

## Unique Volunteer Opportunity

Attention Guides and Anglers,

Some volunteer help is required to help evaluate the Fisheries Habitat Enhancement and Sustainability (FISHES) Program's [Spawning Habitat Restoration Pilot Project](#) that was completed on the Elbow River last fall.

AEP needs help with a couple parts of the study:

- 1) First, they need help to epoxy the PIT tags into specific sizes of rocks, as well as measure, weigh and record data for each rock. Volunteers will spend an evening or weekend session helping secure the tags into the rocks that have been predrilled. This will happen sometime in the third week of March in the AEP warehouse near Chinook Centre. Directions will be given to volunteers closer to the date.
- 2) Second, sometime in the last week of March, first week of April, they need several volunteers in/on the Elbow River. These volunteers will record location data as the geo-tagged rocks are specifically placed in stream. Some of these volunteers need to be experienced waders who can help place the rocks in the appropriate areas within the river and will require the ability to wade safely and comfortably in the Elbow River in water that may be up to waist deep. AEP can provide some waders and pfd's if needed, however it would be best to have your own wading gear.

The results of this pilot project will help determine if this type of spawning habitat restoration works (they are also monitoring spawning Redds through Calgary River Valleys' annual Redd Survey) which could then be applied to some of our other trout streams. Once specific dates are determined we will update this request for volunteers. Please email David Blair ( [daveb@fishtales.ca](mailto:daveb@fishtales.ca) ) and cc to Doug Pippus ( [dougippus@gmail.com](mailto:dougippus@gmail.com) ) as they are helping coordinate the volunteers. and let us know if you are interested. We will keep those interested informed once the dates are confirmed.

Thanks in advance for helping with this important fisheries project.

David Blair

On Behalf of the AOGAA (Angling Outfitter & Guide Association of Alberta)  
&  
Bow River Trout Foundation