

LSR Issue Summary

1. Water Quality

Technical Input

- Nutrient enrichment

Public Input

- Feedlots & corrals located in & near drainage runways
- Protection of riparian edge (stream&lake) mainly from cattle
- Cattle grazing along shores of rivers and lakes
- Ensure that there is ample clean water for future generations and the enhance aquatic life (fish)
- Drainage (illegal), pollution of water (too much manure, fertilizer), losing wetlands
- Water quality in lakes and rivers
- Dogs in water, not good, cow drink water from our lake
- Keep animals out of the Lake. Everyone should have a septic tank on the lake. People should not use soaps to wash in the lake
- Having good drinking water and keeping Sandy Lake algae free and safe swimming
- Runoff from fields on riparian lake, river and streams that carry chemicals from fertilizer, insecticide, herbicides etc. This is affecting the water quality with algae blooms etc. Affecting people, wildlife and fish
- Surface and water quality both nutrients and drainage levels
- Would like to see compulsory buffer zones approx 100 meters along all bodies of water
- Identify sewer issues from cabins around lakes
- Lake pollution is a concern to me. Police and stop sewage&graywater being put into Sandy Lake by cottages
- Keeping Sandy Lake clean and all other lakes in our area- and rivers as well
- Cottages w/ septic holding tanks. Many of these tanks leak either b/c of age or purposely punctured.
- Agricultural chemicals washing into water bodies
- Stabilization of waterways
- Fence all rivers ad lakes. Also major streams
- Water quality
- Encourage removal of livestock from access to water bodies, lakes, rivers, and streams
- Larger lakes protected with buffers
- Water quality for fishing, swimming
- Farmlands contribute to phosphates in Sandy Lake
- Nutrient enrichment. Nitrification of sloughs and algae blooms in lakes and ponds

- More water quality testing. From source of rivers & streams (i.e. Lake Audy, Whirlpool to Rovers - determine the extent of contaminants
- Impact of cattle operations near riparian areas. Especially where cattle have access to lakeshore and river banks
- Control town pollution by better sewage control
- Address the amount of fertilizer applied to farm land
- Nutrient management within an ecosystem is presently considered priority #1. We have little historical data and almost no present plan or stations to monitor within LSR watershed
- Water Quality-Target Clear Lake, Minnedosa Lake and Otter Lake. Protecting water quality overall. Water tests on the LSR@ regular intervals (10 miles).
- "Agriculture- Lagoon full of sewage & algae
- Why can they just drain them?
- They take water samples-its under control @ lagoon, but Sandy Lake has holding tanks that are polluting Sandy Lake that need to be controlled.
- Hog barns
- grey water
- boat motors"
- Keeping the water on Sandy Lake clean
- Surface Water Quality- Livestock with access to rivers and lakes, equivalent of raw sewage. Minnedosa Lake, chemicals
- Over application of Fertilizers (Nutrient levels, soil health. Animal manure in waterways
- Still Concerned about water quality-
- Soil Erosion eg West of Elphinstone along highway 45 ditches have gullies and should have stones & grass planted to prevent further erosion. Too much pollution from boats. Remove all outhouses around the lake, everyone should have holding tanks.
- Today's method of farming requires the use of chemicals. Though they are beneficial to production of grains, there is side effects, namely drainage to creeks and rivers which is undesirable to having good water. Also disposal of chemical containers should be closely monitored. Too many pets in the same water as people swim.
- surface water quality
- surface water quality

2. Drinking Water Protection

Technical Input

- Initial data collection indicates that Rivers and Rapid City may exceed the acceptable levels of trihalomethanes. Further sampling will be required to assess these levels.
- There are ten drinking water sources in the watershed: Minnedosa (3), Otter Lake, Rapid City (3), Rivers, Rivers Provincial Park, and Sportsman's Park that have been identified as being highly susceptible to potential pollution

Public Input

- Protect the waterways and streams that fill all the aquifers that people get potable water from
- Having good drinking in the future. Its real good now, hope it would be better in years to come
- Water quality for drinking (groundwater)
- guarantee a safe and sustainable drinking water supply for all residents in the watershed and beyond.
- Water quantity and quality for rural communities sustain for present & future growth gives predictions of climate change
- Clean drinking water for all
- Keep our drinking water safe
- Source water protection-Drinking water at risk
- To have good potable water
- drinking water protection

3. Surface Water Management

Technical Input

- Water managed at individual property scale

Public Input

- Excessive drainage of Ag lands
- Beavers
- Beavers
- Surface Water management and drainage- no public policy controlling ditching, bulldozing, draining etc
- Drainage- Present legislation has no teeth & enforcement is nil
- Control water by slowing spring runoff with public resources not asking ag to do it all
- Drainage
- Surface Water Management- weak enforcement-we don't see the effects. Drainage, in dry years there's less places for water to soak in. Takes phosphates.
- Drainage (mostly upstream in the watershed)- downstream flooding and erosion, habitat loss
- Preserving Water Quantity (conserving water and reducing water use). Spillover effect on other issues, conserve water and reduce use.
- Beavers are making too many dams, they are taking away arable land from farmers and destroying forests
- water not available when and where required
- Manage Drainage & Land clearing- reduces storage areas&causes downstream erosion problems.

4. Groundwater

Technical Input

- Sustainable yield values have not been determined for aquifers in the watershed. Therefore, the amount that can be withdrawn from the aquifers without depleting them over time is unknown
- Well location, construction, and maintenance are important factors in man-made water quality problems
- There are local impacts commonly measured in well water throughout the province
- Neglected, abandoned, or unused wells can act as a direct conduit for contaminants from the surface to our enter aquifers

Public Input

- Groundwater is a vital resource of prime value and must be managed intelligently. We need an accurate base of knowledge of every well intersection with current water test results. This must be web-based and available to all.
- Agriculture&Human requirements are dependant on groundwater in LSR. The gross drainage area is increasing of expense of storage area. The risk of potential loss of groundwater recharge is great
- Abandoned water wells
- Abandoned wells should be filled and sealed
- To try and find if possible all abandoned wells and seal if possible. Maybe if we can achieve 75% would be a success
- We depend on groundwater for human needs and are rapidly increasing use of chemicals within watershed. We have no real knowledge of groundwater chemistry
- Groundwater Contamination
- Old well capping&drainage. Land clearing
- Ground water not polluted
- Protect Groundwater Quality- increase riparian area buffer, identify septic tank& fuel failures, reduce drainage to protect marshes&wetlands, identify&seal old wells

5. Natural Areas

Technical Input

- Habitat loss continues at a rate greater than preservation and restoration efforts
- Riparian areas are being lost through encroachment by human activity
- Loss of wetlands to drainage and in-filling
- In-stream flow may be insufficient during certain times in the year in the Little Saskatchewan and Rolling Rivers

Public Input

- Riverbank stabilization within the Town of Minnedosa, particularly west of the swinging bridge and past the golf course. Each year we lose large slabs of river bank alongside the composting site
- Wildlife habitat&biodiversity

- Water quantity and quality flowing into Clear Lake from outside RMNP helps sustain healthy ecosystems now. This needs to be ensured into the future
- Loss of wetlands
- "Clearing and drainage
- destruction of wetlands and habitat"
- Ensure we protect the sloughs and tree cover to help filter out harmful nutrients from entering the rivers and lakes
- Shelterbelt bulldozing, huge livestock operations
- Draining of wetlands affecting people&wildlife, more and more land is being cleared&drained for ag and urban living
- Preserve marshlands/wetlands
- Riparian areas and wetlands becoming plentiful and healthy for future generations
- To try if possible to discontinue bulldozing bush for more land. Leave the bush for our birds and the bees and etc
- Large lakes used for boat recreation
- Protect riparian zones
- To keep our wild grasses plants and wildlife safe
- Preserve and restore natural landscapes. Bush&pasture being broken for grain production. Economic&demographic factors contributing to land clearing (↑ grain prices, ↓ cattle prices, many farmers approaching retirement). Influence of corporate farms&foreign farmers(don't know the land as well). Shortage of enforcement officers
- Riverbank Stabilization- slumping, within town of Minnedosa, maintenance of riffles
- Windbreaks being pulled down (Shelterbelts). Alter groundwater levels, can introduce alkalinity locally
- Slow or reverse the drainage issue, thereby saving filtering systems as well as wildlife and fish habitat