

Schedule

The planning process will span approximately 12 months and involve several steps:

Information collection
Winter 2008

Public consultation
June-July 2008

Draft plan for review and open house
Fall 2008

Final plan approved for public release
Early 2009

Implementation
starting 2009

Current Management Issues

Here are a few of the topics that will be discussed in the management planning process:

- Levels and types of recreational activities and opportunities
- Connectivity between recreation facilities (e.g. campgrounds, day use areas, Visitor Centre)
- Revitalization of park facilities and trails to meet growing needs
- Protection of Aboriginal ceremonial sites, graves and other cultural or historic sites.
- Traffic safety concerns (e.g. speed) on Highway 40 through the park
- Mountain Pine Beetle risk

How can I provide my input?

Written Submissions – send us a letter or e-mail with your ideas. Fill out the survey on our website. Mail or fax us the response form that was handed out with this brochure.

Direct Contact – Feel free to contact us via telephone or e-mail as listed below.

Mailing List – Send us your e-mail address and we'll keep you posted on project progress.

Open Houses – attend an open house and provide your comments. Open houses are planned for the summer and fall 2008. Check the website for dates and locations.

Web – visit our website for progress updates
www.tpr.alberta.ca/parks/SwitzerPlan



Contact Information

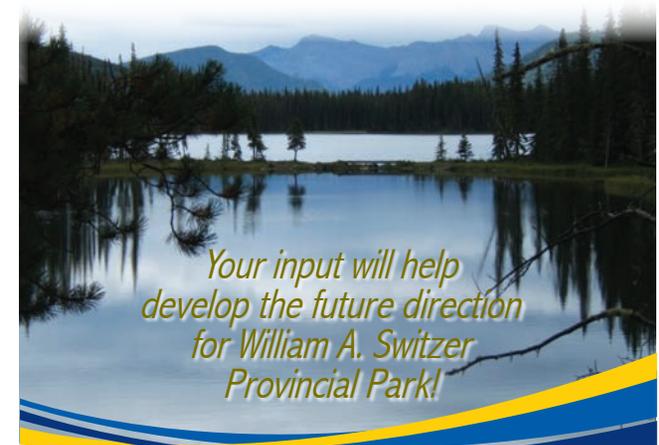
Emily Chamberlain, Planning Team Leader
Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation – Parks Division
Suite #1, 250 Diamond Avenue
Spruce Grove, Alberta, T7X 4C7

Tel: Toll free: 310-000 then 780-960-8170, Ext. 234
Fax: 780-960-8141
email: emily.chamberlain@gov.ab.ca



William A. Switzer Provincial Park Management Plan

Summer 2008





William A. Switzer Provincial Park

What is a Management Plan?

A park management plan is a road map to provide direction for the future management of the park and to ensure that use of the park occurs in a manner that is consistent with the legislation, regulations and policies.

Management plans outline how the natural and cultural heritage of the park will be protected, as well as describing the type and extent of outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities, facilities and services that are appropriate to ensure that visitors enjoy a quality visit.

The plan also describes the interpretive and environmental education programs and facilities that will be provided to enable visitors to explore and reconnect with nature!



What is special about William A. Switzer Provincial Park?

William A. Switzer Provincial Park is located 25 km northwest of Hinton and 280 km west of Edmonton. First established in 1958 as Entrance Provincial Park, renamed as William A. Switzer Provincial Park in 1974, and further expanded in 2000, this park is one of the earliest designated parks in Alberta.

Five campgrounds and three group-use areas contain over 200 camping spots. Recreational activities include camping, canoeing and boating, fishing, swimming, bird watching, picnicking, as well as hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing on over eighty kilometres of trails at the Athabasca Nordic Centre and throughout the park.

The park is a significant natural heritage site providing provincial representation of the upper and lower foothills, high biological diversity, and important cultural heritage sites. The park is also a gateway to the northern Rockies, with the newly renovated visitor centre serving as a hub connecting the public to the surrounding ecology and other parks in the areas.



We need your ideas!

Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation is preparing a management plan for William A. Switzer Provincial Park. The plan will direct how William A. Switzer Provincial Park will be protected and managed in future years.

We want your ideas for the park so we can ensure appropriate management of the recreational, natural and cultural values that make the park special to local communities and visitors from afar.

