

Landscape and Wildlife Sustainability Questions

1. Do you support the use of the license and permit fees to support programs such as the migratory bird permit that supports the Wildlife Canada restoration program and other authorized programs?

Migratory birds are iconic symbols in Canada. As Prime Minister, Andrew Scheer will continue to fund the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and will increase resources for waterfowl conservation measures, funded by modest increases for non-resident hunters on the cost of the migratory bird stamp.

2. There is a need for financial support for implementing SARA measures to protect wildlife that includes roundtables with Indigenous and non-Indigenous community participation. How would you improve the process and financial support for the implementation of caribou recovery in North Eastern British Columbia from an economic, social, and environmental perspective?

Trudeau's Liberals have been heavy-handed, using an Ottawa-knows-best approach that ignores provincial land management expertise. The protection of woodland caribou is an important priority for many provinces, but the management and protection of this species is complex, and has the potential to have severe consequences for many rural communities if it is not undertaken carefully.

3. Although the BCWF supports per user pay (license, surcharges, and fines) supporting conversation programs, we believe the level of funding is inadequate for fish and wildlife sustainability, particularly in the face of climate change. Everyone has an impact on wildlife through their personal carbon use. When will you use carbon tax money to support the ecological functioning and resilience of landscapes and watersheds nationally? Will you make this a priority, working with provincial governments?

As an environmental policy, the carbon tax is a failure of epic proportions. It makes virtually no contribution to the global fight against climate change. And it only makes life more expensive for Canadian families and small businesses. A Conservative government will scrap the carbon tax.

4. The government has announced that they will become involved in grizzly bear management. How will the federal government become engaged in the management of grizzly bears in BC? Will you bring resources to adequately inventory grizzly populations, implement measures to protect habitat, and involve both Indigenous and non-Indigenous stakeholders? Will the same consultation techniques be applied that were used during the southern caribou protection decision which provided top-down direction using federal legislation with no resources or support for the implementation of difficult land-use decisions?

A Conservative government will work with the provincial government to develop legislation that benefits all levels.

5. Environmental Assessment processes must be able to deal with the remediation of legacy sites, such as Mount Polley. How will the federal government force immediate remediation for sites that have been polluted by both operating and defunct companies?

Canadians trusted Justin Trudeau when he said he would protect the environment and lower Canada's emissions. Instead, all they got was a carbon tax. As an environmental policy, the carbon tax is a failure of epic proportions. It makes virtually no contribution to the global fight against climate change, and it only makes life more expensive Canadian families and small businesses.

Under the Conservative plan, it will not be free to pollute – and unlike the Liberal scheme, there will be no sweetheart deals for anybody.

6. A recent decision to create a national park reserve in the South Okanagan incorporated conservation lands which were purchased to protect wildlife habitat. How will the ecological integrity of these sensitive landscapes be protected from the development and commercialism that has occurred in national parks such as Banff? What are the mechanisms to ensure local stakeholder input into the national park reserve?

Canada must have a robust protected area system. A Conservative will conduct consultations with local communities and governments, business owners, and Indigenous peoples to make sure that our approach has the best interests of the communities in mind.

An Andrew Scheer-led Conservative government will restore protections for meaningful community consultations that were taken away by the Liberal government. Canada's Conservatives will reinstate up-front consultations with communities and stakeholders before determining protected area boundaries.