

Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program Grant Approval Fact Sheet

The Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP) aims to protect communities from floods and drought by improving natural watershed functions.

WRRP Grants (April 2017)

Recipient	Project Description	Amount
Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society	Location: Priority watersheds throughout the Province Partnering with 11 rural municipalities in priority watersheds to deliver local training to riparian landowners that will lead directly to landowner-led riparian enhancement projects.	\$70,520
Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership Society	Location: Calgary and Edmonton Design and construction of rain gardens on public land to create community demonstration hubs with multi-year monitoring, evaluation and outreach on learnings.	\$873,246
Battle River Watershed Alliance	Location: Battle River basin Engagement with agricultural landowners with intent to lead to riparian restoration/enhancement work in a three-year project plan.	\$91,125
Bow River Basin Council	Location: Bow River basin Design and construction of naturalized stormwater retention facility with monitoring, evaluation and outreach.	\$235,000
The City of Calgary	Location: Bow River basin Soil bio-engineering demonstration site with education program and facilities to promote natural riparian stream bank mitigation and improve fish habitat.	\$522,500
Clearwater County	Location: North Saskatchewan River basin Project will work with several partners to deliver education and outreach leading to riparian restoration on agricultural land.	\$120,000
County of Warner	Location: Milk River basin Riparian enhancement with fencing and off-site watering systems for flood and drought mitigation as well as water quality improvement.	\$157,000
Gull Lake Watershed Society	Location: Red Deer River basin Project will work with the community to restore wetland function for flood and drought mitigation.	\$99,800
Lac Ste. Anne County	Location: Athabasca and North Saskatchewan River basins Project will engage the agricultural community and work with the Alternative Land Use Services program over four years to restore and conserve up to 72 hectares of riparian lands.	\$609,972
Lakeland Industry and Community Association (LICA) for Beaver River Watershed Alliance	Location: Beaver River basin Aerial riparian assessment of Moose Lake River, riparian restoration on private and crown lands and identification of sites for future work.	\$42,000
Legacy Land Trust Society	Location: Red Deer River basin Outreach and direct engagement to 100 riparian landowners. Stewardship actions and conservation agreements with landowners.	\$80,200

Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance	Location: Peace River basin Planning, restoration and monitoring of ephemeral stream in Niobe Creek watershed with outreach workshops to build local capacity.	\$172,843
Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance	Location: Peace River basin Project will complete riparian health assessments and restore stream livestock crossing with outreach and extension.	\$98,500
Miistakis Institute	Location: Priority watershed to be selected Four half day workshops and a toolkit pilot test with a municipality in priority watershed.	\$60,275
Milk River Watershed Council of Canada	Location: Milk River basin Riparian restoration and wetland enhancement projects at prioritized sites over two years with agricultural landowners.	\$250,000
Nature Conservancy of Canada – Cervo Block	Location: Oldman River basin Project will install riparian fencing on grazed land secured with conservation easement to enhance riparian area.	\$59,476
Nature Conservancy of Canada – Marsh	Location: Oldman River basin Project will enhance riparian area on grazed land secured with conservation easement.	\$17,780
North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance – Vermilion, Sturgeon	Location: North Saskatchewan River basin Development of a decision support tool for assessing watershed resiliency management practices.	\$75,000
North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance – Strawberry	Location: North Saskatchewan River basin Watershed scale riparian assessment and prioritization of sites for restoration.	\$65,000
Northern Sunrise County	Location: Peace River basin Restoration and enhancement of 15 hectares riparian and wetland area.	\$66,796
Siksika Lands and Resources	Location: Bow River basin Wetland and riparian enhancement priority plans will be developed to guide restoration.	\$50,000
St. Mary River Irrigation District	Location: Oldman River and South Saskatchewan River basins Fencing 12.8 km and three off-stream water system for riparian conservation and workshops with landowners.	\$94,000
South East Alberta Watershed Alliance Society (SEAWA)	Location: South Saskatchewan River basin Project will conduct riparian assessment and work with landowners to restore 10 kilometres riparian area along Seven Persons Creek.	\$221,000
Southern Alberta Land Trust Society	Location: Oldman River basin Priority areas identified at a finer scale in Oldman River basin and landowner engagement on stewardship and conservation practices.	\$99,400
Starland County	Location: Red Deer River basin Interpretive wetland boardwalk and community outreach on beaver co-existence tools in Michichi Creek.	\$93,000
The Sustainable Red Deer Society	Location: Red Deer River basin Project will implement year four of five-year community riparian restoration and beaver habitat project along Piper Creek with multiple partners and extensive community outreach.	\$30,500
Taber Irrigation District	Location: Oldman River basin Project will implement fencing around reservoirs and off site water systems as part of an integrated stormwater management plan.	\$70,000

Western Irrigation District/Wheatland County	Location: Bow River basin Working in partnership to implement agricultural best management practices based on previous studies and assessments to enhance riparian areas and wetlands.	\$198,500
Western Sky Land Trust Society	Location: Bow River basin Direct engagement to 225 riparian land owners on land conservation and stewardship practices.	\$237,550
TOTAL		\$4,860,983

Applicant Eligibility

Non-governmental organizations, stewardship groups and other not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, First Nations, and all local authorities are eligible to receive funds under the program, provided that it is for a project undertaken in partnership with landowners. Private entities, whether it is an individual or enterprise, are eligible to participate and contribute to projects but are not eligible to receive funding under the WRRP. Partnerships between multiple stakeholders are encouraged under this program.

Project Eligibility

The WRRP is limited to watershed mitigation efforts that promote the long-term ability of watersheds to mitigate the effects of future flood and drought events and help communities adapt to a changing climate. Examples of eligible projects include:

- Riparian enhancements (e.g. fencing, plantings, grazing management, off-stream watering, etc.)
- Wetland enhancements (e.g. wetland creation, conservation or restoration, etc.)
- Floodplain/river improvements (e.g. channel naturalization, removal of old structures, removal of flow impediments, re-vegetation, floodplain storage capacity enhancements, etc.)
- Creation/increase of absorptive capacities of a watershed
- Irrigation and drainage district enhancements
- Conservation initiatives
- Data collection efforts for the purpose of research, evaluation and assessment related to a specific project(s) for watershed resiliency
- Education and outreach associated with a specific project(s) for watershed resiliency

Structural projects eligible for funding under Environment and Parks' Alberta Community Resiliency Program (ACRP) are **not** eligible to receive funding under the WRRP. Examples of **ineligible** projects include:

- Structural restoration or construction: dams, berms, dykes, tunnels, riprap, storm water ponds
- Municipal infrastructure, such as stormwater ponds, etc.
- Groyne and other in-stream structures
- River training or realignment
- Erosion protection efforts

Project Selection Criteria

The primary criteria are the degree to which the project mitigates the impacts from flood or droughts and impact on community safety and health (e.g. headwaters and floodplains where individuals could be affected). Secondary criteria such as biodiversity and additional environmental benefits, and complimentary criteria including data gathering, capacity building and outreach, education and stewardship, will also be considered.