

ALBERTA WETLAND HEALTH ASSESSMENT FOR  
LARGE RIVER SYSTEMS (Survey)

Record ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

Polygon No: \_\_\_\_\_

**ADMINISTRATIVE DATA**

**A1.** Field Data Collected by (Organization): \_\_\_\_\_  
**A2.** Funding Agency/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A3.** Date Field Data Collected: \_\_\_\_\_ **A4.** Year: \_\_\_\_\_ **A5.** Observers: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A6a.** Is this site representative?: \_\_\_\_\_ If **Yes**, **A6b.** choose category: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A6c.** How was this site chosen?: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A7a.** Park(s)? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **A7b.** Please Check all that apply:  National  Urban or Rural Municipalities  
 Provincial  Other  
**A7c.** Name? \_\_\_\_\_  
**A8a.** Other Protected Areas? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **A8b.** Please check all that apply:  Ecological  Conservation Easement  
 Environmental  Other  
 Municipal  
**A8c.** Name(s)/Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A9.** Watershed Group Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ **A10.** Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A11.** Is This Private Land? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **A11b.** Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A12a.** Is This Rented Private Land? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **A12b.** Renter's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A12c.** Renter's Home Legal Land Description: \_\_\_\_\_ **A12d.** County, if different than polygon: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A13a.** Is this Public Land? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **A13b.** Type (Federal,Prov., Municipal): \_\_\_\_\_  
**A13c.** Land Manager's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ **A13d.** Land Manager's Title, Office/Dept: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A14a.** Is this part of a grazing lease or grazing reserve? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **A14b.** Lessee Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A14c.** Agricultural disposition No.: GRL: \_\_\_\_\_ GRP: \_\_\_\_\_ FGL: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A14d.** Agricultural disposition Name (e.g., Community Pasture): \_\_\_\_\_  
**A15a.** Has this polygon been inventoried before? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **A15b.** Other years sampled: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A15c.** Does this polygon coincide exactly with a previously inventoried polygon? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_  
**A15d.** ID No.(s) of other inventories of this exact polygon: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
**A16a.** Does this polygon share common area with other inventoried polygon(s), but is not exact? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_  
**A16b.** ID No.(s) of other records sharing area with this polygon: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
**A17a.** Has a change in management occurred? (Yes; No, Unknown): \_\_\_\_\_ If **Yes**, **A17b.** Year changed occurred: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A17c.** Type of management change applied: \_\_\_\_\_  
**A18.** Primary Contact (Include agency name): \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION DATA**

**B1.** Province: \_\_\_\_\_ **B2.** Municipality or Reserve Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B3a.** Indian Reserve: \_\_\_\_\_ **B3b.** Military Reserve: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B4a.** Rural or Specialized Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_ **B4b.** Hamlet: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B5a.** City/Town/Village: \_\_\_\_\_ **B5b.** SubdivPlan #: \_\_\_\_\_ **B5c.** Block #: \_\_\_\_\_ **B5d.** Lot #: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B6a.** Waterbody Name: \_\_\_\_\_ **B6b.** Side of Waterbody: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B7.** Legal Land 1/4 1/4 Sec: \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4 Sec: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Township (NS): \_\_\_\_\_ Range (EW): \_\_\_\_\_ Meridian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B8a.** Natural Region: \_\_\_\_\_ **B8b.** Sub-Region: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B9a.** Major Watershed (e.g. North Saskatchewan River): \_\_\_\_\_  
**B9b.** Minor Watershed (e.g. Battle River): \_\_\_\_\_  
**B9c.** Sub-basin (e.g. Iron Creek): \_\_\_\_\_  
**B10a.** UTM coordinates of polygon Upper end: Easting: \_\_\_\_\_; Northing: \_\_\_\_\_; Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ GPS Projection: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B10b.** UTM coordinates of polygon Lower end: Easting: \_\_\_\_\_; Northing: \_\_\_\_\_; Zone: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B10c.** UTM coordinates of any other point of interest in the polygon: East: \_\_\_\_\_; North: \_\_\_\_\_; Zone: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B10d.** GPS Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ WPt Upper: \_\_\_\_\_ WPt Lower: \_\_\_\_\_ WPt Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B10e.** Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B11a.** Map Title(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
**B11b.** Map Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ **B11c.** Map Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
**B12.** Aerial Photo Info: Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Job#: \_\_\_\_\_ Line#: \_\_\_\_\_  
AS#: \_\_\_\_\_ Photo#: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Info: \_\_\_\_\_

**SELECTED SUMMARY DATA**

Polygon Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Record ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

**C1.** Water body type: \_\_\_\_\_ **C2.** Polygon size (acres): \_\_\_\_\_ ; (hect): \_\_\_\_\_

**C3a.** Is the entire polygon upland? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ If **No**, **C3b.** Does the polygon consist entirely of functional wetland types? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **C3c.** Functional wetland (acres): \_\_\_\_\_ ; (hect): \_\_\_\_\_ **C3d.** Percent of total polygon: \_\_\_\_\_

**C4.** Channel length (mi): \_\_\_\_\_ ; (km): \_\_\_\_\_ **C5.** Number of river miles the polygon represents: \_\_\_\_\_ ; (km): \_\_\_\_\_

**C6a.** Average polygon width (ft): \_\_\_\_\_ ; (m): \_\_\_\_\_

**C6b.** Riparian zone width range (ft): \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ ; (m): \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**C7. Habitat Types and Community Types**

| Classification Type Name | Phase | Percent of Polygon | Successional Stage or Comments/Guides Used |
|--------------------------|-------|--------------------|--|
|                          |       |                    |  |
|                          |       |                    |  |

**OPTIONAL SITE CHARACTERISTICS**

**D1a.** Does the polygon has potential for tall woody type(s)? (Yes, No): \_\_\_\_\_

**D1b.** Does the polygon has tall woody type(s) present? (Yes, No): \_\_\_\_\_

**D2a.** Tree **AND** shrub removal by other than browse: None (0-5%); Light (6-25%); Moderate (26-50%); Heavy (>50%); NA; NC: \_\_\_\_\_

**D2b.** Basis of Call: \_\_\_\_\_

**D3.** Waterbody number (FMIS/Hydro code): \_\_\_\_\_

**D4a.** Is water quality data available on this waterbody? (Yes, No, Unknown, NA): \_\_\_\_\_

If **Yes**, **D4b.** Describe the reference for that data (name, year, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

**D5.** Detailed description of upper and lower ends and width (lateral boundaries) of the polygon:

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**PHOTOGRAPH DATA**

Polygon Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Record ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

**E1.** Identification of photos (taken at the most *upstream* end of polygon): Photographer: \_\_\_\_\_

Photo #: Upstream views/OUT of polygon (Describe Views) Camera Number: \_\_\_\_\_

WPt Upper: Easting  
Northing Zone \_\_\_\_\_

Downstream views/INTO the polygon (Describe Views)

**E2.** Identification of photos (taken at the most *downstream* end of polygon): Photographer: \_\_\_\_\_

Photo #: Downstream views/OUT of polygon (Describe Views) Camera Number: \_\_\_\_\_

WPt Lower: Easting  
Northing Zone \_\_\_\_\_

Upstream views/INTO the polygon (Describe Views)

**E3.** Other photos of the polygon): Photographer: \_\_\_\_\_

WPt: Easting  
Northing Zone Photo # Describe Views Camera Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**E3a.** Additional LOTIC photo page entered? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_

**E4a.** Is there an adjacent polygon *upstream*? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **E4b.** Adjacent Poly Name Upstream: \_\_\_\_\_

**E5a.** Is there an adjacent polygon *downstream*? (Yes; No): \_\_\_\_\_ **E5b.** Adjacent Poly Name Downstream: \_\_\_\_\_

**E6.** Film and Camera Specs: Camera Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Film Speed(ASA)/Image Quality (dpi): \_\_\_\_\_

Lens dia. (mm): \_\_\_\_\_ Lens foc. len. (mm): \_\_\_\_\_ Filter used (polarizer or none): \_\_\_\_\_

**RIVER HEALTH EVALUATION**

Polygon Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Record ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

|  | Actual Score | Possible Score | Comment |
|--|--------------|----------------|---------|
| 1. Cottonwood and Poplar Regeneration                      | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 2. Regeneration of other Native Tree Species               | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 3. Regeneration of Preferred Shrub Species                 | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 4. Standing Decadent and Dead Woody Material               | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 5a. Browse Util. of Preferred Trees and Shrubs             | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 5b. Woody Veg. Removal other than Browsing                 | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 6. Total Canopy Cover of Woody Species                     | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 7a. Total Canopy Cover of Invasive Plant Species           | _____        | _____          | _____   |
| 7b. Density/Distribution Pattern of Invasive Plant Species | _____        | _____          | _____   |

List Invasive Plant Species present, including Percent Canopy Cover and Density Distribution Class:

|                        | Can.Cov. | Dens. | Dist. |                               | Can.Cov. | Dens. | Dist. |                      | Can.Cov. | Dens. | Dist. |
|------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|----------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| blueweed:              | _____    | _____ | _____ | field bindweed:               | _____    | _____ | _____ | spotted knapweed:    | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| Canada thistle:        | _____    | _____ | _____ | leafy spurge:                 | _____    | _____ | _____ | tall buttercup:      | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| caragana:              | _____    | _____ | _____ | nodding thistle:              | _____    | _____ | _____ | tamarisk/salt cedar: | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| cleavers:              | _____    | _____ | _____ | ox-eye daisy:                 | _____    | _____ | _____ | white cockle:        | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| common burdock:        | _____    | _____ | _____ | perennial sow-thistle:        | _____    | _____ | _____ | yellow toadflax:     | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| common hound's-tongue: | _____    | _____ | _____ | purple loosestrife:           | _____    | _____ | _____ |                      |          |       |       |
| common tansy:          | _____    | _____ | _____ | Russian knapweed:             | _____    | _____ | _____ |                      |          |       |       |
| Dalmatian Toadflax:    | _____    | _____ | _____ | Russian olive:                | _____    | _____ | _____ | Others:              | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| diffuse knapweed:      | _____    | _____ | _____ | scentless chamomile:          | _____    | _____ | _____ | Others:              | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| downy ches:            | _____    | _____ | _____ | smooth perennial sow-thistle: | _____    | _____ | _____ |                      |          |       |       |
| European buckthorn:    | _____    | _____ | _____ |                               |          |       |       |                      |          |       |       |

2c. Are there elevated status species for this county? (Yes; No; NC):

|                 |       |                 |       |                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Elevated Sps 1: | _____ | Elevated Sps 2: | _____ | Elevated Sps 3: | _____ |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|

8. Disturbance-increaser Undesirable Herbaceous Species \_\_\_\_\_

**Vegetation Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_\_

9. River Bank Root Mass Protection \_\_\_\_\_

10. Human-Caused Bare Ground \_\_\_\_\_

11. Removal or Addition of Water from/to River System \_\_\_\_\_

12. Control of Flood Peak and Timing by Upstream Dam(s) \_\_\_\_\_

13. River Banks Structurally Altered by Human Activity \_\_\_\_\_

14. Human Physical Alteration to the Rest of the Polygon \_\_\_\_\_

15. Natural Floodplain Accessibility \_\_\_\_\_

**Soil / Hydrology Subtotal:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Overall Polygon Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RATING CALCULATION**

(Actual Score/Possible Score) X 100 = Rating Percent

Descriptive Category

Vegetation Rating: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ x 100 = \_\_\_\_\_

Soil / Hydrology: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ x 100 = \_\_\_\_\_

**OVERALL:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ x 100 = \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT CONCERNS**

Polygon Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Data Record ID: \_\_\_\_\_

The following items do not contribute to a site's score. Rather they help to quantify inherent physical site characteristics or assess the direction of change on a site. These data can be useful for planning future site management.

16a. Polygon trend (Is the polygon: Improving, Degrading, Static, or Status Unknown?): \_\_\_\_\_

(If "status unknown" answer NA to the sub-questions 16b and 16c)

16b. Has management influenced trend? (Yes; No; Unknown; NC; NA): \_\_\_\_\_

16c. Describe how health parameters have changed and justify your call.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

17. Vegetation use by animals: \_\_\_\_\_

18. Susceptibility of parent material to erosion: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Percent of streambank accessible to large animals: \_\_\_\_\_

20. Primary Land Use Sector:

- \_\_\_\_ Agriculture
- \_\_\_\_ Commercial
- \_\_\_\_ Energy (Oil, Gas, Coal)
- \_\_\_\_ Industrial (excl. other types listed)
- \_\_\_\_ Forestry
- \_\_\_\_ Recreation (excl. other types listed)
- \_\_\_\_ Parks/Protected Areas
- \_\_\_\_ Residential (excl. other types)
- \_\_\_\_ Rural Residential (excl. other types listed)
- \_\_\_\_ Acreage (excl. other types listed)
- \_\_\_\_ Lakefront/Waterfront (excl. other types listed)
- \_\_\_\_ Transportation
- \_\_\_\_ Utility
- \_\_\_\_ Institutional
- \_\_\_\_ Military
- \_\_\_\_ Open/Vacant
- \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

21a and b: Break down the polygon and the area adjacent to the polygon into the land uses listed (must total to approx. 100%):

|   | a) Polygon | b) Adjacent |
|---|------------|-------------|
| No land use apparent:                               | _____      | _____       |
| Turf grass (lawn):                                  | _____      | _____       |
| Tame pasture (grazing):                             | _____      | _____       |
| Native pasture (grazing):                           | _____      | _____       |
| Recreation (ATV paths, campsites, etc.):            | _____      | _____       |
| Development (buildings, corrals, paved lots, etc.): | _____      | _____       |
| Tilled Cropping:                                    | _____      | _____       |
| Perennial forage (e.g., alfalfa hayland):           | _____      | _____       |
| Roads:  | _____      | _____       |
| Logging:  | _____      | _____       |
| Mining:   | _____      | _____       |
| Railroads:  | _____      | _____       |
| Other:  | _____      | _____       |

Description of Other Usage Noted: \_\_\_\_\_

22. Comments and Observations:

\_\_\_\_\_  
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