



IN STREAM NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022



As 2022 begins, NSWA is already planning for events, river trips, webinars and more! We would love to have you join us on our watershed journeys. Take a look at some of our upcoming events and stay tuned for more to come. If you know of others who would be interested in our watershed news please share this newsletter - you can sign up for our newsletter at www.nswa.ab.ca

WATERSHED WEDNESDAYS WEBINARS RETURN



Our online **Watershed Wednesdays Speaker Series** will return for 2022. These are held Wednesdays in February, March and April, from noon to 1 p.m. on Zoom. The topics you requested in our recent survey are featured:

February 2 - Climate Change Effects on the Watershed

Dr. David Sauchyn - University of Regina - *Variability and Change in the Hydroclimate of the North Saskatchewan River Basin*

Dr. Pascal Badiou - Ducks Unlimited Canada - *The Effects of Climate Change on Wetlands*

March 2 - An Introduction to Watershed Management in Alberta

April 13th - Updates on Invasive Species

Register for these online webinars on Eventbrite:

[REGISTRATION](#)

JOIN THE NSWA TEAM!



Apply to join the NSWA team! NSWA has received new funding and is looking for two new enthusiastic people to join our team as full time Watershed Planning Coordinators.

The positions require excellent communications skills, experience with collaborative partnerships and knowledge of watershed science.

Please share this opportunity with people in your network who may be interested. For more information about the positions and how to apply please go to our website.

[**APPLY NOW**](#)

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP GRANTS - APPLY NOW!!



Attention Watershed Stewardship groups!

The application for funding from the **Land Stewardship Center** is open. This program is made possible by funding from **Alberta Environment and Parks**. Since 2006, over 180 groups have received funding for a variety of projects.

The deadline for 2022 applications is February 14th. For more information check out the link below:

[**Watershed Stewardship Grants**](#)

CELEBRATE WORLD WETLANDS DAY - FEBRUARY 2



The United Nations has officially declared February 2 as [**World Wetlands Day**](#). The NSWA is working together with municipalities, non-profits, and the Government of Alberta to restore, conserve, and enhance wetlands within the NSR watershed. NSWA is working with these partners to develop a strategy that will align municipal policies and plans, provide greater capacity to complete successful wetland restoration projects.

[**NSWA WETLAND STRATEGY**](#)



FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ENGAGEMENT AND SURVEY

Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) will be hosting a series of public engagement sessions this month regarding **fisheries management and proposed regulatory changes**. For more information on webinars, recordings of the webinars and a survey please check the link below.

Don't forget that February 19 – 21 is [Family Fishing Weekend in Alberta](#).

[Fisheries Information](#)

WaterSHED DATA NOW ON DATASTREAM



The [WaterSHED Monitoring program](#) is a unique partnership between Alberta Environment and Parks, EPCOR, the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance and the City of Edmonton.

This is the North Saskatchewan River's most comprehensive river monitoring program. It encompasses 19 monitoring stations, from the headwaters of the North Saskatchewan River to the Saskatchewan Border.

This program improves data collection both upstream and downstream of Edmonton, allowing all partners to make informed decisions for protecting and preserving water in the North Saskatchewan River.

Two years of data collected from the monitoring stations across the watershed is now available on the [DataStream](#) website!

[WaterSHED Data on DataStream](#)

CARING FOR OUR WATERSHEDS CONTEST

Are you in Grades 7 to 12?

Compete to win \$1,000 cash!

Submit a proposal that answers the question:

“What can you do to improve your watershed?”

- Research your local watershed and come up with a solution to an environmental concern
- Finalists present their idea to win cash rewards
- Nearly \$20,000 will be awarded to students and schools who participate
- Funding is also available to help implement student ideas

Alberta contest deadlines:
 March 22, 2022 – Contest Entry Deadline
 April 23, 2022 – Final Competition



CARING FOR OUR Watersheds For more information visit CaringForOurWatersheds.com

Nutrien Feeding the Future™

BATTLE RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE

With support from community partners:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Alberta • Atlatlaska Watershed Council • Alberta Watershed Society • Battle River School Division • Bow River Delta Council • City of Calgary • Ducks Unlimited Canada • Great Watershed Alliance Society • Inland Empire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta Industry & Economy Association • Lower Bow Lake Watershed Council • Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance • Milk River Watershed Council • North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance • Oldman Watershed Council • Red Deer River Watershed Alliance • Trout Unlimited Canada
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Teachers and students in grades 7 - 12 - here is a great opportunity to join in a watershed contest and earn prizes ...and come up with water solutions! For more information on the Caring for our Watersheds program and how to start a project go to the BRWA website.

FUNDING AVAILABLE!

LANDOWNERS WANTED!

Lamont County in partnership with The North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, the Vermilion River Watershed Alliance and Cows and Fish to provide **funding and other support** for **wetland and/or riparian restoration & enhancement activities** to landowners within Lamont County (see reverse map for project area).

Example activities

- Plugging drained wetlands
- Revegetation
- Creating buffer zones on cropland
- Erosion control
- Additional ideas welcome!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 Brett Weeks, Agricultural & Environmental Coordinator
 Brett.w@lamontcounty.ca
 780-895-2585

APPLY FOR FUNDING THROUGH **MARCH 2022**
www.lamontcounty.ca



Logos: Canadian Agricultural Partnership, Alberta, Canada, Lamont County, NSWA (North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance), Vermilion River Watershed Alliance, Cows & Fish.

In partnership with the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA), Cows & Fish, and the Vermilion River Watershed Alliance, Lamont County is facilitating projects to restore and enhance wetlands and riparian areas in the region. Increasing the ability of wetlands and riparian areas to carry out their natural functions as described above will help improve watershed resiliency to floods and drought. These projects are funded in part by the Government of Alberta's Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program. Funding levels can cover up to 80% of eligible expenses.

For information contact Brett Weeks at Brett.w@lamontcounty.ca



2022 Groundwater

SAVE THE DATE!
MARCH 22, 2022
WORLD WATER DAY
1 to 3 PM

Alberta WPACs present "Groundwater: Making the Invisible, Visible" - an event celebrating World Water Day. Featuring speakers and a panel discussion on groundwater. Stay tuned for more information - register on Eventbrite.

[WORLD WATER DAY](#)

RIPARIAN WEB PORTAL WORKSHOPS



RIPARIAN WEB PORTAL TRAINING

Planners and Project Managers in government, agriculture, & ENGO;
Get the background and skills you need to use the data and contribute your riparian projects to this exciting new resource.

101: Dive into the Riparian Data: Our Intactness Project Thurs. March 3rd, 1:30pm	102: Where Data Meets Action: Riparian Web Portal Friday March 4th, 1:30pm
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All Workshops are offered at no cost, via Zoom.
Attendees must complete the 101 workshop before 102.
Register at battleriverwatershed.eventbrite.com

In the **Riparian 101 workshop**, you will learn the "**Why and How of the Riparian Intactness Assessment Project**" - how it applies to your work, and how it can improve the health of our watersheds.

Topics will include:

- Information about the project, and why the BRWA and NSWA are pursuing it
- An overview of the methods used to measure riparian intactness, pressure, and prioritization
- The importance of riparian areas for watershed health Tools and resources for governments, agriculture, and ENGOs to apply this knowledge
- Share your thoughts on the project and its potential relevance to your work.

Register at least 48 hours in advance.

The 101 webinar is a pre-requisite for the "**Where Data Meets Action: Riparian Web Portal**" **102 Workshop**. For more information:

[Riparian Workshop Registration](#)



Nominations open for the 2022 Emerald Awards

Nominations are now open for the 31st Annual Emerald Awards. For more information on how you can submit your nomination check out the Emerald Awards website.

The [Emerald Award Documentary Series](#) showcases projects from award winners from past years, including the Vermilion River Watershed Alliance! These inspiring videos are posted on the Emerald Awards website.

EMERALD AWARDS

MEET OUR NSWA BOARD MEMBERS



Our featured NSWA Board member for January is **Ian Kwantes**.

He is the planning manager for Weyerhaeuser Pembina. This includes working with the manufacturing facilities, Government of Alberta and stakeholders for the strategic decisions around forest management in the Pembina forest management area, which includes a considerable portion of the green zone of the NSR watershed.

What is one of your favorite spots in the watershed and why?

"I love being up on the edge of the watershed- sitting at the Cardinal Divide (see pic) and thinking about the big picture: our individual contributions, and the connectivity between all these people and places and nothing illustrates that like looking across the whole expanse."

Any interesting hobbies that you would like to share?

"I enjoy hunting, hiking, biking and encouraging my kids to join me as often as possible."

About NSWA:

"I am new to the program, but it comes highly recommended and I'm happy to learn and contribute as much as possible."

OTHER WATERSHED RESOURCES

The **Land Stewardship Center** has published a new online [Stewardship Directory](#) as well as a new [Green Communities Guide](#). Check their website for upcoming [webinars on watershed stewardship](#) and for more information.

Plan to attend Cows and Fish [30th Anniversary Showcase](#) on on January 31 from 7 pm - 9 pm MST. Celebrate their awesome work across Alberta!

Athabasca Watershed Council has a number of [videos](#) about watershed health and some interesting events coming up.

The **Wetland Knowledge Exchange** is offering a webinar on February 16th. Kelly Bona and Kara Webster will be discussing the Canadian model for peatlands (CaMP). Registration for this free webinar can be found [here](#).

A recent article featuring Dr. David Sauchyn was published in the Western Producer; **["Prairie precipitation predictions: the right amounts at the wrong times"](#)**.

Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society (AWES) is presenting a workshop in partnership with Rural Routes to Climate Solutions (RR2CS) which will explore the role agroforestry plays in erosion control, with particular focus on the Albertan landscape. Register [here](#).

People from local government, researchers, policy makers and educators rely on [Municipal Natural Assets Initiative](#) to keep up-to-date on the latest in measuring, managing and valuing of natural assets. Subscribe to their newsletter for more information.

Ducks Unlimited has published a new **Alberta Wetland Classification Field Guide**. You can [download](#) an updated copy or purchase a copy [here](#).

Check out the [NSWA DISCOVERS](#) section on our website with watershed resources and activities for adults and children. There are many activities to encourage watershed learning for your family.



SUPPORT THE WORK OF NSWA

The NSWA accepts donations through the **ATB Cares** program which matches 15% of every dollar donated to Alberta-based charities through their [ATB Cares Web Portal](#). It is easy to use and automatically issues a charitable tax receipt for donations \$10 and over.

For more information on supporting our watershed projects go to our [DONATE](#) webpage.



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