ALBERTA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION



Plateau Mountain Ecological Reserve

Submitted by: Chris Saunders

Plateau Mountain stewardship visit - October 30, 2015

Participants: Chris Saunders, Jen Saunders and Paul Sutherland

Actions: We drove to the Plateau Mountain Road access and walked along the road to the first well site (about 4km), and returned the same way. The weather was extremely challenging - very strong winds and snow falling in near white-out conditions. This precluded a more comprehensive review of the area Key matters arising:

- a) There is no signage on the gate at the southern access (Plateau Mountain Road). A large sign is required stating that the area beyond the gate is an ecological reserve and detailing the various activities which are not allowed.
- b) There is one instance of a vehicle, likely an ATV, shortcutting a large bend on the road. As a result of the weather conditions it was not possible to judge how old the tracks are. The ecological reserve looks secure from access to vehicles the gate is secure and the related fence comprehensive enough. It seems likely that the tracks are caused by a person with permission to access the area on an ATV, probably an oil field worker, however, there is no proof. This issue will be reviewed in more detail at a spring visit.
- c) The first well site is well maintained.
- d) All other observations were "as expected".



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