

DEFINITIONS:

RIPARIAN HEALTH ASSESSMENT – assessment is essentially a “report card” that gives producers, resource managers and landowners an understanding of the health and condition of riparian areas.

RIPARIAN RIGHT - A right (as access to or use of the shore, bed, and water) of one owning riparian.

RIVER BASIN - The entire geographical area drained by a river and its tributaries.

Alberta is divided into seven major river basins or major river systems, namely:

- Peace/Slave River Basin
- Athabasca River Basin
- Hay River Basin
- Beaver River Basin
- North Saskatchewan River Basin
- South Saskatchewan River Basin
- Milk River Basin

WATERSHED - a region or area bounded peripherally by a divide and draining ultimately to a particular watercourse or body of water.

WATERSHED PROTECTION - The treatment of watershed lands in accordance with such predetermined objectives as the control of erosion, stream flow, silting floods, and water, forage, or timber yield.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT -The analysis, protection, development, operation or maintenance of the land, vegetation and water resources of a drainage basin for the conservation of all its resources for the benefit of its residents. Watershed management for water production is concerned with the quality and timing of the water which is produced.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN - Is a living document, a vision for protecting and restoring your watershed and a plan for carrying it out. The process of watershed planning can have benefits beyond the road map that is created by helping to build a sense of community by bringing together people with different backgrounds and perspectives to define the future of their area, by helping identify the community's cultural, historical, and natural resources, and by educating the public about their watersheds and the issues it faces.

WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - Water Management Plans help individual facilities set long- and short-term water conservation goals.

STATE OF WATERSHED REPORTS – report on condition and status of watersheds.

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS - is an ecosystem located in a body of water. Communities of organisms that are dependent on each other and on their environment live in aquatic ecosystems. The two main types of aquatic ecosystems are marine ecosystems and freshwater ecosystems.

INFLOW STREAM NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Inflow – something that flows into a place or containers

Stream – a narrow and shallow river

Needs - used before or after "must" to reinforce necessity, urgency, or inevitability

Assessment - a judgment about something based on an understanding of the situation

STREAMBANK EROSION - The wearing away of streambanks by flowing water.

HABITAT FRAGMENTATION - is the separation of a landscape into various landuses (e.g., development, agriculture, etc.), resulting in numerous small, disjunctive habitat patches left for use by wildlife.

POINT-SOURCE POLLUTION - water pollution coming from a single point, such as a sewage-outflow pipe.

NON-POINT SOURCE (NPS) POLLUTION - pollution discharged over a wide land area, not from one specific location. These are forms of diffuse pollution caused by sediment, nutrients, organic and toxic substances originating from land-use activities, which are carried to lakes and streams by surface runoff. Non-point source pollution is contamination that occurs when rainwater, snowmelt, or irrigation washes off plowed fields, city streets, or suburban backyards. As this runoff moves across the land surface, it picks up soil particles and pollutants, such as nutrients and pesticides.

NOTE: the above definitions have been provided by various resources and are not for the use of legal purpose, definitions or actions.