

Alberta Stewardship Stories

Great Divide Trail/AEP project 2018

Recreation on public land is diverse and includes many different groups using the landscape. One of the prominent pedestrian groups is the Great Divide Trail Association (GDTA). The Great Divide hiking trail that has been in the works for many years, GDTA provides a route along the great divide of the Rockies for pedestrian traffic.

As the trail is in its infancy, it shares old logging roads turned into OHV trails, and main roads with trucks in several locations. Problems can arise in these situations given the variety of users and uses, so the association is seeking to improve the trail and provide access to remote locations along the route.

To aid the work of the association, Alberta Environment and Parks partnered with the GDTA to work on a section of the trail in the Livingstone PLUZ. The association also runs week long work projects all summer long and AEP joined the organization for one of sections of the trail which required a bridge and trail building in a difficult location.

Materials for the bridge were flown in via helicopter by Alberta Wildfire Division and the project was started and finished without any problems in the established timeline. Through the cooperation between the different divisions of government and with user groups like the GDTA, relationships are being built that will enhance recreation on public land moving forward into the future.

