

January 22, 2008

## Province seeks input on Cypress Hills park plan

Medicine Hat... Albertans are invited to share their ideas on a new management plan for Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park-Alberta. The plan sets out recreational and educational opportunities as well as the preservation goals for the park's future.

Public input is a key driver in the development of every park management plan and Albertans are encouraged to attend one of two open house sessions on January 29.

**Time:** 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.  
**Location:** Elkwater Lake Visitor Centre  
Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park

**Time:** 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
**Location:** Medicine Hat Provincial Building  
Main Floor Conference Room  
346 – 3rd Street S.E., Medicine Hat

CD copies of the draft plan will be available at both sessions. The plan can also be viewed online by visiting the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park site at [www.tprc.alberta.ca/parks/cypresshills/news.asp](http://www.tprc.alberta.ca/parks/cypresshills/news.asp) or by calling 403-528-5228. Comments made at the meetings and written comments received by February 29 will be considered as the plan is finalized. The plan is expected to be finalized this summer.

The Alberta Government is committed to developing management plans based on public input for all protected areas in Alberta to determine their future management. Park management plans:

- describe protected areas, and the surrounding environment and community;
- identify government goals for the park or protected areas, and how they will be achieved;
- provide objectives and guidelines on how a site's natural and cultural heritage will be preserved;
- detail the type and extent of recreation, heritage appreciation and tourism opportunities that will be supported in an area, and how they will meet the needs of the community; and,
- provide opportunities for ongoing review and public consultation on park management.

Ensuring access to Alberta's provincial parks and recreation areas is part of Premier Ed Stelmach's plan to secure Alberta's future by building communities, greening our growth and creating opportunity.

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