



Experience the Mighty Peace

A Recreation & Tourism Strategy for the Upper Peace River

WHAT WE HEARD COMPENDIUM

March 2020

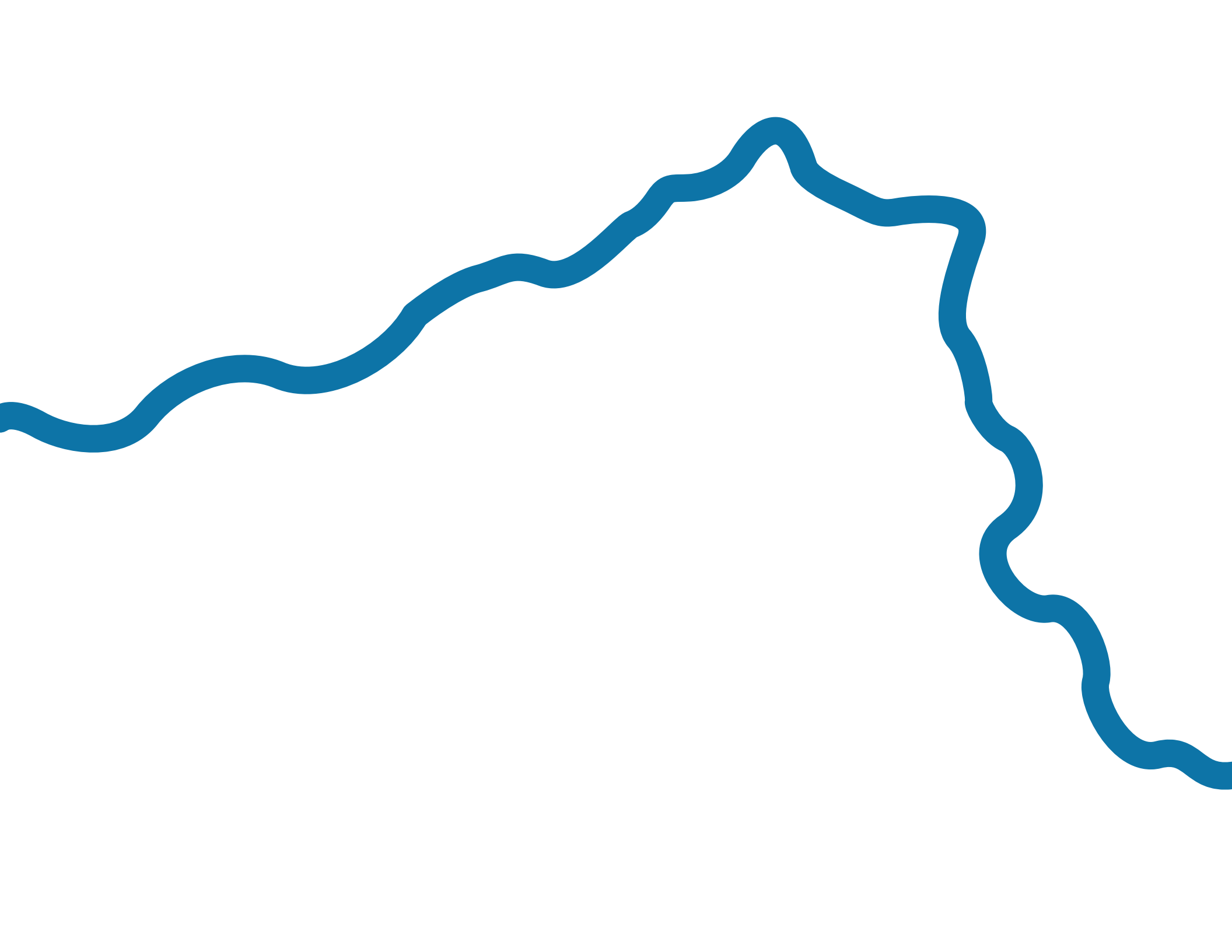


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1 Introduction

The Peace Valley Conservation, Recreation and Tourism Society (PVCRTS) is leading the development of a Recreation and Tourism Strategy for a segment of the Peace River between Blackfoot Regional Park in BC and Peace River, Alberta. A well supported and effective recreation and tourism strategy for the Peace River is best informed by those who live, recreate, deliver tourism experiences, work, and care about the future of the Peace River. Recognizing the diverse array of interests in and along the River, the PVCRTS developed and implemented a diverse engagement program to ensure anyone with an interest in the future of recreation and tourism on and along the river had a meaningful opportunity to shape the strategy.

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



The engagement process was designed and implemented in accordance with the International Association of Public Participation's core values and best practices.

The purposes of the engagement program were to understand:

- Benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the river,
- How the river is currently used for recreation and tourism,
- What visitor attractions exist on and near the river,
- What markets use the river and their expectations,
- What new markets might be interested in the experience the river has to offer and their expectations,
- How recreational users of the river access the river and where,
- Actions that should be taken to improve the recreation and tourism experience on the river and the benefits it brings to local communities and economies,
- What infrastructure is needed to support visitation,
- How the river is currently marketed and the effectiveness of that marketing,
- Visitor management and safety concerns, and
- Interactions between recreation and industry

The engagement process was purposefully designed to engage with:

- Residents, general public & private landowners
- Recreational organizations and recreational users of the river
- Tourism operators and businesses along the river
- Mighty Peace Tourism
- Alberta Public Land Managers
- Alberta Parks Managers
- Municipal Staff – PVCRTS representatives
- Tenure holders along the river
- Hydro-electric dam proponents

IAP2 Core Values

1. Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
2. Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
3. Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognizing and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
4. Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
5. Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
6. Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
7. Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.

To enable convenient and meaningful involvement in the process and to minimize barriers to participation, a variety of engagement tactics were applied, including:

- Online Survey
- Community Conversations – Open Houses
- Stakeholder Telephone & In-person Interviews
- Online Interactive Crowdsourcing Mapping

This report is a compendium and analysis of the input received through the engagement process. The input received has been analyzed, themed and summarized. In addition, verbatim input received is presented and organized by engagement tactic.

1.1 COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunities to participate in the open houses and online interactive mapping were promoted through:

- PVCRTS member municipality websites
- PVCRTS member municipality social media
- Direct emails to local recreational clubs, Mighty Peace Tourism and identified stakeholders
- Local media





2 Summary of Key Findings

Input received from community conversations, online follow-up survey, stakeholder interviews and online interactive mapping tool was analyzed collectively to identify common themes. The common themes and findings that emerged are summarized here.

Benefits

Participants engaged in the planning recognized that quality recreation and tourism opportunities on the river can bring many diverse benefits to the region and local communities including:

- Enhancing quality of life and physical activity for residents by improving recreational opportunities,
- Growing and diversifying the regional and local economies and increasing employment as new businesses develop and / or existing businesses expand their services,
- Retaining existing and attracting new residents to the region, and
- Enabling residents and visitors to connect with nature and generate a deeper appreciation for and understanding of nature and the river.

Attractions

Participants recognized that visitor attractions along the river are diverse. The most frequently identified visitor attractions include:

- Impressive natural beauty and scenery
- Hoodoos
- Waterfalls
- Diverse wildlife such as bears and moose
- Sport fish species
- Historical sites including:
 - » Dunvegan Provincial Park
 - » Dunvegan Bridge
 - » Shatesbury Ferry
- Campgrounds and associated amenities
- Events and festivals

Activities with the Greatest Potential

Though the river is a foundation for many diverse activities, participants suggested that the following summer activities hold the greatest potential to maximize the recreation and tourism benefits from the river:

- Jet Boating
- Paddling (canoe, kayak, raft)
- Overnight Experiences
- Trails

Participants suggested that festivals and events and tourism operators should be further developed around these activities. Winter activities associated with the river did not emerge as a priority focus.

Actions

Participants strongly agreed that there is a need to take action to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences associated with the river. The following actions emerged as the most important to pursue:

- Improve the quality and condition of existing boat launches
- Improve existing and create diversity of overnight experiences (e.g. comfort camping)
- Maintain the road access to existing campgrounds and boat launches
- Enhance gateway, wayfinding and interpretive signage
- Provide essential visitor amenities (e.g. bear proof food storage, picnic areas)
- Support existing and develop new festivals and events focused on the river
- Encourage the development or expansion of visitor services (e.g. tours, guides, shuttle, equipment rentals)
- Develop modern trip planning and navigation tools
- Enhance marketing and promotion of the river, especially for fully independent travelers
- Develop and support partnerships to enable the management and maintenance of visitation and visitor infrastructure on the river as well as marketing and promotion of the river

Marketing & Trip Planning

In general, participants were in agreement that actions should be taken to improve trip planning tools and marketing of the river. Participants recognized that the 1993 river guide was a good resource but is dated and needs to be modernized. Participants also acknowledged that Mighty Peace Tourism Association does market the river, but that greater efforts could and should occur as visitor experiences are enhanced. The most common suggestions included the development of:

- Gateway, wayfinding and interpretive signage
- App based trail guide
- Hard copy and geo-referenced maps / guidebook
- Website with trip planning details for multi-length trips (day use, full day, multi-day), itineraries, connections to service providers, weather, water flows, blog, testimonials etc.
- Direct advertisements and promotion campaigns (print and social media, videos)

Impacts

Though participants supported improving recreation and tourism use of the river, they are concerned about the potential for undesirable impacts such as:

- Vandalism
- Litter and inappropriate waste disposal
- Shoreline disturbance
- Human wildlife conflicts (e.g. attractant management)
- Pollution of the river
- Wildfire
- Conflict (between visitors and with adjacent landowners and industry)

Participants were clear that visitation needs to be actively managed to avoid undesirable impacts.

Challenges & Barriers

Participants recognized that a number of challenges and barriers will need to be overcome if the quality of recreation and the tourism potential of the river is to be realized. The frequently referenced challenges and barriers include:

- Cost and funding to sustainably develop and maintain visitor infrastructure and visitor management
- Provincial and municipal government support for enhancing recreation and tourism use of the river and approvals for infrastructure development.
- River dynamics – the river continues to evolve. Flows continue to change which makes development along its shores difficult.
- The potential for hydroelectric development on the river poses uncertainty for investment in visitor infrastructure and the development of tourism business associated with the river.



3 Verbatim Input

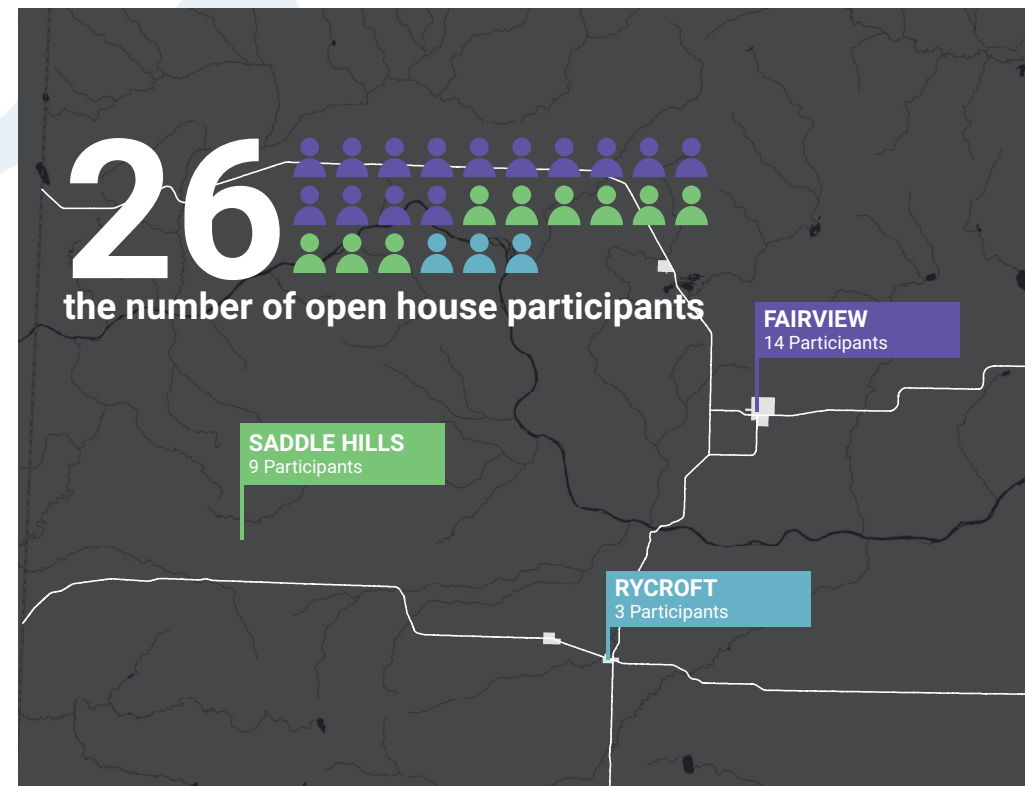
3.1 COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS – OPEN HOUSES

Three (3) community conversations were held as follows:

1. Saddle Hills County at Savanna Ag Society Rec Plex – November 18, 2019
2. Fairview at the Dunvegan Motor Inn & Suites – November 19, 2019
3. Rycroft at the Rycroft Ag Society Hall – November 20, 2019

Organized in an open house format, participants were invited to review a series of panels which provided information about the project, planning process, engagement opportunities and solicited input from participants on the following questions:

1. What benefits can come from realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the river?
2. Should actions be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism on the river?
3. What are the names of the access points visitors use?
4. What are the major visitor attractions?
5. What activities have the greatest potential to maximize the benefits?
6. What actions should be taken to improve the quality of rec and tourism experiences?
7. What rec and tourism impacts are you most concerned about?
8. Actions should be taken to improve planning information and marketing of the river.
9. What can be done to improve trip planning information and marketing?
10. What are the biggest challenges and barriers?



3.1.1 VERBATIM INPUT

The following input was received in response to each question.

1. What benefits can come from realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the river?

Quality of Life & Physical Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River has many potential ways to use it for: canoe, boating, fishing, longer periods where you camp overnight and carry on for many days Healthy and active communities People utilizing the river more for recreation
Economic Growth and Diversification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lot of potential tourism and recreational opportunities Economic benefits to communities in the region along the river An increase in traffic and profitability for local entertainment businesses (1)
Retain and Attract Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeps people in the area
Connect with Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's inexpensive and a great opportunity to "reconnect" with nature and each other
Education & Appreciation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » It's an unappreciated jewel / majestic beauty » Lots of history for our Country

2. Should actions be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism on the river?

Participants used sticky dots to indicate the degree to which they believed actions should be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism on the river.



3. What are the names of the access points visitors use?

Access points identified by participants and the number of participants that identified them are as follows:

Public River Access Points

- Dunvegan (River Rats) x 5
- Cotillion x 3
- Tangent x 2
- Many islands x 2
- Carters Camp x 2
- Strong Creek Park x 1
- Dunvegan Park x 1
- Shaftesbury Ferry crossing x 1
- Clayhurst x 1
- Pratts Landing x 1
- Elk Island x 1
- Keiho Park x 1

Private River Access Points

- Moffats Cabin x 1
- Private property: Peace Valley Guest Ranch, Peace River Cabins & Outdoors x 1
- Sid Soyko's trail (yellow creek) x 1
- Conrad's Lease where the Clear comes into the Peace x 1

4. What are the major visitor attractions?

- » See wildlife
- » Cotillion Park
- » Dunvegan park
- » Pratts Landing
- » Shaftesbury
- » Fishing
- » Peaceful river valley
- » The "Peace" River is beautiful
- » Dunvegan
- » Strong Creek
- » Family outings
- » Our kids love the mud along the river
- » Canoeing
- » Boating
- » Waterfalls
- » Hoodoos
- » Caves

5. What activities have the greatest potential to maximize the benefits?

Activity	Verbatim Input
Canoeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• canoeing• Canoeing• Rafting• Canoe trips• Canoe trips• Canoeing
Motorboating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nice boat ride• Boat racing• Boating• Boating
Overnight Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Camping• Camping along the river• Overnight wilderness experiences
Fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fishing• Ice fishing
Festivals & Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Festivals and events
Tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get to specific points of interest• Guided river tours
Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More trails to the river that are legal with Alberta Environment• Trail development

6. What actions should be taken to improve the quality of rec and tourism experiences?

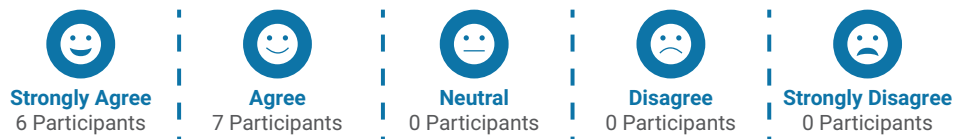
Improvement Theme	Verbatim Input
Trip Planning Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map books of the river that can be purchased by the public to make the river not so daunting • Upgraded river navigation map book • River navigation map again available on an app • Promote safety to people on the river. This safety aspect may be a means to access funding and getting development – no funds may be available for rec development but would be for safety
Improve Boat Launches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better boat launch access • Boat launch access • Better boat launches • Better boat launches
Improve Overnight Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better riverside camping for canoe / kayaks with small pit and outhouses • Cabins could serve as a safety function in the event someone needs shelter in an emergency on the river • Campsites up above high water level – ice damage would wipe them out if too close to river
Expand Current Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand current parks
Improve Maintenance of Existing Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better facilities (maintained!) • Facility upgrades
Provide More Year-Round Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make them multi-season parks ie small rec ski hill
Access Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve quality of access to the river points – road conditions (1) • Accesses
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attraction signs on the river • Maintain and repair existing signage
Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bear proof food lockers for canoe trips • Picnic areas along the Peace for boaters, canoes
Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access mainland use
Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourist attraction and history events
Marketing & Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have municipality and groups advertise about events on the river • Better advertising of the river and how to enjoy it
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the BC side the River Rats partnership with the BC government provides picnic sites on flat ground
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you like the outdoors this is a good way to experience it boating and camping

7. What recreation and tourism impacts are you most concerned about?

Impact Theme	Verbatim Input
Vandalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vandalism • Vandalize signs and other artifacts • Vandalism
Pollution & Erosion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion on unmaintained trails • Environment issues as pollution
Disrespectful Visitor Behaviors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disrespect to natural areas
Litter & Inappropriate Waste Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People leave garbage all over • Dumping garbage off boats • Littering and • Littering is already an annoyance • Educating society in general about cleaning up after themselves is a challenge • Litter
Wildfire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire
Over-management & Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictive regulations

8. To what extent do you agree that actions should be taken to improve planning information and marketing of the river.

Participants used sticky dots to indicate the degree to which they believed actions should be taken to improve the planning information and marketing of the river.



9. What can be done to improve trip planning information and marketing?

Trip Planning & Marketing Improvement Theme	Verbatim Input
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage • Have historic info at points along the river • Signage on the river marking various key spots or desirable rest areas
Website & Visitor App	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website info • Increase accuracy and availability of online info (1) • Website and apps
Maps / Guidebook (hard copy & geo-referenced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps • Peace River mapbook for public sale • Paddle the Peace guidebook. This is necessary, it had good details from the border to Peace River (1) • Good mapping to show access by road and communication / cell service points on the river
Advertisement & Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise in tourist info packages • Can be part of tourism in the Peace
Cell Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark on the map and signage on the river areas where there is cell service • Cell service points on the river

10. What are the biggest challenges and barriers?

Challenges & Barriers Themes	Verbatim Input
Costs & Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs If not uses on regular basis then the overall costs are high High cost of development Cost to improve current roads / trails that access the river Money! Investment & grant availability (1) Access funding
Visitor Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People may expect there to be more development on shore (e.g. pull over on the river and expect there will be accommodations, stores, restaurants, etc) (1)
Access to River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of access points on the river (1)
Government Support & Approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard to add tourism spots on it with Alberta Environment Difficulty getting approvals through the province "Don't burn down the cabins"
River Dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance with signage on river is hard to maintain with fluctuating water heights Seasonal issues and danger of logs in river after break-up and after heavy rain
Hydro Electric Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dams need to keep to high and low water levels given to them Fluctuating water levels from the dam

11. Are there any other considerations that the planning team should keep in mind?

The following points were raised by participants as other considerations the planning team should be aware of:

- What is the market for existing tourist operations? That might give insight into viability of the external market versus further penetrating the local market
- Quads starting fires in the hills
- Trespassing on private property and leaving gates to pastures open
- The Peace watershed is the biggest in the world

Image Source: Strong Creek Park, Alberta - mightypeace.com



3.2 ONLINE PUBLIC SURVEY

In response to the low attendance at the Open Houses, and in response to some stakeholder suggestions, an online survey was administered through Survey Gizmo. The survey was open from November 27, 2019 and closed on December 13, 2019. The survey was comprised of the same questions posed to participants at the Open Houses.

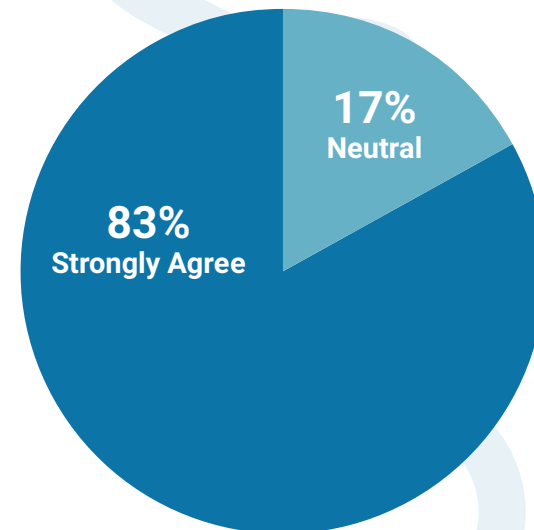
7 responses were received. Input received through the survey is provided below.

Survey Results

1. Recreation and tourism on the Peace River can bring varying benefits to local communities, residents and businesses. In your opinion, what benefits can come from realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the Peace River?

- » Economic and cultural
- » Economic benefits, getting the area known to a wider portion of the Western Canadian population.
- » A great economic impact. I feel like local businesses could benefit from the creation of such tourism businesses. The new government wants to increase tourism in our province, but how can we advertise the area if we don't actually have the infrastructure or associated businesses?
- » More revenue for the local economy and tourism.
- » Increased jobs- Guiding, fishing, day/ multi day float tours jet boat tours/races - spin off sales. Possibly some smaller motel/B & B. Mechanical service
- » That would depend on the type of recreation and tourism activity proposed. PVCRTS has 5 objectives and a publication that relate the spirit and intent regarding development. Benefits will not be a sum of money but rather a cultural benefit, passive education or sense of pride.

2. To what extent do you agree that actions should be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River?



3. From your experience, what are the names of the access points (e.g. boat launches) that visitors use to get on the river?

- » Cotillion, Many Islands, Pratts Dunvegan, Elk Island, etc. etc. etc. See <http://flownorth.ca/peace-river-guide/guide> for all information
- » Dunvegan, Peace River, Fort Vermillion
- » Lower West Peace, Dunvegan, Carcajou
- » Lower west peace, Dunvegan, The ferry landing, Whitemud river launch, North Peace River boat launch
- » Cotillion and Dunvegan
- » Really!!!!? Names!!!!? Consult the Map/guide for River Travel on the Upper Peace Valley Recreation Area. Maybe update that for starters! There are 100's of access points to explore once you put on hiking boots!

4. What are the major visitor attractions that enhance the visitor experience on the river?

- » <http://flownorth.ca/peace-river-guide/>
- » Dunvegan wetlands, Cotillion Campground, Dunvegan Historical site
- » Wildlife, jet boat races, 'paddle the peace' Peace Island resort. 'Roughing it' experience?
- » The views, wildlife, quietness.
- » Fishing, boat tours, sight seeing, Dunvegan gardens
- » Speaking for myself.. the natural beauty of the river valley and its tributaries... landscapes and wildlife mostly undisturbed... historic significance

5. When thinking about the benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize the benefits for nearby communities?

- » Boat tours Paddling events (races, fund raising activities, festivals)
- » River boating. Wilderness camping.
- » Equipment rentals; canoes/kayaks and associated safety equipment, river floaties, etc. training for river activities
- » Boat tours, cabin rentals. hiking, fishing.
- » Same as question 1
- » One's that don't use bulldozers and require a bunch of maintenance.

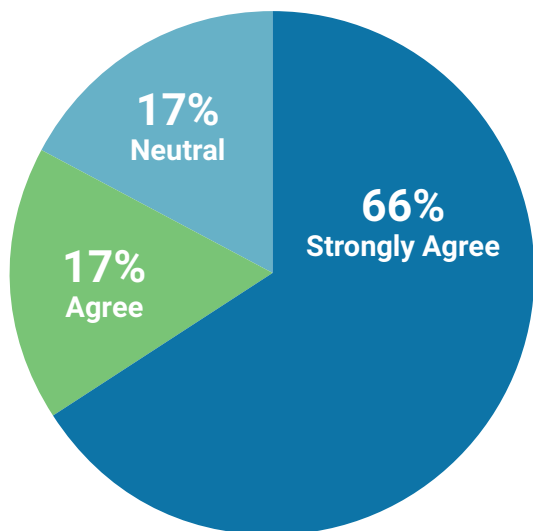
6. What actions should be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experience on the River?

- » Improvement and regular maintenance of landings. The river landings take a lot of abuse through the seasons.
- » Find and encourage private sector operators; lobby for financial and marketing support; get local municipalities to invest in quality River access.
- » It would need to come from a community buy-in level, but advertising the benefits of expanded tourism businesses in the area. Also, advertising for existing businesses. I also think perhaps some businesses (or individuals thinking of opening a tourism-related business) are scared, unsure what to do and don't want to 'explode' in popularity. Perhaps they're unsure where to start or think that it's not sustainable long term.
- » Better boat launches.
- » The Hydro dam proposal would create a great man-made lake for recreation 70 km long without impacting any residential/farm land. May also be an asset for developing waterfront properties.
- » Encourage, foster and develop an understanding of the incredible value of the Peace Valley in its natural state.

7. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts are you most concerned about?

- » Garbage and damage to improvements. Squatters.
- » Garbage, environmental damage to pristine geological and historically important lands
- » Damage to public and private property, lots of trespassing, visitors not understanding public land and private land. Private recreation property owners/ locals losing the feeling of having somewhere of their own. Once word gets out about popular areas, the original visitors/locals then get pushed out and no longer recreate in the area.
- » Pollution,
- » Garbage, invasive species introduction/ Zebra/Quagga mussels, rock snot, invasive plants, destruction of pristine habitat and loss of native plants (ie Cactus)
- » Loving it to death! Creating a bunch of access to places with no regulation or facilities to accommodate the traffic or by allowing activities that dominate by virtue of noise and disregard for other activities. Hunting and trespassing issues

8. To what extent do you agree that actions should be taken to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the river to visitors?



9. In your opinion, what can be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

- » This is a ridiculously simplistic question that cannot possibly be answered in a questionnaire. Marketing of 'the River' is such a oversimplification of all of the issues around tourism in the region with the river at its core. The issues are so many including investment resources, lack of a regional tourism plan, incubation of tourism operators, low population, lack of local expertise of many kinds, political barriers, cultural habits. Use the guide that has already been produced by taxpayers money: <http://flownorth.ca/peace-river-guide/> as the basis for more concise, easy to use guides, maybe not as wordy and with less references listed. However it is as thorough as anyone is ever going to do.
- » 1) Ensuring we have identifiable attributes and ways for people to enjoy the River and places to stay 2) Advertise and promote far and wide- main focus on social media and web promotion and advertising
- » Getting municipalities and businesses on board for advertising, partnering with local businesses to advertise packages.
- » More exposure through advertising such as radio and social media.
- » Work with local guides, river boat operators. Promote new businesses to entrepreneurs,
- » Update the Map/guide published by PVCRTS to reflect current information
Develop a recreational land use app
Develop an emergency response plan for the valley below Site C
PVCRTS should participate with Mighty Peace Tourism

10. From your perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

- » Lack of human, financial and expertise resources. No plan. Coupled with a crippled local economy and opportunists who suck up \$80K to tell us what we already know. Give a qualified entrepreneur \$80K and something would be happening on the river ASAP. Or give it to someone with the equipment and expertise to upgrade all of the landings. Unfortunately a significant budget is needed every year to repair what nature will undo regularly.
- » Not enough opportunities for people to enjoy the River. We can't promote it without something to promote other just telling the world it's here
- » Funding and community buy-in, council buy-in, staff abilities at municipalities.
- » Weather
- » Location, Location, Location - the remoteness of the area
- » Try to get cooperation between governments and agencies on all levels, transparency and budget concerns.

11. Please share any other ideas or concerns that you feel the planning team should keep in mind as the study is completed.

- » This study is truly the most redundant waste of money possible, a simple regurgitation of the most obvious and simplistic points about present use of the Peace River. I could have sat down and wrote the information that will come out of this study in one afternoon, as could have many Peace Region residents. There is a ton of information available about the river for anyone who cares to do a little digging. It is appalling that taxpayers money has been wasted in this way. Both the board who commissioned it and the consultants who did it should be ashamed of themselves. There are so many better ways this money could have been used by people who already know a lot about the river and have the means to do something about it.
- » With the internet our audience and potential targets numerous and easy to reach as long as we have something strong to offer.
- » They need to go farther down river from the town of Peace River because we are the owner, operators of Peace Island Resort. We offer over night lodging, fully licenced restaurant, and day tours on the river. As we are located 60km down river.
- » Lack of staging areas/stopping -camping points along the river. an annual updated map of deeper areas for new boaters to traverse the river.
- » When will I have access to the information gathered during initial consultations and this questionnaire? I really think the public has been left out in the cold on this one...meaningful input on what information? So PVCRTS doesn't have enough budget to function and the MD doesn't have budget to maintain what they have..but there is money to plan more of what they can't afford.

3.3 STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

Fifteen (15) semi-structured telephone-based stakeholder interviews were completed with representatives from recreational organizations, river experts, park volunteer organizations, tourism operators and Destination Marketing Organizations, municipal representatives, Alberta Environment and Parks, tenure holders and hydro-electric industry proponents. The interviews were administered in accordance with a consistent "interview guide" and typically lasted between 30-60 minutes. The interviewer took notes during each interview and supplied those notes to the interviewee for their review and editing to ensure the notes reflected the interviewees intent. The following are the verified notes from each interview.

In addition to the interviews completed, the following organizations were contacted for an interview but declined or did not respond to the invites:

- Tangent Park
- Many Islands Recreation Society
- Highland Park Community Club
- Department of Fisheries & Oceans
- Travel Alberta
- Glenn Leith Grazing Association
- John McArthur Grazing
- Canadian Natural Resources Limited

In addition to interviews, the consulting team also met with the following while completing the field assessment:

- Al Trider – Green Island Outfitters
- Henry Vos – Peace Cabins & Outdoors



3.3.1 Dunvegan River Rats

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » The original idea was started in 1977, to work on the rivers cabins and carried on ever 10 years until 2010. The government wanted to remove the cabins. In 2014 we incorporated the society to save the cabins but in the end the government removed them all.
 - » Dunvegan boat launch built by Alberta Government mid 80's but had to be rebuilt and maintained. Currently working on application to repair the boat launch. In 2017, MD of Fairview didn't want to keep looking after the area and PVCRTS couldn't afford to do it. DRR took it over.
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » All age groups and families.
3. **Can you describe the visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » No response.

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » Opportunities for business growth

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Dunvegan
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » Saddle Hills municipality, can only access two points. Could develop access at Lat 56.270592 North, Long 119.287323 West and Dunvegan Wildland Park Lat North 56.029954 and Long 118.864448 (Justin may have walked it)
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » WSP did a study on access points in previous years. Cotillion access road needs to be upgraded. Could do a cut of ½ acre to make it better.
 - » Cleanest boat launch is at Carters Camp, straight in and straight out, LAT North 56.243259 Long West 118.950041.
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » Activities related to the river

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
- » Bringing cabins back along the river
10. **From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?**
- » Develop cabins
 - » Upgrade access points to allow more boats on the river
 - » Al Trader wants to do river tours and get more people on the river.
 - » Need equipment, shuttles and guiding to make it easy for people to access the river and experience the area.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. **Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?**
- » No response.

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. **From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?**
- » Mighty Peace Tourism Association

13. **What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?**

- » No response.

14. **In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?**

- » No response.

Challenges & Barriers

15. **From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?**

- » People working together to help the valley.
- » Make any changes sustainable.
- » Make it attractive enough for locals and visitors from far away.

16. **Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.**

- » Help with promotion and maintenance

Other Ideas

17. **Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?**
- » Talk to Clint about boat launch details.

3.3.2 Carters Camp Recreation Society

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Group formed to look after the Carters campground facility
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » Locals, all ages.
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » No response.

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » No response.

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Many Islands, Dunvegan, Carters Camp
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » No response.

7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**

- » Dunvegan, Pratts creek, Many Islands are ok condition.
- » Carters is very rough
- » Need more access but not a lot of areas are available.

8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**

- » The river experiences
- » Camping
- » Day use

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
 - » Boating
10. **From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?**
 - » No response.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?

» No response.

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?

» No response.

13. What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?

» No response.

14. In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

» No response.

Challenges & Barriers

15. From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

» Can't access casino funding anymore. Campgrounds are not allowed but golf courses are. Really hurts operations.

16. Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.

» Not part of tourism in the region, just focused on the camp

Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

» Would like to expand the campground (4-5 stalls) and playground. Need help getting grants.



3.3.3 Mighty Peace Tourism Association

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Mighty Peace Region – north of the river provides most of the users. Our role is to market the region but don't have much tourism product to use for the river.
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » Locals, jet boating (30 to 60years), oilfield with higher incomes,
 - » Beaches, fishing, day use, camping
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » The attraction to local users and maybe regional users would increase but beyond that the attractions and experiences would need to be improved and new ones approved to draw more people.

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » The opportunity to see the beauty of the valley and get outdoors.

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Dunvegan, Pratts creek, Many Islands are ok, Carters is very rough

6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**

- » River rat's society has the best information. Not a lot of flat area on the river. Fraser flats might be potential.

7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**

- » Dunvegan, Pratts creek, Many Islands are ok condition.
- » Carters is very rough
- » Need more access but not a lot of areas are available.

8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**

- » Christies Road Rock
- » Fourth Creek waterfall in the spring
- » Creeks and valleys to explore

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**

- » Paddling has the greatest potential for the increase of users.
- » Information available now does not help users for short trips (1 to 5 days). More information would help attract users.

10. From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?

- » Campsites need to be improved.
- » Signage is needed generally but also interpretive signage to tell the story of the area.
- » Four or five cabins used to be on the river but were removed by the government. Establishing cabins along the river would be an added attraction.
- » The south section of the river does not have very many (probably only one) access point.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?

- » Bear aware, 11 bears per evening now, before it was two or three
- » Environmental impact

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?

- » Not much information is available to promote the river, the MPTA has a strong marketing plan.

13. What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?

- » Not much is available. The 1993 river guide is still used but needs updating. It could be combined with the Flow North Paddling guide to make a very good resource

14. In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

- » More readily available information for users on websites and in information centres.

Challenges & Barriers

15. From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

- » Choosing what to market, there are many choices but only a few are appropriate to be marketed.

16. Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.

- » Leading the charge from a marketing perspective.

Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » No response.

3.3.4 Fort Dunvegan Historic Society -

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Fort Dunvegan Historic Society promotes the historical significance of the Fort Dunvegan Historical Park and adjacent area as well as raises awareness of the history of local pioneers and indigenous people.
 - » Provincially operated historic society
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » Everyone uses the river. All age groups.
 - » Jet boats, leisure boating, families looking for a beach and swimming area, hunting and fishing
 - » Majority from northern Alberta, Alberta, BC Peace Country within 100- 200 km
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » Possibly from the western provinces, maybe further.
 - » People looking for water access and ways to visit the sites of the area
 - » More boaters / canoe / kayak users, wilderness adventure seekers, bird watchers, back packers, fishermen, hunters

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » Economic benefits for the region - eg. birding stores that sell apparel and equipment for birders, boat, etc. sales;
 - » Meeting more interests of visitors and more visitors to the society
 - » Appreciation of the wilderness

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Dunvegan, Pratt's Landing, Many Islands, Carter's camp, Elk Island, Tangent
 - » Across from Dunvegan on south side of the river, river rats operate it. Big problem with ice in the winter.
 - » Old highway 2 access on the north side is not suitable for boat launch, needs improvement
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » Few on the south side of river across from Pratt's Landing
 - » Fourth Creek area, Smook's Flat
 - » Sawchuk Rapids there are historic trails that were used for river crossing
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » Access points are sufficient but could be improved
 - » Fix and /or move Dunvegan Boat Launch
 - » On the north side of the River at the east end of Dunvegan Provincial Park right along the river would be a good place to access the river. Historically the ferry landed there.

8. What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?

- » Fort Dunvegan, Market Gardens, Campsites along river, Ferry at Tangent
- » River, Dunvegan Bridge and historic site, maple day use area, Dunvegan gardens, parks campgrounds
- » The peace and tranquility of the Peace River Valley.

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?

- » Boating, Canoeing, Kayaking
- » Tourism, Hunting, Fishing, Bird Watching, Berry picking
- » Campgrounds eg. Tangent

10. From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?

- » Maintaining what they have, money is hard to find.
- » Access points need playgrounds, campgrounds, day use areas
- » Repair the Dunvegan boat launch
- » Build a ball diamond and/or soccer field - there used to be one on AB Culture's land east of where the old playground was.
- » Build a large complex to house larger events indoors - weather protection
- » Information to promote the area
- » Potential future dam needs to be considered in all actions

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?

- » Garbage, more people, Noise pollution - especially the jet boats.
- » Potential for more vandalism
- » Safety, people not knowing the river. Need more information to give out
- » Impact on erosion, more garbage and increased maintenance

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?

- » Visitor Information Centres, social media
- » Word of mouth is very important
- » River guide needs to be updated - MPTA seems to be working on it

13. What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?

- » Very limited.

14. In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

- » More media exposure
- » Use the website to promote – MPTA is working on this
- » Move Up magazine and MPTA
- » More accurate weather info

Challenges & Barriers

15. From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

- » Money
- » Funding is always difficult to get
- » Manpower (volunteer) is not as readily available because people are so busy.
- » The river itself, always changing and people don't know the dangers
- » Less than 6 weeks of summer!
- » Marketing



16. Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.

- » Could support MPTA
- » In 2014 we placed murals in the MD of Fairview Cookhouse at the Maples to depict the history of the area.
- » Currently pursuing construction of a playground at the Maples to encourage families to enjoy the area.
- » Looking for things needed for events and supplying them - eg: Horse Wagon rides for Canada Day. Sponsorship of Local Events....eg. Beaver Band Activities

Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » Need tours on the river again with guides and accommodation, food etc.
- » Can't find boat rentals easily
- » Paddle wheeler was attempted but didn't work. Might fit the needs of visitors
- » People guide on the river for hunting and fishing
- » Motorcyclists are people looking for a destination. Several groups from the Peace Country ride from Peace River to Grande Prairie routinely.

3.3.5 Mark Lund – Provincial Paddling Expert

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Retired Grant MacEwan University Professor in Physical Education.
 - » 37 years experience paddling
 - » Author of Mark's Guide for Alberta Paddlers
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » Jet boats are expensive and see people from mid 20's with good paying jobs using them.
 - » Paddlers, young adults that recognize wilderness values. Families enjoy the river after highwater as it is very safe.
 - » Impressed with all of the access points they have put in
 - » Interesting to find out how many people are using the river. Most campsites are vehicle access.
3. **Can you describe the visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » Has the basis of a great canoe tripping river, have access to the river but need access to equipment and outfitters (Peace River Cabins and Outdoors and Peace River Taxi (shuttles).

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » Opportunities for business to supply equipment and guide services.
 - » Appreciation of the wilderness

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » See guide book, 2nd edition 2016. Not much has changed over the years
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » Municipalities provided good access to the river especially Many Islands to Peace River is very good.
 - » Kieho Park seems abandoned.
 - » Elk Island park is on the other side during low water and may attract most of the users.
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » Paddlers and jet boaters can share access
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » Wilderness viewing
 - » Scenic
 - » Big river that can support more use

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
- » Paddling and boating
10. **From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?**
- » Need access to equipment and outfitters (Peace River Cabins and Outdoors and Peace River Taxi (shuttles)).

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. **Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?**
- » Number one issue is the Amisk Hydro dam if it goes ahead. Only 3 to 7m of water to be collected and river to be backed up 10 to 15 km. Need to plan for portage.
 - » When river is high, decent wilderness campsites can be hard to find. Drive in campgrounds are not affected.

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. **From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?**
- » Mighty Peace Tourism Association Website

13. **What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?**

» No response.

14. **In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?**

» Website like the Canadian Badlands region. Should find out how that enhanced use.

Challenges & Barriers

15. **From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?**

» People need access to equipment, shuttle and education. Probably a guiding service would work well. Percilla Haskin would be good to talk to.

» Haskin and Edmonton Canoe could tell us what would help to get people out and what is happening with outfitters in the area.

16. **Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.**

» No response.

Other Ideas

17. **Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?**

» Check into BC Hydro as a sponsor for special events like EPCOR's Rivervest. 2600 people on the river in one day. 6,000 people participated in the day. EPCOR purchased 250 rafts.

3.3.6 Alberta Transportation

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Manage contract for ferry operation and maintenance
 - » Ferry operates May to November
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » Pleasure craft river boats, jet boats, paddlers
 - » 18 to 70 year olds
 - » Mostly local users
 - » Most users from within 50 km radius
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » No response

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » Larger draw if it was promoted more

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Ferry landing is used as access point within the highway right of way

6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » No response.
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » No response.
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » Landscape is unique and beautiful
 - » Wildlife

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
 - » No response.
10. **From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?**
 - » No response.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?

- » How increased usage would affect the ferry, better if people new the rules for boating
- » Highway 740 and park on the other side, Tangent Park – Private
- » Market garden on the eastside of the river, Grimshaw, bridge egarden

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?

- » More promotional items
- » Highway signage

13. What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?

- » Mighty peace Tourism Association

14. In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

- » No response.

Challenges & Barriers

15. From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

- » Operation of the ferry.

16. Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.

- » No.

Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » None.



3.3.7 Clearhills County

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Municipal government.
 - » Interviewee born and raised in the area.
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » River used very little, carters camp and many islands
 - » 20 to 25 river boats
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » You can't have better access than what is available.

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » No response.

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Carters Camp has no day use area
 - » Many Islands
 - » Clayhurst

6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » No.
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » Carters Camp is not in great shape
 - » Many Islands
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » No response.

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
 - » Very few paddlers mainly jet boaters
10. **From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?**
 - » Amisk dam could help increase recreational activities. Would affect the camps and the company said they would move them.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?

» No response.

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?

» Mighty Peace Tourism Association

13. What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?

» No response.

14. In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

» No response.

Challenges & Barriers

15. From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

» No response.

16. Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.

- » Community services is involved with community groups
- » Council is second to none in Alberta in support for recreation

Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » Hunters come up and use the camps.
- » Access is good
- » Clayhurst access is very close
- » Can access the river from Clear River



3.3.8 Alberta Tourism – Paul Radchenko

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Alberta Tourism provincial government representative.
 - » Development of recreation and tourism inventories by seven regions; ie upper peace
 - » Difficult to keep inventories updated
 - » Great deal of crown land along the river
 - » Provide funding for destination management plans
 - » In the past, have supported projects such as the bow river access plan
 - » The province is interest in how to action opportunities
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » No response.
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » International, regional to local, tap into local markets first and build from there
 - » Only three international airports, Calgary, Edmonton, Ft McMurray, difficult to access the Peace Valley
 - » Mighty Peace Tourism Association has visitor data

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » No response.

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » No response.
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » No response.
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » No response.
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » Scenic resource assessment – high resource value
 - » Wildland provincial park and other pocket parks

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
- » Paddle wheeler
 - » Tours
 - » Back country
10. **From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?**
- » Greater awareness of water levels and flows.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. **Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?**
- » Maintain features and river quality
 - » What are resource companies doing along the river

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. **From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?**
- » Mighty Peace Tourism Association
 - » Travel Alberta

13. **What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?**

» Mighty Peace Tourism Association content.

14. **In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?**

» No response.

Challenges & Barriers

15. **From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?**

» South side has most of the crown and public lands

» On north side it is more private land and has difficulties with steep slope

16. **Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.**

» Commercial recreation and tourism use policy internal now and will be active November 1.

Other Ideas

17. **Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?**

» No response.

3.3.9 Alberta Parks – Mark Townsend

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Manages Alberta Parks in the region.
 - » Long term resident in region.
 - » Conservation of high value lands, and outdoor recreation on those lands
 - » Silver Valley Ecological Preserve, Dunvegan, PR Wildlife PP, Dunvegan PP
 - » Historical aspect with culture in Dunvegan
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » No response.
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » Domestic market.

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » No response.

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Dunvegan Provincial Park - access points no at boat launch
 - » Cotillion, Many Islands,
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » No.
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » Upgrading is needed
 - » Must be done in relation to Dunvegan Park Plans
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » Aesthetics.
 - » Dunvegan Provincial Park
 - » Fur trade history
 - » Fort Fork

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
 - » No response.



10. From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?

» No response.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?

» No response.

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?

» Mighty Peace Tourism Association

13. What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?

» No response.

14. In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

» No response.

Challenges & Barriers

15. From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

» Must be balanced with existing plans.

16. Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.

» Wildland and ecological reserve are not set up for development and are restricted, very specific

Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

» No response.

3.3.10 Saddle Hills County

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » Two campgrounds (Cotillion (11 sites) and Hill Top lake (10 sites), playground, camp kitchen. Snedding Creek, used for boat launch, but road is not very good.
 - » Planning to expand both campgrounds to increase sites to about 40.
 - » County took over the Spring Lake campground this year, 70 sites.
 - » Doing historical resources study for campground expansion.
 - » Water level is higher than normal
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » River Rats, canoe and jet boat people.
 - » Many locals
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » Mainly focusing on locals from the County. Grande Prairie and Dawson Creek turn out to be big users.

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » Diversified activities (gold panning)

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Cotillion, Clayhurst, Many Islands, Pratts Landing
 - » Dunvegan looking into expansion but having difficulty with approvals.
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » Not many area available for access.
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » Improvements would be good for access sites.
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » Paddle of the Peace is a large event that is growing.
 - » River boat racing

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
 - » No response.

10. From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?

- » Campgrounds need improvement.
- » Upgrade access points, campgrounds, day use areas
- » Trails planning, trails master plan in 2020

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?

- » Make sure improvements are made to provincial standards and good quality.
- » Safety needs to be addressed.

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?

- » Mighty Peace Tourism Association is trying but communication needs to be improved. Local governments and MPTA need to work together.

13. What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?

- » River Rats 1993 study and 1995 Canadian Heritage promotion.

14. In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?

- » MPTA is working on upgrading information.

Challenges & Barriers

15. From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?

- » Backcountry opportunities have not been developed because you can't get access.

16. Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.

- » Increased exposure to tourism
- » Expanded County infrastructure

Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » Mighty Peace Tourism Association, Dawson Creek Tourism and Grande Prairie Tourism will all need to be connected into the network.

3.3.11 McKenzie Municipal Services Agency

1. **Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?**
 - » MMSA provides planning services to twelve municipalities in the Peace Region. We draft Municipal Development Plan recreation policies for members adjacent to the Peace River, and any additional studies as requested. We work with four member municipalities along the Peace River within your study area including Clear Hills County, the Municipal District of Fairview No. 136, the Municipal District of Peace No. 135 and the Town of Peace River.
2. **From your knowledge, who are the typical recreation and tourism users of the River today? (e.g. age, ability, activity type, group composition, origins etc).**
 - » Boating, canoeing, camping, some fishing. All ages and abilities.
3. **Can you describe visitors who might be attracted to the River if access were to be improved and / of the quality of the recreation / tourism experience was to be improved?**
 - » International visitors looking for a northern experience. Local users.

Benefits & Support for Recreation & Tourism

4. **In your opinion, what benefits can come from recreation and tourism on the Peace River?**
 - » Economic, enhanced recreational opportunities

River Access & Attractions

5. **Where are the major river access points for recreational users?**
 - » Refer to the "Upper Peace Valley Recreation Area, Peace River, Map/Guide for River Travel", published in 1993 by the Peace Valley Conservation Recreation and Tourism Society.
 - » The main access points are at Dunvegan, Tangent and Peace River
6. **Do you know of any potential sites that could be appropriate for developing river access for recreational users?**
 - » No.
7. **From your knowledge, do any of the current river access points need to be improved? If so, what improvements are needed?**
 - » Ensure existing sites are maintained, including retaining safe access.
8. **What are the major attractions along and adjacent to the River that enhance the recreation and tourism experience for visitors?**
 - » Wildlife viewing, hoodoos
 - » Yearly events (Jet Boat races in Peace River, Paddle the Peace – Shaftesbury Ferry to Peace River),
 - » Campgrounds
 - » Shaftesbury Ferry
 - » Dunvegan Park

Improving the Quality of Recreation & Tourism Experiences on the River

9. **When thinking about the benefits that come from recreation and tourism on the River, which recreation activities do you feel have the greatest potential to maximize benefits to communities along the River?**
- » Boating, camping, canoeing, additional activities.
10. **From your perspective, what actions need to be taken to improve the quality of recreation and tourism experiences on the River?**
- » Provincial and federal funding to build and improve recreation along the river.
 - » Buy-in from municipalities and corporate.
 - » Additional activities such as paddleboat tours, canoe and boat rentals, raft races.
 - » We mentioned river days in Fort Vermillion that took place in the past as an example of an event that may add value.

Visitor Management Concerns & Safety

11. **Though there are many benefits that can come from recreation and tourism on the River, recreation and tourism can also create undesirable impacts. What recreation and tourism impacts or management issues is your department most concerned about? What should be done to avoid or manage these impacts?**
- » Pollution, impacts on wildlife, shoreline disturbance, degradation of the natural environment, beautify of the area.
 - » Policies need to be in place to protect the river valley including mitigation measures.

Trip Planning Information & Marketing the River

12. **From your knowledge, how is the recreation and tourism appeal of the River currently marketed to visitors?**
- » Alberta North Tourism, Mighty Peace Tourism Association (MPTA), municipalities, word of mouth.
13. **What, if any, trip planning information is made available to visitors?**
- » No response.
14. **In your opinion, what, if anything, should be done to improve trip planning information and the marketing of the River to visitors?**
- » Updated guides such as: Alberta North Tourism
 - » Videos (YouTube)
 - » CD's
 - » Advertising

Challenges & Barriers

15. **From your department's perspective, what are the biggest challenges and barriers to realizing the recreation and tourism potential of the River?**
- » Climate, short summer season.
16. **Do you see any opportunities for your department to be involved in enhancing the quality of recreation and tourism on the Peace River? Please describe.**
- » Working with member municipalities in developing long term policies



Other Ideas

17. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » Who does the policing along the river, can the river sustain increased users?
- » Boating access is limited to boat owners.
- » Boat rentals as a business could be considered? Renting boats through a private operator(s) has challenges including the short user season, capital investment & maintenance. How economically viable would this be?
- » Peace Valley Guest Ranch is a current operator along the Peace River that provides boat tours on the Peace River, as well as providing overnight accommodations. As discussed, Peace Valley Guest Ranch is fully booked throughout the summer season.

3.3.12 Amisk Hydro

1. Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?

- » Proposed Amisk Hydro Electric project.
- » Five years on the project since its inception
- » Project has been on hold for 2 ½ years

2. Please describe how your business operations might impact / influence recreation / tourism access and use of the River?

- » Dam is located approximately 12.5 Km from Dunvegan bridge
- » Flood area deepest at dam (17m to 24m) and lowest at 1km passed many islands
- » Water at dam would be 3-5 m and the dam would be 24m above that.
- » Reservoir would extend 77km upstream
- » Pratts landing, Carter's Campground, Many Islands would be impacted. Offsets for additional recreation areas, (ie Carters Camp) could be higher up and Pratts Landing would have to be moved

3. Are you aware of any research that can be shared on how your business might impact recreation and tourism use of the River? Can you direct us to that research / information?

- » Amiskhydro.com has brochures, project description
- » Evaluations for recreation areas and facilities have been done. May be able to share some information.

4. Please describe how recreation / tourism impact / influence your business operations or interests?

- » Currently public have been optimistic in the general area, potential of a large construction project, would make a lake that is appealing to people
- » Boat lock has been discussed and fish ladders.

5. What, if anything, can be done to mitigate potential conflicts between recreation / tourism and your business on or adjacent to the River?

- » Keeping public informed

6. Do you see any opportunities for your organization to partner with PVCRTS to enhance the quality and management of recreation and tourism on the River? Please describe.

- » Working on relocation sites and infrastructure like boat locks

7. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » Have engaged all Indigenous groups but lots more is required
- » On hold until uncertainty is addressed for hydro in the Province
- » There are some downstream impacts ie. ice that need to be investigated still. The ferry is one example that must be looked at.

3.3.13 Elk Island Grazing – Pat Eastman

1. Please tell me a little bit about your department and its mandate as it relates to recreation and tourism use of the Peace River between the BC Border and Town of Peace River?

- » Graze on north side of the river, sold the south side lease previously
- » Stone cabin on the south side is run down and should be upgraded or torn down.
- » Church group out of Eaglesham had done a lot of work on the south side lands but have left them to decay. Someone came in and cleaned it up last year.

2. Please describe how your business operations might impact / influence recreation / tourism access and use of the River?

- » More access means more people and they cause problems on steep hills where they make trails the ultimately cause erosion problems.
- » Motorized vehicles are the problem, make trails where there are no trails and disturb the land.

3. Are you aware of any research that can be shared on how your business might impact recreation and tourism use of the River? Can you direct us to that research / information?

- » No.

4. Please describe how recreation / tourism impact / influence your business operations or interests?

- » Boaters stay on the river and are no problem.

5. What, if anything, can be done to mitigate potential conflicts between recreation / tourism and your business on or adjacent to the River?

- » Hunters are allowed on the lands. Those that ask are no problem but those that don't are worse. Cows are shocked when people come buy and that causes problems.

6. Do you see any opportunities for your organization to partner with PVCRTS to enhance the quality and management of recreation and tourism on the River? Please describe.

- » No.

7. Are there any other important considerations you think we need to keep in mind?

- » Projects get started and then money runs out. There is nothing in place for them to be policed and enforced.



3.4 ONLINE INTERACTIVE CROWDSOURCE MAPPING

An online interactive crowdsourcing mapping tool (Vertisee) was available to the public from August 15 to October 31, 2019. The tool allowed participants to scroll through the study area, zoom into areas to which they wanted to share input and invited each participant to drop on a pin where, in their opinion there was:

- Opportunities for Improvement
- Management Issues
- Attractions and Infrastructure existed.

Participants could view ideas submitted by others and “agree” or “disagree” with them and / or provide further comments.

Fifty-three (53) unique ideas were shared about how recreation and tourism on the river could be improved, management issues that need to be addressed and where attractions and infrastructure exist along the river. In total, the ideas that were shared were “agreed” with an additional 160 times and “disagreed” with 13 times.

Input was sorted by topic (opportunity to improve, management issue, attraction and infrastructure) and then themed. Table 1, presents the themes that emerged from the input and the number of participants who “agreed” or “disagreed” with ideas captured under each theme. Figure 1, represents the spatial location where participants suggested improvement were needed or management issues existed. The verbatim input received via Vertisee can be found in Appendix A.

In order of priority, most common suggestions for improvements included:

- Develop new or enhance existing visitor services (tours, rental equipment, booking support)
- Develop new visitor information and trip planning supports (e.g. maps, wayfinding, smart phone app)
- Developing new boat launch
- Improving existing boat launches
- Develop public cabins / comfort camping opportunities

Very few management issues were raised through the online crowdsourcing. Access to parks was raised and received the greatest, albeit very few, agrees. Other concerns

include better management of wildlife attractants and the potential for over management of recreational use of the river.

Participants also identified the location of existing natural and historical attractions on the river as well as built infrastructure such as campgrounds and boat launches.

Table 1 Vertisee Input - Theming

	Theme	# of People that Raised Idea	Agrees	Disagrees
Improvement Opportunities	New Boat Launch	4	41	4
	Improve Boat Launch	3	18	2
	Trail Maintenance	1	0	0
	New Trail Development	2	5	0
	Visitor Services (tours, rental equipment, bookings)	4	28	1
	Regulatory Change	1	0	0
	Campground Expansion & Improvement	2	0	0
	Improve Boat Launch	3	18	2
	Visitor Information & Trip Planning	5	25	1
	Funding & Capacity	1	7	0
	Cabins / Comfort Camping Development	4	12	2
	Expand Study Area	2	2	0
	Visitor Management	1	1	1
	Marina	1	0	0
Management Issues	Access to Provincial Parks	1	3	0
	Over-management	1	0	0
	Wildlife Attractants	1	0	0

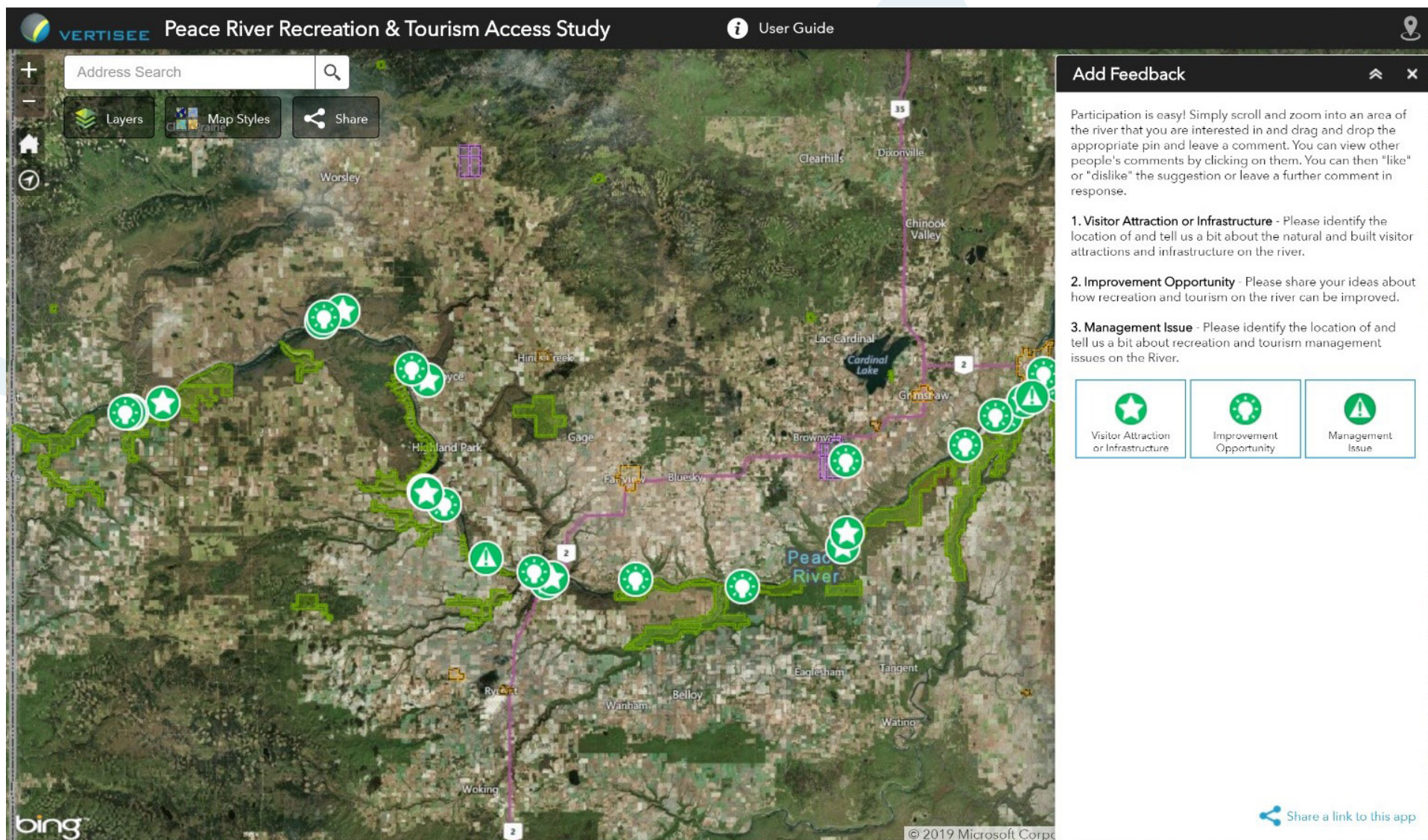


Figure 1 - Vertisee Online Crowdsourcing Mapping

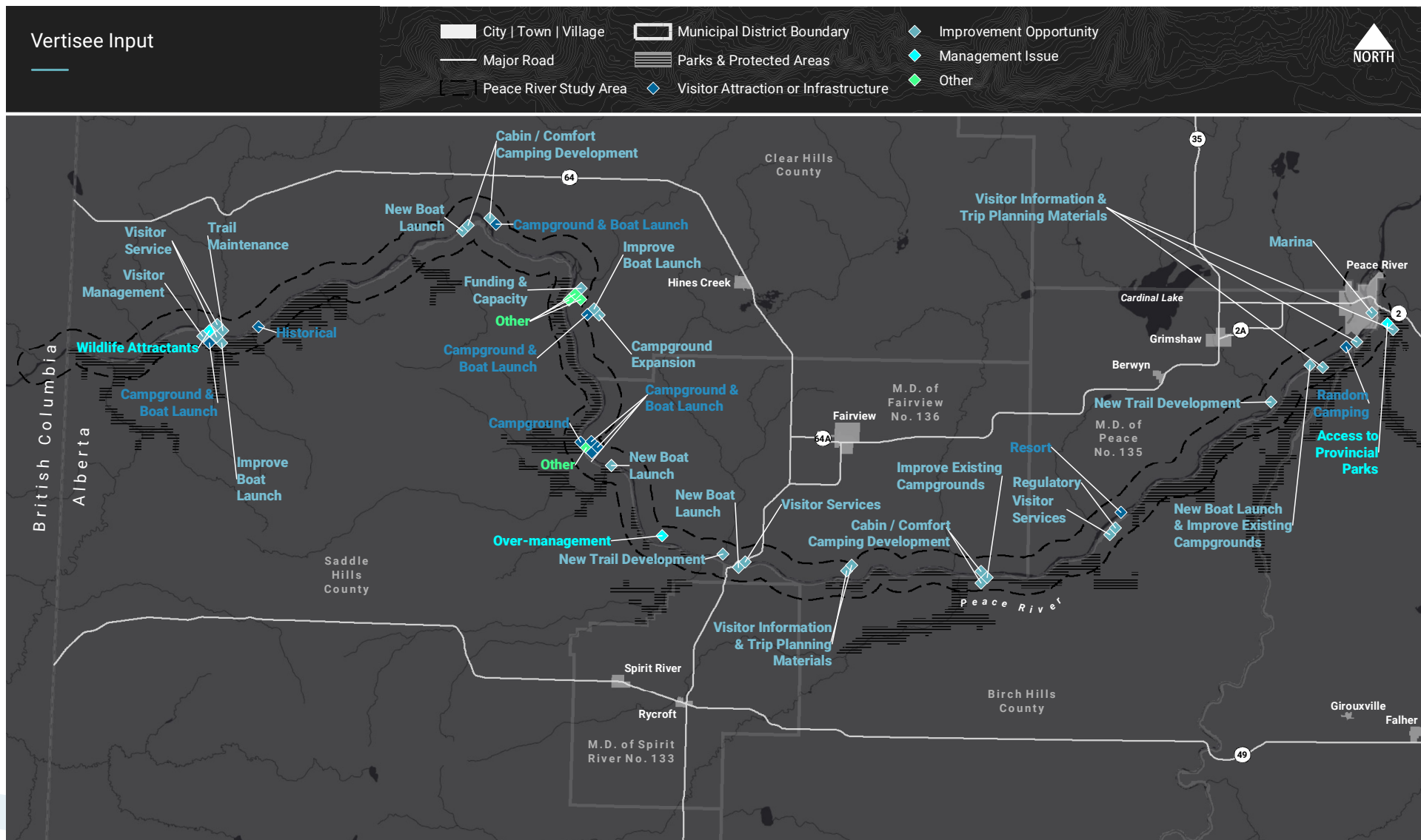


Figure 2 - Map of Input Received Through Vertisee



Appendices

A. VERTISEE RAW INPUT

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-08-15 21:28	Potential opportunity for a boat launch	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	New Boat Launch	15	4	56.03072699	-118.8660751
2019-10-09 4:11	Too much debris silt and shallow water to deal in early season. To get a boat launched.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity				56.03072699	-118.8660751
2019-08-15 21:29	This area should have a boat launch that is in better condition and more accessible	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Improve Boat Launch	18	2	56.16679438	-119.6914016
2019-08-15 22:02	River access opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	New Boat Launch	11	0	56.29769142	-119.1893589
2019-08-17 0:28	"Need a proper boat launch so more can access the beautiful peace River valley. Dunvegan boat launch is, and has been, an outright joke."	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	New Boat Launch	15	0	55.91646682	-118.5977255
2019-08-19 9:58	Cotillion Campsite is wonderful! Amazing camp spots, facilities (showers included) and playground	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Campground & Boat Launch	6	0	56.16628812	-119.6934937
2019-10-12 15:09	I would love to see some of the trails maintained and marked for better quadding/hiking.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	Trail Maintenance			56.16628812	-119.6934937
2019-08-20 20:43	There needs to be Boat Tours that can take tourists up and down the river in the summer. I get quite a number of tourists asking if there are boat tours on the river, it would be very beneficial for the town and possibly bring more tourists to the area.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Services	18	1	55.96953242	-117.8204428

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-10-14 4:18	We have looked into this but the regulatory issues are prohibitive - closed ocean-standard lifeboats that need to be certified or replaced every three years for example. Peace Island Tours ran their boat on a waiver that wouldn't have stood up in court. This is federal jurisdiction and larger players than us have tried and failed to get it changed. If this group is willing to look into ways of challenging the regs to make them more sensible there would likely be several potential operators.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	Regulatory			55.96953242	-117.8204428
2019-08-21 0:55	Canoe, kayak or tubing rentals! Anything really to enjoy the water for people who just want to rent. Need a company that will pick you up at the other end for a reasonable price. Launch could be at dunvegan.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Services	10	0	55.92320018	-118.5846792
2019-08-21 19:07	Carter's Camp is a great place to picnic or camp. The scenery is lovely, coming down the hill to the site and also sitting on the bank to enjoy the river. The camp site is well maintained.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Campground & Boat Launch	9	0	56.2116297	-118.9108358
2019-08-21 21:58	Beautiful campsite, very well maintained. Potential for expansion.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	Campground Expansion			56.2116297	-118.9108358
2019-09-04 18:34	The area is beautiful but the boat launch needs works.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	Improve Boat Launch			56.2116297	-118.9108358

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-08-21 22:13	An updated map/guide for river travel would be a great asset to have people interested in getting on the river. The details from the original 1993 version included history, things to do and travel times, which have been instrumental for us in paddling the Peace. Have available for sale or on line.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Information & Trip Planning Materials	13	1	55.92173229	-118.3643772
2019-08-30 17:47	There is guide from 2011 that I believe is currently being updated by MPT	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Information & Trip Planning Materials			55.92173229	-118.3643772
2019-08-23 14:33	Carters camp has been a hot spot for families for a very long time; a true heart of the peace river. It has been locally maintained by the neighbourhood. They do what they can to raise money and make improvements. Any additional funding from Recreation and Tourism, for things like improvement of the boat launch, playground, and clearing of more campsites would benefit the entire community, near and far.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Funding & Capacity	7	0	56.22861879	-118.9513479
2019-08-23 17:14	I feel this survey is connected to the proposed construction of a dam down stream of this site. The public should be informed if this is so.	Improvement Opportunity	Other	Other			56.22861879	-118.9513479

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-08-26 17:58	This study is in no way related to any hydroelectric dam proposal. The study is intended to guide the Peace Valley Conservation, Recreation and Tourism Society in potential recreation opportunities with input from our communities.	Improvement Opportunity	Other	Other			56.22861879	-118.9513479
2019-09-06 17:26	This survey is not to do with the construction of the dam.	Improvement Opportunity	Other	Other			56.22861879	-118.9513479
2019-08-23 17:04	Pratt's Landing is a well used campground by local people and very well maintained by the MD and local people. It would be a terrible shame to have it destroyed by the construction of a dam...	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Campground	6	1	56.05042061	-118.9189683
2019-09-05 17:09	If there was a dam constructed in this area it would be a great attraction for locals and tourists	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Other	Other			56.05042061	-118.9189683
2019-08-23 17:22	A lovely, well maintained campground, very popular with local people and those passing through.. the location of the very popular Many Islands Music Festival.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Campground & Boat Launch	9	0	56.3134231	-119.1329979
2019-09-06 19:55	A couple years ago SRD burnt some cabins down on only accessible by boat, people used and maintained these cabins for 30+ years, I think if some cabins were built on some different islands that boaters/ kayakers could use through the summer/fall months that would bring some tourism in	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Improvement Opportunity	Cabin / Comfort Camping Development			56.3134231	-119.1329979

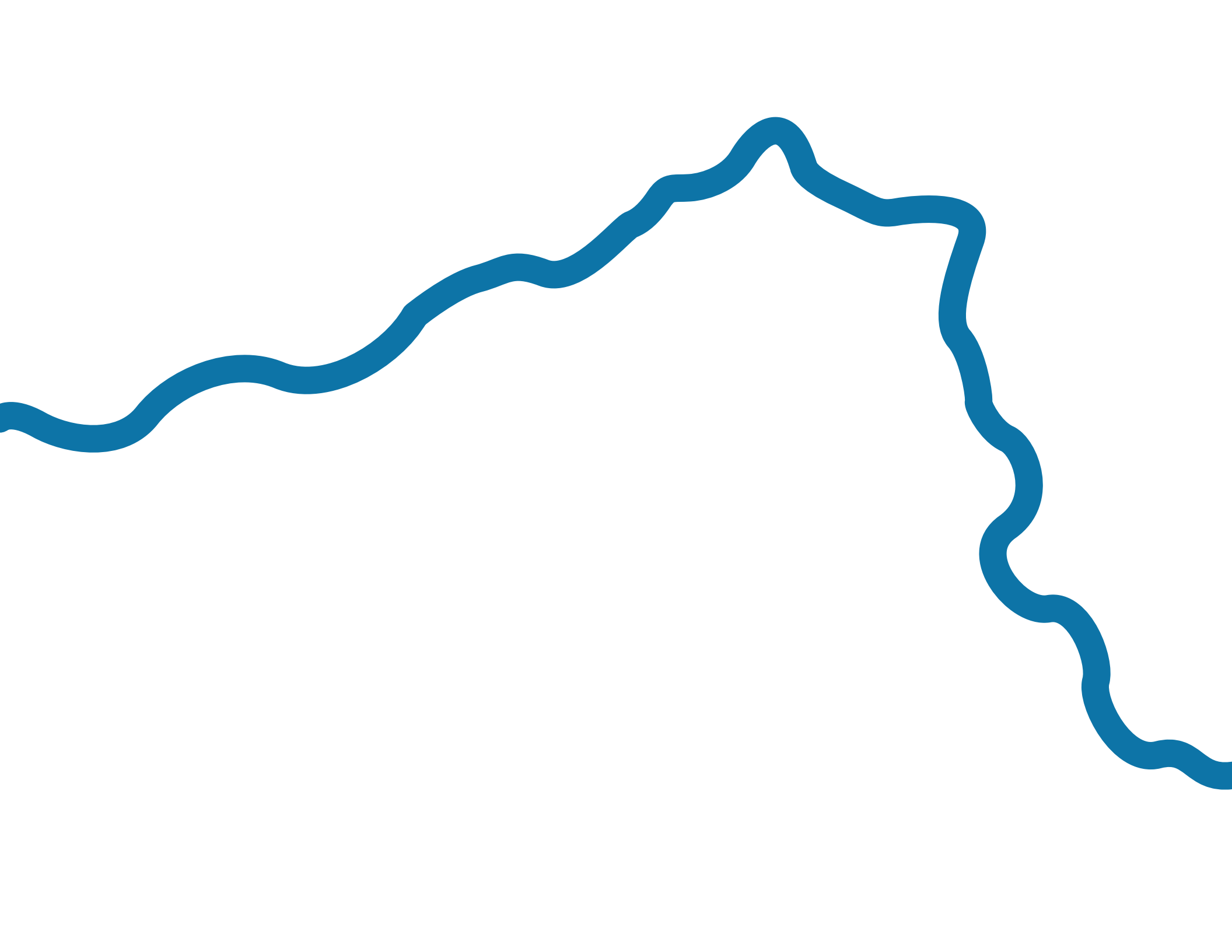
Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-08-23 22:43	Mapping and more formalized (designated) trails in the Peace River Valley could make for more hiking, snowshoeing, and other mixed trail use (horseback, ATV, etc.). Peace River Wildland PP, Greene Valley PP, and Dunvegan West Wildland PP come to mind.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Information & Trip Planning Materials	11	0	56.15833487	-117.3932849
2019-08-26 23:42	Green Valley PP access has been so restricted by Provincial Parks that no one is allowed in. Parks tore down the only stair access on the west side and never replaced it. They need to either change the park designation or their attitudes to access.	Management Issue	Management Issue	Access to Provincial Parks	3	0	56.20933846	-117.2587668
2019-08-30 17:38	If I remember correctly, this is the Location for Peace Island Resort	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Resort	1	2	56.44165981	-117.1264158
2019-09-09 20:18	This is not the Peace Island Resort Island. We are located more north I have put a new pin.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Resort			56.44165981	-117.1264158
2019-08-30 17:41	Seeing this project continue past the town of peace river would be great.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Expand Study Area	1	0	56.55417631	-117.089003
2019-08-30 17:50	Carcajou area residents/seasonal users form a group that has an approved boat launch here	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Boat Launch	0	0	57.7589437	-116.9981992
2019-08-31 1:01	The river goes past peace river. And there are many beautiful spots farther north	Management Issue	Improvement Opportunity	Expand Study Area	1	0	56.58157342	-117.1032415
2019-08-31 2:08	Pratt's landing is a wonderful campground. It is very well maintained, has a safe playground, a great boat launch, and is a favourite spot for so many locals.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Campground & Boat Launch	7	0	56.04669361	-118.9130674

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-08-31 2:17	This is Pratts Landing, a community favourite campground! It is kept in immaculate condition and has so much to offer! So many people love spending their summers here.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Campground & Boat Launch	6	0	56.04875489	-118.915814
2019-08-31 2:20	Pratt's landing has the best boat launch if you are coming from Fairview or Hines Creek area!	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Campground & Boat Launch	1	0	56.0475445	-118.9142905
2019-09-04 18:37	You can hike up from the river to the Fairview Ski Hill. It's a beautiful valley but there is no official trail to follow. In the winter you can walk on the creek which makes it easier but it would be great to see some trail developed here.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	New Trail Development	5	0	55.93156715	-118.6305128
2019-09-04 18:37	Great spot which used to have a small cabin open to the public. Good opportunity to rebuild an official, legal, user-maintained site.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Cabin / Comfort Camping Development	5	0	56.30382003	-119.1835227
2019-09-04 21:50	Allowing user maintained cabins and other sites along the river with boat only access for camping and emergency use (as is done upriver in BC) would improve river related recreation and tourism.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Cabin / Comfort Camping Development	7	2	55.91035072	-118.0842516
2019-10-10 16:10	This would be feasible if the Municipalities were responsible for the cabins. Individuals can not have their own personnel cabins on Crown Land, as it would be in conflict with Alberta Environment & Parks management strategies.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Cabin / Comfort Camping Development			55.91035072	-118.0842516

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-10-14 4:26	Cabins would be great but fixing the campsites along the river that have been allowed to run down (Elk Island and Strong Creek are examples) would be a good first step.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Improve Existing Campgrounds			55.91035072	-118.0842516
2019-09-05 14:40	I would like hikes to be clearly marked, and a map showing all hikes (even online would be fantastic). I would be happy to help make this happen as I have many years of experience in Communications.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Information & Trip Planning Materials	1	0	56.2039917	-117.2477804
2019-09-05 17:12	I have always enjoyed the river experience because of the opportunity to boat, canoe and camp with few restrictions and rules. More people-more rules!	Management Issue	Management Issue	Over-management	1	0	55.95108307	-118.7570273
2019-09-09 20:20	This is Peace Island Resort The resort boasts 4 guest cabins for rent, a screened in gazebo and a cook house with dining hall. The kitchen is up and running and it is licensed for alcohol sales. There are walking trails, horseshoe pits, fishing and swimming. Boat rides are available for those unable to access the island themselves.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Resort	3	0	56.64581881	-117.1255388
2019-09-09 23:49	Old Sawmill Site. Historical area. Would make a good campsite and interesting tourism spot.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Historical	1	0	56.17833657	-119.6068905
2019-09-09 23:52	Nice spot for wild camping	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Random Camping	0	1	56.1819553	-117.3447155

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-09-12 12:55	Peace Valley Guest Ranch. A family run destination with cabins, meals, trail riding, and other activities. Access by river or by road. A wonderful contribution to river recreation and tourism.	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Resort	0	0	55.98825579	-117.8093384
2019-10-09 4:20		Visitor Attraction or Infrastructure	Remove	Remove	0	0	57.15817856	-118.9740072
2019-10-09 5:31	Sites all have open trash cans being used as Recycling bins, they are a bear attractant and need to be permanently removed.	Management Issue	Management Issue	Wildlife Attractants	0	0	56.16553976	-119.6884693
2019-10-09 5:32	Cotillion is somewhere we have camped often and the New Management this year was difficult to get a hold of for booking sites.	Management Issue	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Service	0	0	56.16467953	-119.6932758
2019-10-12 15:12	We are hoping to move to an online booking next year! Working with the county to institute next year.	Management Issue	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Service			56.16467953	-119.6932758
2019-10-09 5:33	Having a locking gate that closes at 11:00 p.m., like at other campgrounds would make the campground more secure and quieter. As some nights other campers and visitors to the park can get quite loud.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Management	1	1	56.16544418	-119.7046055
2019-10-14 3:59	Build a proper boat launch and maintain the beach and campsite at Strong Creek Park. Right now vehicles just go in and tear it up.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	New Boat Launch & Improve Existing Campgrounds	0	0	56.16042603	-117.4195276
2019-10-14 4:05		Improvement Opportunity	Remove	Remove	0	0	56.09460174	-117.8128897

Created	Comment	Feedback Type (Participant)	Feedback Type Reclassified (RC+PERC)	Coding	Agrees	Disagrees	Latitude	Longitude
2019-10-14 4:06	Work toward extending the walking/ cycling trail from Upper West Peace, to Brick's Hill and even the ferry. This would obviously be a long term project but every little bit would help make the highway safer and encourage more people to try it.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	New Trail Development	0	0	56.11795929	-117.5001227
2019-10-14 4:09	The mouth of the Smoky is one of the most beautiful locations on the planet (say even New Zealand visitors). Due to limited access/ knowledge of it, it is undervalued and at risk from gravel pit development.	Management Issue	Improvement Opportunity	Visitor Information & Trip Planning Materials	0	0	56.18813799	-117.3229681
2019-10-14 4:30	Peace River needs a proper boat dock and marina. Fort Vermilion has a dock and Fort Assiniboine put in a river marina - we should be able to figure out a way to get it done. The snye at the Lower West Peace boat launch has possibilities.	Improvement Opportunity	Improvement Opportunity	Marina	0	0	56.22180094	-117.2919994



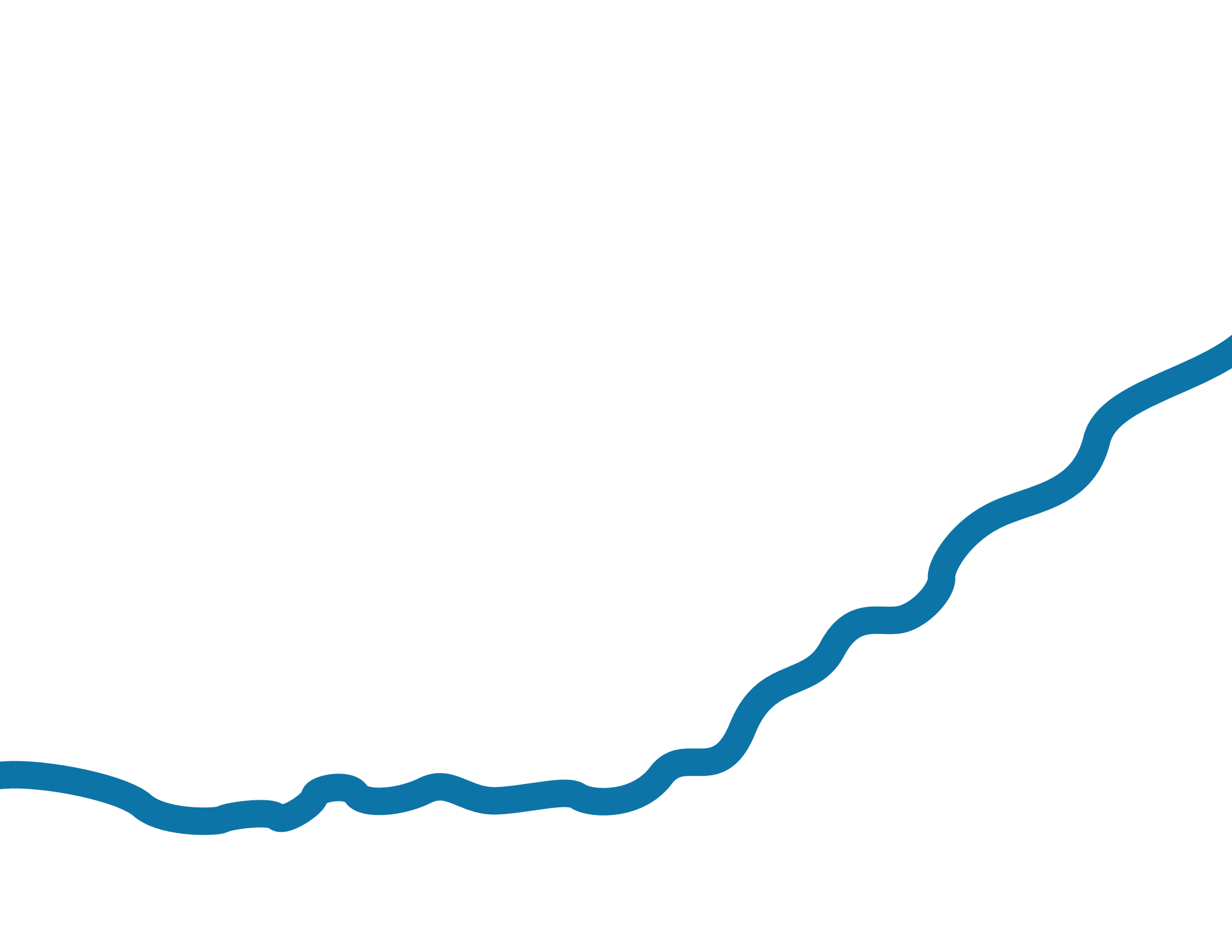


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