was established as a delegated administrative organization (DAO) for the Government of Alberta in 1997. APOS' delegated responsibilities include licensing the province's guides and professional outfitters, managing the distribution of big game allocations and waterfowl privileges, and holding members accountable to a Code of Ethics. We also provide members with access to competitive liability insurance, a voice within government, and advocacy on key issues.