



Annual Report for Jasper National Park of Canada 2015

Executive Summary

Parks Canada reports annually on the implementation of the *Jasper National Park Management Plan*. The *Management Plan* guides our work to protect and present nationally significant natural and cultural heritage in Jasper National Park. Here are some highlights of that work from September 2014 to September 2015.



Received Federal Infrastructure funding to rejuvenate roads, bridges, signs, campgrounds, picnic areas, trails, heritage buildings and other critical infrastructure.



Worked with Grande Yellowhead Public School Division, Jasper Partnership Initiative, Municipality of Jasper, Friends of Jasper National Park and others to bring exceptional programs and events to Jasper National Park.



Managed prescribed fires and the Excelsior wildfire to maximize ecological benefits, while protecting visitor facilities and the Municipality of Jasper.



Collaborated with fRI Research to improve our knowledge of bear populations, habitat use, movements and health.



Increased enrolment in engaging youth stewardship programs at the Palisades Stewardship Education Centre.



Continued to implement the Icefields Parkway Strategic Concept, through projects like the Icefield Centre Glacier Gallery renovation and 107 km of new paving.



Opened a new introductory wilderness campground at Maligne Lake and made numerous improvements to Jasper National Park's trail network.



Welcomed close to 700 First Nations and Métis people to the Jasper Indigenous Cultural Area and offered new cultural programs at the Heritage Fire Hall and the Palisades Stewardship Educational Centre.



Designated a new National Historic Site, the Maligne Lake Chalet and Guest House, for its role in the early development of tourism in the mountain national parks.



Protected critical habitat for southern mountain caribou and laid the groundwork to recover other species at risk like whitebark pine and bats.