

# BACK 40 FIRESMART OPERATIONS

Information Update for Residents Nov. 13, 2017

## Dear MD of Bighorn and Waiparous Residents,

During the winter months of Nov/Dec/Jan. FireSmart activities will be performed in the Back 40. Summarized the following activities will take place (refer to map on rear):

- **Unit 1:** 30 m wide fireguard will be established generating a large amount of green firewood
- **Unit 1b:** Downfall and standing dead will be mulched and remaining trees branches pruned up to 2 m.
- **Unit 2:** Mulching of understory and deadfall, trimming conifer branches up to 2 m. Standing dead trees will be cut and bucked for firewood if they are close to open trails. Cutline trail will be widened to 8 m for rapid fire vehicle access.

Refer to the "Ghost/Waiparous Back40 FireSmart Plan": <http://mdbighorn.ca/174/Ghost-River-Subdivision>

## Latest Contract News

First Nations consultation was completed and the Adequacy requirements for Aboriginal Consultation were met and approved. Six pre-selected contractors were invited to bid, and five of them came out on Monday October 23 for a mandatory field visit to discuss the scope of work. The MD of Bighorn awarded the contract to Wide Open Slashing and all operations will be managed and supervised by CCI Inc. out of Cochrane.

## Activities in the Back 40

Depending on weather and site conditions work will start as of November 21, 2017. Operations will be completed before Jan. 15, 2018. There will be no work done on Sundays and from Dec. 24 to Jan. 1, 2018. To ensure the Safety of all the public and operations personnel, access to the areas of operations is restricted. Signage will be provided at all Back 40 entrances and respective areas of operations. Please do not approach the operating machines for any reason due to Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.

Firewood will be available for local residents after the FireSmart Operations are complete through the usual procedure of Temporary Field Authorization (TFA) and a TM66 application. Wood will be cut in 14 to 16 inch lengths and bucked at various locations close to or within the FireSmart Operations areas.

## Back 40 Public Information Session

After the FireSmart work is completed and the report has been finalized a public information session will be held on **Saturday February 24** at the Waiparous Community Services Building. This event will be organized together with the SVW FireSmart Committee.

## Contact Information

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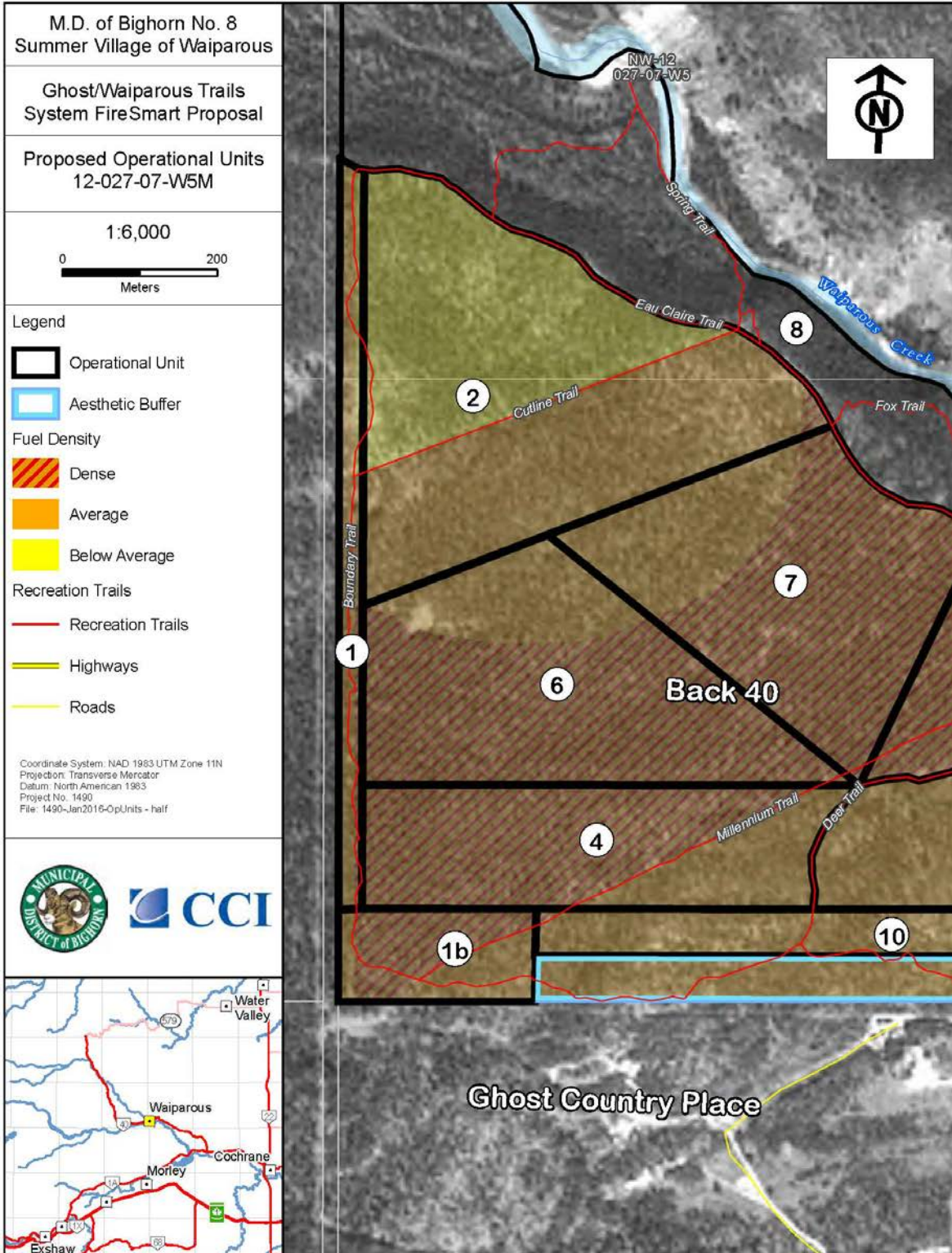
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BACK 40 OPERATING UNITS