

South Athabasca Sub-regional Plan

New Conservation Areas

This plan will establish two new conservation areas in the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range (CLAWR) to support ongoing caribou recovery and Indigenous traditional land use.

Key Components of the Plan

- **New Conservation Areas (Page 40)** – Conservation areas will continue to be managed under the Public Lands Act and will not be designated under the Provincial Parks Act.
- **Activities in conservation areas (Page 40)** – Conservation areas will continue to support ongoing energy development within the CLAWR and will not impact any activities allowed under the Memorandum of Agreement with the Government of Canada.
- **Management Planning (Page 40)** – Planning for the conservation areas will be led by First Nations with right of access to the CLAWR and will include opportunities for non-commercial forestry.

CLAWR (Alberta) Facts

In this sub-region:

- The CLAWR covers roughly 5,400 square kilometres.
- The proposed protected areas cover roughly 2,800 square kilometres, or 52% of the CLAWR.
- There is roughly 4,200 square kilometres of industrial disturbance within the CLAWR.
- The Alberta portion of the CLAWR is roughly 78% disturbed (Buffered footprint).
- The proposed conservation areas are roughly 35% disturbed.
- There is roughly 1,865 square kilometres of disturbance within the proposed conservation areas.
- There are roughly 2,100 km of legacy seismic line in the proposed protected areas.

Did you know...

- The CLAWR is a military training area that straddles the Alberta-Saskatchewan border.
- The CLAWR's extensive, unrestricted airspace creates opportunities for realistic air combat simulation.
- The CLAWR has existed since the early 1950's.
- The Cold Lake caribou range overlaps a large portion of the CLAWR.
- About half of the CLAWR overlaps the South Athabasca Sub-regional Plan's "Go Zone" and is an important area for oil and gas production.

For more information: alberta.ca/south-athabasca-sub-regional-plan-engagement

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Map showing the locations of two proposed conservation areas in the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range. (Figure 7 from the South Athabasca Sub-regional Plan)

