

# WEST BRAGG CREEK ALL-SEASON TRAIL PLAN

## What We Heard

With significant input received through approximately 100 responses, the feedback has been grouped by theme.

Generally, responses were positive and the majority of respondents expressed support for the plan. More than 90 per cent of the respondents identified the need for trail system improvements and more opportunity for recreation. Less than 5 per cent of respondents did not support any trail improvements or expansion of the current system.

Many of the respondents identified themselves as users of the current trail system, with some individuals indicating that they might use the system in the future. The main principles that the respondents expressed were to minimize environmental impacts, have a sustainable system, the value of outdoor recreation and fitness, and the potential for enhancing environmental awareness and education.

What We Heard	Response
<p>How will this plan address the conflicts with industrial uses and resource management, such as grazing and forestry in the area?</p>	<p>The West Bragg Creek trail network primarily resides on public land within a forest management area where a number of multiple uses are permitted to operate on the landscape. It is recognized that these other land uses and resource management initiatives may have some impact on the trail system, however proper planning and commitment to reaching a workable solution should help to minimize conflict.</p> <p>More detailed planning will be required to identify the proper trail alignment and address site-specific issues related to and from the industrial uses.</p> <p>Official trails that will be impacted by logging or petroleum development will either be rerouted or temporarily closed and subsequently put back in working condition by the proponent once the logging or development is complete.</p>
<p>Does this plan adequately address the impacts of the trails on the watershed and the wildlife?</p>	<p>A guiding principle for the plan was to identify a system of trails that addresses the environmental impacts of summer trail use; the current and future capacity of year round trail use; and, the designation of a manageable trail system.</p> <p>The plan promotes a sustainable trail system by using best practices for trail development to avoid problem areas; limiting summer use of wetter winter use trails; reducing illegal trail building; or, encouraging volunteerism to maintain trails in summer and winter.</p> <p>More detailed planning and development permits will be required to identify the proper trail alignment and address any vegetation or wildlife concerns.</p>

<p>How do we deal with the impacts of and conflicts between user groups?</p>	<p>The scope of the area under this plan is a finite land base that has a multitude of recreation values and other uses. As a result, it is imperative that the designated trail system be as efficient and versatile as possible. This also means that multiple uses and users must be willing to share and to respectfully enjoy the same trails.</p> <p>The plan recommends developing and implementing a more rigorous trail etiquette and education program, using signage and monitoring.</p>
<p>Can we limit the types of winter use on ski trails, specifically horses, dogs hikers and snowshoers?</p>	<p>In the winter the groomed trails are intended for skiers to be the primary users and damage to the track results in lower quality skiing and increased maintenance.</p> <p>The plan recommends supporting current initiatives to minimize impacts to the groomed track through the trail etiquette and education program, using signage and monitoring. There will also be non-groomed and designated trails for snowshoeing and other recreational uses.</p>
<p>How does this plan address the need for more infrastructure and maintenance?</p>	<p>The primary focus of the plan was to establish a conceptual long term trail system. The plan however does address some desired infrastructure improvements at the staging area, including new picnic areas and expansion of the parking lot.</p> <p>The plan recognizes that all infrastructure improvements and trail maintenance by Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation (TPR) are subject to the agreement between TPR and the Greater Bragg Creek Trails Association as well as to available funding and capacity.</p>
<p>What will the impacts of this plan be to the West Bragg Creek Road?</p>	<p>Upgrades to the road in order to provide better and safer access to the staging area is not within the scope of this plan. Rocky View County and Alberta Transportation have jurisdiction over the road and have initiated a review of current and future requirements.</p>
<p>What about the other existing trails in the area and how will this system link to them?</p>	<p>The plan recognizes the importance of connecting to the regional routes, such as the Tom Snow trail, as well as to other important staging areas like Allen Bill pond. This plan is not intended to cover the new trails and improvements at Moose Mountain or other areas outside of its scope.</p>