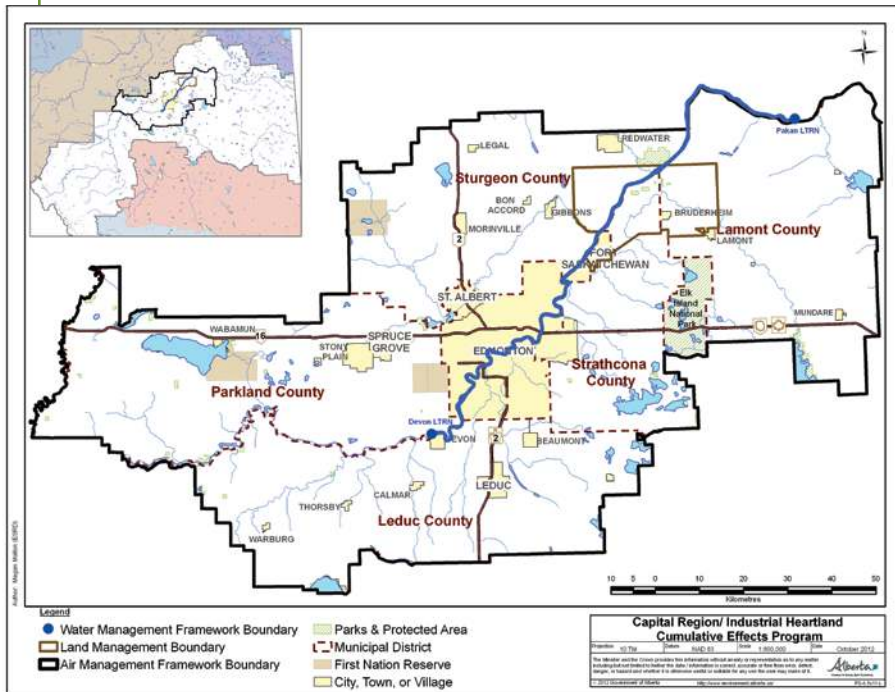


cumulative effects management system

WITHIN THE INDUSTRIAL HEARTLAND AND CAPITAL REGION

The cumulative effects management approach was officially adopted in 2007 to ensure that the effects of development are managed responsibly and Albertans are assured that regional and industrial development does not come at the expense of the environment. This approach aligns with the Alberta Government's Integrated Resource System which sets and achieves the environmental, economic and social outcomes Albertans expect from resource development while maintaining the social licence to develop resources.



WHERE IS THE INDUSTRIAL HEARTLAND AND CAPITAL REGION?

The Capital Region, in the context of cumulative effects management, is defined as the area including Capital Region Board, which represents 24 municipalities surrounding the City of Edmonton, and Elk Island National Park, as shown by the black border in the figure to the left. Within the Capital Region, the Industrial Heartland is an area of 582 square kilometres (shown by the brown line in the figure to the left) zoned for heavy industrial development. The Devon to Pakan reach of the North Saskatchewan River, which is the water management framework boundary, is shown by the blue line in the figure to the left. Each boundary represents scope and scale of the management frameworks in the region.





WHY DOES THE REGION REQUIRE CUMULATIVE EFFECTS MANAGEMENT?

The Alberta Government recognizes that a balance between industrial development, population growth and environmental management is critical to achieving long-term prosperity throughout the province. The Capital Region and Industrial Heartland is home to world-scale refining of oil and gas, chemical, and petrochemical facilities and is a region of significant potential for new investment opportunities in the energy and manufacturing sectors. Over \$25 billion has been invested in new and expanding facilities with the Heartland region and another \$18 to 24 billion is expected over the next 15 years.

The population of the Capital Region is expected to grow to over 1.7 million people in the next 35 years.

Continued and potential growth in the Capital Region highlights the importance of managing cumulative effects in a regional, integrated and collaborative manner. This approach addresses the intensifying pressures of population growth and economic and industrial development by setting down strategies for managing environmental pressures.

IMPLEMENTING CUMULATIVE EFFECTS WITHIN THE INDUSTRIAL HEARTLAND AND CAPITAL REGION

The foundation for cumulative effects management in the Capital Region is built on the following environmental frameworks:

- *Water Management Framework for the Industrial Heartland and Capital Region:* A world-class integrated water management system within the North Saskatchewan River to sustainably support the environment, and social and economic development.
- *Capital Region Air Quality Management Framework:* Presents a collaborative, shared vision for managing ambient air quality in the Capital Region.
- *Elemental Sulphur Management Framework:* World-class elemental sulphur management in the Industrial Heartland that sustainably supports the environment, and social and economic aspects of development.

These frameworks provide strategies and targets for managing growth pressures, outline specific environmental outcomes for the region, and as the frameworks are implemented, enhancements are made to the baseline data, science, and tools required to support decision-making and future planning.

In addition to the frameworks listed above, groundwater and wetlands work was completed:

- Groundwater quality investigation in the Industrial Heartland.
- Wetland inventory assessment to enable better planning decisions.

Effective regional multi-stakeholder forums were established to develop the frameworks, and these forums have adapted to continue to advise government as the frameworks are implemented.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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