

Before You Start!



General Information



Who are you,
contact details,
where did you go?

Overall Impression



What did you think?

Visit Details



Why did you go?
What is there that
should be there?

Disturbances



What should NOT be
there?

SAPAA Site Inspection

Training on the 2025 Site Inspection Form

Agree to Terms &
Conditions



2024 Reports: Only
WAERNAHR Act

What to be Done?



Clean up, repairs,
crime, remediation,
etc.

Pictures?



Upload, email,
*naming
conventions!*

Reports, etc.



→ Site inspection
Minister's annual
report
→ Report to peer
organizations
→ Amalgamated
data

Inspecting the Agenda

1. A 2-minute (ish) overview.
2. Not for Emergencies!
3. Full or Short Form?
4. The Questions
5. So, Why are We Doing This?
6. Want to Help? Questions



Housekeeping Items:

- *This session: recorded and used for training.*
- *Please stay muted and cameras off unless speaking.*
- *Questions in chat preferred, or Raise Hand function*

A 2-Minute'ish Overview

sapaastewards.com

PROTECTED AREAS

PA VISITS ETC.

LIST OF PROTECTED AREAS

SITE INSPECTIONS

SITE INSPECTION FORM

SITE INSPECTION FORM - SIMPLE

sapaastewards.com/protected-areas/site-inspections/site-inspection-form/

sapaastewards.com/protected-areas/site-inspections/site-inspection-form-simple/

Before You Start!



Attend Training



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Submit

Upload, email,
*naming
conventions!*

Reports, etc.



- Site inspection
- Minister's annual report
- Report to peer organizations
- Amalgamated data

Before You Start!



Attend Training



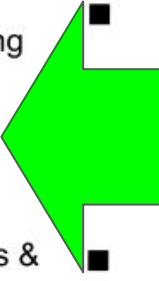
Agree to Terms & Conditions



2025 Reports: Only
WAERNAHR Act

- Not a Volunteer
- Send Reports
- Information privacy
- Use iNaturalist

No Shareies
(except GoA
& Members)



***1 Report =
1 Visit at 1 Time to 1 Location by 1 Person***

Before You Start!



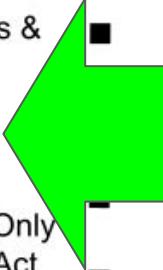
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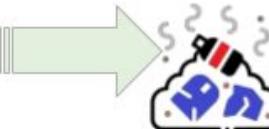
- 1. Wilderness Areas
- 2. Ecological Reserves
- 3. Natural Areas
- 4. Heritage Rangelands



Map data ©2024 Google Imagery ©2024 NASA, TerraMetrics [Terms](#) [200 km](#)

- Six Sections
- Two Forms: Short & Full
- Submissions published on Web and Annual Report
- Love Photos, GPS files & iNaturalist

General Information Overall Impression Visit Details Disturbances



Who are you,
contact details,
where did you go?

What did you think?

Why did you go?
What is there that
should be there?

What should NOT be
there?



What's to be Done?



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- Site inspection
- Minister's annual report
- Report to peer organizations
- Amalgamated data

Not for Emergencies!

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sapaastewards.com/protected-areas/site-inspections/site-inspection-form-simple/

Emergencies, Illegal Activities, Significant Damage

- Emergencies: life at risk, crime in progress
 - Contact the RCMP, call 911, local Police
- Significant damage or disturbances:
 - Report illegal activity and public safety issues on public land or in Provincial Parks,
 - Call 310-LAND.
- Poaching:
 - Report suspicious
 - Illegal hunting and fishing activity, or
 - Dangerous wildlife encounters
 - Online or by phone, 1-800-642-3800.



Full or Short Form?

sapaastewards.com

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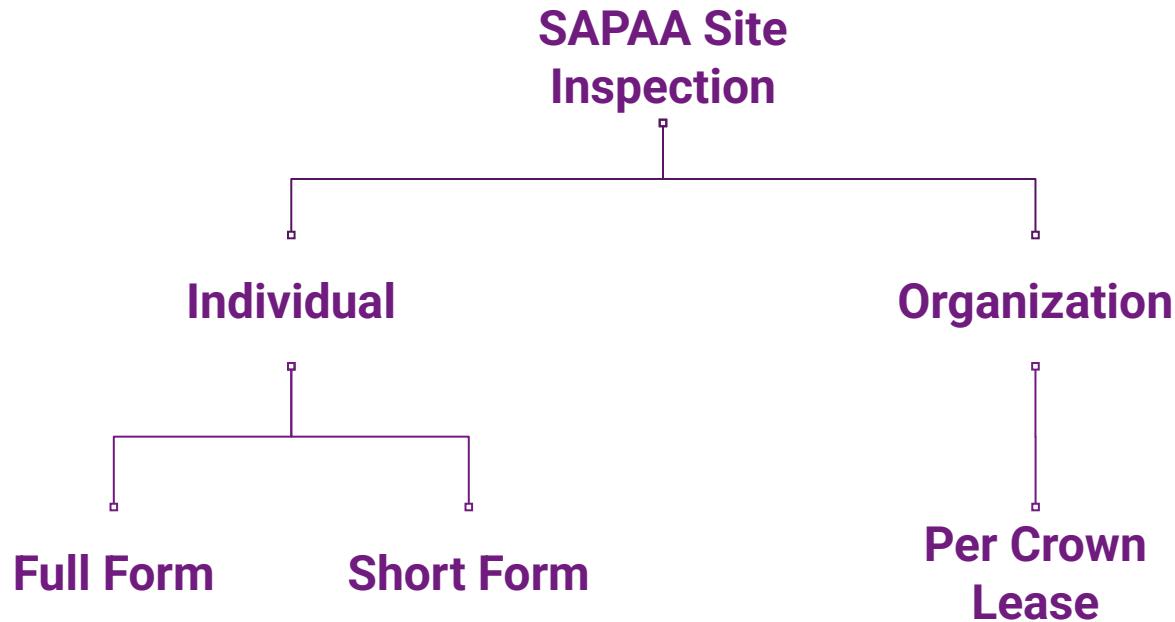
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Three Types of Inspections: Full, Short, & Organization



Short or Full Form?

Full Form

- SAPAA Members, experienced
- Save progress (e.g. use in field)
- Have a GMail Account
- Addition Information:
 - Changes since last Visit
 - Trip duration & Ease to visit site
 - Submission to iNaturalist
 - Landscape changes
 - Invasive Species
 - Individual Inspection Info
 - Stewardship actions (e.g. signs)

Short Form

- Casual Visitors, inexperienced
- Cannot save progress
- Any Email can be used

The Questions

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General Information	Overall Impression	Visit Details	Disturbances	What to be Done?	Pictures?
 		 	 		 

Who are you,
contact details,
where did you go?

What did you think?

Why did you go?
What is there that
should be there?

What should NOT be
there?

Clean up, repairs,
crime, remediation,
etc.

Upload, email,
***naming
conventions!***

Items Noted with an '' are Full Form Entries only.*

**General
Information**



Who are you,
contact details,
where did you go?

Q# Element/ Question

- 11 Email Address
- 12* Steward's Name; Select from drop-down*
- 13 First and Last Name for Guests.
- 14 Phone (how can we reach you other than email?)
- 16 SAPAA Member

‘

- 21 Date of Visit (default = today)
- 22 Site Name; Drop down list. SAPAA PA sites only
- 23 Site Name-optional, if site is not listed
- 24* Designated Steward; Are you the Steward?
- 25* Inspection Number, Optional for Record Keeping

Overall
Impression



What did you think?

Q31: What is the Naturalness of the Site?

- 4=Great
- 3=Good, but has issues
- 2=Passable, lots of issues but not poor or terrible... yet
- 1=Bad
- 0=Terrible, YIKES
- Cannot Answer

Overall
Impression



What did you think?

Q31: What is the Naturalness of the Site? *Continued*

- How natural is this site?
- Your measure but ...
- Your consistency between sites is important.

Q32: Comments, Impression, optional explanation(s).

Q33* Changes in Conditions, past visits

Factors to consider: infrastructure incursions (e.g. pipelines), human activity (e.g. dumping or ATV tracks), site infrastructure (e.g. trails, signs), evidence of natural activities (e.g. tracks or scat).

Visit Details



Why did you go?
What is there that
should be there?

Q# Element/ Question

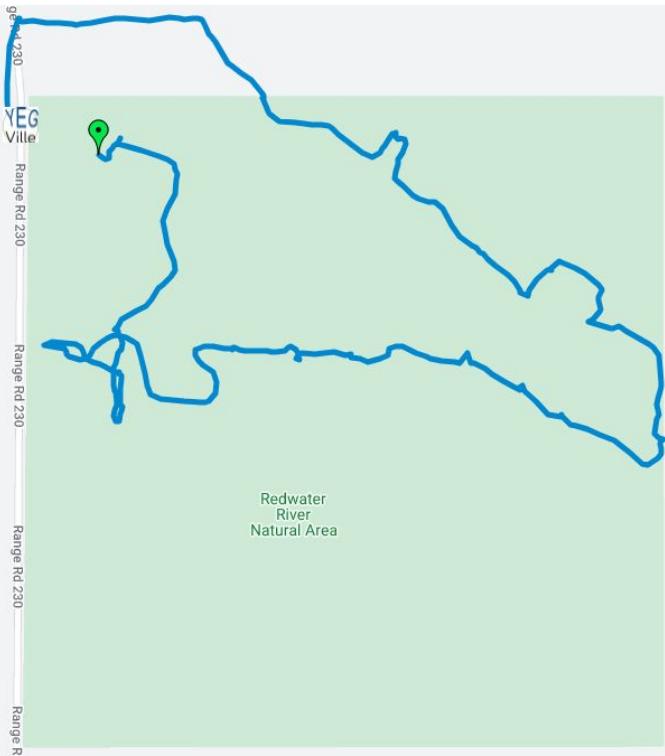
- 41* Trip Duration, how long was your stay?
- 42 Why Did you Go? Select all that apply or provide a comment.
- 43 GPS track? Blog Post, etc.

- 51* Ease to Visit; How friendly for those not used to the 'bush'.
- 52 Biological Observations; Summary of significant observations.
- 53* Submissions to iNaturalist; SAPAA prefers this online resource.
- 54* Landscape changes; Non-biological/human changes.
- 55 Designation; Is it obvious this is a protected area?
- 56 Comments; Other health comments

Visit Details



Why did you go?
What is there that
should be there?



321
OBSERVATIONS

120
SPECIES →

58
IDENTIFIERS →

31
OBSERVERS →

Visit Details



Why did you go?
What is there that
should be there?



Northern Purple Pitcher Plant

(*Sarracenia purpurea purpurea*)

Nestow, AB T0G 1S0... Sep 14, 2024

Research Grade 4

Sep '24

Northern Purple Pitcher Plant

(*Sarracenia purpurea purpurea*)

Nestow, AB T0G 1S0... Sep 14, 2024

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Sep '24

Northern Purple Pitcher Plant

(*Sarracenia purpurea purpurea*)

Nestow, AB T0G 1S0... Sep 14, 2024

Research Grade 4

Sep '24

Northern Purple Pitcher Plant

(*Sarracenia purpurea purpurea*)

Nestow, AB T0G 1S0... Sep 14, 2024

Research Grade 4

Sep '24

Round-leaved Sundew

(*Drosera rotundifolia*)

Disturbances



What should NOT be there?

Q# Element/ Question

- 61 Agricultural Activities; grazing
- 62 Resource extraction; oil and gas, minerals, etc.
- 63 Motorized disturbances (e.g. ATV); How pervasive
- 64 Activities; (hiking, fishing, biking, equestrian, etc.)
- 65 Gathering and Dumping Activities; Living or partying on the site.
- 66 Infrastructure encroachment; Industrialization and urbanization
- 67 Comments; How the site is being consumed or disturbed by humans.

Disturbances

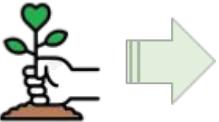


What should NOT be there?



F.Potter, visit YEGville.ca for usage terms.

**What to be
Done?**

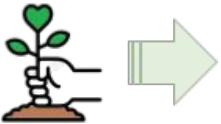


Clean up, repairs,
crime, remediation,
etc.

Q# Element/ Question

- 71 Remediation/Protection Activities Needed
- 72* What Have you Done?; Activities by designated Stewards.
- 73* Nearby Stewards?; Residents - Citizens Stewards?
- 74 Comments; Optional field.
- 81 Photos (see preferred format and file names)
- 82 Any Last Words?; Have we missed anything, comments or thoughts?

What to be Done?



Clean up, repairs,
crime, remediation,
etc.



- Filename: [WHERE]_[WHEN]_[WHO]_[IDENTIFIER],
- Good: BilbyNA_2098-12-31_JSmith_Pineforest
- Not so good: IMG_1234

Pictures?



Upload, email,
naming
conventions!

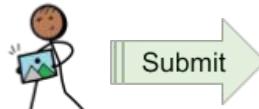


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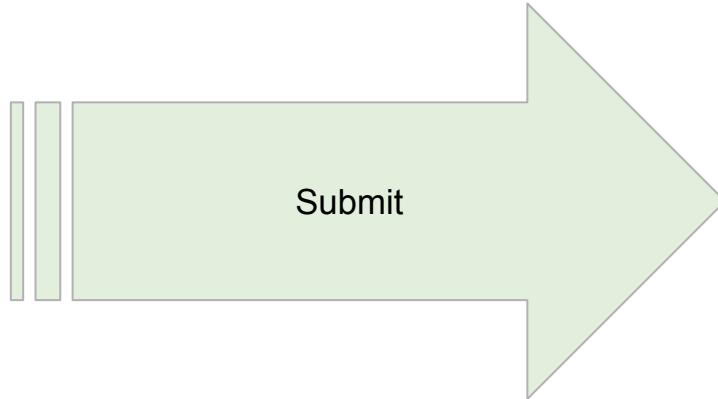
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Pictures?



Upload, email,
*naming
conventions!*

- Filename: [WHERE]_[WHEN]_[WHO]_[IDENTIFIER],
- Good: BilbyNA_2098-12-31_JSmith_Pineforest.
- Not so good: IMG_1234
- IPTC Caption information & Watermarks - **OKAY!**
- 10 files (images, GPS, video, etc.) < 10 MB each.
- Otherwise: webmaster@sapaastewards.com
- Upload if you have access



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Why Visit a Site?

sapaastewards.com

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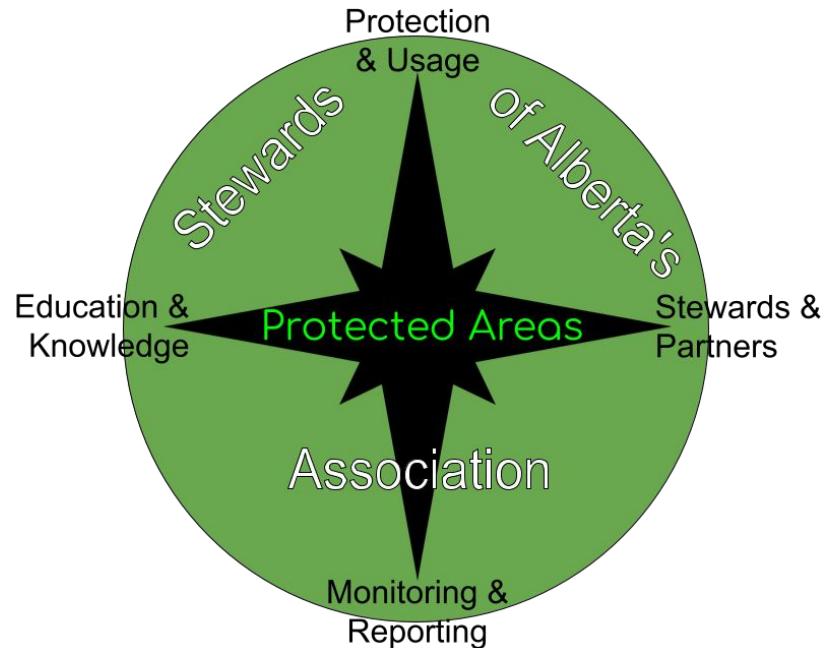
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SAPAA Vision Star

- Protect/Use: Defined Usage
- Stewards: (non) Volunteer, Groups
- Monitor: Inspections, iNat., etc.
- Education: Telling PA story



Telling the State of Alberta's Protected Areas

Stewards of Alberta's Protected Areas Association (SAPAA)

2024 (Rolling 3-Year) Site
Inspection Results

Version – GoA Submission, Feb 14, 2025

Stewards of Alberta's Protected Areas Association (SAPAA)

2023 Plus 2024 First Quarter
Site Inspection Results

Version – May 3rd, 2024

Inspection Posts

2024-03-29: Redwater River Natural Area | SAPAA (sapaastewards.com)

2024-03-29: Redwater River Natural Area

[1 Reply](#)

Heavily disturbed natural area and the only one (so far) deserving of a score of "0" for Naturalness, a rating of "terrible".

The Redwater River Natural Area, as of 2024-03-29, is heavily disturbed by ATV tracks, an illegal gun range, and dumping sites, posing safety risks and environmental damage. Remediation activities like signage, cleanup, and ongoing monitoring are urgently needed. This site requires immediate attention due to extensive abuse and neglect.



P. Potter, visit YEGville.ca for usage terms.

Boundary sign/boundary usage near to a large ATV track entering the NA heading east from RR220, Redwater River Natural Area, 2024-03-29, P. Potter.

Inspection Report

Question	Q#	Response
General Information		
Date/Geo/Submitter	Q21	2024-03-29; Redwater River; Prairie P.
Guest Names	Q24	Frank Potter
SAPAA Member	Q25	Yes
Overall Impression of the Site		
What is the Naturalness of the Site (0=Great, 10=Terrible)	Q31	0 - Terrible
How Natural? (comments)	Q32	A site that has been partially destroyed through bush parties, ATVs, and an illegal gun range. Visit with extreme caution.
How was your visit to the PIA?		
Trip Duration	Q41	1-2 hours
Why Did you Go?	Q42	Other (see comments)
Visit Details	Q43	Visit while researching for yegville.ca.
What is in the Site?		
Date to Visit	Q51	Parking lot or parking for 2 or more cars
Biological Observations	Q52	The western portion, most affected by ATV traffic, was dead of fresh animal tracks (odore, ungulate) or old. Only when I moved away from the illegal gun range area were there some older deer and hare tracks. One tree was stripped of bark, unclear of the animal doing the munching.
Submissions to iNaturalist	Q53	No, did not see anything of note
Geological Observations	Q54	Nothing of note
Designation as a Protected Area	Q55	Exists but in disrepair
Comments	Q56	A single boundary sign on RR220.
Human Activities/Disturbances		
Agricultural Activities	Q61	None noted
Resource extraction	Q62	None noted
Motorized disturbances (ATV or vehicle activity)	Q63	Off Highway Vehicles (e.g. quads, motorbikes)
Animal or self-propelled activities	Q64	Other (see comments)
Gathering and Dumping Activities	Q65	Camping (tarps/tents, fire rings, etc.); Bush party sites (e.g. bottles); Broken tires or burns; Garbage dumping

Want to Help?

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Want to Help?

- 1. Reports! Different areas.
- 2. Register: Contributor
- 3. Computer Mentor (need help)
- 4. Be an Editor
- 5. Support iNaturalist

Thoughts, Comments or Questions?