

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council

Drought and Flood Management Workshop Summary

February 25, 2010, Canwood, SK

Coping with drought and flood

Past impacts:

- **Drought:** water shortages (livestock), feed shortages, soil moisture shortages, forest fires, erosion, loss of trees, grasshopper damage to crops, and increased stress
- **Flood:** infrastructure damage, delayed field operations, erosion, reduced yields, feed shortages, and social problems (drainage).

Past management strategies:

- **Drought:** grazing management, cropland fencing, cross fencing, swath grazing, new crop and forage varieties, delayed seeding, fire breaks, herd sizing, and chaff feeding.
- **Flood:** infrastructure design, wetland management, drainage (in some cases) and erosion control.

Preparing for the future...

There were numerous strategies for improving preparedness identified by workshop participants. The following is a brief summary of these strategies:

- Improve capacities for integrated and cooperative surface water management
- Improve cooperation between cattle producers and grain farmers when responding to drought conditions.
- Mapping to document risks and resources on the landscape

Presentations

Katherine Finn

Introduction and background

Jeremy Pittman

The history of drought on the prairies

Cameron Kayter

Assessing the flood risk to a region's infrastructure and environment

Jeremy Pittman

On-farm management strategies for drought and flood

