

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

DESIGNATION OF WATER PLANNING AUTHORITY

FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE

FISHER RIVER INTEGRATED WATERSHED

MANAGEMENT PLAN

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is between:

GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA
as represented by Manitoba Water Stewardship –
Watershed Planning and Programs
(Hereinafter referred to as Manitoba)

and the

EAST INTERLAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (EICD)

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to designate a Water Planning Authority for the development of the Fisher River Integrated Watershed Management Plan.

2. VISION

The vision is that watershed stakeholders, municipalities and government agencies will work through the planning process cooperatively, identify the priority issues and concerns of all groups, utilize local knowledge and scientific information to develop objectives and actions, reach consensus on funding and implementation, and develop the Fisher River Integrated Watershed Management Plan.

Manitoba realizes that effective and sustainable watershed management must include local involvement in the planning and management of the natural resources and be the shared management responsibility of all stakeholders and watershed residents.

3. AGREEMENTS

Manitoba agrees to:

1. Designate the East Interlake Conservation District as the Water Planning Authority for the Fisher River watershed as shown in Figure 1 and as authorized by *The Water Protection Act*.
2. Provide a Watershed Planner from Manitoba Water Stewardship – Watershed Planning and Programs to assist with the planning process.
3. Provide a watershed management planning grant of \$25,000 to the East Interlake Conservation District.
4. Provide additional in-kind financial and technical support from other provincial staff through the provision of information necessary for the development of the plan.

East Interlake Conservation District agrees to:

1. Become the Water Planning Authority for the Fisher River watershed as shown in Figure 1.
2. Play the lead role in the development and implementation of the Fisher River Integrated Watershed Management Plan, with an understanding of the value in developing the plan as a document that identifies and focuses on priorities and provides direction on watershed management efforts and activities over the next 5-10 years.
3. Use the watershed management planning grant of \$25,000 for eligible items and activities as listed in Appendix 1 and return any unexpended funds to the Province at the completion of plan development.
4. Commit financial and staff resources to the planning process and the development of the plan.

Both Parties agree to:

1. Work together to develop a Terms of Reference for the development of the Fisher River Integrated Watershed Management Plan.
2. Strive to complete the plan within two years from the date the plan is initiated.

3. Provide watershed stakeholders with meaningful opportunities to participate in the planning process.
4. Develop the Fisher River Integrated Watershed Management Plan in accordance with *The Water Protection Act*.

4. DURATION

This MOU becomes effective on the date of signatures below.

This MOU is ongoing unless it is terminated by either Party upon written notice to the other Party.

This MOU may be amended at any time by mutual accord.

Signed:

The Honourable Christine Melnick
Minister of Water Stewardship
Government of Manitoba

Date

Wayne Hildebrand, Manager
Manitoba Water Stewardship
Watershed Planning and Programs

Date

Harold Foster, Chairman
East Interlake Conservation District

Date

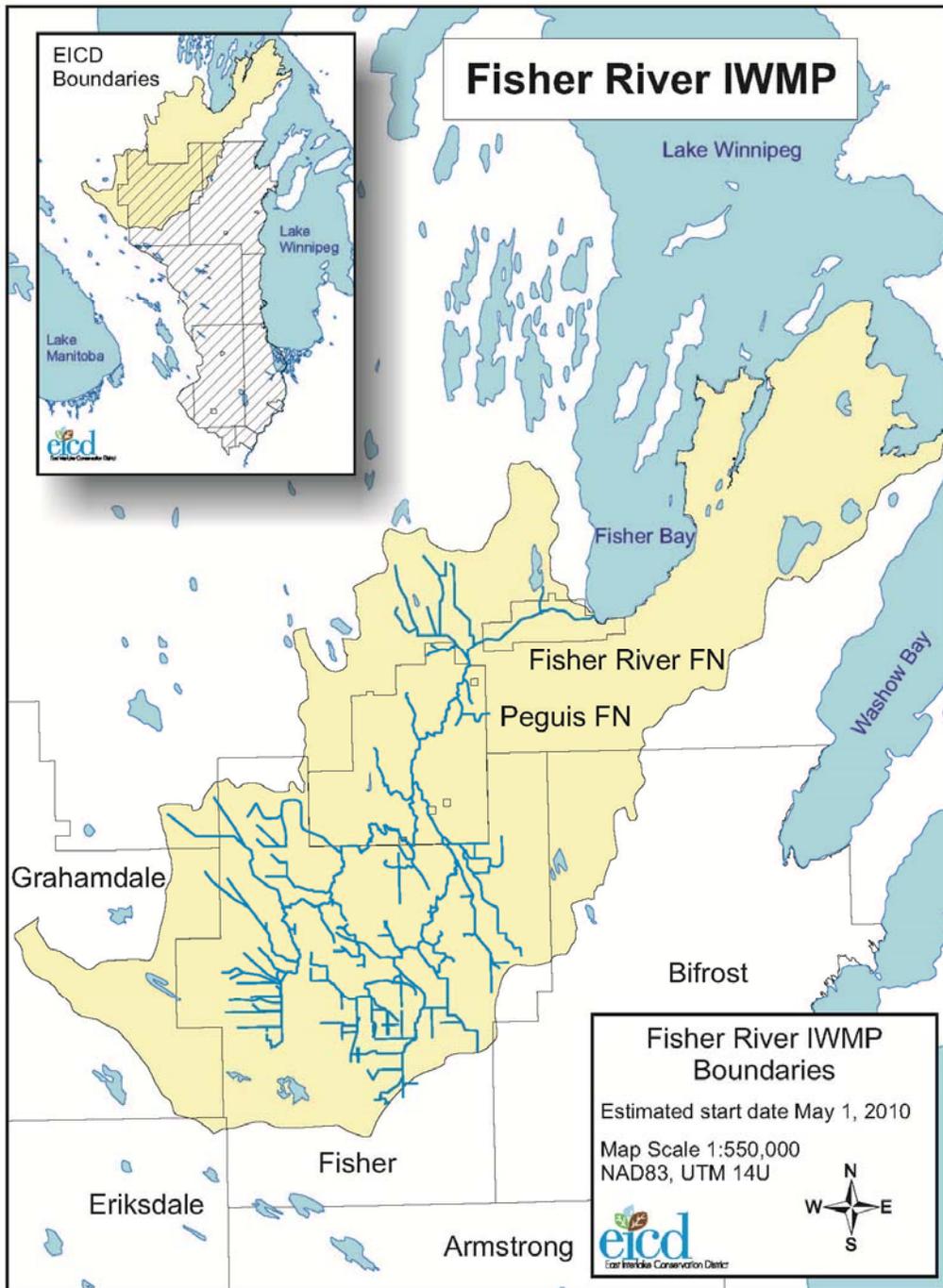


Figure 1: Fisher River Watershed

APPENDIX 1

Manitoba Water Stewardship - Integrated Watershed Management Planning Grant

Eligible expenses:

- Advertising and promotion directly related to the completion of the plan
- Design, printing and photocopy expenses related to documents developed during the planning process and for discussion at public consultations
- Printing expenses for final plan
- Facilitator or consultant expenses
- Expenses (hall rental, refreshments) associated with hosting meetings

Ineligible expenses:

- Water Planning Authority, Project Management Team or Conservation District staff remuneration and salary expenses
- Administrative and operational (general office) expenses
- Assets including office or field equipment

Unexpended Funds

- All unexpended funds must be returned to the Province of Manitoba upon completion of plan development

Reporting:

- A summary of grant expenditures for the fiscal year must be submitted annually, in April. The report must show all related expenses incurred as a result of the development of the Watershed Management Plan