



Request for Proposals

Mackenzie Creek Habitat Rehabilitation Project 2026

Issued: June 26, 2026

Closing Date: 16:30 – July 10, 2026

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Freshwater Conservation Canada

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

Freshwater Conservation Canada (FCC) is a science-based, national, charitable conservation organization. We were founded in 1972 in response to challenges to freshwater fisheries through a focus on volunteer-driven, science-based resource conservation and hands-on activities. Our mission is “to conserve, protect and restore Canada's freshwater ecosystems and their coldwater resources for current and future generations.”

FCC was approached by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) in 2018 regarding a potential partnership project focusing on habitat rehabilitation at sites along Mackenzie Creek in the McLeod River watershed. Habitat rehabilitation efforts along Mackenzie Creek are part of an AEPA-led initiative to reduce direct and indirect impacts from off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails and watercourse crossings within Bull Trout and Athabasca Rainbow Trout habitat and develop a new trail system in the watershed to move recreational OHV use out of the valley bottom. FCC's focus is on the rehabilitation and decommissioning of OHV trail segments and crossings which are directly or indirectly impacting Bull Trout and Athabasca Rainbow Trout habitat in the watershed, to support recovery efforts for both species. Bull Trout and Athabasca Rainbow Trout are listed as Special Concern and Endangered under the federal *Species At Risk Act*, respectively.

Rehabilitation work is occurring in a phased approach, with initial works and access control measures beginning in the lower portion of the watershed. Prior habitat rehabilitation work was carried out in the watershed in 2019, 2021, 2024 and 2025. Habitat rehabilitation taking place in 2026 will encompass the remaining decommissioning work along the former OHV trail, now that the designated trail loop is complete.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project will take place within the Mackenzie Creek watershed, approximately 15 km west of Cadomin, Alberta. The project area can be accessed by a maintained forest service road along the western side of the watershed. All sites are accessible by OHV, and small to medium sized excavators (FCC recommends a 10-ton excavator). Equipment will need to mobilize over rocky, uneven terrain with steep sections. All sites are outside of cell service and within heavily forested areas on vacant public land.

PROJECT GOALS

The overall goals of Freshwater Conservation Canada's Mackenzie Creek rehabilitation project are to:

- Arrest degradation of streambanks and riparian areas.
- Reduce the amount of sediment entering the stream.
- Restore healthy riparian vegetation.
- Restore degraded aquatic habitat for Aquatic Species at Risk.
- Repair any damage at previously restored sites.

DESIRED SERVICES

FCC is seeking **two equipment operators** for this project. Each operator will be accompanied by one FCC crew, to complete restoration at different locations on MacKenzie Creek in tandem.

The expected deliverables for this project include:

1. Task 1: Mobilize equipment and materials to site alongside FCC staff.
2. Task 2: Undertake habitat rehabilitation activities at all prescribed sites, as directed by Freshwater Conservation Canada.
3. Task 3: Demobilize equipment and remaining materials from site.

SCHEDULE

A proposed schedule is described below:

Milestone	Deadline
Proposal Submission Deadline	16:30 – July 10, 2026
Evaluation of Submissions	July 13 – 14, 2026
Selection of Preferred Contractor	July 14 - 16, 2026
Kickoff Meeting	July 17, 2026
Restoration Construction	August 10-15, 2026
Mobilize equipment and materials	August 10, 2026
Completion of habitat rehabilitation	August 14, 2026
Demobilization of equipment and materials	August 14-15, 2026

BUDGET

Please provide Freshwater Conservation Canada with a time and materials estimate for all aspects involved in the successful implementation of the restoration, including the pick-up of materials from the AEPA storage yard in Hinton, AB (location on referenced

project memo), and transport materials to the restoration sites. Please exclude GST in your proposal. We are happy to discuss donation options with interested parties.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Freshwater Conservation Canada is looking for a partner to work collaboratively on this project to help us reach our goals. We are open to suggestions and advice throughout this project. Contractors interested in this project should submit a short proposal outlining pricing, project team, and relevant experience. Proposals should identify any value-added components that can be provided in-kind. Proposals should reflect the fact that general labor for rehabilitation measures will be provided by FCC personnel at a rate of at least two staff per excavator.

Please submit your proposals to Angela Ten (aten@freshwatercanada.org) and Elliot Lindsay (elindsay@freshwatercanada.org) by **16:30 – July 10, 2026**.

CONSIDERATIONS

The successful contractor will be expected to enter into a professional service agreement with Freshwater Conservation Canada.

The Contractor shall:

- Provide all articles, labour, equipment, transportation, hoisting, and incidentals noted, specified, and required to complete the work of this project.
- Carry out all work on this project in compliance with all applicable federal, provincial, municipal, and industry standards and regulations.
- Obtain ground disturbance clearance prior to the onset of any rehabilitation activities.

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Appendix A and the maps thereafter provide relevant information to support development of a time and materials estimate. Please contact FCC with any questions or requests for additional information.

APPENDIX A. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED MACKENZIE CREEK REHABILITATION MEASURES

OVERVIEW

Freshwater Conservation Canada (FCC) was approached by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) in 2018 regarding a potential partnership project focusing on habitat rehabilitation at sites along Mackenzie Creek in the McLeod River watershed. Habitat rehabilitation efforts along Mackenzie Creek are part of an AEPA-led initiative to reduce direct and indirect impacts from off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails and watercourse crossings within Bull Trout and Athabasca Rainbow Trout habitat and develop a new trail system in the watershed to move recreational OHV use out of the valley bottom where impacts to watercourses and riparian areas are concentrated. Freshwater Conservation Canada's focus is on the rehabilitation and decommissioning of OHV trail segments and crossings which are directly or indirectly impacting Bull Trout and Athabasca Rainbow Trout habitat in the watershed, to support recovery efforts for both species. Bull Trout and Athabasca Rainbow Trout are listed as Special Concern and Endangered under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, respectively.

REHABILITATION PLAN

The contractor will complete trail and riparian rehabilitation at 16 unbridged fords along MacKenzie Creek and its tributaries, under the direction of FCC staff. The contractor will be expected to utilize the following techniques:

- Root wad installation.
- Log crib wall installation.
- Tree revetment installation.
- Soil wraps.
- Rough and loose soil decompaction.
- Installation of cross-ditches, berms, and other water management/erosion and sediment control (ESC) techniques.

The contractor will be expected to harvest all woody materials (i.e. root wads, logs, treetops) locally using a chainsaw or the excavator bucket and thumb during construction. The contractor will not be required to purchase any rehabilitation materials (i.e. earth anchors, geotextile cloth) for this project.

Typical drawings for some of the restoration techniques are included in Appendix A.



Table 1 lists the locations of all restoration sites and suggested access points. A georeferenced map of all sites and access points is available upon request. Table 2 lists the primary rehabilitation techniques for each site.

The contractor will be expected to pick up the following materials from the Alberta Forestry and Parks (AFP) storage yard, and mobilize them to site:

- 1 roll of black woven geotextile fabric (~15ft wide)
- 4 bundles of wooden stakes (1" x 2" x 18") 50/bundle
- 4 rolls of biodegradable erosion control coconut matting (~8ft wide)

Note that the Forest Service Road (FSR) is gated to restrict the use of on-highway vehicles. The access code will be provided to the contractor prior to mobilization. A designated OHV trail parallels or utilizes portions of this Forest Service Road, and is not gated.

Table 1. Restoration site, staging area, and material pick-up locations.

SITE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
008	53.00902432	-117.1623342
031	53.01370871	-117.1655472
030	53.01801324	-117.1649268
029	53.02012338	-117.1654499
028	53.02064566	-117.1655774
026	53.02460309	-117.1666684
013	53.02759727	-117.1682189
014	53.02942992	-117.1707157
015	53.03014873	-117.1709571
015 gully	53.029107	-117.1721
016	53.03147228043996	-117.16948613144118
017	53.03221970953451	-117.16856452102141
019	53.04385951	-117.1741592
020	53.0515007	-117.1800082
East staging area	53.039662090487894	-117.14051861321542
FSR staging area 1	53.051334	-117.197215
FSR staging area 2	53.01601102393819	-117.18837720971842
FSR Hwy 40/734 junction	53.072001	-117.238923
AFP storage yard* (for material pickup)	53.398699358711056	-117.58396282690892



*Please contact Darren Bath with Alberta Forestry and Parks to coordinate material pick-up, and access to the AFP yard. Contact details will be provided to the selected contractor.

Table 2. Rehabilitation techniques to be utilized at each site.

SITE	REHABILITATION TECHNIQUES
008	Rough and loose, berms, log crib walls, root wad installations, soil wraps
031	Rough and loose, berms, tree revetment, minor channel realignment.
030	Rough and loose, berms, tree revetments, soil wraps
029	Rough and loose, berms, tree revetments, soil wraps. This site includes three crossings in close proximity.
028	Rough and loose
026	Rough and loose, berms, tree revetments, soil wraps
013	Rough and loose, berms, root wad installations, soil wraps
014	Rough and loose, berms, root wad installation, soil wraps
015	Rough and loose, berms
015 gully	Rough and loose, berms, log crib walls
016	Rough and loose, root wad installations
017	Rough and loose, berms, log crib walls, root wad installations, soil wraps
019	Rough and loose, berms, log crib walls, soil wraps
020	Berms, removal of logfill



RESTORATION SCHEDULE

Table 3 lays out a rough rehabilitation schedule for the project. The exact sites completed each day may change depending on the complexity of site conditions or feasibility of access.

Table 3. Restoration schedule with site notes.

DATE	CREW 1	CREW 2
Aug 9	Travel to Hinton, pick up restoration materials from storage yard.	Travel to Hinton, pick up restoration materials from storage yard.
Aug 10	Mobilize to site 008. Rehab at site 008.	Mobilize to site 019. Rehab at site 019.
Aug 11	Rehab at site 008, 031, and 030.	Rehab at site 020. Decommission from site 020 to trail convergence. Mobilize to site 015 gully.
Aug 12	Rehab at site 030, 029.	Rehab at site 015 gully, 016.
Aug 13	Rehab at site 026, 013, 014.	Rehab at site 017. Decommission trail from site 017 to existing OHV trail. Demob from MacKenzie Creek.
Aug 14	Rehab at site 014, 015. Decommission trail convergence with Forestry Road. Demob from MacKenzie Creek.	Contingency, or travel home.
Aug 15	Travel home.	

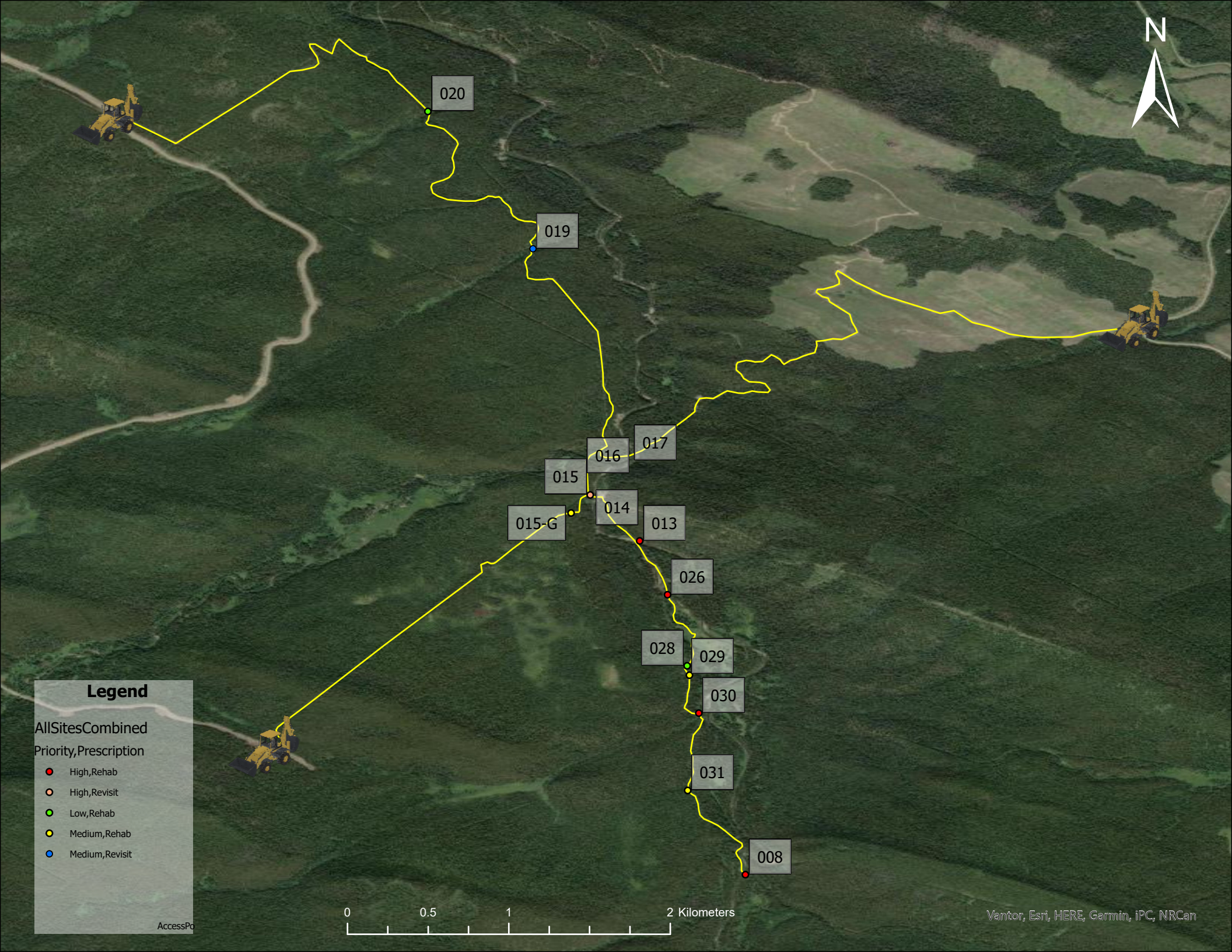
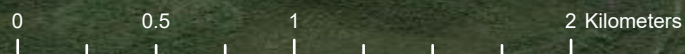


Legend

AllSitesCombined
Priority,Prescription

- High,Rehab
- High,Revisit
- Low,Rehab
- Medium,Rehab
- Medium,Revisit

AccessPo





Legend

AllSitesCombined
Priority, Prescription

- High, Rehab
- High, Revisit
- Low, Rehab
- Medium, Rehab
- Medium, Revisit



AccessPoints

0 32 64 128 m

Source: Esri, Vantor, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, Garmin, iPC, NRCan



020

019

Legend

AllSitesCombined
Priority, Prescription

- High, Rehab
- High, Revisit
- Low, Rehab
- Medium, Rehab
- Medium, Revisit



AccessPoints

AccessTrails

0 0.5 1
Vantor, Es, HERE, Garmin, IPC, NRCan



Legend

AllSitesCombined

Priority, Prescription

- High, Rehab
- High, Revisit
- Low, Rehab
- Medium, Rehab
- Medium, Revisit

 AccessPoints

 AccessTrails