EXPLORING PHYSICAL REGIONS: The Interior Plains Region

The Interior Plains are found in parts of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, as well as British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

In the Interior Plain region, you will find mainly flat land or **plains**. There are no tall mountains to be found here. There are some rolling hills and valleys and there are also some rivers and lakes. You will even find some forests and low mountains.



CLIMATE

The Interior Plains experience cold winters and warm summers. This physical region will sometimes even experience extreme weather such as tornadoes, droughts, floods, and winter storms. The Interior Plains receive less precipitation compared to other physical regions each year. However, it has been said that the Interior Plains also receive more sunny days than any other region in Canada.

VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE

The Interior Plains are known for having a variety of grasses. This type of vegetation grows here because farmers grow oat, barley, wheat and other types of plants. You can also find pine, spruce and fir trees here. The land in the Interior Plains allows for agricultural practices to take place because this physical region receives the perfect amount of water and sunlight for vegetation to grow.

A variety of wildlife can be found in the Interior Plains. Examples include deer, antelopes, brown bears, wolves and elks. The amount of space and food allows for a variety of wildlife to survive.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Some of the natural resources that can be found in this region include oil, natural gas, forests and farmland. These resources are the result of the physical features of the Interior Plains. The flat land allows for agricultural practices to take place, and it also allows for pipes to be run underground to distribute oil and other deposits such as natural gas.

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INDUSTRIES & JOBS

Some industries found within the Interior Plains region includes farming, forestry, mining and the oil and gas industries. The natural resources found in the Interior Plains allows for these industries to thrive. The flat land allows for agriculture to take place and many people in Canada depend on the Interior Plains for food products that are made with wheat, oats and barley. The flat land and climate of the Interior Plains helps to create rich soil which in turn allows for the growth of crops.

Oil and gas are another major industry to be found in the Interior Plains. The oil and gas deposits are found below the surface and are extracted by drillers and sold around the world.

Potash is something else that can be found in the Interior Plains. Potash is a salt that is used for fertilizer and 90% of potash is found in Saskatchewan.

RECREATION

Some of the activities that people engage in include cross country skiing, skating, swimming, jogging, hunting, hockey and soccer. These activities are popular in this physical region because of the warm summers and the cold winters.

