

# Police Outpost



## Provincial Park



*In the shadow of Chief Mountain...*

### Summer or Winter:

Police Outpost is an ideal place to spend a day or a week. The rolling hills become a carpet of wildflowers during the early summer. Trout fishing is great anytime. Spectacular Chief Mountain watches over this borderland as it has for millions of years. Plains aboriginal people camped at the lake. Whiskey runners, gold miners and settlers have all passed through this scenic land. The Park is named for the outpost which was once here and which was established by the Northwest Mounted Police in the late 1800's to help bring law and order to the west. Now it is your turn to enjoy the Police Outpost experience.

### Have an Adventure:

Police Outpost Provincial Park and the Outpost Wetlands Natural Area are situated where the foothills parkland and grasslands meet. This combination of habitats will allow you to experience a diversity of plants and animals not found in other provincial or national parks.



Photo: Rod Shaw

## Summer Activities:

**Camping:** There are 46 campsites from which you may choose. Toilets, drinking water, tables and firepits are available in the campground.

**Boating:** Take a leisurely trip around Police Lake. Look for birds and other wildlife as you enjoy the spectacular view of Chief Mountain.

**Group Camp:** Outpost Meadows Group Camp (by reservation only) is available to schools, clubs and family gatherings.

**Day Trips:** Use your campsite as a base for day trips to Waterton and Glacier National Parks, to the Remington Carriage Museum in Cardston, or to visit the N.W.M.P. Museum at Fort Macleod and Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Interpretive Centre.

**Fishing:** You may fish for trout in Police Lake through-out the year.

**Picnicking:** Bring your picnic basket and enjoy the park's natural beauty.

**Wildlife Watching:** Bird watching can be very rewarding in the park and wetlands. You may also see a variety of other animals that are attracted by the diversity of plant life in the area.

**Hiking:** Take a hike on one of the park trails. Enjoy the views and watch for rare wildflowers.

**Interpretation:** Take a walk along the 7km self-guided interpretive trail to gain an insight into the Police Outpost environment. Watch for special interpretive events and activities that may take place in the park – they are both entertaining and educational.

## Winter Activities:

**Cross-country Skiing:** Ski the park trails on a crisp winter day.

**Ice Fishing:** Try your luck on the frozen lake. Please note the "Thin Ice Hazard" warning on the map.

**Snow Shoeing:** Make your tracks become part of the park's winter scenery.

## FOR YOUR SAFETY AND FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PARK:

**Boating:** There is a boat launch located near the campground. Make certain that your boat has all the required safety equipment. The speed limit on Police Lake is 12 km/hr.

**Campfires:** Build and contain your fire in the provided firepit. Never leave your fire unattended and make certain that the fire is out cold when you leave your campsite.

**Fishing:** Police Lake is stocked with Rainbow trout for everyone's fishing enjoyment. It is important that you check the Alberta Sport Fishing Regulations for current information about license requirements and bait restrictions. To reduce wildlife attraction, please use fish cleaning facilities to deposit entrails and keep the area clean. Avoid putting trash in fish cleaning containers.

**Liquor:** Liquor is allowed only within your registered campsite.

**Motor Vehicles:** Off-highway vehicles are not permitted in the park or Natural Area. All vehicles must be kept on paved or gravelled roads.

**Pets:** Pets must be kept on a leash at all times.

**Plants-Fossils-Rocks:** Cutting, picking, defacing or removing any plant, fossil, or rock is strictly prohibited. Leave these natural features for others to enjoy.

**Quiet Hours:** From 11:00 pm to 7:00 a.m. all radios, stereos, loud talking or other noise is prohibited, so that everyone in the campground can have a peaceful night.

**Trails:** Please stay on the trails to help protect the plants that grow in this park and in the wetlands.

**Wildlife:** Do not feed or harass the wildlife. Please use bear-proof garbage bins to dispose of all garbage and lock food in your vehicle at night or whenever you leave your campsite to avoid wildlife conflicts.



Photo: Terry Clayton

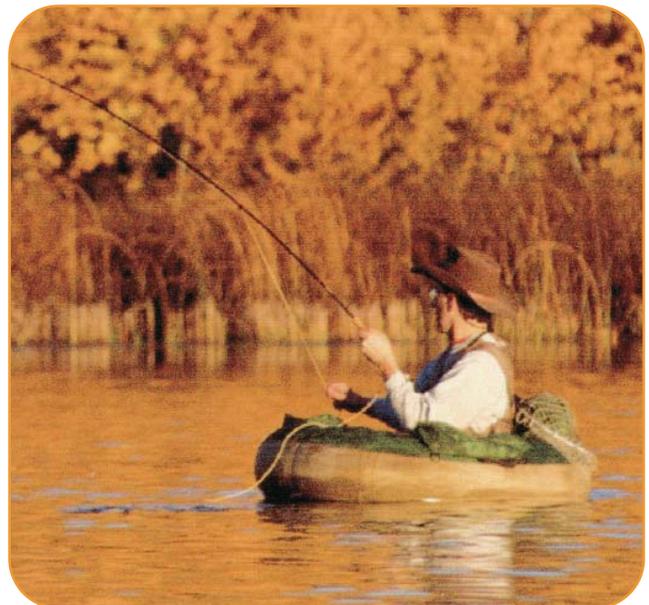


Photo: Rod Shaw

## Outpost Wetlands Natural Area

Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems on earth.

Covering nearly 20% of Alberta, wetlands provide critical habitat for many wildlife and plant species, including a number that are threatened or endangered.

On the prairie and foothills landscape, wetlands can be found in coulee draws or in shallow depressions that fill with water in the spring but often dry up by mid summer. The Outpost Wetland, however, has developed along the banks of Boundary Creek, which flows through a wide glacial meltwater channel with a high water table. As a result of this unique hydrological phenomenon, this extensive wetland is now a diverse complex of willow thickets, sedge meadows and emergent vegetation that provides important habitat for many wildlife species and makes up one of the most productive bird habitats in this region. Species such as the black tern, sandhill crane, American bittern, common snipe and the marsh wren depend exclusively on habitat like the Outpost Wetlands for survival.

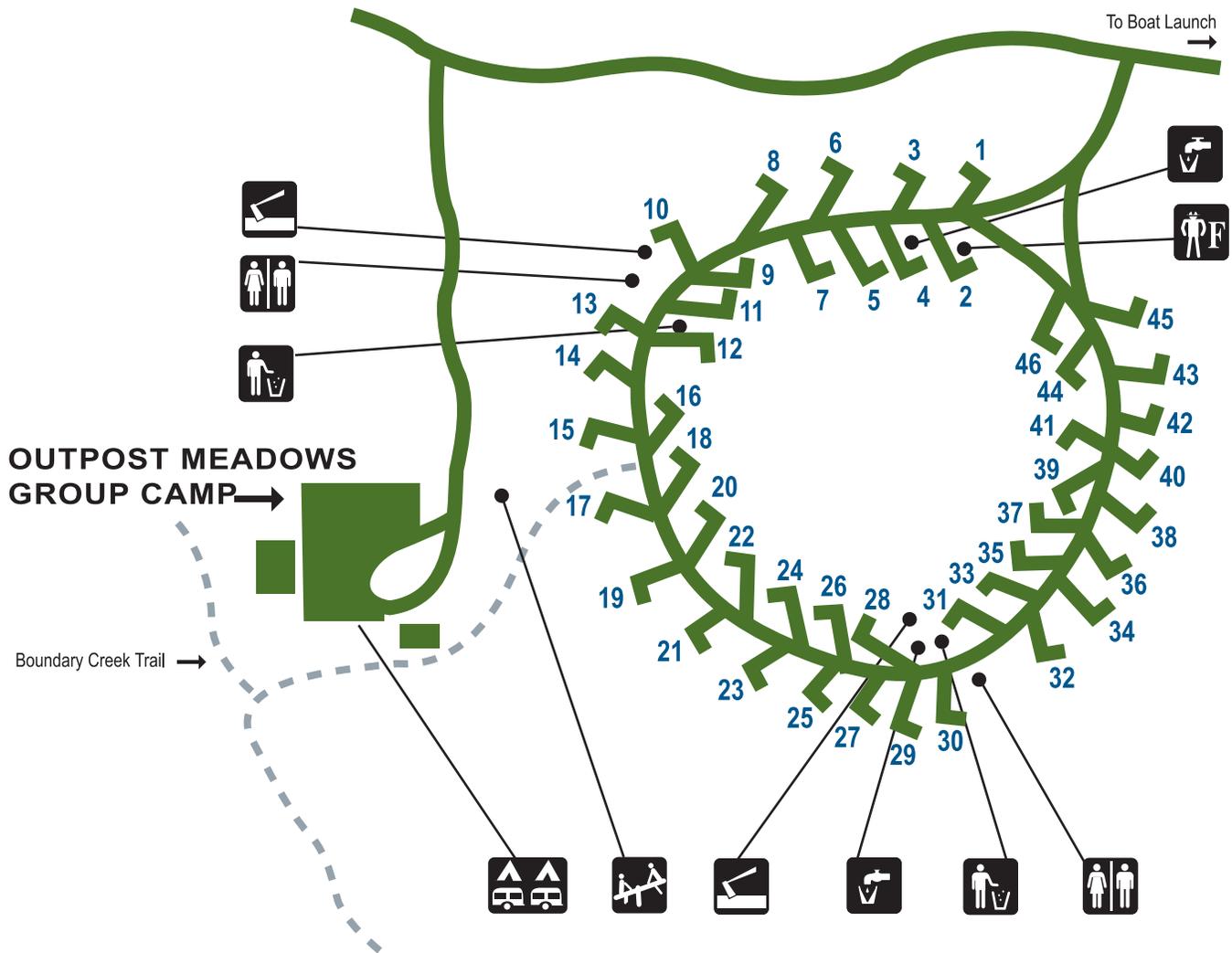
In Alberta, Natural Areas are conservation lands that are managed and protected so that present and future generations have the opportunity to appreciate, study and enjoy nature.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Government of Alberta co-operatively provided funding to purchase this special area. The people and the Government of Alberta gratefully acknowledge donations from Kettenbach Farms Ltd. and Arthur and Violet Scott who helped make protection of this Natural Area possible.



Photo: Rod Shaw





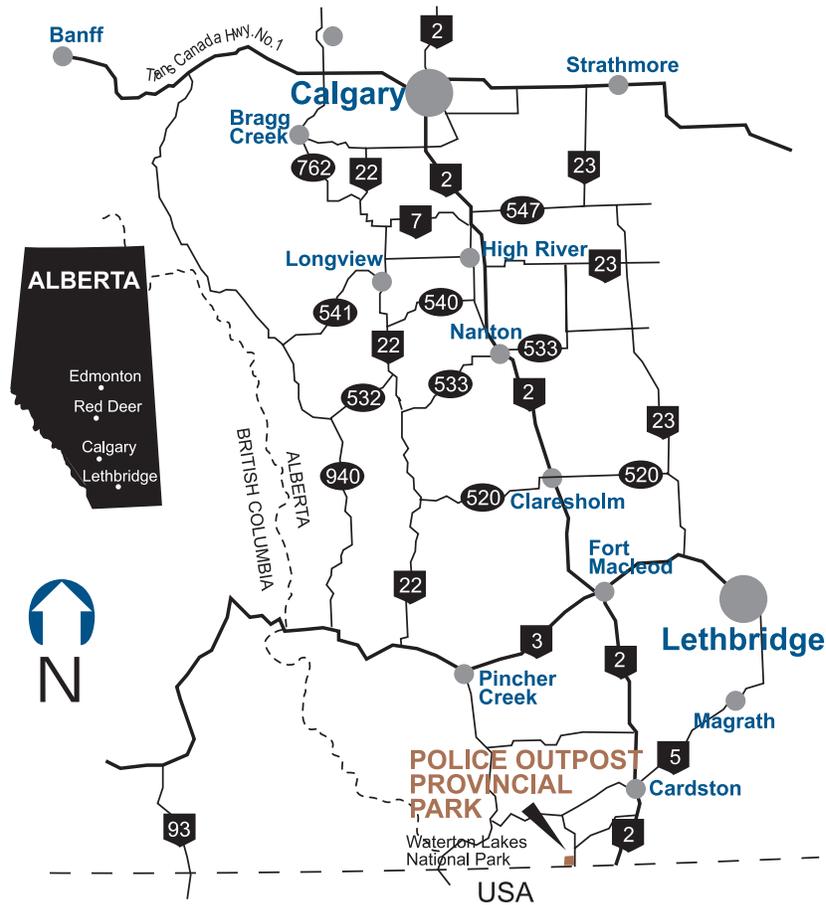
### LEGEND

- |                 |                      |                    |           |             |            |         |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|---------|
|                 |                      |                    |           |             |            |         |
| Drinking Water  | Tent/Trailer Camping | Facility Operator  | Toilet    | Boat Launch | Firewood   | Garbage |
|                 |                      |                    |           |             |            |         |
| Dumping Station | Picnic               | Interpretive Trail | Viewpoint | Group Use   | Playground | Parking |

### TRAILS

- Gravel Surface Natural Surface

# How to get to Police Outpost



**EMERGENCY HELP:**

RCMP, Ambulance, Fire 911  
 Report a Poacher 1 800 642-3800

**FOR INFORMATION:**

Campground Services 1 (403) 653-4060  
 Group Camp Reservations 1 (403) 653-4060

Resource Management,  
 Public Safety & Enforcement 1 (403) 382-4097

Connect toll free in Alberta dial 310-0000 for Service Alberta

Alberta Community Development  
 Parks and Protected Areas  
 416 Administration Building  
 909 - 3 Ave. North  
 Lethbridge, Alberta  
 Canada T1H 0H5

For information on Alberta's Parks and Protected Areas visit: [www.cd.gov.ab.ca/parks](http://www.cd.gov.ab.ca/parks) click on Gateway and search for Police Outpost for more park information, or call 1 866-427-3582.

Your one step portal to all fire ban information in Alberta: [alberta.firebans.com](http://alberta.firebans.com)

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