

BC OGRIS Project Profile

Project Name:	Boreal Caribou Habitat Restoration Pilot Program
Project Number:	BCIP-2016-04
Proponent:	Golder Associates
BC OGRIS Funding Envelope:	Boreal Caribou
Timeframe:	April 28, 2015 to December 30, 2015

Project objectives

The objectives of this project are to:

- Develop a landscape-level Habitat Restoration Pilot Project Program Plan for the Parker boreal caribou range. Identify the potential barriers, considerations, costs, and solutions that could inform the implementation of future landscape level habitat restoration practices in priority areas for boreal caribou in NE BC.
- Develop a Restoration Pilot Project Implementation Plan for winter 2016, which would restore low quality habitat into higher quality habitat to increase caribou habitat connectivity and intactness within the Parker Range.

Project description

Oil and gas operators in NE BC may be required to implement habitat restoration programs to mitigate impacts from new developments within boreal caribou ranges. This pilot program will occur in the Parker boreal caribou range, and will follow the same planning approach, methodology and guidance from the existing Algar Caribou Habitat Restoration Pilot Project that is underway in northeast Alberta (OSLI/COSIA 2013), but will incorporate BC provincial guidelines and management objectives. Tactical design and operational treatments will include both passive and active restoration methods.

Project approach

The project will involve the following approach:

1. **Build Collaborative Team**- invite industry and provincial collaborators to work together to define objectives and team roles.
2. **Linear Disturbance Inventory mapping**- using existing landscape data sources and new 360 Video Overflight and Photo mapping techniques, develop linear inventory of Parker Range including existing regeneration status and access of anthropogenic footprint.
3. **Field reconnaissance**: ground truth the linear disturbance mapping and obtain site-level data on accessibility, available materials (coarse woody debris) and logistical considerations for treatments.

4. **Develop Tactical Program Plan**- using linear inventory mapping, build a plan to restore (passive or active) all available anthropogenic features of the Parker range, over a specified period of time.
5. **Develop Implementation Plan**- taking into consideration consultation and regulatory approvals as well as logistics of treatment methods, develop an Implementation Plan that includes scope of work and detailed cost estimate for the first year of field level restoration treatments.

Project deliverables

The following project deliverable will be provided:

1. Team charter
2. Monthly progress reports
3. Parker Caribou Range Habitat Restoration Pilot Project Program Plan Draft and Final Reports
4. Parker Caribou Range Habitat Restoration Pilot Project 2016 Implementation Plan Draft and Final Reports
5. Parker Caribou Range Habitat Restoration Pilot Project Presentation- a presentation will be prepared and presented to REMB and invited guests of the BC OGRIS fund.