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# **ALBERTA PROFESSIONAL OUTFITTERS SOCIETY**

**Mission Statement:**

*The Alberta Professional Outfitters Society uses our collective strength to manage industry affairs and provide a united voice in advocating for a viable long term outfitted hunting industry that supports sound wildlife management for Albertans.*

The Alberta Professional Outfitters Society (APOS) received its mandate as a Delegated Administrative Organization in April 1997 from the Alberta Government. Its responsibilities include the management of the administrative requirements for Alberta's outfitted-hunting industry. The Society was formed with a commitment to unify standards and ethics for all outfitter members. Each outfitter is fully licensed and insured and the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society is the only outfitted-hunting organization officially recognized and supported by the Alberta Government. APOS is committed to the enhancement of Alberta's outfitting products and services; dedicated to the responsible management of Alberta's wildlife resources; responsive to industry on issues that impact current and future outfitting operations; and determined to deal effectively and openly with industry members, clients, government agencies, association representatives, the general public and other natural resource stakeholders.

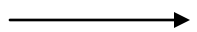
The goals of the Society are:

- 1) To provide the industry licensing and allocations administrative services in an efficient and accountable manner,
- 2) Represent the outfitted-hunting industry on all local, provincial and federal policy initiatives that may impact the long term sustainability of Alberta's independent outfitting businesses
- 3) Expand the awareness of Alberta as a world class quality-assured hunting destination
- 4) Create a level of professionalism in the industry that would serve as a model for other jurisdictions.

APOS is funded primarily through fees for services it provides to the industry, fundraising during its annual convention and on a cost recovery basis, through other services it provides from its administration office.

Applications for funding through the APOS Legacy Fund are reviewed by the APOS Board of Directors semi annually. A Wildlife Management Fund was established in 2003 from annual outfitters reconfirmation fees resulting in an additional \$1.2 million and these funds have been used for aerial surveys and research projects.

APOS GRiP (Guides Reporting Illegal Activity) Program - In 2005, The Alberta Professional Outfitters Society initiated the GRiP program which encourages Licensed Guides to report suspected violations of Alberta's wildlife, fish and habitat regulations. This program is delivered in cooperation with the Report A Poacher Program (RAP); the Alberta Conservation Association and Alberta Fish and Wildlife Division. Since its inception, GRiP has paid rewards totaling \$8000.00



APOS has established a Legacy Fund – *focused on assisting projects for wildlife conservation and preserving the right to outfit and hunt in Alberta, Canada and globally.* APOS has funded over 73 different Legacy Fund projects totalling over \$530,040.00.

Projects funded to date include:

- Alberta Conservation Association Elk Planning
- Alberta Fish & Game Association
- Alberta Conservation Association
- Alberta Fish & Game Association Kitchen
- AHEIA - Discovery Booklet Series
- AHEIA - Outdoor Women's Program
- Alberta Game Wardens
- Alberta Hunters Who Care
- Alford Lake Survival Camp
- Alberta Professional Outfitters Society - Moose Study
- Central East Slopes Wolf of Elk Study
- Conservation Hunting Conference
- Conservation/ Bow Hunter Education Program
- Cougar Predation on Wild Ungulates in a Multi - Prey Predator System in West Central Alberta
- Cows & Fish—Wildlife Riparian Program
- Development & Validation of Forensic DNA Typing for Big Horn Sheep
- Economic Impact Study
- Effect of Hunting & Access on Behavior
- Fish & Wildlife Historical Society
- Fort McMurray Bear Aware Program
- Fur Management : Past & Present
- Habitat Use By Pronghorn Antelope in Alberta
- Heritage 100 History Book
- Hunting For Tomorrow
- Hunt Fair Chase
- Kimiwan Lake Naturalists
- Lakeland College Scholarship
- New Horizons Youth Centre Program
- Outdoor Youth Seminar—Alford Lake
- People & Peaks of Wilmore Wilderness Park
- Shooting Program for Beginners
- Southern Alberta Plains Sharp - Tailed Grouse
- Sustainable Resources Development - Fish & Wildlife Services (DNA)
- Twilight Apparitions
- Valley Zoo Development Society
- WAFWA - Conference
- Wolves and Ungulates Prey in Southwest Alberta

For more information, please contact the Society at:



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