AHEIA's **Youth Camps** and **Outdoor Youth Seminar**

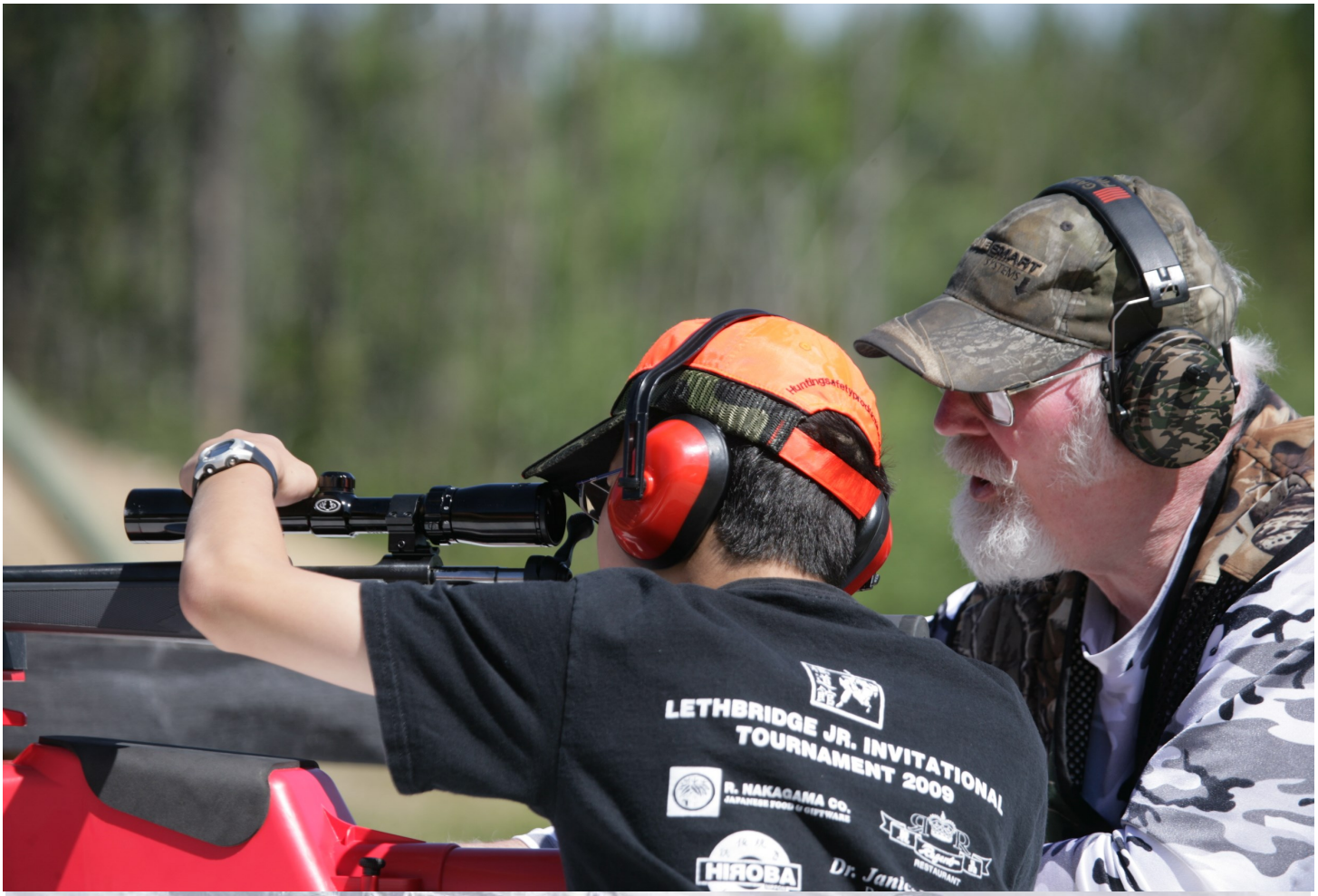
Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association

$ 28,000 Grant

Through the promotion, education and development of skills and the value system taught through AHEIA's Youth Camps and Seminar, participants learn how to respect wildlife and waterfowl and their habitat, and how to conserve, protect, restore and enhance habitat for the protection and enjoyment of the various wildlife and waterfowl species.

COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION

- Hunting and fishing focused activities were offered at AHEIA's Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence.
- 283 youth, 157 staff/volunteers participated.
- Events provided instruction in the Alberta Conservation and Education Program, the Canadian Firearms Safety Course, the Canadian Boating Safety course, etc.



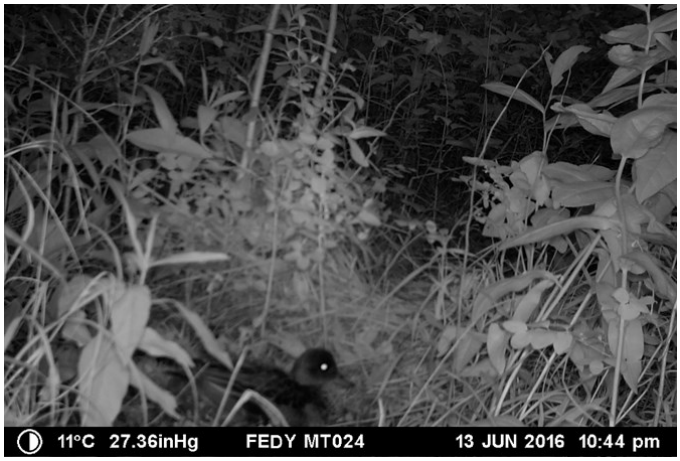
Waterfowl Nest Success in the Western Boreal Forest: Does Industrial Development Alter Predation Rates?

University of Waterloo, Department of Environment and Resource Studies

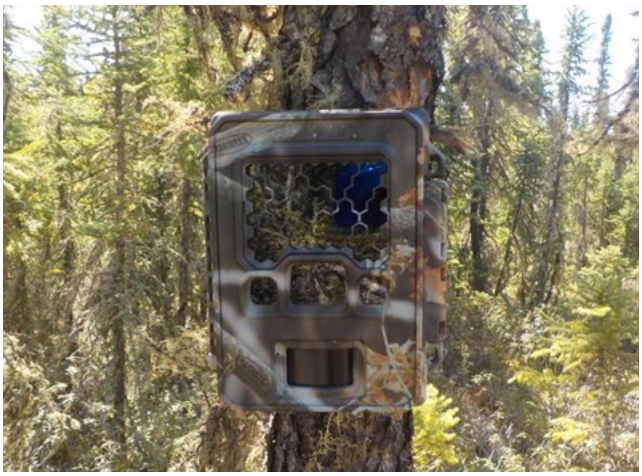
$ 52,000 Grant

SCIENCE

- A basic simulation model prototype was established to inform predictions about nest success (using data on predator foraging behaviour, nest distribution, etc.). The model will continue to be re-informed and developed as additional data is collected.
- GIS was used to assess potential gradients across the landscape and to determine areas with development gradients and waterfowl breeding populations.
- Established transects at study sites containing artificial nests (121) and camera traps (39) and plotted these transects in GIS across desired development gradients.
- Artificial nests were monitored every 7-10 days and all incidental avian predator species were recorded.
- Results will be used to make predictions about future waterfowl population trajectories relative to landscape change to better inform conservation policy.

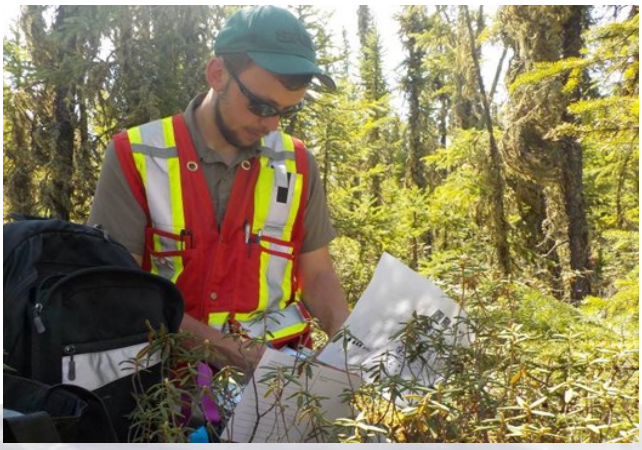


American wigeon female incubating nest



A camera installed on a black spruce along a seismic line

Canid depredating American wigeon nest during night
(female carcass found within 10m of nest when monitoring).



A field technician records data after deploying an artificial nest in a black spruce bog