



Rural Committee

Council Chamber
9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray

Tuesday, March 28, 2017
4:00 p.m.

Agenda

Call to Order

Adoption of Agenda

Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. Rural Committee Meeting - February 28, 2017

New and Unfinished Business

2. Update - Bussing in Rural Communities
3. Hazardous Tree Removal/Controlled Burns/ReLeaf/Firesmart Plans for Rural Communities
4. Update - Rural Water and Sewer Project South

Adjournment

Unapproved Minutes of a Meeting of the Rural Committee held in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Offices in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, commencing at 4:00 p.m.

Present: J. Cardinal, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor
C. Voyageur, Councillor (via teleconferencing)

Absent: L. Bussieres, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor

Administration: A. Antoniak, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
A. Rogers, Chief Legislative Officer
A. Hawkins, Legislative Officer

Call to Order

Chair J. Stroud called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. extending regrets on behalf of Councillor L. Bussieres, who is not in attendance today.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor J. Cardinal that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. Rural Committee Meeting - January 24, 2017

Moved by Councillor J. Cardinal that the Minutes of the Rural Committee Meeting held on January 24, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

New and Unfinished Business

2. Update - High Speed Internet
(4:08 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.)

Carrie Vifansi, Manager, Infrastructure Services, provided background information on the Municipality's work to date regarding securing high speed internet in the rural service area.

3. Update - Rural Water and Sewer Project South
(4:16 p.m. – 4:28 p.m.)

Dawny George, Director, Engineering, Kashif Khan, Program Manager Rural Servicing and Ray Cruickshank, Manager, Program Management, provided an overview of the program to date, specifically in terms of program scheduling, program challenges and community engagements.

Adjournment

As all scheduled business matters had been concluded, Chair J. Stroud declared the meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Chair

Chief Legislative Officer

Rural Communities Update

Presentation to Rural Committee

March 28, 2017

Jenelle Hart, Environmental Supervisor

Dennis Warr, Mitigate Supervisor

Recovery Task Force

Outline

- What is FireSmart?
- FireSmart Projects
 - Upcoming Projects
 - Controlled Burns vs Supervised Burns
- FireSmart Grants - FRIAA
- Firebreak Rehabilitation & Trail Restoration
- Hazardous Tree Removal
- ReLeaf
- Questions

What is FireSmart?

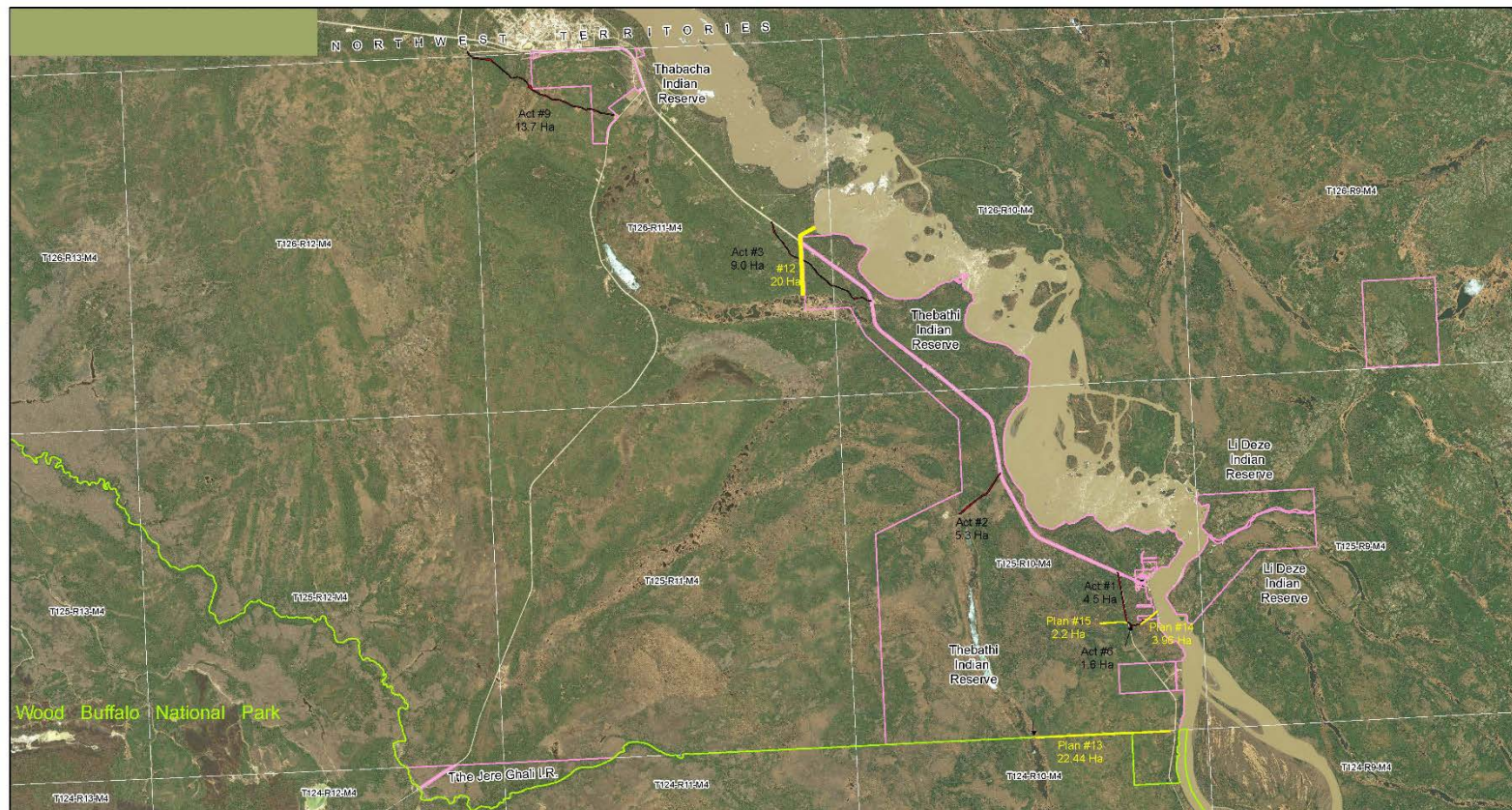
- FireSmart is a national program adopted in communities across Canada aimed at reducing the risk of wildfire in interface zones where the urban setting meets environments prone to wildfire (Wildland Urban Interface)
- FireSmart has been a focus of the RMWB since the development of the Wildland Urban Interface Committee by Council in 2000, now called the Regional FireSmart Committee

FireSmart Projects

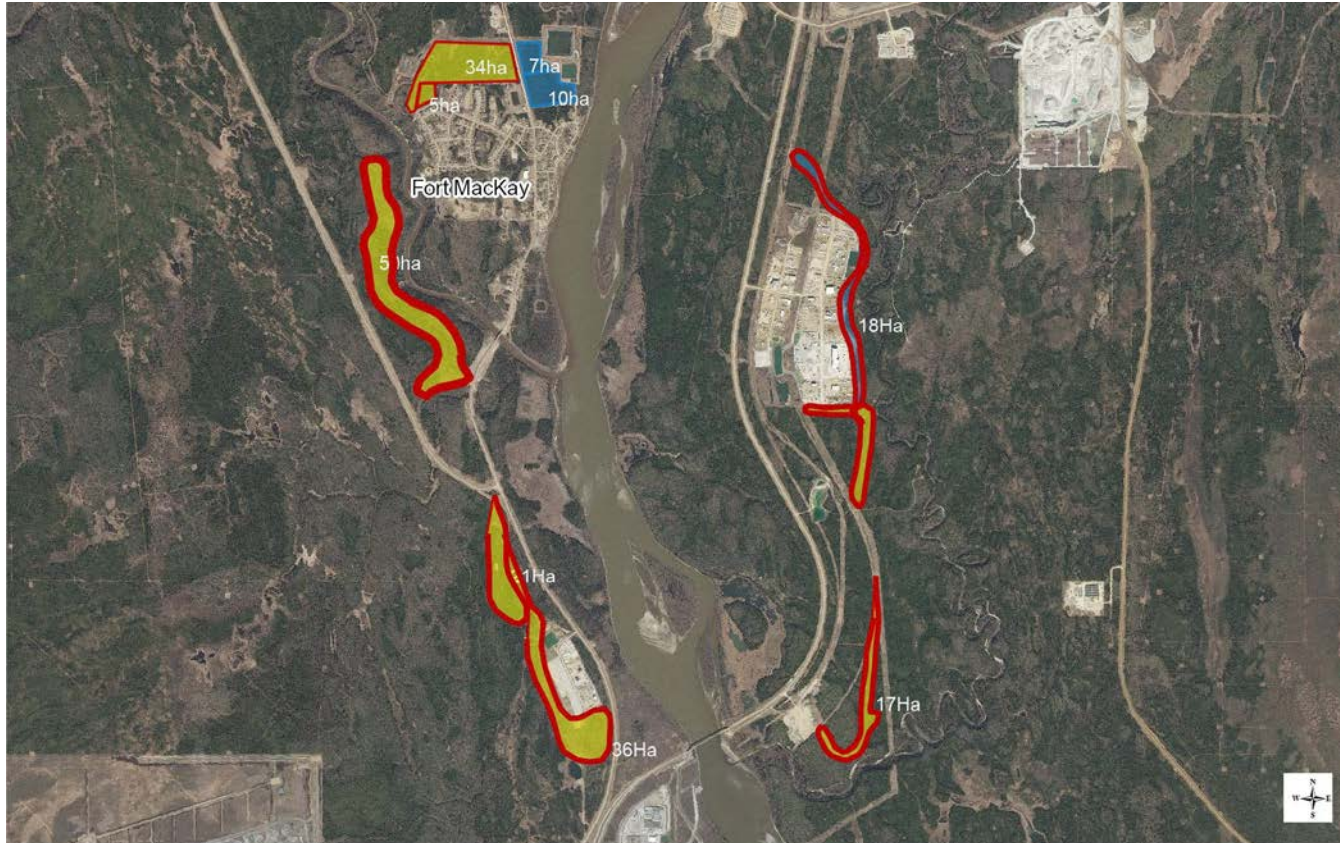
Conklin Area



Fort Smith



Fort McKay



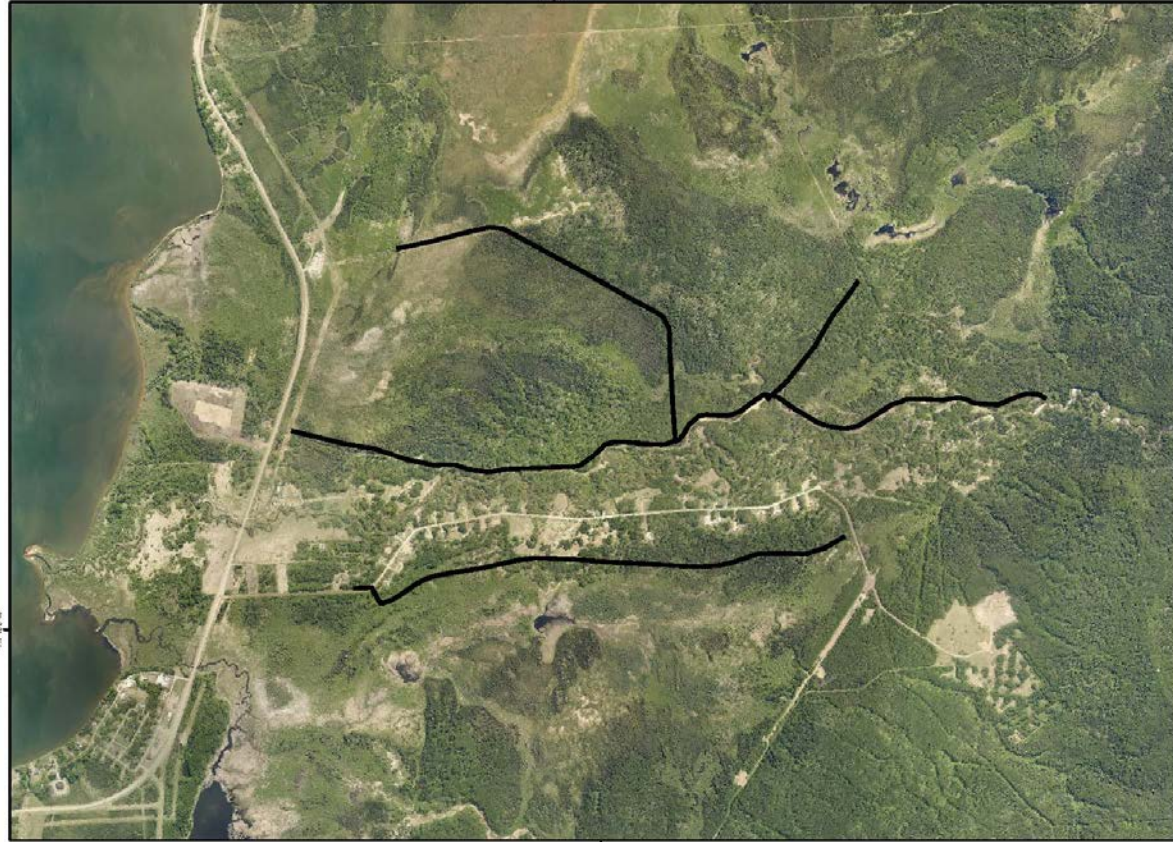
Mission Creek, Fort Chipewyan



ATCO Power Plant, Fort Chipewyan



Fort McMurray First Nations Reserve 468



Upcoming Projects

- 2017 Wildfire Mitigation Strategy
- Post Wildfire Hazard Assessment Green Island prescriptions (site specific detailed plan)

Controlled Burns vs. Supervised Burns

What is a Controlled Burn?

- Vegetation management completed by the Fire Department in the Urban Area and by Alberta Forestry in the Rural Area

What is a Supervised Burn?

- A method of disposal under a vegetation management plan

FireSmart Grants - FRIAA

(Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta)

2016 – Awarded \$750,000

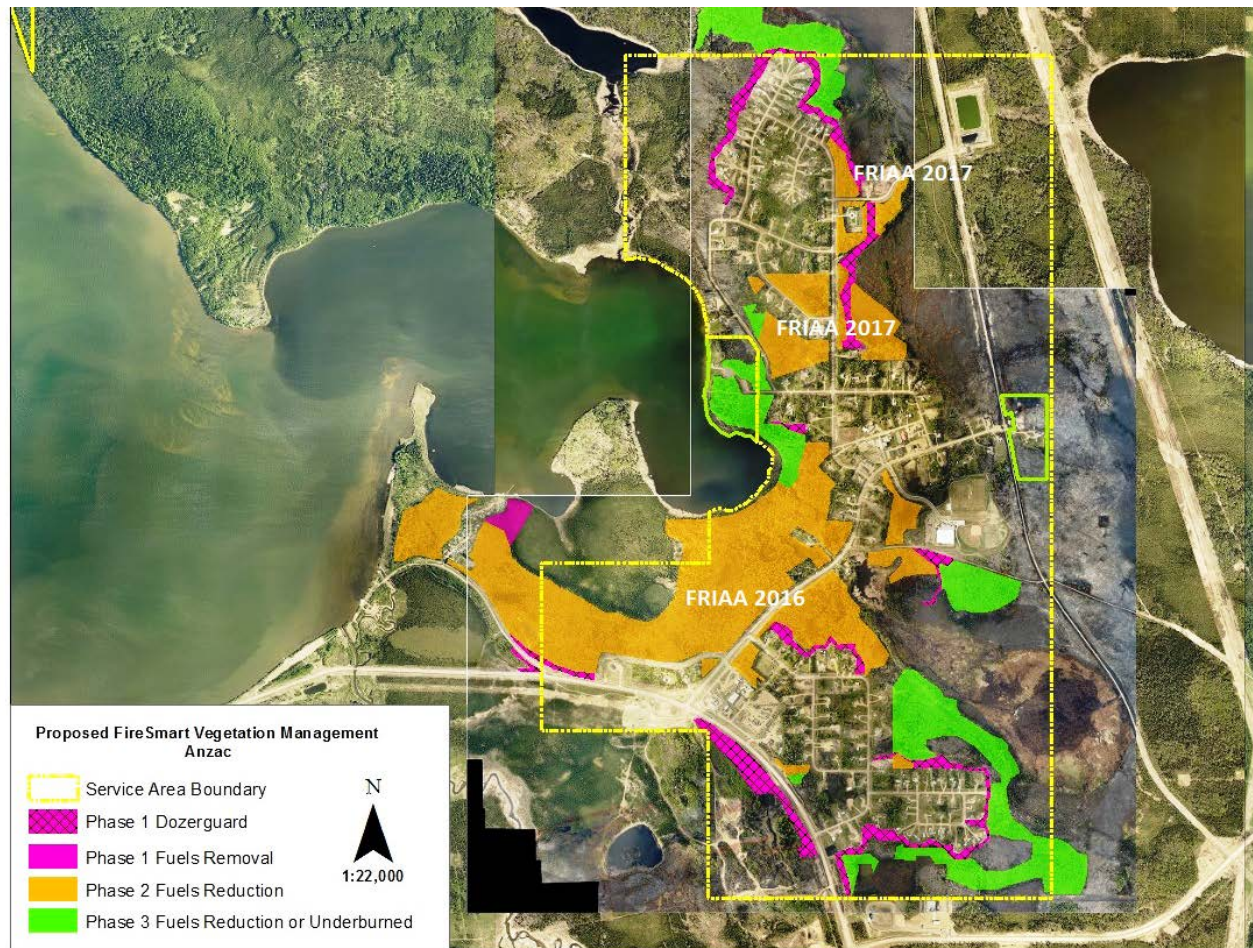
- Vegetation Management in Anzac
- Education (inform residents of FireSmart activities)
- Post Wildfire Hazard Assessment Green Island prescriptions (site specific detailed plan)

FireSmart Grants - FRIAA

2017 – Four Expressions of Interest submitted to FRIAA

- Anzac Vegetation Management
- Fort Chipewyan Vegetation Management
- Gregoire Lake Estates Vegetation Management
- Thickwood Hill Vegetation Management

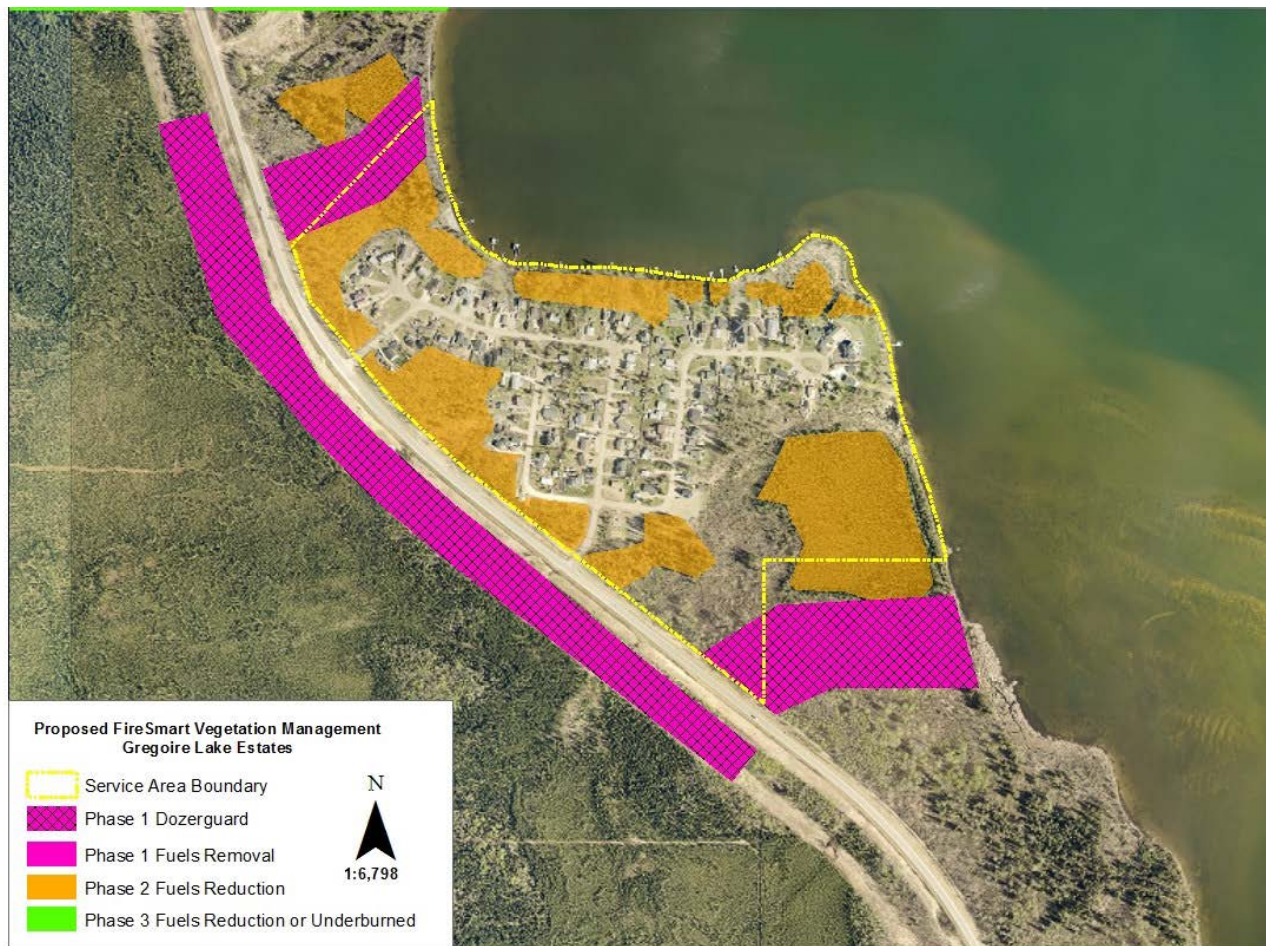
Anzac



Fort Chipewyan Airstrip



Gregoire



Firebreak Rehabilitation & Trail Restoration

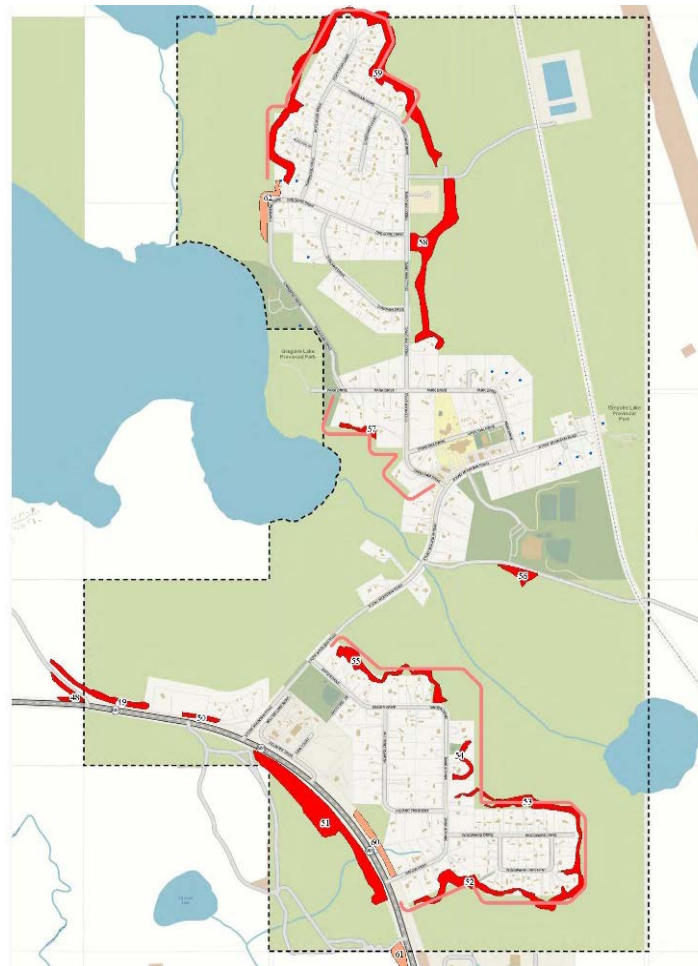
Firebreak Rehabilitation Project

- Council approved for 2017
- Addressing drainage issues

Trail Restoration

- Working in partnership with Parks to restore the trails

Anzac



Gregoire Lake Estates



Hazardous Tree Removal

What is a Hazardous Tree?

- A tree that can cause injury or damage to person or property

Hazardous Tree Removal Project finished in early March

- A request for proposal is currently posted to procure a contractor for a standing offer of agreement

ReLeaf

Tree Canada Program

- \$1.3 million to replanting RMWB
- 68,000 seedlings to be planted in a pilot program this spring
- Thickwood and Saprae Creek will see the first of the seedlings

Questions?