

SHIFTING GEARS

FOCUSED ON PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE USE OF PUBLIC LANDS

For the third consecutive year, "ShiftingGears...give Nature a break" will be carried out in the Eastern Slopes region of Alberta's foothills. Alberta Sustainable Resource Development will be enforcing a zero tolerance approach to irresponsible use of Alberta's public lands during the coming summer months.

"ShiftingGears has had a notable impact on reducing damage caused by some off-highway vehicle users and random campers," said Mike Cardinal, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development. "Maintaining the natural beauty of the Eastern Slopes is the responsibility of all area users," added the Minister.

ShiftingGears is about;

- * Practicing no-trace camping.
- * Not littering.
- * Using safe and controlled campfires.
- * Being responsible when off-roading.
- * Respecting the rights of other users.

The Eastern Slopes is a popular place for Albertans who enjoy off-highway vehicle use, random and organized camping, hiking, biking, fishing, hunting, and a range of other outdoor activities.

Staff from Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Environment, Alberta Community Development and the RCMP will be patrolling the Eastern Slopes throughout the summer to enforce responsible off-highway vehicle use and random camping while restricting under-age drinking along the Eastern Slopes.

ShiftingGears targets the area from Highway 16 and the Yellowhead region in the north, to the Alberta-Montana border and the Castle River area in the south.

To learn more about ShiftingGears, visit
<http://www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/regions/southwest/shifting-gears/>

To report a wildfire, call collect (780) 427-FIRE (3473), or #FIRE on the Telus Mobility Network.

For further information, contact:
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