

Next Meeting for the
La Salle River Watershed
Planning Advisory Team
(WPAT) will be on
Friday, January 19th, 2007 at
the Community Hall in
Starbuck (25 Main Street)
starting at 9:00 a.m.

La Salle River Integrated Watershed Management Plan
 Watershed Planning Authority Team (WPAT) Meeting #3
 December 8, 2006 at 9:00 am
 Starbuck Community Hall, Starbuck Manitoba

Present:

Watershed Planning Authority Members (WPA) (LSRBCD members)

Chairperson -	Mr. Doug Dobrowolski	Present
Vice-Chairperson-	Mr. Roland Rasmussen	Present
	Mr. Marshall Piper	Present
	Mr. Gordon Ducharme	Absent
	Mr. Owen Williams	Absent
	Mr. Rodney Burns	Absent
	Mr. Claude Menard	Present
	Mr. Bill Alford	Present

Project Management Team (PMT)

La Salle Redboine CD -	Mr. David Huck	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship	Mr. Barry Oswald	Present

Watershed Planning Authority Team (WPAT)

Community of Oakville	Mr. Bill Alford	Present
White Plains Crop Improvement Association	Mr. Dan Caron	Present
Keystone Agricultural Producers	Mr. Ray Franzmann	Present
Manitoba Pork Council	Ms. Wendy Friesen	Present
Winnipeg Naturalist Services Branch- Alternate	Mr. Mike Quigley	Present
Portage la Prairie School Division – Alternate	Ms. Joan McCallister	Present
RM of Cartier	Mr. Roland Rasmussen	Present
Organic Producers Association	Ms. Lori-Ann Regnier	Present
Community of St. Claude	Mr. Raymond Theroux	Present
RM of Grey - alternate	Mr. Richard Penner	Present
Waldhiem Colony	Mr. Samuel Waldner	Present

Watershed Planning Authority Team (WPAT) – Technical Sub-Group

Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada	Mr. Jason Vanrobaeys	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship – Hydrology	Mr. Scott Herbert	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship – Surface Water Quality	Mr. Rollie Fortin	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship – Licensing Drainage	Mr. Geoff Reimer	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship – Licensing Allocation	Ms. Shannon Beattie	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship – Licensing Allocation	Mr. Pat Hailley	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship – Groundwater	Mr. Graham Phipps	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship - Water Services Branch	Mr. Richard Pasquill	Present
Manitoba Water Stewardship- Fisheries	Mr. Ken Kansas	Present
Manitoba Transportation & Government Services- Alternate	Mr. Al Clarkson	Present

Recording Secretary

La Salle Redboine CD-	Ms. Amanda Jeffrey	Present
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1. Call to order

- WPA Chairperson D. Dobrowolski called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.
- General introductions of individuals and organizations in attendance
 - On agenda moved item #2- Watershed Issues and Options Discussion – Discussions from the floor to after agenda item #3.

2. Watershed Information Reports and Planning Group Questions: (originally #3)

A. State of the Watershed Report- Manitoba Water Stewardship – Fisheries Branch – Ken Kansas *please refer to tab 10 for complete presentation details

- Report was submitted by North/South Consultants and presented by Mr. Ken Kansas.
- The fishery resources are being impacted by various human activities and natural occurrences. Investigations indicate the presence of few fish species that can live in poor conditions. La Salle River is the main fish bearing water course in the watershed. In 2005 La Salle River Watershed Assessment survey identified 33 species of fish. The aquatic habitat in the mid/upper reaches of the river is impacted by water withdrawals, excessive nutrient loading and the series of low head dams.
- The Issues of concern is excessive nutrient loading, degraded riparian buffer zones along the river and associated drainage network reduces buffering of nutrient and sediment loading into the river from upslope sources. Reduced flow in the river due to water withdrawals for domestic irrigation purposed reduces quality.

Questions?

Q: Are there any recommendations?

A: The recommendation is to “beef up” riparian areas, improve the habitat. Over the years the river has been abused and that needs to be slowed down.

B. State of the Watershed Report- Manitoba Conservation- Remote Sensing Branch – Gerry Lux *please refer to tab 13 for complete presentation details

- Resolution is 30 meter pixels. Coverage is 180 x 180 km²
- Remote Sensing is acquiring information without being in contact with it. This is done by recording reflected/emitted electromagnetic energy.
- To classify an image, training areas are drawn around cover types that are to be included in the classification. Once the classification process is complete it moves to editing. There are 17 classes. Classified data provides a good overview of the area.
- Website :web2.Gov.mb.ca/mli
- For the smaller version of the map it was requested that there be a sheet with information about the classifications that are on the map.

Questions?

Q: Is this similar/ related to the information that came from the PFRA study in 2004.

A: The map came from that PFRA study.

Q: For Google Earth where does that information come from?

A: The information comes from Landsat 7.

C. State of the Watershed Report – Manitoba Water Stewardship – Drainage Infrastructure- Geoff Reimer *please refer to tab 12 for complete presentation details

- The department of Water Stewardships Regional Infrastructure and Operations Department was started in the late 1950's. The goal was to undertake engineering, construction, design and administration for dams, drainage ditches, flood control, reservoirs, drinking and waste water systems. At its peak they employed approx 400 people. Currently it is 25% of its original size. The focus is now to improve drainage, flood control and maintenance.
- Maintenance is mainly fixing broken or damaged infrastructure, responding to complaints by municipalities or landowners. The annual budget is 2 million but replacing 1 bridge can take up to 1/5 of the budget.
- Recently a review of the Water Rights Act has been undertaken by cabinet. This Act is intended to give more enforcement powers to the staff and effectively deal with drainage offences as they occur. The new legislation will give officers the ability to issue fines, notices, and equipment seizures.
- The existing drainage system, jurisdiction over waterways, drain design process and water rights licensing was also reviewed.

Questions?

Q: What kind of schooling will the employees have to take in order to issue the tickets and seize the property?

A: The employees will be doing training with the RCMP in Regina, but there is no word on when that would be happening.

Q: When someone sends in an application for a drainage license how long is the application processes suppose to take?

A: That process is supposed to take 6 weeks. It sometimes does take longer if waiting on final signatures or for more information.

Q: Is there routine maintenance reports done on the bridges/culverts?

A: There were routine reports/ inspections done on the bridges/culverts until 1991. Then there were budget cuts. Currently they are working on assessing the bridges and culverts, but this is a lengthy processes.

D. State of the Watershed Report- Manitoba Water Services Board- Rural Water Pipelines- Richard Pasquill *please refer to tab 14 for complete presentation details

- The Community Water Source Development Program is administered jointly by Water Stewardship, through the Manitoba Water Services Board, and Agriculture Canada through PFRA. The objective is to assist local governments or legally incorporated groups of 5 or more individuals who have permission from their local governments, to identify and develop a water supply. They provide four forms of technical assistance.
- PFRA provides a rebate on all eligible costs on approved projects.
- The Farm Water Source and Rural Water Pipeline is a co-op venture between Water Stewardship and PFRA. They provide adequate supplies of suitable water for farms needs or develop rural water pipelines for domestic and livestock need. To be eligible for the Farm Water Source they must be bona fide farmers. PFRA and MWSB provide forms of technical and financial assistance.

Questions?

Q: What is the number of users that rely on the dugouts?

A: The number of users depends on the area. For example the Sanford area is 40%.

Q: What are the plans for the accommodating future demands?

A: For future demands, the use of booster stations would be brought in. Also bringing in water from other water supplies would be done.

E. State of the Watershed Report – Manitoba Transportation and Government Services- Allan Clarkson*please refer to tab 15 for complete presentation details

- The department was authorized by the province to establish and manage Manitoba's Highways. Their responsibilities are drainage structures and ditches along the highway. The department maintains an inventory for all of their highways and bridges. Trends that have been developing are public having higher expectations, and ditches along the roads had been deepened to improve drainage but result in slope failures. Concerns are drainage and spills of hazardous materials.

3. Watershed Issues and Options Discussion – Discussions from the floor (originally #2)

- Over the next two meetings all the technical reports should be submitted and presented.

4. Next Meeting

a. Next meeting date, location and time?

- A vote was taken and the majority agreed that morning meetings worked the best for them.

NEXT MEETING – *Friday, January 19th, 2007 at the Community Hall in Starbuck, starting at 9:00 a.m.*

5. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am

Approved:

Amanda Jeffrey

WPA Chairperson - D. Dobrowolski

Recording Secretary – A. Jeffrey

