

North Saskatchewan River Basin Council

Drought and Flood Management Workshop Summary

February 23, 2010, Maidstone, SK

Coping with drought and flood

Past impacts:

- **Drought:** erosion, reduced yields, loss of trees, water shortages (livestock), feed shortages, and soil moisture shortages.
- **Flood:** loss of productive land (sloughs), erosion (gully creation), increased risk of source water contamination, and loss of animal shelter.

Past management strategies:

- **Drought:** water hauling, dugouts, pasture pipelines, wells, cross fencing, winter grazing, well monitoring, collaborative water infrastructure development (Turtleford), swath grazing, and herd sizing.
- **Flood:** fill in gullies, manure management, infrastructure design, and source water protection.

Preparing for the future...

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

- Develop an inventory of risks and resources on the landscape
- Educate the public about climate variability and the importance of water conservation and use efficiency.
- Promote local initiatives aimed at reducing vulnerability to drought and flood

Presentations

Katherine Finn

Introduction and background

Dr. David Sauchyn

The history of drought on the prairies

Cameron Kayter

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

Jeremy Brown

On-farm management strategies for drought and flood

