



## **Alberta Public Lands Glossary of Terms**

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June 19, 2017

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definitions</b>
Abandoned Channel	A former stream channel that has been cut off from the rest of the river and may or may not have standing water.
Access Plans	A Government of Alberta approved management plan that provides a framework for managing motorized and non-motorized travel in the planning area.
Active Channel	The portion of a watercourse that is largely un-vegetated, at least for some portion of the year, and inundated at times of high discharge”.
Active Flood Plain	The alluvial plain that contain side channels, secondary or floodplain channels, and low-elevation, vegetated surfaces that are frequently inundated by floods (at recurrence intervals in the range of 1 ½ to five years). Typically it appears as a flat expanse of land bordering a watercourse.
Active Operational Areas	<p>The area required for operations within a disposition (tear-drop on a wellsite and driving surface of an active access road).</p> <p>Areas of the disposition not required for active operations can be progressively reclaimed through site preparation and natural recovery techniques.</p>
Active Operations	Includes activities occurring on the site such as; entry, site-preparation, construction, material extraction, processing, redistribution and reclamation.
Activity	The activity identifies the allowable activities under a purpose and provides a great level of detail. Activities define allowable activities under a Purpose and may have direct links to approval standards or conditions for that activity.
Adjacent	Siting or locating in close proximity, nearby, or not distant to an existing disposition.
Adjoin(ing)	Activities siting or locating immediately next to an existing disposition, so that both activities share a common boundary, or for some disposition types, overlap boundaries (e.g., DLO/LOC may overlap a DPL/PLA or vice versa). In some instances it is a requirement that activities (e.g., incidental activities) adjoin existing dispositions.
Administrative Review	A process undertaken by a regulatory body that validates the accuracy and content of applications submitted to the department as part of a completeness review.
Adverse Ground Conditions	Situations where active operations or activities result in environmental damage to the land such as but not limited to, erosion, soil compaction or soil rutting.

Term	Definitions
Aggregate	Any sand, gravel, clay or marl that is excavated from a pit, whether in a processed or unprocessed form, but does not include reject.
Agronomic Species	A plant species developed for the purpose of agricultural use.
Alluvial Terrace	<p>Deposits of alluvial soil that indicate a former floodplain produced by past vertical instability in the fluvial system. Alluvial terraces can result from a lowering of the river's base level, from channel incision, or from changes in hydrology. Typically, a floodplain may have several alluvial terraces at different elevations and developed in different periods of time.</p> <p>Sometimes referred to as "Abandoned Flood Plain".</p>
Alpine	Habitat of mountain slopes above the tree line.
Animal Unit Month (AUM)	An animal unit month is the amount of forage required to sustain one cow/calf pair for one month.
Appeal	A process provided to applicants, disposition holders, and the public whereby they may request a formal review of decisions made by a regulatory body.
Applicant	A party whose interest has been registered by way of an application to a regulatory body according to the records of the issuing regulatory body.
Application Plan	A plan submitted during application that meets the regulatory body standards.
Approval Standards	A set of enforceable, outcome-based standards that form part of the formal disposition that identify preferred siting, timing, and site related considerations that can be altered based on proposed mitigation of the applicant as approved by the regulatory body.
Application Deficiencies	Specific characteristics of an application package that fails to meet a technical or administrative standard, requirement, or specification.
Arterial All-Weather Roads	Road access routes designed as all-weather roads as defined within the <i>Pre-Application Requirements for Formal Dispositions</i> .
Assisted Natural Recovery (ANR)	<p>This is a technique that can accompany natural recovery.</p> <p>On Forested or peatland sites, ANR will typically employ the seeding or planting species native to the Natural Sub-region (herbaceous, forbs or woody) to maintain site stability and accelerate restoration.</p> <p>On Native grassland sites, ANR will employ the seeding or planning</p>

Term	Definitions
	of agronomic annuals such as Fall Rye and Flax which are commonly seeded at a 50:50 ratio, as outlined in the Master Schedule of Standards and Conditions (MSSC) for erosion-prone soils, such as sandy sites and/or on large disturbed areas. The intention is to maintain site stability, while allowing the infill of native species.
Authorized Traffic	Vehicle traffic directly associated with the development, maintenance or production of a specified disposition or through road use agreements related to other dispositions using the same route (i.e., Forestry or Energy). Authorized vehicles also include those with regulatory inspection and enforcement and those who have other commercial use (i.e., trapping).
Bank	The boundary of the bed and shore of a body of water, means the natural boundary as defined by section 17 of the <i>Surveys Act</i> . It is generally synonymous with what is commonly referred to as the ordinary high water mark.
Bank Full	The stream level/elevation that corresponds to the discharge rate of the channel resulting in the normally occurring morphologic characteristics of the channel.  Sometimes referred to as “Bankfull Stage”.
River Benchland	Strip of land, level to gently inclined, with bounded steeper slopes above and below.
Bed and Shore	Public land which forms the definable channel of a river, stream, or other watercourse; or the basin of a lake or other permanent and naturally occurring body of water that is bound by a bank as defined in section 17 of the <i>Surveys Act</i> which may or may not be fully covered by water. The shore is the exposed bed when not fully covered by water.
Berm	A mound or wall of earth. Used to retain substances, to prevent substances from entering an area or to restrict access.
Best Management Practices	Recommended operating practices that provide information to applicants of departmental desired practices while planning activities on public land.
Biodiversity	The diversity of plants, animals and other living organisms in all their forms and levels of organization, which includes; the diversity of genes, species and ecosystems, as well as the evolutionary and functional processes that link them.
Bog	A treed or shrubby peatland fed exclusively by precipitation, with no

Term	Definitions
	<p>surface or subsurface inflow, acidic waters, and low available nutrients.</p> <p>See Alberta Wetland Classification definitions.</p>
Bore	Drilled hole or tunnel to allow passage of pipeline or a communications line from one area to another.
Borrow Pit	Small quarry or excavation of non-manufacturing clay, which provides material for use in the construction project.
Bridge	<p>Structure providing human passage over a watercourse by spanning across the entire channel width. Bridges are to provide unimpeded fish passage along the watercourse. Bridge structures should not alter the channel width, nor flow of the watercourse. Bridge structures may include: single/multi-span bridges, clear span and bailey bridges, and open-arch (bottomless) culverts (extending across channel width). Ice-fill, log-fill, or closed (pipe) culvert crossings are not classified as bridges.</p>
Buffer	An area of natural vegetation maintained around a feature (distance applied to both sides of feature) to mitigate the effects of any activity applied to the area beyond the buffer.
Burrowing Owl Nest (Active)	<p>A ground burrow with an entrance diameter greater than 10 cm, with visible ‘burrowing owl sign’ including owl’s presence near the burrow, feathers, pellets, whitewash, nest material such as dung, prey and their parts, or loose soil across the breadth of the burrow floor. If any “burrowing owl sign” is found at a burrow it is considered Active. A burrow is considered active for two full years after the last known month of occupation.</p>
Channel Migration Zone	<p>The area within which a river channel is likely to move over a period of time. It is caused by the lateral or downstream shifting of a river channel within a river valley. The dynamic physical processes of rivers, including the movement of water, sediment and wood, cause the river channel in some areas to move or migrate over time. This is a natural process in response to gravity and topography and allows the river to release energy and distribute its sediment load. Migration processes include bank erosion and avulsion.</p>
Commercial Purposes	<p>A use or an activity undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) with the intention that the use or activity may produce an economic benefit whether for the person or persons that undertake the use or activity or for a charity or other person, or</li> <li>ii) in connection with the business of the person or persons that undertake the use or activity.</li> </ul>

Term	Definitions
Commercial User	User engaged in the production of goods and services that are obtained from legal land authorization legislated under the <i>Public Lands Act</i> and <i>Land Surveyors Act</i> in the province of Alberta.
Conventional Pipeline	An underground pipeline that is installed for the purpose of transporting a substance, such as natural gas, oil, water or produced liquids from one location to another.
Conventional Single Well Pad Site	A surface location that is designed and constructed for the purpose of drilling, completing and producing oil, water, natural gas and/or associated liquids or for a disposal, service, injector or monitoring well, from one single well bore.
Corner Cuts	Area taken to facilitate working area around sharp corners not conducive to access line of sight or pipeline bends.
Coulee	A dry stream valley, especially a long steep-sided gorge or ravine carved into the flat plain by creeks that once carried melt water from a glacier.
Critical Habitat	As defined by <i>Canada's Species At Risk Act</i> ; critical habitat is the habitat that is necessary for the survival or recovery of a listed wildlife species and that is identified as the species critical habitat in the recovery strategy or in an action plan for the species.
Cross-Country Pipeline	A new linear disturbance for a pipeline where the route does not adjoin or overlap an existing linear disturbance or disposition.
Debris	Remnants from the clearing of land or site preparation consisting of unsalvageable timber, brush, roots and other woody debris. Often stored as piles or windrows in preparation for disposal or other end use.
Debris Disposal	The total or partial disposal of unsalvageable timber, brush, roots and other woody debris.
Debris Storage	Area required for the storage of debris created from disposition construction activities (i.e., brush, topsoil).
Delegated Authority	Any person, agency or board that has been delegated power, duty or function by the minister under any Act or regulation.
Deleterious Material	Any substance that, if added to water, would degrade, alter or form part of a process of degradation or alteration of the quality of that water so that it is rendered or is likely to be rendered deleterious to fish or fish habitat or to the use by man or fish that frequent that water.

Term	Definitions
Den Site	The lair or shelter of a wild animal that is often used to rear young or to hibernate.
Designated Trail	An area or linear disturbance (trail) identified for a specific activity or activities as identified through a regional and sub-regional planning process, a regional management plan or the issuance of a disposition.  Trails must be mapped, signed, and maintained.
Activity Type	A term to define the specific activity occurring on the land as applied for in respects to a public lands disposition.
Disposition Holder	The holder of a disposition according to the records of a regulatory body.
Disposition Number	An official identifier generated through systems that the regulatory body assigns to an application or disposition for ongoing reference throughout the disposition lifecycle.
Dispositional Operational Approvals (DOA)	An approval issued under the Public Lands Administration Regulation (PLAR) to conduct activities related to a formal disposition or authorization where the consent or permission is required from a regulatory body, and which does not include administrative approvals under Part 4 of PLAR.
Purpose	A term to define a class or group of activities as applied for in respects to a public lands disposition.
Disposition Type	A three-letter code associated to a purpose and/or activity that describes the parent activity (e.g., DLO/LOC, DPL/PLA) as allowed under the <i>Public Lands Act</i> .
Disposition Status	A classification given to applications and dispositions at key points within the disposition lifecycle to reflect the current status of a disposition as maintained in the Geographic Land Information Management and Planning System (GLIMPS).  Status types include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application</li> <li>• Letter of Authority</li> <li>• Land Amendment Application</li> <li>• Letter of Authority Amendment</li> <li>• Active/Disposed</li> <li>• Canceled - Outstanding Obligations</li> <li>• Cancelled</li> </ul>
Disturbance	Any alteration of the natural landscape by anthropogenic or natural processes.

Term	Definitions
Dogleg	A sharp bend in a linear disturbance to reduce the line of sight.
Effective Public Access Control	Controls designed that successfully ensure unauthorized vehicles are restricted from use of the access.
Egress	The ability of those within or adjacent to an Emergency Planning Zone to travel away from an affected area.
Electronic Disposition System (EDS)	A web-based portal that allows clients to submit applications, amendments, required reports and associated documents electronically for review and possible issuance.
Electronic Validation	An automated system check done by the EDS to ensure that an electronic application submission has the required components and is valid to continue through to disposition review processes.
Enterprise Content Management (ECM)	An electronic file repository for the regulatory body that can create documents and/or capture digital documents.
Emergency Situation	Any situation that may jeopardize human life or critical infrastructure and access or operations within the disposition that is necessary to alleviate that threat.
Ephemeral Wetland	Water body that only exists for a short period following precipitation or snowmelt. Not the same as intermittent or seasonal water bodies, which exist for longer periods, but not all year round.
Ergot	A disease of rye and other cereal grasses caused by a fungus of the genus <i>Claviceps</i> , esp. <i>C. purpurea</i> , which replaces the affected grain with a long, hard, blackish sclerotial body.
Erosion	Wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, other geological agents, activities of man or animals, and including such processes as gravitational creep. Erosion may either be normal or accelerated; the latter is brought about by changes in the natural cover or ground conditions, including those resulting from human activity.
Erosion Control	Management actions such as vegetation planting, or tacking to help anchor the soil, and minimize wind and water erosion.
Existing Disturbance	<p>Any Man-made disturbance where the disturbance features persists, typically as a change in vegetation community from the surrounding area or pre-disturbance aerial imagery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On forested lands existing disturbances would occur where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A harvest area cut under authority of a timber disposition</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Term	Definitions
	<p>exists where scarification or reforestation has not yet occurred.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Non-harvested area clearings where tree/shrub growth does not exceed 2 metres in height.</li> <li>● On Grasslands existing disturbances would occur where an Ecological Range Site or a non-native community existed on the historical disturbance different from the surrounding area or pre-disturbance aerial photography.</li> </ul>
Existing Facilities	Equipment or infrastructure installed on a disposition for the purpose of that disposition.
Existing Improvement	Any asset, development or structure located on the land prior to activity or development. Assets could include a fence, cattle water source, and associated pump system, gate, tame pasture, water line, irrigation, developed road, etc.
Existing Linear Disturbance	<p>Disturbance on the landscape from previous conventional seismic lines, un-reclaimed access, Right-of-Ways (ROW) and easements where the disturbance features persists, typically as a change in vegetation community from the surrounding area or pre-disturbance aerial imagery. A known recreational trail is not considered an existing linear disturbance.</p> <p>On forested lands existing disturbances would occur where tree/shrub growth does not exceed two metres in height and/or where scarification/reforestation/re-vegetation has not occurred.</p> <p>On Grasslands existing disturbances would occur where an Ecological Range Site or a non-native community existed on the historical disturbance different from the surrounding area or pre-disturbance aerial photography.</p>
Ecological Range Site	<p>Identified through key attributes of the landscape, soil features and by textural groupings. Also known as Ecological Site Description.</p> <p>The Classification system is outlined in the Range Plant Community Guides for each Native Grassland sub-region.</p>
Existing Road	Any access road under disposition, municipal or Government of Alberta ownership that has been constructed.
Existing Trail	A linear disturbance that is used for recreation travel, typically a user-created trail, however not necessarily approved as a designated trail. The trail may not have a recreation management plan to support its existence.
Exploration	The first well drilled on a new, clearly defined geological structure (a prospect) or a well which is drilled to determine the extent and size of a

Term	Definitions
Wells	<p>discovery.</p> <p>Also referred to as Wildcat wells or Appraisal wells.</p>
External Industry Drivers	<p>Factors that influence industry's activity plans, including market drivers, business decisions, safety engineering, the level of risk involved in proceeding with a project, subsurface rights, the economics of a project, and provincial and federal legislation and regulations.</p>
Extraction	<p>In respects to sand and gravel operations, this includes the stripping and stockpiling of soil, overburden, and aggregate materials and the transport of said materials within the site.</p>
Fen	<p>A minerogenous peatland, usually with some surface or subsurface water flow, that can have wooded, shrubby and graminoid forms, with pH ranges from moderately acidic to alkaline.</p> <p>See Alberta Wetland Classification definitions.</p>
Fescue Grasslands	<p>Native grassland communities associated with the black grassland soils of Alberta that are located within the Foothills Fescue, Northern Fescue, Central Parkland, Foothills Parkland, Montane and Subalpine Natural Sub-regions.</p>
Final Plan	<p>The acceptable plan, as identified in the PLAR Table A1 and PLAR Table A2 that is required by the regulatory body to be on file once the disposition has been entered and Site Entry number created.</p>
Final Reclamation	<p>The replacement of all reclamation materials (including but not limited to topsoil, subsoil, woody debris, and vegetation propagules/root mats) at the time of decommissioning or completion of operations of an activity. It includes the establishment of the approved vegetation community required for a reclamation certificate or a letter of clearance.</p>
FireSmart Community Zone	<p>A variable 10 kilometre radius around the community extending from the FireSmart Wildland Urban Interface Zone. A unique data set will be gathered for this zone for community protection planning to provide a fundamental linkage between FireSmart Communities and FireSmart Landscapes.</p>
Fish Habitat	<p>Those parts of the environment on which fish depend, directly or indirectly, in order to carry out their life processes. Fish habitat includes the water, water quality and aquatic life in rivers, lakes, streams and oceans, as well as the total surroundings of these waterbodies, including plants and other life forms that interact to make fish life possible.</p>

Term	Definitions
Fish Passage	Passage for fish along watercourses that ensures no breaks in the nature or the continuity of the natural stream bed, and does not act to alter the velocity of water. Unnatural features that interrupt the stream-bed, change water flow velocity, or prevent fish movement are not considered to allow for fish passage.
Fish-Bearing Watercourse	Flowing waters that support fish for all or part of a year, or were likely to have supported fish in the past. All permanent and intermittent flowing watercourses are to be considered fish-bearing.
Fledged (avian)	Become capable of flight; refers to young bird's ability to fly and forage independently.
Footprint	The impact or extent of a disturbance on public land and includes the intensity, frequency and nature of any uses or activities related to the disturbance.
Forested Lands	For the purpose of end land use planning and reclamation, forested lands include any treed land, excluding wetlands, whether or not the forest vegetation is utilized for commercial purposes.
Frozen Ground Conditions	The temperature of the ground is below zero degrees celsius. For the purpose of the Master Schedule of Standards and Conditions (MSSC), the ground must be able to support the activity without resulting in adverse ground conditions as defined in this glossary.
Geographic Land Information Management and Planning System (GLIMPS)	An electronic database that maintains the official record for Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) and the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) for all surface interests (activities) on public land in the Province of Alberta.
Grasslands	Also referred to as rangelands or native prairie. Natural region of Alberta where the dominant vegetative species are herbaceous grasses, forbs and shrubs.
Green Area	Comprises most of northern Alberta as well as the mountain and foothills areas along the province's western boundary and is managed for timber production, watershed, wildlife and fisheries, recreation, and other uses.
Hibernacula	Shelter used by hibernating animal or group of animals (i.e., snakes) during the winter months.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definitions</b>
High Erosion Sites	Dispositions that occur on slopes, large cut and fills, sandy soils or in areas of high winds.
High Suitability Habitat	The area capable of supporting a viable population of a particular fish or wildlife species.
High Visible Areas	Area sites that can be within, adjacent to, or viewed from recreational sites and tourist developments; seen from elevated public viewpoints; adjacent to or viewed from major travel corridors (roads, lakes, and rivers), rural/urban forest interface and site specific areas identified during the planning process; and adjacent to primary and secondary highways in Alberta.
High Level Plan	Departmentally recognized plans such as the Integrated Landscape Management Plan and Integrated Resource Plans within a defined area that coordinate land uses and protect sensitive resource values.
Horizontal Well Pad	The pad used for drilling an oil or natural gas well, where the well bore(s) run horizontal within the target formation containing the oil or gas.
In-Active Well	Formally a producing natural gas or oil well that is currently not producing due to mechanical or economic reasons.
Incidental Activities	Activities that are incidental to the construction and operation of a disposition as authorized by the regulatory body.  Refer to the PLAR Approvals and Authorization Administration Procedures.
Industrial Activities	Activities arising from oil and gas, aggregate extraction, mining, renewable energy, and forestry industries on the landscape.
In-Field Well	A well drilled to further exploit the productive zone(s) of a known pool(s).
Integrated Land Management (ILM)	A strategic, planned approach to managing and reducing the human caused footprint on the land. The goals of ILM are to reduce land-use disturbance relative to what would occur in the absence of integration efforts, and to foster a stewardship ethic in all land users.
Integrated Resource Plans	Cabinet approved policy documents that provide broad direction on land and resource management use. They establish guidelines for allowable activities within specific areas and outline surface access restrictions.

Term	Definitions
Interim/ Progressive Reclamation	Consists of site clean-up, debris management slope stabilization, subsoil re-contouring, and spreading of topsoil. Includes all disturbances associated with the site (including but not limited to log decks, campsites, borrow areas, remote sumps, access roads, etc.), as well as prepared and/or built not drilled sites and non-oil and gas sites.
Land Standing Report	A report required to be submitted as part of the application for AEP that contains information specific to any Crown interest and/or activity on a given quarter section of land. The Land Standing report will assist the applicant in determining overlap, or double coverage, of the proposed location with existing dispositions.
Land Use Project	An undertaking of an activity and associated dispositions specific to a location and site being developed, (e.g., wellsite and associated road and pipeline).
Land Use Program	An undertaking involving multiple land use projects being developed.
Land Use Types	For the purpose of end land use planning or selection of reclamation criteria, land use types refer to the categories: Native Grasslands, Forested lands, cultivated lands, Peatlands and Mineral Wetlands, as each is defined.
Landscape Analysis Tool (LAT)	A web-enabled spatial tool that allows disposition applicants the ability to plan industrial activities on Crown land through the identification of resource values affected by the proposed activity and any associated standards and conditions.
LAT Report	A system generated report that forms part of a public lands disposition application that displays site information, approval standards, and operational conditions associated with the proposed disposition and activity type, based on the proposed location.
Lead Agency	The regulatory body that is responsible or legislated for management of a disposition.
Leave Areas	Natural vegetation (often forested) within the grazing reserves, which are not intended for cattle forage purposes. May be located within or outside of pasture areas. Leave areas on the Provincial Grazing Reserves (GRRs) were designed to provide wildlife habitat and also serve as a means to buffer cattle in fields from traffic and provide security.
Lek	Traditional place where male (grouse) assemble during the mating season and engage in competitive displays to attract females.

Term	Definitions
Levee	<p>The broad, low ridge or embankment of coarse silt and sand that is deposited by a stream on its flood plain and along either bank of its channel, due to reduced velocity of flood flows as they spill onto flood-plain surfaces depositing the coarse fraction of the suspended-sediment load.</p> <p>Sometimes referred to as “Natural Levee”.</p>
LiDAR Plan	<p>A survey plan prepared by an Alberta Land Surveyor which uses LiDAR data representing the location of a proposed disposition.</p>
Lifts	<p>The actual soil layers, often grouped according to structure and texture that are removed from the ground or surface of the area to be disturbed. When referred to as a two lift, it typically includes removing the topsoil and subsoil in separate lifts.</p>
Line of Site	<p>A straight unobstructed path in treed areas, between an observer and an object (typically wildlife or industry structure). Doglegs, buffers or angled right-of-ways reduce the line-of-sight and screen visibility from the road.</p>
Loamy Soils	<p>Applies to all non-saline and non-gleyed Chernozemic soils (soils with A, B, and C horizons), and non-saline and non-gleyed Regosolic soils (soils that lack a B horizon &gt;five cm, and may lack an A horizon) with soil textures in the medium and moderately fine textural subgroups (e.g., loam, clay loam, sandy loam, etc.).</p>
Loop Routes	<p>The portion(s) of road accessible by on-highway vehicles which connects two or more separate road systems.</p>
Mineral Licks	<p>Are unique habitat features of naturally-occurring, exposed deposits of salts or other minerals that are frequented by wildlife.</p>
Minimal Disturbance (Forested or Peatland)	<p>The activity is constructed in such a manner that the least amount of woody vegetation is removed, and the soil and overtopping minor vegetation is not stripped or buried. The intention is to leave the soil and rooting zone intact in order to facilitate quick regeneration on the site and maintain ecological integrity. The activity must be conducted under appropriate ground conditions (dry or frozen) to prevent impacts through rutting, compaction and admixing of surface soils.</p> <p>Clarification for specific disposition types is provided within the Master Schedule of Standards and Conditions.</p>
Minimal Disturbance (Grassland)	<p>An activity conducted in such a manner that the soil and overtopping grassland vegetation is not stripped or removed. The intention is to leave the soil and rooting zone intact in order to facilitate quick restoration of the site and maintain ecological integrity. The activity</p>

Term	Definitions
	<p>must be conducted under appropriate ground conditions (dry or frozen) to prevent impacts through rutting, compaction and admixing of surface soils and the moss/lichen layer. Disturbance of the sod layer must be restricted to what is absolutely necessary and must be restricted to a size where natural recovery process can adequately restore the site.</p> <p>Clarification for specific disposition types is provided within the Master Schedule of Standards and Conditions.</p>
Mitigation	In the context of land use, mitigation is any action, strategy or intervention intended to reduce or alleviate the adverse effects and potential risks that occur or may be associated with a specific purpose, activity, project or development.
Mixed Use Trail	A linear disturbance where a combination of non-motorized and motorized users travel on the same surface.
Multiwell-Pad Site	Wellsites with greater than one wellbore, either vertical, directional, horizontal or a combination thereof, or single wells that are converted to multiwells based on addition wellbores added.
Multi-use Area	An area or corridor where a combination of recreational and industrial activities may occur.
Native Species	Wildlife and plant species which are indigenous to a particular region.
Native Grassland	A landscape unit where the vegetation is dominated by grasses, grass like plants, and/or forbs (>50%). For example, if an air photo review shows a unit with 45% scattered woody species canopy cover and 55% grass species canopy cover, it would still be defined as a grassland. For grasslands to be defined as “native”, they must be comprised of greater than 30% canopy cover of native grassland species.
Natural Recovery	The long-term re-establishment of diverse native ecosystems by the establishment in the short term of early successional species. This involves re-vegetation from soil seedbank and/or natural encroachment. It is achieved by conserving and/or replacing all reclamation material (topsoil, subsoil, woody debris, and vegetation propagules/root mats) that apply to the site prior to seed and soil propagule degradation. On forested lands rollback must be utilized and minimal disturbance techniques are encouraged. On native grasslands minimal disturbance construction practices encourage the success of natural recovery.
Natural Subregion	Subdivisions of a Natural region, generally characterized by vegetation, climate, elevation, and latitudinal or physiographic

Term	Definitions
(NSR)	differences within a given Region. There are 21 Natural Sub-regions in Alberta, four of which comprise the Grassland Natural Region.
New Cut Disturbance	<p>Any man-made disturbance where there is a change in vegetation community from the surrounding area, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On forested lands, where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clearing occurs within an area harvested under authority of a timber disposition where reforestation has been completed, or</li> <li>○ Clearing occurs where tree/shrub growth is equal to or exceeds two metres in height.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On Grasslands where a clearing or disturbance of vegetation that is different from the surrounding area or pre-disturbance aerial photography.</li> </ul>
No Entry	A site that is undisturbed due to no clearing, site preparation or activity taking place other than the initial surveying of the disposition.
Non-Active Channel	A former channel, an abandoned channel, or a temporary high water channel within the active flood plain.
Non-Fish Bearing	Watercourse that does not directly support fish at any time during the year or has likely never directly supported fish. Non-fish bearing status is determined based on the presence of a permanent downstream barrier (beaver dams are not considered permanent or total barriers), or data from a statistically robust, multi-season, multi-year study. Non-fish bearing watercourses often contribute important habitat elements (e.g., water and nutrients) to downstream fish-bearing waters, and can in addition contribute elements that can degrade downstream fish habitat (e.g., sediment).
Non-Producing Well	A natural gas or oil well that has been drilled and tested and the results prove that it is non-productive in economic quantities at the time of evaluation.
Not Approved Trail	A designated trail whereby the regional approval manager has deemed the trail inadequate for publication. These trails can only be viewed internally.
Noxious Weeds	Plants set out in the Schedule under the <i>Weed Control Act</i> or designated by the local municipal authority as noxious weeds.
Off Highway Vehicle	A motorized vehicle within the meaning of section 117 of the <i>Traffic Safety Act</i> . Restrictions are applied under Public Land Administration Regulation (PLAR), under Schedule 4.

Term	Definitions
Operating Conditions	The terms and conditions identified that form part of the disposition document for the development and operation of the activity.
Operational Maintenance	The care and minor maintenance of equipment, normally consisting of inspecting, cleaning, servicing, preserving, lubricating, and adjusting, as required. Operational maintenance is typically short in duration and intensity. Equipment upgrades, and emergency work are not considered operational maintenance.
Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM)	<p>The natural boundary of a water body or watercourse as defined by Section 17 of the <i>Surveys Act</i> (Alberta). The term is synonymous with the meaning of “bank”. It is the point on the bank or shore up to which the presence and action of surface water is so continuous as to leave a distinctive mark such as by erosion, destruction or prevention of terrestrial vegetation, predominance of aquatic vegetation, or other easily recognized characteristics.</p> <p>Sometimes referred to as “Bank”.</p>
Oxbow	A closely looping stream meander having an extreme curvature such that only a neck of land is left between the two parts of the stream.
Oxbow Lake	A crescent-shaped, body of standing water along a stream created by a meander-bend cut-off.
Parent Disposition	The parent disposition is the Formal Disposition or Authorization for which a holder is making application for a related approval.
Parallel(ing)	Man-made or natural linear features, which extend in a similar direction of at least 250m and do not adjoin or intersect, does not include the portion(s) of man-made linear feature(s) which approach a point of crossing or intersection with the adjacent linear feature (with setback). The outer extent of an approach is the point where the man-made linear feature makes a significant change in direction towards the point of intersection/crossing, outside of the setback threshold.
Pipeline – Class	<p>A pipeline designation by class, based on a formula calculation that identifies potential impacts due to the size of particular pipeline project as defined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pipeline – Class I: - Where the project length (in km) multiplied by the outside pipe diameter (in mm) equals or is greater than an index value of 2,690. These require a Conservation and Reclamation approval under the <i>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</i>.</li> <li>• Pipeline – Class II: - Pipelines less than the index value of 2,690 do not require the above approval. Environmental</li> </ul>

Term	Definitions
	Protection Guidelines for pipelines address their project planning, construction, operations, maintenance, and reclamation. On public land an approval under the <i>Public Lands Act</i> is also required.
Plan Confirmation Service (PCS)	A web-based system that allows applicants to virus check, level check, zip, and encrypt plan packages prior to submitting to the regulatory body through the Electronic Disposition System.
Plant Community	An assemblage of plants occurring together at any point in time, thus denoting no particular successional status. A mixture of plant species that interact with one another.
Producing Well	A well that is considered by the Minister of Energy to be a producing well on the basis of the records of the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) and other information available to the Minister.
Provincial Grazing Reserve (GGR) Wildlife Buffers	An area of natural vegetation maintained for wildlife values with the grazing reserve. Wildlife buffer locations can be determined in consultation with the local Provincial Grazing Reserve Agrologist.
Public Road	A road which the public is authorized to travel on.
Push Out	Area taken to facilitate equipment passing along linear corridors or turnarounds on one way linear corridors.
Range Improvement	Actions taken that keep the range productive, making it easier to manage livestock. Common range improvement projects include cross-fencing, water developments, and stock trails.
Rangeland	Land supporting indigenous or introduced vegetation that is either grazed or has the potential to be grazed and is managed as a natural ecosystem. Rangeland includes: grassland, grazeable forestland, shrubland, pastureland, riparian areas.
Rangeland Reference Areas	Plant community research sites which provide annual data which the Plant Community Guides are based upon. This information is used in the Reclamation Certificate criteria process when establishing the appropriate reference plant community and equivalent land capability. Protective Notation (PNT) reservations are placed on these - 40 acre sites to restricting access and protect the sites for ongoing continued research.
Reclamation Material	Includes all material conserved, salvaged and/or stored for the purpose of reclamation. Including but not limited to forest litter layers (LFH), vegetation propagules/root mats, topsoil, subsoil, and coarse woody debris.

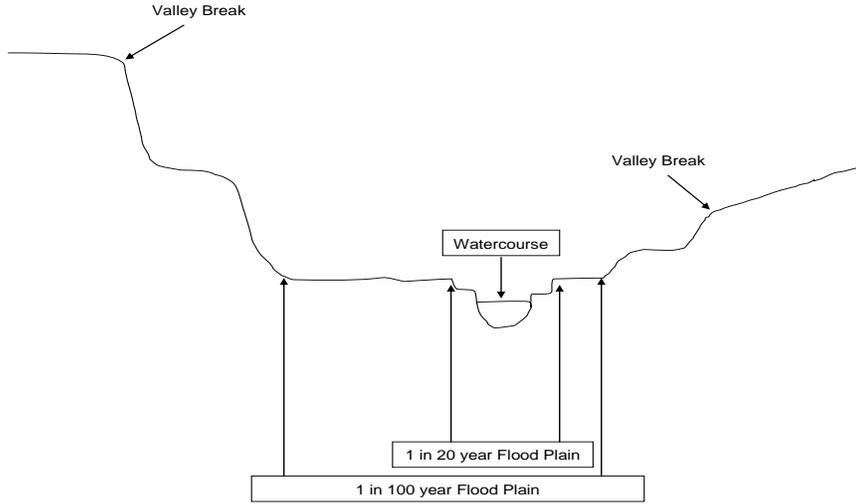
Term	Definitions
Reduced Soil Disturbance	Construction procedures and practices designed to reduce the area of impact to soil and native vegetation resources. It can refer to interim reclamation and recovery procedures which reduce the area of stripped and stored soils during the operational phase of an industrial development.
Referral	The process of referring application submissions to the appropriate regulatory body's office Operational Approvals District (OPD), and subsequent referral(s) to other agencies or registered interest holders as managed by the OPD to solicit comments on the proposed application.
Regulatory Body	The Department (AEP) or the Agency (AER) authorized through legislation to administer the <i>Public Lands Act</i> and associated regulations.
Regulated Pipeline	A pipeline in which the pipeline project length (in km) multiplied by the outside pipe diameter (in mm) equals or is greater than an index value of 2,690.  See also; Pipeline Class.
Reject Material	Aggregate that is expected to be unsuitable for use as a product, or for blending with other aggregate to form a product, and is therefore expected to be used for reclamation of the pit.
Remote Operations	Operations on a disposition which occur primarily without the need for surface access.
Renewal	A decision granted by the regulatory body to provide a new term and disposition document including terms and conditions to an existing disposition should all prior commitments be met; compliance, indebtedness and use.
Right of Way (ROW)	A cleared area, usually linear, containing a road and its associated features such as shoulders, ditches, cut and fill slopes, or the area cleared for the passage of utility corridors containing power lines or over or under-ground pipelines. Typically, the ROW is a specially designated area of land having very specific rights of usage attached.
Riparian	The adjoining vegetated uplands that are directly influenced by the water body.
Roaching	Excess soil or spoil placed over the ditch (trench) line to compensate for soil settlement.
Rollback	The practice of spreading available woody debris flat on the ground over disturbed lands for the purpose of minimizing erosion, access control or to assist reclamation. Rollback material consists primarily of coarse woody debris (e.g., merchantable tree trunks, large branches, root balls, and stumps). Rollback material should not include fine

Term	Definitions
	fuels. Fine fuels are defined as fuels that ignite readily and are consumed rapidly by fire (e.g., cured grass, fallen leaves, needles, small twigs).
Rookery	Nesting location for Great Blue Herons, American White Pelicans and birthing location and nursery of snakes.
Route	A mapped but unsigned primitive travel-way for motorized or non-motorized use which has a low standard of maintenance. Summer routes may not have an evident tread.
Timber Salvage	Methods implemented during construction of approved activities that include the harvesting, decking and removal of merchantable timber off site to a recognized mill facility or authorized use.
Secondary Channel	Any channel on or in a floodplain that carries water (intermittently or perennially in time, into, or along the main channel).
Sediment	Solid material, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, being transported, or has been moved from its surface of origin by air, water, gravity or ice. Sedimentation is the process whereby soil particles, detached through erosion, are deposited.
Sensitive Raptor Active Nest	A nest composed of a bulky mass of sticks used for nesting and rearing of young; potentially being used for multiple years with new material added each breeding season. A large stick nest is a type of “platform nest” and can occur on a natural substrate (e.g., tree, cliff) or anthropogenic feature (e.g., power pole, nesting platform). A raptor nest will retain ‘active’ designation during the winter following nesting activity, through the next year, with the ‘active’ designation being dropped on June 1 of the second year of inactivity. If no other nesting structures (trees, platforms) are available within a one kilometre radius of the nest the nest will retain ‘active’ designation.
Sensitive Species	Any species that is not at risk of extinction or extirpation but may require special attention or protection to prevent it from becoming at risk.
Sensory Disturbance	Impacts to and disturbances from noise, light, odour associated with human activities
Site Entry	When disturbance or preparation of the site occurs, other than for the purpose of surveying.
Site Entry Number	Upon entry, disposition holders must notify the regulatory body within 72 hours through the Electronic Disposition System (EDS). The date of site entry recorded in EDS cannot be before the date of the formal disposition was issued, and cannot be a future date, it must be the exact date site entry occurred.

Term	Definitions
Site Preparation	Any treatment of a site to prepare it for activity installations, structures or operations.
Sketch Plan	A plan representing the location of a disposition prepared to the standards of the regulatory body.
Soil Horizons	<p>A layer of mineral or organic soil or soil material approximately parallel to the land surface that has characteristics altered by processes of soil formation. It differs from adjacent horizons in colour, structure, texture and consistency, and in chemical, biological, and mineralogical composition. The major soil horizons are A, B, and C. The major organic horizons are L, F, and H (mainly forest litter at various stages of decomposition) and O (derived mainly from bogs, marsh, or swamp vegetation). The LFH layer (duff layer) is found in forested soils on top of the A-horizon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A-horizon: Generally considered to be the topsoil and is typically darker in colour than the B and C-horizons. The soils also exhibit finer structures and contain more organic materials. This horizon contains most of the nutrients and water.</li> </ul> <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C-horizons: The subsoil that occurs under the A-horizon. The soils are often lighter and brighter in colour than topsoil and often have a heavier, coarser texture than A-horizons. B-horizon is a mineral horizon characterized by enrichment in organic matter, sesquioxides, or clay; or by the development of soil structure; or by a change in colour denoting hydrolysis, reduction or oxidation. C-horizon is a mineral horizon comparatively unaffected by the pedogenic processes occurring in A and B. The root zone for most plants is considered to be the upper 1.2m (often all the A and B-horizons and some of the C-horizon).</li> </ul>
Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)	An established procedure to be followed in carrying out a given operation or in a given situation.
Standard Application	An application submission where the applicant agrees to meet the approval standards as identified by the Landscape Analysis Tool report, as associated with the proposed activity and location.
Stand Alone Authorization	Where an issued authorization is not associated or subject to an already existing and approved public lands disposition.
Statutory	A legal document defined under the laws of Alberta similar to a statement made under oath; however, it is not sworn. Statutory

Term	Definitions
Declaration	declarations are commonly used to allow a person or organization to affirm something to be true for the purposes of satisfying a legal requirement or regulation when no other evidence is available or required.
Straw Crimping	A soil stabilization technique that presses spread straw into the soil creating artificial stubble to decrease surface erosion and create a favourable micro-environment for re-vegetation.
Subsoil	The B and C-horizon soil material found beneath the topsoil as defined in the Canadian System of Soil Classification.
Surface Disturbance	The disturbance, exposure, covering or erosion of the surface of land in any manner, or the degradation or deterioration in any manner of the physical surface of land.
Survey Plan	A plan of survey prepared by an Alberta Land Surveyor representing the boundaries and location of a parcel of land or disposition.
Tame Pasture	Rangelands that have been modified and seeded to agronomic forage species such as Timothy, creeping red fescue, smooth brome grass and, in some cases, legumes such as alsike clover and alfalfa.
Technical Review	Actions undertaken by the Geomatics Unit that validates plans (both sketch and survey) submitted as part of the application process and the recording of the technical information provided in application submissions.
Temporary Activity	A timeline or term applied to activities proposed for areas of land which does not involve major site development or installation of permanent infrastructure that will result in long-term occupation of the site or significant site modification that will not be fully reclaimed within the term of the authorization/approval.
Temporary Field Authorization (TFA)	A short term authorization issued to applicants allowing for the use of public land for specified activities.
Temporary Work Space	The use of existing clearings or the new clearing of public land to facilitate the construction of a disposition or operation.
Terrace	The remnant former flood plain surface that has been incised by a channel to create a new floodplain at a lower elevation. Terraces are gently sloping surfaces found along valley margins, and are separated from the main valley floor by a steep scarp slope.

Term	Definitions
Thalweg	The longitudinal profile line, or line connecting the lowest points along a streambed. The term defines the deepest part of the active channel.
Topsoil	The uppermost part of the soil ordinarily moved in tillage, or its equivalent in uncultivated soils (A-horizon). Comprises all "A" horizon (Ah, Ahe, Ae, and Ap) material within the surface profile, including any overlying organic horizons (O, L, F, and H). If the topsoil depth is less than 15 cm conservation shall include the topsoil plus the B-horizon up to a total depth of 15cm unless the B-horizon is considered unsuitable (chemical or physical limitations).
Torpor	Also called temporary hibernation; a short-term dormancy or inactivity, with reduced metabolic rate.
Township Plat	Hand drafted spatial representation of dispositions within a township.
Trail	A signed and mapped travel-way for motorized or non-motorized use that has an evident tread (in summer) and is developed and maintained to a prescribed standard and does not exceed in width 15 feet on either side of the centre line .
Unauthorized Vehicle Traffic	All vehicle access not associated with dispositions or road-use agreements or regulatory inspections and enforcement. Inquiries that are not related to commercial use, i.e., any activities that do not require road use agreements between the disposition holder and commercial user, will be directed to the Zone Forest Officer responsible for that zone.
Unconventional Wells	Drilling activities that access hydrocarbon resources situated in rock of low permeability (i.e., not in a reservoir). Includes coal bed methane, shale gas, tight oil, tight gas, in-situ production regardless of extraction method, and mineable oil sands.
Valley Break	The interface between the predominant (topographic) upland Quaternary tableland (plain/ plateau) and the crest or rim of the main (oldest) slope of a broad river valley. See Figure 1.

Term	Definitions
	 <p data-bbox="565 856 1295 926">Figure 1. Cross-section of idealized watercourse illustrating areas designated as valley break.</p>
Valley Slope	The slope face of a valley wall.
Variable Width	Construction technique for linear activities where the right-of-way width varies along the extent of the corridor based on operational and topographic features. (e.g., access corners or hilly (cut/fill) sections may need to be constructed to full right-of-way width, while padded, straight and flat sections require less Right-of-Way (ROW) width to be cleared or taken up under disposition).
Vegetation Management	The selective removal, control or other management of vegetation growth after initial construction for the purpose of maintenance, safety, access, native plant community integrity, and weed removal.
Water Body	<p data-bbox="451 1459 711 1486"><i>Water Act Definition:</i></p> <p data-bbox="451 1518 1300 1780"><i>Any location where water flows or is present, whether or not the flow or the presence of water is continuous, intermittent or occurs only during a flood, and includes but is not limited to wetlands and aquifers but does not include except for clause (nn) and section 99 “water body” that is part of an irrigation works if the irrigation works is subject to a licence and the irrigation works is owned by the licensee, unless the regulations specify that the location is included in the definition of water body;</i></p> <p data-bbox="451 1812 1276 1906">Any location where water is present, whether or not the presence of water is continuous, intermittent or occurs only during a flood, and includes but is not limited to wetlands and aquifers.</p>

Term	Definitions
Watercourse	<p>Watercourse: A river, brook, stream or other natural water channel (includes ephemeral draws), and the bed along which water flows continuously or intermittently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watercourse (Small Permanent): Permanent streams; often small valley bottoms; bench floodplain development. Banks and channel well defined channel width from greater than 0.7 metres to five metres.</li> <li>• Watercourse (Intermittent): Small stream channels; small springs are main source outside periods of spring runoff and heavy rainfall. Distinct channel development; channel usually has no terrestrial vegetation; channel width is less than 0.7 metres; usually some bank development.</li> <li>• Watercourse (Large Permanent): Major streams or rivers; well-defined flood plains; often wide valley bottoms. Non-vegetated channel width exceeds 5 metres.</li> </ul> <p>Watercourse Debris: Loose material, either natural or anthropogenic, accumulated immediately upstream of, within, or under a watercourse crossing. Examples of debris include (but are not be limited to) logs, twigs, leaves, sediment, bed material, or beaver dams.</p>
Well Tie-In	<p>Activities that connect a production facility (wellsite) to a pipeline within 1.6 km of the wellsite. Note that well tie-in activities refer to immediate gathering system and does not refer to connection to larger transfer pipelines.</p>
Wetland	<p>Land having water at, near, or above the land surface, or which is saturated with water long enough to promote wetland or aquatic processes as indicated by poorly drained hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and various kinds of biological activity that are adapted to the wet environment.</p>
White Area	<p>Lands designated for agricultural and rural development, typically owned by individuals and groups (homeowners, farmers, companies, organizations, etc.) as well as other land uses continue to be maintained.</p>
Wildlife	<p>All wild species and their habitats including plants, invertebrates, and micro-organisms, as well as fishes, amphibians, reptiles, and the birds and mammals traditionally regarded as wildlife.</p>
Wildlife Corridors	<p>The physical linkage connecting two areas of habitat and differing from the habitat on either side. Corridors are used by organisms to move around without having to leave the preferred habitat. A linear habitat patch through which a species must travel to reach habitat more suitable for reproduction and other life sustaining needs. Many corridors, linking several patches of habitat, form a network of habitats. The functional effectiveness of corridors depends on the type of species, the type of movement, the strength of the edge effects and its shape.</p>

Term	Definitions
Wildlife Habitat	The terrestrial and aquatic environments and associated ecosystem elements that in combination provide the requirements of food, cover, and space needed to support self-sustaining populations of wildlife.
Wildlife Survey	A comprehensive survey for all Species At Risk observations and features, near the proposed area of a development, as defined by the protocols outlined in the Sensitive Species Survey Protocols.
Wildlife Sweep	An immediate search of the proposed development for important wildlife features, including occupied raptor nests, heron rookeries (nests), occupied dens and mineral licks. The intent is to quickly assess a site, for these features, so that they may be avoided. In areas where a full wildlife survey is required, sweeps do not replace the need for a full wildlife survey. Note: osprey nests and bald eagle nests outside of the Grassland and Parkland natural regions, should be considered features to identify and buffer regardless of time of year given their large (easily identifiable) appearance and high probability of re-use.

## Acronyms

Acronym	Term
AEP	Alberta Environment and Parks
AER	Alberta Energy Regulator
ANR	Assisted Natural Recovery
AUM	Animal Unit Month
DLO	Department Licence of Occupation – issued by Environment and Parks
DPL	Department Pipeline Agreement – issued by Environment and Parks
DOA	Dispositional Operational Approval
ECM	Electronic Content Management
EDS	Electronic Disposition System.
GLIMPS	Geographic Land Information Management and Planning System
GRR	Provincial Grazing Reserve
ILM	Integrated Land Management
LAT	Landscape Analysis Tool
LOC	Licence of Occupation – issued by the Alberta Energy Regulator
MSSC	Master Schedule of Standards and Conditions
NSR	Natural Subregion
OHWM	Ordinary High Water Mark
PCS	Plan Confirmation Service
PLA	Pipeline Agreement – issued by the Alberta Energy Regulator
PLA	<i>Public Lands Act</i>
PLAR	Public Lands Administration Regulation
ROW	Right-of-Way
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TFA	Temporary Field Authorization