

Understanding Map Elements

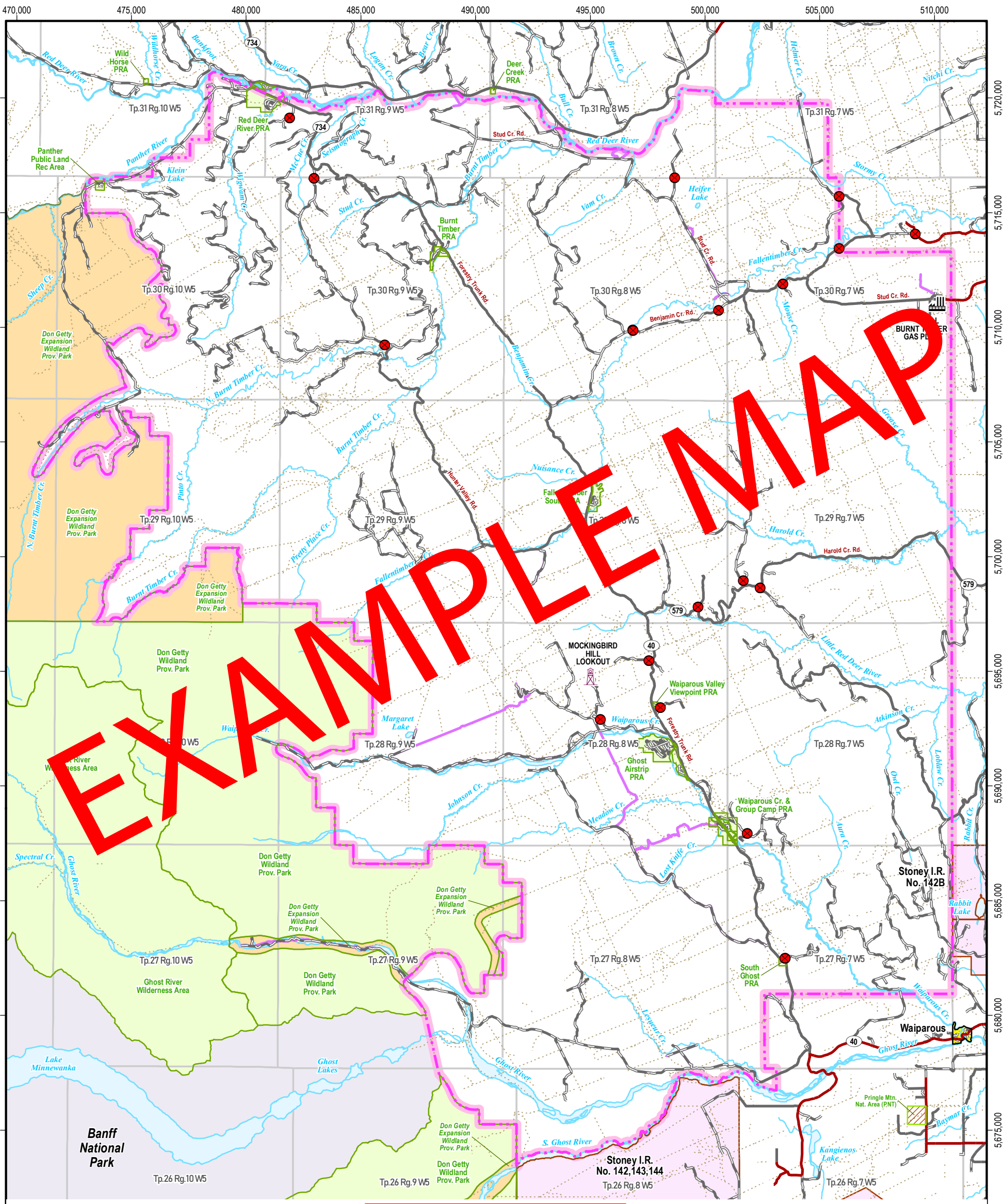
Most maps have some common elements to aid users in understanding the purpose of the map and the quality of the information illustrated. These common elements include:

- **TITLE** The title of a map should succinctly explain the map's purpose or the question it intends to answer.
- **LEGEND** Legends provide users a guide to the symbols and style choices the cartographer has selected to represent critical pieces of information portrayed on the map.
- **SCALE** Scale is what make a map more than an illustration and allows users to correlate map measurements to actual ground distances.
- **CITATION & DISCLAIMER** The citation information on a map allows users to learn more about the datasets used in the map compilation. Copyrights and caveats on the usage of the map information. The disclaimer works to protect the map content from being used for unsanctioned purposes.
- **PROJECTION AND DATUM** Maps are all working to represent the 3D surface of the earth in two dimensions. To do this a map must select a model for the shape of the earth called a datum and a methodology for translating the spatial relationships of map objects called the projection.
- **ORIENTATION, GRID, AND INDEX**
Orientation of the map illustrates the map's relationship to the cardinal directions with a compass rose or a north arrow. Some maps also provide grids and indexes help users quickly find locations by overlaying the map with a standard grid of horizontal and vertical lines and providing an index of key locations by referencing their grid position.

What do these look like?

The map on the next page demonstrates these common elements.

More pdf maps are available to download from the [GeoDiscover Alberta Portal](#).



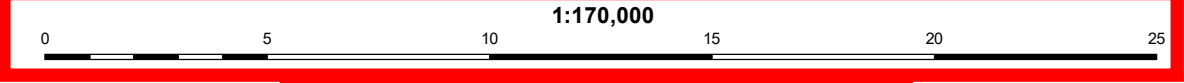
Timber Cutting Map
DATE OF MAP

TITLE

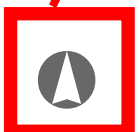
LEGEND

TM66 Cutting Area	National Parks	Paved Roads	Gates - Permanently Closed (See Conditions On Back)
Parks & Protected Areas	Summer Villages	Gravel Roads	Major Lakes/Reservoirs
Crown Reservation (PNT)	First Nations Reserve	Unimproved Roads	Major Rivers/Creeks
Future Parks & Protected Areas (as per SSRP - Sept.2014)	Lookout Towers	Cutlines / Trails	Township Lines
		4x4 PLUZ Trail System	

SCALE



ORIENTATION & GRID



PROJECTION & DATUM

NAD_1983_10TM_AEP_Forest
Imagery: 2018 SPOT6 Mosaic (1.5m Resolution)

CITATION & DISCLAIMER

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PROJECT: U:\workspace\PlanOps\TM66\SouthernRockies_Maps\Ghost\ProjectFiles\2019\Ghost\TM66_11x17_NoImage_2019Nov07.mxd
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