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Calgary Wild is a project of Alberta Wildcanada.net. We gratefully ackn Calgary Foundation ject of Alberta Wilderness Association and gratefully acknowledge the support of the and the Community Initiatives Program.



KANANASKIS COUNTRY

Located 45 minutes west of Calgary, Kananaskis Country is a spectacular 4,130 km² wilderness area of towering mountains, rich valleys and meadows, beautiful rivers and stunning lakes. It is home to a great variety of plant and animal life.

Kananaskis Country is treasured by Albertans. We are drawn to its wildness and natural beauty. Here we have a chance to re-connect with our wilderness roots and enjoy our precious wilderness and wildlife. We find a place of peace and quiet away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and renew ourselves in recreational activities unique to our wildlands.

The connection between healthy cities and healthy wildlands is a two-way relationship. These wildlands are fragile and, without the support of individuals, they may be lost.







CARING FOR KANANASKIS COUNTRY

Albertans are proud of Kananaskis Country. A 1999 government survey into Albertans' views of Kananaskis Country found:

- 88 percent agreed "the highest priority should be environmental protection and enhancement, even if this means fewer recreational opportunities for people".
- 76 percent believe that Kananaskis Country is a delicate eco-system, in which wilderness and wildlife may be at risk from further development.

The future of our watersheds in Kananaskis Country depends on:

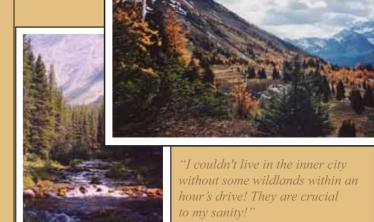
- Greater legislated protection within Kananaskis Country
- Elimination of clearcut logging
- Reduction in the impacts of industrial and recreational activity

Visit www.calgarywild.net to take action.



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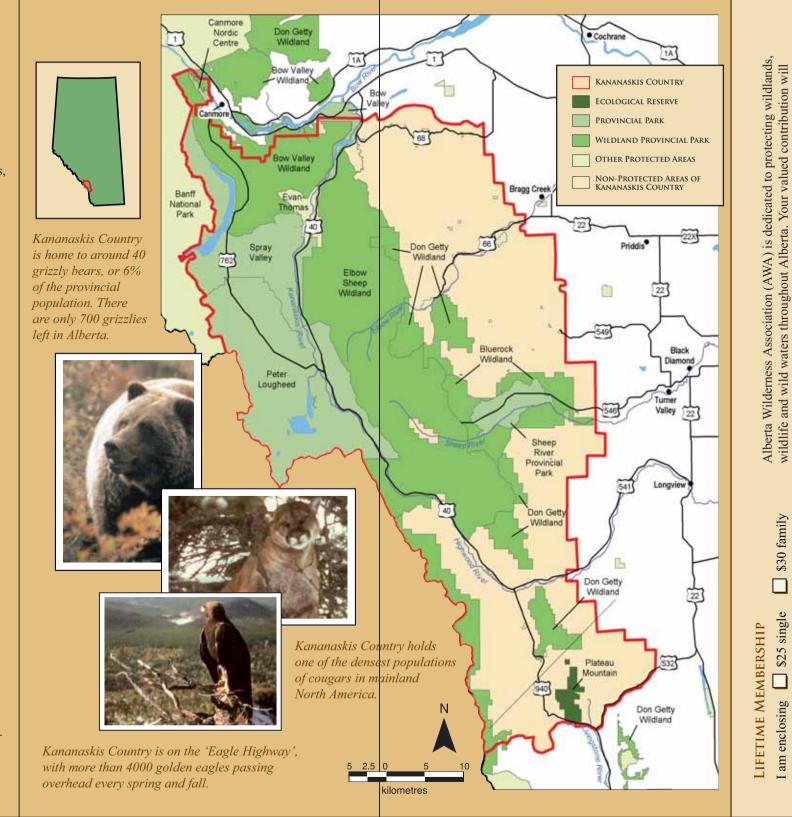
Calgary Wild participant.

KANANASKIS: THE SOURCE OF OUR WATER

- Kananaskis Country is the source of 5 rivers: the Kananaskis, Elbow, Sheep, Highwood and Livingstone. Waters from Kananaskis Country also flow into the Bow and Oldman rivers.
- Kananaskis Country supplies water to many communities. including Calgary (nearly half of Calgary's water comes from the Elbow River), Bragg Creek, Turner Valley, Black Diamond, Okotoks, Longview and High River.
- Factors affecting water quality in Kananaskis Country include:
- Oil and gas industry
- Industrial clearcut forestry
- Roads and industrial infrastructure
- Livestock grazing
- Recreational activities, including golf courses, off highway vehicle and helicopter activity
- Tourism developments, such as ski hill and tourist accommodation.
- Albertans realize that it is not enough to treat our polluted water before we drink it. We need to do more to protect our water at its source.
- By protecting water and watersheds, we are also protecting movement corridors for wildlife.

IS KANANASKIS COUNTRY PROTECTED?

- Kananaskis Country is **not** a protected area.
- Only 53% of Kananaskis Country is protected, using a variety of different protected area designations:
- 1 Ecological Reserve
- 5 Provincial Parks
- 4 Wildland Provincial Parks
- 47+ Provincial Recreation Areas
- 47% of Kananaskis Country is not protected.
- In 2001, management of this unprotected area was transferred to Spray Lakes Sawmills Ltd, through a renewable 20 year Forest Management Agreement (FMA).



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