

WPAT SUMMARY March 16, 2007-Shoal Lake

Assiniboine Birdtail Breakout Group

Group Members: Jeff Howard (UARCD); Guy Huberdeau-(UARCD, RM of Ellice); Roger Baird-(RMNP); Dwight Stewart-(Town of Birtle); Roger Wilson-(RM of Birtle); Don Lewis-(RM of Archie); Rodney Ashcroft-(Birtle Ag Society); Robbie Craig-(UARCD, PMT member).

- Group realized there were some representatives who could either not be present or who were sitting with another watershed group. Some other possible representatives of the Assiniboine Birdtail Watershed group should include:
 - Other RM representatives for Shellmouth-Boulton, Russell, Silver Creek, Rossburn, Miniota, and Shoal Lake.
 - Other Town/Village representatives for St. Lazare, Russell, Binscarth.
 - PFRA-Pastures and Crown Lands
 - DFO
 - Provincial Depts.
 - First Nations
 - Ag Groups (KAP, MCPA, Assiniboine Valley Producers)
 - Tourism Corridor Group
 - NRO's
 - Planning Districts of Tri-Roads, Rossburn, Carlton Trail, Shoal Lake, Midwest, Trans Canada West)
 - Decker Hutterite Colony
 - Conservation subdistrict members
- Brainstorm of Interests and concerns (in no particular order)
 - Proper water flow/control from Shellmouth Dam
 - Tourism
 - Agricultural use
 - Town and municipal
 - Habitat
 - Wildlife- good and bad
 - Highways and railways/ infrastructure
 - Wetland preservation and healthy riparian zones
 - Quality of living

- Water quality and quantity both surface and groundwater
- Soil health
- Need for testing and monitoring both water and soil
- Intensive Agricultural uses and regulations
- Cost benefit analysis, the next step/ costs of implementing
- Removal and control of impediments to passage in waterways
- Enforcement of the final plan/ recommended follow-ups
 - Will it have any teeth?
 - Who will enforce it?

- Loss of rural population
- Human impacts
- Water treatment lagoons, and proper waste disposal

- Vision and hopeful solutions of the plan (no order of preference)
 - Proper management of the Shellmouth Dam
 - Sustainable land use
 - Properly managed drainage, and the enforcement thereof
 - Siltation solutions
 - Improved or maintained water quality.
 - More monitoring and develop a baseline.
 - Phosphorous and nitrogen levels
 - Location of livestock operations
 - Creek buffers for all Ag use
 - Enforcement of the plan
 - Proper communication and implementation of the plan is absolutely vital.

THE VISION: *To see a long-term sustainable landscape that maximizes the natural diversity of the environment and provides both economic and ecological opportunities now and for generations that follow.*

Uses only summary:

- Agricultural, both crop and livestock.
- Urban use and infrastructure
- Recreational and tourism
- Wildlife use