

Saskatchewan – Alberta Bilateral Water Management Agreement

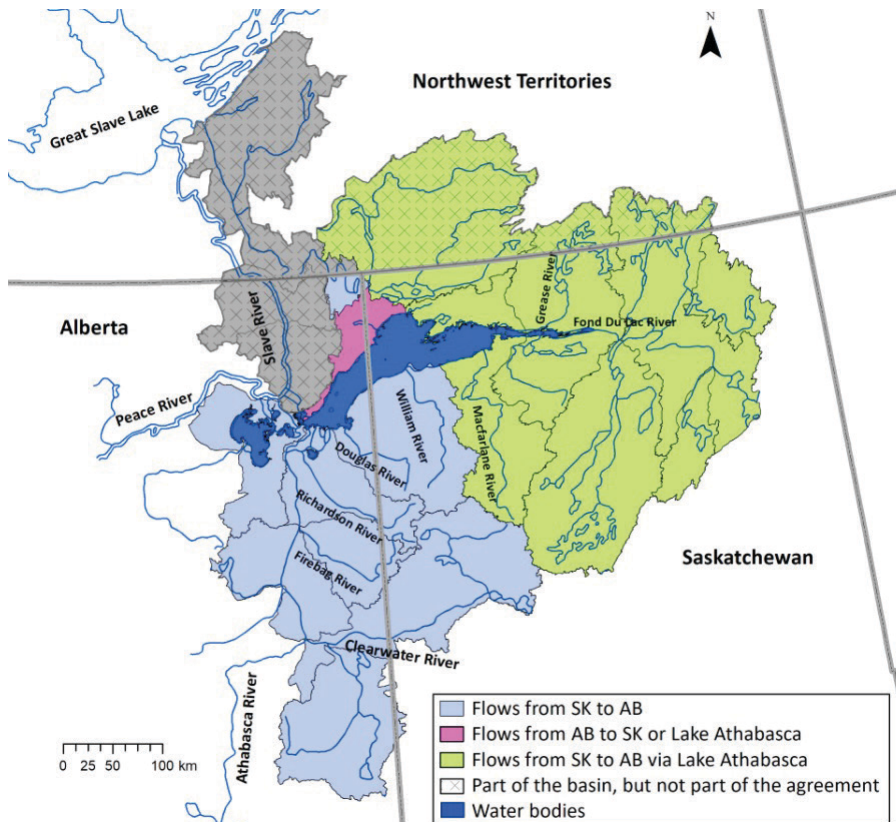
Alberta is committed to work toward three Bilateral Water Management Agreements (BWMA) to maintain the ecological integrity of the aquatic ecosystems. Established through the Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement (Master Agreement), BWMA create and implement a framework for cooperative management of transboundary waters between Alberta's neighbouring jurisdictions: British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Northwest Territories.

Alberta is currently working with Saskatchewan to develop our shared BWMA.

What will the SK-AB Bilateral Water Management Water Agreement (BWMA) achieve?

- Affirms principles of the Master Agreement to protect the ecological integrity of the aquatic ecosystem.
- Respects Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.
- Commits to jurisdictional cooperation and information sharing.
- Provides steps for adaptive management to new information and changing conditions, including climate change.
- Does not replace each government's own decision-making processes that can lead to approval of mines, oil and gas projects, highways, or other developments near the water.
- Is proactive and forward looking to facilitate joint learning that will inform water management actions on transboundary waters.
- Acknowledges the importance of Indigenous Knowledge in water management decisions within the Mackenzie River Basin.

Water bodies included in the SK-AB BWMA



List of waterbodies included in the SK-AB BWMA

Drainage Basin (WSC sub-sub drainage basin)	Watercourse	Direction of Flow	
Lower Taltson (07QA)	1. Inster Lake	—	
	2. Flagon Lake	—	
North of Lake Athabasca (07MD)	3. Waugh Lake	—	
	4. Ney Lake	AB to SK	
	5. Weekes Lake	AB to SK	
	6. Chain Lake	—	
	7. Colin River	AB to Sk	
	8. Belyea Lake	AB to SK	
	9. Peters Lake	—	
	10. Griffiths Lake	AB to SK	
	11. Ness Creek	AB to SK	
	Lake Athabasca		SK to AB
	Southwestern Lake Athabasca (07MA)	12. Lillabo Lake	—
13. Harrison River		SK to AB	
14. Douglas River		SK to AB	
15. Old Fort River		SK to AB	
16. Beatty River		SK to AB	
Lower Athabasca–Mouth (07DD)		17. Maybelle River	SK to AB
	18. Richardson River	SK to AB	
Firebag River (07DC)	19. Marguerite River	SK to AB	
	20. Trout Creek	SK to AB	
	21. Firebag River	SK to AB	
	22. Wallace Creek	SK to AB	
Clearwater River (07CD)	23. Trib. To High Hill R.	SK to AB	
	24. Gordon Creek	SK to AB	
	25. Sutton Creek	SK to AB	
	26. Clearwater River	SK to AB	
	27. Edwin Creek	SK to AB	
Christina River (07CE)	28. Newby River	SK to AB	
	29. Graham Creek	SK to AB	
	30. Sweezy Creek	SK to AB	

SK-AB Bilateral Water Management Agreement principals to ensure ecological integrity

The BWMA will work towards developing objectives to protect ecological integrity of the aquatic ecosystem. Appendix A - H in this agreement describe the process to develop objectives and monitor. These appendices include:

- A. Risk informed management (RIM)
- B. Indigenous knowledge
- C. Transboundary waters
- D. Surface water quantity
- E. Surface water quality
- F. Groundwater
- G. Biological indicators
- H. Cost to administer agreement

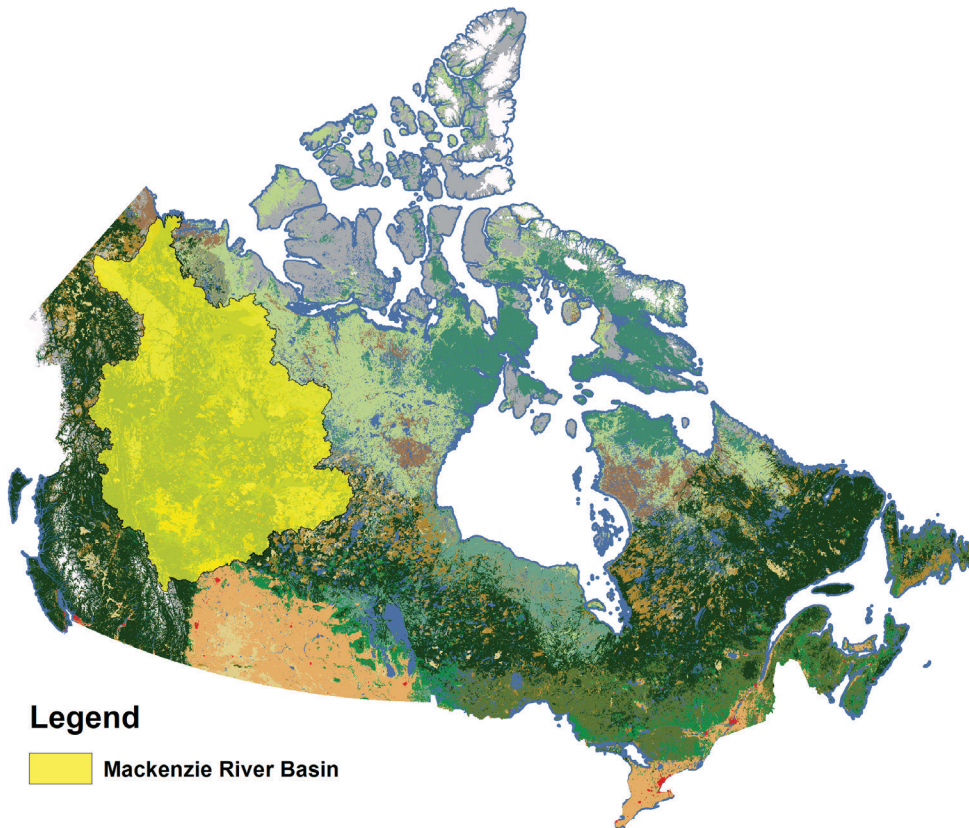
Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement

In 1997, the Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement (Master Agreement) was signed by Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Canada. Each of the governments


has jurisdiction over activities, such as monitoring weather, water flow, and fish populations or industrial developments in their respective jurisdictional areas. The Master Agreement sets out principles for the cooperative management of the aquatic ecosystem of the Mackenzie River basin. More information can be found at mrbb.ca

Main objectives of the Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement are to:

- Facilitate the management of water resources in the Mackenzie River Basin in a manner consistent with the maintenance of the ecological integrity of the aquatic ecosystem.
- Make provision to create Bilateral Water Management Agreements (BWMA). The BWMA's:
 - are legally binding government-to-government agreements that serve as guides for cooperative, risk informed management (RIM) of transboundary waters;
 - are agreements with other governments based on a shared vision to protect the water;
 - are agreements that rely on trust, respect, and cooperation; and
 - value both scientific and Indigenous knowledge to track the health of the aquatic ecosystem over time.
- The Alberta-Northwest Territories BWMA was signed in 2015.



Legend

 Mackenzie River Basin