

Municipality of Jasper
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, January 21, 2025 | 1:30pm
 Jasper Library and Cultural Centre, Quorum Room

Virtual viewing and participation	Council attendance is in Council chambers at the Jasper Library and Cultural Centre. This meeting was also conducted virtually and available for public livestreaming through Zoom. Public viewing and participation during Council meetings is through both Zoom livestreaming and in-person attendance.						
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Kathleen Waxer, Councillors Helen Kelleher-Empey, Rico Damota, Ralph Melnyk, Scott Wilson, and Wendy Hall.						
Absent	none						
Also present	Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer Christine Nadon, Director of Protective & Legislative Services Michael Fark, Director of Recovery Natasha Malenchak, Director of Finance & Administration Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator Dave Argument & Christine Brown, Parks Canada Paul Butler, Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce Eric Dietiker, Resident Jacqui Sundquist, CBC Edmonton 16 observers						
Call to order	Mayor Ireland called the January 21, 2025 Regular Council meeting to order at 1:30pm.						
Additions or deletions to agenda #30/25	MOTION by Councillor Damota – BE IT RESOLVED that Council add the following item to the January 21, 2025 Regular Council meeting agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.1 In-camera - Land • 10.2 In-camera - Land & Legal 						
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">FOR</td> <td style="text-align: left;">AGAINST</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">7 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: left;">0 Councillors</td> <td style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</td> </tr> </table>	FOR	AGAINST		7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
7 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
Approval of agenda #31/25	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the agenda for the January 21, 2025 Regular Council meeting as amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add 10.1 In-camera - Land • Add 10.2 In-camera - Land & Legal 						
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Approval of Regular minutes #32/25	MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the January 7, 2025 Regular Council meeting as presented.						
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Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes #33/25	MOTION by Councillor Hall – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented.						
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Delegations - Eric Dietiker	Jasper resident Eric Dietiker spoke to Council to share ideas on housing and the sale of leaseholds following the 2024 Jasper Wildfire Complex.						
Delegations – Parks Canada	Council received a presentation from Parks Canada Resource Conservation Manager Dave Argument on the strategy to reduce the wildfire risk around the townsite in 2025. The presentation is attached to the meeting minutes. He was joined by Wildfire Risk Reduction Project Manager Christine Brown to assist in answering Council questions.						

	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council receive the presentation for information.		
#34/25		FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors CARRIED
Delegations – Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce	Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Paul Butler requested Council review the current utility model for equity and conservation considerations. Council took the opportunity to ask clarifying questions of Mr. Butler and Administration, but did not make any motions as the item would be discussed further on in the agenda.		
Correspondence	none		
Recess	Mayor Ireland called a recess from 2:56pm to 3:05pm.		
Supplementary Assessment of Improvements and Supplementary Tax Bylaws #35/25	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council read for the third time, Bylaw #264, being a bylaw of the Specialized Municipality of Jasper in the province of Alberta to authorize the supplementary assessment of improvements for the taxation year 2025.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors CARRIED
#36/25	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council read for the third time, Bylaw #265, being a bylaw of the Specialized Municipality of Jasper in the province of Alberta to authorize the imposition of a supplementary tax for the taxation year 2025.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors CARRIED
Utilities Fees Levy and Collection Bylaw 2024 #37/25	MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council read for the third time, Bylaw #266, being a bylaw of the Specialized Municipality of Jasper in the province of Alberta to provide for the levying and collection of fees for the provision of water, sewer, solid waste and recycling services in 2025.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors CARRIED
#38/25	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to host a workshop to review the utility rate model with interested stakeholders.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors CARRIED
Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre Progress Update	Council received a Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre progress update from Director of Recovery Michael Fark. Highlights include information on interim housing; demolition; temporary accommodations; a review of the information sessions scheduled in January; and more.		
#39/25	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council receive the progress update for information.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors CARRIED
2025 Alberta Tourism Advocacy Summit #40/25	MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the attendance of any Councillor who wishes to attend the 2025 Alberta Tourism Advocacy Summit February 9-11, 2025 in Edmonton.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors CARRIED

Rewrite of B-109 Fiscal Controls & Financial Reporting Policy #41/25	MOTION by Councillor Damota – BE IT RESOLVED that Council adopt the revised Policy B-109 Fiscal Controls and Financial Reporting as presented.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Development of Recovery Strategic Priorities #42/25	MOTION by Councillor Waxer – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the addition of a new focus area, Wildfire Recovery, to the 2022-2026 Strategic Priorities.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Property Tax Penalty Receivable Write-Off Request #43/25	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve the write off of Property Tax receivable Penalty for Roll 006841 (Café within Parks Canada Admin Building) for penalties incurred in 2022, 2023 and 2024 in the amount of \$2,866.40.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
2024 Property Tax Penalty Posting #44/25	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to adjust the property tax penalty to 15% (from 18%) for one year only, being the 2024 tax year.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
#45/25	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration; in respect to tax payers who are in arrears for the 2024 tax year and who enroll in the preauthorization plan by Feb 15, 2025, to impose no penalties on such arrears so long as arrears and 2024 taxes are fully paid by December 31, 2025.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
#46/25	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk – BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to adjust the property tax penalty posting date to March 1st (from January 1st) for one year only, being the posting of penalties for the 2024 year.	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Notices of Motion	none			
Councillor Reports	Councillor Waxer attended the Early Childhood Community Conversation last week. Councillor Hall attended a Municipality of Jasper Library Board meeting last Tuesday night. Mayor Ireland gave an interview to CTV News on January 10th and Alberta Primetime on January 17th. He attended the Jasper Artist Guild Buzzfest event and the opening of the Rockaboo ice climbing wall that same Friday. Mayor Ireland attended the monthly meeting of the Jasper Community Team Society on Monday night. Mayor Ireland and Mr. Fark had a media availability this morning regarding interim housing.			

Upcoming events	Council received a list of upcoming events for information.		
Move In-camera #47/25	MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey to move in-camera at 3:57pm to discuss agenda item:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.1 Land • 10.2 Land & Legal 		
	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
	Mr. Given and Mr. Fark also attended the in-camera session.		
Move out of camera #48/25	MOTION by Councillor Hall to move out of camera at 4:56pm.		
	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Adjournment #49/25	MOTION by Councillor Wilson – BE IT RESOLVED that, there being no further business, the Regular Council meeting of January 21, 2025 be adjourned at 4:56pm.		
	FOR 7 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

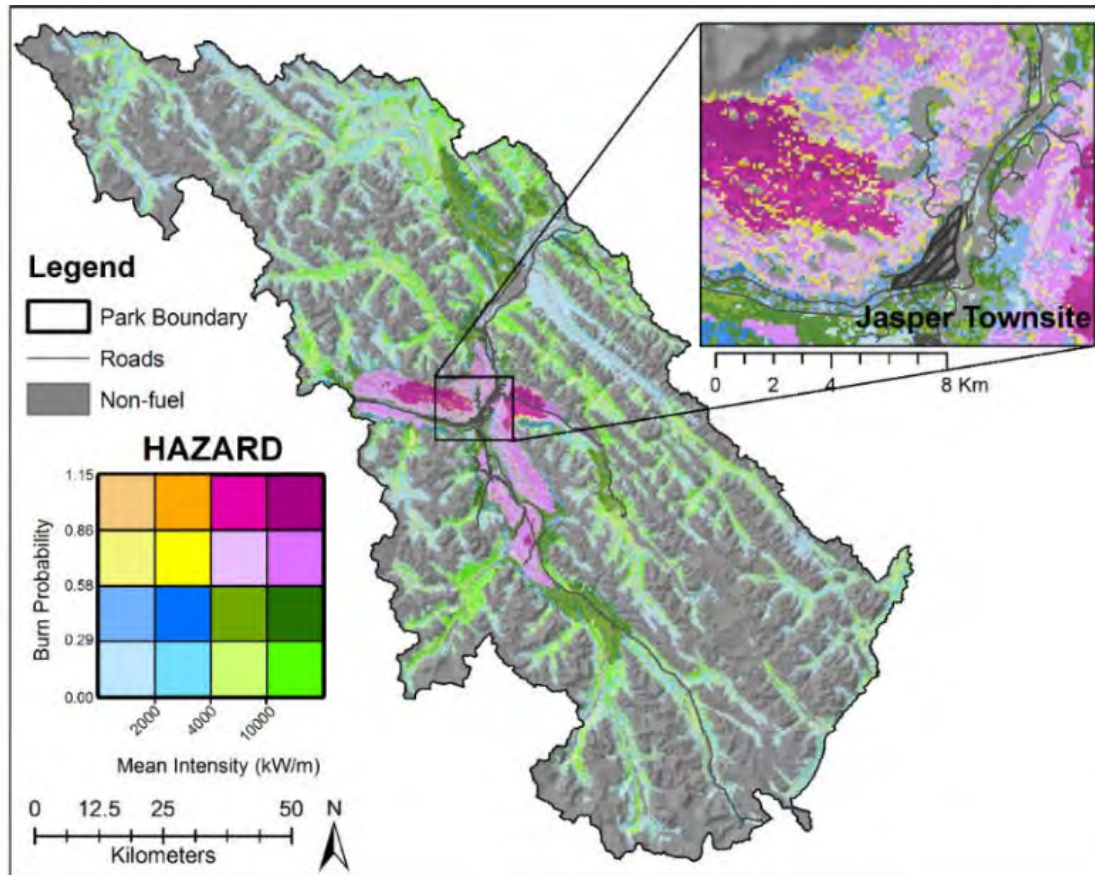
Canada

Wildfire Risk Reduction Jasper National Park

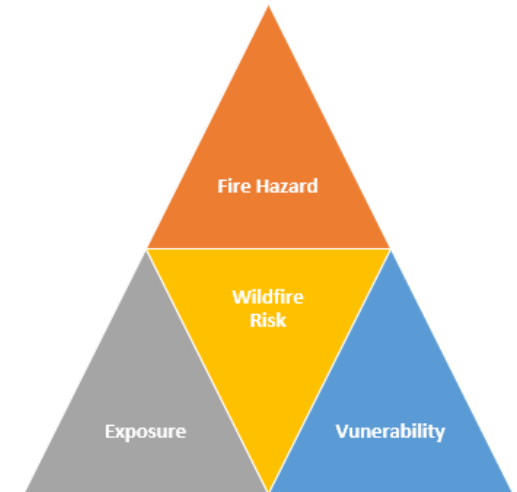




Wildfire Hazard vs Risk



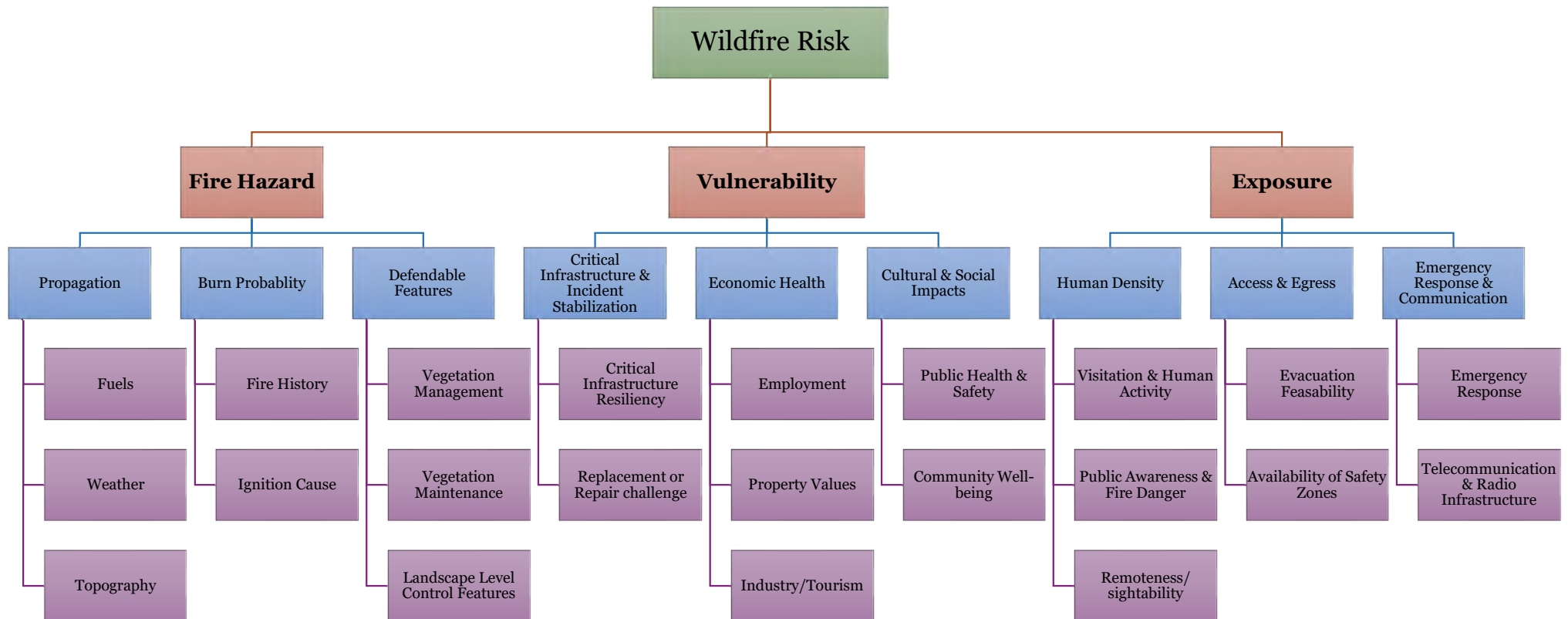
Stockdale et al. (2020)



Wildfire Risk =
Probability x Consequence



2025 Wildfire Risk Reduction Model Elements





Jasper National Park: Wildfire Risk Reduction Strategy



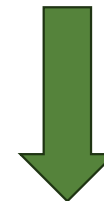
Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada

Emergency Planning	Prevention and mitigation
	Emergency preparedness
	Response and recovery
Vegetation Management	Reduce potential fire behaviour
	Facilitate emergency response
	Reduce potential for short range ember transfer
Legislation, Plans, and Agreements	Regulatory frameworks
	Legislative processes
	Policy tools
Development and Infrastructure	Identify structural vulnerabilities
	Structural upgrades
	Increase water supply and volume
Education	Shared responsibility among land managers, leaseholders, and homeowners
	Understand our individual roles and responsibilities
	Improve outreach and timely communications
Interagency Cooperation	Collaborative efforts
	Common goals
	Whole of society approach
Cross-training	Coordinated response within the Wildland Urban Interface
	Enhance safety
	Ensure informed decision making

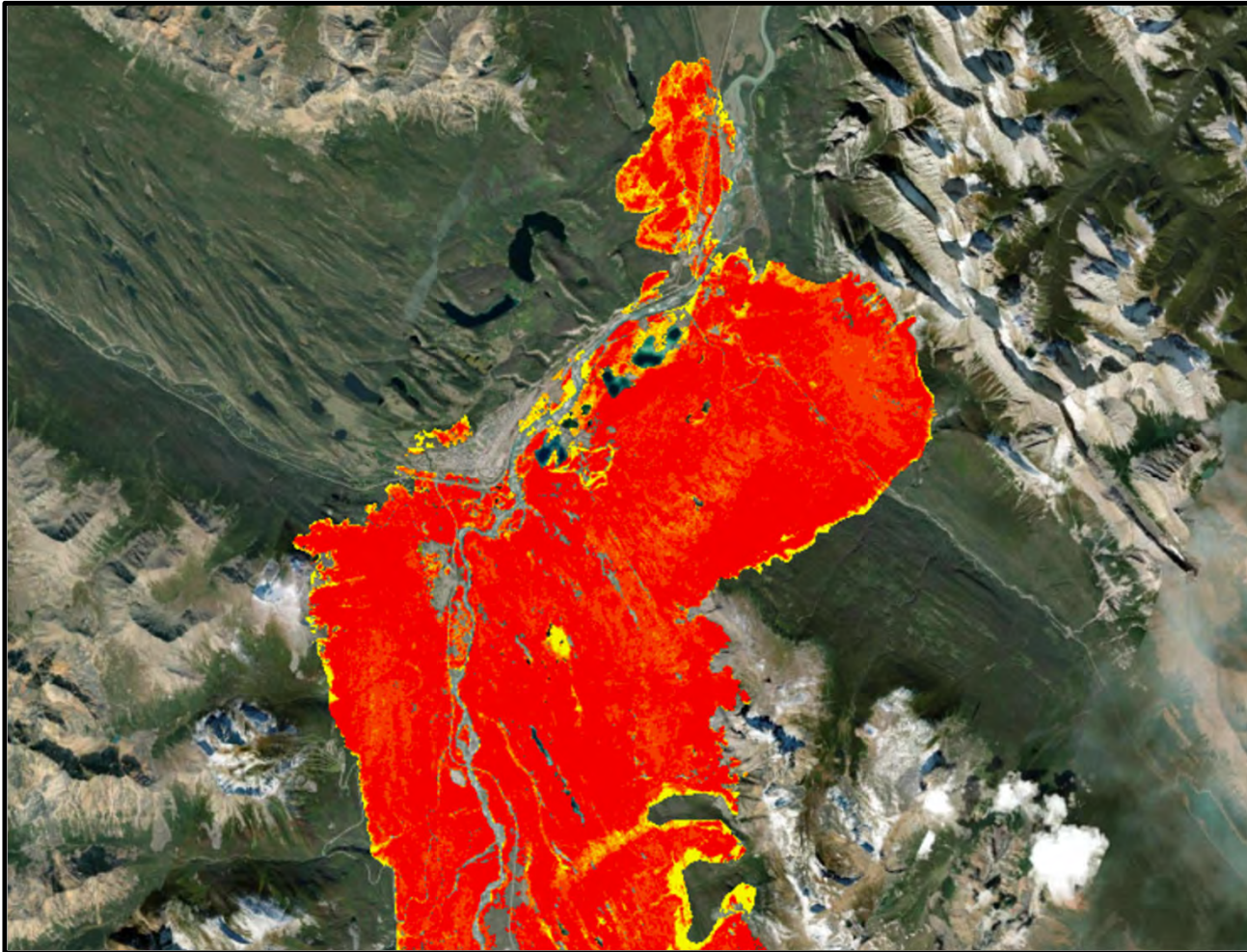
A layered and integrated
approach



Seven FireSmart Disciplines

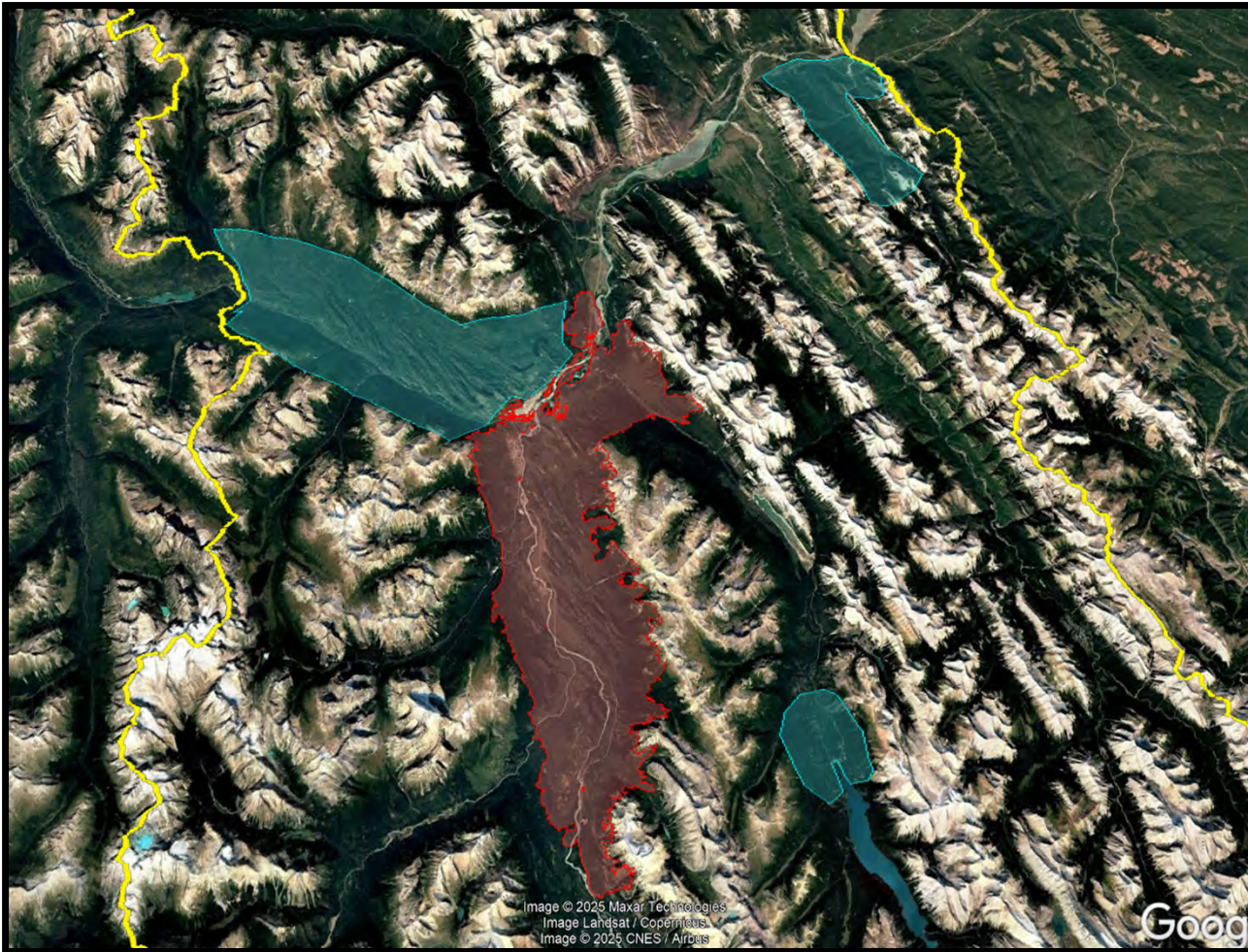


Wildfire Risk Reduction: Areas of Concern





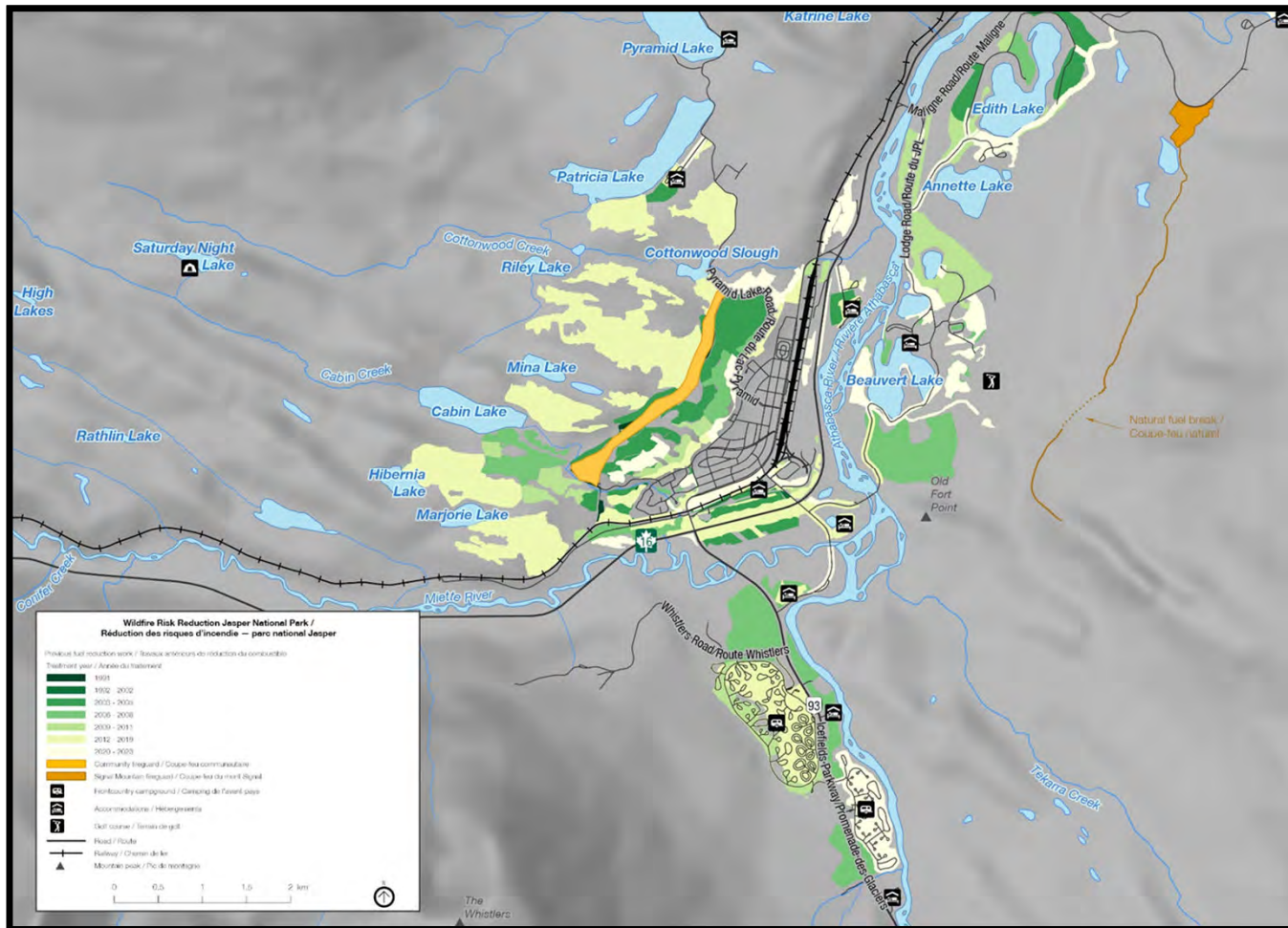
Wildfire Risk Reduction: Areas of Concern



- Miette (West Valley)
- Maligne Lake area
- Lower Fiddle Valley and drainage
- East and West boundary



Wildfire Risk Reduction: Vegetation Management 2003 to 2024



- Over 1700 hectares of fuel reduction and FireSmart treatments over 20 years.
- 800 hectares since 2018.



Wildfire Risk Reduction: Vegetation Management 2025



Fuel Treatment Units

1. FTU 11 (Magic Ridge)
Feb. 10, 2025
2. FTU 12 (Watertower Upper)
Feb. 17, 2025
3. FTU 13 (Watertower Lower)
Mar 6, 2025
4. FTU 14 (Pyramid Rd S-turn)
Jan 23, 2025
5. Patricia Lake Bungalows FireSmart
Jan 15, 2025
6. Pine Bungalows FireSmart
Nov 19, 2024
7. Pyramid Stables FireSmart
Feb 27, 2025



Wildfire Risk Reduction: Vegetation Management 2025 to 2029



Areas under assessment:

- Whistler Mountain
- Marjorie West
- Mina Reilly
- Razorback
- Cottonwood Slough
- Lost Lands
- Commercial Horse Area
- Community Fireguard SE



Other Future Direction & Initiatives

- Consider FireSmart incentives/regulations for entire community, OCAs, and Lake Edith ***not just new builds**
- Add to the 2025 Wildfire Risk Reduction Strategy with more collaboration projects
- Critical Infrastructure resiliency
- MOJ WRR partnership for Interface / Access-Egress
- Water delivery/sprinkler systems for structures, control lines and perimeters; fixed or rapid-deploy, high-volume solutions and improvements
- Collaborative projects near provincial boundary
- Prescribed fire treatments

