



DECISION TO APPROVE PINEHURST LAKE CAMPGROUND EXPANSION

What We Heard

Public input was received through 28 official responses (4-Neutral, 5-Against, 19-In Support,). This valuable feedback has been analyzed and grouped by theme.

A majority of comments were supportive of the proposal. The concerns that were raised primarily included:

- Debate over OHV in/to campsites from existing trail system
- A need for a group use site, playground and showers
- Tent sites needed or private sites (designed for privacy between camp sites)
- The need for site improvements
- Debate over putting sites on [ReserveAlbertaParks](#) (RAP) system.
- Keep rustic and do not commercialize

These concerns are addressed in the responses included below.

#	What We Heard	Response
1	Support 100 rustic units, need more camping sites in our region	This is a popular destination of both locals and visitors and the demand continues to grow. The existing 63-site campground often accommodated over 100 camping units and has not been upgraded since 1976 and no longer meets the demand and needs of Albertans. The proposal to expand the Pinehurst Lake campground contributes to a commitment under the <i>Lower Athabasca Regional Plan</i> and the <i>Plan for Parks</i> to increase and diversify recreational opportunities in the Northeast region.
2	Support for and against inclusion of OHV trails that lead to the campground so you do not have to haul OHV's out to staging area	This was not identified as an option in the current campground expansion plan and will not be contemplated at this time.

3	Need a group use (or keep existing little loop for group use) and a playground	There has never been an official group use site in the Pinehurst Lake campground. A playground is a good suggestion as well. These are concepts that could be considered in the current development envelope or future planning phases.
4	More tent sites needed, and keep sites reasonable spaced apart for privacy	Approximately 100 back-in camping units, designed large enough to fit modern recreational vehicles are planned with spacing between to allow for some privacy. There are no 'tent only' sites in the planned expansion.
5	Need showers and site improvement	The existing 63-site campground has not been upgraded since 1976 and no longer meets the demand and needs of Albertans. Various site improvements to the existing area are being considered as part of this expansion plan. Showers are not contemplated at this time.
6	Support for and against adding these campgrounds in Lakeland PP/PRA to the online reservation system	Pinehurst, Ironwood, Touchwood and Seibert are currently not on the RAP system for online reservations, but may be added dependent on operational requirements.
7	Modernization and upgrade of Ironwood Lake and maybe Shaw Lake for canoeists, birdwatchers and hikers	These are concepts that could be considered in future planning processes as part of the commitment under the <i>Lower Athabasca Regional Plan</i> and the <i>Plan for Parks</i> to increase and diversify recreational opportunities in the Northeast region.
9	Keep as is, rustic wilderness camping, no pavement, no commercialization	The sites will be kept as rustic campsites with no power hookups. Water will be provided by cisterns that will be accessible by hand pumps. The campground roads and stalls will not be paved (with possibly the exception in the future of an accessible handicap stall).