



Notice to Readers of the Comprehensive Study of the Parks Canada proposal to decommission the Banff and Jasper Airstrips.

The Comprehensive Study Report consists of five separate documents:

1. Jasper Airstrip Decommissioning Comprehensive Study, 2005. Highwood Environmental Management Limited
2. Banff Airstrip Decommissioning Comprehensive Study, 2005. Highwood Environmental Management Limited
3. Parks Canada Air Safety Risk Assessment Decommissioning the Banff and Jasper Airstrips Final Report, 2003. Kootenai International Associates
4. Analysis of Public Input on the Comprehensive Studies for Decommissioning of the Airstrips in Banff & Jasper National Parks of Canada, Alberta, 2005. Strategy Plus.
5. Comprehensive Study Environmental Assessment of the Parks Canada Agency Proposal to Decommission the Grass Airstrips in Banff National Park and Jasper National Park, Alberta - A Consolidation of the Findings of Environmental Assessment Studies, Air Safety Risk Assessment and Public Input

Highwood Environmental Management Ltd prepared separate environmental assessment documents for the Banff and Jasper airstrips decommissioning proposal pursuant to specific direction from the Federal court (Justice Campbell T-729-97, T-734-97) – documents # 1 and # 2 above. That same court directed that “a liberal interpretation” be given to the consideration of “health and socio-economic conditions” in the Comprehensive Studies. When Highwood Environmental recommended more detailed examination of the topic of change in air safety risk that might arise from eliminating the grass airstrips, Parks Canada engaged Kootenai International Associates to undertake that study. Kootenai International conducted a joint Banff and Jasper air safety risk assessment because the risk change considerations were so similar at both airstrips. They reported their findings in one document - # 3 above.

Parks Canada conducted public consultation regarding the proposal to decommission the airstrips and sought public interest and concern about the findings reported by Highwood and Kootenai International. At the request of key stakeholders Parks Canada engaged an independent company - Strategy Plus, to receive, analyze and report the findings of that public consultation. Strategy Plus reports their results in document # 4 above.

Parks Canada has summarized the history and background of the closure of the airstrips, important judicial direction, the environmental and air safety risk assessments regarding proposed decommissioning of the airstrips, and results of public consultation in document # 5 above. Also, document # 5 presents Parks Canada’s response to all the findings, and proposed modified project.

