2020

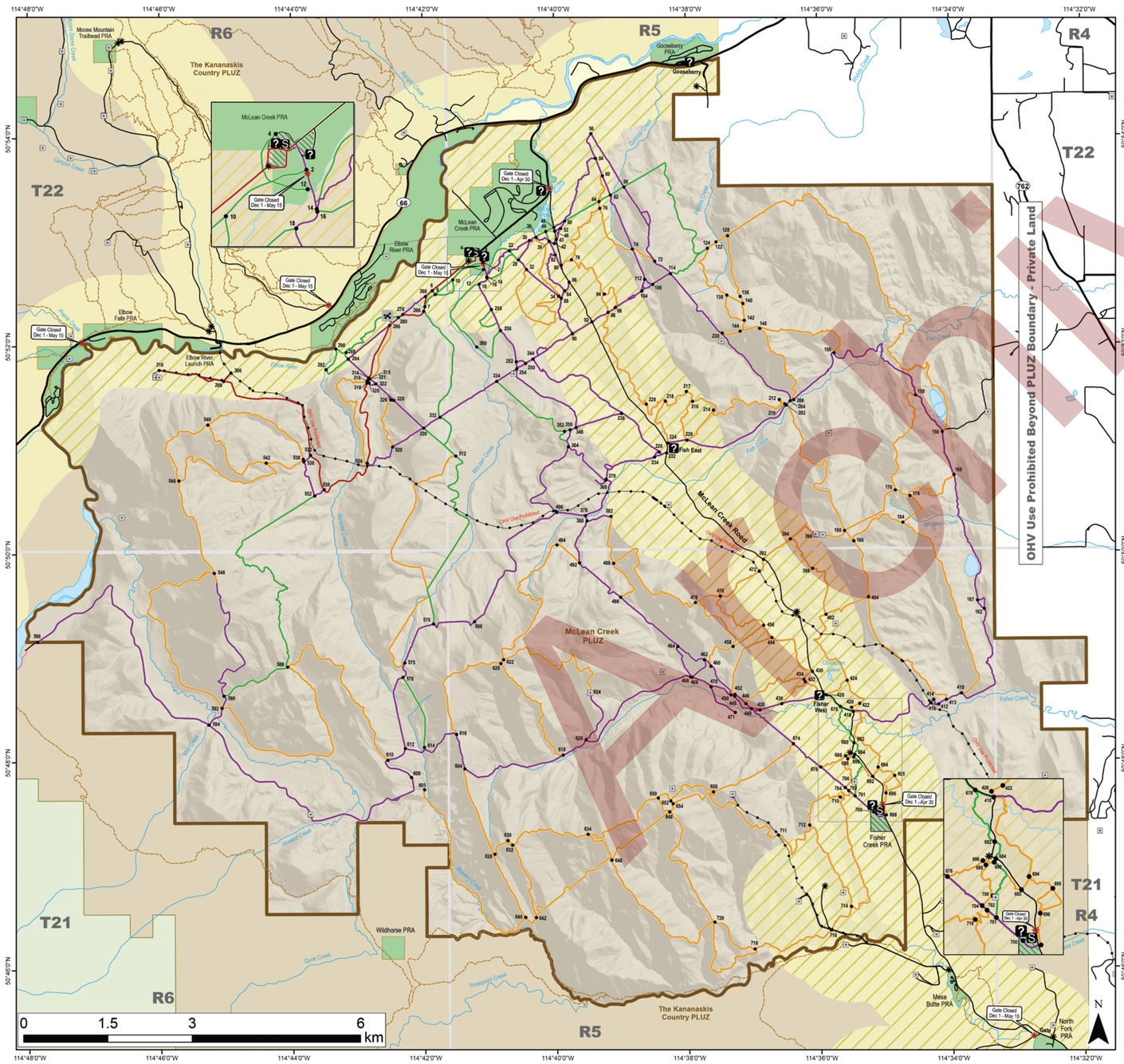
Motorized Public Land Use Zones of
Kananaskis Country

Map Legend

- Public Land Use Zone
- 1km No Camping/No Open Fire Zone
- Firearm Use Restriction Zone
- Staging Area
- Public Land Use Zones
- Provincial Recreation Area
- Public Land Recreation Area
- Parks and Protected Areas
- First Nations
- Townships
- River / Lake
- Stream / Creek
- Pipeline
- Non-motorized Trail
- Gate Seasonal
- Gate
- Trail Intersection Marker
- Staging Area
- Information Kiosk
- Gravel Pit
- Well Site
- Wildfire Lookout

Liability Disclaimer - This brochure is provided for information purposes and to advise you of the many rules relating to trail use and camping. **Use of the trail system is entirely at your own risk.** The trails have not been classified by degree of difficulty and little or no maintenance is done on these trails; natural and man-made hazards may exist. The trail system can be difficult and physically challenging and conditions may change due to weather and other factors. For example, trails that may be easy to traverse under dry or frozen conditions may be hazardous and/or impassable under spring thaw or wet conditions. It is up to users of the trail system to learn the necessary skills for their safe enjoyment and to exercise caution in potentially hazardous areas.

McLean Creek PLUZ



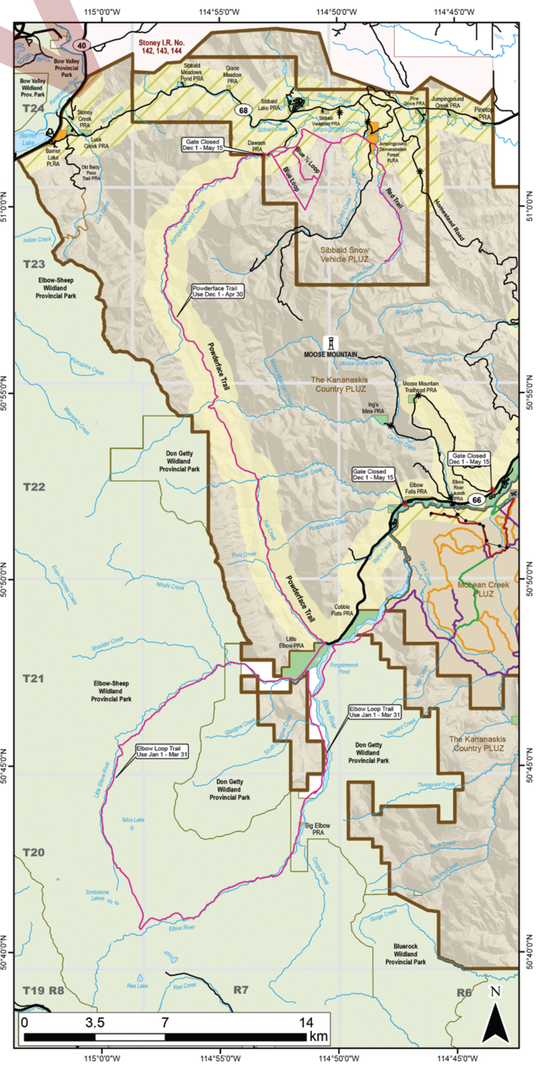
OHV Designated Trail Network in Effect
Stay on the Trails

Designated Trails and Roads in the Kananaskis Country Motorized PLUZs

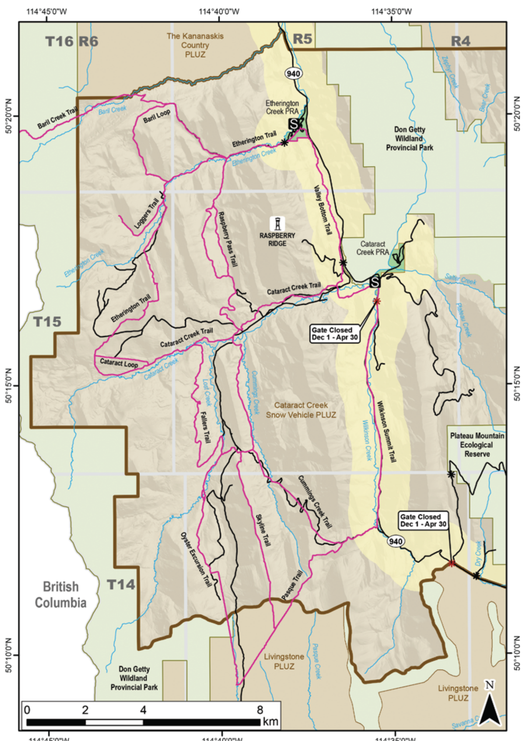
	Vehicle Description	Trail Sign	Map Symbol	What Type of Motorized Vehicle Am I Driving ? Truck	Side by Side	Quad	Motorcycle	Snow Vehicle	Public Land Use Zones Permitted Motorized Activities: McLean Creek Off-Highway Vehicle	Sibbald Snow Vehicle	Cataract Creek Snow Vehicle	Kananaskis Country	Elbow Loop (Kananaskis Country)	Powderface Trail (Kananaskis Country)
Trail Classification	Motorized vehicles with an overall width up to and including 2.4m (98") in width.			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ All OHV May 1-Nov 30, Dec 1-Apr 30. Restricted to vehicles not exceeding 450 kg (1000 lbs) with 3 or more flotation tires	x	x	x	x	x
	Motorized vehicles with an overall width up to and including 1.83m (72") in width.			x	✓	✓	✓	✓						
	Motorized vehicles with an overall width up to and including 0.9m (36") in width.			x	x	x	✓	✓						
	On-highway vehicle, OHV, and snow vehicle traffiic is allowed. The trail has been upgraded to allow for the industrial traffiic and a disposition under the *Public Lands Act* has been issued, but the road is to be treated as a recreation trail.	Shared Use Road		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
	Snow Vehicles – a motor vehicle designed and equipped to be driven exclusively on snow or ice – as defined by the Public Land Administration Regulation (PLAR). www.qp.alberta.ca			x	x	x	x	✓	✓ Jan 1 - Mar 31	✓ Jan 1 - Mar 31	✓ Dec 1 - Apr 30	x (See two exceptions) ⇒	✓ Jan 1 - Mar 31	✓ Dec 1 - Apr 30
Road Classification	Motorized vehicles insured and registered as on-highway vehicles only are permitted on these roads. (Public Highways, Departmental Licence of Occupation and Licence of Occupation Roads)	N/A	Paved / Gravel	Only on-highway registered vehicles permitted. Off-highway vehicles are not permitted on these roads										

Note: Trail access may be amended, modified or closed by an officer in response to fire, fire hazard, flooding, wildlife or other environmental and safety concerns. Please ensure you have the current information on the area to which you are travelling and obey all posted signs and notices.

Sibbald Snow Vehicle PLUZ and Elbow Loop Public Recreation Trail



Cataract Creek Snow Vehicle PLUZ



Sibbald and Cataract Creek Public Land Use Zone & Elbow Loop Public Recreation Trail

1. Travel is restricted to snow vehicles. All other OHVs are prohibited.
2. Travel is permitted on designated snow vehicle trails only.
3. Elbow Loop Public Recreation Trail is open Jan. 1 to Mar. 31.
4. Periodic trail closures may be in effect due to poor snow or avalanche conditions.
5. For your own safety, no stopping in posted avalanche areas.

Produced by Alberta Environment and Parks, South Saskatchewan Region, Resource Information Unit
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Alberta

Motorized Public Land Use Zones of Kananaskis Country

McLean Creek • Sibbald • Cataract Creek • Elbow Loop

- ***Stay on the designated trail***
- ***Take your garbage home***
- ***Respect other users of the area***

Kananaskis Country is a 4200 km² area designated as parks or public land and managed for multi-use. There are four Public Land Use Zones in Kananaskis Country: McLean Creek Off-Highway Vehicle PLUZ, Sibbald Snow Vehicle and Cataract Snow Vehicle PLUZs, and the Kananaskis Country PLUZ.

Public Land Use Zones are managed to protect the environment while allowing responsible and sustainable use of the land. In addition to recreation, this multiple use area includes forestry, agriculture, and oil and gas activities. Regulations within a PLUZ determine where recreational activities can occur and under what conditions. It is your responsibility to become familiar with activities allowed in this area before you visit. Refer to the map and charts in this pamphlet for further details.

Of Special Interest

Firearm Use Restriction

Firearm use restrictions are in effect for McLean and Kananaskis Country PLUZs except for authorized hunting purposes. See maps for location.

Westslope Cutthroat Trout

Alberta's westslope cutthroat is listed as threatened under the provincial *Wildlife Act* and the federal *Species at Risk Act*. Numbers are declining from degradation or destruction of habitats, caused in large part by human activities, hybridization with non-native trout species, or overharvest by angling. You have a vital role to play in the recovery of this species! Some rivers and stream in the Kananaskis Country PLUZ are critical habitat for the Westslope cutthroat trout. While visiting the Kananaskis Country PLUZ, please keep your "wheels out of the water" to reduce impacts to water quality and the spawning habitat vital to the recovery of this species.

Wheels out of Water

- Stay on the trail to avoid water bodies, wetlands and shorelines.
- Wheeled or tracked vehicles are not allowed on beds or shores of watercourses, wetlands or waterbodies.
- Use designated crossings. Crossing the stream anywhere other than a bridge or designated ford is considered off the designated trail.
- Do not wash your vehicle in a watercourse, wetland or waterbody.

Camp Responsibly

Random camping refers to camping outside designated campgrounds. This type of camping is user maintained and unserviced. Plan accordingly.

- Do not camp where you will block or restrict trail access.
- Choose areas that minimize damage to vegetation.
- Use existing fire pits when possible.
- Do not remove artifacts.
- Camp at least 100m (330 ft) away from an oil and gas well site or facility.
- Do not camp on a pipeline.
- Remove all garbage for disposal at home or at an approved garbage disposal facility.

Serviced Camping Opportunities

Visitors to Kananaskis Country are strongly encouraged to use the amenities and facilities provided by Alberta Environment and Parks in Provincial Recreation Areas (PRA) and Provincial Parks.

These areas have been engineered to reduce the risk of environmental impact to fish and wildlife habitat, vegetation, soil and water that is caused by intensive use.

Do not remove firewood from Provincial Recreation Areas.

Public Land Use Zones	McLean Creek Off-Highway Vehicle		Sibbald Snow Vehicle	Cataract Creek Snow Vehicle		Kananaskis Country
Services	**McLean Creek Campground**	**Fisher Creek Campground**	**Dawson Equestrian Staging Area & Campground**	**Cataract Creek Campground**	**Etherington Creek Campground**	
Staging Area	OHV Snow vehicle	OHV Snow vehicle	Snow vehicle	Snow vehicle	Snow vehicle	For a complete list of Provincial Recreation Areas and services in the Kananaskis Country PLUZ visit www.albertaparks.ca/kananaskis
Provincial Recreation Area Camping	170 sites (winter: sites/ services reduced) OHV-friendly sites available	30 sites Year-round	10 sites Year-round	102 sites May 15-Sept 1*	61 sites May 2-Oct 13* 10 equestrian camping sites May 2-Sept 1	
- Reservations	yes	x	x	x	x	
- Electrical Hookup	yes	x	x	x	x	
- Showers	yes	x	x	x	x	
- Water/Pump	yes	yes	x	yes	yes	
- Toilets	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
- Bear-proof garbage bins	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
- Shelter	x	x	x	yes	x	

* Opening and closing dates are subject to change without notice. See www.albertaparks.ca/kananaskis for updated operating dates.

OHV: Off-Highway Vehicle (not including snow vehicles) as defined by Public Land Administration Regulation

Volunteer Efforts In The Public Land Use Zones

Volunteers play an important role in maintaining and enhancing the designated trail system in Kananaskis Country. Their work helps improve water quality and protect fisheries resources and riparian zones.

Volunteers routinely perform maintenance on existing bridges and trails, as well as carry out bioengineering projects such as planting willows to stabilize stream banks. The efforts of these dedicated individuals provide recreational opportunities for users of the area, while protecting the area's natural resources for current and future generations.

Ride Responsibly

- Lead by example; use the trails in a safe and responsible manner.
- Slow down. Adjust your speed of travel according to trail conditions.
- Be courteous of other users and practice good rider etiquette.
- Ride when trails are dry. Avoid riding after heavy rainfall or snowmelt.
- Motorized users yield to non-motorized users.
- Pull over to the side, turn off your engine and remove your helmet when horses are approaching.
- If you encounter a locked gate, do not proceed beyond it.
- Close all gates behind you including those you found open.
- Travel is permitted beyond cattle guards and wire gates on the designated trail system.
- Reduce the spread of invasive species by washing your vehicle and equipment before entering the PLUZ.
- Ensure exhaust systems are clear of debris that may ignite and cause wildfire.

Public Land Use Zone Rules - Know the Law!

General

- You shall comply with the lawful orders, instructions and directions of an Officer.
- You shall comply with the instructions, prohibitions, and directions contained in signs and notices posted by or at the request of an Officer on or about the Public Land Use Zones (PLUZ), Public Land Recreation Areas (PLRA) or Public Land Recreation Trails (PLRT).
- An Officer may order a person within the PLUZ, PLRA, and PLRT to refrain from doing anything that in the opinion of the Officer is dangerous to life or property or detrimental to the management of or use of any road, trail or route within that PLUZ, PLRA, or PLRT.
- While in a PLUZ, PLRA or PLRT you shall keep the land and improvements in a condition satisfactory to an Officer.
- When leaving the PLUZ you shall restore the land to a clean and tidy condition.
- You shall remove all garbage for disposal at home or at an approved garbage disposal facility.
- No cutting, removing or damaging living trees or any vegetation is allowed.
- Do not deposit harmful materials such as sediment, pollution, gray water or sewage into any water or onto ice of any watercourse or water body.
- Adhere to fire bans and closures.

Motorized vehicles

- Off-highway vehicles are not allowed on roads.
- You may only cross waterbodies at bridges or lawful crossings. Crossing a waterbody anywhere other than a bridge or designated ford is not permitted.
- Motorized users must stay on the designated trails.
- Operators under 14 years of age must be supervised by an adult.

Camping

- No camping or open fires allowed within one kilometer of a PRA or PLRA.
- Camping facilities must be temporary and portable.
- Limit your stay to 14 days.
- Campfires are allowed for cooking and warming purposes only.
- Campfires must be attended at all time and extinguished before leaving your site.
- Camp at least 30 m (100 ft.) from water.

Traffic Safety Act

Under the *Traffic Safety Act* an off-highway vehicles (OHV) is any motorized mode of transportation built for cross-country travel on land, water, snow, ice or marsh or swamp land or on other natural terrain. CSA compliant helmets must be worn by OHV users when riding on public land.

Every OHV and snow vehicle operating on public land must have the following:

- Valid registration and insurance. Operator must carry and produce documents.
- Current license plate properly affixed in a visible location.
- Red rear tail lamp capable of emitting a light visible from at least 60m (185 ft.).
- At least one front white headlamp capable of illuminating a person, vehicle or object from at least 60m (185 ft.).
- Proper exhaust muffler with spark arrestor.

To operate an OHV on Alberta public lands, people from another jurisdiction must:

- Carry proof of residency.
- Follow the rules regarding registration of the vehicle and the display of license plate as required by their home jurisdiction.
- Produce valid proof of insurance.
- If you have been in Alberta for more than 30 days, all Alberta requirements apply.

Know Before You Go

As a user of the PLUZ, it is your responsibility to ensure you are adequately informed of closures, appropriate usages and rules. Visitors who do not follow the rules may be fined or charged under the provincial legislation.

To learn more about Public Land Use Zones including trail updates visit the AEP website at alberta.ca/environment-and-parks

Additional web resources:

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry – wildfire.alberta.ca
Alberta Parks – albertaparks.ca
Parks Canada – pc.gc.ca
Vacation Guide – travelalberta.com

Avalanche Information

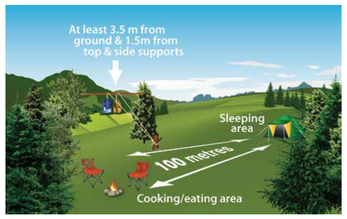
PLUZs are not controlled for avalanches, be prepared to properly manage avalanche-related risk when travelling through this area. For more information on avalanche safety and to check avalanche hazards and terrain ratings visit www.avalanche.ca.

Avoiding Wildlife Conflicts

PLUZs are home for many animals, including grizzly and black bears, cougars, coyotes and wolves.
Please take precautions to reduce the likelihood of a dangerous wildlife encounter.

- Set up camp sites in open areas away from game trails, berry bushes, clover patches, streams and lakeshores.
- Constantly make noise to warn wildlife of your approach.
- Keep your dog on a leash at all times. Unleashed dogs may provoke an unwanted encounter.
- Carry bear spray and know how to use it.
- Use odor-proof containers to store anything that may attract a bear, including toiletries and pet food and never take these items into your sleeping area.
- Store food and other scented items in your vehicle or high in a tree, at least 100 m (330 ft.) from your camp.
- Cook food and dispose of dishwater at least 100 m (330 ft.) from your sleeping area.
- Never partially burn or bury food scraps.
- Pack out all garbage in sealed bags.
- Never feed, approach or disturb bears or wildlife.
- Stay in groups. Keep children close.
- Look for signs of recent wildlife activity including scat, prints, tree markings and wildlife carcasses. If there are signs of recent wildlife activity, leave the area immediately.

Always be aware of your surroundings and keep a respectful distance from wildlife. For more information on wildlife safety visit alberta.ca/environment-and-parks.



Equestrian Use On Public Land

- Do not tie horses to trees.
- All sites must be cleaned of manure and excess feed before leaving.
- All remaining feed must be disposed of at home. Do not leave any feed behind.
- Use weed-free feed and hay.
- Avoid grazing wherever possible.
- When accessing water, use hard ground surfaces and avoid soft ground conditions to prevent bank erosion.

For More Information

Contact the nearest AEP office or visit alberta.ca/environment-and-parks

Calgary
403-297-8800 (dial 310-0000 toll-free)

Fire Ban Information 1-866-FYI-FIRE (394-3473)

Report A Poacher - 1-800-642-3800 to report suspicious hunting and fishing activity, dangerous wildlife encounters and serious public lands abuse

Emergency

In case of emergency, please dial **911**

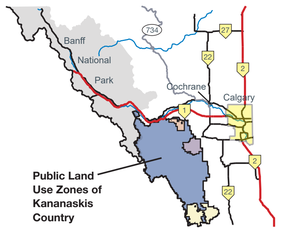
To report a wildfire call **310-FIRE (310-3473)**

Environment 24-hour pollution response team **1-800-222-6514**

Kananaskis Country

Revised April 2020

Getting There



This brochure is classified as a notice under the Public Lands Administration Regulation.

The official statutes and regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law. Clarification of the regulations may be obtained from your nearest AEP office.

Provincial statutes and regulations, in print or electronic format, are available through Alberta Queen's Printer: 780-427-4952 or visit www.qp.alberta.ca

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