

\$5000 Available to Landowners!

Riparian Areas Assessment and Restoration Project Seven Persons Creek Watershed

This Project Will...

Assess riparian area conditions

Conditions will be rated as Good, Fair, or Poor using an aerial imagery assessment of the entire Seven Persons Creek watershed. Specific restoration sites will be assessed on the ground.

Restore a total of 10 km of riparian area

Eligible applicants (potential partners) can receive **50% of project costs, up to a maximum of \$5,000, including the cost of equipment, materials, and labour.**

Applications and restoration plans for funding are due in December 2017, pending program uptake. Projects can begin as soon as partnership agreements are signed. Projects must be completed by March 2019.

Educate the watershed community

An information forum will be held in Medicine Hat on November 2, 2017. This will be an opportunity to talk to landowners who have completed restoration work, learn more about the application process, and hear from experts about water quality and riparian health in the Seven Persons Creek watershed.

SEAWA will also be preparing information and resource materials for public stakeholders.

What Are Riparian Areas?

Riparian areas are the transition areas between streams and lakes, and adjacent uplands. They are important part of overall watershed function.

Healthy riparian areas provide biological and social ecological services including, but not limited to: improving water quality, floodwater conveyance and storage, bank and shoreline stabilization, recreational opportunity, and provision of habitat for many plants, fish, birds, and other animals.

Are You Eligible For Funding?

Funding is currently limited to areas within the Seven Persons Creek watershed, including lands adjacent to:

- **Seven Persons Creek**
- **Ross Creek**
- **Gros Ventre Creek**
- **Bullshead Creek**
- **Peigan Creek**
- **Murray Lake**
- **and their unnamed tributaries**

Interested landowners and land managers are encouraged to contact SEAWA for information on how to apply for funding. Projects will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis.

Eligible Projects May Include:

- Planting of native shrubs or trees, including installation of temporary water systems, installation of temporary protective cases around vegetation to deter browsing, and/or protecting bare sediment/soil with mulch or native plants
- Removal and disposal of invasive species and noxious weeds
- Fencing to manage livestock access to riparian areas
- Portable livestock shelters
- Installation of off-stream livestock watering systems
- Removal of old structures (excluding in-stream structures), flow impediments, and/or paved surfaces adjacent to streams or riparian areas
- Collection and disposal of garbage
- Installation of biodegradable erosion prevention materials
- Bio-engineering projects
- Establishing vegetative riparian buffers upslope of engineered erosion control structures
- Other partner proposed projects, subject to approval.



Photo: M. Montemayor

Degraded Riparian Area

The South East Alberta Watershed Alliance (SEAWA) is a multi-stakeholder, volunteer based, not-for-profit society designated as a Watershed Planning and Advisory Council (WPAC) by the Government of Alberta to help achieve the goals of the *Water for Life* strategy. (www.waterforlife.alberta.ca)

This project is part of SEAWA's goals to evaluate and report on watershed condition and promote environmental stewardship.

Visit www.seawa.ca for more information.



Photo: P. Jablkowski

Healthy Riparian Area

Please Contact...

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