

<b>Government of Alberta</b> ■ Transportation	<b>PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF          NEW WATER BODY          IDENTIFICATION SIGNS</b>		<i>Issued: JUN 2007</i>
			<i>Revised: MAR 2010</i>
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<b>RECOMMENDED          PRACTICES</b>	PART	HIGHWAY SIGNS	
	SECTION	GUIDE AND INFORMATION SIGNS	
	SUB-SECTION		

### General

Water body identification signs may be placed in the highway right-of-way by Alberta Transportation to identify qualifying water bodies to aid motorists in orientation and navigation.

Before water body identification signs are installed, they must be requested and found to meet the department's criteria for the installation of the sign.

### Standard

The standard process for the consideration of new water body identification signs may be initiated by the department, a citizen, a municipality or a special interest group.

#### Step 1:

The initiator of the sign request must first find out if that water body is in the Geographical Names Database maintained by Alberta Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture.

If the water body is not in the Geographical Names Database, an application for naming a geographical feature must be submitted to Alberta Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture under their Geographical Names Program. Information on the program is available at the web site below:

<http://tprc.alberta.ca/heritage/resourcemanagement/archaeologyhistory/geographical/default.aspx>

#### Step 2:

If the water body has a recognized name in the Geographical Names Database, the initiator of the sign request should ensure the water body at the proposed sign location meets the criteria outlined in the Recommended Practices guideline for Water Body Identification Signs.

#### Step 3:

If the water body at the proposed sign location meets the aforementioned criteria, the initiator of the sign request should then contact the nearest Alberta Transportation district office, a listing of which is provided on the following web site:

<http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/613.htm>

At the time of contacting an Alberta Transportation district office, the sign request initiator should provide justification that the water body meets the relevant criteria.

### Signage Criteria Clarification

One of the criteria for the consideration of Lake, River or Creek Name identification signs is that the water body be of historic, geographic or economic interest.

Because the determination of a water body's historic, geographic or economic interest may be subjective, the following examples can be used to better clarify whether or not this criteria is met.

Water bodies of historic interest may include those significant to the history of a community or area (e.g., settlers of the area used the water body for the transport and trading of goods), or where a historic event occurred, such as the finding of fossils for a new species of dinosaur.

Water bodies of geographical interest could include those commonly used as markers or navigational reference points in the area, those which are geographically unique, etc.

Water bodies of economic interest might include popular fishing spots, those which draw a significant amount of recreational and tourist users, or those which continually stimulate the local economy in other ways.

It is the responsibility of the sign request initiator to sufficiently demonstrate to the department that a water body is of historic, geographic or economic interest.

### **Additional Considerations**

Once qualifying sign requests are made, the department must program the financial resources to supply and install the sign(s). To aid in the efficiency of the department's operations, it is recommended that special interest groups submit requests for a number of water body identification signs at the same time, rather than individually.

### **References to Standards**

<i>Recommended Practices</i> Section: Guide and Information Signs	Water Body Identification Signs
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