Area Based Regulation (ABR) An Overview and Progress

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AREA BASED REGULATION APPROACH

Strategic Intent of ABR

1. Broaden the AER's geographic perspective by changing the scale of regulation to areas
   - Integrated energy resource and environment
2. Establish area-based regulatory requirements
   - Specific to the values, people, environment, and energy resources in the area
   - Collaborative engagement

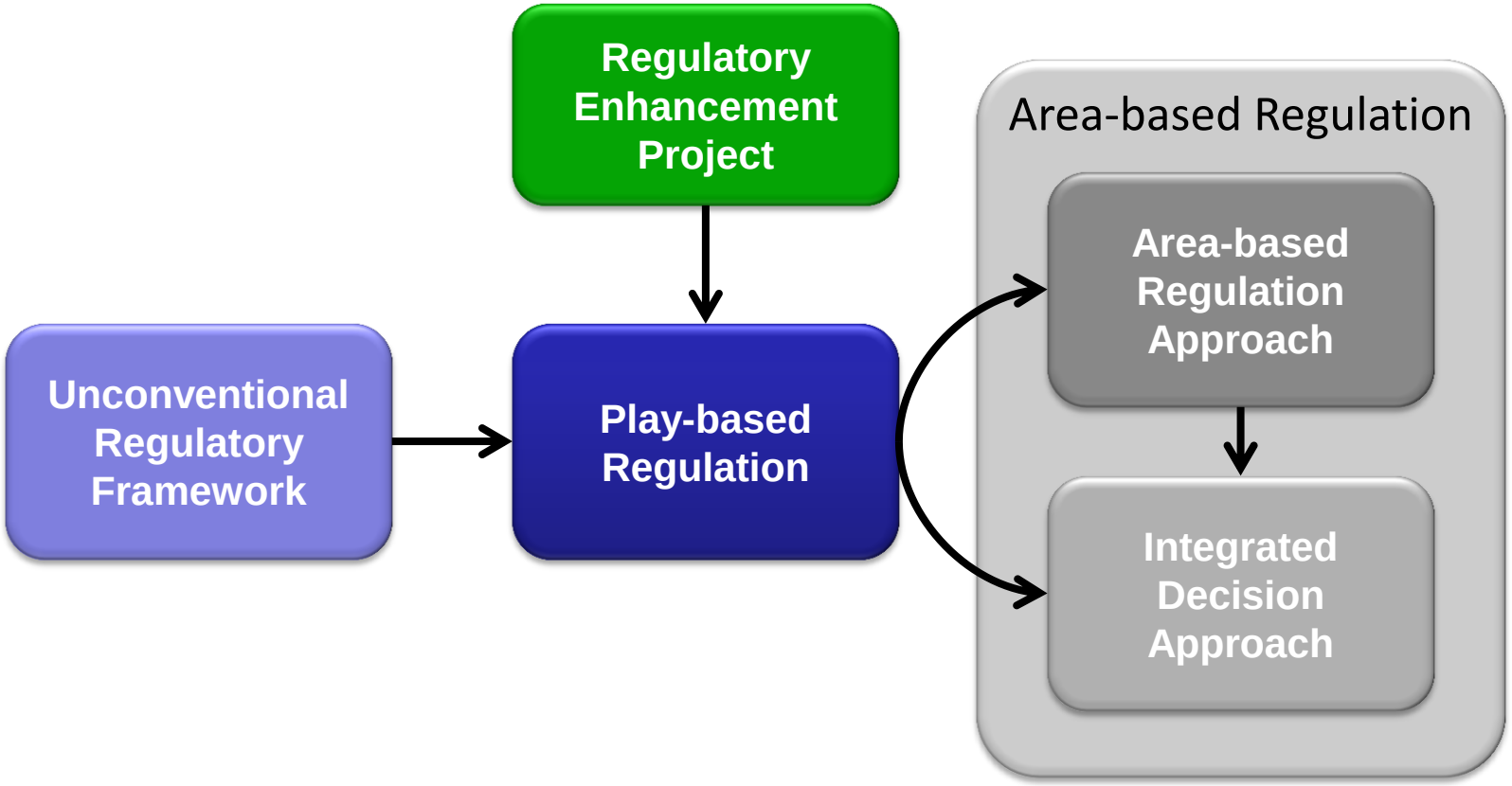
Drivers Behind ABR

- Regulatory system pressure
  - Large resource potential, technology
- Resource play characteristics
  - Complex projects, increasing demand

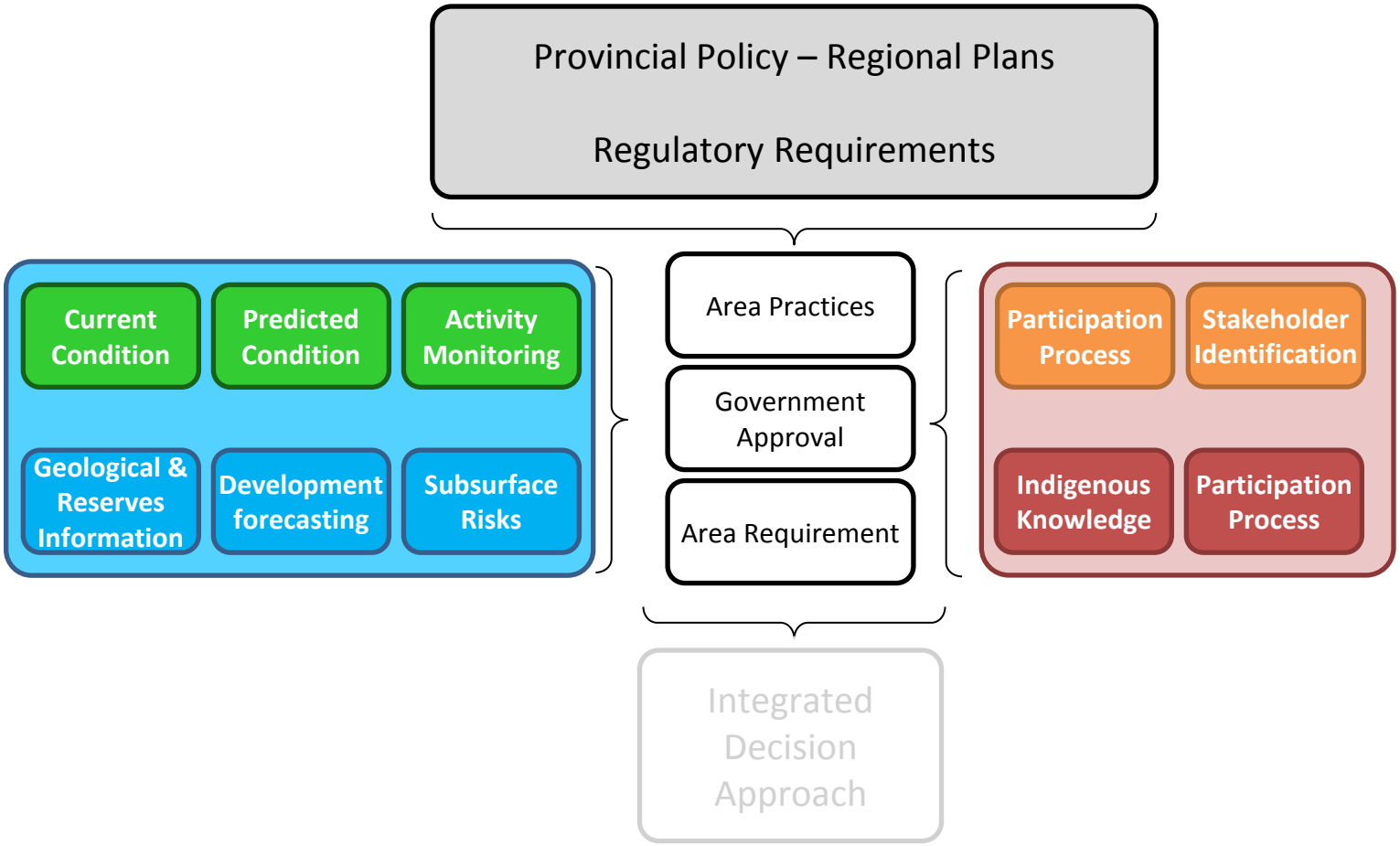
Drivers Behind ABR *cont'd*

- Cumulative environmental impacts
  - Regional plans, public perception
- Participation and engagement
  - Regulatory excellence

Origins of Area Based Regulation



Area Based Approach



Practices and Requirements

- Area practices
  - Voluntary
  - Stakeholder expectations
- Government approval
- Area requirements
  - Policy and regional plan alignment

Benefits

- Supports integrated decisions
  - Integrates community - environment - energy
  - Cumulative effects
  - Integrated risk
- Enhanced level of engagement
  - Regulatory involvement
  - Project engagement
  - Societal expectations

Benefits *cont'd*

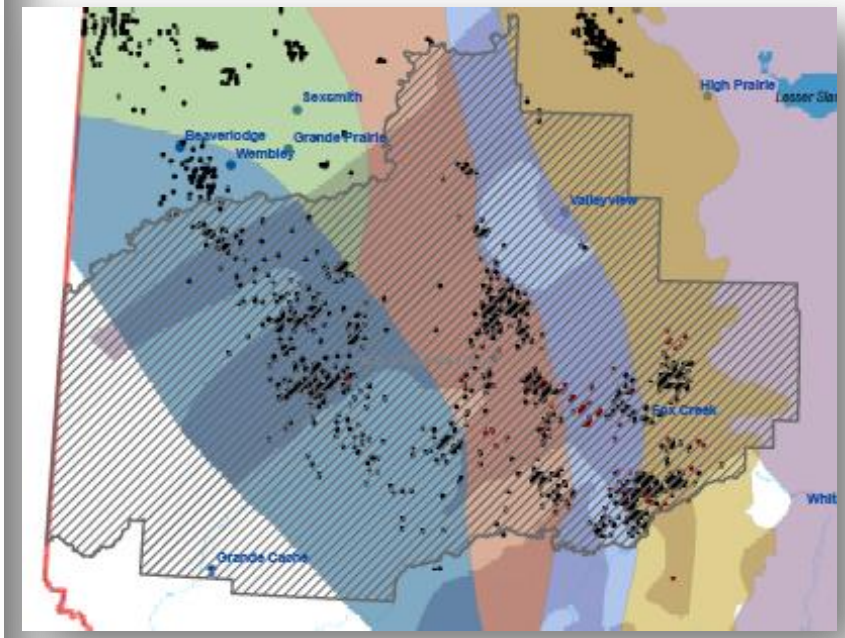
- Area specific requirements
  - Land Use Framework Alignment
  - Elevated industry practices

AREA BASED REGULATION PILOT PROJECT

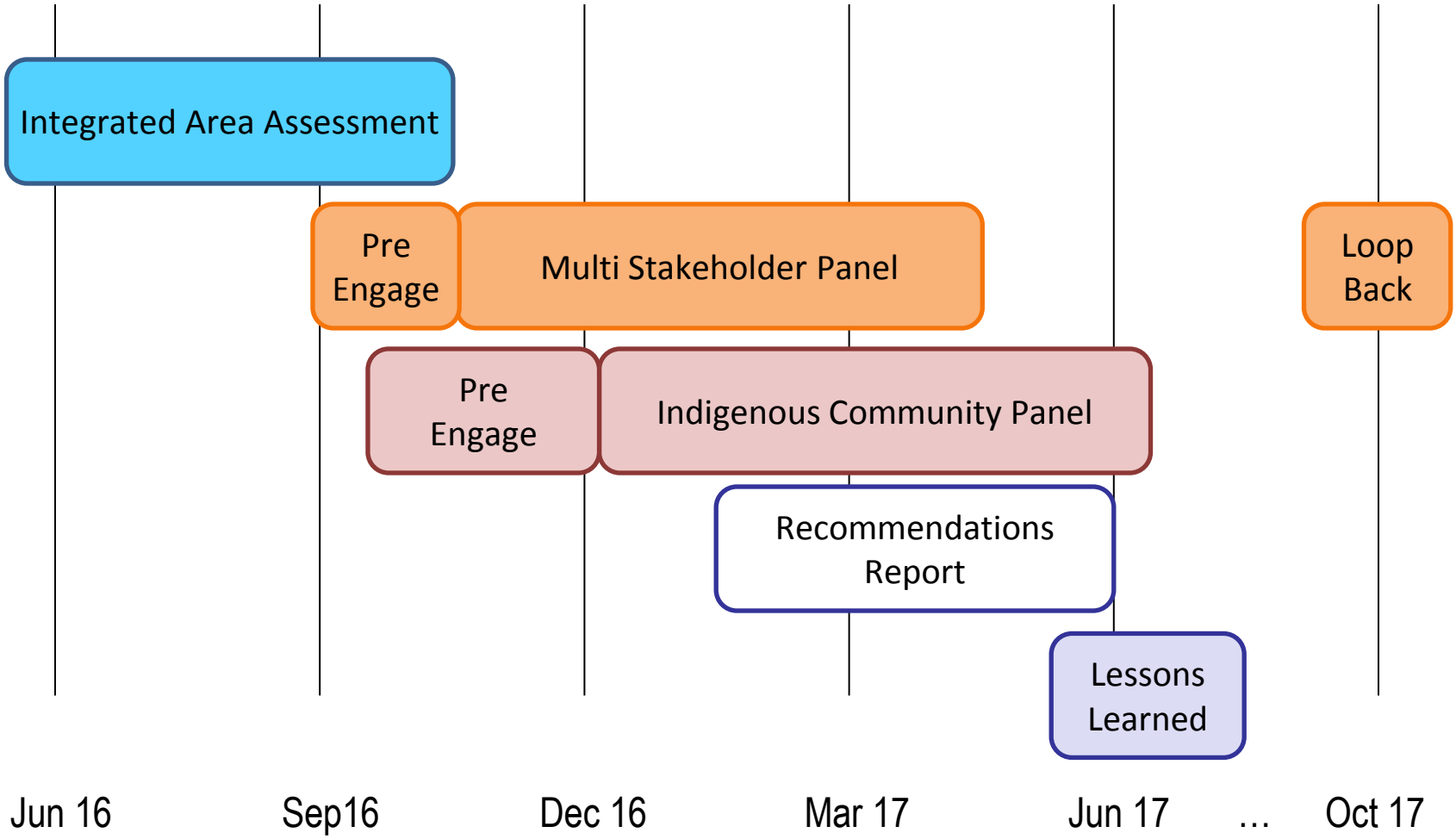
Pilot Project: Purpose and Objectives

- Purpose: Test parts of the ABR approach
- Objectives:
  1. Integrated Area Assessment
  2. Collaborative Engagement
     - Multiple stakeholder panel
     - Indigenous community panel
  3. Area practice guide

Pilot Area: M.D. of Greenview



Pilot Timelines & Components



AREA BASED REGULATION PILOT PROJECT RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

ICP Update and Status

- Held 5 panel sessions
- Defining the shared vision for the panel
- Discussions around products and actions needed to advance the panel's work to tribal council and Metis Settlement level
- Outcomes by fall 2017

MSP Update

- Panel decided on three priority focus topics:
  1. Minimize use of high quality non saline water
  2. Minimize impact to aquatic ecosystems
  3. Identify and remove barriers to innovation
- Reached consensus on 24 recommendations

MSP Recommendations

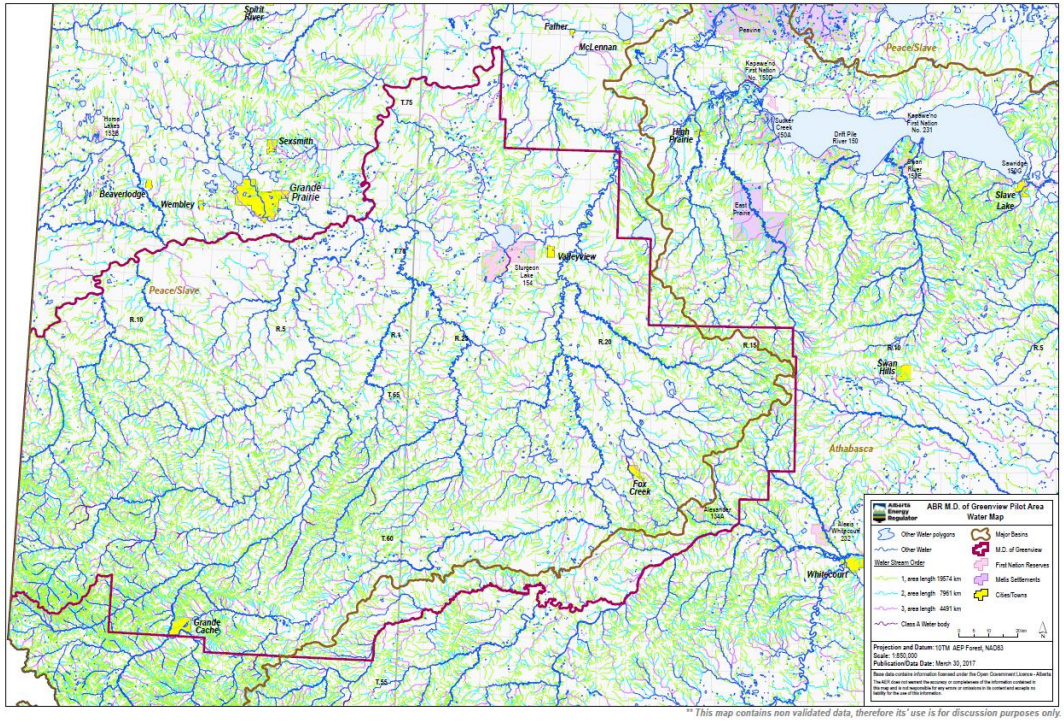
- Barriers to the use of alternative sources of water
- Approaches to basin management
- Implementation

Barriers

- Risk-based fluids management
- Above-ground engineered fluid storage
- Temporary surface hoses and pipelines
- Subsurface mineral rights conflicts for alternatives
- Low-risk inter-basin transfers for consumptive use

Basin Management for Environmental Management & Protection

- Basin regulatory framework
- Multi-operator water plans
- Withdrawal restrictions
- Withdrawal locations



** This map contains non validated data, therefore its' use is for discussion purposes only.

Supporting Recommendations

- Data, Information & Monitoring
  - Advancing winter instream flow science
  - Standardized and public reporting & metrics
  - Amending temporary diversion licenses
  - Unused allocation review
  - Streamflow monitoring

Supporting Recommendations *cont'd*

- Compliance & Education
- Communications
  - Site signage
  - Single Information source

Implementation

- Policy approval
- Implementation response
- ABR pilot implementation

Successes

- Collaborative engagement
- Respectful discussions & decisions
- Joint venture with GoA
- B+ *(up from F)*
- Release of Recommendations Report in June 2017

Challenges

- Serving the panel’s information needs
- Indigenous Community representation
- Successfully implementing the panel’s intent
- Replicating the process

QUESTIONS?
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Protecting what matters

www.aer.ca

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