

La Biche River Provincial Recreation Area

Enhancing backcountry recreation and camping opportunities

What is La Biche River Provincial Recreation Area?

La Biche River Provincial Recreation Area (PRA) is a newly established park located about 70 kilometres northwest of Lac La Biche, and is next to the eastern boundary of La Biche River Wildland Provincial Park. Its creation was made possible through the purchase of 65 hectares of private land by the Government of Alberta in 2018. This new provincial recreation area will provide staging and camping opportunities for visitors accessing the wildland to enjoy backcountry pursuits.

Provincial Recreation Areas support outdoor recreation and tourism, in a natural or near-natural setting. They are typically small, often providing access to lakes and rivers and supporting recreation on adjacent lands.

Why is this area important?

This PRA will enhance recreational opportunities by providing staging and facility support for hunting, motorized and non-motorized trail use for visitors accessing the adjacent La Biche River Wildland Provincial Park. Roads and facility development are not permitted or appropriate within wildland provincial parks, to maintain their backcountry, rugged character. Access to the wildland will be enhanced, complementing the existing access via Poacher's Landing PRA on the wildland's western boundary. Poacher's Landing primarily focuses on equestrian staging and does not provide camping.

La Biche River PRA will be accessible directly from Highway 63. It will be developed to provide rustic overnight camping and trail access.

Why was there no consultation before this park was created?

This land was previously privately owned, and no reduction in public use has occurred with the establishment. This is the same approach used to establish Antelope Hill Provincial Park in 2014.

What activities will be permitted?

Recreation Use

Recreation opportunities in La Biche River PRA will include motorized and non-motorized use on designated trails. The



site will be developed to provide overnight camping, and bridge access will be developed across La Biche River. This will enable connection to the large trail system in La Biche River Wildland Provincial Park, which provides backcountry opportunities for horseback riding, motorized recreation, and boating on the La Biche and Athabasca Rivers.

More information about the plans and timeline to develop camping in La Biche River PRA will be shared once local planning and assessments have been completed.

Land Use

Surface access for new petroleum and natural gas, mining and mineral extraction, coal development, surface materials extraction and commercial forestry will not be permitted.

Summary

La Biche River PRA provides new opportunities for camping, motorized and non-motorized recreation. It supports the development of access, staging, and rustic camping for visitors seeking backcountry adventure experiences in Northern Alberta.