
**A BYLAW OF THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF ITASKA BEACH IN THE PROVINCE OF
ALBERTA TO ADOPT A MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26, as amended, ("the Act") requires municipalities to adopt a municipal development plan;

AND WHEREAS a Municipal Development Plan has been prepared for the Summer Village of Itaska Beach based on public input, studies of land use, development and other relevant data;

AND WHEREAS, the foresaid Municipal Development Plan describes the way in which the future development of the Summer Village may be carried out in an orderly and economic manner; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Summer Village of Itaska Beach in the Province of Alberta duly assembled and pursuant to the authority conferred on it by the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26, as amended, enacts as follows:

1. The Summer Village of Itaska Beach Municipal Development Plan attached hereto as Schedule "A" to this Bylaw is hereby adopted.
2. This Bylaw may be cited as "Summer Village of Itaska Beach Municipal Development Plan."
3. This Bylaw may be amended by Bylaw in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26, as amended.
4. Should any provision of this Bylaw be found invalid, the invalid provision shall be severed and the remaining Bylaw shall be maintained.
5. This Bylaw shall come into force upon receipt of its third and final reading.

READ a first time this 17th day of June, 2020.

READ a second time this 16th day of September, 2020.

READ a third and final time this 16th day of September, 2020.

David Alton, Mayor
Summer Village of Itaska Beach

June Boyda, Chief Administrative Officer
Summer Village of Itaska Beach



Summer Village of
ITASKA BEACH
MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

September 2020 | Bylaw No. 11-2020

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Summer Village of Itaska Beach respectfully acknowledges that the Summer Village is situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people, whose footsteps have marked these lands and shores for generations.

The Summer Village of Itaska Beach and Municipal Planning Services would like to thank the community members who contributed to the Summer Village of Itaska Beach Municipal Development Plan by attending public meetings and providing written feedback. This Municipal Development Plan is the result of your community pride and hard work.



SUMMER VILLAGE COUNCIL

David Alton	Mayor
Arthur Deering	Councillor
Rex Nielsen	Councillor

SUMMER VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION

June Boyda	Chief Administrative Officer
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CONSULTING TEAM

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	I
TABLE OF CONTENTS	II
INTERPRETATION	1
COMMON ABBREVIATIONS/SHORT FORM	1
COMMON ACTION VERBS	1
POLICY ORIGINS	2
1 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 PURPOSE	3
1.2 PRINCIPLES	3
1.3 VISION AND GOALS	4
2 AUTHORITY	5
2.1 LEGISLATION	5
2.2 RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PLANS	6
3 COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS	8
3.1 HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY	8
3.2 POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS	9
3.3 ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES	10
4 INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION	14
5 FUTURE LAND USE	16
5.1 PLANNING AREAS	16
5.2 RESIDENTIAL AREA	17
5.3 RECREATION AREA	17
5.4 NATURAL HABITAT AREA	18
5.5 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT	18
5.6 AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT	19
6 THE PIGEON LAKE WATERSHED	21
7 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICING	23
7.1 ROADS	23
7.2 WATER SERVICING	23
7.3 WASTEWATER SERVICING	24
7.4 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	24
8 IMPLEMENTATION	25
9 MAPS	27
9.1 REGIONAL LOCATION MAP	28
9.2 FUTURE LAND USE MAP	29
APPENDIX A	30
A.1 LOCAL FEATURES MAP	31

INTERPRETATION

The Summer Village of Itaska Beach Municipal Development Plan (the MDP) has been written with the purpose of being a document that can easily be read and used by Summer Village of Itaska Beach Council, Administration, residents, and development proponents. This section intends to provide greater clarity to the reader with respect to abbreviations, common terms, actions, and the origins of key plan policies.

Common Abbreviations/Short Form

ALSA	<i>Alberta Land Stewardship Act</i>
ALUF	Alberta Land Use Framework
ARP	Area Redevelopment Plan
ASP	Area Structure Plan
ESA	Environmentally Significant Area
ICF	Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework
IDP	Intermunicipal Development Plan
LID	Low Impact Development
LUB	Land Use Bylaw
MDP	Municipal Development Plan
MGA	<i>Municipal Government Act</i>
NSRP	North Saskatchewan Regional Plan
PLWMP	Pigeon Lake Watershed Management Plan
SUMMER VILLAGE	Summer Village of Itaska Beach
ITASKA BEACH	Summer Village of Itaska Beach

Common Action Verbs

Policies in this MDP are written in the active tense using **SHALL, MUST, WILL, SHOULD, or MAY** statements and are intended to be interpreted as follows:





Where **SHALL, MUST, or WILL** is used in a statement, the statement is considered **MANDATORY**, usually in relation to a declaration of action, legislative direction, or situation where a desired result is **REQUIRED**.

Where **SHOULD** is used in a statement, the intent is that the statement is strongly **ENCOURAGED**. Alternatives can be proposed where the statement is not reasonable or practical for a given situation, or where unique or unforeseen circumstances result in courses of action that would satisfy the general intent of the statement. However, the general intent is for compliance.

Where **MAY** is used in a statement, it means there is a **CHOICE** in applying the statement and denotes discretionary compliance or the ability to alter the requirements as presented.

Policy Origins

Some policies in this MDP have been developed through the adaptation of recommendations in the Pigeon Lake Watershed Management Plan, the Pigeon Lake Model Land Use Bylaw, and the Alberta Clean Runoff Action Guide. These non-statutory plans and documents have been developed by the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association and partnering organizations to provide Pigeon Lake municipalities with sample policies and regulations that promote land use and development activities that benefit the long term health and water quality of the Pigeon Lake Watershed. The following icons identify policies in the MDP that have been adapted from these plans and documents. Where the policy has been developed specifically for the Summer Village, the municipality's logo is utilized.

 A green circular icon containing a white dotted outline of a watershed boundary with a blue lake in the center.	 A green circular icon containing a white graphic of a rolled-up document or scroll.	 A green circular icon containing a landscape with a tree, grass, and a blue arrow pointing down towards a blue body of water with fish.	 The logo for the Summer Village of Itaska Beach, featuring the text "SUMMER VILLAGE of Itaska Beach" in a stylized font.
PIGEON LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN	PIGEON LAKE MODEL LAND USE BYLAW	CLEAN RUNOFF ACTION GUIDE	SUMMER VILLAGE OF ITASKA BEACH

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The MDP is a statutory plan adopted by bylaw in accordance with the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26, as amended (the MGA). The MDP functions as the principal long-range land use planning document for the Summer Village. The authority for municipal land use planning is set out in Part 17 of the MGA, which provides for the preparation and adoption of plans, subdivision and development approvals, and a variety of tools through which municipalities can achieve land use planning objectives.

The MDP is a tool for managing growth and development and includes policy direction for land use activities within the Summer Village. The MDP is intended to provide direction and guidance for the Summer Village’s decision making authorities when considering specific issues relating to land use or development proposals.

The MDP is also a strategic document that provides the Summer Village with direction and guidelines on matters of social, economic and environmental importance. The MDP is designed and intended to be read and used in a comprehensive manner. Sections and policies are closely connected to each other and need to be read in context and not in isolation from one other.

The MDP is a highly integrated plan intended to:

- Consider community needs, values, opportunities, and constraints;
- Provide policy direction;
- Provide a means for residents, stakeholders, agencies, and adjacent municipalities to contribute to the planning process; and
- Align land use decision-making processes with the Summer Village’s commitment to sustainable watershed planning and lake management practices.

The MDP is organized into sections. The background information within each section is to guide policy interpretation, but is not meant to be interpreted as policy statements. Each section of the MDP is uniformly organized and includes an introductory statement, goal(s), objective(s), and policies. Maps are included with the MDP to indicate the Summer Village’s desired land use pattern for the future and to provide information about current conditions and features found within the Summer Village.

1.2 Principles

The MDP is rooted in the following five **PRINCIPLES**. These principles are fundamental to the creation and utilization of this document. The planning principles are derived from the Summer Village’s planning obligations outlined in the MGA as well as the Provincial Land Use Policies.

PRINCIPLE 1

Land use and development will respect and maintain the local heritage and character of the community.

PRINCIPLE 2

In fulfilling planning responsibilities, the Summer Village will assess impacts on residents, the environment, and the economic viability of the municipality.

PRINCIPLE 3

Planning decisions will support the efficient use of land, infrastructure, public services and public facilities.

PRINCIPLE 4

The Summer Village will conduct planning activities in a fair, open, consistent, and equitable manner.

PRINCIPLE 5

Successful regional collaboration and communication between Pigeon Lake municipalities will benefit the watershed region.

1.3 Vision and Goals

The Summer Village, through developing the MDP and its principles, sets out the following vision for land management:

The Summer Village of Itaska Beach is a viable, sustainable Pigeon Lake community that respects the community's history, Pigeon Lake and its unique natural features.

The MGA outlines minimum requirements that the MDP must address. To achieve the vision outlined above and comply with the requirements in the MGA, the goals of the MDP are:

INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION

Collaboration with regional partners promotes compatible, cost effective and complementary land use patterns, infrastructure, and service delivery systems.

FUTURE LAND USE

Developments are well-planned and designed to mitigate risk, conserve significant environmental features, and maintain the character of the community.

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Residential developments are well maintained, low density, and support seasonal and full-time occupancy.

RECREATION

The Summer Village is a clean, safe and secure community with access to modern recreational amenities.

NATURAL HABITAT AREAS

Natural areas in the Summer Village are unique ecological areas that remain in a natural state to provide habitat for birds and wildlife and preserve significant ecological features.

THE PIGEON LAKE WATERSHED

Excellence in environmental stewardship supports land use and municipal programs that conserve and enhance the Pigeon Lake watershed and the community's unique ecological features.

INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICING

Infrastructure is designed and maintained to efficiently meet present and future needs.

IMPLEMENTATION

Responsible, transparent, and forward thinking governance processes guide decisions and encourage citizen involvement.

2 AUTHORITY

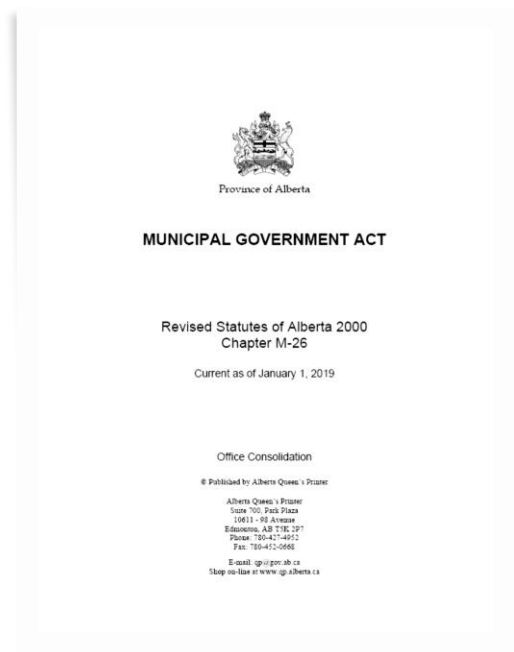
2.1 Legislation

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT (MGA)

The MDP is a statutory plan adopted by bylaw in accordance with Section 632 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A 2000, c M-26 (the MGA). The MDP contains policies respecting:

- future land use within the municipality;
- the manner of and the proposals for future development in the municipality;
- the coordination of land use, future growth patterns and other infrastructure with adjacent municipalities;
- the provision of required transportation systems;
- the provision of municipal services and facilities;
- the provision of municipal (MR), school (SR), and municipal and school (MSR) reserves;
- subdivision and development processes, consistent with the *Subdivision and Development Regulation*, AR 43/2002;
- environmental matters within the municipality; and
- the protection of agricultural operations.

This MDP satisfies the requirements for MDPs established in the MGA.



ALBERTA LAND STEWARDSHIP ACT (ALSA)

The *Alberta Land Stewardship Act*, S.A. 2009, c. 26.8, as amended (ALSA) establishes regional planning in Alberta. ALSA outlines the requirements of regional plans and the process for implementing regional plans.

ALBERTA LAND USE FRAMEWORK (ALUF)

The Alberta Land Use Framework (ALUF) sets out an approach for managing public and private lands and natural resources to achieve Alberta's long-term economic, environmental, and social goals. The LUF establishes the Alberta government's model for regional plans and identifies three desired outcomes:

- A healthy economy supported by our land and natural resources;
- Healthy ecosystems and environment;
- People-friendly communities with ample recreational and cultural opportunities.

The MDP has been developed in a manner that adheres to the intended purpose of the regional plans, as identified in the Alberta Land Use Framework.

2.2 Relationship with Other Plans

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN REGIONAL PLAN (NSRP)

The ALUF establishes seven planning regions in Alberta based on watersheds. The Summer Village is located entirely within the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan area. The North Saskatchewan Region is bordered by the Upper Athabasca Region to the north and the Red Deer Region to the south.

The North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (NSRP) is currently being prepared by the Province of Alberta and is expected to come into effect in the next few years. The NSRP will use a cumulative effects management approach to set policy direction for municipalities to achieve environmental, economic, and social outcomes within the North Saskatchewan Region.

Pursuant to section 13 of ALSA, regional plans are legislative instruments. Pursuant to section 15(1) of ALSA, the regulatory details of the NSRP are enforceable as law and bind the Crown, decision makers, local governments, and all other persons while the remaining portions are statements of policy to inform and are not intended to have binding legal effect.

The MDP must be consistent with the NRSP when it comes into effect.

INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATION FRAMEWORKS

All municipalities in Alberta are required to adopt an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) with each municipality they share a common border with. The purpose of an ICF is to:

- provide for the integrated and strategic planning, delivery, and funding of intermunicipal services;
- steward scarce resources efficiently in providing local services; and
- ensure municipalities contribute funding to services that benefit their residents.

INTERMUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

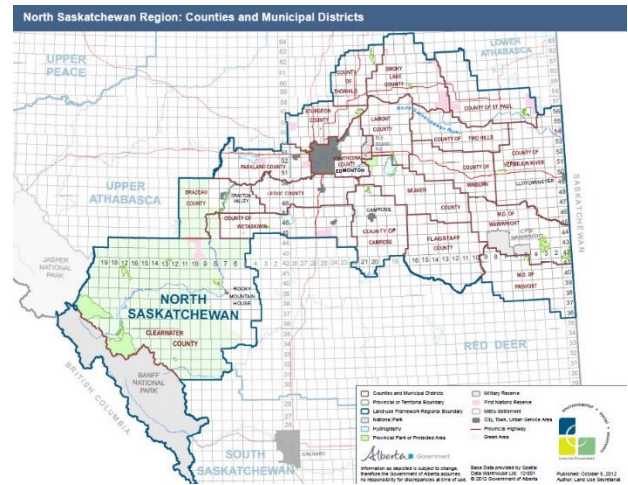
An Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) is a statutory plan prepared by two (or more) municipalities that share a common border. An IDP ensures future development concepts and land use policies for areas of mutual interest are coordinated between the two municipalities, and helps to reduce the possibility of any future land use conflicts between the municipalities by establishing processes for communication, referral, and dispute resolution.

The MDP must be consistent with all approved IDPs.

AREA STRUCTURE PLANS/AREA REDEVELOPMENT PLANS

Area Structure Plans (ASPs) and Area Redevelopment Plans (ARPs) are statutory plans adopted by a municipality. They provide a policy framework for future subdivision and development for a particular area at a local level. They provide land use, access, and servicing policy direction for specific neighbourhoods or areas of a municipality. An ASP or an ARP must be consistent with an approved IDP and MDP.

Currently, there are no approved ASPs or ARPs in the Summer Village.



**FIGURE 1: NORTH SASK. REGIONAL PLAN AREA
(SOURCE: ALBERTA MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS)**

PLANNING HIERARCHY

The chart below illustrates how the MDP relates to provincial acts and regulations, intermunicipal collaboration efforts, statutory plans, and planning processes.

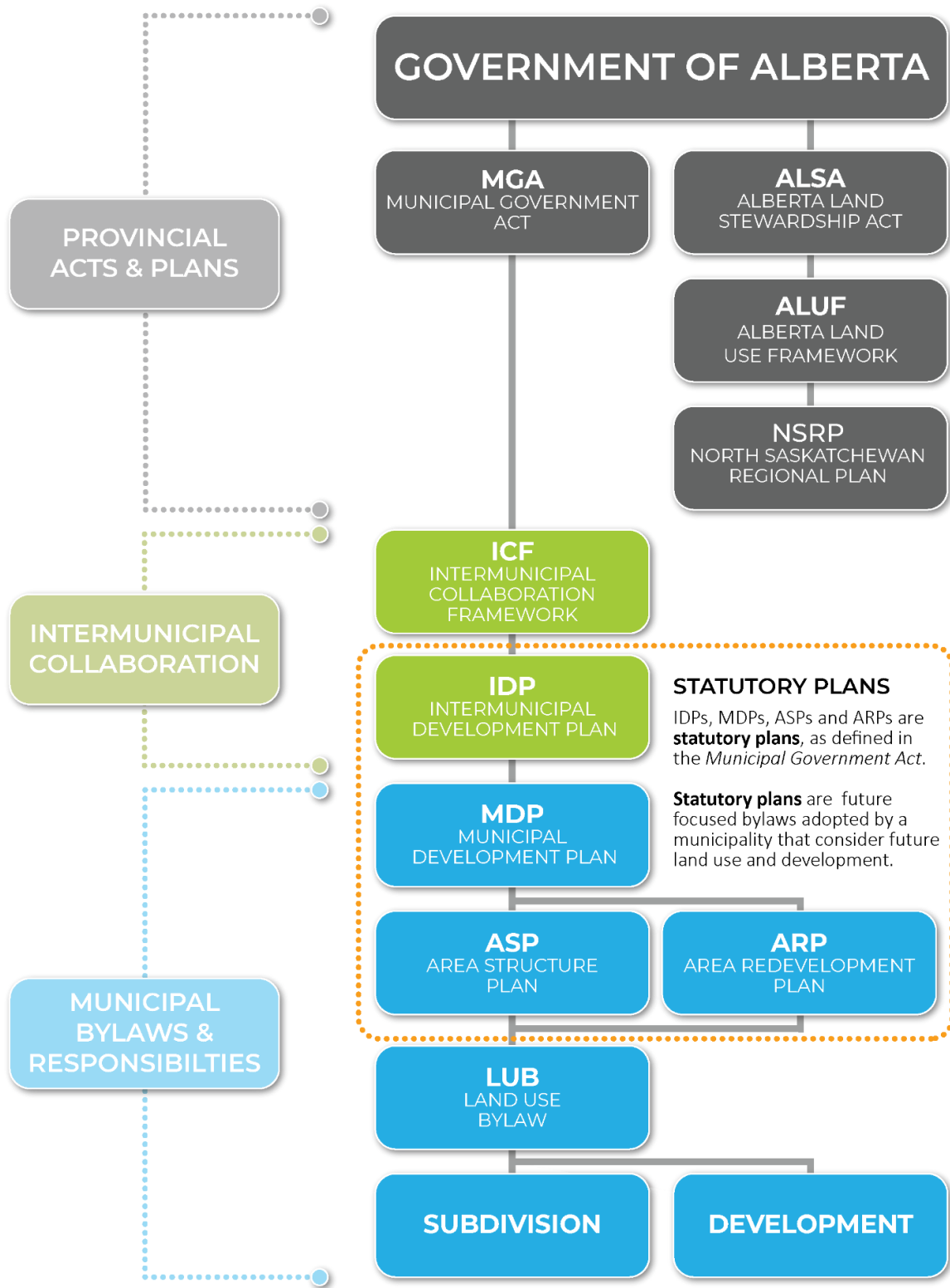


FIGURE 2. PLANNING HIERARCHY

3 COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 History and Geography

The Summer Village of Itaska Beach was established as a summer village in 1953, from lands formerly within Improvement District No. 76. The area was settled in the early 1900s by the Smith Family and the first subdivision was completed in 1933.

The Summer Village’s boundaries have grown twice since 1953 as a result of annexations in 1956 and 1958 from the Municipal District of Leduc No. 75 (now Leduc County).

The Summer Village is bounded to the west by Pigeon Lake, and to the north and east by lands within Leduc County. County lands adjacent to the northern boundary of the Summer Village of Itaska Beach are developed for residential purposes or are undeveloped (in a natural state); lands to the east are developed for rural residential and agricultural purposes.



FIGURE 3: PARTIAL VIEW OF NORTHWEST PORTION OF THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF ITASKA BEACH (SOURCE: ALBERTA ARCHIVES, 1980)

Immediately to the south of the Summer Village of Itaska Beach is the Summer Village of Golden Days. Lands within Golden days that are adjacent to Itaska Beach are zoned Residential in the Summer Village of Golden Days Land Use Bylaw, and have been developed for residential purposes. The two Summer Villages do not share a road connection.



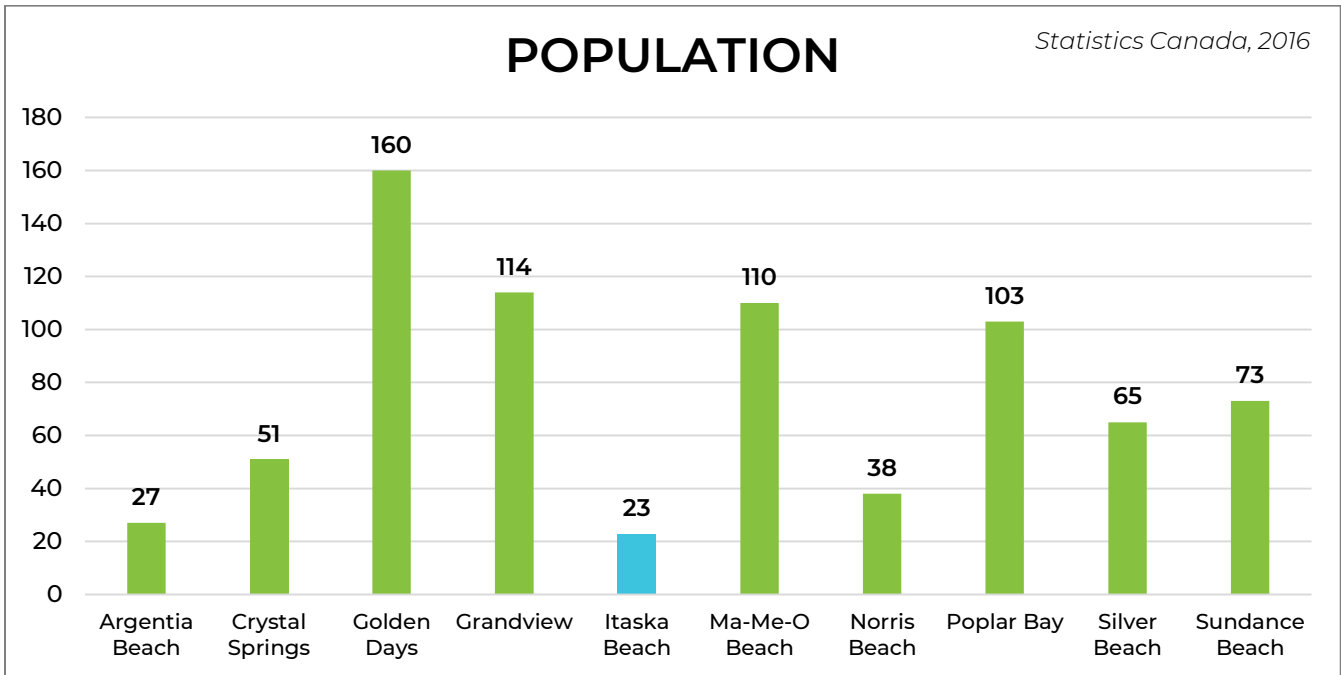
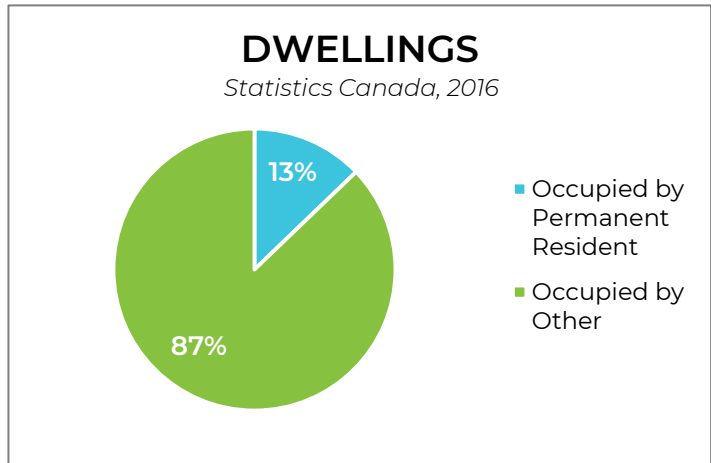
FIGURE 4: ITASKA AUDUBON LANDS (SOURCE: SUMMER VILLAGE OF ITASKA BEACH)

Access to the Summer Village of Itaska Beach is via Township Road 474 in Leduc County. Beach Avenue is the primary thoroughfare in the Summer Village, providing access to the residential lots in the community.

The location of the Summer Village and surrounding region is shown on **MAP 9.1 – REGIONAL LOCATION**.

Lands within the Summer Village are currently developed as residential lots, parks and conservation/natural areas. The Summer Village of Itaska Beach maintains three parks: *Smith Park* (road pathway and benches), *Playground Park* (modern playground equipment, picnic tables, tennis/pickleball court, basketball court, beach volleyball court, soccer/football/baseball field), and *Schlosser Park* (pathways, the Itaska Beach Audubon lands). Additionally, the Itaska Beach boat launch provides residents with access to Pigeon Lake; an approval from Alberta Environment and Parks was granted in 2019 to carry out maintenance and to improve the boat launch.

3.2 Population and Demographics



Itaska Beach is one of the smallest Summer Villages on Pigeon Lake by population, according to the 2016 Federal Census. The census reported Itaska Beach to have a permanent population of 23 in 2016. From 2011 to 2016, the Summer Village’s reported population increased by 15%, from 20 to 23. This census report would appear to reflect the municipality’s permanent population, not the seasonal population. There are 77 developed residential lots of a total 83 residential lots in the Summer Village. In the 2016 Census, Statistics Canada estimates that approximately 87% of dwellings were occupied by non-permanent residents (e.g. seasonal residents). The population of the Summer Village increases significantly during the summer months when non-permanent residents return to the lake.

Policies within the MDP encourage future development patterns that will support the needs of current and anticipated area residents. It is anticipated that Itaska Beach will remain a predominately recreational community; the policies in the MDP support the continuation of this level of use.

3.3 Environmental Features

In October 2018, CPP Environmental conducted a terrestrial and aquatic survey of the Summer Village for the purpose of informing the policies of the MDP. The following section presents a summary of the report.

TERRESTRIAL

The Summer Village of Itaska Beach is located within the Boreal Forest Natural Region and the Dry Mixedwood subregion.

The Summer Village includes a large natural area (approximately 25 hectares) of undeveloped land is designated as a bird sanctuary and nature reserve (Audubon Natural Area), which is managed by the Itaska Audubon Society. The purpose of the protected area is to maintain the land in a natural state by restricting development and allowing only pedestrian/foot access.

For the purpose of this survey, the area was accessed to classify wetlands, streams, and ecosites. Ecosite classification occurred primarily within the nature reserve as the majority of the Summer Village is developed along the lake shoreline.

Ecosites were identified in accordance with the Field Guide to Ecosites of Northern Alberta. The Summer Village is located within the Boreal Mixedwood ecological area and due to plant community characteristics, the area was classified to a low-bush cranberry/trembling aspen ecosite.

STRATUM	DOMINANT SPECIES	SUB-DOMINANT SPECIES
Tree	Trembling aspen	Balsam poplar, white spruce
Shrub	Red osier dogwood	Prickly wild rose, wild red raspberry, trembling aspen
Ground	Bunchberry	Twin-flower, bishops cap

WETLANDS

Wetlands were classified in accordance with the Alberta Wetland Classification System (AWCS) and included a desktop delineation of wetland boundaries and field verification of plants and soils within project boundaries.

One large wetland was identified within the Summer Village, which was classified into two forms including a coniferous wooded swamp and a deciduous wooded swamp.

WETLAND CLASSIFICATION	SOILS	PLANTS
Coniferous Wooded Swamp	Humic organic soil for top 30 cm	Tree stratum - Black spruce Shrub stratum – black spruce, Labrador tea and willow Ground stratum – feathermosses dominated with some intermixed bog cranberry and creeping snowberry.
Deciduous Wooded Swamp	Humic organic soil for top 30 cm	Tree stratum - balsam poplar Shrub stratum – willow and birches Ground stratum - not assessed as many plants were dead given the season

Both wetland forms were classified as seasonal due to the documentation of organic soils in the upper soil surface and the absence of surface water in the top 30 cm. Seasonal wetlands contain water throughout the majority of

the growing season but are typically dry by the end of the summer. The coniferous wooded swamp extends north into the next quarter section out of the study area and is bordered by agricultural lands to the east. The location of the wetland is identified on **MAP A.1 – LOCAL FEATURES**.

STREAMS

One small, permanent stream with two watercourse crossings was identified within the Summer Village. The small permanent stream is an unnamed and mapped tributary to Pigeon Lake.

Crossing 1 is located on Beach Ave within the Summer Village of Itaska Beach and is in good functioning condition with no issues to report. Downstream habitat meanders throughout the wooded deciduous swamp and is defined and fluvial throughout the area.

Crossing 2 is over Range Road 13 in Leduc County. The outlet gap is causing erosion issues within the stream bed and a scour pool is starting to develop. The remainder of the upstream area is considered ephemeral due to the vegetated drainage pathway with the absence of stream channel development (bed and banks). Downstream of Crossing 2 is the wooded deciduous swamp and the channel is well defined and fluvial.

RIPARIAN AREAS

In 2002 and 2008, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development conducted riparian health assessments on Pigeon Lake. In both assessment years, results classified the majority of Pigeon Lake’s shoreline (65%) as highly impaired. In 2002, 24% of the shoreline was classified as healthy and the remaining 11% was considered moderately impaired. In 2008, riparian health improved slightly, with 29% of the shoreline considered healthy and 6% moderately impaired. This improvement in shoreline quality was likely the result of land purchases by the Government of Alberta along the northwest shore of the lake, although some improvement in riparian health was offset by poorer health scores elsewhere along the lake. Pigeon Lake’s riparian impairment is largely a result of extensive riparian vegetation removal and shoreline modification.

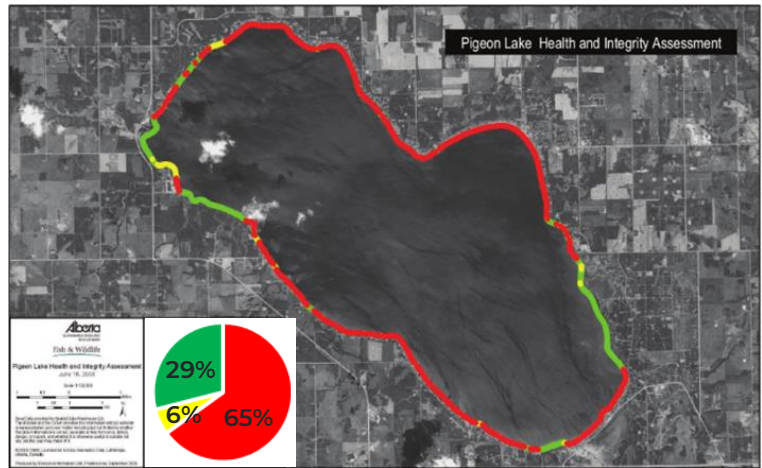


FIGURE 5: 2008 PIGEON LAKE HEALTH AND INTEGRITY ASSESSMENT (SOURCE: PLWMP, 2018)

SHORELINE

CPP Environmental undertook an aquatic survey of the Summer Village’s shoreline in 2018. The aquatic assessment resulted in a total of six shoreline areas representing the entire near-shore area of the Summer Village. Shoreline areas were classified as either natural, moderately disturbed or highly disturbed. Shoreline areas are identified on **MAP A.1 – LOCAL FEATURES**.

Natural shoreline areas accounted for 18.7% of the shoreline in the Summer Village. These shoreline areas were characterized by relatively undisturbed shorelines with abundant natural riparian vegetation. Shoreline areas 2, 4 and 5 were documented as highly disturbed and accounted for approximately 81.3% of the project area. These shoreline areas were characterized by abundant shoreline disturbance in the form of residential and recreational development, including buildings, docks, manicured lawns, rock placement and shoreline vegetation removal.

Despite differences in the degree of disturbance, water quality parameters were relatively similar in all shoreline areas and were at levels suitable to support aquatic life. Submergent vegetation cover was most abundant within reach 1 (55%) and gradually decreased moving west across the length of the study area. Submergent vegetation consisted primarily of sago pondweed, large-sheath pondweed, and northern watermilfoil. Emergent vegetation was not present within any of the study shoreline areas at the time of assessment. Substrates in all shoreline areas were generally sand-dominated, however some coarser substrates, including cobble and gravel, were present closer to shore.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Five species of sport fish inhabit Pigeon Lake, including burbot, lake whitefish, northern pike, yellow perch, and walleye. Sucker and forage fish species, including white sucker, spottail shiner, emerald shiner, trout perch, and Iowa darter, have also been documented within the lake.

Fishes in Pigeon Lake are subject to environmental and anthropogenic pressures such as habitat modification, overfishing and hypoxia due to eutrophic conditions. Northern pike and walleye populations are often used as indicators of the fisheries status within lakes due to these species' value to the recreational fishery, position atop the aquatic food web and sensitivity to stressors such as angling. The population of walleye in Pigeon Lake is currently sustainable, although this is due to intensive stocking efforts in the 1990s which brought the population back from extirpation. Populations of northern pike in the lake are considered collapsed, likely a result of a combination of factors, including the extirpation of the species in the 1950s, loss of littoral spawning and feeding habitat, direct competition with reintroduced walleye, and overfishing. According to AEP, as of 2015, walleye populations within Pigeon Lake are at Very Low Risk while northern pike populations are considered Very High Risk due to weak recruitment and low survival.

Results of the aquatic survey indicate that the majority of the Itaska Beach shoreline (81.3%) has been considerably impaired by human disturbance. Submergent vegetation cover was most abundant in shoreline area 1 and gradually declined moving westward toward shoreline area 6, where submergent vegetation was relatively scarce. No emergent vegetation cover was present within the study area at the time of the assessment.

Results of the aquatic survey suggest that the Itaska Beach littoral zone is unlikely to provide adequate spawning, rearing or foraging habitat for Northern Pike, which rely heavily on vegetative cover for these activities. Submergent vegetative cover may be sufficient to provide foraging habitat for smaller-bodied fishes, especially towards the eastern end of the Summer Village. The cobble and gravel dominated nearshore substrates could potentially provide spawning habitat for walleye, which require wave-washed gravelly shoals, however the high level of human disturbance, including docks and boat-use may make these areas inadequate for walleye spawning. Areas with sand-dominated substrate are unlikely to provide adequate spawning habitat for walleye however these areas may be utilized as travel corridors between areas of more cover, as well as by certain forage fishes, such as trout-perch which feed nocturnally in open, sandy-bottomed shallows.

Wildlife habitat is available throughout the eastern Summer Village natural areas but is limited along the lake edge as forest habitat is scattered amongst built-up areas. The larger intact natural riparian areas have the potential to provide foraging and nesting sites for waterfowl. Some limited sightings of waterfowl occurred along Pigeon Lake shoreline at the Summer Village including the following observations: groups of Canada geese, and mallards.



FIGURE 6: BAY BREASTED WARBLER
(SOURCE: ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT & PARKS)

Bird observations included common local species such as the downy woodpecker, blue jay, American robin, and black capped chickadees. All of these species, except the robin, are known to overwinter in Canada and will rest in tree cavities and large white spruce trees throughout the winter. Many bird feeders and houses were documented throughout the Summer Village and the forested areas provide habitat for songbirds and woodpeckers. Natural areas along the northern boundary may also provide foraging opportunities for whitetail and mule deer, moose and coyotes and also smaller mammals such as porcupines, skunks, weasels and squirrels.

The Government of Alberta database (FWIMT) documented the in the wildlife inventory listing. The bay breasted warbler is provincially listed as Sensitive under the *Alberta Wildlife Act* and is not federally listed under the *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*. None were observed during the 2018 biophysical survey but habitat is available. The bay breasted warbler prefers extensive stands of spruce trees and secondarily prefers mixed-wood stands. Potential habitat exists within the coniferous wooded swamp, which is already protected within the bird sanctuary.

4 INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION



The Summer Village supports a proactive approach to:

- Fostering cooperation with its immediate and regional partners and other levels of government;
- Improving consistency in land use policies and regulations;
- Implementing the Pigeon Lake Watershed Management Plan where appropriate; and
- Anticipating future development and community servicing needs in the Pigeon Lake Watershed region.


The benefits of collaboration include:


- Increased coordination in environmental management and planning efforts; and
- Increased opportunities for regional service provision.

GOAL	Collaboration with regional partners promotes compatible, cost effective and complementary land use patterns, infrastructure, and service delivery systems.
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OBJECTIVE 1		Pursue opportunities to work with regional partners and the Province of Alberta on collaboration initiatives that benefit the region.
	POLICY 4.1.1	The Summer Village will seek opportunities to work with regional partners and government stakeholders on Pigeon Lake through planning processes—including public education, conceptual design, and development—to support land uses that are compatible in adjoining areas or areas of shared importance.
	POLICY 4.1.2	The Summer Village will seek opportunities with regional partners to promote collaborative action for a healthy watershed, healthy lake, and healthy community.

OBJECTIVE 2		Seek opportunities with regional partners to improve communication and increase organizational efficiency in service delivery.
	POLICY 4.1.3	The Summer Village will explore new areas for collaboration in the delivery of programs, services, and facility operations where collaboration may result in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. improved service delivery; or b. cost savings.
	POLICY 4.1.4	The Summer Village will endeavor to pursue new intergovernmental initiatives to benefit residents of the Summer Village such as Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks and Intermunicipal Development Plans.
	POLICY 4.1.5	The Summer Village will seek opportunities to work collaboratively with neighbouring municipalities in the planning of lands adjacent to the Summer Village.
	POLICY 4.1.6	The Summer Village will endeavour to work with the Federal Government, Province of Alberta, adjacent municipalities, facility operators, and regional utility providers to protect existing and future regional infrastructure.
	POLICY 4.1.7	The Summer Village supports the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association and the Alliance of Pigeon Lake Municipalities' efforts to improve knowledge about the lake which furthers the development and implementation of science-based action plans for watershed stewardship.

	POLICY 4.1.8	<p>The Summer Village will refer proposed amendments to the MDP for comment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Summer Village of Sundance Beach, Summer Village of Golden Days, and Leduc County as per the requirements in the Intermunicipal Development Plan; and b. Any other person or agency that Council considers necessary.
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OBJECTIVE 3		<p>Community engagement strategies and consultation are consistent and transparent.</p>
	POLICY 4.1.9	<p>Public consultation shall be conducted in accordance with the Summer Village of Itaska Beach Public Participation Policy to provide opportunities for public participation and meaningful public engagement regarding major decisions that impact the community.</p>

5 FUTURE LAND USE

GOAL

Developments are well-planned and designed to mitigate risk, conserve significant environmental features, and maintain the character of the community.

5.1 Planning Areas

The boundaries of the future land use areas, as illustrated on **MAP 9.2 – FUTURE LAND USE**, are intended to be conceptual and are subject to refinement during subdivision and/or development.

The land use areas described in the MDP provide policy direction regarding the preferred future land use and redevelopment pattern in the Summer Village. These areas do not necessarily correspond directly to existing land use districts set out in the Summer Village of Itaska Beach Land Use Bylaw. At the redistricting or development permit stage, other more specific land uses that are generally consistent with the policies of the MDP may be approved. Similarly, applications for redistricting Land Use Bylaw districts that are generally consistent with the land use areas shown in the MDP may be approved.

1. Where the boundary of a land use area does not follow a property line, road or significant natural feature, or where there is uncertainty regarding the location of the boundary, the specific boundary location may be determined at the time of subdivision or development, through legal survey and/or supporting documents. The final MDP boundaries will be determined on consideration of such surveys, plans, or supporting studies by Summer Village Council or the appropriate Approving Authority.
2. An amendment to revise **MAP 9.2 – FUTURE LAND USE** of the MDP is not required if the proposed land use represents a similar and complementary development that may provide a beneficial service to residents.
3. As development and redevelopment proceeds within the Summer Village, land requirements for parks, community facilities, transportation infrastructure, or other municipal service uses may be identified either through the development of outline plans or at the subdivision application and review stage.

RESIDENTIAL AREA

Lands within the Summer Village identified on **MAP 9.2 - FUTURE LAND USE** as **RESIDENTIAL AREA** are areas where residential development will be the predominant future land use.

RECREATION AREA

Lands within the Summer Village identified on **MAP 9.2 - FUTURE LAND USE** as **RECREATION AREA** are areas that will be responsibly developed for community recreational uses for the benefit of the Summer Village residents.

NATURAL HABITAT AREA

Lands within the Summer Village identified on **MAP 9.2 - FUTURE LAND USE** as **NATURAL HABITAT AREA** are areas that will be left in their natural state.






Policies that apply to lands within these planning areas are identified in the following sections.

5.2 Residential Area

As a Summer Village, Itaska Beach is home to seasonal and year-round residents. Of the Summer Village’s 83 residential lots, 77 are currently developed. There are no commercial, industrial, or major institutional uses within the Summer Village. The community’s long term focus is to provide a safe and welcoming environment for residents and visitors.

It is anticipated that the majority of development activity in the Summer Village will be the redevelopment of existing lots to accommodate changing family dynamics, lifestyle needs, and property renovations. The Summer Village wishes to ensure that future residential development and redevelopment occurs in a manner that respects the natural environment and complements the existing community.

The policies in this section apply to lands within the Residential Area on **Map 9.2 – FUTURE LAND USE**.


GOAL		Residential developments are well maintained, low density, and support seasonal and full-time occupancy.
OBJECTIVE 1		Minimize impacts from residential development and redevelopment on the watershed and municipal infrastructure.
	POLICY 5.2.1	New dwellings on lakefront lots shall be set back from the front property line as per requirements in the Land Use Bylaw.
	POLICY 5.2.2	New residential development shall be discouraged within a minimum setback area of 6m from the 1 in 100 year flood plain of watercourses and wetlands.
	POLICY 5.2.3	All new residential developments and redevelopments shall be serviced with onsite private water systems.
	POLICY 5.2.4	Connections to the regional wastewater line via the Summer Village’s wastewater infrastructure shall conform to the applicable requirements of the Summer Village of Itaska Beach Waste Water Bylaws and applicable provincial regulations.
	POLICY 5.2.5	The Summer Village shall encourage proponents of future residential development or redevelopment proposals to incorporate recommendations from the Clean Runoff Action Guide into building and site design including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Landscaping; b. Rainwater harvesting; c. Rain gardens; and d. The use of permeable pavements.

5.3 Recreation Area

The Summer Village maintains park spaces for residents’ use and enjoyment.

The policies in this section apply to lands within the Recreation Area on **Map 9.2 – FUTURE LAND USE**.

GOAL		The Summer Village is a clean, safe, and secure community with access to modern recreational amenities.
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OBJECTIVE 1		Continue to maintain low-impact community infrastructure that does not adversely impact important natural features and ecological systems.
	POLICY 5.3.1	The Summer Village will continue to cost-effectively maintain low-impact recreational amenities within the Summer Village including parks, pathways and trails.

5.4 Natural Habitat Area

Policies in this section apply to natural and conservation areas within the Summer Village including the Audubon Natural Area. This area is an important ecological area within the community and habitat for birds, animals and insects.





The policies in this section apply to lands within the Natural Habitat Area on **Map 9.2 – FUTURE LAND USE**.



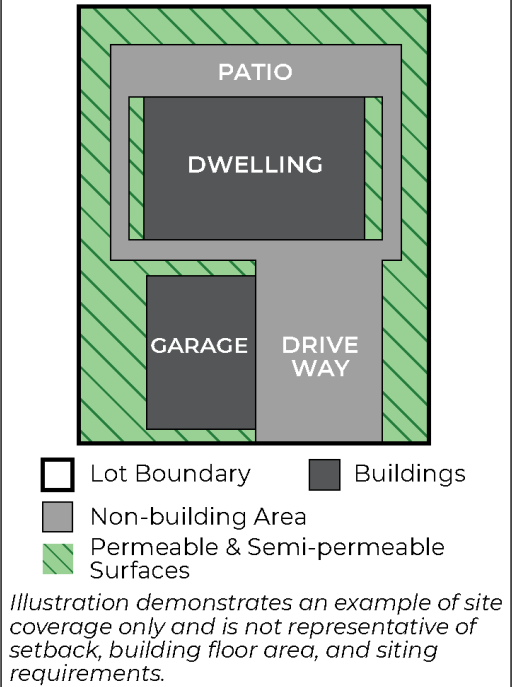



GOAL	Natural areas in the Summer Village are unique ecological areas that remain in a natural state to provide habitat for birds and wildlife and preserve significant ecological features.
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OBJECTIVE 1		Minimize the disturbance of important natural features and ecological systems within the Summer Village.
	POLICY 5.4.1	The Summer Village will continue to work with the Itaska Audubon Society to preserve and enhance important natural and ecological features.

5.5 General Development





The following policies apply to all land use and development activities within the Summer Village. These policies are intended to support development and redevelopment of lands within the Summer Village that will not adversely impact: the local landscape, lake water quality, important aquifers, important ecosystems or habitat areas, significant cultural or historic resources, the character of the community, and the enjoyment of Summer Village residents.

OBJECTIVE 1		Establish requirements for all development activities in the Summer Village to protect important natural features and ecological systems, while providing opportunities for safe, orderly and efficient development and redevelopment.
	POLICY 5.5.1	Commercial development within the Summer Village, excluding home-based businesses that do not generate additional vehicle traffic, shall not be allowed.
	POLICY 5.5.2	The Summer Village will encourage the installation of erosion and sediment control measures during construction and landscaping.
	POLICY 5.5.3	Major construction activities that expose soil will require the use of sediment and erosion control measures to mitigate potential sediment transport.
	POLICY 5.5.4	The Summer Village will encourage landowners and development proponents to manage post-development activities on lots to prevent the degradation of lake water and ground water quality by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Retaining native vegetation that does not require irrigation; b. Controlling the proliferation of noxious weeds; c. Applying low-impact development strategies;

		<p>d. Encouraging the installation of rain gardens and absorbent landscaping materials; and</p> <p>e. Restricting the use of fertilizers, as per the Summer Village’s Fertilizer Bylaw.</p>
	POLICY 5.5.5	Landowners and/or development proponents should restore and the re-establish vegetative cover on their lots, where reasonably possible.
	POLICY 5.5.6	<p>Development and redevelopment should be designed to provide a portion of the lot area not covered by buildings as permeable or semi-permeable surfaces (e.g. grasses, vegetation, gravel, non-compacted soils, etc.) to support on-site water filtration and decrease surface runoff areas.</p> <div data-bbox="954 359 1463 1041" data-label="Diagram">  <p>FIGURE 7: EXAMPLE OF PERMEABLE/SEMI-PERMEABLE SURFACE COVERAGE</p> </div>
	POLICY 5.5.7	The retention of wetlands will be encouraged. Applications for development and/or subdivision within the Summer Village on sites which may include a wetland must include a wetland assessment which has the effect of delineating and classifying the wetlands in relation to the building pocket on the site.
	POLICY 5.5.8	All applications for subdivision and new development within areas identified as containing historic resources must provide a Historic Resources Impact Assessment (HRIA) and letter of clearance from the Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women (see MAP A.1 – LOCAL FEATURES). Where a HRIA has been waived by the department, a letter of clearance indicating that the HRIA is not required must be provided.
	POLICY 5.5.9	All new developments shall be designed to reduce risk from wildfires. The Summer Village will consider the inclusion of FireSmart Canada recommendations in the Land Use Bylaw, where appropriate.

5.6 Agriculture and Natural Resource Development

The Summer Village is a small seasonal municipality, with an area of approximately than 37 hectares. The predominant land use in the Summer Village is residential. Undeveloped lands within the Summer Village are intended to facilitate low-impact recreational activities and support the ecological health of Pigeon Lake. Large scale agricultural activities and natural resource development would be incompatible with the Summer Village’s current and planned community.

OBJECTIVE 1		Land-intensive agricultural and natural resource developments occur in appropriate locations within the watershed.
	POLICY 5.6.1	Large agricultural operations and confined feeding operations shall be prohibited within the Summer Village.
	POLICY 5.6.2	Local small scale agricultural activities such as non-commercial gardens and greenhouses will be encouraged.
	POLICY 5.6.3	Aggregate resource extraction developments shall be prohibited within the Summer Village.
	POLICY 5.6.4	The development of oil and gas infrastructure (e.g. well sites, pipelines) shall be discouraged within the Summer Village. In the event that oil and gas infrastructure is proposed to be developed within the Summer Village, the Development Authority shall work with the proponents to discourage locating oil and gas infrastructure in areas with important natural features.

6 THE PIGEON LAKE WATERSHED

A watershed refers to the area of land that drains into a body of water. The Pigeon Lake Watershed, which falls with Leduc County and the County of Wetaskiwin, is shown in the figure below.

Activities that occur in the watershed influence the quantity and quality of water that enters the lake and the overall health of the lake ecosystem.

Runoff from agricultural and urban areas can contribute significant quantities of nutrients, bacteria, pesticides, fertilizers, metals, oils and other contaminants to the lake. Uncontrolled runoff can travel across 'polluted' surfaces, carrying these undesirable materials and compounds into the lake. Lake waters may also be polluted by nutrients and bacteria leaching from septic systems. Contaminants from these sources may reach the water body directly or through percolation into the groundwater. Nutrient and phosphorous loading from these sources contribute to blue green algae blooms.

To maintain the health of a lake, it is important to manage non-point source pollution originating from the lake's watershed.

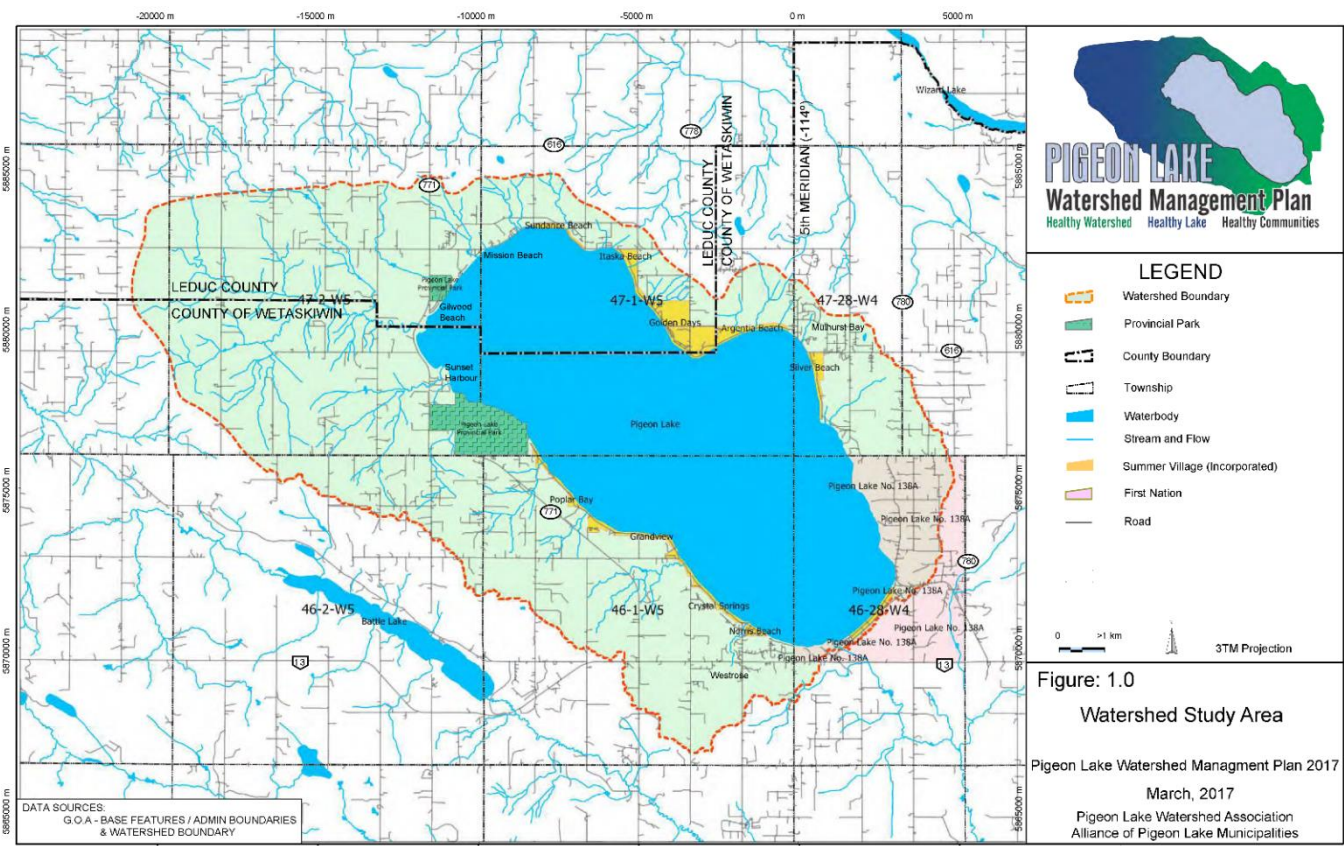


FIGURE 8: PIGEON LAKE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN BOUNDARY (SOURCE: PLWMP, 2018)

Some of the negative impacts on water bodies in environments similar to Pigeon Lake are caused by damaged riparian areas and littoral zones due to development adjacent to the shore of the lake.

Modern construction and landscape design methods, when properly applied, can prevent or mitigate the opportunity for increased sediment and phosphorous from reaching a water body except in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. in the event of a greater than a 1-in-100 year flood). If such flows associated with new development can be slowed or directed away from the lake, then that source of water quality contamination may be reduced.

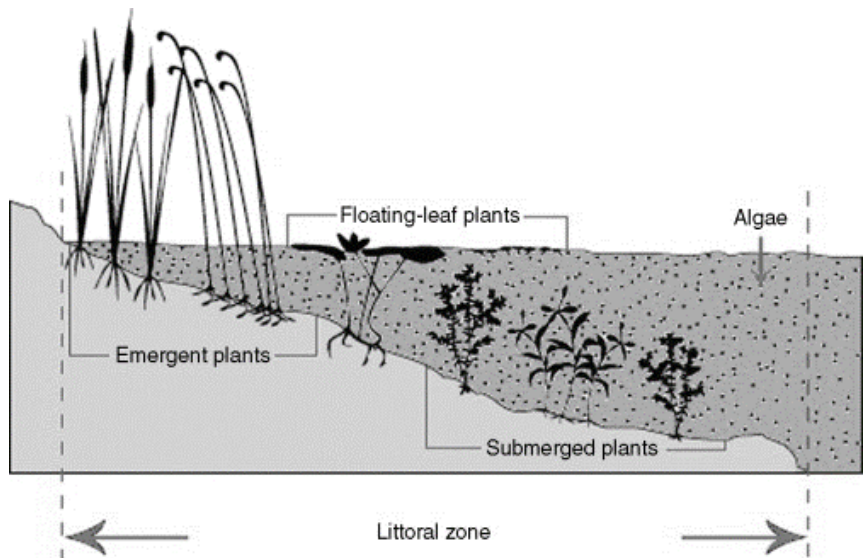


FIGURE 9: LITTORAL ZONE DIAGRAM (SOURCE: SCIENCE DIRECT)

The long term health and sustainability of Pigeon Lake and its water quality have been identified as important. The policies outlined in this section ensure that restoration and conservation of water resources within the Pigeon Lake watershed are considerations of future planning and development decisions.

GOAL	Excellence in environmental stewardship supports land use and municipal programs that conserve and enhance the Pigeon Lake watershed and the community’s unique ecological features.
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OBJECTIVE 1	Future land use activities in the Summer Village are designed to mitigate negative impacts on Pigeon Lake.	
POLICY 6.1.1	Redevelopment within the Summer Village may be impacted by the location of steep slopes, significant recharge areas, and aquifers within the Pigeon Lake Watershed. Additional information will be required at time of redevelopment to ensure the Development Authority has sufficient information to assess site constraints.	
POLICY 6.1.2	Future new development and redevelopment within the Summer Village should be limited to those land uses and those locations which can be demonstrated through site location and/or site design to have minimal impact on the health and viability of Pigeon Lake and where there are not presently significant environmental hazards that would make the site unsuitable for new development or redevelopment.	
POLICY 6.1.3	Lot owners will be encouraged to minimize sources of contamination on their lots that may negatively affect ground and/or surface water quality.	



7 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICING

As a small residential community, the Summer Village maintains a limited network of municipal infrastructure. Water and stormwater servicing on residential lots is provided via private individual systems. Wastewater collection services are provided by the Northeast Pigeon Lake Regional Services Commission. Fire response services for the Summer Village are provided by the County of Wetaskiwin by way of intermunicipal agreements.

GOAL	Infrastructure is designed and maintained to efficiently meet present and future needs.
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7.1 Roads



Roads and culverts in the Summer Village are maintained by the municipality.

OBJECTIVE 1		The local road network in the Summer Village provides safe and efficient access.
 POLICY 7.1.1	New development and/or subdivision will not be approved where there is no direct access to a municipal road which is developed to Summer Village standards.	
 POLICY 7.1.2	The Summer Village may restrict the use of heavy vehicles on local roads to ensure safe transportation routes are maintained, and to protect the integrity of the road and surrounding developments.	

7.2 Water Servicing





The Summer Village does not operate a municipal potable water distribution system. Landowners are responsible for providing private on-site water systems to their own lots. Potable water is provided via individual private wells, cisterns, or brought from other locations.

Landowners are responsible for providing private water services that are safe, efficient, and comply with all provincial rules and regulations.

OBJECTIVE 1		Private water servicing in the Summer Village is safe and compliant with provincial requirements.
 POLICY 7.2.1	Water within the Summer Village shall be provided to individual lots via individual private water sources (including wells and/or cisterns) or brought from other locations.	
 POLICY 7.2.2	Water systems in the Summer Village shall comply with all current provincial rules and regulations.	

7.3 Wastewater Servicing



Wastewater collection within the Summer Village is provided by the municipality. The system is connected to the Northeast Pigeon Lake Regional Services Commission line.

OBJECTIVE 1		Wastewater servicing in the Summer Village is safe and compliant with provincial regulations.
	POLICY 7.3.1	Wastewater systems must comply with current provincial regulations and comply with the Summer Village’s Wastewater Bylaws.
	POLICY 7.3.2	New surface discharge systems and septic fields and mounds shall be prohibited within the Summer Village, as per the Summer Village’s Wastewater Bylaws.
	POLICY 7.3.3	The disposal of greywater on the ground within the Summer Village shall be discouraged.
	POLICY 7.3.4	All Recreational Vehicles must store and dispose of private sewage in a sealed container that comply with the current Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice and be suitable for the intended use. Further, all private sewage must be disposed of in licenced facilities.

7.4 Stormwater Management

When multi-lot residential subdivisions within the Summer Village were first registered it was not common practice of rural municipalities to prepare a stormwater management plan. Consequently, a stormwater management plan was not required for the Summer Village.








Historically, stormwater run-off from individual residential lots currently drains into the ditch system adjacent to the developed roadways or directly into the lake via surrounding properties. Stormwater runoff can become problematic within the Summer Village during the spring or periods of prolonged rainfall.

OBJECTIVE 1		Stormwater flows in the Summer Village are managed to reduce the risk of flooding and minimize sediment and phosphorus runoff entering Pigeon Lake.
	POLICY 7.4.1	The use of low impact development (LID) stormwater management systems and design features that improve stormwater run-off quality and reduce the risk of flooding will be encouraged. Potential LID design features may include: the use of pervious paving surfaces which trap pollutants and have a lower nutrient release rate, bio-swales, and rain gardens.
	POLICY 7.4.2	The development or redevelopment of private driveways shall not interfere with the natural drainage of stormwater flows. If a driveway is constructed across the path of stormwater flows, a culvert must be utilized to the satisfaction of the Development Authority.

8 IMPLEMENTATION

Pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A., 2000, c. M-26, as amended, (the MGA) the MDP shall be adopted by the Summer Village, as the Summer Village of Itaska Beach Municipal Development Plan. Subdivision, development, and redevelopment of lands within the Summer Village by the municipality and public shall be in accordance with the provisions of the MDP. Council shall encourage the Provincial and Federal governments to have regard for the policies of the MDP in the development and redevelopment of crown lands and waterbodies, and in the formulation and implementation of Provincial and Federal policies and programs, within the Summer Village of Itaska Beach.

GOAL	Responsible, transparent, and forward thinking governance processes guide decisions and encourage citizen involvement.
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OBJECTIVE 1		Summer Village planning documents are consistent and up-to-date.
	POLICY 8.1.1	Amendments to the MDP shall be consistent with any Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks and Intermunicipal Development Plans adopted by the Summer Village.
	POLICY 8.1.2	When the MDP or any part thereof takes effect, the Summer Village Land Use Bylaw shall be amended, if necessary, to conform to the MDP.
	POLICY 8.1.3	Planning is a continuous process and it is important that the MDP be monitored, reviewed and updated in order to ensure that the planning needs of the Summer Village are being met. A review may be appropriate when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. changes in economic, social or technical developments occur; b. a new Council is elected; or c. an amendment to the MDP is made.
	POLICY 8.1.4	Should changing conditions necessitate an amendment to the MDP, the amendment will be by bylaw.
	POLICY 8.1.5	In order to ensure that the original intent of the MDP is protected and that a proper evaluation of the impact of a proposed amendment on the goals, objectives and policies of the MDP may be evaluated, the following criteria will apply to consideration of an amendment, which is not initiated by Council itself: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. a formal request for amendment will be submitted to Council; b. the request will be in the form of a written brief demonstrating the implications and conformity of the proposed amendment with the goal, intent, objectives and policies of the MDP; c. during deliberation on the proposed amendment, Council may refer the request to such agencies as it considers necessary for comment; and d. Council may request such information as it deems necessary to reach a decision on the proposed amendment.
	POLICY 8.1.6	When considering an amendment to the MDP, Council and Administration shall comply with all notification and public consultation requirements in the MGA.
	POLICY 8.1.7	A review of the MDP should be undertaken at least once every five (5) years from the date of adoption.



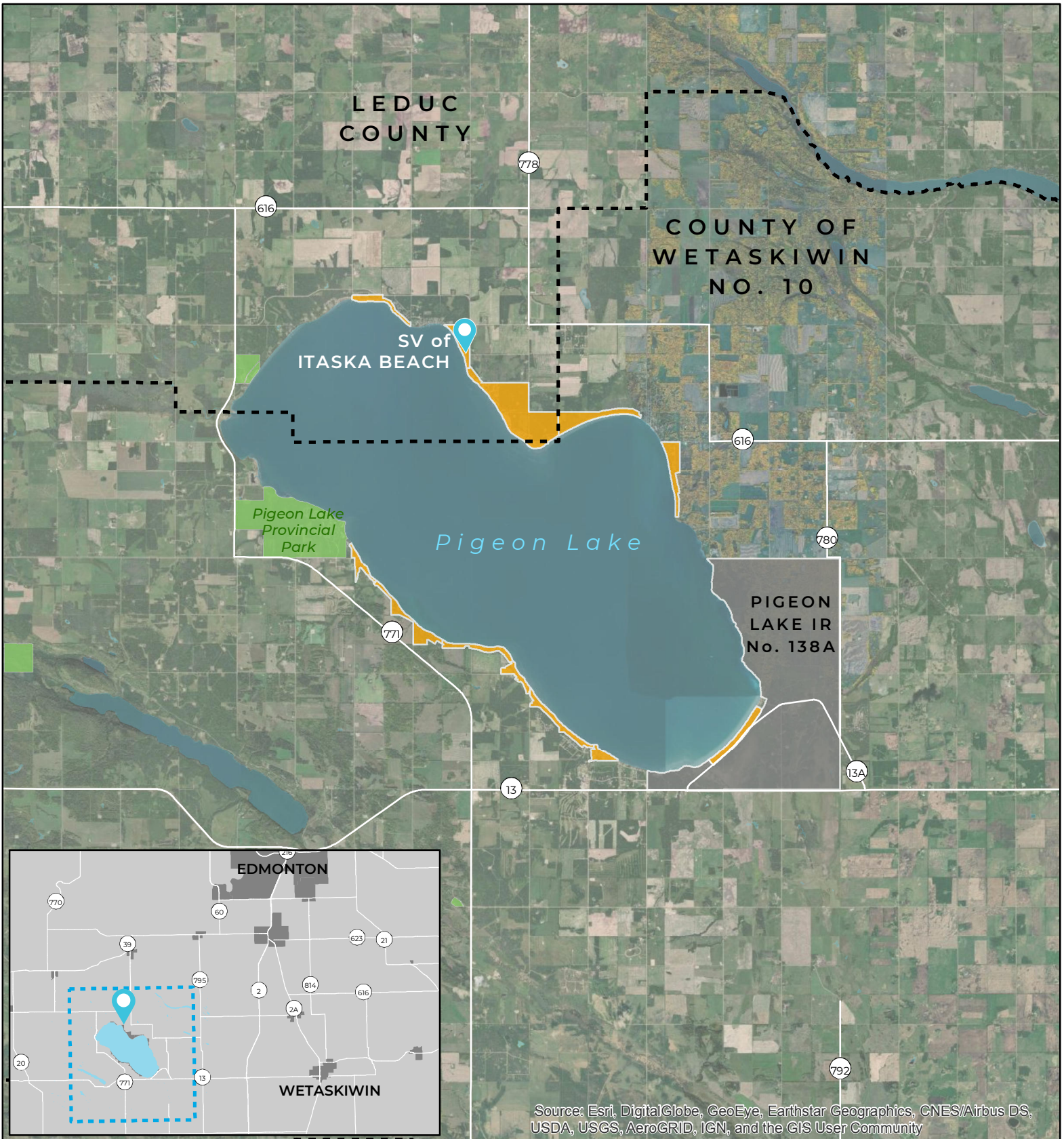
POLICY 8.1.8

The Summer Village of Itaska Beach Administration may develop a method for monitoring, evaluating and analyzing the effectiveness, viability and relevance of the MDP.

9 MAPS

Map 9.1 – Regional Location

Map 9.2 – Future Land Use



- Summer Villages
- Pigeon Lake IR No. 138A
- Rural Municipalities
- Parks & Protected Areas

Sept 2020



MAP 9.1

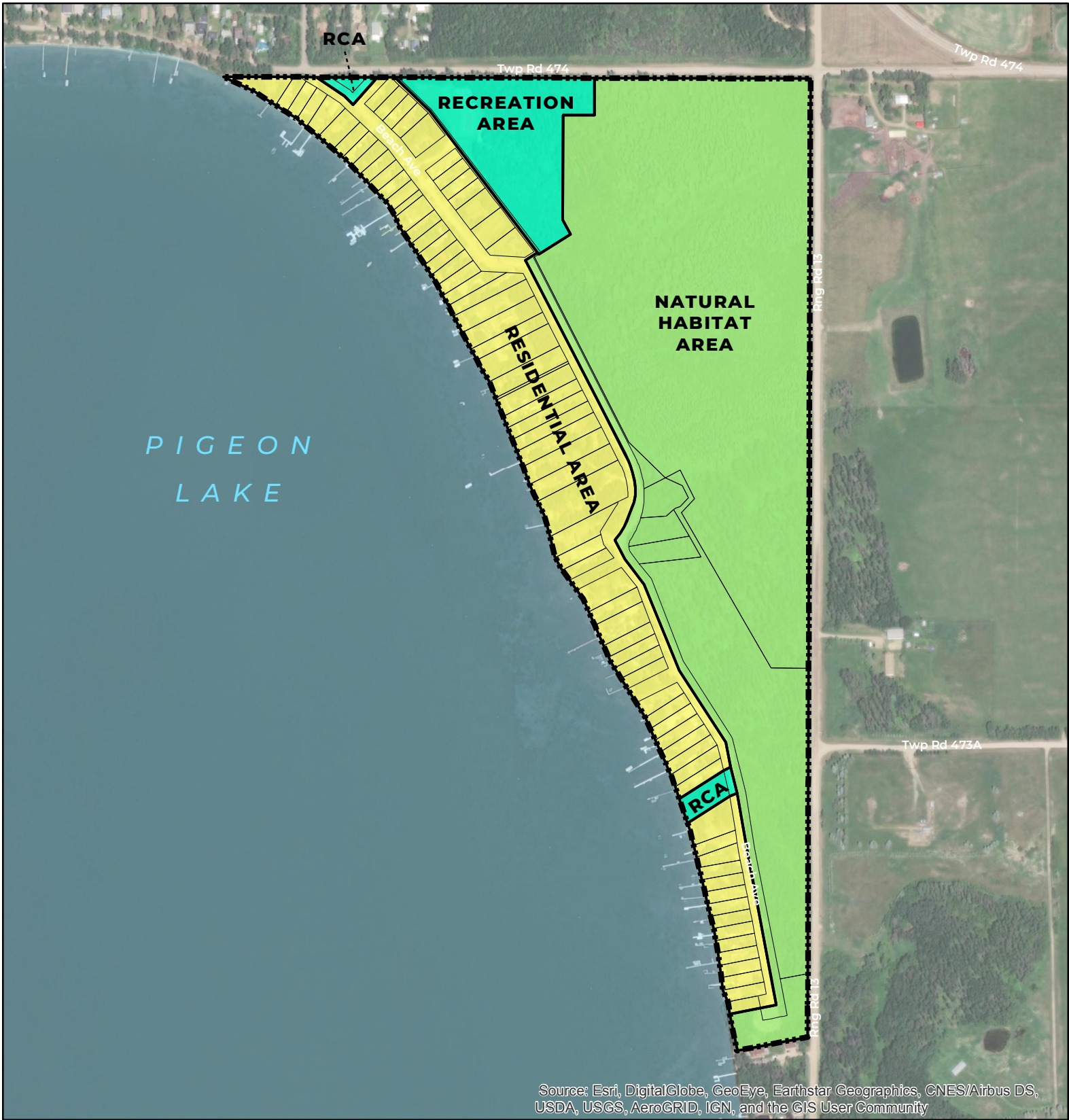
REGIONAL LOCATION

SV of ITASKA BEACH

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Digital Information:
Geogratis, Geodiscover,
and Altalis
Projection:
UTM NAD 83 12N





Summer Village Boundary



Recreation Area (RCA)



Residential Area (RA)



Natural Habitat Area (NHA)



Sept
2020



MAP 9.2
FUTURE LAND USE

SV of ITASKA BEACH
MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Digital Information:
Geogratis, Geodiscover,
and Altalis
Projection:
UTM NAD 83 12N



APPENDIX A

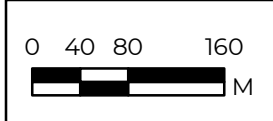
Map A.1 – Local Features



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Summer Village Boundary	Drainage Ditch	Firebreak Lane
Playground	Watercourse Crossing	Abandoned Wells
Park	Streams	Pipelines
Audubon Natural Area	Drainage Paths	Highly Disturbed Shoreline
Conservation Easement	Wetlands	Natural Shoreline/Low Disturbance

Sept 2020



MAP A.1

LOCAL FEATURES

SV of ITASKA BEACH

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Digital Information:
Geogratis, Geodiscover,
and Altalis
Projection:
UTM NAD 83 12N

