

Red Earth Sub-regional Plan

Amendments to the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan

Sub-regional planning

Sub-regional planning supports the Government of Alberta's commitment to maintain working landscapes that can provide for economic, social, and environmental outcomes. The Government of Alberta has identified land use planning as a priority and the province remains committed to developing and implementing sub-regional plans.

The Lower Athabasca Regional Plan (LARP) approved an implementation strategy to provide detailed land use planning for the green area, including planning for the northeast portion of this sub-regional area.

To enable the proposed Red Earth sub-regional plan under the *Alberta Land Stewardship Act*, amendments to the LARP are required.

Red Earth Sub-regional Plan

The Red Earth sub-region is located in north-central Alberta, which is rich in natural resources, provides habitat for diverse species and provides economic, subsistence, cultural, and recreational values for the communities it sustains. Much of the landscape is managed for resources, wildlife and watersheds. The sub-region supports land uses such as forestry, energy development, and some agriculture.

Protected lands and public recreation areas contribute to the valued culture of local people and practicing landscape for local Indigenous communities and Métis people.

The outcomes for the Red Earth sub-regional plan include:

1. support economic opportunities that provide benefits to local municipalities, Indigenous peoples, and all Albertans
2. consolidate and manage development over time to support landscape intactness and naturally self-sustaining plant and wildlife populations with a focus on species at risk
3. support recreational, cultural, and traditional land uses, including the practice of constitutionally recognized rights in the sub-region, for the benefit of local people, Indigenous people, and all Albertans

The Red Earth sub-regional plan must be aligned with the LARP.

Red Earth Regulatory Details

Regulatory details are proposed to make specific requirements of the Red Earth sub-regional plan enforceable.

Lower Athabasca Regional Plan amendments

Proposed amendments to the LARP are focused on enabling the Red Earth sub-regional plan.

The Red Earth sub-region is in the Lower Athabasca, Lower Peace, and Upper Athabasca regions. There is also a very small portion that overlaps with the Upper Peace Region. Proposed amendments to the LARP will enable the Red Earth sub-regional plan and regional plan to manage activities outside of the Lower Athabasca Region. Within the other regions, the sub-regional plan will provide land-use directions only in the Red Earth sub-region.

Enabling the Red Earth sub-regional plan

Proposed amendments to the LARP's strategic plan, implementation plan and Regulatory Details are required to:

1. establish the Red Earth sub-region
2. adopt the sub-regional plan's policy directions
3. include the sub-regional plan's Regulatory Details as Part 9 of the LARP
4. include important implementation requirements, such as monitoring and reporting

Public engagement

Albertans are invited to have their say and help determine how land in the Red Earth sub-region should be used by providing input on the draft sub-regional plan, the draft regulatory details, and on these amendments to the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan.

The *Alberta Land Stewardship Act* requires holders of a statutory consent be notified and provided an opportunity for the holder of the statutory consent to propose alternative means or measures of achieving or maintaining the policy objectives. This current public engagement period, and all engagement and consultation activities conducted in the development of the Red Earth sub-regional plan, will be considered part of the regional plan amendment process.

We want to hear from you

Your input will help the Government of Alberta understand how the amendments, the plan and associated regulatory details may affect you, and can help identify opportunities to improve the plan.