



Lacombe Fish and Game Association

The Lacombe Fish and Game Association Annual Newsletter

To our amazing sponsors and members...

The Lacombe Fish and Game Association is pleased to report on several projects and activities that have helped to enhance conservation and education initiatives within our community in 2022. These events and projects are having a very real, positive impact to the enhancement of conservation initiatives within Central Alberta.

First, we want to extend a huge thank you to all of our new sponsors! Please know, as an Association we will be utilizing sponsorship dollars responsibly to receive the highest possible value to our community and conservation initiatives. As often as possible, we attempt to leveraged sponsorship dollars with matching conservation related grants to maximize the impact of our projects and events. We also hope to be able to provide value to your organization through many direct and indirect advertising resources within our community.

As a reminder, each sponsoring organization receives an allocated number of free Lacombe Fish and Game Association memberships annually. Our Membership Chair will be reaching out over the coming weeks to ask each sponsor which individual(s) they would like to receive a 2023 membership. Memberships have many benefits and would be perfect for any valued employee, important customer or essential supplier contact located within Lacombe / Lacombe County that has an interest in hunting, fishing or spending any amount of time in the great outdoors.

Second, each one of our conversation projects or events would not be possible without our extraordinary volunteer base. The Kid's Hunting Camp at our Chain Lakes Conservation Property; the Kid's Can Catch Youth Fishing Day at the Len Thompson Pond; and the conservation projects to be outlined later in the newsletter would not have been possible without these dedicated volunteers. Please individually thank these volunteers if you have a chance to do so.

Finally, please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns. firstvp@lfga.ca

Sincerely,

Brad Pallister
First Vice President



Kids Can Catch

This wonderful event takes place at the Len Thompson Trout Pond the first Saturday in June annually. Attendance generally depends on weather conditions, but the average number of participants have ranged from an estimated 250 to 800 participants over the years. The 2022 event on June 4th had an estimated 400 participants with several known to have travelled from both Calgary and Edmonton, and areas in between. Generally, the highlight of the day is the trout release where kids are able to physically release 500 trout via five gallon buckets into the pond. Fishing equipment is available to all to borrow for the day, LFGA volunteers help teach first time anglers, many prizes are given away and every participant is fed a free hot lunch. And most importantly, smiles are everywhere...



A special THANK YOU to the Alberta Conservation Association's Education Grant; Central Alberta Coop for supplying the food and DOW Chemicals for their above and beyond contribution of face painters, a bouncy castle, extra prizes for participants and additional volunteers. For more information visit <https://www.lfga.ca/news/kids-can-catch-2022>.

Kids Hunting Camp

This annual five day event takes place at the LFGA Conservation property located on the edge of Chain Lakes in Ponoka County. Volunteers help to educate and train up to thirty (30) youth on hunting and conservation education each year. The LFGA also maintains and manages the camp facilities on the property that include several sleeping cabins and a main lodge.

Len Thompson Trout Pond Dock Projects



The 15 year old, existing wooden main dock at the LT Trout Pond was in need of replacement for the 2022 season. LFGA financial and volunteer resources were combined with an Alberta Conservation Association Community Grant to replace the main dock with a more stable and larger dock system. In addition, an existing dock system at another under-utilized pond in Central Alberta was improved, assembled and is now



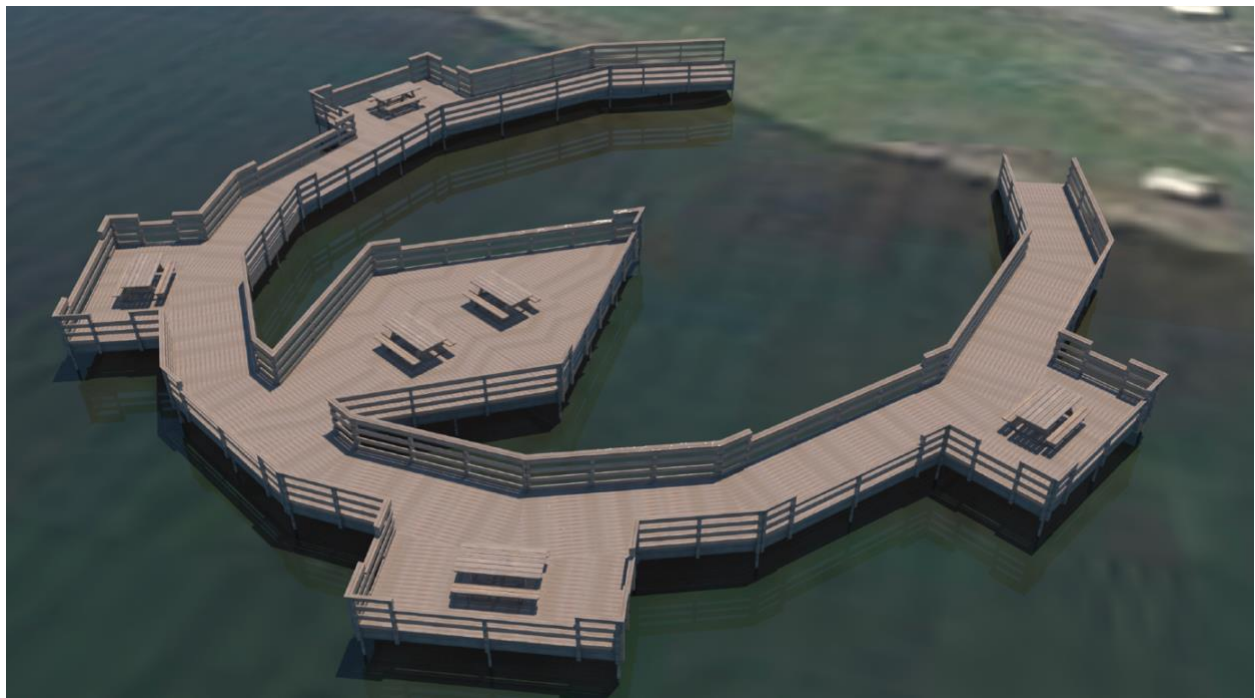
Lacombes Fish and Game Association

located at the North end of LT Pond. These two new docks have greatly increased the safe and accessible fishing opportunities at LT Pond.

In addition, the LFGA is extremely excited to announce that LT Pond will be home to what we believe is Alberta's first known, fully wheelchair accessible design and permanently installed fishing dock. The receipt of significant grants from the Alberta Government, City of Lacombe and County of Lacombe; as well as contributions from Team Jigger, Len Thompson Lures and the LFGA; will allow for the completion of this milestone project.



Construction is to take place over the winter with the grand opening occurring in Spring 2023.



Other Capital Projects

In 2020, the Alberta Conservation Association acquired a new and very attractive public trout pond located less than 10 minutes west of Blackfalds. Since then, the LFGA and ACA have undertaken several projects to improve the facilities at Boulder Lake including the installation of fishing docks, casting platforms, parking facilities and other infrastructure. In summer 2022, a permanent outhouse was constructed through a cost share partnership between the ACA, LFGA and Len Thompson Lures. Although often overlooked, outhouses are essential facilities to allow for participants to better enjoy their day in more remote locations.



The LFGA also undertook several improvements and upgrades to our Fisheries Access Site at the LFGA's Burbank Park located just east of Blackfalds. This property is not only valued as an access site to fishing one of the more popular fishing spots on the Red Deer River, but the LFGA owned and operated campground allows for important, perpetual income that is reinvested into conservation and community projects.



Awards Night Banquet

This banquet and social evening takes place annually at the Burbank Hall and allows the LFGA to award members with prizes for their hard earned successes harvesting fish and wildlife in the field.

Approximately twenty awards are given out to these skilled conservationists every year.

Public Fish Stockings

The LFGA, along with significant contributions from our partners the City of Lacombé and the Alberta Conservation Association, stocked over 6000 rainbow and tiger trout into the Len Thompson Trout Pond and East Stormwater Pond over the 2022 season. For more information, visit <https://www.lfga.ca/fishing.html>.





Monthly Meetings

The LFGA holds meetings at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month, with the exception of July and August. Meetings generally last an average of 1 hour, and allow all members to participate with the organization. A social event occurs at the conclusion of each meeting, and a \$50 attendance draw is won by a member at the end of each meeting (it seems as if usually Dave James). We would love to meet you at these meetings.

Partners in Conservation

Thank you to the Alberta Conservation Association for sponsoring a large portion of the fish stocked in the Len Thompson and East Stormwater Ponds under their enhanced stocking program.



The Lacombes Fish and Game Association would also like to recognize the following corporate sponsors who have generously contributed to our local fisheries projects.



Wolf Creek Building Supplies
LA Carpet & Tile
New West Truck Centres
Servus Credit Union
Track on 2
Kles-Air Mechanical Ltd.
Gill Construction Ltd.
BDO Canada LLP

Central Alberta Coop
D&M Concrete Products
Thompson Ditching
Downton's Transport Ltd.
UFA - Heck's Petroleum
6th on the Block Meats
Rope & Tye Mechanical Ltd.
Eastside Eatery