

North Saskatchewan River Provincial Park

To conserve the landscape and better manage social and economic activity in Bighorn Country, the government is proposing new, expanded or amended parks, recreation areas and public land use zones.

The area for the proposed North Saskatchewan River Provincial Park currently overlaps with the existing Kiska/Willson Public Land Use Zone and the Eastern Slopes Policy's Critical Wildlife Zone. Current management permits a wide variety of commercial activities and industrial uses and development.

The proposed provincial park would help to protect Lower Foothills, Upper Foothills and Montane Natural Subregions. Although the total area of the Lower Foothills themes included in this proposed park are relatively small, they would be significant additions to Alberta's protected areas network and would include the largest of the major river themes within protected areas anywhere in the province.

The proposed management intent for the North Saskatchewan River Provincial Park is the conservation of biodiversity and cultural features, while providing compatible nature-based recreation, tourism and education opportunities. Public access to the area is limited to river and trail access as there are no roads into the site.

Further recreation planning would focus on waterbased activities and continued support for hiking, mountain biking and equestrian trail uses. These activities are dependent on, and compatible with, the protection of the natural values found here, and would be managed in a way that does not compromise the integrity of the natural environment.





Nature-Based Recreation & Tourism Development

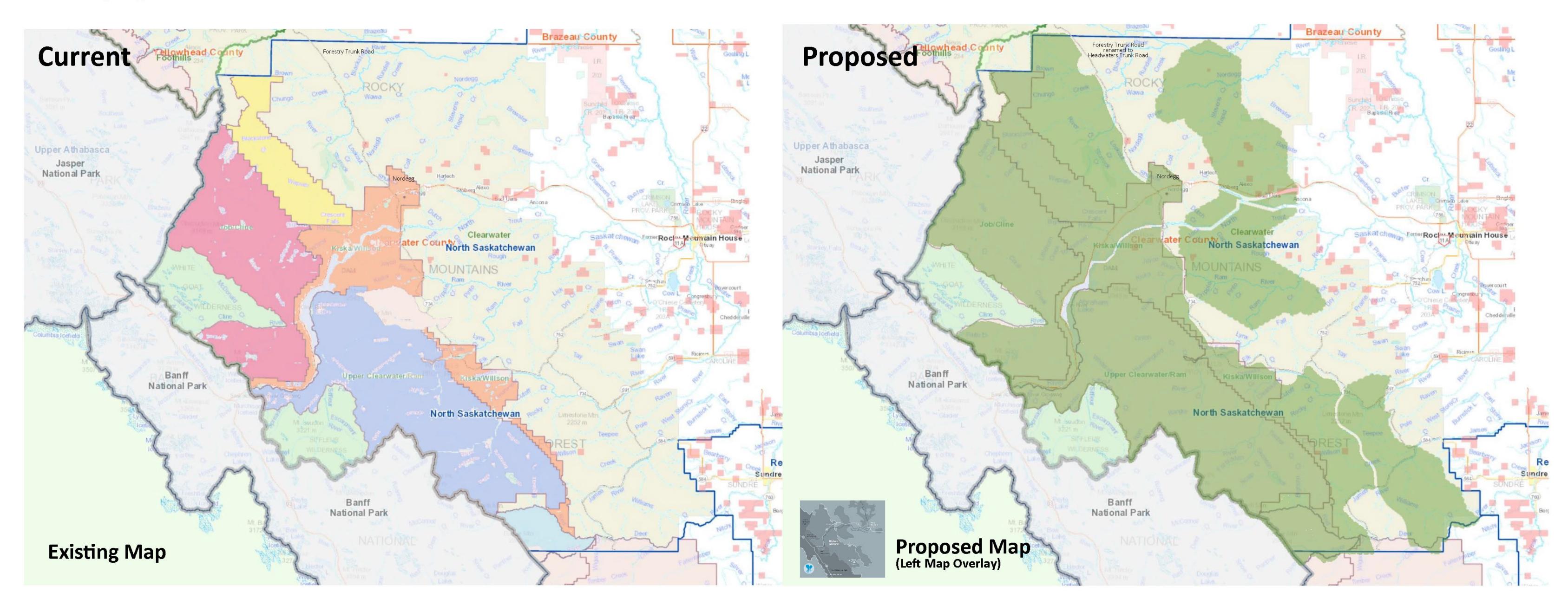
Type of Use	Current State	Proposed Management Direction
Motorized Recreation (OHV)	Permitted	Permitted
OHV use would be permitted on the	ne existing designated trail only.	
Undesignated Backcountry	Permitted	Permitted
Camping		
Backcountry camping would be all	lowed only in designated camping are	as.
 Canoe accessible campgrounds a park. 	re a possibility given the management	intent and nature of access of this
Auto Access Camping (front country, vehicle accessible)	Permitted	Not Permitted
Production and Company of the Compan	to host vehicle accessible zones, but adjacent Aylmer Provincial Recreation	Control Contro
Equestrian Use	Permitted	Permitted
• Equestrian use would be permitted	d on all trails unless otherwise indicate	d by sign, notice or advisory.
• Timing restrictions may be applied	to manage environmental impacts (e.	g. wet trail conditions).
• Tethering must be 100 metres awa	y from water bodies.	
Cycling / Mountain Biking	Permitted	Permitted
Mountain biking would be permitted	ed on all trails unless otherwise indicat	ed by sign, notice or advisory.
Foot Access	Permitted	Permitted
• Foot access would be permitted the	nroughout and on all trails.	
Recreational Unmanned Aerial Vehicles / Drones	Permitted	Not Permitted
 Use for research or commercial filr appropriate permit. 	ming/photography may be considered	under the authority of the
Hunting	Permitted	Permitted
Hunters would require a Parks Dis restrictions on discharge (e.g. arou	charge Permit that would outline site s and infrastructure).	specific conditions and area
Fishing	Permitted	Permitted
Provincial regulations apply.Alberta Regulations		
Guiding, Outfitting (non-Hunting) and Instructing	Permitted	Permitted
Would be supported through the e	xisting permitting process for provinci	al parks.
	under the Public Land Administration permitting would transition to a Parks	
Helicopter Tours	Permitted	Permitted
There are no existing commitment	s in this site.	
Tourism Facilities and Visitor Attractions	Not Permitted	Not Permitted
This type of development is not co area focused park.	mpatible with the classification and ex	kperience for this smaller, riparian



Bighorn Backcountry—What is Being Proposed?

The Bighorn Backcountry consists of 6 PLUZ (Public Land Use Zones). These areas were created to "ensure the protection of the environment, while allowing responsible and sustainable recreational use." (AEP) Bighorn Backcountry represents 59% of the Public Land Use areas permitting Motorized Recreation on designated tails. Bighorn provides scenic motorized trail recreation and activities with central access for Edmonton, Calgary and surrounding regions.

Y2Y (Yellowstone to Yukon) is a US funded Environmental group, who is lobbying the Alberta Government to convert the entire region, plus adding >40% more land adjacent— into a "Wildland Park". As published by Y2Y, they want to remove motorized recreation from this area, which would include the associated recreational activities that accompany. Park regulations by default, do not allow motorized recreation or random camping.



Public Land Use Zone—Bighorn Existing

A Public Land Use zone is an area of public land to which legislative controls apply to assist in the management of industrial, commercial, and recreational land uses and resources. PLUZ areas manage the land use activities, including recreation that occurs in a specific area— while providing restrictions to protect areas containing sensitive resources. OHV use is on designated trails only, and motorized random camping is permitted.

All Public Land Use Zones—are managed by the Alberta Public Lands Act.

PLUZ Facts

- There are 18 PLUZ Areas in Alberta, most all of which are along the Eastern Slopes—spanning from Southern to Northern Alberta.
- . PLUZ Areas represent 24% of the Public/Parks lands, with OHV use allowed in 7% of these total areas.
- The Majority of OHV Trails on Public Land Areas are now in 4 PLUZ Areas, Castle, Ghost, McClean Creek, Bighorn and Coal Branch.
- Bighorn Backcountry represents 59% of PLUZ areas allowing OHV recreation on designated trails. For comparison—Castle represented 17%.
- . Majority of Motorized recreation trails in Bighorn, is in 2 of the 6 areas— Kiska/Wilson & Upper Clearwater/Ram.

Wildland Park—Bighorn Proposed

A wildland provincial park has the primary purpose of conserving nature while providing opportunities for low-impact nature based outdoor recreation in backcountry or wilderness settings. (AEP). Low-impact nature based recreation as defined by AEP, does not include OHV use or Motorized Random Camping. Camping in a Wildland park, is only in designated campsites, or foot based back country camping (tenting).

All Parks—are managed under the Alberta Parks Act.

Wildland Park Facts

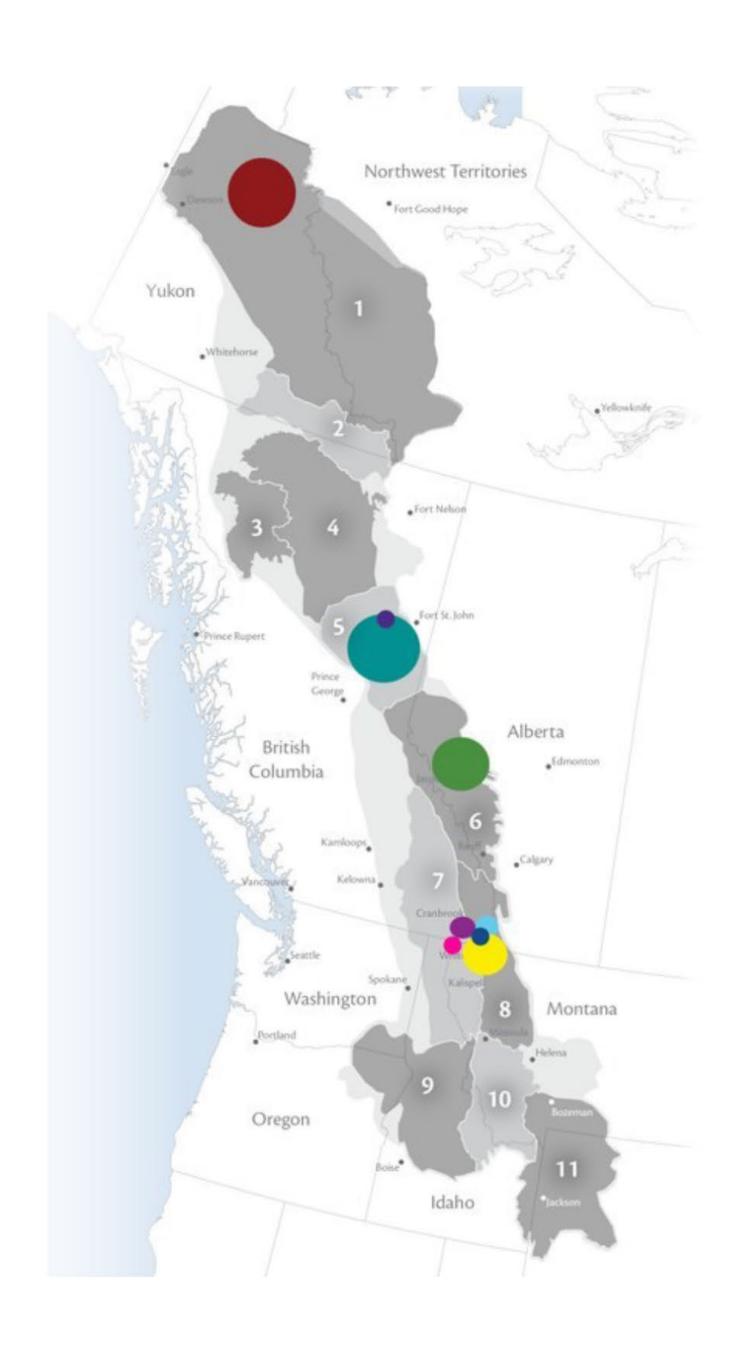
- There are 33 Wildland Parks in Alberta, most of which are in Upper Northern Alberta (Peace River, Fort McMurray) other than Castle & Kananaskis.
- . Wildland Parks represent 48% of the Public/Parks lands.
- . Any Permitted OHV Use in Wildland Parks, is only in Northern Alberta.
- . The nearest Wildland Park with OHV Use—comparable in size to Bighorn, is 8hrs North of Edmonton. (Cariboo Wildland Park).

Who is (Y2Y) Yellowstone to Yukon?

Y2Y (Yellowstone to Yukon) is a US funded Environmental group working to convert lands to a protected or parks status in both USA and Canada—spanning from Yellowstone to Yukon along and including our Rocky Mountains. Y2Y is not a stakeholder of these lands, nor has ownership of it —but is working to classify them protected which would remove Albertans current recreational opportunities, and prevent resource extraction, mining, forestry, and pipeline development. They propose that Alberta's enjoyment and economic revenue from the current existing use and resource base, can be replaced with eco-tourism.

Y2Y's— Nine Campaign Areas of Focus

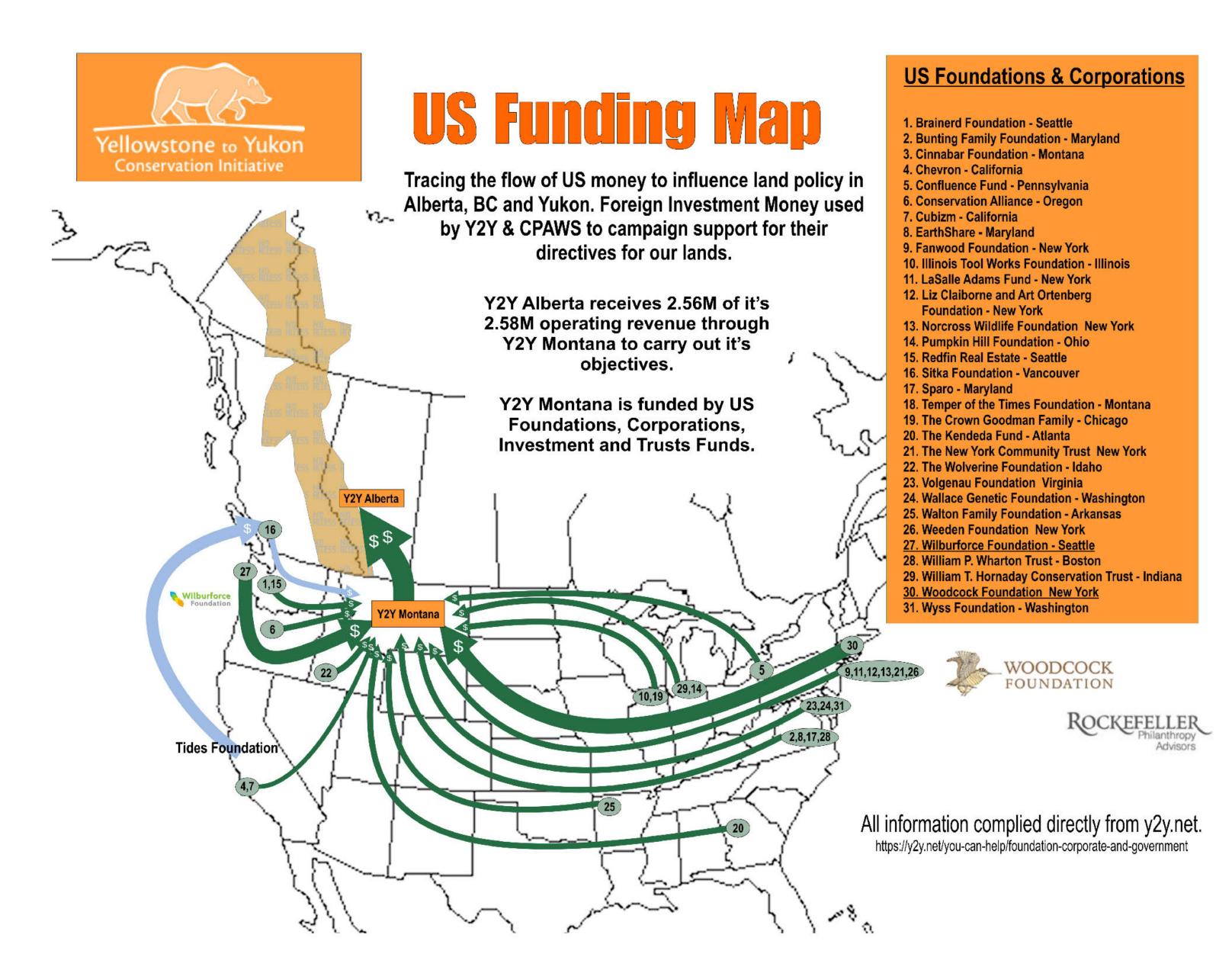
- Protect the Peel: The Peel Watershed is one of the largest unprotected and untouched landscapes in the Yellowstone to Yukon region, and Y2Y is supporting the hard work of partners to protect it from development.
- Healing the Break: The Peace River region is the narrowest part of the Yellowstone to Yukon landscape and suffers from rampant development. Y2Y is implementing a strategy to heal it.
- Site C Dam: If approved, the \$8 billion dam would be the third dam on the Peace River and threatens the long-term survival of wildlfe and fish populations. Y2Y is working with its partners to stop the dam
- Alberta Headwaters: The province is creating land-use management plans that will determine how land is used for the next 50 years. Y2Y is leading an initiative to ensure these plans protect Alberta's headwaters.
- Flathead Wild: As one of the last unprotected unsettled valleys in southern Canada, the Flathead is critical for wildlife. Y2Y and its partners aim to protect a portion of the area as a national park and designate the remainder as a Wildlife Management



- Mapping the Wolverine Way: Vulnerable
 U.S. wolverine populations depend on connections with Alberta's populations for their future survival. Y2Y is supporting research that is investigating the distribution of Alberta's southern wolverine populations outside protected areas.
- Making Highway 3 Wildlife-Friendly: Running parallel to the Canada-U.S. border across the southern portion of Alberta and British Columbia, Highway 3 is a major barrier to wildlife movement. Y2Y is working with its partners to promote wildlife over- and underpasses to make the highway safer for wildlife
- Private Lands: Some private lands are vital to wildlife movement and healthy habitat.

 Working with land trusts and willing landowners, Y2Y raises funds to secure such lands against development.
- Yaak to Yahk: This trans-boundary region is an important link between two key habitats in B.C. and Montana. Y2Y is leading an effort to restore the degraded habitat to help grizzly bear and fish populations regenerate.

Y2Y's— US Funding Map



Y2Y's and it's partners "Loveyourheadwaters" Eastern Slopes Campaign Objectives

Here are recommendations from the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society to protect our headwaters, also available as a .jpg for download:

- Implement new forestry ground rules for all Eastern Slopes headwater forests that focus on restoring and sustaining watershed health rather than producing a maximum sustained yield of timber. Replace all commercial logging south of the Ghost River with restoration of our forested headwaters;
- 2. End new road building for industrial development in our headwaters;
- 3. Create new protected areas in Edmonton, Calgary, Red Deer and Lethbridge's headwaters to safeguard their water quality and quantity;
- 4. Stop new mining for minerals, coal and gravel near our headwaters and within key watersheds;
- Repair and revegetate eroding trails, gullies, soil compaction, mud bogs and other damage
 caused by motorized off-highway recreation, and provide a limited number of well-engineered
 vehicle trails outside of parks and other important conservation areas.
- Focus on developing economic opportunities that emphasize headwaters conservation like low-impact ecotourism with a focus hiking, biking, fishing, hunting and other sustainable activities.
- Address the impact of climate change on our headwaters by repairing riparian areas and restoring habitat for fish and wildlife species such as Westslope Cutthroat trout, bull trout and grizzly bear;
- 8. Rename the 'Forestry Trunk Road' (also known as Hwy 734) Headwaters Trunk Road to honour and value the sources of our water.

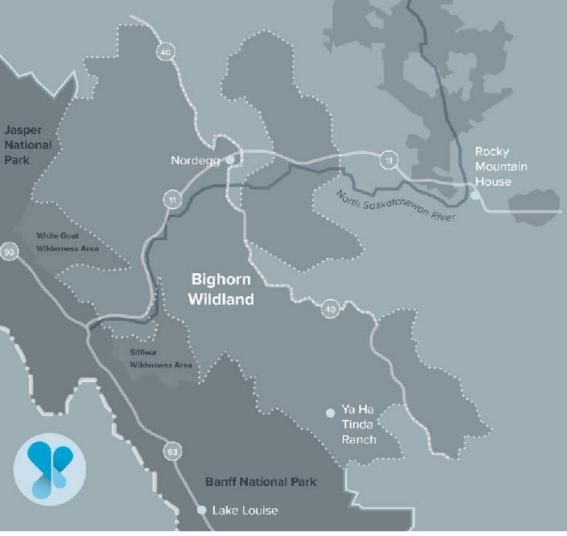
WE ARE WORKING WITH

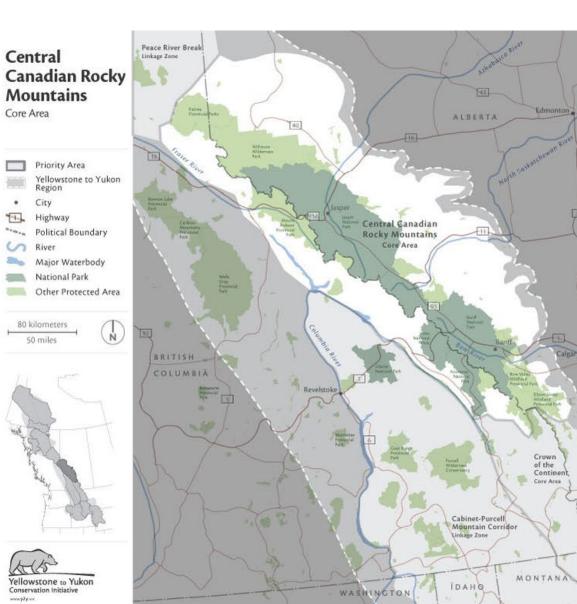
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - North

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Southern Alberta Chapters

Alberta Wilderness Association

Y2Y's— Eastern Slope Maps





Y2Y's— Financial Reports

Statement of Operations		
For the year ended December 31,	2016	201
For the year ended becember 51,	2010	201
Revenues		
Grants	\$ 11,700	\$ 33,60
Commissions	1,985	1,67
Interest income	7,300	6,42
Y2Y contract revenue (note 5)	2,437,867	1,682,59
Other income (note 5)	123,968	101,40
	2,582,820	1,825,68
Expenditures Development Fund Trust Fund Program Fund General Fund Capital Asset Fund	265,690 - 1,838,179 288,851 3,476	217,51 33,25 1,304,32 162,48
	2,396,196	1,717,57
Excess of revenues over expenditures before other item	186,624	108,1
Other income (expense) Gain (loss) on foreign exchange	(30,809)	206,04
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 155,815	\$ 314,16

IOTE	es to the Financial Statements			-
ece	ember 31, 2016			- <u>10</u>
	Marketable securities (continued)			
			2016	2015
			2010	2013
	Money market funds - RBC Canadian portfolio Money market funds - RBC US portfolio	\$	169,122 438,293	\$ 681,330 584,291
	many market rands tree do portione		450,255	304,29
		\$	607,415	\$ 1,265,621
	Related party transactions			
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ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

Office of the Minister
MLA, Lethbridge-West

DEC 0 2 2015

Mr. Gary Clark, President Crowsnest Pass Quad Squad Box 1031 Blairmore AB T0K 0E0 office@quadsquad.ca

Dear Mr. Clark:

Thank you for your letter regarding land use in the Crowsnest Pass. I appreciate your suggestions for fostering responsible use of public land.

The Government of Alberta recognizes that off-highway vehicle use is an important recreational activity for many Albertans. The Castle area has long been used by off-highway vehicle enthusiasts for recreational riding.

Both the expanded Castle Wildland Provincial Park and a new provincial park in the Castle area will continue to permit off-highway vehicle use on existing designated trails. Environment and Parks will work with users and stakeholders to develop park management and trail planning processes that identify and designate appropriate trail systems and access in the parks. Trail planning will ensure that trail locations and uses are sustainable, and that impacts to the environment are minimized. In addition, the management planning process will identify the infrastructure needed to support off-highway vehicle use.

Our government has several guidelines to minimize recreational pressures that produce undesirable impacts on land, vegetation, water, and wildlife. As you noted in your email, occupation on public land for recreational purposes is limited to 14 consecutive days. Environment and Parks is aware of the issue of long-term camping on public land and is working to resolve this matter.

Beginning this year on the Victoria Day long weekend, the Government of Alberta dedicated an additional 23 peace officers – including Conservation Officers and Park Rangers – to outreach, education, and law enforcement in Alberta's eastern slopes region. Other law enforcement agencies, such as the RCMP and Fish and Wildlife Officers, are also participating in this cross-government program.

208 Legislature Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada Telephone 780-427-2391 Fax 780-422-6259 1/2

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