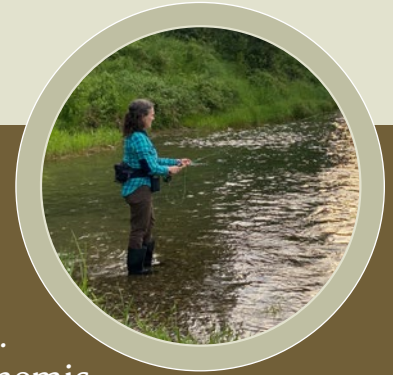


Working Landscapes

Private land conservation offers a unique opportunity: it supports ecological conservation while allowing working landscapes to thrive. It integrates human uses with conservation goals, ensuring that economic, social, and ecological values coexist.

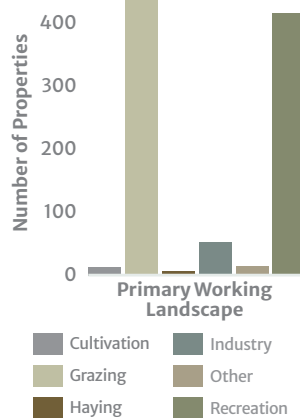
In Alberta, nearly 76% of all privately conserved lands are also working landscapes, showcasing how conservation and human land use can successfully go hand in hand.



WHAT ARE WORKING LANDSCAPES?

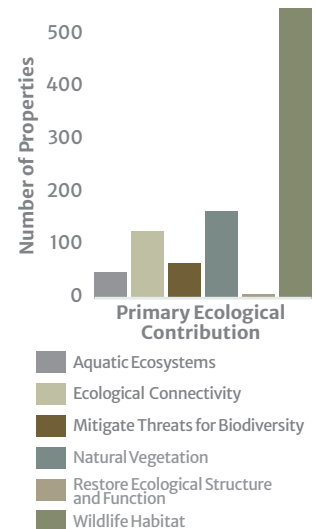
Working landscapes provide economic benefit through land uses like agriculture, ranching and recreation.

Among privately conserved properties identified as working landscapes, grazing was the most common use, followed by recreation which typically offers opportunities for hiking, hunting and/or camping.



ECOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTION

For properties identified as working landscapes, 99.8% were primarily conserved for ecological purposes. By far, the most common ecological contribution was supporting wildlife habitat. In Alberta, habitat alteration and destruction are major threats to many native species, especially those at risk. **Privately conserved lands safeguard these areas from development while also helping connect the landscape. This connectivity allows wildlife to move safely, find mates and food, and access the habitats they need at different life stages.**



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Private land conservation keeps working landscapes like grasslands from being converted to other land uses, providing ongoing economic benefits while also supporting ecological conservation.
- Working landscapes support wildlife habitat, ecological connectivity, and natural vegetation.
- By supporting working landscapes, private land conservation in Alberta ensures that land remains both economically productive and ecologically resilient—a win for conservation and communities alike.

