

## **Watershed Restoration and Resiliency Program (WRRP) Fund Guidelines**

The Milk River Watershed Council Canada (MRWCC) has secured funding for residents and producers through the **Watershed Restoration and Resiliency Program (WRRP)** to initiate a riparian restoration and stewardship program.

Funding is available to residents and agricultural producers located along the North Fork Milk River (Reach1), and the Milk River Gravel-bed reach (Reach3), producers in other areas of the watershed will be considered based on project merit, and can include sites on tributaries of the Milk River such as Red Creek and Breed Creek. The targeted projects will improve riparian health of the Milk River and build resiliency to both flood and drought impact within the watershed as well as potentially improve water quality. [See Milk River Reach Map below].

### **Anticipated Outcome:**

- To provide assistance to producers along the Milk River and identify priority tributaries to build on their successes; identify and prioritize areas and resources required to maintain and improve healthy intact local watersheds
- To provide watershed coordination and funding opportunities for stewardship initiatives
- To communicate success stories from the WRRP to the membership, community at large, and the province and also by using projects as demonstration sites
- To be a leader and provide a model for watershed planning and advisory councils to undertake assistance for rural stakeholders

### **Project Prioritization:**

- Through consultation with municipal extension personnel, and in accordance with the goals and objectives set the WRRP steering committee
- Target projects in higher priority reaches of the Watershed
- Project ranking will be based on local priorities of the MRWCC Integrated Watershed Management Plan and recommendations from the State of the Watershed Report

### **Project Implementation:**

- Gap Analysis of stewardship activities and initiatives within the Milk River Watershed has been conducted to avoid duplication with other organizations with similar goals and interests
- Implement projects that meet the goals and outcomes of the project approved by WRRP steering committee

There are two sources of funding:

#### **1) Alberta Environment and Parks - \$70,000**

Project Types:

- Riparian Restoration – five locations (up to \$3,000 per individual per location)
- Riparian corridor fencing and exclusion fencing – five locations (up to \$10,000 per individual per location)

- Please note that this is a cost share funding opportunity
  - MRWCC will be responsible for material procurement
  - The landowner will be responsible for construction and all in-kind costs
- All projects to be completed by March, 2018

**2) Alberta Agriculture and Forestry - \$130,000 through the Growing Forward Program**

Project Types:

- Wintering Site Management
- Remote watering systems
  - Application for funding through the Growing Forward funding, Agricultural Watershed Enhancement Program
  - The primary target audience is the agricultural industry
  - Application forms available at the MRWCC office
  - All projects to be completed by March, 2018

The MRWCC has formed a WRRP Project Review Committee which will be responsible for selecting applicants based on funding eligibility. Please apply as soon as possible, as we are currently looking for shovel ready projects that meet the objectives of the program.

For more information please contact [tim@mrwcc.ca](mailto:tim@mrwcc.ca) or [mary@mrwcc.ca](mailto:mary@mrwcc.ca)

# Milk River Reach Map

North Fork – Reach 1

South Fork – Reach 2

Gravel Bed – Reach 3



