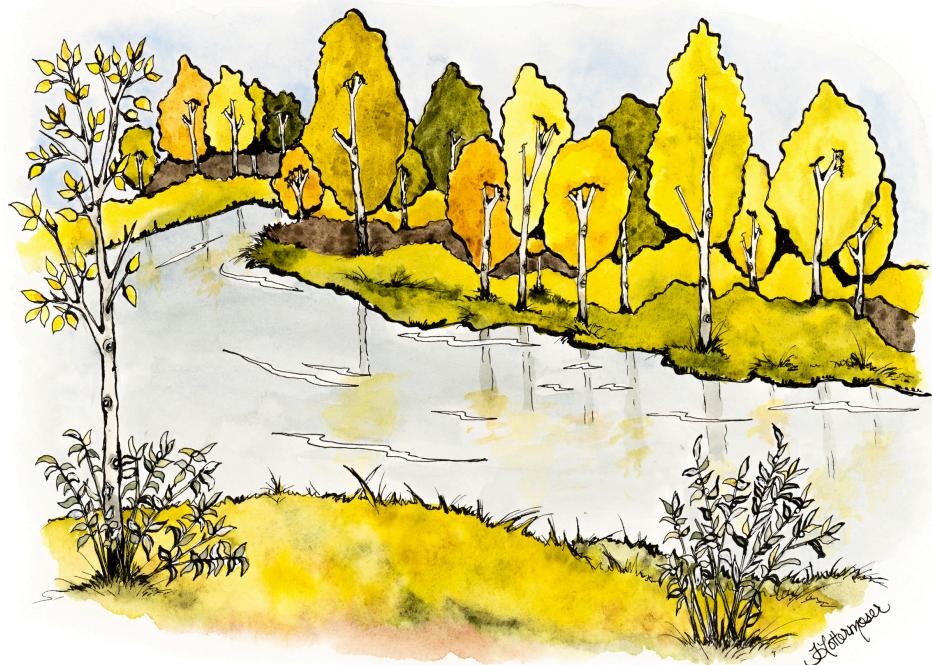


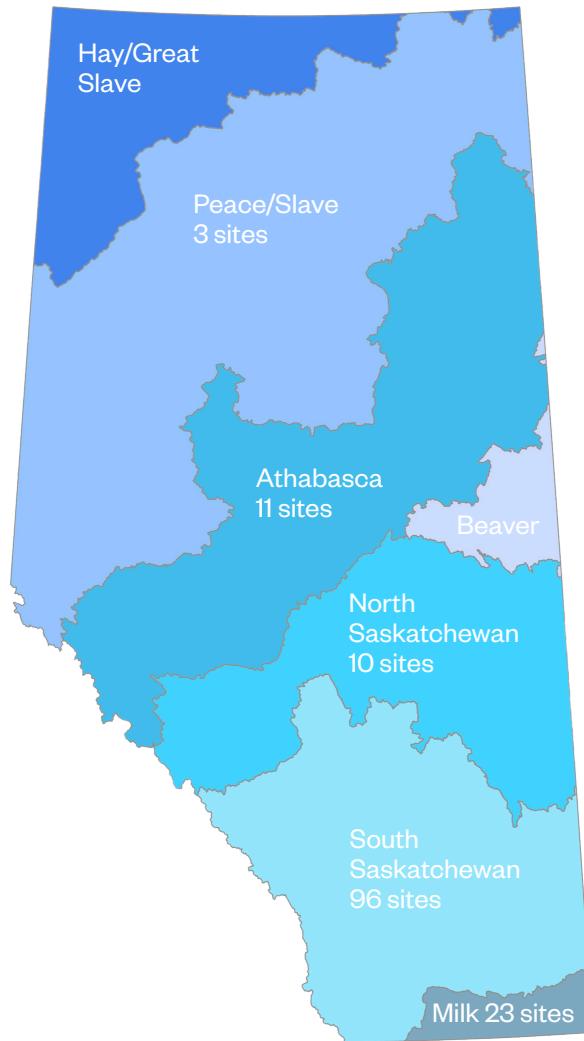
# ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

APRIL 1, 2024 - MARCH 31, 2025



**COWS  
& FISH**  
RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

# WATERSHEDS WE WORK IN



We assessed 143 riparian sites in 5 watersheds in 2024. 54% (77 of 143) of riparian health sites were full revisits from previous years. These sites are mostly in the Bow River, Red Deer River, and Lesser Slave River watersheds.

## Together, our actions make a difference.

Working with landowners and partners has led to many excellent on-the-ground changes, including restoration and management changes to benefit riparian health.

### This year we worked with:

- 4 First Nations
- 4 Post Secondary Institutions
- 18 Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils (WPACs)
- 4 Government Agencies
- 24 Counties/MDs
- 18 Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations
- 3 Land Trusts
- 6 Stock Associations/Larger Grazing Groups
- 3 Outdoor Recreational Groups
- Many Private Landowners

# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

**143**

Sites assessed for riparian health

**100km**

Of bank and shoreline assessed, over half of which were large rivers

**76**

Unique waterbodies assessed

**4,130**

People spoken to at...

**179**

Extension activities

**3,589**

Plantings (shrubs and trees)

**34**

Sites where Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) were implemented

**13**

Restoration sites



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# OUR WORK IS HAVING AN IMPACT

Evaluating the effectiveness of our program delivery is key to ensuring our work is having an impact. This includes evaluation events and activities throughout the year, in addition to larger scale, periodic third-party evaluations of our work.

## 86%

Of Train the Trainer attendees said they learned something new that they will apply

## 92%

Of attendees at the AgricultHER School and the Southern Alberta Grazing School for Women said they learned something new and...

## 100%

Said that the schools would influence their management practices – these are very positive results and show that we are meeting and exceeding our objectives!

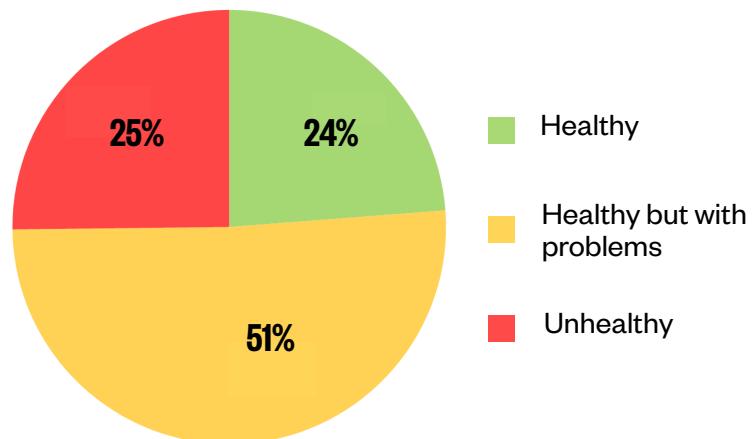
## SOCIAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

We shifted our focus to creating more video content in the form of “reels” after we opened an Instagram account in April, 2024.

Of the 31 reels we posted on Instagram this period, we received:

- 38 hours, 15 minutes, and 33 seconds of total watch time
- 19,378 total views

# 2024 PROVINCIAL RIPARIAN HEALTH



Of the 143 riparian sites, we completed:

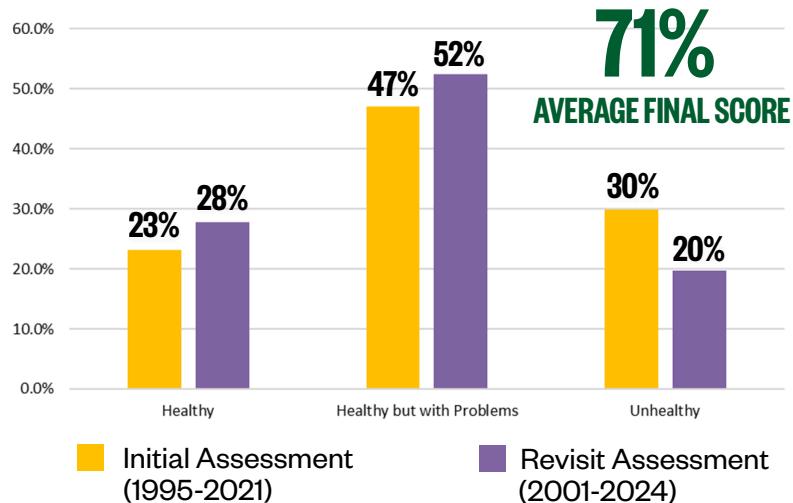
- 58 large river sites
- 63 stream sites
- 22 wetland and lake sites

In 2024 we prepared:

- 132 individual reports
- 4 community or project area and multi-year data summary reports

## COMPARISON OF REVISIT RIPARIAN HEALTH

About 22% (765/3,410) of all riparian sites have been re-assessed. The provincial average of initial assessments was 67% occurring from 1995 to 2021. This has increased to 71% for the re-visited sites, which occurred from 2001-2024:



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# KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL

We are proud to announce that our Executive Director, Norine Ambrose was awarded a King Charles III Coronation Medal for her significant contributions to Canada, Alberta, and the communities she works in. We would like to thank Alberta Environment and Protected Areas for the nomination, as well as Alberta Forestry and Parks, and our Board Members for their support.



Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, Rebecca Schulz with our Executive Director, Norine Ambrose, February 19, 2025

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Cows and Fish Board of Directors and Members include local producer and community representatives



## FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cows and Fish relies extensively on grant funding. Some support our overall broad diverse work while others provide targeted funding for a specific project or location, particularly those related to on-the-ground implementation, including:



Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Pêches et Océans Canada



Watershed Resiliency & Restoration Program (WRRP)



Samuel Hanen Society for Resource Conservation



[from Environment and Climate Change Canada: Habitat Stewardship Project related to native trout. These projects were undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada. Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.]



This project was undertaken with the financial support of Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de



Canada Water Agency Agence de l'eau du Canada



Dozens of other local partners, including rural municipalities, support our work. Individual landowners also cost-share project costs on their own lands.



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