















Taking Trails From Good to Great PTBA Sustainable Trails Conference

March 2018



Welcome!

Parks Canada Approach to Trail Planning

Its all about baking a cake











Boring Cake

- Cookie cutter
- Basic, boring, plain
- Not very exciting
- Works but could be better

Ingredients

- Lots of options
- Using the right ones can make a big difference
- Know what you want at the end = success

Successful Cake

- Creates excitement
- Gets eaten right away
- Knowing how to use all the ingredients = successful cake
- Makes me happy!



Parks Canada 101

Places we manage

- National Parks and National Park Reserves
- National Historic Sites
- National Marine Conservation Areas
- National Urban Parks
- National Monuments















Our trails before...

- used to be considered simply as "an appropriate activity".
- have been in most cases inherited or developed organically overtime, not planned.





The results ...

- difficult to maintain
- expensive to maintain
- negative impact on environment
- negative impact on wildlife





The results ...

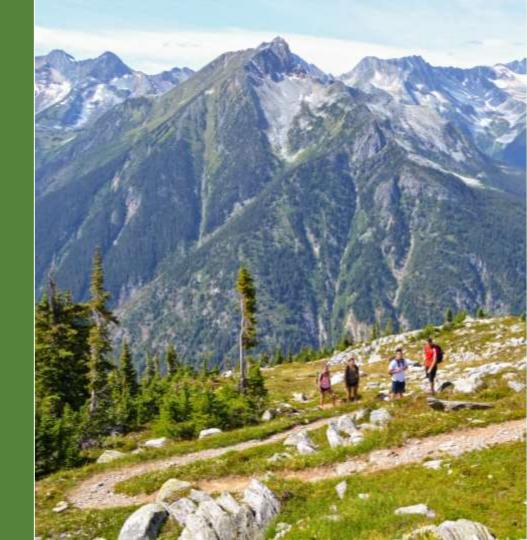
- bad visitor experience
- visitors that are discouraged from coming again
- bad media





The National Trail Program

- Trails are offered in all Parks Canada's sites.
- Trails include all surface material from natural surface to paved pathway, and include single tracks and double tracks, and waterways.





The National Trail Program

- Provides national direction (standards, guidelines, etc).
- National Trail Team's role: develop tools and support sites in the planning, implementation, and maintenance of their trail systems.

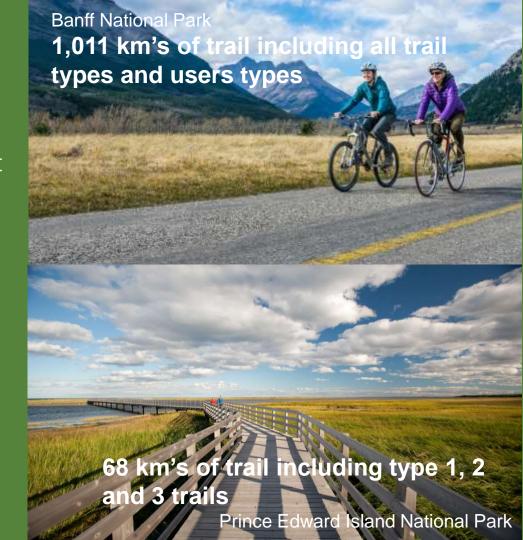




Trails as an Asset

- Maximo and "2017 Asset Report Card data":
 - 1,192 Trails (records)
 worth \$ 513 M (in
 2017\$)* with \$ 69 M in
 DW (2017\$)*.
 - More than 60% in Mountain Parks.

*these figures do not include associated bridges, as we currently don`t have that information in Maximo.





Trails as an Asset

- CH/VE Investments approved projects:
 - Trails B16 Funds \$103,970,000*
 - Trails and Boardwalks FII/CAI Funds \$59,809,000**
 - Backcountry FII/CAI Funds \$1,020,000

Total Investments \$164,799,000

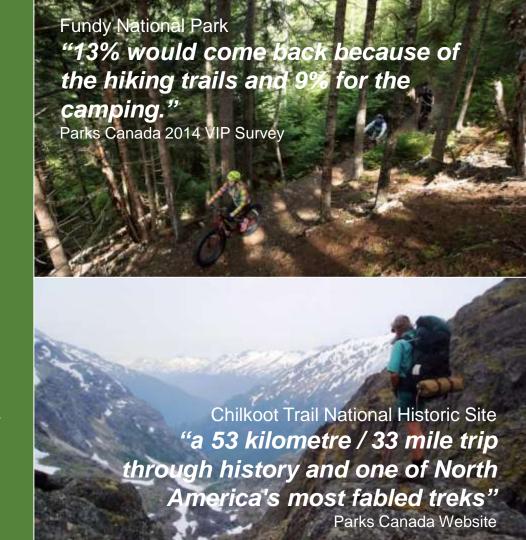
*New trail development ** Maintenance and upgrades to existing trail





Trails as a VE Product

- From short trails in NHSs to world-renowned day-use and overnight trails in NPs, trails are a core product common to all of our sites.
- Trails are more than VE products; they are intimately tied to Canada's history and identity as a nation.







Overall Trail Program Goals

National Trail Program

Information

Tools Guidelines Standards

Procurement

- design
- maintenance
- assessment
- inspection
- construction
- more ...

Innovation

New Products Out-of-the-box Ideas Ground Breaking

- ebikes
- adaptive trails
- signage
- competitions
- alternative material
- signature experiences
- *More* ...

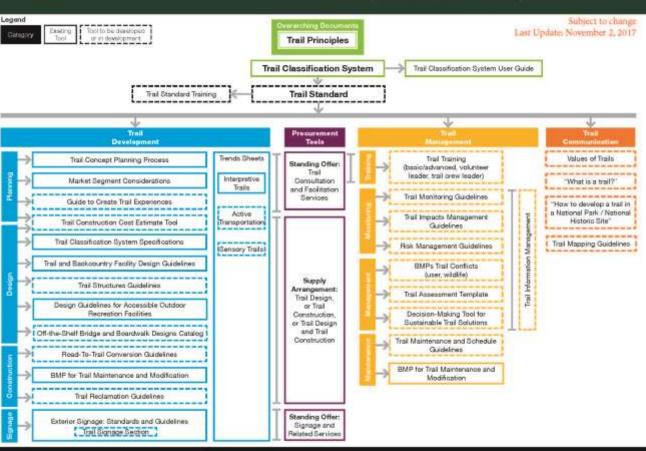
Influence

Value Better Product Better Decisions Promotion

- fact sheets
- value of trails
- sales pitch
- communities of practice
- *More* ...



Overall Trail Program Tools

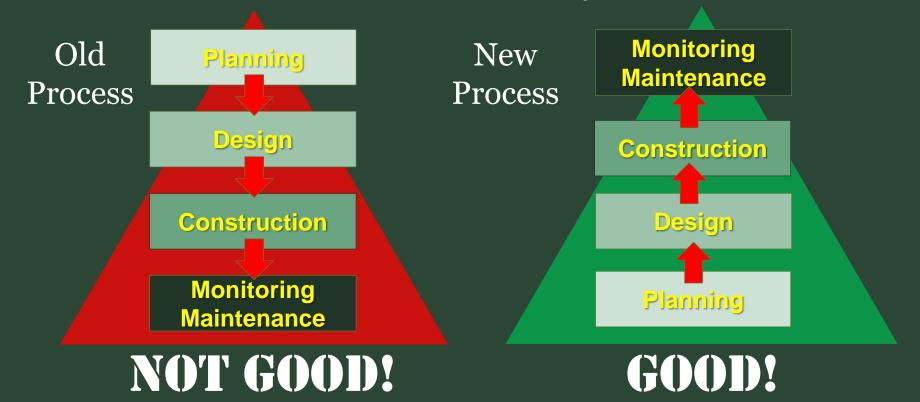






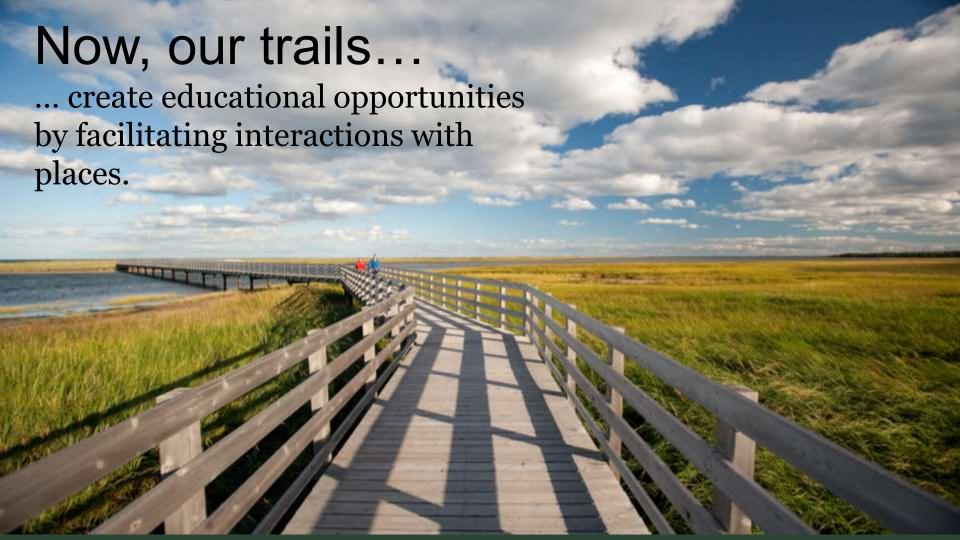


Process to Create Successful + Sustainable Trail Systems









Now, our trails...









- Apply to all trail development and upgrades.
- Provide direction to the planning, development, and management of trails to ensure an integrated approach fundamental to successful and sustainable trail systems.





Trail principles flow from Parks Canada mandate which includes 3 key elements:





In addition to the 3 key elements, Trail Principles integrate key elements of sustainable and successful trail systems:

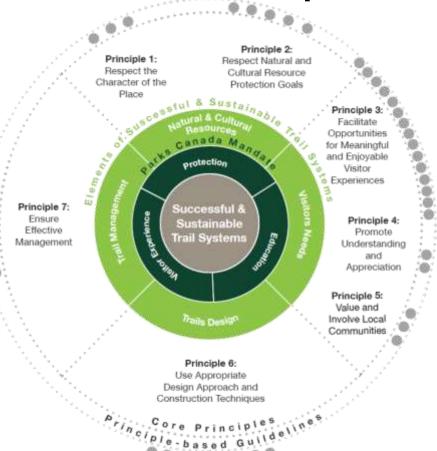
Natural & Cultural Resources





7 Core Principles

[What we want the trail system to achieve]



42 Principle-based guidelines

[How it can be achieved]



Principle 1: Respect the Character of the Place

- 1.1 Respect Cultural Landscape Patterns.
- 1.2 Fit in the Landscape.
- 1.3 Ensure the Right Trail and Activity for a Given Area.





Principle 2: Respect Natural and Cultural Resource Protection Goals

- 2.4 Relocate, Close, and Restore Inappropriate Trails.
- 2.5 Use Previously Disturbed Areas.

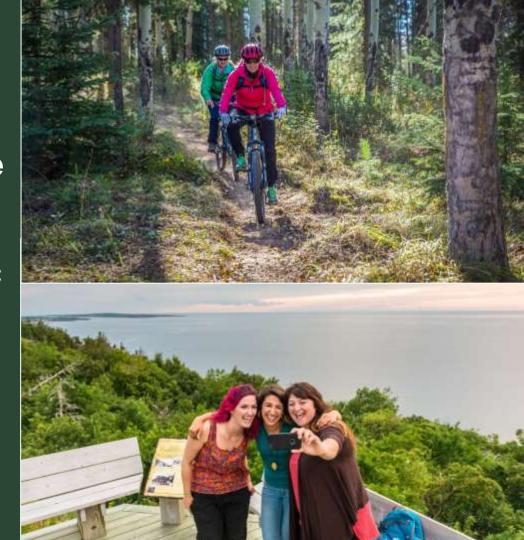






Principle 3: Facilitate Opportunities for Meaningful and Enjoyable Visitor Experiences

- 3.3 Meet the Needs of the Users.
- 3.9 Connect Destinations.
- 3.10 Create New Destinations Opportunities.





Principle 3: Facilitate
Opportunities for
Meaningful and Enjoyable
Visitor Experiences

Principle-Based Guidelines: (examples)

3.11 Facilitate Navigation.

3.12 Address Trail User Comfort.





Principle 3: Facilitate
Opportunities for
Meaningful and Enjoyable
Visitor Experiences

Principle-Based Guidelines: (examples)

3.14 Filter Users Based on their Trail Abilities.





Principle 4: Promote Understanding and Appreciation

Principle-Based Guidelines: (examples)

4.1 Offer Learning Opportunities (Informal).

4.2 Integrate Interpretation Opportunities (Formal).







Principle 5: Value and Involve Local Communities

- 5.1 Engage Early and Broadly.
- 5.2 Engage Indigenous Groups.
- 5.3 Promote Trail Stewardship.







Principle 6: Use Appropriate Design Approach and Construction Techniques

Principle-Based Guidelines: (examples)

6.3 Eliminate Short-term Solutions.

6.5 Avoid Fall Lines.

6.7 Favour Contour Trails.







Principle 7: Ensure Effective Management

Principle-Based Guidelines: (examples)

7.1 Ensure a Cross Functional Collaboration.

7.2 Provide Level of Service Based on Trail Type.

7.4 Close Trails When Required.





Trail Principles Help You...

- Have constructive discussions around trails.
- Build arguments or a case for trail development or improvement projects.





Trail Principles help you...

- Evaluate trail projects against approved criteria.
- Guide decisions regarding the planning, development, and management of trails.





Planning Principles Checklist

Experiences

Does the proposed trail system	Meet	Do Not Mee	N/A
Principle 1: Respect the Character of the Place Trails and activities they facilitate respect the value of heritage places or the uni protected heritage place.	que character of	a spe	cific
1.1 Respect Cultural Landscape Patterns.			
1.2 Fit in the Landscape.			
1.3 Ensure the Right Trail and User for a Given Area.			
Principle 2: Respect Natural and Cultural Resource Protection Trails and activities they facilitate are consistent with resource protection goals, resources determine where, how, and what type of trails are built to ensure that capacity and cultural resources.	. Natural and cul		
a Franco Federical Intensity			
2.1 Ensure Ecological Integrity.			
2.2 Protect and Present Cultural Resources.			
2.1 Ensure Ecological Integrity. 2.2 Protect and Present Cultural Resources. 2.3 Stay far Enough from Areas Visitor Should Avoid. 2.4 Relocate, Close, and Restore Inappropriate Trails.			





- is central to our approach to trail planning, management, and promotion.
- is common across our sites to ensure that visitors can plan a trip that meets their expectations.







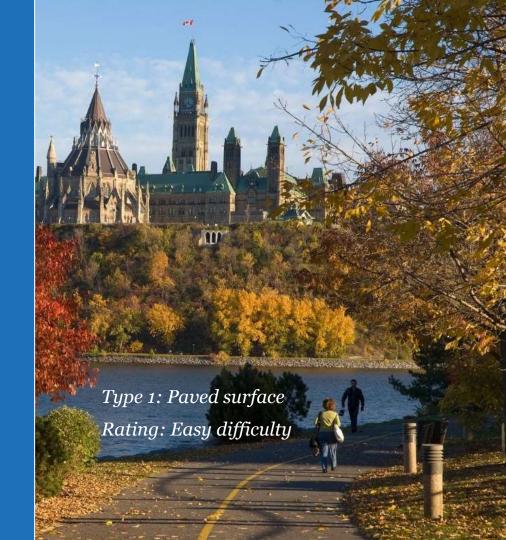
• offers a diversity of experiences ranging from very easy to difficult trails, and from regularly maintained trails to unmaintained routes.







- Trail Type
 (specifications for trail management)
- 2) Trail Rating (Information for visitors / level of difficulty)





1) Trail Rating

	T	rail Rating Classification (for ti	he Visitor)	
Element / Rating	EASY	MODERATE	DIFFICULT	ROUTE
Definition Symbol	Suitable for all visitors including those with no trail experience. Visitor may be prepared for trail or may not be prepared grouper equipment and water). Hard packed surface with no obstacles and minimal stairs. Estimated time to complete the trail is no longer than two hours. Little or no elevation gain or loss.	Suitable for most visitors who have some basic trail experience and are generally prepared (proper equipment and water). Mostly stable surface with infrequent obstacles, stairs may be present. Estimated time to complete the trail is no longer than tive hours. May experience moderate elevation gain with some short steep sections.	Suitable for visitors who have trail experience and are prepared (proper equipment and water). Varily of surface types including non-established surface. Estimated time to complete the trail may exceed five hours. May experience major elevation gain with long steep sections.	Suitable for visitors who have exceptional traif and navigation experience and are well prepared (proper equipment and water). Non-established tread only a suggested trail route, not maintained. Estimated time to complete ranges from 1 day to 10 days or longer. May experience a variety of terrain including wet areas, loose rocks, exposure, and thick forest.
Symbol			•	* *
Distance (return)	0 – 5 km	0 – 15 km	0 – 15+ km	N/A.
Trail Profile	Flat to gently rolling	Gently rolling with short steep sections	Rolling with many steep sections that may continue for long periods	N/A
	Typical Elevation Gain	Typical Sevation Gain	Typical Elevation Gain	Typical Elevation Gain
	0 - 100 metres	100 - 500 metres	500+ metres	N/A
Trail Surface (material type and	Paved or surfaced •Hard packed	Surfaced or natural surface •Firm and stable	Natural surface •May be loose or may not exist	N/A
average width)	Typical Average Width	Typical Average Width	Typical Average Width	Typical Average Width
	1.0 – 3.0 metres	0.5 – 1.5 metre	0 - 1.0 metre	N/A
Quality of Marking (general signage and information provide)	Trailhead information, interpretive panels, route markers, trail orientation maps • Maximum information provided	Basis trail head information, route markers, and trail orientation maps • Moderate information provided	Basic trail head information and minimal route markers, or no signage provided • Minimal or no information provided	N/A
Obstacles or Stairs	Few or no obstacles, minimal use of stairs	Infrequent obstacles, stairs may be present	Obstacles common, steps common	N/A
Visitor Facilities	Parking lot, washroom, bridges, benches • Maximum visitor facilities	Parking lot, outhouse/pit toilet, bridges • Moderate visitor facilities	Bridges or other water crossing including fording • Minimal visitor facilities	N/A • No visitor facilities
Recommended Experience	Little or no experience required	Some experience recommended	Experience recommended	N/A
Level or Service	High	Moderate	Low	N/A















Easy

Well-marked

Level of service: High

Natural Tread

Difficult

Few signage

Level of service: Low

Not developed

Very difficult

No signage

Level of service: N/A



2) Trail Type: Trail Description

Crushed rock or natural mineral soil surface

Trail Type Classification (for Asset, Resource Conservation, and Visitor Experience Management) **General Description and Technical Details** Element / Trail Type TYPE 1 TYPE 4 TYPE 3 Definition Paved or hard packed surfaced double track trail, all Natural surfaced packed single track trail or double Natural surface single track trail. No construction. weather use, with no obstacles in surface. · Trail tread may be constructed or established by Suggested trail route. · Use compacted crushed rock, mineral soil, asphalt or Use natural mineral soils or rock for surfacing, or clearing a corridor and marking the route. Trail tread may consist of wildlife paths or may not chip-seal coat surface. native material from site. May be a payed surface Whenever possible use natural native material from Minimum trail width of 1.5 metre. Minimum trail width of one metre. · Provide minimal or no signage or facilities. Provide interpretive and directional signs, benches, and . Provide interpretive and directional signs, benches, Minimum trail width of 0.25 metre. Not maintained. viewing areas where appropriate. viewing areas where appropriate. Provide minimal signage. Machine- or hand-built and maintained. Machine- or hand-built and maintained. Hand-built and maintained. Zone II, III, IV, V (Wilderness, Natural Environment, Park Zone Zone III, IV, and V (Natural Environment, Outdoor Recrisation, Zone II, III, IV. V. (Wilderness, Natural Emironment, Zone I, II, III, and N (applies to National Parks Outdoor Recreation and Park Servicel Outdoor Recreation and Park Service). (Special Preservation, Wilderness, and Park Service). May be found in Zone II (Wilderness) May be found in Zone I (Special Preservation) Natural Environment, and Outdoor Recreation). under special circumstances. under exceptional circumstances. Trail Type Typical Visitor Type Suitable for all visitors including those with no trail Suitable for most visitors with some basic trail experience Suitable for visitors who have frail experience and are Suitable for visitors who have exceptional trail and experience. Visitor may be prepared for trail or may not bewho are generally prepared (proper equipment and prepared (proper equipment and water). navigation experience and are well prepared prepared (proper equipment and water). (proper equipment and water). Trail Rating Easy or Moderate Easy, Moderate, or Difficult Moderate. Difficult or Boute Difficult or Route Image

Crushed rock or natural mineral soil surface

Natural mineral soil surface

Suggested route



1) Trail Type: Technical Details

	Distance (km / m)	Typical distance of trail does not exceed 10 km. In cortain cases a Type 1 trail may exceed 10 km.	Typical distance of trail does not exceed 20 km. In certain cases a Type 1 trail may exceed 20 km.	May exceed 20 km.	N/A
echnical Details	Trail Profile (general description and typical elevation gain)	Flat to gently rolling	Gently rolling with short steep sections	Rolling with steep sections that may continue for long periods	N/A
			Typical Eduation Guin		
		0 – 100 metres May be greater in certain situations.	0 - 1,000 metres	0 - 1,000+ metres	N/A
	Trail Surface (Material Type and Typical Average Width)	Paved or surfaced Hard packed and stable	Surfaced or natural Firm and stable	Natural • May be loose in areas	N/A
					Average Weath
		1.5 - 3.0 metres	1.0 - 1.5 metre	0.25 - 1.0 mebe	N/A
	Quality of Marking (General Signage and Information Provided)	Trailhead information, interpretive panels, route markers, trail orientation maps • Maximum information provided	Basic trailhead information, route markers, and trail orientation maps • Moderate information provided	Basic trail head information and minimal route markers, or no signage provided • Minimal or no information provided	N/A
	Obstacles or Stairs	Few or no obstacles, no stairs or minimal use of stairs	Infrequent obstacles, stairs may be present	Obstacles common, stairs may be present	N/A
	Visitor Facilities	Parking lot, washroom, bridges, benches • Maximum visitor facilities	Parking lot, outhouse/pit toilet, bridges • Moderate visitor facilities	Bridges or other water crossing including fording • Minimal visitor facilities	N/A. • No visitor facilities
	Level of Use	High to Very High	Moderate to High	Low to Moderate	Low



1) Trail Type: Level of Services and Visitor Safety

	Element / Trail Type	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4
nice	Level of Service	High	Moderate	Low	N/A
	Inspection	Weekly/monthly or upon visitor comment	Seasonal or as required upon visitor comment	Yearly or as required upon visitor comment	N/A
	Deadfall Clearing	As required	As required / seasonal	Yearly	N/A
	Infrastructure	Major (bridge, boardwalk, viewing platform)	Moderate (bridge, boardwalk, viewing platform)	Low or none (bridge, boardwalk)	N/A
Level of	Trail Materials and Surface Preparation	Asphalt, concrete or crushed rock Repair cracks, fill holes, repack surface, create drainage, clear comidor	Crushed rock or natural mineral soil and rock Fill holes, repack surface, create drainage, clear comidor	Natural mineral soil and rock or natural ground cover • Create drainage, clear corridor	N/A
	Equipment	ATV, mechanized equipment, horse, hand or bicycle	ATV, mechanized equipment, horse, hand or bicycle	Non-motorized, horse, hand or bicycle	N/A
	Visitors Definition	Visitor may not understand all risks and may not be self- reliant in the event of an incident.	Visitor may have a general understanding of some risks and may be partially self-reliant in the event of an incident	Visitor has an understanding of most risks and may be self-reliant in the event of an incident	Visitor has an understanding of risks and will be self- reliant in the event of an incident
ľ	Risk Mitigation	Maximum effort made to mitigate risk.	Moderate effort made to mitigate risk.	Low effort made to mitigate risk.	Low too little effort made to mitigate risk.
Visitor Sa	Risk Identification (Cautions and Warnings)	High detailed explanation of risk – typically provided at trailhead, on maps and at areas of risk along the trail.	Moderate detailed explanation of risk – only significant risks identified, information typically provided at trailhead and at areas along the trail	Low detailed explanation of risk – only site-specific or unusual risks. Information typically provided at trailhead.	Low detailed explanation of risk – only site-specific or unusual risks. Information typically provided at trailhead.
	Risk Inspection	Weekly/monthly or upon visitor comment. Risk inspection can occur during level of service inspection	Seasonal or as required upon visitor comment. Risk inspection can occur during level of service inspection.	Yearly or as required upon visitor comment. Risk inspection can occur during level of service inspection.	N/A



Type I

Description

Paved or hard packed surfaced double track trail, all weather use, with no obstacles in surface

Trail Surface

Hard packed imported materials or hardened with asphalt or concrete

Average Gradient

up to 7%

Typical Tread Width

1.5 to 3 meters

Clearing Width

3 meters +

Level of use

High to Very High

Level of service

High

Typical Ratings

Easy or Moderate







Type II

Description	Natural surfaced packed single track trail or double track trail	
Trail Surface	Hard packed Natural materia or loosely packed natural material	
Average Gradient	up to 15 %	
Typical Tread Width	1 to 1.5 meters	
Clearing Width	2 – 3.5 meter	
Level of use	Moderate to High	
Level of service	Moderate	
Typical Ratings	Easy, Moderate, or Difficult	





Type III

Description	Natural surface single track trail	
Trail Surface	Natural material, May be packed or loose	
Average Gradient	up to 20% +	
Typical Tread Width	0.25 to 1 meter	
Clearing Width	1 – 2 meter	
Level of use	Low to Moderate	
Level of service	Low	
Typical Ratings	Easy, Moderate, or Difficult	





Type IV

Description	Suggested trail route	
Trail Surface	Trail tread may not exist or may consist of wildlife paths	
Average Gradient	N.A.	
Typical Tread Width	N.A.	
Clearing Width	N.A.	
Level of use	Very Low	
Level of service	Low	
Typical Ratings	Typically Difficult	





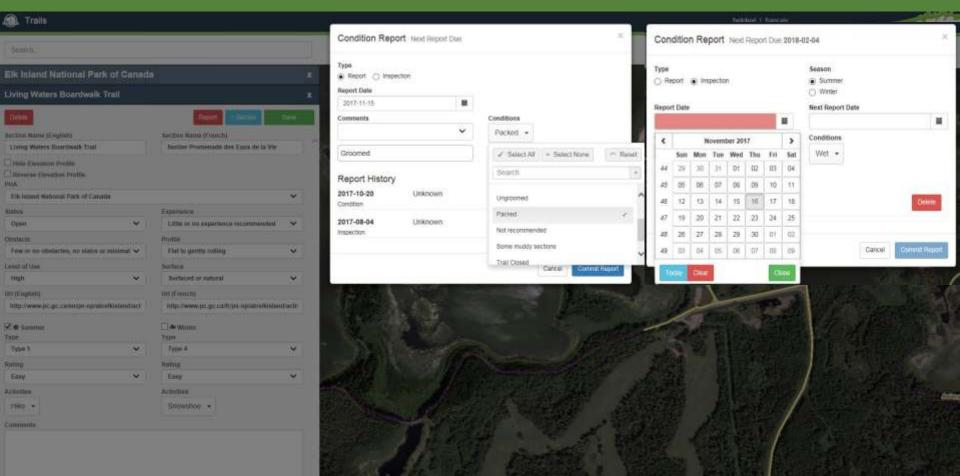
Results

- Completing the trail type and trail rating classification provides a complete picture of the site's trail system.
- This information provides guidance on how to manage the trails:
 - Are trails over maintained or under maintained?
 - What resources are required and where?
 - What level of visitor safety should be provided?
 - What trails are in need of improvement?
 - Are there gaps in the trail system?
 - What information is provided to visitors?
 - How/to whom are trails promoted?













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Canada

Parks Canada Trails

Search Perks and Treits.

Activities +

Banff National Park of Canada

Bruce Peninsula National Park of Canada Cape Breton Highlands National Park of

Canada

Elk Island National Park of Canada

Fathom Five National Marine Park of Canada

Forillon National Park of Canada

Fundy National Park of Canada

Georgian Bay Islands National Park of Canada

Glacier National Park of Canada

Grasslands National Park of Canada

Gros Morne National Park of Canada

Jasper National Park of Canada

Kejimkujik National Park of Canada

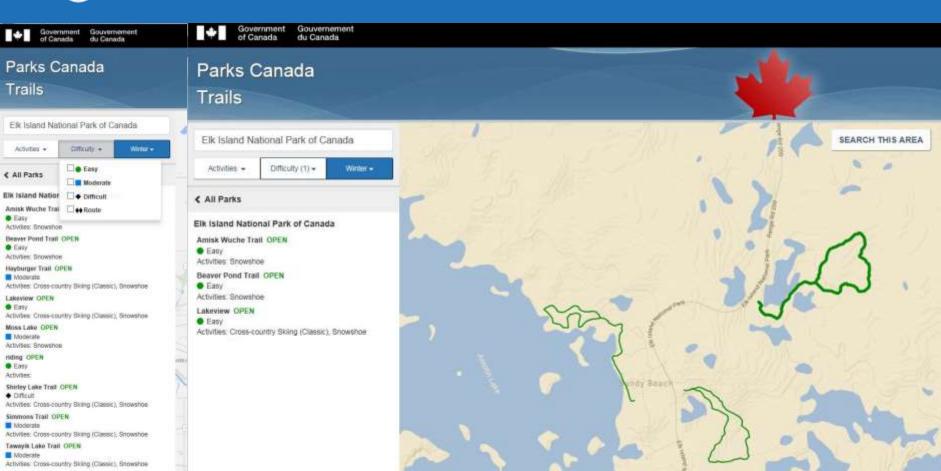
Kootenay National Park of Canada

Kouchibouguac National Park of Canada

La Mauricie National Park of Canada Prince Albert National Park of Canada









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Parks Canada Trails

Beaver Pond Trail OPEN

Elk Island National Park of Canada

Tital Details

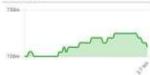
• Easy

Easy trains are suitable for all visitors including those with little or no trail experience. These trains have a hard surface with few or no obstacles and are generally flat.

Activities

Snowshoe

Elevation

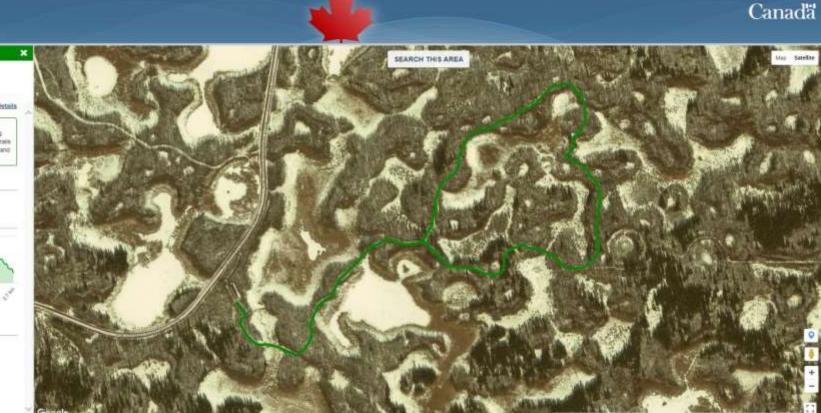


Trail Conditions

Last Parks Canada Inspection: 2017-08-04

2017-06-04

Unknown





Government Gouvernement du Canada

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Parks Canada Trails

Banff National Park of Canada Activities + Difficulty =

flummer:+

← All Parks

Banff National Park of Canada

Allenby Pass · Difficult

Activities Hille, Horse

Altenby Skyline Hiker Comp Moderate

Activities: Hilve, Horse, Commercial Horse.

Amica Lake

Vista Lake

· Emy

Activities, Hille, Horse Vista to Arrica Lake

Moderate

Activities: Hille, Horse

Assiniboine Pass ◆ Difficult

Activities: Hille, Horse

Assiniboine Pass

 Easy Artivities:

Assiniboine Pass Hiker Bypass

Moderate .

Activities: Hire

Assimboine Pass Horse

Moderate Activities: Home

Aylmer Lookout

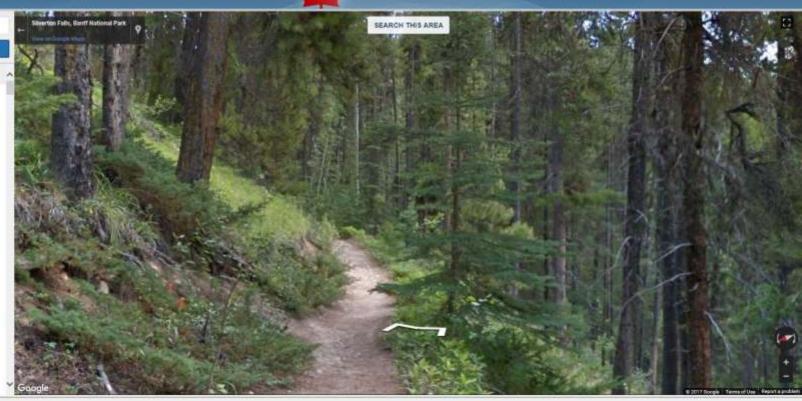
· Difficult

Activities: Hite, Horse-Ayimer Pass

Defficult









Additional potential for the visitor information tool

- Adding the location of visitor centers, toilets, parkings lots, trailheads and other information relevant for our visitors.
- Releasing the trail information as « open data ».











One Activity = Multiple Experiences

People who participate in the same activity can have different experiences

This is great!
Snow, friends
and blue sky!
This is real
life!



Come on gang! Let's move on before the storm starts! And keep the topo map handy!



Market segmentation

• Breaks market into groups of individuals that have similar needs, desires, and characteristics that cause them to seek out similar experiences.

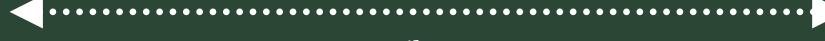




Market Segmentation

PRIZM® Lifestages

(Based on socio-economics, lifestyle, etc.)



Young years

Family years

Mature years

Explorer Quotient ® (EQ)

(Based on travel values)



Social Explorers

Reluctant Explorers



Market Segmentation

- Each market segment enjoys trails differently and enjoys different trails.
- Goal is to match the trail offer to the trail preferences of target markets.





Trail Planning Considerations by Market Segment

PRIZM	Tend to enjoy:	Tend to avoid:	Who are they?
Singles Scene	Trail type: 1 and 2 Trail rating: EASY and MODERATE Trail activities: in-line skating and bicycle riding Trail characteristics: • Urban trails • Paved trails • Interpretive trails related to cultural history and playful experience trails (including the use of new technologies) • Short easy trails connecting to beaches and day use areas	Trail type: 3 and 4 Trail rating: DIFFICULT and ROUTE Trail activities: mountain biking and snowmobiling Trail characteristics: • Extreme and challenging trails (e.g. long distance, backcountry trails) • Remote trails	 Young, ethnically diverse singles and couples Seek a sense of purpose, where spirituality, global consciousness and the quest of who they are play important roles in their life Not outdoorsy and do not own recreational equipment Heavy users of technology
Family Traditions - Tween Years	Trail type: 1, 2, and 3 Trail rating: EASY and MODERATE Trails activities: cross-country skiing, bird watching, snowmobiling, and fishing Trail characteristics: • Family-friendly trails • Kid-friendly outdoor activities (sharing nature experiences with their children) • Trails adjacent to campgrounds	Trail type: 3 and 4 Trail rating: DIFFICULT and ROUTE Trails activities: walking/hiking, mountain biking, and ice and in-line skating Trail characteristics: • Extreme and challenging trails (e.g. long distance, backcountry trails) • Cultural events or happenings of all sorts • Interpretive panels about cultural history • Explora or other technology applications	 Conservative, middle aged and younger couple with a mix of tweens and younger kids, located in exurban and rural areas Prefer to be in nature to enjoy their simple and authentic way of life by owning all kinds of sports/outdoor equipment When they travel, they tend to go back to the same places year after year Not enthusiastic about new technology



Trail Planning Considerations by Market Segment

Explorer Quotient	Tend to enjoy:	Tend to avoid:	Who are they?
Experiencers	Trail type: 1, 2, 3, and 4 Trail rating: EASY, MODERATE, DIFFICULT, and ROUTE Trail characteristics: • Trails providing an authentic experience and allowing to be fully immersed • Interpretive trails and playful experience trails • Challenging, backcountry, and long distance trails • Using a trail on their own/in small groups	Trail type: - Trail rating: - Trail characteristics: • Crowded trails • Guided tours (unless that's the only way they can access an area or be provided an authentic experience) • Trails through a busy part of the park (e.g. trailhead is a busy parking lot, trailhead next to a busy road)	 Understated travellers looking for authentic, tangible engagement with destinations they seek, with a particular interest in understanding the history of the places they visit Eco-conscientious, flexible, risk takers Appreciate the understated beauty of natural and cultural environments Supporters of PC mandate Show a tendency to reject order
Explorers	Trail type: 1 Trail rating: EASY Trail characteristics: • Trails that are easy to access and navigate (e.g. trailhead, maps, wayfinding, clear trail markings) • Well-defined, safe, groomed/maintained trails • Urban trails • Trails connecting to beaches, day use areas, and comfortable viewing platform • Guided tours	to navigate	 Prefer familiar locations, reluctant to venture far beyond the comfort of their home Not big travellers but usually go along with spouse or family Afraid of trying the unknown Less comfortable with new cultures Prefer destinations that they can return to relive past experiences Like to see main attractions



Other ways to get visitor information

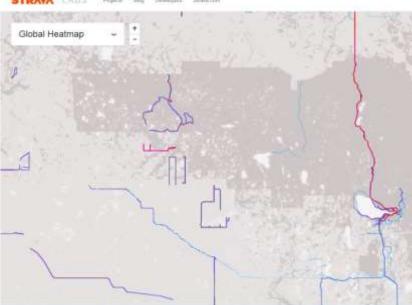
Qualitative

- Surveys (on-site, on-line, phone)
- Sounding boards (engagement tool)
- Observations

Quantitative

- Trail user counts
- Strava app
- Statistics Canada

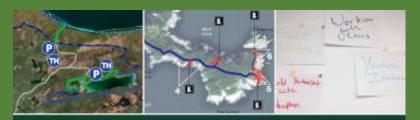






Trail Concept Planning Process

Guiding Document









Trail Concept Planning Goals

- Ensure that plans follow an **integrated approach** to trail planning (protection/education/visitor experience).
- Ensure that plans integrate and meet national standards and guidelines.
- Build **support** to the plan.



Trail Concept Planning Benefits

- Decrease maintenance costs (human and financial resources).
- Meet current and future visitor's needs.
- Fill gaps in the trail offer.
- Protect trail corridors for future opportunities.
- Help plan and phase investments.
- Help achieve natural and cultural resource protection objectives.



Sustainable and successful trail systems



Trail Planning Process...

- Builds on strategic direction. It is informed by, and integrates, plans and policies.
- Is collaborative. It engages public/stakeholders at key phases.
- **Is flexible.** It is a 'road map' that allows flexibility in terms of level of effort.
- **Is comprehensive.** It provides a list of tools available for each of the step and which information to look for. It allows to document each step.



Trail Concept Planning Process

Trail Concept Plan Foundation

The first four (4) phases of the planning process could be referred to as the Trail Concept Plan Foundation. This provides strategic direction to the development of the Trail Concept Plan and Implementation Plan. The trail concept planning process is a six (6) phase process where each phase builds upon the previous ones.

PLANNING CONTEXT

ANALYSIS

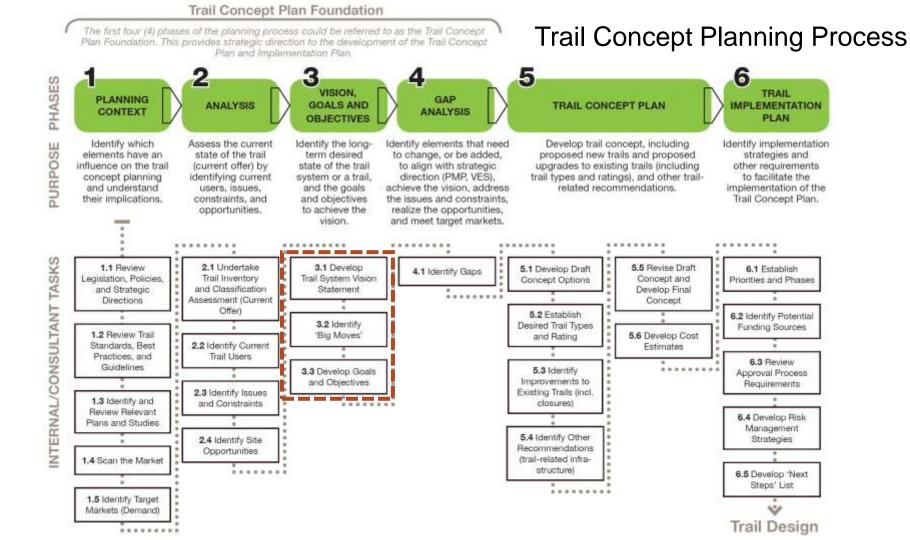
VISION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GAP ANALYSIS

TRAIL CONCEPT PLAN

TRAIL
IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN

Identify which elements have an influence on the trail concept planning and understand their implications. Assess the current state of the trail (current offer) by identifying current users, issues, constraints, and opportunities. Identify the longterm desired state of the trail system or a trail, and the goals and objectives to achieve the vision. Identify elements that need to change, or be added, to align with strategic direction (PMP, VES), achieve the vision, address the issues and constraints, realize the opportunities, and meet target markets. Develop trail concept, including proposed new trails and proposed upgrades to existing trails (including trail types and ratings), and other trailrelated recommendations. Identify implementation strategies and other requirements to facilitate the implementation of the Trail Concept Plan.

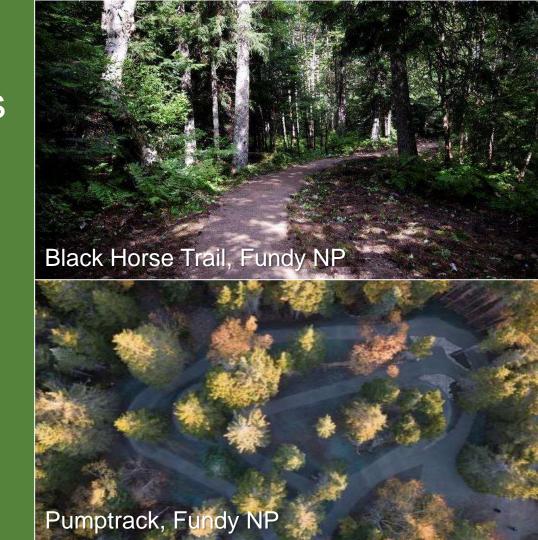




Successful Projects

Fundy National Park

- Road-to-Trail Conversion (Road-to-Trail Conversion Guidelines).
- Conversion of an abandoned campground into a pumptrack.
- Rebuild of trails that where not properly designed and constructed.





Successful Projects

Jasper National Park

• Three Valley Confluence Trail Plan

Resulting projects:

- Discovery Trail
- Easy Trail Network
- Jasper Trail Alliance









Why is engaging so important?

- To build support for the plan/project.
- To improve the plan/project (e.g. more creative and effective solutions, meet the needs of the users).





Why is engaging so important?

- To integrate knowledge from different perspectives and build capacity (e.g. users knowledge vs. decision-makers knowledge).
- To build relationships and trust in organizations.





Engagement Fundamentals

- There is a decision to be made (i.e. engagement is not a check box).
- The public has the opportunities to influence decisions.
- The public knows how the their input will be used (e.g. different level of engagement with different commitments).
- People interacts differently. It is important to offer different ways to provide input.
- People are busy! It is important to provide some opportunities that fit their schedule.

Need to plan for engagement



Planning for Engagement

A good engagement plan should include:

- Why we engage
- Who should be engaged
- How they would be engaged, How the input is going to be used, and How we will report back
- When they would be engaged
- What activities they are going to participate in

Engagement Process Key period of time we are engaging

PLAN

STAGES FINAL CONCEPT/ STAGE 0 **FOUNDATION** DRAFT CONCEPT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN Foster an understanding among Present draft Trail Concept Plan Present and validate the Trail Concept Planning for PURPOSE stakeholders/partners of the planning to stakeholders/partners, gather Plan and Implementation Plan with engagement (Why, Who, context and analysis, gather input on feedback, and evaluate the draft stakeholders/partners. How, When, trail values, issues and opportunities, concept options. and develop collaboratively the What). foundation of the Trail Concept Plan. Task: Potential Activities: Potential Activities: Potential Activities: ASKS · Develop an Workshops, surveys, online mapping Workshops, surveys, open houses, Meetings, online presentation, open tool, sounding boards, site visits (walkengagement houses, etc. etc. strategy abouts), open houses, etc. Tasks: Tasks: · Evaluate draft concept or options · Present Trail Concept Plan Tasks: · Present planning context · Identify preferred trail concept · Present Trail Implementation Plan · Present, validate, and complete Identify priorities analysis · Develop and confirm draft vision statement · Develop draft goals and objectives · Develop preliminary trail concepts ('Big Moves' brainstorming mapping exercise) HOW THE INPUT IS CONCEPT PLANNING Stakeholders/partners input is used PROCES Stakeholders/partners input inform the Stakeholders/partners input is used to to validate the final Trail Concept Plan development of Phase 2, 3 and 4. evaluate options and refine the draft Trail SED DURING and Implementation Plan and minor Concept Plan during Phase 5 into a final changes are made if required TRAIL 5 6 VISION. TRAIL GAP GOALS AND **ANALYSIS** IMPLEMENTATION TRAIL CONCEPT PLAN **ANALYSIS**

OBJECTIVES



Engagement Resources

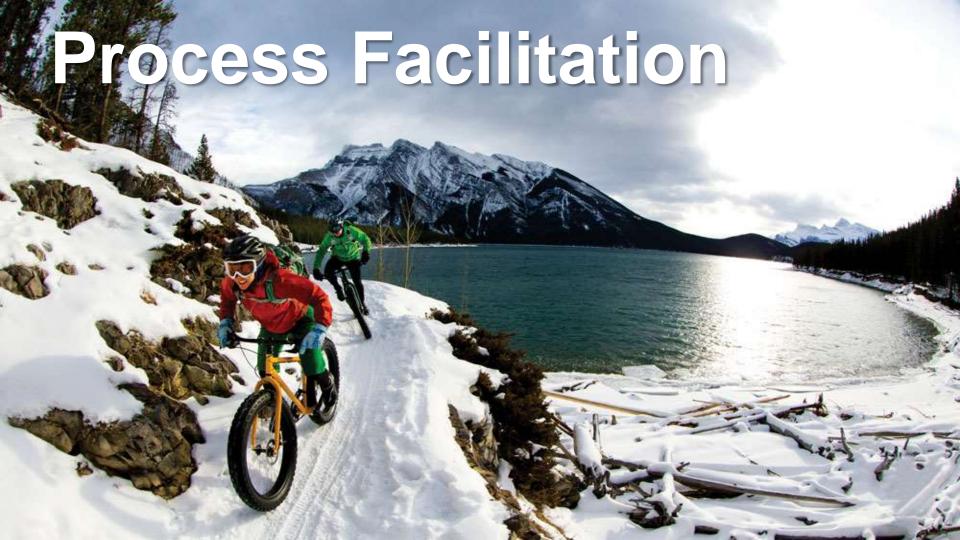


Public engagement:

 International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)

Facilitation:

- Inter-Connex Consulting
- Ten Directions





Process Facilitation

- Basic facilitation skills, methods and group behavior.
- 3 breakout/process facilitation exercises





Process Facilitation

Groups need more then expertise, resources and commitment in order to be effective. Groups also need a structured method of thinking (process) and skills in group management (facilitation) to enable a group to explore and understand its own needs and <u>how best</u> to address them.







Facilitator' Role is to...

... lead the discussion in such a way as to "facilitate" the group's ability to meet its objective.

... not participate by contributing to the content/outcome.

... monitor the session, the keep the discussion focused on the topic and channel the energy and behavior.

... draw out the maximum information and to record the output



Facilitation basics

- 1. Organize physical setting
- 2. Identify task
- 3. Define roles
- 4. Choose the process
- 5. Plan visibly
- 6. Set depth of work
- 7. Get energy up fast
- 8. Check in
- 9. Close
- 10. Write everything down "If you don't write it down, it didn't happen"





Process

Structured thinking approaches relevant to particular tasks.

Lots of process to choose from:

- Issue Analysis
- Problem Analysis
- Action Planning
- ... and more

We are going to work through 3 processes today:

- Vision Creation
- Creating Goals and Objectives
- Setting Priorities







Parks Canad Parcs









Elk Island National Park

Information for Trail Planning Exercise

Trailhead Canada Pre-Conference Workshop, November 21, 2017

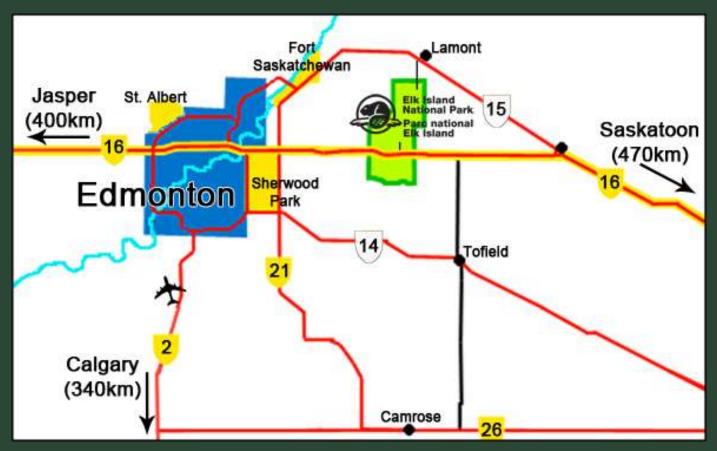


Disclaimer!

The information provided is for the purpose of the exercise only.



Where is Elk Island NP?





Context

- Elk Island is a short 30 minute drive from Edmonton: Population 1.3 million.
- Edmonton is among the largest Census Metropolitan Areas in Canada.
- Elk Island's bison conservation story has national and international significance.
- Edmonton Tourism and others are actively marketing the bison story.

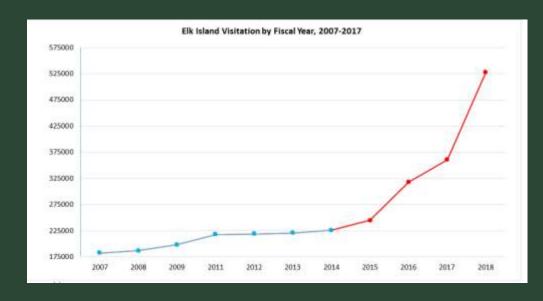




https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnCEi6jMXhE



- Consistent and significant growth in visitation – rate of growth now increasing.
- + 500, 000 visitors in 2017.
- Currently 35% of visitation is in winter.





Target Market (Task 1.5)

PRIZM	Tend to enjoy:	Tend to avoid:	Who are they?
Singles Scene	Trail type: 1 and 2 Trail rating: EASY and MODERATE Trail activities: in-line skating and bicycle riding Trail characteristics: • Urban trails • Paved trails • Interpretive trails related to cultural history and playful experience trails • Short easy trails connecting to beaches and day use areas	Trail type: 3 and 4 Trail rating: DIFFICULT and ROUTE Trail activities: mountain biking and snowmobiling Trail characteristics: • Extreme and challenging trails (e.g. long distance, backcountry trails) • Remote trails	 Young, ethnically diverse singles and couples Seek a sense of purpose, where spirituality, global consciousness and the quest of who they are play important roles in their life Not outdoorsy and do not own recreational equipment Heavy users of technology
Young Metro	Trail type: 1 and 2 Trail rating: EASY Trails activities: jogging and mountain biking Trail characteristics: • Family-friendly trails • Urban trails • Short distance trails in the front-country • Short easy trails connecting to beaches and day use areas	Trail type: 3 and 4 Trail rating: MODERATE, DIFFICULT, and ROUTE Trails activities: bird watching, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling Trail characteristics: • Trails with a focus on bird-watching or wildlife viewing • Hiking trails (they might hike if it is a fun family activity, but otherwise not really interested in hiking – they would rather go biking) • Backcountry trails and high risk or extreme trails • Remote trails	 Younger, ethnically diverse group of couples and first and second generation immigrant families with young children Interested in getting away from the stress of everyday life and building families memories Look for ways to relax and de-stress but at the same time have activities that will keep the kids entertained As for the outdoors, nature is not a place for them, preferring sightseeing and packaged nature Users of technology



Target Market (Task 1.5)

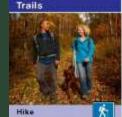
PRIZM	Tend to enjoy:	Tend to avoid:	Who are they?
Families	Trail rating: EASY Trails activities: prefer indoor activities like fitness exercises over outdoor activities Trail characteristics: • Family-friendly trails • Urban trails	Trail rating: MODERATE, DIFFICULT, and ROUTE Trails activities: prefer indoor activities like fitness exercises over outdoor activities Trail characteristics: • Extreme and challenging trails (e.g. long	 Mainly younger and middle-aged couples and families who settled in Canada before 2001, mostly in urban and suburban neighbourhoods Like being challenged once in a while by activities associated with an emotional high Mobile devices intersect with many aspects of their lives



Trail Classification (Task 2.1)

Current Trail System							
Туре	Amount	%	Graphic	Count	%	Graphic	
Type 1	6.3 km	7%	Trail Amount Per Type	2 trails	18%	Trail Count Per Type	
Type 2	68.6 km	75%	3 1	8 trails	72%	3 1	
Type 3	16.0 km	18%		1 trail	10%		
Type 4	0.0 km	0%	2	o trails	0%	2	
TOTAL	90.9 km	100%	■ Type 1 ■ Type 2 ■ Type 3	11 trails	100%	■ Type 1 ■ Type 2 ■ Type 3	
Rating	Amount	%	Graphic	Count	%	Graphic	
Easy	9.3 km	10%	Trail Amount Per Rating	3 trails	27%	Trail Count Per Rating	
Moderate	65.6 km	72%		7 trails	64%		
Difficult	16.0 km	18%		1 trail	9%		
Route	o.o km	0%		o trails	0%		
TOTAL	90.9 km	100%	■ Easy ■ Moderate ■ Difficult	11 trails	100%	■ Easy ■ Moderate ■ Difficult	





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Simmons Trail (1-2h)

Park map

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Shipley Lake Trail (2-41)

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Moss Lake Trail (1.5-4.5h)

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martin mark Lakeview Trail (1-21)

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Trail Users

(Task 2.2)

- Hikers
- Mountain bikers
- Nature walkers
- Road bikers
- Horseback riders
- Off-road strollers
- Fat bikers
- Cross-country skiers
- Winter walkers
- Snowshoers







Site Issues and Constraints (Task 2.3)

Trails

- Lack of diversity of trail types. The majority of trails are of type 2. Few options for type 3 (single track) and type 1 (developed).
- Lack of trail loops or stacked loops.
- Lack of easy trail loops from day use areas and campgrounds.
- Hard to access trails from Astotin Lake Rec Area (major day use area).
- Lack of infrastructure for accommodate horseback riders.

Visitor Safety

Wayfinding deficiencies and bison interactions with visitors have been identified as a major contributor to search and rescue responses.

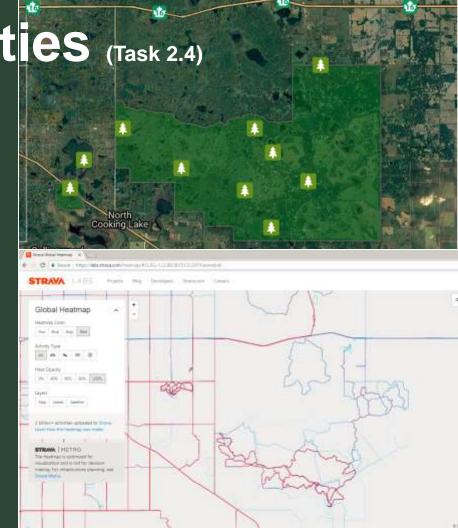
Natural Resources

Receding water level trend reduces viewing opportunities from existing trails.



Site Opportunities (Task 2.4)

- Adjacent trail system in the Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area (south of Elk Island NP).
- Beaver Hill Dark Sky Preserve (e.g. walks, viewing platforms, interpretation).
- Bison viewing opportunities (large herds) and other wildlife opportunities.
- Multiple lakes and water viewing opportunities (but water is receding).





Vision

- The purpose of establishing a vision of the future is to get a sense of where the organization wishes to be, and how to get there.
- Establish a timeframe most appropriate (5, 10, 20 years)
- Describe the future environment:
- 1. What types of trails do we offer?
- 2. Who are our users? What do they need?
- 3. What type of activities do we cater too?
- 4. What type of technology do we use?

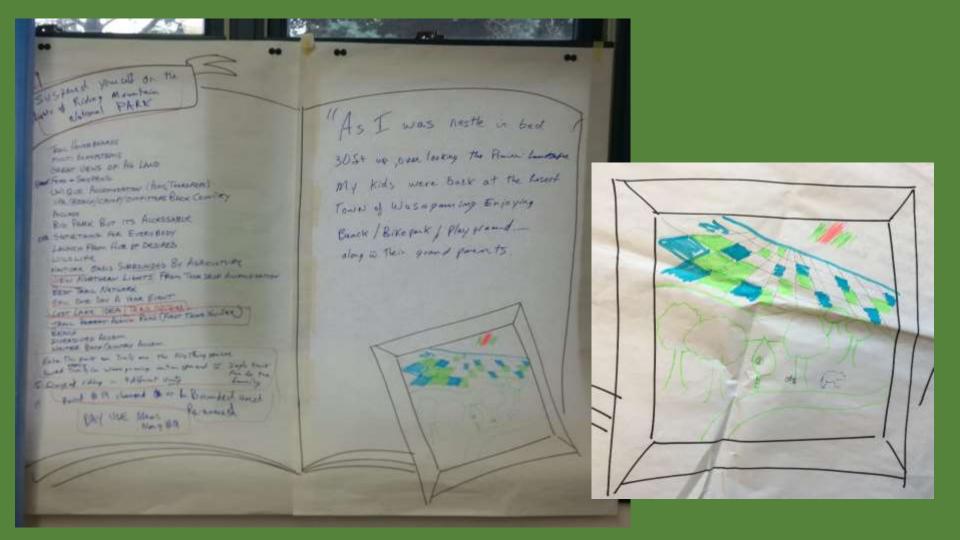


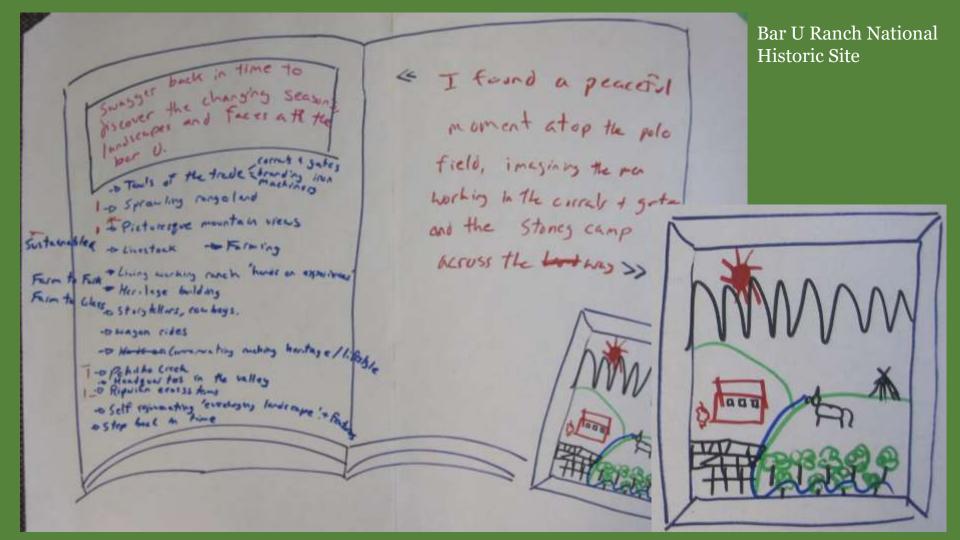
Vision Exercise

Situation:

A writer is coming to your site to write an article in a travel magazine. What would you show to the writer that showcases the essence of the place?

- Create a title of the article
- Write down words/short sentences describing the essence of the place (content of the article) and the trail system
- Create a quote that capture the spirit of the article
- Draw a picture for the article







Vision Exercise

Riding Mountain National Park

Vision Statement:

Refine the content of the article into a vision statement for the long-term desire state of the trail system. If Enjoy backful Prairie mountain views on our incredite multi level trail system with all the facilities and amenities your family could the facilities and amenities your family could need"

Through natural trails, expand opportunities to disover the Foundation of rarching; the changing seasons, landscapes, ecosystems, and people who lived within them.

Bar U Ranch National Historic Site







Experience the <u>world's highest tides</u> – not to mention pristine forests, deluxe campgrounds and a taste of Atlantic Canada culture – at Fundy National Park. <u>Paddle in a kayak</u> as the waters rise up to 12 metres or more. <u>Walk the otherworldly sea floor</u> at low tide. Or <u>venture inland where trails lead</u> to waterfalls deep in Acadian forests. With unique camping options – including yurts – and even regular music performances, Fundy is a Maritime treasure.





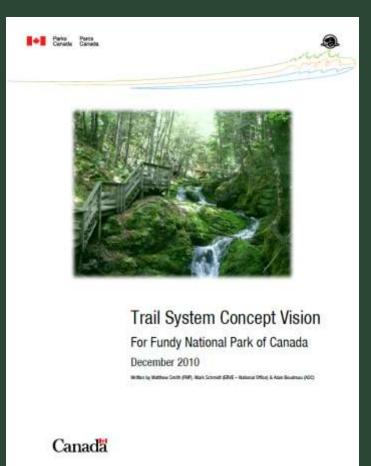
Trail Vision

"Fundy National Park's trail system will be recognized as a leading destination in New Brunswick offering a variety of visitors with numerous opportunities for enjoyable, accessible and educational trail experiences to discover the park's highlands, forests, ocean views and waterfalls. The trail system will be a regional hub connecting communities, trails and trail users."



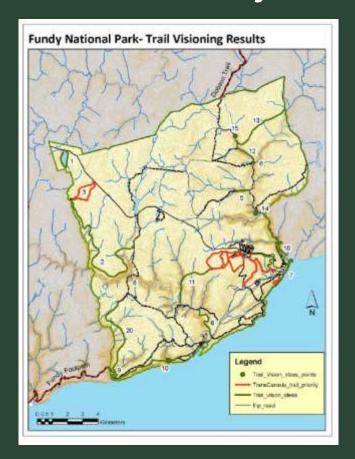


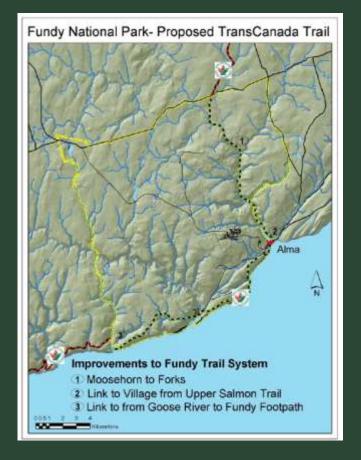






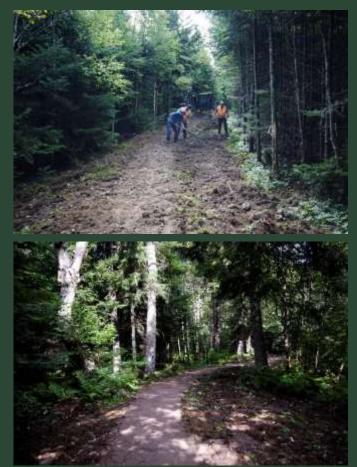
Goals, Objectives and Priorities







Success Black Horse Trail







Success more trails







Success more trails





Success more trails











Goals and Objectives

Goals

• establish where you intend to go and tell you when you get there. They help improve your overall effectiveness.

Objectives

• are the specific steps you need to take in order to reach each of your goals. They specify what you must do — and when.



Goals and Objectives

GOALS	OBJECTIVE
tell you where you want to go	tell you exactly how to get there
increase your effectiveness	back your goals and make you more efficient
typically described in words	often come with numbers and specific dates



Goals and Objectives

Step 1: Individually, write down as many opportunities as possible to realize the vision.

Step 2: Group the opportunity by theme

Step 3: Find a title for each group





Priorities and Phases

The fact or condition of being regarded or treated as more important

- a thing that is regarded as more important than another
- the right to take precedence or to proceed before others



"Big Moves" Mapping Exercise

Think big... Visually represent the future trail system:

- What are the signature trails?
- What are the potential new trails?
- What are the must keep trails?
- What are the cool things we do on trails? Or go see?
- What are the messages?
- What are the potential trail- related infrastructures?





Don't settle for boring cake!







If you didn't write it down it didn't happen





Start the discussion with your values rather than with a pre-conceived project. Find the best solutions collaboratively.





Partnerships are beneficial to land managers, partners, visitors and TRAILS.





We contribute to building tomorrow's trails community.





Wrap-Up

- Questions & Answers
- Comments?



Books & References

