

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Calgary incorporates environmental objectives into land use, urban form and transportation planning through its *Municipal Development Plan* (The City of Calgary 2009a) and *Calgary Transportation Plan* (The City of Calgary 2009b). The *Ecological Inventory Framework: Area Structure Plans* provides standards for conducting an inventory of ecological features at the Area Structure Plan stage of planning in order to meet these objectives, as well as ensuring alignment with several other pieces of policy and legislation. This inventory work takes place in advance of *Biophysical Impact Assessment Framework* (The City of Calgary Parks 2010) requirements at the Outline Plan Land Use Amendment stage.

The *Ecological Inventory Framework* identifies The City's requirements for inventory methodology, mapping of ecological features, and identifies the professional qualifications required to carry out this work. Key terminology is defined in order to provide clarity and consistency for inventory work. General requirements on assessment periods and assessment area are provided. Also included are detailed specifications to conduct an inventory of the regional environmental setting, ecosystem and land cover classification, water resources, vegetation, soils and landforms, wildlife and Environmentally Significant Areas. The inventory requirements exclude fish studies and assessments of historical, cultural, and aesthetic resources.

Further, ecological inventory reporting standards are outlined, which includes a checklist that is required for the Ecological Inventory Report submissions. The process for report submission and approvals is outlined, which includes the submission of both an initial and final Ecological Inventory Report. The *Ecological Inventory Framework* also provides details for report publication and stale dating requirements.

<http://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/Parks/Pages/Construction/Park-development-guidelines.aspx>