

**Site Name:** **Whitecourt Mountain**

**Site Type:** **Natural Area**

**Status:** Order-in-council (OC)

**Subtype:** Conservation

**PASite ID (Map Ref #):** 528

**O.C. No. (Land Ref. Manual):** 519/95

**Site # (Parks Website):** 571

**Reserved Area:** 0.00 ha. (0.00 ac.)

**Designated Area:** 544.40 ha. (1345.21 ac.)

**Total Area:** 544.40 ha. (1345.21 ac.)

**Additional Protected Areas:** none

**Lat/Long Co-ordinates:** 54.0306441646 N, -115.717684936 W

**Natural Region:** Foothills

**Natural Subregion(s):** Lower Foothills

**IUCN Classification:** II

**Operated By:** Parks Division

**Info Phone:** 780-960-8170

**Steward(s) Aug2002:** Volunteer(s) 1

**Steward(s) Aug2003:** Volunteer(s) 1

**Steward(s) Dec2011:** yes

**Petroleum & Natural Gas Surface  
Access Aug2002:** Conditional

**Day Use Site(s):** Whitecourt Mountain

**Recreation Activities:** none noted

**Access:**

**Notes:** Whitecourt Mountain Natural Area (5.44 km<sup>2</sup>) encompasses sections of plateau and steep slopes on Whitecourt Mountain, with stony terraces, slumps, seepage areas and scenic vistas. It includes the regional topographic high point (1200 m a.s.l.) and the headwaters of several small tributaries to McLeod River. Vegetation is dominated by white birch stands on the plateau and upper slopes, grading to aspen. There are also a few balsam poplar stands, plus small stands of white spruce-pine on slopes with some balsam fir, small scattered shrublands and grassy openings. Most woodlands have an understorey of bluejoint reedgrass, oak fern and herbs. This area is a regional extension of the boreal cordilleran zone, with associated species such as red elderberry, devil's club, western mountain ash and western meadow rue. It provides good wildlife habitat, especially for ungulates.

This site lies in the Foothills Natural Region, Lower Foothills Sub-region. Five level 1 and 38 level 2 natural history themes have been identified for the Lower Foothills. With the exception of mineral wetlands, all of the level 1 themes are well represented in the parks and protected areas network. Level 2 themes are also well represented. The site was established or expanded as part of the Special Places program (Alberta Parks web site, 2012).

Images:





