

Regulatory Details And Lower Athabasca Regional Plan Amendments

Fact Sheet

Bistcho Lake and Cold Lake Sub-regional Plans

Alberta's sub-regional plans continue to be a key component of the province's Crown land management. The Government of Alberta has identified land use planning as a priority, and the province remains committed to moving forward on developing and implementing plans.

Sub-regional plans help enable caribou recovery while maintaining a working landscape and supporting a broad range of land uses and values including conservation, Indigenous traditional land use, recreation and economic development. They provide place-based direction to support regulatory certainty.

The Bistcho Lake and Cold Lake sub-regional task forces completed their recommendations in spring of 2020. The final sub-regional plans were approved and publicly released in April 2022.

Bistcho Lake and Cold Lake Regulatory Details

The approved Cold Lake and Bistcho Lake Sub-regional Plans identify policy direction and requirements for activities within the sub-regions. The draft regulatory details for these plans support full implementation of the plans. This will provide greater certainty the outcomes of the plans can be achieved.

Lower Athabasca Regional Plan Amendments

The Government of Alberta proposes to implement the regulatory details for the Cold Lake and Bistcho Lake plans through amending the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan (LARP). The *Alberta Land Stewardship Act* (ALSA) establishes the legal basis for regional plans. The proposed amendments to enable the implementation and enforcement of the sub-regional plans solely consist of incorporating the regulatory details as new Parts 9 and 10 of the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan, and other corresponding amendments to enable implementation of the approved sub-regional plans. No other amendments to the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan are being proposed through this public engagement period.

Bistcho Lake Sub-Regional Plan and Lower Athabasca Regional Plan Amendments

The Bistcho Lake sub-region is located in the Lower Peace region, which at this time does not have a regional plan in place. For this reason, the Government of Alberta proposes to incorporate the regulatory details of the Bistcho Lake Sub-regional Plan into the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan as an interim option until the Lower Peace Regional Plan is developed and comes into effect and can incorporate the Bistcho Lake Sub-regional Plan regulatory details. The *Alberta Land Stewardship Act* enables this ability for a regional plan to "manage an activity, effect, cause of an effect or person outside a planning region until a regional plan comes into force with respect to the matter or person."

Public Engagement

Albertans can now provide input on the draft regulatory details and proposed Lower Athabasca Regional Plan amendments which continue the implementation of the plans.

The *Alberta Land Stewardship Act* requires holders of statutory consents identified through proposed regulatory details be notified and provided the opportunity to propose alternate means to achieve the policy outcomes of the subregional plans than including provisions in the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan. This current public engagement period and all engagement and consultation activities conducted in the development of the Cold Lake and Bistcho Lake Sub-regional Plans will be considered part of this Lower Athabasca Regional Plan amendment process.

We want to hear from you

Public feedback will be reviewed and considered prior to finalization of the regulatory details and the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan amendments required to implement and enforce the Bistcho Lake and Cold Lake Sub-regional Plans. Albertans' input will help make sure that these regulations are implementing the sub-regional plans as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Please visit:

<https://www.alberta.ca/sub-regional-planning-engagements> or email us at SRPRegDetailsLARP@gov.ab.ca.

Map: Bistcho Lake and Cold Lake Sub-regions, and the Land-use Framework Regions

