

Alberta Water Council Source Water Protection Project Team

- Led by Alberta Water Council – Adam Norris is co-chair
- Purpose – to create a webtool to support source water work across Alberta
- Funding – no dedicated funding contributed by MPWA, just time
- Upcoming – presentation at Water|Earth|Innovation in Grande Prairie

Beaverlodge Water Quality Monitoring Project

- MPWA lead
- Purpose - to verify water quality in Redwillow Watershed (includes Beaverlodge River) and promote Community-Based Monitoring
- Funding – MPWA has a grant from AEPA: Madison Kobryn is grant manager
- Upcoming – delivery of hydrologic model (contract held by Associated Environmental); field monitoring write-up

Cumulative Impacts of Wildfire on Groundwater

- InnoTech Alberta is lead and Lesser Slave Watershed Council, Oldman Watershed Council and Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance are partners
- Purpose – to study the effects of wildfire on groundwater
- Funding – several applications have been submitted including a large to InnoTech Alberta
- Upcoming – when funding is approved, MPWA will begin field training and monitoring at the identified Peace Watershed sites

Evergreen Wetland Centre

- Ducks Unlimited Canada – Boreal leads this; MPWA sits on advisory group
- Purpose – wetland education, innovation and promotion of wetland BMPs, wetland research – hydrology monitoring and phenology studies
- Funding – Ducks
- Upcoming – site upgrades and new demo sites; Walk Through The Forest and other outreach events in summer 2025

Floating Treatment Wetlands

- MPWA is the lead; City of Grande Prairie is our partner
- Purpose – to explore practicality and effectiveness of floating treatment wetlands to improve water quality in the Peace Watershed; Education and Outreach
- Funding – internal funding; City of Grande Prairie covers the lab costs for water quality monitoring
- Upcoming – continued exploration of this as a E&O opportunity

Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer

- MPWA led the Source Water Protection Plan (completed in 2019) and works closely with Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer Management Advisory Association (GGAMAA) for its implementation
- Purpose – to proactively reduce risk to drinking water; proactive management of ecosystem and economic water resources
- Funding – MPWA internal funding; GGAMAA covers expenses such as equipment, portion of Aquifer Steward wage, etc.
- Upcoming – refining water budget through Lac Cardinal level monitoring; retooling community water quality monitoring; promotion of BMPs

Watercourse Crossing Extension Program

- Producer lead; MPWA providing support
- Purpose – install legal and BMP appropriate crossing for livestock
- Funding – landowner
- Upcoming – final submission of Watercourse Crossing Code of Practice Notification

LakeKeepers

- Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS) is the lead
- Purpose – promote lake stewardship and get monitoring data for lakes in the Peace Watershed
- Funding – ALMS provides the monitoring kits and covers lab costs; MPWA trains volunteers and coordinates sampling
- Upcoming – Winter LakeKeepers start-up webinar; Winter sampling

Lower Peace Freshwater Contaminant Reduction

- MPWA is lead; Mackenzie County is our main partner; AgroForestry Woodlot Extension Society, Cows and Fish and Mackenzie Applied Research Association were also involved
- Purpose – reduce the volume of contaminants getting into water ways in the lower portion of the watershed; watercourse crossing installation and eroded channel restoration
- Funding – EcoAction grant (previously Environment and Climate Change Canada now Canada Water Agency); partner contributions
- Upcoming – Final reporting

Peace River Tributary Project

- MPWA is the lead; partners are landowners, Mackenzie County and Northern Sunrise County
- Purpose – support landowners/ agricultural producers in implementing management practices that improve watershed function along tributaries to the Peace River
- Funding – application has been submitted to Watershed Restoration and Resiliency Program (Government of Alberta)
- Upcoming – if approved being field work; start permitting process

Project Site Check-in

- MPWA lead
- Purpose – to understand the restoration techniques we use and to maintain contact with partners
- Funding – internal
- Upcoming – River avulsion site visit

Reducing Invasive Species in the Peace-Athabasca Delta

- MPWA is lead; Little Red River Cree Nation is main partner; Alberta Invasive Species Council also contributed
- Purpose – to identify movement of invasive species through the riparian zones in the lower Peace and begin controlling them
- Funding – EcoAction (formerly ECCC now WCA)
- Upcoming – share summary report with North Peace Tribal Council and final reporting

Redwillow Watershed Restoration Project

- MPWA led Redwillow Watershed Restoration Plan development and its continued implementation (see Beaverlodge above); partners include AgroForestry Woodlot Extension Society, Alberta Conservation Association, Cows and Fish, County of Grande Prairie, Government of Alberta, Landowners, West County Watershed Society
- Purpose – to restore native fish assemblages in the Redwillow Watershed through habitat improvements
- Funding – Environmental Damages Fund, WRRP, partner contributions, Landowners
- Upcoming – official project is complete, but continue to review and support implementation of recommendations

Resiliency in the Wapiti Watershed

- MPWA is lead; ACA, AWES, Cows and Fish, County of Grande Prairie, landowners
- Purpose – to improve land management practices to support resilient watersheds
- Funding – EcoAction (Canda Water Agency)
- Upcoming – permitting submissions and fieldwork (spring of 2025)

Smoky Headwaters Initiative

- MPWA is lead; partners included AWES, ACA, Alberta Wilderness Association, Trout Unlimited
- Purpose – to enhance cold-water fish habitat and refugia through reduction of sediment delivery and increased shading
- Funding – Habitat Stewardship Fund (Environment and Climate Change Canada)
- Upcoming – project is officially complete but in 2025 we will visit shading and sediment reduction sites to assess them

Source Water Maps

- MPWA is lead: GoA is partner
- Purpose – to provide an initial source water assessment for all surface water intakes in the Peace Watershed and to encourage source water protection work
- Funding – internal
- Upcoming – ranking of intake risk and individual engagement of municipalities

State of the Watershed

- MPWA is lead
- Purpose – to provide an updated State of the Watershed to support watershed management across the Peace and Slave Watersheds
- Funding – internal and in-kind
- Upcoming – IWMP SC will begin regular meetings in 2025 to direct this process

Victor Lake Riparian Assessment

- MPWA is lead and partnered with Mountain Metis Community Association
- Purpose – to better understand the riparian zone around this source water body and important lake for the Mountain Metis and to train their youth in environmental science skills
- Funding – internal
- Upcoming – project is complete; hope to have ongoing collaboration with MMCA

Wapiti Watershed Source Water Protection Plan

- MPWA is lead; Aquatera, ArcResources, County of Grande Prairie, MD of Greenview and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation are partners
- Purpose – to provide a water quality complement to the Wapiti River Water Management Plan and to provide source water protection to the water intake for the Grande Prairie area
- Funding – in-kind and internal
- Upcoming – ongoing review of monitoring to detect cumulative effects; supporting implementation of SWPP