

# Environment Grant Information Package

## Overview

The Alpine Club of Canada (ACC) Environment Grant supports initiatives that protect, restore, and conserve mountain, alpine, Arctic, and Canadian climbing environments. Since 1906, the ACC has been committed to environmental stewardship and responsible travel, recognizing that healthy mountain ecosystems are essential, increasingly rare, and of immense intrinsic value.

The grant funds projects that:

- Address climate change impacts in alpine or Arctic regions
- Protect or restore sensitive habitats
- Preserve alpine biodiversity, including flora and fauna
- Enhance the long-term health of climbing environments in Canada
- Support Indigenous or local communities connected to these landscapes
- Promote stewardship and reduce human impact

Annual funding available typically ranges from \$5,000–\$15,000 total, awarded to one or multiple successful applicants.

## Eligibility

### Eligible Applicants

- ACC members are given priority, but non-members are also eligible.
- Individuals, informal groups, community groups, academic teams, and organizations may apply.
- Applicants must demonstrate the capacity to complete the proposed project.
- Projects must be located in Canada, or must clearly benefit Canadian alpine, Arctic, or climbing environments.

### Eligible Projects

Projects must deliver a clear and measurable environmental benefit. Examples include:

#### Climate & Ecosystem Projects

- Climate change mitigation or adaptation in alpine or Arctic regions
- Habitat protection, restoration, or monitoring
- Projects supporting at-risk or sensitive alpine species
- Research on glaciers, snow, ice, wildland fire, or high elevation ecosystems

#### Stewardship & Impact Reduction

- Trail repair, site rehabilitation, or erosion mitigation



- Conservation work in or near Canadian climbing areas

Community, Culture & Education

- Initiatives supporting Indigenous communities connected to mountain landscapes
- Public education or outreach that strengthens environmental stewardship

To be eligible, projects must:

- Demonstrate environmental impact
- Align with the grant's purpose
- Show a realistic plan to deliver meaningful results
- Plan to be completed within a year of receiving funding from The Alpine Club of Canada.

## How to Apply

Applications must be submitted through the ACC's online application portal. All applications are evaluated by the ACC Environment Grant Committee using the following selection criteria:

Selection Criteria

1. ACC Member Involvement  
Projects led by ACC members receive higher priority.
2. Alignment with Grant Priorities  
Strong alignment with the core priorities—wilderness protection, climate action, biodiversity, and cultural/Indigenous support—improves competitiveness.
3. Canadian Focus  
Projects occurring in Canada, particularly those involving alpine, Arctic, or climbing environments, are prioritized.
4. Research Value (if applicable)  
Research projects should contribute meaningfully to one or more of the following areas:
  - Wilderness protection
  - Climate change mitigation, adaptation, or education
  - Glaciers, snow, and ice issues
  - Wildland fire in Canada
  - Mountain ecosystem biodiversity
5. Budget Quality  
Budgets must be clear, realistic, and demonstrate good value for the requested funds. Budgets must have all funding information, including funding from other organizations clearly outlined.

Grant Timeline



- January 31 – Application deadline
- February 28 – Applications reviewed by the Selection Committee
- March 15 – Grant recipients announced
- April onward – Award(s) disbursed based on project timing and conditions
- September 1 – Project progress evaluated by ACC staff
- January 31 (following year) – Deadline for using awarded funds; unused funds are forfeited

## Reporting Requirements

Successful applicants must agree to:

- Submit a final report (1,000–2,000 words) by the date specified in the approval letter, including:
  - Project summary
  - How the project evolved from the original plan
  - Purpose and objectives
  - Challenges encountered
  - Outcomes and achievements
  - Lessons learned
- Alternative formats (e.g., a high quality video) may be approved in advance.
- Provide at least 12 high-resolution images and any relevant video suitable for ACC publications (magazines, social media, blog, website).
- Acknowledge ACC support in all project materials using:  
*“This [Project/Program/Event] was made possible through a grant from the Environment Grant of The Alpine Club of Canada.”*
- Submit receipts for all grant related expenses.
- Use funds only for the approved and stated purposes.

## Terms & Conditions

All applications must meet the following minimum standards:

- Clear, measurable goal: demonstrating alignment with the Environment Fund’s purpose.
- Realistic project plan: sufficient detail for fair evaluation.
- Strong budget: transparent, reasonable, and tied to project outcomes.
- Organizational information: if applicable, include a description of your organization, objectives, activities, and a brief financial summary.
- Non-profit focus: projects must not generate profit for individuals or organizations.
- Acknowledgement of ACC support: as outlined in the agreement.
- Legal compliance: the project must not involve or support illegal activities.
- Onetime funding: multiyear projects may apply annually, but funding is not guaranteed beyond the awarded year.



## **Monitoring & Audit**

All funded projects are evaluated at least annually or upon completion. Projects showing no progress may have funds withdrawn. The ACC may audit any project, and applicants must cooperate fully.