

# Public Lands Camping Pass

## Supporting Indigenous Access and Land Use

### OVERVIEW

#### Public Lands Camping Pass

Following engagement with the public, stakeholders, and Indigenous peoples on sustainable outdoor recreation between November 2020 and January 2021, the Government of Alberta announced its intention to introduce a Public Lands Camping Pass for the Eastern Slopes area effective June 1, 2021. The pass will be available for purchase through Alberta Resource Licensing Management ([AlbertaRELM.com](http://AlbertaRELM.com)) – the same place that sells fishing and hunting licences.

### TREATY RIGHTS, MÉTIS HARVESTING, AND TRADITIONAL LAND USES

Alberta takes an integrated management approach for Crown lands that respects and supports the continued availability of Crown lands for the purpose of exercising First Nations' Treaty rights, Métis harvesting, and First Nations and Métis traditional uses.

Alberta recognizes that Crown lands are culturally important to Indigenous peoples. The administration of new fees for recreation on provincial Crown lands will be mindful of these rights and uses, and of its cultural importance.



*Photo Credit: Trail Riders of the Canadian Rockies*

#### Pass Exemptions

To ensure that Indigenous peoples have continued access to Crown lands for the purpose of exercising First Nations Treaty rights, Métis harvesting, or First Nations or Métis traditional uses, the Public Lands Camping Pass requirement will not apply to:

- First Nations individuals with status (recognized by the federal government);
- For the area of the Eastern Slopes north of the Red Deer River, recognized Métis harvesters (recognized under the Government of Alberta's [Metis Harvesting in Alberta Policy \(2018\)](#)), Metis Settlement members, and members of the Aseniwuche Winewak Nation.
- Children and youth under the age of 18; and
- Persons receiving benefits from Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH), the Adult Health Benefit, or Income Support.

For more information: [alberta.ca](http://alberta.ca) | [aep.planning@gov.ab.ca](mailto:aep.planning@gov.ab.ca)

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Individuals exempt from the Public Lands Camping Pass will need to carry and, if requested by an enforcement officer, show their documentation/cards when camping on public lands where a camping pass is required.

### Reasonably Incidental Activities

Camping on public land can be a reasonable incidental activity to the exercise of rights or traditional uses by First Nations and Métis people. The Public Lands Camping Pass exemptions for Indigenous individuals exercising rights and traditional uses are aligned with Alberta's [Guide to Applying the Public Lands Administration Regulation \(PLAR\) in the Context of Aboriginal Peoples' Rights](#). The guide describes how the Public Lands Administration Regulation (PLAR) is applied in a way that is supportive of Aboriginal Peoples' rights and reconciliation with Aboriginal peoples.

### Métis Harvesting Policy

This [policy](#) is designed to ensure that Métis people who might be beneficiaries of Aboriginal rights, as guaranteed by section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982, have the ability to hunt, fish, and trap for food. The Métis harvesting in Alberta policy follows the principles outlined by the Supreme Court of Canada, and provides the framework for recognizing Métis individuals who potentially have rights to hunt, fish, and trap for food in defined Métis harvesting areas in Alberta. As described by the policy, recognized Métis harvesters can fish, hunt and trap for food within specific areas.

## Public Lands Camping Pass

### Where is the Public Lands Camping Pass required?

The pass is required by individuals who want to random camp on public lands in the Eastern Slopes of the Rocky Mountains from Grande Prairie to Waterton Lakes National Park (see map) or visit: [Alberta.ca/CampingPass](http://Alberta.ca/CampingPass).

### What is the cost?

Campers 18 years and older are required to purchase a pass:

- \$20 per person for a 3-day pass
- \$30 per person for an annual pass
- \$3.25 plus GST system processing fee per transaction.
- One-time Wildlife Identification Number (WIN) purchase to access system (\$8, but with a \$2 discount if purchased online).

### Where can I purchase a Public Lands Camping Pass?

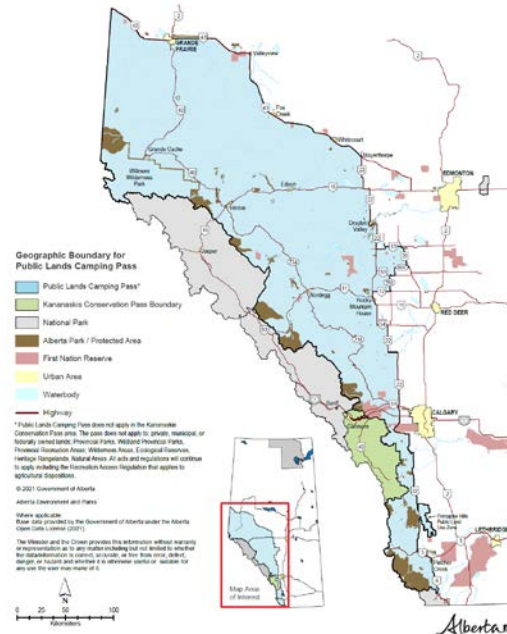
Passes are available for purchase online at [albertarelm.com](http://albertarelm.com) or AlbertaRELM mobile app or at locations that sell fishing and hunting licenses.

### How will the money from fees be used?

To protect and sustain public land in the Eastern Slopes, fees collected will be reinvested to:

- Upgrade infrastructure
- Improve education
- Support conservation and help protect the environment
- Monitor and enforce rules
- Promote public safety
- Provide better waste management.

#### PUBLIC LANDS CAMPING PASS



## More Information?

Please visit [Alberta.ca/CampingPass](http://Alberta.ca/CampingPass) or email us at [AEP.Planning@gov.ab.ca](mailto:AEP.Planning@gov.ab.ca).