

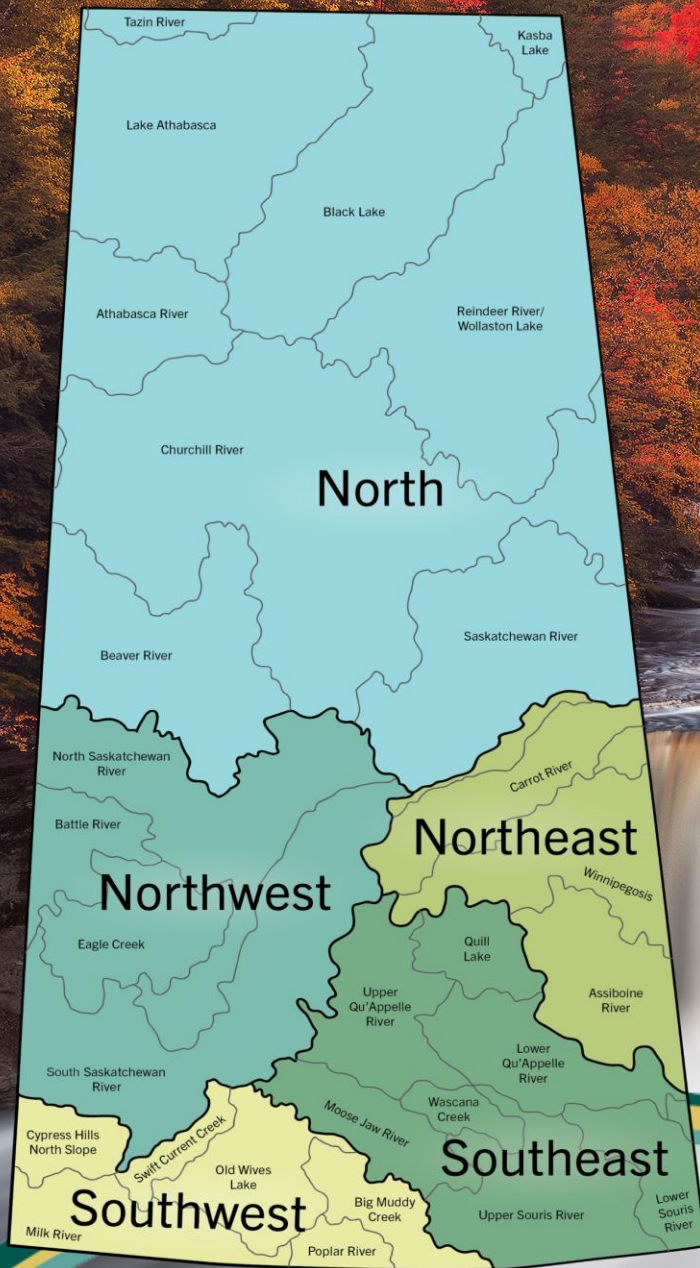
SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHEDS (SAW)

Where Water, Wellness and Communities Meet

Presentation Overview

- SAW Organization
- Programs/Project
- Community Engagement Discussion





Non-profit provincial organization.

5 District Advisory Committees (DAC) covering 29 watersheds.

SAW board representatives are nominated by the DACs.

Deliver a variety of land and water stewardship programs and projects across Saskatchewan to improve water quality and quantity.



SAW's Strategic Plan (2024-2026)

SAW's Vision

- Sustainable watersheds to support life and health

SAW's Values

- Partnerships
- Service Excellence
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Non-Partisan

Deliverables

- Support Communities by addressing water quality concerns
 - Enhance Climate Variability and Adaptation
- Support Watershed Stewardship - Agriculture
 - Support Lake Community Stewardship



Climate Resiliency Programming

- Watershed Stewardship for a Changing Climate
- Drought Preparedness Planning for Communities
- Applying a Landscape Approach to Improve Biodiversity
 - Stewardship on the Shore





Watershed Stewardship for a Changing Climate Project (CCAP)

- Three Year Project funded through Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Currently in Year 3 of the project – NE, SE and NW Plans completed. SW and Northern District in progress.
- Videos Produced

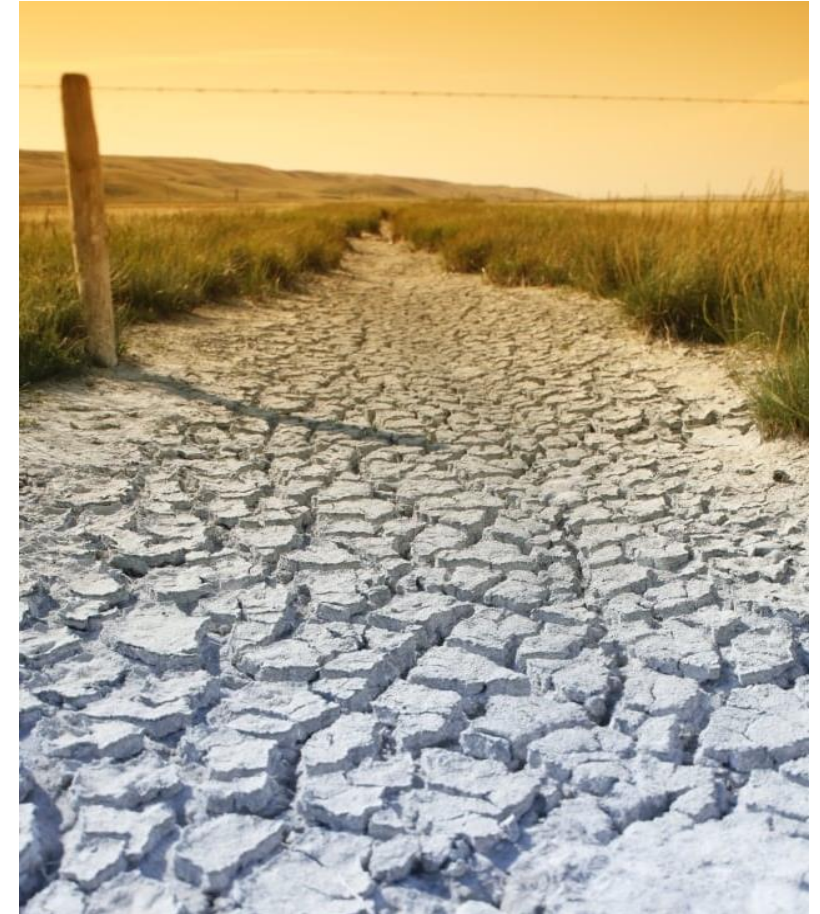
[Floating Treatment Wetlands](#)

[Forestry and Climate Resiliency](#)

[Rotational Grazing, A Climate Adaption Resiliency Tool](#)

Drought Preparedness Planning for Rural Communities

- Completed plans for the Town of Cabri, Town of Hudson Bay and the Hamlet of Vanguard in 2024/25.
- 2025-26 – Planning for Towns of Craik, Herbert and Cities of Estevan and Weyburn.



Applying a Landscape Approach to Improve Biodiversity

Three Year Project in the North

Saskatchewan River Watershed:

- 10 Eco-Buffer Shelterbelt and Pollinator Projects
- 5 Livestock Off-site Watering Sites
- Floating Treated Wetland
- 5 Workshops



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada



Stewardship on the Shore

Two Year Project – Canada Water Agency

- Lake Stewardship BMP Strategy developed.
- Fact Sheet Brochures
- Four Demonstration Sites
 - Jackfish and Murray Lake



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Climate Change Canada

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Changement climatique Canada



Floating Treated Wetland (FTW) Project



Partnership with City of Yorkton and Wawanesa Insurance.

Implement FTW on Hopson Lake Stormwater Pond in the City of Yorkton.

2024 – implemented a FTW on Kensington Pond, Saskatoon



Agriculture Stewardship Programming

- **Prairie Watersheds Climate Program**
(Now the Saskatchewan Watersheds Environmental Agriculture Program- SWEAP)
- **ALUS – Carrot River Watershed Program**



Prairie Watersheds Climate Program (PWCP)

- Funding provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Joint Partnerships with Manitoba Association of Watersheds
- Financial support to agriculture producers in Saskatchewan to accelerate implementation of on-farm beneficial management practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration



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Eligible Beneficial Management Practice (BMP) Categories

1. Improving Nitrogen Management
2. Increasing the adoption of cover cropping
3. Expanding the adoption of rotational grazing



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Prairie Watersheds Climate Program

Program Results

- 3840 producer applications from 2022-2025
 - 1828 producers
 - 28,803,881.22 million dollars of producer funding provided.
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- Saskatchewan Watersheds Environmental Agriculture Program Launch 2025-2028 (SWEAP)
 - \$40 million dollars for Sask producers.



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

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Agroalimentaire Canada



Alternative Land Use Systems (ALUS) – Carrot River Watershed

- Agricultural Ecological Goods and Services Program in partnership with ALUS
- Ag producers receive 5-year annual payments to convert marginal land to forage, restore wetlands, regenerative agriculture practices shelterbelts and field to water's edge projects (riparian buffers) within the Carrot River Watershed
- 2025-26 – approx. 900 acres of programming available
- In the process of transferring the ALUS/Wascana Upper Qu'Appelle program to SAW

Helping farmers and ranchers build nature-based solutions on their land



Community Engagement

Working together!

- The thought of climate change adaptation continues to be a struggle. We are finding this through our CCAP project. Saskatchewan climate is variable, and it is still a “**hard sell**” for many Canadians to believe it is happening.
- **Change in messaging** – using the words climate change is a trigger. Using the words climate extremes and variability or climate adaptation may be a better choice to consider.
- **Engagement** – instead of providing climate or scientific facts at the front of discussions, consider engaging the public or communities by hearing their stories and impacts and then relating it back to the science.
- **You can’t do it alone** - Partnerships and collaboration are important. SAW’s organization would not exist without partnerships with communities, all levels of government, Indigenous communities, rural and urban municipalities. We wouldn’t be able to do the work we have done without the support of partners/stakeholders.



Questions

Where Water, Wellness & Communities Meet!

