

Appendix A

Water Allocation/Demands in the Red Deer, Bow, Oldman and South Saskatchewan Sub-basins



W	ater Allocati	ons/Deman	ds in the Re	d Deer Rive	r Sub-Basir	า	
Mainstream Reaches/Tributaries	Private Ir	rigation	Urban Muni	cipalities (Citie Villages)	es, Towns,	Other Pur	poses⁴
	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Irrigated Area (ha)	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Actual Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Actual RF (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Return Flow (dam <sup>3</sup> )
	Red	Deer River Up	stream of Glen	nifer Reservo	ir		
Mainstem Red Deer River			167			368	
			572	863	690	1,465	
Ded Deer Diver Tributeries	047	04	124			283	2 204
Red Deer River Tributaries	247	94	ir ta Unatraam	Madiaina Diva		3,603	2,391
Mainstem Red Deer River	Gler	initer Reservo	ir to Upstream		r		
Mainsteni Red Deer River						379	
						889	
Red Deer River Tributaries	614	401				4,236	
			o Upstream Bli	ndman River		4,200	
Mainstream Red Deer River	160	49	24,053			447	
	259	133	26,848	45,613	29,229	1,683	
			14,866	-,	-, -	6,6765	
Red Deer River Tributaries <sup>5</sup>	995	616			125	5,633	3,069
		Blindma	an River to Dell	burn		•	
Mainstream Red Deer River	27	11				5,204	301
	114	48	1,696	8,518		48,533	1,650
E			8,882			677	
Red Deer River Tributaries <sup>5</sup>	484	184			421	12,651	
			Irn to Drumhell	er			
Mainstream Red Deer River	623	216	4 570	4 050			
	449	186	1,579	1,356		00.070	
Red Deer River Tributaries	15,000 1.976	3,239 888	909			29,376	
Red Deel River Tributaries	1,970		o Upstream Be	rry Crook			
Mainstream Red Deer River	2,457	585	1,110	ITY OFEER			
	43,257	6,739	6,630	4,801	2,432	23,376	
	2,450	700	0,000	1,001	2,102	135	
	2,.00		Creek to Bindlo	DSS		.30	
Mainstem Red Deer Riverf	7,230	1,735				1	
	7,085	1,786				844	
	2,527	731				105	
	5,306	1,556				14,463	
			Saskatchewa	n Border			
Mainstem Red Deer River	2,743	650	43				
	2,572	720		17		85	
	2,450	700				25	
Acadian Project	56,700	10,926					
Red Deer River Tributaries	1,192	295				929	

#### Table A.1

Notes:

1. Senior priority licences not subject to significant in-stream requirements.

2. Junior priority licences subject to Dickson Dam operation and IOs.

3. Junior priority licences subject to WCOs. Applicable to licences issued after May 1, 2005.

4. ""Other Purposes" include water management, industrial, commercial, habitat enhancement, recreation, and stock watering projects.

5. Municipal return flows originate from communities on tributaries. Their water sources are aquifers.



			Table	A.2				
Mainstream Reaches/Tributaries	District	locations/De Private Irri			cipalities (Cit		Other Pu	poses <sup>3</sup>
Reaches/Indutaries	Irrigation Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Area (ha)	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Villages) 2030 Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Return Flow	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Return Flow (dam <sup>3</sup> )
		Bow River Up	stream of	Bearspaw Re	servoir			
Mainstem Bow River		446	159	12,040 2,391	15,050	12,040	8,469 2,421	5,364
Bow River Tributaries		236	118				2,767	125
		Bow River B	Bearspaw t	o Upstream E	lbow			
Mainstem Bow River		33	7	<u>347,102</u> 1,110	249,882	194,875	<u>12,540</u> 545	9,534
Bow River Tributaries		74	24				288	
		Bow River	Elbow to U	pstream WID	Weir			
Mainstem Bow River							<mark>697</mark> 497	693 497
Bow River Tributaries							497	49/
Elbow River Mainstem		746	298	108,642	58,211	46,568	6,122	2,183
Elbow River Tributaries		228	<u> </u>	100,042	30,211	40,000	12,5532	11,940
Nose Creek Mainstem		220	07				1,514	613
Nose Creek Tributaries		186	156				1,153	015
Other Bow River		100	100				1,100	
Tributaries								
modulied		Bow Rive	r WID Weir	to Bonneybre	ook			
Mainstem Bow River	197,853			204			6,743	508
					135		12,272	52
Bow River Tributaries							37	
		Bonneybrool	k to Upstre	am Highwood	River			
Mainstem Bow River		868	291				652	70
		40	16				1,462	
Fish Creek Mainstem		149	80				363	
Fish Creek Tributaries		15	5				858	
Other Bow River Tributaries		215	78				305	
		Highwood	River to Up	stream Carse	eland			
Mainstem Bow River		1,036	365				12,182	
		1,106	319					
Bow River Tributaries							4	
Highwood/Sheep River Mainstems		3,688	1,618	8,928	9,613	7,690	5,196	
Highwood/Sheep River Tributaries		1,658	1,213				2,106	
		Careseland	d Weir to U	pstream Bass	sano			
Mainstem Bow River	468,723 86,344	6,164	1,571	717 739	442		<mark>1,637</mark> 17,417	
Siksika Expansion		43,173	9,443					
Bow River Tributaries		1,344	472				951	43
				Bow River M	outh			
Mainstem Bow River	939,913	6,350	1,504	6,306	6,548		18,034	
Row Divor Tributorioo		1,139	301	2,995			28,769	
Bow River Tributaries		402	146				1,462	

#### Notes:

Senior priority licences not subject to in-stream requirements of significant magnitude (by today's standards). Junior priority licences subject to IOs applicable to licences issued since about 1987. 1.

2.

3. Other Purposes" include water management, industrial, commercial, habitat enhancement, recreation, and stock watering projects.



,	Nater Alloca	ations/Dem	Table A ands in th	-	River Sub-	Basin		
Mainstream Reaches/Tributaries	District	Irrigation		Urban M	Iunicipalities	(Cities,	Other Pu	rposes
	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Area (ha)	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Return Flow (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Return Flow (dam <sup>3</sup> )
	C	Idman River		f Oldman Res	servoir			
Mainstem Oldman River		70	23					
		202	77				1	
Crowsnest River Tributaries		1,394	435	1,256	2,411	1,929	676	
Castle River Tributary		701	256	1,063	973	777	2,693	
Other Oldman River		827	314				215	
Tributaries								
Mainatam Oldman Divar	Oldr	nan River Re		ostream Pinc	ner Creek			
Mainstem Oldman River		983 3,528	309 1,356					
New (Summerview)	+	13,563	5,425					
Oldman River Tributaries	+	102	34				278	
			÷ ·	ream LNID W	leir		210	
Mainstem Oldman River		914	257					
		1,106	353				31	
New (Piikani)		43,200	17,280					
Pinch Creek Tributary		437	177	815			1,295	
Beaver Creek Tributary		547	209				117	
Other Oldman River		40	10					
Tributaries		42	18				91	
	•	LNID Wei	r to Upstrear	n Willow Cre	ek			
Mainstem Oldman River	329,339	1,167	740	2,018	1,144	913	359	
	83,217	4,767	1,547	265	1,144	313	10,720	
Other Oldman River							186	
Tributaries								
Mainstem Oldman River				eam Belly Riv	ver			
Mainstern Oldman River		8,397 6,698	2,647 1,842				161	
Willow Creek Tributary		0,090	1,042				101	
Mainstem Willow Creek								
Upstream of Pine Coulee								
Reservoir		226	77					
Downstream of Pine		6,877	1,710	1,486			102	
Coulee Reservoir		14,685	4,426	200	1,647	1,300		
Willow Creek Tributaries		3,825	1,127				1,052	
Other Oldman River								
Tributaries		165	39				4	
	1			n St. Mary Ri	ver			
Mainstem Oldman River		292	70				454	
Watartan Diver Televiter		1,358	353					
Waterton River Tributary Mainstream Waterton River					<u>                                     </u>			
Upstream Waterton	+							
Reservoir		200	94				36	
Downstream Waterton	16,667	2,177	589				00	
Reservoir	70,642	3,431	1,251				116	
Waterton River Tributaries		2,236	623				3,439	
Belly River Tributary								



Mainstream Reaches/Tributaries	District Irrigation	Private li	rigation		lunicipalities owns, Village		Other Pur	poses
	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Area (ha)	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Return Flow (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Area (ha)
Mainstem Belly River								
Upstream Belly River	70,938	117	26	1,036	1,044	835		
Diversion	25,617						39	
Downstream Belly River	3,704	11,158	2,708				1,633	
Diversion		9,876	3,156				98	
Belly River Tributaries		1,491	374				429	
Other Oldman River		· · ·					70	
Tributaries							73	
		St. Mary Rive	er to Upstea	n Little Bow	River			
Mainstem Oldman River		1,607	434	26,556		26.400	368	
		1,804	557	7,046	33,011	26,409	1,618	
St. Mary River Tributaries								
Mainstem St. Mary River								
Upstream St. Mary Reservoir		316	85				458	
							85	
Tributaries Upstream St.								
Mary Reservoir		1,817	526				789	
Downstream St. Mary	887,037	470	117	3,453			5,125	
Reservoir	320,988	843	270	5,433	7,594	4,592	1,787	
Tributaries Downstream St.	020,000			0,400				
Mary Reservoir		1,790	460				1,787	
Other Oldman River								
Tributaries		208	37				31	
mbdtanes		Little Bo	w River to C	Idman Moutl	<u> </u>			
Mainstem Oldman River		14,316	2,811			30		
Little Bow River Tributary		11,045	3,498			00	1,106	
Mainstem Little Bow River		11,040	0,400				1,100	
Upstream Twin Valley Reservoir		2,577	826				626	
Twin V Reservoir to Travers Reservoir		10,639	9,768	648	766		287	
Travers Reservoir to Mouth		1,322	529				727	
Little Bow River Tributaries		406	194				, _,	
Mainstem Mosquito Creek		100	10 1				<u> </u>	
Upstream W C Diversion							5	
W C Diversion to Twin V						-		
Reservoir		2,886	788	740	603	482	360	
Clear Lake		5,186	3,660					
Mosquito Creek Tributaries		402	135				635	
Other Oldman River								
Tributaries		90	16				100	

Notes:

1. Senior priority licences not subject to in-stream requirements of significant magnitude (by today's standards).

2. Junior priority licences subject to IOs applicable to licences issued since about 1987.

3. Urban municipalities may have licences from more than one stream, or from surface and groundwater.

4. Several licences for irrigation districts in the basin are for diversion of water from the Waterton, Belly and St.Mary Rivers without indicating how much from each. In these cases, the allocation has been assigned to the last source stream from which the diversion was delivered.

5. Water projects in the Little Bow River Basin are supplied primarily by diversions from the Highwood River.



Wate	r Allocation	s/Demands i	n the So	uth Saskatc	hewan Riv	er Sub-B	asin	
Mainstream Reaches/Tributaries	District Irrigation	Private Irri	gation		nicipalities (( /ns, Villages)		Other Pur	poses
	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Area (ha)	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2030 Return Flow (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Allocation (dam <sup>3</sup> )	Return Flow (dam <sup>3</sup> )
South Saskatchewan		4,562	1,059	28,246			5,951	
Mainstem Upstream Medicine Hat		13,833	3,535	745	23,860	16,624	1,856	527
South Saskatchewan Tributaries Upstream Medicine Hat		433	180				2,464	
South Saskatchewan		3,197	727				11,521	1,727
Mainstem Downstream Medicine Hat		8,676	2,048				9,016	772
Tributaries Downstream Medicine Hat		2,431	643				1,075	
MS Seven Person Creek Tributary								
Upstream Murray Lake Reservoir							14	
Downstream Murray Lake Reservoir		1,436	455				27	
Seven Persons Creek Tributary		2,950	1,157				3,244	
MS Bullshead Creek Tributary		1,699	434				323	
Bullshead Creek Tributaries		941	302				981	
MS Ross Creek Tributary								
Upstream Gros Ventre Confluence		485	201				258	
Downstream Gros Ventre Confluence		1,005	330				16	
MS Gros Ventre Creek Tributary								
Upstream Cavan Lake Diversion		17	12					
Downstream Cavan Lake Diversion	3,701	83	30				1	
Gros Ventre Tributaries		1,486	338				953	
Other Ross Creek Tributaries		1,573	336				1,141	62
Other Tributaries Downstream Medicine Hat		2,431	643				1,075	

Table A.4

Notes:

Senior priority licences not subject to in-stream requirements of significant magnitude (by today's standards).

Junior priority licences subject to IOs applicable to licences issued since about 1983.

The modelling node South Saskatchewan River at Medicine Hat is upstream of its confluence with Ross Creek.

Medicine Hat's licence allocation includes cooling water for the city's power plant. Allocation noted on the table excludes estimated cooling requirement.



Appendix B

Simulation Modelling Background



# **Caveats**

The WRMM has been in use in the SSRB for almost 30 years. Many important water management decisions have been made based on evaluation of its output. It has continually been improved and made more user-friendly. It is the best available tool for furthering the state of water management in the SSRB at this time. It is the only known model capable of simulating priorities and other legal and regulatory requirements in the complex SSRB. While simulation modelling is a powerful analytical tool for assessing water management options in large and complex water resource systems, it has some limitations. In addition to the limitations related to the demand and supply databases noted above, two other limitations must be kept in mind by reviewers of the results of this study.

# 1) Historical Climate Variability

This study conducts simulation modelling for the historical period of weather and stream flow conditions from 1928 to 2001. The underlying premise is that how well the model performs during the 68-year period of recorded meteorological and stream flow conditions, which includes sequences of high and low runoff and demands, gives an indication how the system will perform in the future. There is reason to believe that the recorded period may not be truly representative of future conditions. Studies of tree rings, lake sediments and other paleo-climatic indicators on the Canadian prairies have shed some light on the climate of past centuries (Sauchyn, 1997; Case *et al.*, 2003). Researchers have concluded that stream flows may have been relatively high on the Canadian Prairies during the 20th Century compared with earlier centuries. Sauchyn concludes that:

".... the recent occupants of the Palliser triangle have not yet experienced the extremes of summer precipitation that occurred in the 19th and late-18th centuries, and that could reoccur in the near future."

This conclusion suggests that modelling results using the 1928 to 1995 recorded period could present an overly optimistic picture of long-term water supply and demand.

# 2) Future Climate Change

How will climate change affect the performance of the water management system in the South Saskatchewan River Basin? Studies have been conducted to assess the potential impacts of climate change on stream flow on the Canadian Prairies based on scenarios of economic conditions and societal trends and the output of Global Climate Models. Their findings indicated a wide range of potential impacts on stream flow in the SSRB.



Appendix C

South Saskatchewan River Basin Case Model Update



## South Saskatchewan River Basin Base Case Model Update

The Base Case is an update of Scenario 3 from the *South Saskatchewan River Basin Water Supply Study* (AMEC, 2009). The update reflects changes in the demand database, operational practices and a more detailed reach by reach analysis of performance in meeting demands.

It includes relatively high levels of expansion within irrigation districts that would be dependent on improved efficiencies, reduced return flows, and higher unit on-farm crop water applications.

Demands for private irrigation, urban municipalities and other non-irrigation projects are based on projected year 2030 levels.

Private irrigation demand includes:

- Implementation of the SAWSP and Acadia Projects in the Red Deer River Sub-basin;
- A small amount of additional private irrigation along the Red Deer River valley;
- Full development of the Pine Coulee Project;
- Development of irrigation projects by the Piikani and Siksika First Nations and full development of the Kainai First Nation project, and

**On-farm irrigation applications** – It has long been known the irrigators in Alberta apply less water than that considered to be optimal for crop growth in Alberta. Monitoring has indicated that they are currently applying about 80 to 83% of optimal. However, applications are gradually increasing. Alberta Agriculture and Food (ARD) predict that applications will continue to increase to a maximum of 90% of optimal (Irrigation Water Management Study Committee 2002). For this study, simulation modelling assumes 80% of optimal application for current conditions and 90% for future conditions.

**Optimal Level of Application** – The term "optimal irrigation" is used by ARD to refer to an irrigation application schedule based on the objective of keeping available soil moisture in an irrigated field above 70% for centre pivot systems and above 50% for wheel move and surface irrigation systems (Irrigation Water Management Study Committee 2002A).

• Irrigation expansion in the Oldman River Reservoir area in accord with the Oldman River Basin Water Allocation Orde*r, Regulation 319/2003* (Alberta Environment, 2003).

Urban municipal demand is based on current per capita use and population projections to 2030.

Other non-irrigation demand is taken as the licensed consumptive use (allocation volume minus return flow).

The Base Case projected demands are summarized in Appendix A.

Base Case infrastructure is taken as existing plus two planned off-stream storage projects within the WID; Bruce Lake (51,000 dam<sup>3</sup>) and enlargement of Langdon Reservoir (12,150 dam<sup>3</sup>).

Infrastructure operations were updated to reflect the minimum release from Gleniffer Reservoir has been increased by ESRD to 17.5 m<sup>3</sup>/s (from 16.0 m<sup>3</sup>/s) to improve performance in maintaining the WCO along the full length of the river and to enhance the flood mitigation potential of the reservoir.



## **Evaluation of Base Case Results**

#### **Red Deer River Sub-basin**

There are seven reaches with a unique WCO along the Red Deer River from Gleniffer Reservoir to the Saskatchewan border.

Modelling indicates relatively small, infrequent deficits in meeting the WCOs along the river (**Figure C.1**) with deteriorating performance from upstream to downstream. The increased minimum flow release of 17.5 m<sup>3</sup>/s from Dickson Dam has substantially improved performance in meeting the WCOs along the river.

Red Deer River Evaluation Reaches

- RD1: Gleniffer Res to Medicine R RD2: Medicine R to Blindman R
- RD3: Blindman R to Delburne
- RD4: Delburne to Drumheller
- RD5: Drumheller to Berry Cr
- RD6: Berry Cr to Bindloss
- RD7: Bindloss to Sask Border

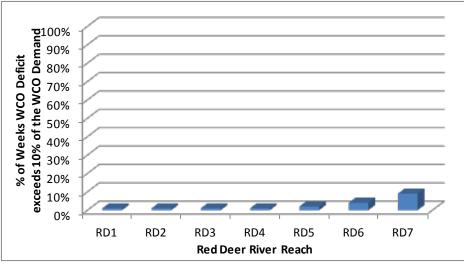


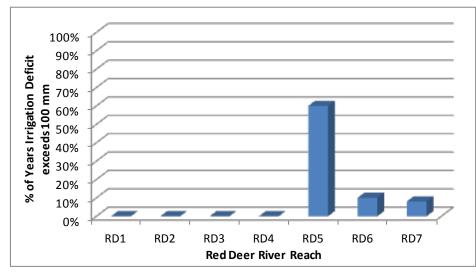
Figure C.1 Base Case; Red Deer River WCO Frequency of Deficits > 10%

No district irrigation licences have been issued from the Red Deer River.

The magnitude and frequency of irrigation deficits greater than 100 mm for junior private irrigation projects are shown in **Table D.8** and on **Figure C.2**. There are no existing junior private irrigation projects in river reaches R1 to R5 (upstream of the confluence with Berry Creek). Modelling indicates that there would be large and frequent deficits to potential future projects along RD5 without storage in this reach. Performance improves for potential future projects downstream of RD5, possibly due to irrigation return flows from the EID.

Performance for the future SAWSP multi-use project (which has an irrigation component) and the Acadia irrigation project would be well within the acceptable range. Both of these projects are supported by off-stream storage.





## Figure C.2 Base Case; Red Deer River Junior Private Irrigation Projects Frequency of Deficits >100 mm

Junior non-irrigation uses in the Red Deer River Sub-basin include several regional municipal water supply projects. Base Case simulation modelling indicates that junior non-irrigation licences would experience frequent and relatively large deficits for all reaches from Gleniffer Reservoir to the Berry Creek confluence (**Table D.11; Figure C.3**). Deficits in the downstream reaches are less than in the upper reaches, due to irrigation return flows from the Western and Eastern Irrigation Districts in summer months and higher tributary inflows during the winter.

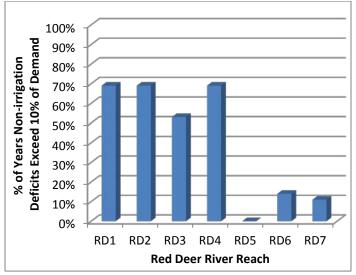


Figure C.3 Base Case; Red Deer River Junior Non-Irrigation Projects Frequency of Deficits >10%



## **Bow River Sub-Basin**

There are five reaches with a unique WCO along the Bow River from Bearspaw Reservoir to the mouth (Oldman River confluence).

Modelling indicates relatively minor WCO deficits in the Elbow River confluence to Bassano Reservoir reach (**Table D.2**). Deficits are more significant from Bassano Reservoir to the Bow Mouth (**Figure C.4**). Return flows

#### **Bow River Evaluation Reaches**

- B1: Bearspaw Reservoir to Elbow River
- B2: Elbow River to Highwood River
- B3: Highwood River to Carseland Weir
- B4: Carseland Weir to Bassano Reservoir
- B5: Bassano Reservoir to Bow Mouth

from the WID, EID, and BRID are directed to the Red Deer and Oldman rivers as well as the Bow River.

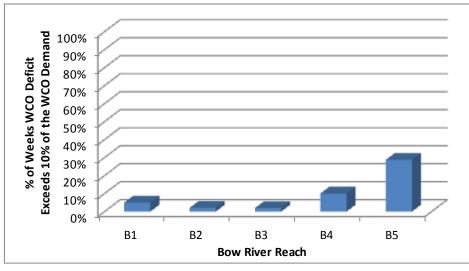


Figure C.4 Base Case; Bow River WCO Frequency of Deficits >10%

Base Case modelling indicates no significant deficits to the three Bow River irrigation districts (**Table D.6**). The simulation assumes improvements in irrigation efficiencies and reduced return flows prior to expansion of the irrigated areas.

There are no junior private irrigation projects along reach B1 Bearspaw to Elbow River and reach B4 Carseland to Bassano. Junior private irrigation projects in reaches B2 to B3 Elbow River to Carseland perform within the guidelines used to assess acceptable performance (deficits >100 mm in no more than 10% of years). Deficits increase substantially in the reach B5 Bassano to Mouth (**Table D.9; Figure C.5**). Irrigation expansion on the Siksika First Nations Reserve would perform well.



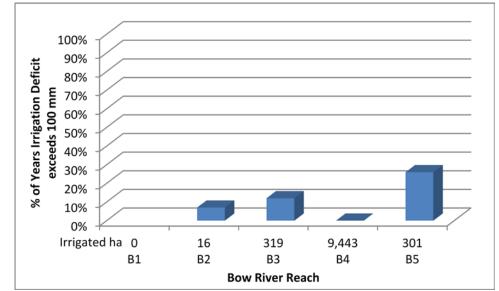


Figure C.5 Base Case; Bow River Junior Private Irrigation Projects Frequency of Deficits >100 mm

There are no junior non-irrigation consumptive use projects in Reach B3 Highwood River to Carseland Weir. In the other four reaches the projects performed poorly (**Table D.12**; **Figure C.6**). Almost all deficits would occur in the May to October period. Winter flows on the Bow River are relatively high due to hydropower operations upstream of Calgary.

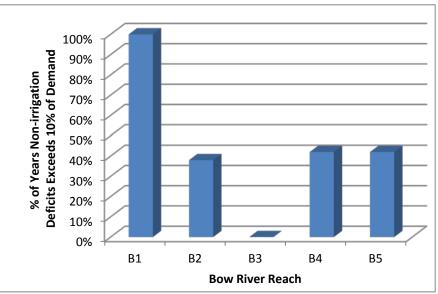


Figure C.6 Base Case; Bow River Junior Non-Irrigation Projects Frequency of Deficits > 10%



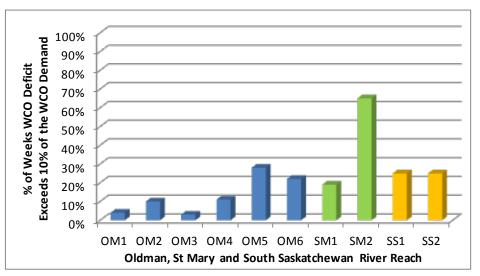
# **Oldman River Sub-Basin**

There are six in-stream flow reaches along the Oldman River from the Oldman Reservoir to the

Oldman River mouth (Bow River confluence), two reaches along the St. Mary River and two reaches along the South Saskatchewan River. Modelling for the Base Case indicates only minor WCO deficits in the three reaches upstream of the Willow Creek confluence (**Tables D.3, D.4, D.5; Figure C.7**). The deficits increase significantly in the Oldman reaches downstream of the Belly River. The WCO deficits greater than 10% are frequent downstream of the St. Mary Reservoir and the diversions to the four irrigation districts served by the reservoir. Modelling indicates that WCO deficits greater than 10% within the two South

Oldman River Evaluation Reaches OM1: Oldman Reservoir to Pincher Creek OM2: Pincher Cr to LNID Diversion OM3: LNID Diversion to Willow Creek OM4: Willow Creek to Belly River OM5: Belly River to St Mary River OM6: St. Mary River to Oldman Mouth SM1: St Mary River U/S St Mary Reservoir SM2: St Mary River D/S St Mary Reservoir SS1: South Sask River U/S Medicine Hat SS2: South Sask River D/S Medicine Hat

Saskatchewan reaches would occur with a moderate frequency of about 25% of the weeks modelled.



# Figure C.7 Base Case; Oldman, St. Mary & S. Saskatchewan Rivers WCO Deficits >10%

Base Case modelling indicates acceptable performance within the Oldman River irrigation districts (**Table D.7**). This conclusion is predicated on improvements in on-farm and district operating efficiencies, reduced return flows, a shift toward higher value crops and increased water applications to generate higher revenues and improve farm financial performance.

For junior private irrigation, modelling indicates that performance would be borderline unacceptable in the Oldman River reaches from the Oldman Reservoir to the LNID diversion (**Table D.10; Figure C.8**). These reaches include the proposed Piikani First Nation and the Summerview irrigation projects. Performance would be unacceptable for the reaches between the LNID diversion and the St. Mary River confluence. The performance improvement in the lower reach OM6 compared with the middle reaches may be due to return flows from the irrigation districts.



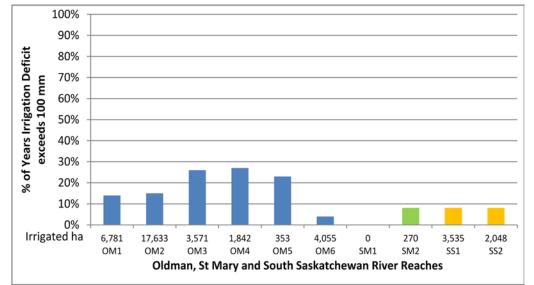


Figure C.8 Base Case; Oldman, St. Mary & S. Saskatchewan Junior Private Irrigation Frequency of Deficits >100 mm

There are no junior private irrigation projects along the St. Mary River upstream of the St. Mary Reservoir. Performance would be unacceptable for the junior private irrigation along the St. Mary River downstream of the St. Mary Dam.

There are no junior non-irrigation projects in reaches OM1 and OM5. Base Case modelling indicates extensive deficits for junior non-irrigation projects within four reaches along the Oldman River and the two reaches along the St. Mary River. Deficits would be less frequent along the South Saskatchewan River (**Table D.13; Figure C.9**).

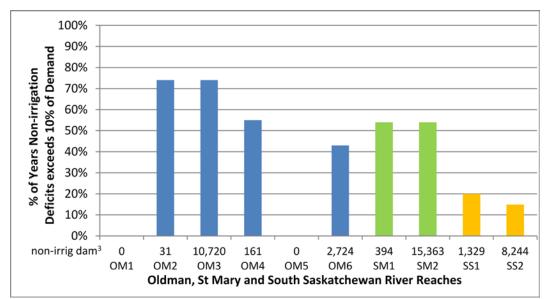


Figure C.9 Base Case; Oldman, St. Mary & S. Saskatchewan Junior Non-irrigation Projects Frequency of Deficits >10%



## **Base Case Summary of Results**

#### **Red Deer River Sub-Basin**

Performance in meeting the WCO is significantly improved over the previous study due to the increased minimum flow release from Gleniffer Reservoir.

All existing junior private irrigation projects perform within acceptable limits. The proposed SAWSP and Acadia Irrigation Project perform well due to their associated off-stream storage developments. New irrigation developments subject to the WCO will experience frequent and large deficits unless new storage is developed to support the projects.

Junior non-irrigation projects will experience high deficits in all river reaches upstream of the Berry Creek confluence.

### **Bow River Sub-Basin**

There are only minor deficits to the WCO and junior private irrigation upstream of the Bassano Dam. Deficits are much higher downstream of Bassano Dam. Performance in meeting water needs for the irrigation districts and for Siksika expansion would be acceptable. Modelling indicates high deficits for junior non-irrigation projects along the entire river.

#### Oldman River Sub-Basin

Modelling indicates that WCO deficits upstream of Willow Creek are minor. Deficits increase downstream of Willow Creek. St. Mary River WCO deficits downstream of the St. Mary Dam are very high.

Junior private irrigation projects, including the Piikani and Summerview projects perform less than adequately along all reaches of the Oldman River except the lowest reach. Projects in the lowest reach probably benefit from irrigation return flows. Junior non-irrigation projects perform poorly in all reaches modelled in the Oldman River Sub-basin.



Appendix D

South Saskatchewan River Basin Base Case Performance Summary



### Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting WCOs in the Red Deer River Based on Simulation Modelling

Reach	Glennifer	Medicine River	Blindman River	Delburn to	Drumheller	Berry Creek	Bindloss to
	Reservoir to	to Blindman	to Delburn	Drumheller	to Berry	to Bindloss	Saskatchewan
	Medicine River	River			Creek		Border
Natural Channel	168/105	41	42/151	79/161	43/157	160/459	101/163
WCO April to	Max(0.45×C5C B07,	Max(0.45×C5C C02,	Max(0.45×C5C D04,	Max(0.45×C5C D04,	Max(0.45×C5C	Max(0.45×GRD	Max(0.45×C5C K04,
October	16.0 m³/s)	16.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	10.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	10.0 m³/s)	E01, 10.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	DEN, 10.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	10.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)
WCO November	Max(0.45×C5C B07,	Max(0.45×C5C C02,	Max(0.45×C5C D04,	Max(0.45×C5C D04,	Max(0.45×C5C	Max(0.45×GRD	Max(0.45×C5C K04,
to March	16.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	E01, 16.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	DEN, 16.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	16.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)			
X% of WCO		0/	of Wooks That Dafi	cits Exceed X% of \	NCO Domand		
Demand		70	of weeks that Den		NCO Demanu		
0%	2%	12%	8%	7%	10%	10%	16%
10%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%	9%
20%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%
40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
60%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Tables are read as follows:
For the Red Deer River reach
Bindloss to Sask Border,
% of weeks that WCO deficits
exceed 10% of demand = 9%.
% of weeks that WCO deficits
exceed 20% of demand = 3%.



# Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting WCOs in the Bow River Based on Simulation Modelling

Reach	Bearspaw Reservoir	Elbow River to	Highwood River to	Carseland Weir to	Bassano Dam to
	to Elbow River	Highwood River	Carseland Weir	Bassano Dam	Bow Mouth
Natural Channel	30/952	37/954	38/955	34/35/956	40
wco	Max(0.45×C5BH04, 1.1×IO)	Max(0.45× <mark>GBO WID</mark> , 1.1×IO)	Max(0.45× <mark>BEL HWD</mark> , 1.1×IO)	Max(0.45×BEL HWD, 1.1×IO)	Max(0.45×BEL HWD, 1.1×IO)
Ю	80%* Fish Rule Curve	80%* Fish Rule Curve	80%* Fish Rule Curve	80%* Fish Rule Curve	April – October 11.33 m <sup>3</sup> /s; November to March TT
X% of WCO Demand		% of Weeks That	Deficits Exceed X% of V	VCO Demand	
0%	9%	5%	5%	24%	31%
10%	5%	2%	2%	10%	29%
20%	2%	0%	0%	6%	27%
40%	0%	0%	0%	1%	22%
60%	0%	0%	0%	0%	17%

GBO WID = C5B H04+C5B J01

BEL HWD = C5B H01+C5B L24

TT = Tennant Tessman



## Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting WCOs in the Oldman and South Saskatchewan Basins Based on Simulation Modelling

#### **Oldman River WCO**

Reach	Oldman River Dam	Pincher Creek to	LNID Diversion to	Willow Creek to
	to Pincher Creek	LNID Diversion	Willow Creek	Belly River
Natural Channel	75	78	164	165
wco	Max(0.45Qnat or,	Max(0.45Qnat or,	Max(0.45Qnat or,	Max(0.45Qnat or,
WCO	1.1×IO)	1.1×IO)	1.1×IO)	1.1×IO)
10	80%* Fish Rule	80%* Fish Rule	80%* Fish Rule	80%* Fish Rule Curve
10	Curve	Curve	Curve	
X% of WCO	9/ of	f Weeks That Deficits E	Exaced X% of WCO De	mond
Demand	76 U	weeks mat Dencits E		nanu
0%	35%	30%	56%	37%
10%	4%	0%	10%	12%
20%	3%	0%	8%	9%
40%	1%	0%	5%	5%
60%	0%	0%	2%	2%

## Oldman River WCO (Continued)

#### St. Mary River WCO

Reach	Belly River to	St. Mary	Upstream St. Mary	St. Mary Dam to
	St. Mary River	Confluence to	Dam	Mouth
		Mouth		
Natural Channel	166	102	170	172
wco	Max(0.45Qnat or,	Max(0.45Qnat or,	Max(0.45Qnat or,	Max(0.45Qnat or,
WCO	1.1×IO)	1.1×IO)	3.0 m³/s)	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s)
10	80%* Fish Rule	80%* Fish Rule	42.5 m <sup>3</sup> /s	42.5 m <sup>3</sup> /s
10	Curve	Curve	42.5 111 / 5	42.5 111 /5
X% of WCO	% of	Wooko That Dafiaita P	Exceed X% of WCO Der	mand
Demand	70 01	weeks mat Dencits E		lialiu
0%	31%	32%	23%	91%
10%	28%	23%	19%	65%
20%	24%	19%	14%	61%
40%	17%	12%	6%	51%
60%	10%	6%	1%	38%

#### South Saskatchewan River WCO

Reach	Upstream of Medicine Hat	Medicine Hat to Saskatchewan Border				
Natural Channel	69	469				
WCO	Max(0.45Qnat or, 1.1×IO)	Max(0.45Qnat or, 1.1×IO)				
IO	42.5 m <sup>3</sup> /s	42.5 m <sup>3</sup> /s				
X% of WCO Demand	% of Weeks That Deficits Exceed X% of WCO Demand					
0%	29%	29%				
10%	25%	25%				
20%	22%	22%				
40%	5%	14%				
60%	0%	6%				



# Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Bow River Irrigation District Demands in the Based on Simulation Modelling

	Irrigation District Deficits (% of years)								
	WID	WID BRID EID Total							
Irrigated Area (ha)	46,134	101,981	138,888	287,003					
X	% of Years that	Irrigation District De	eficits Exceed X	Wtd Mean					
>50 mm	11%	0%	4%	4%					
>100 mm	7%	0%	1%	2%					
> 200 mm	0%	0%	0%	0%					

#### Table D.5

## Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Irrigation District Demands in the Oldman Basin Based on Simulation Modelling

			Irrigatio	on District	Deficits (%	of years)			
	LNID	MVLA	UID	MID	RID	SMRID	TID	Total	
Irrigated Area (ha)	78,792	5,342	5,342 15,135 8		20,700	165,598	36,592	330,306	
X		% of Year	s that Irriga	ation Distri	ict Deficits	Exceed X		Wtd Mean	
>50 mm	8%	8% 39% 14%		10%	12%	16%	5%	13%	
>100 mm	5%	8%	4%	3%	10%	5%	1%	5%	
> 200 mm	1%	0%	0%	0%	0% 1%		1%	1%	



Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Private Irrigation Demands in the Red Deer River Basin Based on Simulation Modelling

Reach	Upstream of Delburne	Delburne to Drumheller	Drumheller to Berry Creek	Berry Creek to Bindloss	Bindloss to Saskatchewan Border									
		SAWSP	New Project	2 New Projects	Acadian Irrigation	New Project								
Block	No junior WCO	606	601	668,635	605	624								
Priority	Irrigation projects	Jr WCO	Jr WCO	Jr WCO Jr WCO		Jr WCO								
Irrigated Area (ha)	Upstream of Delburn	3,238	700	731	10,926	700								
X mm of Demand		% of Years T	That Annual Deficits P	rivate Irrigation Project	ts Exceed X mm	605         624           Jr WCO         Jr WCO           10,926         700								
50 mm	N/A	15%	70%	19%	7%	14%								
100 mm	N/A	4%	58%	10%	5%	8%								
200 mm	N/A	1%	35%	4%	4%	5%								

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# Table D.7

Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Private Irrigation Demands in the Bow River Basin Based on Simulation Modelling

Reach	Upstream Bearspaw Reservoir	Bearspaw Reservoir to Elbow River	Elbow River to Bonneybrook	Bonneybrook to Highwood River	Highwood River to Carseland Weir	Carseland Weir to Bassano Dam	Bassano Dam to River Mouth
						Siksika Expansion	
Block	147			769	377	336	378
Irrigated Area (ha)	278	0	0	16	319	9,443	301
X mm of Demand		% c	of Years That Priva	ate Irrigation Annu	al Deficits Exceed	X mm	
50 mm	0%	N/A	N/A	16%	23%	0%	31%
100 mm	0%			7%	12%	0%	26%
200 mm	0%			0%	0%	0%	10%



# Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Private Irrigation Demands in the Oldman River Basin and South Saskatchewan River Based on Simulation Modelling

Oldman River Junior Private Irrigation

Reach	Oldman River	Pincher Creek to	LNID Diversion	Willow Creek to	Belly River to	St.Mary River
	Dam to Pincher	LNID Diversion	to Willow Creek	Belly River	St. Mary River	Confluence to
	Creek					Mouth
Demand Block	655 (S'view) and 683	667 (Piikani)	345 and 684	685	644	697,660
Irrigated Area (ha)	6,781	15,257	3,581	1,842	353	4,055
X mm of Demand		% of Years Tha	at Annual Deficits Pr	ivate Irrigation Proje	cts Exceed X mm	
50 mm	32%	38%	46%	43%	35%	7%
100 mm	14%	15%	19%	27%	23%	4%
200 mm	8%	8%	10%	11%	10%	1%

	St. Mary River Junior Priva	South Saskatchewan River Junior Private Irrigation						
Reach	Upstream St. Mary Dam	St. Mary Dam to Mouth	South Sask. River Upstream of Medicine Hat	South Sask. River Downstream of Medicine				
				Hat				
Demand Block		646	661	662				
Irrigated Area (ha)	0.0	270	3,535	2,048				
X mm of Demand	% of Y	ears That Annual Deficits P	rivate Irrigation Projects Exc	eed X mm				
50 mm	N/A	27%	16%	18%				
100 mm		8%	8%	8%				
200 mm		1%	3%	4%				



Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Non-Irrigation Demands in the Red Deer River Basin Based on Simulation Modelling

Reach	Glennifer	Medicine River	Blindman River	Delburne to	Drumheller to	Berry Creek to	Berry Creek to							
	Reservoir to	to Blindman	to Delburne	Drumheller	Berry Creek	Bindloss	Bindloss							
	Medicine River	River												
Demand Block	669	671	672, 673, 807	951	674	692	605							
Priority	Jr WCO	Jr WCO	Jr WCO	Jr WCO	Jr WCO	Jr WCO	Jr WCO							
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	889	6,765	7,499	909	1,132	105	25							
X% of Demand		889 6,765 7,499 909 1,132 105 25 % of Years That Deficits Exceed X% of Non-irrigation Demand												
0%	81%	81%	80%	78%	77%	37%	35%							
10%	69%	69%	69%	54%	55%	14%	15%							
20%	50%	50%	53%	39%	42%	7%	5%							
40%	19%	18%	20%	12%	14%	1%	4%							
60%	8%	8%	10%	4%	3%	0%	0%							

#### Table D.10

Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Non-Irrigation Demands in the Bow River Basin Based on Simulation Modelling

Reach	Upstream	Bearspaw	Elbow River to	Bonneybrook	Highwood	Carseland Weir to Bassano	Bassano Dam
	Bearspaw	Reservoir to	Bonneybrook	to Highwood	to Highwood River to		to Bow Mouth
	Reservoir	Elbow River		River	Carseland Weir	Dam	
Demand Block	284	747	2	235		640	25
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	2,421	545	12,220	1,462	0	17,417	28,769
X% of Demand		%	of Years That Defi	cits Exceed X% of	f Non-irrigation De	mand	
0%	100%	100%	89%	88%	N/A	100%	62%
10%	88%	100%	47%	37%		45%	42%
20%	64%	97%	27%	22%		27%	30%
40%	38%	78%	12%	3%		11%	14%
60%	14%	47%	1%	0%		0%	5%



# Base Case Scenario (2030 Demand): Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Non-Irrigation Demands in the Oldman River Basin and South Saskatchewan River Based on Simulation Modelling

	Oldman River Non	-irrigation		St. Mary River Non-irrigation						
Reach	Oldman River Dam to Pincher Creek	Pincher Creek to LNID Diversion	LNID Diversion to Willow Creek	Willow Creek to Belly River	Belly River to St. Mary River	St.Mary River Confluence to Mouth				
Demand Block		20	213	63		65 and 66				
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	31	10,720	161	0	1,618 and 1,106				
X% of Demand		% of Year	rs That Deficits Exce	ed X% of Non-irrigat	ion Demand					
0%	N/A	87%	95%	80%	N/A	87%				
10%		74%	74%	55%		43%				
20%		60%	60%	42%		18%				
40%		27%	26%	15%		8%				
60%		14%	14%	11%		0%				

# St. Mary River Non-irrigation

### South Saskatchewan River J Non-irrigation

Reach	Upstream St. Mary Dam	St. Mary Dam to Mouth	South Sask. River	South Sask. River				
			Upstream of Medicine Hat	Downstream of Medicine				
				Hat				
Demand Block	45	46	67	6				
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )	85	15,363	1,328	8,244				
X% of Demand	%	of Years That Deficits Exce	eed X% of Non-irrigation Dem	nand				
0%	64%	64%	50%	50%				
10%	54%	54%	20%	15%				
20%	41%	41%	12%	0%				
40%	19%	19%	4%	1%				
60%	10%	10%	3%	0%				



Appendix E

**Oldman Sub-basin Storage Opportunities Performance Summary** 



#### Table E.1

# Oldman River Basin New Storage Scenarios: Summary of Performance in Meeting WCOs Based on Simulation Modelling

#### Oldman River WCO

Reach	(	Oldman R	iver Dam	to Pinche	r Creek (N	atural Cha	annel 75)		Pincher Creek to LNID Diversion (Natural Channel 78)							
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow	IO=80%× FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	IO=80%× FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
X% of WCO		% of Weeks That Deficits Exceed X% of WCO Demand														
Demand								Dencits			emanu					
0%	35%	35%	35%	36%	37%	38%	38%	38%	30%	30%	30%	30%	31%	33%	33%	32%
10%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	3%	3%	3%
20%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
40%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
60%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

#### Oldman River WCO (Continued)

Reach		LNID Div	version to	Willow C	reek (Natu	ral Chann	el 164)		Willow Creek to Belly River (Natural Channel 165)							
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow	IO=80%× FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	IO=80%× FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
X% of WCO Demand	% of Weeks That Deficits Exceed X% of WCO Demand															
0%	56%	56%	56%	57%	60%	67%	66%	65%	37%	37%	37%	38%	41%	47%	47%	45%
10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	11%	12%	11%	12%	11%	11%	11%	11%	12%	13%	13%	13%
20%	8%	8%	8%	8%	9%	10%	10%	10%	9%	8%	9%	9%	9%	11%	11%	10%
40%	5%	5%	5%	4%	5%	6%	6%	6%	5%	4%	5%	5%	5%	7%	7%	7%
60%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%



## Table E.1 Continued

#### Oldman River WCO (Continued)

Reach		Belly F	River to St	. Mary Riv	ver (Natura	I Channel	166)		St. Mary River Confluence to Mouth (Natural Channel 102)							
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow	IO=80%× FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	IO=80%× FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
X% of WCO		% of Weeks That Deficits Exceed X% of WCO Demand														
Demand							eks mat	Dencits			emanu					
0%	32%	33%	32%	32%	31%	35%	35%	34%	32%	31%	32%	30%	35%	39%	39%	39%
10%	28%	29%	29%	28%	27%	30%	30%	30%	23%	22%	23%	22%	20%	24%	24%	24%
20%	24%	25%	24%	24%	23%	26%	25%	25%	19%	18%	19%	18%	16%	20%	20%	20%
40%	16%	17%	17%	17%	15%	17%	17%	17%	12%	12%	13%	12%	9%	13%	13%	13%
60%	10%	10%	10%	10%	8%	9%	9%	9%	6%	5%	6%	6%	4%	6%	6%	6%

#### St. Mary River WCO

Reach		Ups	stream St.	Mary Dan	n (Natural	Channel 1	170)			St.	Mary Dam	to Mouth	(Natural	Channel 1	72)		
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K	
Instream Flow	IO=80% ×FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	IO=80% ×FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	
X% of WCO					% of Weeks That Deficits Exceed X% of WCO Demand												
Demand						% OI We					emanu						
0%	23%	23%	24%	27%	23%	23%	23%	23%	91%	67%	91%	63%	91%	91%	91%	91%	
10%	19%	19%	17%	24%	19%	19%	19%	19%	65%	62%	64%	59%	65%	65%	65%	65%	
20%	14%	14%	14%	20%	14%	14%	14%	14%	61%	58%	59%	54%	61%	61%	61%	61%	
40%	6%	6%	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%	6%	51%	49%	49%	45%	51%	51%	51%	51%	
60%	1%	1%	2%	6%	1%	1%	1%	1%	38%	36%	37%	33%	38%	38%	38%	38%	



#### Table E.1 Continued

#### South Saskatchewan River WCO

Reach		Up	stream of I	Medicine H	Hat (Natura	al Channe	el 69)			Medio	cine Hat to	Sask Bor	der (Natu	ral Channe	el 469)	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	125.8K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow	IO=80% ×FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	IO=80 %×FRC	N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
X% of WCO				% of Weeks That Deficits Exceed X% of WCO Demand												
Demand						/0 UI WW	ers mai				Jemanu					
0%	29%	29%	29%	29%	28%	29%	29%	29%	29%	29%	29%	29%	28%	29%	29%	29%
10%	25%	25%	25%	25%	24%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	24%	25%	25%	25%
20%	22%	22%	22%	22%	21%	22%	22%	22%	22%	22%	22%	22%	21%	22%	22%	22%
40%	14%	14%	14%	14%	13%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%	13%	14%	14%	14%
60%	5%	5%	6%	6%	4%	0%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%	4%	6%	6%	6%



# Table E.2

Oldman River Basin New Storage Opportunities: Summary of Performance in Meeting Irrigation District Demands in the Oldman River Basin

			I	rrigation District	Deficits (% of y	ears)		
	LNID	MVLA	UID	MID	RID	SMRID	TID	Total
Irrigated Area (ha)	78,792	5,342	15,135	8,147	20,700	165,598	36,592	330,306
X		%	6 of Years that Ir	rigation District	Deficits Exceed	X		Wtd Mean
>50 mm	8%	39%	14%	10%	12%	16%	5%	13%
>100 mm	5%	8%	4%	3%	10%	5%	1%	5%
> 200 mm	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	1%	1%

Performance within Irrigation Districts for storage scenarios is equivalent to Base Case performance.



## Table E.3

# Oldman River Basin New Storage Opportunities: Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Private Irrigation Demands Based on Simulation Modelling

#### **Oldman River Private Irrigation**

Reach	Oldn	nan River	Dam to P	incher Cre	ek (WRM	M Blocks	683 and 6	85)		Pinche	r Creek to	LNID Dive	ersion (WF	RMM Bloc	k 667)	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Irrigated Area (ha)				6,78	31							12,2	57			
X% of						% of	Wooks Th	at Defici	s Exceed X	% of Den	hand					
Demand						70 UI	WEEKS III				lanu					
50 mm	32%	32%	39%	38%	32%	20%	22%	23%	38%	38%	38%	37%	34%	24%	24%	26%
100 mm	14%	14%	18%	18%	12%	5%	7%	7%	15%	14%	15%	15%	14%	5%	8%	8%
200 mm	10%	10%	11%	11%	8%	1%	1%	5%	8%	9%	8%	8%	7%	1%	1%	1%

#### Oldman River Private Irrigation (Continued)

Reach	LI	NID Divers	sion to Wil	low Creek	(WRMM I	Blocks 34	5 and 684			Willo	ow Creek t	o Belly Ri	ver (WRM	M Block 6	85)	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Irrigated Area (ha)				6,78	81							12,2	57			
X% of						% of	Wooks Th	at Defici	ts Exceed X	% of Don	hand					
Demand						/0 UI	Weeks III	at Denti			lanu					
50 mm	49%	51%	46%	45%	51%	46%	46%	46%	43%	43%	43%	39%	37%	26%	27%	27%
100 mm	27%	27%	19%	19%	18%	12%	14%	16%	27%	28%	27%	26%	23%	7%	8%	12%
200 mm	12%	11%	10%	10%	11%	3%	3%	5%	11%	12%	11%	11%	11%	3%	4%	5%



### Table E.3 Continued

#### Oldman River Private Irrigation (Continued)

Reach		Belly	River to S	St. Mary R	iver (WRN	IM Block 6	611)		St.	Mary Riv	er Conflu	ence to M	outh (WRI	MM Blocks	s 697, 660	)
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Irrigated Area (ha)				35	3							4,0	55			
X% of						9/ of	Wooko Th	at Dafiai	s Exceed X	% of Dom	and					
Demand						70 UI	WEEKS III	at Denti			lanu					
50 mm	35%	34%	35.1%	31.1%	26%	4%	5%	8%	7%	7%	7%	7%	11%	1%	1%	1%
100 mm	27%	23%	23%	23%	18%	1%	3%	5%	4%	3%	4%	3%	7%	1%	1%	3%
200 mm	11%	9%	9.5%	9.5%	8%	0%	1%	4%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%

#### St. Mary River Private Irrigation

Reach	Upst	ream St. N	lary Dam (	(No Junio	r Private I	rrigation i	n This Rea	ach)		St.	Mary Dam	n to Mouth	(WRMM I	Blocks 64	6)	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Irrigated Area (ha)				35	3							4,08	55			
X% of						9/ of	Wooko Th	ot Dofici	ts Exceed X	/0/ of Don	aand					
Demand						/0 UI	WEEKS III	at Denti			lanu					
50 mm	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	27%	8%	18.9%	17.6%	27%	27%	27%	27%
100 mm										4%	8.1%	8.1%	8%	8%	8%	8%
200 mm									1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%



### Table E.3 Continued

#### South Saskatchewan River Private Irrigation

Reach		Ups	stream of I	Medicine H	Hat (WRMI	M Block 6	61)			Medic	ine Hat to	Sask Bor	der (WRM	M Blocks	662)	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Irrigated Area (ha)				3,5	35							2,04	48			
X% of Demand						% of	Weeks Th	at Defici	ts Exceed X	(% of Den	nand					
50 mm	15%	14%	16%	15%	12%	1%	3%	4%	19%	16%	16.2%	16.2%	15%	1%	4%	7%
100 mm	8%	9%	8%	8%	8%	1%	1%	4%	8%	8%	8.1%	8.1%	8%	1%	1%	5%
200 mm	4%	35	35	3%	3%	1%	1%	1%	7%	4%	5.4%	5.4%	4%	0%	0%	1%



## Table E.4

# Oldman River Basin New Storage Opportunities: Summary of Performance in Meeting Junior Non-Irrigation Demands Based on Simulation Modelling

#### Oldman River Non-irrigation

Reach			Oldman	<b>River Dan</b>	n to Pinch	er Creek				Pinch	er Creek t	o LNID Div	version (V	VRMM Blo	ck 20)	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )		No	junior noi	n-irrigatior	n demand	l in this re	ach					3	1			
X% of					0/ of Voo	ro That Na	so invigatio	n Dafiaita	Evened	V0/ of Nor	n-irrigated	Domond				
Demand					% OF Tea	is mating	n-ingau	on Dencits	Exceed		i-imgateu	Demanu				
0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	86%	86%	86%	86%	84%	82%	82%	82%
10%									74%	74%	74%	74%	73%	70%	70%	70%
20%									60%	61%	60%	60%	58%	49%	49%	49%
40%									27%	26%	27%	22%	50%	15%	16%	16%
60%									14%	15%	14%	14%	12%	4%	5%	7%

#### **Oldman River Non-irrigation (Continued)**

Reach		LNID	Diversion	to Willow	Creek (W	RMM Bloc	:k 213)			Wi	llow Creek	to Belly F	River (WR	MM Block	<b>63)</b>	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )				10,	720							16	61			
X% of Demand					% of Yea	rs That No	on-irrigati	on Deficits	s Exceed	X% of No	n-irrigated	Demand				
0%	95%	86%	95%	95%	93%	92%	92%	93%	80%	80%	80%	80%	73%	68%	68%	68%
10%	74%	74%	74%	74%	73%	70%	70%	69%	55%	55%	54%	54%	50%	37%	37%	37%
20%	60%	59%	59%	60%	58%	49%	49%	49%	42%	41%	42%	38%	32%	14%	15%	18%
40%	26%	22%	26%	22%	20%	15%	16%	16%	15%	15%	15%	15%	14%	4%	7%	8%
60%	14%	14%	14%	14%	12%	4%	5%	7%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	1%	1%	15%



#### Table E.4 Continued

#### Oldman River Non-irrigation (Continued)

Reach		Belly River to St. Mary River							S	t. Mary Ri	ver Conflu	ence to M	outh (WR	MM Block	s 65 and 6	66)
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly	Belly			Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )		Nc	junior no	n-irrigatio	n demand	l in this re	ach					2,7	24			
X% of Demand					% of Yea	rs That No	on-irrigatio	on Deficits	Exceed	X% of Nor	n-irrigated	Demand				
0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	87%	85%	87%	84%	51%	4%	11%	14%
10%									43%	41%	43%	34%	22%	3%	5%	10%
20%									18%	16%	16%	16%	11%	0%	2%	7%
40%									8%	8%	7%	7%	3%	0%	0%	1%
60%									0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

#### St. Mary River Non-irrigation

Reach		-	Bell	y River to	St. Mary F	River			S	t. Mary Ri	ver Conflu	ence to M	outh (WR	MM Block	s 65 and 6	66)
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )			·	8	5							15,3	363			
X% of					% of Yea	rs That No	on-irrigati	on Deficits	Exceed	X% of No	n-irrigated	Demand				
Demand					/0 01 100		J									
0%	64%	64%	57%	53%	64%	64%	64%	64%	64%	20%	43%	11%	64%	64%	64%	64%
10%	54%	54%	53%	51%	54%	54%	54%	54%	54%	4%	7%	4%	54%	54%	54%	54%
20%	41%	42%	39%	45%	41%	41%	41%	41%	41%	1%	1%	1%	41%	41%	41%	41%
40%	19%	18%	23%	24%	19%	19%	19%	19%	19%	0%	0%	0%	19%	19%	19%	19%
60%	10%	10%	7%	11%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	0%	0%	0%	10%	10%	10%	10%



#### **Table E.4 Continued**

#### South Saskatchewan River Non-irrigation

Reach		U	pstream of	f Medicine	Hat (WRM	/M Block	67)			Medicin	e Hat to S	askatchew	van Borde	er (WRMM	Block 6)	
Scenario	Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly				Base Case	Chin	Kimball		Belly			
New Storage (dam <sup>3</sup> )	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K	0	74K	125.8K	126K	490K	490K	324K	160K
Instream Flow		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s		N/A	WCO	3.0 m <sup>3</sup> /s	WCO	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s	1.03 m³/s
Demand (dam <sup>3</sup> )				1,3	328							8,2	244			
X% of Demand					% of Yea	rs That No	on-irrigatio	on Deficits	Exceed	X% of Nor	n-irrigated	Demand				
0%	50%	49%	50%	47%	28%	4%	8%	11%	50%	49%	50%	47%	28%	4%	8%	11%
10%	20%	18%	19%	18%	15%	3%	4%	7%	15%	14%	15%	15%	11%	3%	4%	8%
20%	12%	12%	11%	11%	8%	1%	3%	5%	11%	8%	11%	10%	7%	0%	1%	5%
40%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
60%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%



Appendix F

Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development Policies



## APPROVALS PROGRAM POLICY

**REGIONAL SERVICES DIVISION** 

#### POLICY NO .:

DATE: January 16, 2007

Guideline for Implementation of Water Conservation Objectives, established under the *Water Act*, in the South Saskatchewan River Basin.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Water Act was proclaimed in January 1999 with several new approaches from the previous Water Resources Act; key provisions were:

- Establishing a framework for water management planning by December 31, 2001 (completed).
- Creation of an Aquatic Environment Protection Strategy (not completed).
- Water Management Planning mandate.
- Establishment of Water Conservation Objectives (WCO).

#### A WCO is defined as:

"The amount and quality of water established by the Director under Part 2 based on information available to the Director to be necessary for the:

- protection of a natural water body or its aquatic environment or any part of them;
- · protection of tourism, recreational, transportation or waste assimilation uses of water; or
- management of fish and wildlife;

and may include water necessary for the rate of flow of water or water level requirements".

Typically a WCO is designed to be a minimum flow or level of water at any instance. These values may be enshrined in licences to divert surface water so that the aquatic environment is protected when there is a water shortage. When licences subject to a WCO have the potential to reduce river flow below the WCO the licensees must curtail diversions.

The Government may apply for an application for an allocation of water equivalent to the WCO. Any licence issued has priority, as of the date of a complete application or as specified in a Crown Reservation, over any other subsequent applicants for water allocations in times of water shortage.

A WCO may also be supported by the addition of licensed water from a transfer where up to 10% of transferred allocations may be re-assigned to a WCO where the protection of the aquatic environment may result.

A WCO usually has a water quality component because it is by nature designed to protect the aquatic environment. An Instream Flow Needs (IFN) assessment and consumptive demand information should form the basis for a WCO discussion. Components of an IFN are habitat, riparian needs, water quality (waste assimilation and fish needs), and channel maintenance. Consumptive demand components are existing licences, apportionment agreements, reservoir operations and potential future demands, including First Nations.

A WCO is either established by a Director based on substantive information followed by public consultation or a public consultation process followed by a recommendation to the Director usually in the form of a Water Management Plan.

The Lieutenant Governor in Council approved the Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan-River-Basin in-Alberta-on-August-30,-2006-through-Order-In-Gouncil-(O-G-409/2006)-----

The Approved Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan River Basin recommends the establishment of a water conservation objective (WCO) for the Red Deer, Bow, Oldman and South Saskatchewan River sub-basins.

Therefore, as recommended in the Approved Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan River Basin and as provided for under section 15(1) of the *Water Act*, the Director established the following WCOs, as recommended in the Plan:

- Water Conservation Objective (WCO) for the Red Deer River sub-basin to be:
  - From the Dickson Dam to the confluence with the Blindman River, the WCO for any applications received or licences issued after May 1, 2005 and for existing licences with a retrofit provision is:
    - A rate of flow that is 45% of the natural rate of flow, or 16 cms (cubic metres per second), whichever is greater at any point in time.
  - From the confluence with the Blindman River to the Saskatchewan border, the WCO is:
    - o For future licences for withdrawals from November to March, inclusive:
      - A rate of flow that is 45% of the natural rate of flow, or 16 cms, whichever is greater at any point in time.
      - That this WCO apply to any applications received or licences issued after May 1, 2005.
    - o For future licences for withdrawals from April to October, inclusive:
      - A rate of flow that is 45% of the natural rate of flow, or 10 cms, whichever is greater at any point in time.
      - That this WCO apply to any applications received or licences issued after May 1, 2005.
    - o For existing licences with a retrofit provision:
      - A rate of flow that is 45% of the natural rate of flow, or 10 cms, whichever is greater at any point in time.
- Water Conservation Objective (WCO) for the Bow, Oldman and South Saskatchewan River subbasin mainstems to be either 45% of the natural rate of flow, or the existing instream objective increased by 10%, whichever is greater at any point in time.
- Water Conservation Objective (WCO) for the headwater reaches and the tributaries of the Red Deer, Bow, Oldman and South Saskatchewan River sub-basins to be not less than the existing instream objective or the WCO downstream on the mainstem, whichever is greater at any point in time.
  - For the Red Deer, the Approved Plan considered the drainage area above the Dickson Dam to be the headwater reaches.
  - For the Bow, the Approved Plan considered the drainage area above the Bearspaw Dam to be the headwater reaches.
  - For the Oldman, the Approved Plan considered the drainage area above the Oldman Dam to be the headwater reaches.
  - For the South Saskatchewan, the Approved Plan considered the tributaries to the mainstem.

#### **ISSUES:**

The Water Act and the Approved Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan River Basin do not provide detailed guidance on how a Director would implement the recommended WCOs.

Some of the issues on implementing the WCOs are:

- Judicious interpretation of the WCOs for tributaries is required, as a literal interpretation suggests that some of these tributaries may solely be held responsible for achieving the targeted WCO downstream on the mainstem;
- How WCOs can practically be implemented in various water bodies, as theoretically it will
  require natural and recorded flows downstream of each individual licenced diversion (for the
  purpose of monitoring and compliance), which is not practical.
- Implementation of the WCO requires real-time natural flows but no specifics are provided as how the natural flows will be obtained in real-time basis;
- How to obtain the required natural flows in ungauged watersheds.
- Limited water use information, which makes it impracticable to generate naturalized flows on a near real time basis in gauged watersheds (at gauging station).

#### **MOVING FORWARD:**

#### Tributary WCO

Tributaries contribute the majority of water available in the mainstem of a river system. Tributaries share the common responsibility of meeting the established WCOs on the mainstem of the river system, as without their contribution the mainstem WCOs wouldn't be achieved. Therefore, it is apparent that established mainstem WCOs would naturally be extended to the tributaries as well. There is a need to quantify or establish the fair share of contribution from tributaries required to meet the established WCO on the downstream mainstem of the river system. The logical interpretation of extending the recommended mainstem WCO to the tributaries would be either 45% of the natural rate of flow being generated in the tributary, or the existing instream objective established for the tributary increased by 10%, whichever is greater at any point in time.

#### Implementation of WCO for the purpose of licensing, monitoring and compliance

Implementation of a WCO requires natural and recorded flow values in the stream at the point of licenced diversion. Significant variation in flow rates along a channel (river, creek, etc.) can be expected and it is virtually impossible to gauge the channel at each and every diversion point along its length. It also precludes the possibilities of natural flow computations at all the licenced diversion locations. However, the Director will be required to identify an appropriate gauging station (where natural and recorded flows values are available) for each applicable (i.e. post May 1, 2005, condition allowing amendment, etc.) licence to implement the WCO.

Therefore, it is recommended to breakdown the stream length into sufficiently smaller reaches making sure that a gauging station at its downstream end represents each reach. Then all the licences with a WCO condition diverting in that reach will be subjected to the WCO established at the representative gauging station located at the downstream end of the reach. This methodology can be applied to mainstems as well as in tributaries. If tributaries are not big enough, they can be considered as a single reach and the WCO can be established at their mouth. It is essential to have a gauging station at the downstream end of established reaches for the purpose of calculating natural flows as well as for knowing the recorded flows at any given time.

#### Natural flows in gauged and ungauged watersheds:

#### Gauged watersheds:

In Alberta, extensive naturalization of river flows has been carried out, especially in the southern part

of the province. USACE SAAR (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Streamflow Synthesis And Reservoirs Regulation) and HYSTRA are the models of choice for flow naturalization in the Department. The methodology adopted for reconstruction of natural flow essentially consists of adding back the net diversions made by upstream projects to the recorded flows and routing the flows through the river system to account for travel time. This is a simplified but practical approach and accuracy of reconstructed natural flow is highly dependent on the reliable information about upstream water uses.

Presently, near real-time daily natural flows are being computed by the Department at 4 locations in the Red Deer River Basin, 2 locations in South Saskatchewan River sub-basin, 8 locations in the Bow River Basin and 12 locations in Oldman River Basin. The Department should explore the possibility of computing near real-time naturalized flows at additional gauged locations in the basins (including mainstem and tributaries) using the existing methodology. The requirement of computing natural flows at additional existing gauging sites and/or adding more gauging stations (to compute natural flow and knowing recorded flows) will depend on how many smaller reaches need to be established by breaking down the stream length.

#### Ungauged watersheds:

Continuous natural daily flow time-series at ungauged sites can be generated by using either a simple approach, such as a flow transportation (from gauged to ungauged basin) technique, to a more complex approach such as comprehensive holistic hydrological modeling. Choice of a particular method is often dictated by various factors including availability of resources (dollars, time); available relevant data; purpose; desired accuracy, etc.

A distributed hydrological modeling approach could be used to simulate natural flow regimes and catchment responses more precisely under different scenarios of climate and land use change but they present some real challenges as these models are excessively data hungry and require extensive calibration and validation, which is again time consuming and labor-intensive. However, inclusion of such models as predictive tools could be identified as a long-term objective.

(a) Rudimentary approach: In hydrological homogeneous basins, natural flows computed at a gauged location can be transported to an ungauged location based on the drainage area proportion method. This is the most simplified approach and may provide some reasonable estimates in true hydrological homogeneous basins. Considering that there may be large number of ungauged basins (especially tributaries) it is recommended that the natural flow in these ungauged basins be estimated based on the drainage area proportion method as mentioned below:

 $Q_{ug} = \frac{Q_g}{A_g} * A_{ug}$ 

Where,

Q<sub>g</sub> = natural or naturalized flow at gauging station

Qug = natural or naturalized flow at ungauging station

 $A_{g}$  = drainage area at gauging station

Aug = drainage area at un-gauging station

(b) Pragmatic approach: A simple yet more robust pragmatic approach like spatial interpolation and regionalization methods (using available, albeit limited, observed flow and/or precipitation data) provides a balance between simplistic and sophisticated approaches and could be used to support the implementation of established WCOs. In essence, the spatial interpolation approach also transfers the stream flow time series from the location(s) where the data are available to the location where the time series is needed (i.e. at ungauged sites) but it incorporates the flow variability by making extensive use of Flow Duration Curves (FDCs). It includes three sequential steps: (i) estimation of a representative regional non-dimensional FDC; (ii) calculation of the actual FDC at the required (destination) site by

multiplying the non-dimensional regional curve by an estimate of the long-term mean discharge obtained, for example, by a regional regression model; and (iii) conversion of the actual FDC at a site into a continuous stream flow hydrograph.

It is recommended that the above-mentioned methods (a and b) for estimating natural flows only be applied in medium to large size ungauged basins, which depict similar hydrological and watershed characteristics of the basin from where flows are being transported. In other remaining basins (small-size ungauged basins) it is recommended to use existing IO (if exists) or a certain percentage (say 90%) of instantaneous flow rate to remain in the stream.

In ungauged watersheds natural flow can be computed based on the techniques outlined above, however, there will still be a requirement of knowing the recorded flows for the purpose of monitoring and compliance. Therefore, it is recommended that:

- WCO be established then measured downstream of the diversion point;
- To establish the WCO, natural flow computations can be based on the methods outlined above;
- Onus will be on licensee to monitor the recorded flows in the stream downstream to the point of diversion for compliance of WCO condition in the licence.

#### POLICY:

When making a decision regarding developing and applying a WCO for the tributaries in the Red Deer, Bow, Oldman and South Saskatchewan River sub-basins the Director will consider:

- A logical interpretation of extending the recommended mainstem WCO to the tributaries as: either 45% of natural rate of flow being generated in the tributary, or the existing instream objective established for the tributary increased by 10%, whichever is greater at any point in time.
- Natural flow computations at desired locations in ungauged watersheds (i.e. headwater reaches, tributaries, etc.), where existing methodology can't be applied for flow naturalization, should be based on the methods outlined above and onus will be on the licensee to monitor the recorded flows in the stream downstream to the point of diversion for compliance of WCO condition in the licence.

**APPROVED:** 

DATE: January 16, 2007

May Mah-Paulson

Regional Approvals Manager Southern Region

APPROVED:

Andy Lamb

**Central Region** 

**Regional Approvals Manager** 

DATE: January 16, 2007



Appendix G

The Economic Ramifications of Reducing Potential Water Shortages to Junior Private Irrigation Through Increased Storage in the Oldman River Basin



## The Economic Ramifications of Reducing Potential Water Shortages through Increased Storage in the Oldman River Basin for Junior Private Irrigators

Projected water use in the SSRB could increase from the current 1,981,000 to 3,040,000 dam3 by the year 2030 (Refer to page 13). This is expected to increase the frequency of irrigation water deficits to junior licenses particularly in the Oldman River and downstream South Saskatchewan River basins. The impact on senior licenses, primarily through the organized irrigation districts, is expected to be minimal.

Municipal and industrial water with junior licenses in the Oldman Basin may also be affected, however, the quantities required for these users compared to total basin consumption is relatively small. Often these users are supplied through the irrigation districts but are not part of the district's license. The critical needs of these users can be supported through the senior licenses and increased internal storage. (Refer to page 69, 80, and 90).

It is expected that non-structural measures such as modifying operational procedures and on farm management technologies will be inadequate to alleviate these future shortages. Consequently the implications of constructing additional storage options are investigated in this report.

Potential storage sites have been identified through various previous studies. Three sites were identified as representative potential sites in this study, namely: Kimball, Belly, and Chin. (Refer to page 65).

(Million \$)*										
	Kimball Belly Chin									
Initial Estimate	\$98.2	\$81.4	\$56.1							
Year of Estimate         2002         1978         2002										
Index Adjustment** 1.51 3.11 1.5										
Current (2013)	\$148.3	\$253.2	\$84.7							
*Update did not review design for modifications or improvements.										
**Based on average Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Commercial Construction Index. Earth Construction Index no longer available.										

## Table G.1 Estimated Current Construction Costs Updated to Current Values

The estimated economic viability of these sites is based on the reduced occurrences of irrigation water deficits for the junior private irrigators in the affected reaches within the basin. Irrigation



water deficits were estimated via the WRMM simulation model for the various reaches in the basin. (Refer to page 65).

The percent of irrigation water deficit years for an assumed 90<sup>th</sup> percentile demand for the simulated period is shown in Table G.2.

### Table G.2 Reduction in the Percentage of Years that Deficits Exceed Private Irrigation Demand due to Additional Storage\*

			Belly Kimball Chin							
		Change	in percent of	of years						
Reach	Hectare	50mm	100mm	200mm	50mm	100mm	200mm	50mm	100mm	200mm
OM1	6781									
OM2	15256	4								
OM3	3571		9		3	8				
OM4	1842	6	4							
OM5	353	9	9	3		4			4	
OM6	4055									
SM2	270				8			19	4	
SS1	3535	3								
SS2	2048	4		3	3			3		3

\* Because of the stochastic nature of the WRMM simulation model, percent changes up to 2% were assumed to be neutral

The maximum irrigation requirement during 32 years of recorded water use is 690 mm. Average gross diversions are approximately 315 mm with approximately 66% applied to the field. The balance of diverted water is lost through evaporation, seepage, and non-irrigation uses. (Source: Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development).

It assumed for this economic analysis that during periods of extreme water demands that the utilization of diverted water will intensify beyond the 66%. Gross diversion requirements for private irrigators are assumed to be approximately 500 mm for this analysis.

WRMM model results categorize water shortages in terms of 50,100 and 200 mm. Accordingly water shortages in terms of percentages are:

50mm	-10%
100mm	-20%
200mm	-40%



Agricultural impacts in association with water irrigation shortages are shown in Table G.3. These estimated impacts were derived from the analysis of twelve crops typically grown in Southern Alberta and account for changes in yields, crop quality, pumping costs, etc.

## Table G.3 Reduced Agricultural Sales, Agricultural Returns and Provincial GDP Associated with Water Shortages

Shortage	Sales	Agricultural Return	Provincial GDP
10%	7%	37%	8%
20%	14%	79%	11%
40%	37%	214%	45%

Source: Regional Implications of Water Shortages, St. Mary Main Canal Supply Region, Feb. 2001 prepared for: Main Canal Advisory Committee by: Russell Consulting & S.N. Kulshreshtha

Values are extremes as subsequent simulation runs through FFIRM model indicates the on farm management ability to mitigate for minor irrigation shortages. The FFIRM model also indicates the increasing financial severity of back to back shortages which are not accounted for in this analysis.

Source: Southern Tributaries, Irrigation Review. March 2002 prepared for: Main Canal Advisory Committee by: Hart Water Management Consulting

Crop mixes for Raymond Irrigation District (RID) and St. Mary Irrigation District (SMRID) were used in this analysis to represent private irrigated crop mixes for the various reaches as reported in the WRMM results. It is assumed that the RID crop mix will represent users in the cooler upper reaches labeled as "OM" and SMRID crop mix will represent the lower reaches labeled as "SM".

Irrigation District	Forage	Cereal	Specialty	Oilseed				
RID	0.43	0.36	0.01	0.2				
SMRID	0.21	0.36	0.25	0.18				
*Source: Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development								

Table G.4 Irrigation District Crop Mix\*

Specific crops were selected to represent each of the general crop categories above. Crop costs and returns were derived from 2013 crop enterprise costs from Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development.



Table G.5Crop Budgets (per hectare)

	Alfalfa	Feed Barley	Processing Potato	Argentine Canola
Gross Sale	\$791	\$1,242	\$9,384	\$1,782
Direct Costs	\$582	\$821	\$5,567	\$741
Capital Costs	\$450	\$499	\$529	\$499
Net Farm Income	-\$241	-\$78	\$3,288	\$542

Total sales, income and provincial GDP per hectare for the representative crops weighted by the respective crop mix for the two irrigation districts are shown in Table G6. The base values are the blended per hectare returns while the 10, 20 and 40 percent values are the reduced values from the base returns.

 Table G.6

 Reduced Sales Income and Provincial GDP (per hectare)

	RI	D			SM	RID	
	Sales	Income	GDP		Sales	Income	GDP
Base	\$799	\$1,237	\$501	Base	\$841	\$3,280	\$1,328
10%	\$87	\$296	\$191	10%	\$230	\$311	\$506
20%	\$173	\$631	\$263	20%	\$459	\$664	\$696
40%	\$458	\$1,710	\$1,075	40%	\$1,214	\$1,800	\$2,849

Provincial GDP is estimated as a multiple of 1.93 times gross sales. (Source: Regional Implications of Water Shortages) Provincial GDP represents the net provincial societal impact accumulating to all economic entities in the province including: primary agricultural producers, agricultural processors, suppliers, and provincial household incomes. It represents the potential maximum societal loss associated with the expected irrigated agricultural activities arising from water shortages. Farm income is most severely impacted from water shortages as agricultural margins are tight and a slight decrease in revenue results in negative on farm returns.

Table G7 is the accumulated annual savings across all the WRMM reaches anticipated from the respective storage options. (Refer to Table G.9 for detailed calculations).



Table G.7 Total Annual Savings

	Sales	Income	GDP
Belly	\$261,707	\$679,108	\$537,522
Kimball	\$80,286	\$246,758	\$141,286
Chin	\$107,854	\$161,765	\$243,347

Annual savings were discounted to present values as a comparison of the expected costs for each water storage option. Literature and various public decision agencies use discount factors of 5% and higher as representative of public interests for evaluation potential projects. The discount factor used herein is 3% over 50 years to illustrate the maximum potential desirability of the three storage projects.

Table G.8 represents the present value in terms of provincial GDP that will accumulate to each project. It is maximum ability that the provincial society could pay for the project based on potential savings from reduced water shortages.

# Table G.8Present Value of Annual Savings to Junior Private Irrigation Accumulating to eachProspective Project(3% over 50 years) (\$ Million)

	Sales	Income	GDP	Costs	NPV				
Belly	\$6.7	\$17.5	\$13.8	\$148.3	-\$134.5				
Kimball	\$2.1	\$6.3	\$3.6	\$253.2	-\$249.5				
Chin         \$2.8         \$4.2         \$6.3         \$84.7         -\$78.4									
NPV is the net present value of provincial GDP minus project costs in 2013 values.									

The economic opportunities of the three storage projects are expressed as the net present value (NPV) of discounted savings in provincial GDP less expected costs. Expected provincial gains associated with each storage option compared to costs, are negative. In conclusion, given the amelioration of expected shortages per the WRMM model and expected savings accumulating to private junior irrigation licenses from each of the storage projects, the savings in provincial GDP will not meet the anticipated costs.

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## Table G.9 Calculations of Annual Savings (per hectare) Accumulating to the Reaches in the WRRM Model

Belly																
		Change in percent of years			Sales (\$)			TOTAL	Net Income (\$)			TOTAL	Provincial GDP (\$)			TOTAL
Reach	Hectare	50 mm	100 mm	200 mm	50 mm	100 mm	200 mm		50 mm	100 mm	200 mm		50 mm	100 mm	200 mm	
OM1	6,781				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM2	15,256	4			87	173	458	52,862	296	631	1,710	180,411	191	263	1,075	116,598
OM3	3,571		9		87	173	458	55,680	296	631	1,710	202,871	191	263	1,075	84,435
OM4	1,842	6	4		87	173	458	22,339	296	631	1,710	79,183	191	263	1,075	40,474
OM5	353	9	9	3	87	173	458	13,105	296	631	1,710	47,555	191	263	1,075	25,799
OM6	4,055				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
SM2	270				230	459	1,214	0	311	664	1,800	0	506	696	2,849	0
SS1	3,535	3			230	459	1,214	24,349	311	664	1,800	33,004	506	696	2,849	53,707
SS2	2,048	4		3	230	459	1,214	93,372	311	664	1,800	136,084	506	696	2,849	216,509
TOTAL		•	•	•		•		\$261,707				\$679,108				\$537,522

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Kimball																
Change in percent of			Sales			TOTAL	Net Income (\$)			TOTAL	Provincial GDP (\$)			TOTAL		
years																
Reach	Hectare	50mm	100mm	200mm	50mm	100mm	200mm		50mm	100mm	200mm		50mm	100mm	200mm	
OM1	6,781				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM2	15,256				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM3	3,571	3	8		87	173	458	58,774	296	631	1,710	212,002	191	263	1,075	95,523
OM4	1,842				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM5	353		4		87	173	458	2,446	296	631	1,710	8,913	191	263	1,075	3,710
OM6	4,055				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
SM2	270	8			230	459	1,214	4,959	311	664	1,800	6,722	506	696	2,849	10,939
SS1	3,535				230	459	1,214	0	311	664	1,800	0	506	696	2,849	0
SS2	2,048	3			230	459	1,214	14,107	311	664	1,800	19,121	506	696	2,849	31,115
TOTAL		\$80,286								\$246,758						\$141,286

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Chin																
	Change in percent of			Sales (\$)			TOTAL	Net Income (\$)			TOTAL	Provincial GDP (\$)			TOTAL	
	years															
Reach	Hectare	50mm	100mm	200mm	50mm	100mm	200mm		50mm	100mm	200mm		50mm	100mm	200mm	
OM1	6,781				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM2	15,256				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM3	3,571				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM4	1,842				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
OM5	353		4		87	173	458	2,446	296	631	1,710	8,913	191	263	1,075	3,710
OM6	4,055				87	173	458	0	296	631	1,710	0	191	263	1,075	0
SM2	270	19	4		230	459	1,214	16,738	311	664	1,800	23,141	506	696	2,849	33,500
SS1	3,535				230	459	1,214	0	311	664	1,800	0	506	696	2,849	0
SS2	2,048	3		3	230	459	1,214	88,670	311	664	1,800	129,710	506	696	2,849	206,137
TOTAL								\$107,854				\$161,765				\$243,347

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