

Road Watch in the Pass



MIISTAKIS INSTITUTE
FOR THE ROCKIES

Update to Participants Number 9

Monitoring Wildlife Update

There are currently 62 people participating in the Road Watch Project.

A total of 1222 observations have been entered using the mapping tool. Sightings include:

Mule deer	386
Big horn sheep	209
White-tailed deer	216
Deer	209
Elk	78
Moose	46
Other	23
Black Bear	12
Coyote	23
Cougar	8
Grizzly Bear	5
Wolf	3
Mountain Goat	4

With Generous Financial Support from the Woodcock Foundation, Alberta Ecotrust Foundation, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and Shell Environmental Fund.

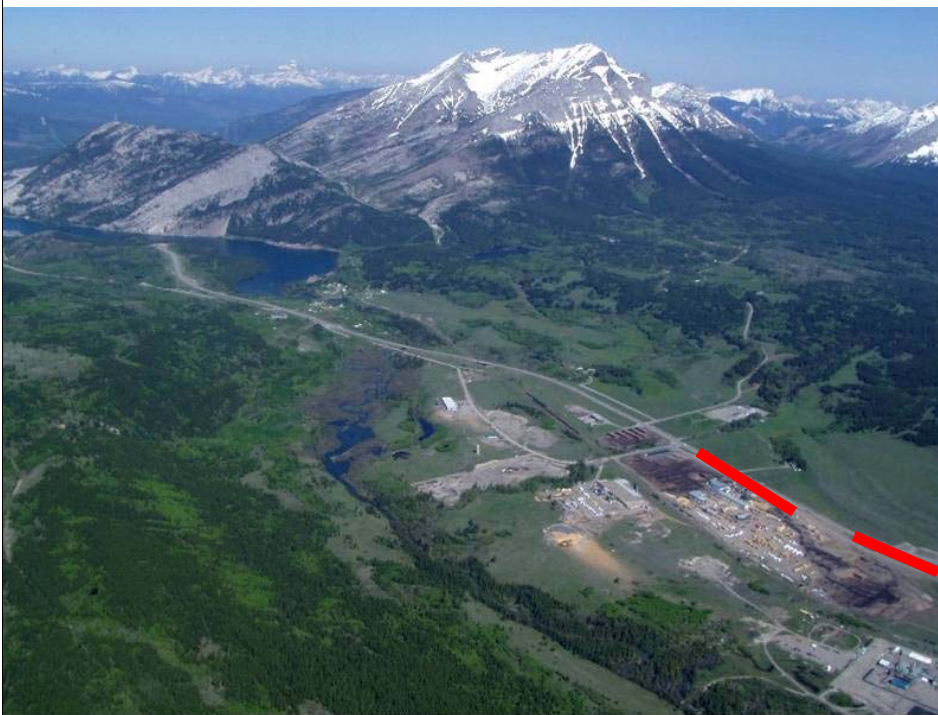
- The *Road Watch* database has received numerous observations in January and February– thanks to all who are entering records.
- *Road Watch* hosted it’s first committee meeting on Feb. 13 2006. Thanks to those who turned out and provided project feedback and direction. Minutes can be downloaded from the *Road Watch* website.

Special Feature on ELK

- There are currently 78 elk observations in the *Road Watch* data base, 2 of the records are crossing events. Four of the 78 were observed as road kill.
- *Elk* high observation zones (HOZ) are displayed on the photo below using red lines. HOZ were identified from *Road Watch* observations of elk crossing or within 50 m of Highway 3. Other zones not displayed included one further west between Crowsnest Lakes and Island Lakes and one to the east at

the east end of Bohomolec Ranch to Iron Ridge.

- The wildlife traffic mortality data collected by Volker Stevins has 46 elk road kill records from 1997-2005.
- Watch for an opportunity to help paint the elk signs currently displayed along Highway 3.
- A story by Allan Wakaluk entitled “What Elk in our Valley Means to Me” has been posted on the stories page. Permission to post this story was obtained from the Bugle Magazine and Allan. If you would like to share a story about living with wildlife please send it to Janet.



The red lines represent Elk HOZ based on Road Watch data from Nov. 2004-Mar. 2006. Only 2 of the 4 zones are displayed on this photo. Photo Credit: Clayton Apps

What's New at Road Watch

- Stay tuned for our announcement of a *Road Watch* wildlife photography contest.
- *Want to get more involved?...Stay tuned to the project website for a list of volunteer opportunities.*