

## Busting the Myths: Calculations of the area and number of parks to be closed or privatized

The Government of Alberta recently announced that they will be closing 20 parks in 2020, and will be de-listing and searching for partnerships to take over management of 164 parks. There are a lot of numbers being used, so in the interest of transparency, the table below summarizes the calculations of area impacted (in hectares), as well as the total number of parks impacted.

	<b>Park Type</b> (proposed partnership or closure in 2020 <sup>†</sup> )	<b>Total Area (ha)<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>Area to be privatized or closed</b>	<b>% Total Area</b>	<b>Total Number</b>	<b>Number to be privatized or closed</b>	<b>% Total Number</b>
<b>Provincial Recreation Areas (PRAs)</b>	PRAs (proposed partnerships)	89,599.77	9,029.5	10.08	204	145	71.08
	PRAs (closures in 2020)	89,599.77	511.89	0.57	204	5	2.45
	Totals: PRAs		9,541.39	<b>10.65</b>		150	<b>73.53</b>
<b>Provincial Parks (PPs)</b>	PPs (proposed partnerships)	249,917.43	1,456.27	0.58	76	10	13.16
	PPs (closures in 2020)	249,917.43	3,978.77	1.59	76	6	7.89
	Totals: PPs		5,435.04	<b>2.17</b>		16	<b>21.05</b>
<b>Natural Areas (NAs)</b>	NAs (proposed partnerships)	129,668.52	1,118.86	0.86	138	9	6.52
	NAs (closures in 2020)	<i>Note that no NAs are to be closed in 2020</i>					
<b>All Parks</b>	Willmore Wilderness Park, Provincial Parks, Wildland Provincial Parks, Provincial Recreation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves, Natural Areas, Heritage Rangelands	4,403,954.78	16,095.29	<b>0.37</b>	473	175	<b>37.00</b>

\* Parks identified in both the 2020 closures and proposed partnerships lists were only counted in the proposed partnerships section of this table to avoid double-counting. Follow this link for the full list of parks impacted: <https://albertaparks.ca/media/6496183/parks-impacted-list.pdf>

<sup>†</sup> Area calculated with ArcGIS using the Altalis Geo-Administrative Areas datasets: <https://www.altalis.com/map?id=117>