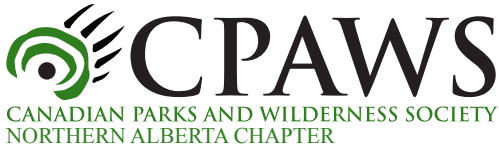


# CPAWS Public Survey Guide for Cold Lake draft Sub-Regional Plans



## **Caribou have waited almost 10 years for recovery plans in Alberta: Have your say in their future!**

Alberta's caribou have been waiting for almost ten years for provincial range plans under Canada's Species At Risk Act (SARA) while experiencing ongoing declines and accelerated habitat loss. The Government of Alberta has released draft version of plans that include caribou ranges, as well as some land surrounding the range, in "sub-regional plans". These sub-regional plans will lay out the rules of the land, including limits, for all the industrial and recreational activities that occur within, and outside, caribou ranges in the sub-region.



*photo credit: Orna Wachman*

Now is your chance to let the Government of Alberta know that the future of caribou depends on strong sub-regional plans. The province is collecting public feedback on the draft sub-regional plans until May 29, 2021



*a caribou crossing a road in the Cold Lake, Alberta region*

## Cold Lake Sub-Regional Plan Survey Guide:

### Question 1

1. Do you think there are additional outcomes that we should consider for the sub-regional plan? Please describe them here.

Please add your comment here...

### Our suggestions:

Sub-regional plans should include tools for climate change mitigation, specifically through the protection, conservation and maintenance of carbon-rich peatlands. Protection of peatlands will store carbon and show that Alberta is a leader in tackling climate change.

## Question 2

2. In your opinion, how effective would this plan be at supporting caribou and other wildlife? \*

- ☐ Very effective
- ☐ Somewhat effective
- ☐ Neither effective nor ineffective
- ☐ Somewhat ineffective
- ☐ Very ineffective
- ☐ I don't know.

Select a level of effectiveness that you feel is appropriate, even if it is "I don't know".

## Question 3

3. Please tell us why you answered that way.

Please add your comment here...

### Our suggestions:

The sub-regional plan shows it is possible to achieve federal caribou habitat requirements and introduces new management mechanisms that will minimize disturbance, if implemented urgently, effectively and diligently monitored.

The proposed Access Management Plan is a strong tool because it uses strict road density limits and wetland disturbance limits for managing the road network. The plan should clearly articulate which body is responsible for enforcing these disturbance limits and reporting on the existing and planned footprint. The plan assumes restoration of short-term roads and other "temporary" disturbances, like well pads, which will be key to increasing undisturbed caribou habitat. This guidance should include clear time frames within which the restoration of short-term roads and associated temporary features needs to occur.

## Question 4

4. If you have other comments about supporting caribou and other species in the sub-region, add them here.

Please add your comment here...

### Our suggestions:

Restoration needs to be monitored, incentivized and aligned with the Access Management Plan. Protected areas can be used to ensure areas treated for restoration do not become disturbed again.

## Question 5

5. In your opinion, how effective would this plan be at supporting economic activities in the region?

- ☐ Very effective
- ☐ Somewhat effective
- ☐ Neither effective nor ineffective
- ☐ Somewhat ineffective
- ☐ Very ineffective
- ☐ I don't know.

Select a level of effectiveness that you feel is appropriate, even if it is "I don't know".

## Question 6

6. Please tell us why you answered that way.

Please add your comment here...

Provide some details on why you selected the level of effectiveness for economic activities.



## Question 7

7. If you have other comments about supporting economic opportunities in the sub-region, add them here.

Please add your comment here...

### Our suggestions:

The Access Management Plan should clearly articulate which body is responsible for enforcing disturbance limits and reporting on existing and planned footprint. For "short-term" roads in the Access Management Plan, there should be clear guidance on the time frames within which restoration should occur. The lifting of the moratorium on the sale of mineral leases should only occur when the Access Management Plan is in place and can guide where new leases are sold. The plan should recognize the opportunity to support local job opportunities through significant restoration work that will be necessary in the caribou herd ranges.

## Question 8

8. In your opinion, how effective would this plan be at supporting recreational opportunities in the region? \*

- ☐ Very effective
- ☐ Somewhat effective
- ☐ Neither effective nor ineffective
- ☐ Somewhat ineffective
- ☐ Very ineffective
- ☐ I don't know.

Select a level of effectiveness that you feel is appropriate, even if it is "I don't know".

## Question 9

9. Please tell us why you answered that way.

Please add your comment here...

### Our suggestions:

The sub-regional plan presents a robust recreation network, however the recreation management plan needs to be environmentally-sustainable by recognizing trail density limits and focusing on supporting low-impact activities. The conservation of freshwater lakes can be negatively impacted by increases in recreational activity and tourism development. The proposed Recreation Management Areas should be re-evaluated to consider areas where conservation needs to be the top priority and/or explicitly manage for recreation limits.

## Question 10

10. If you have other comments about supporting recreational opportunities in the sub-region, add them here.

Please add your comment here...

**Contribute other comments on recreational opportunities here.**

## Question 11

11. In your opinion, how effective would this plan be at supporting Indigenous land us in the region? \*

- ☐ Very effective
- ☐ Somewhat effective
- ☐ Neither effective nor ineffective
- ☐ Somewhat ineffective
- ☐ Very ineffective
- ☐ I don't know.

**Select a level of effectiveness that you feel is appropriate, even if it is "I don't know".**

## Question 12

12. Please tell us why you answered that way.

Please add your comment here...

## Our suggestions:

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas allow for Traditional land-use and Traditional Knowledge to inform land-use planning. Collaborative identification of areas important to Indigenous communities should include use of IPCAs. The government should also provide resources for Indigenous communities to increase their capacity to carry out land-use mapping and collaboration during the planning process.

## Question 13

13. If you have other comments about supporting Indigenous land use in the sub-region, add them here.

Please add your comment here...

### Our suggestions:

I support and encourage further collaboration with Indigenous communities through environmental monitoring programs. It should be a priority to continue the work of the Cooperative Management Board for the Dillon River Wildland Provincial Park.



*Cold Lake*

*photo credit: Eileen Mak*