



COWS AND FISH IN THE NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED

*Ashley Rawluk
Riparian Specialist
Cows and Fish*

November 7, 2013



Cows and Fish



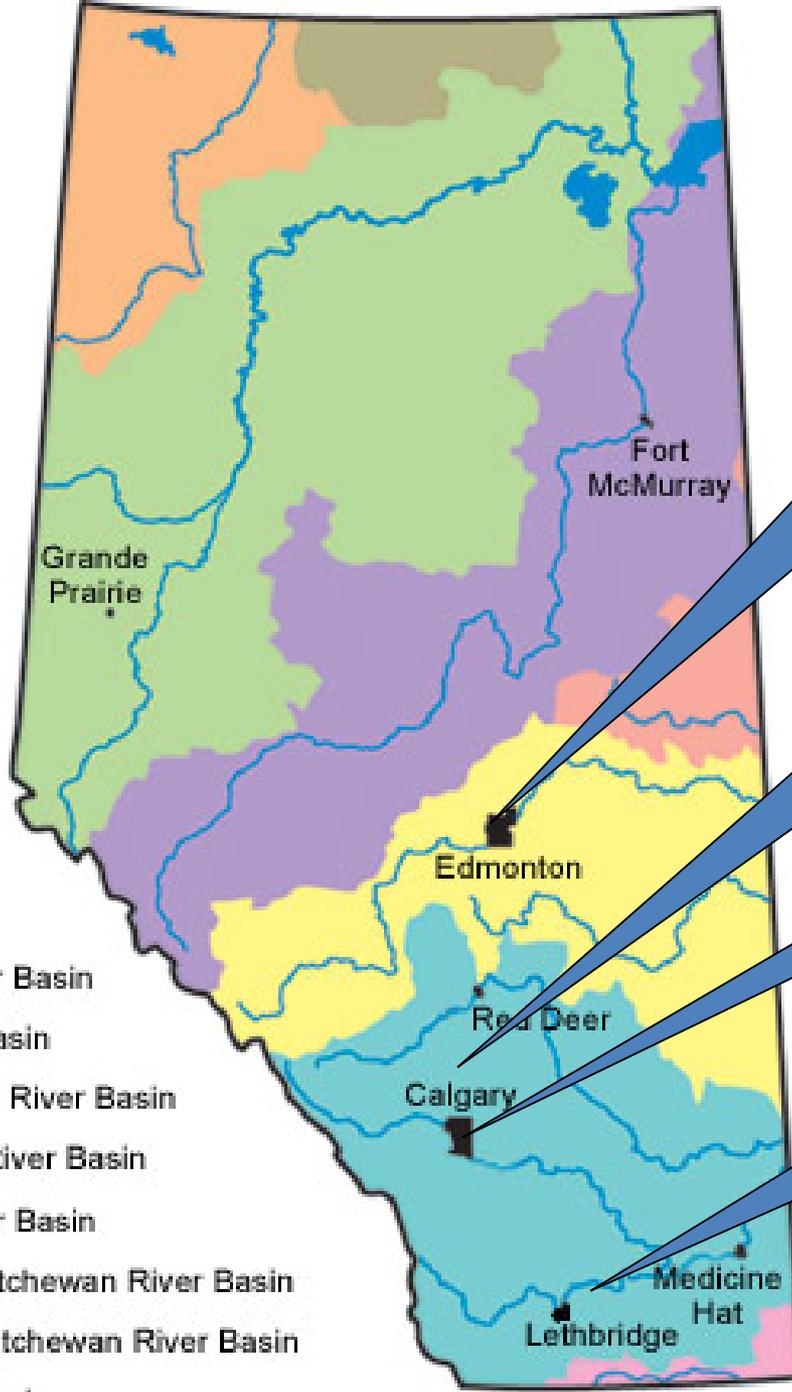
Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society



Cows and Fish Members and Supporters

- Alberta Beef Producers
- Trout Unlimited Canada
- Alberta Conservation Association
- Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
- Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Canadian Cattlemen's Association
- Producers, municipalities and community groups in Alberta





-  Buffalo River Basin
-  Hay River Basin
-  Peace/Slave River Basin
-  Athabasca River Basin
-  Beaver River Basin
-  North Saskatchewan River Basin
-  South Saskatchewan River Basin
-  Milk River Basin

Cows and Fish Staff Locations*

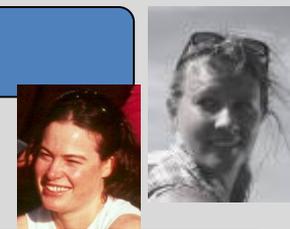
ARD office



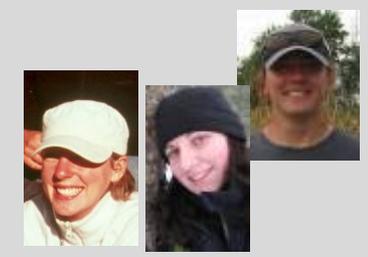
ARD office



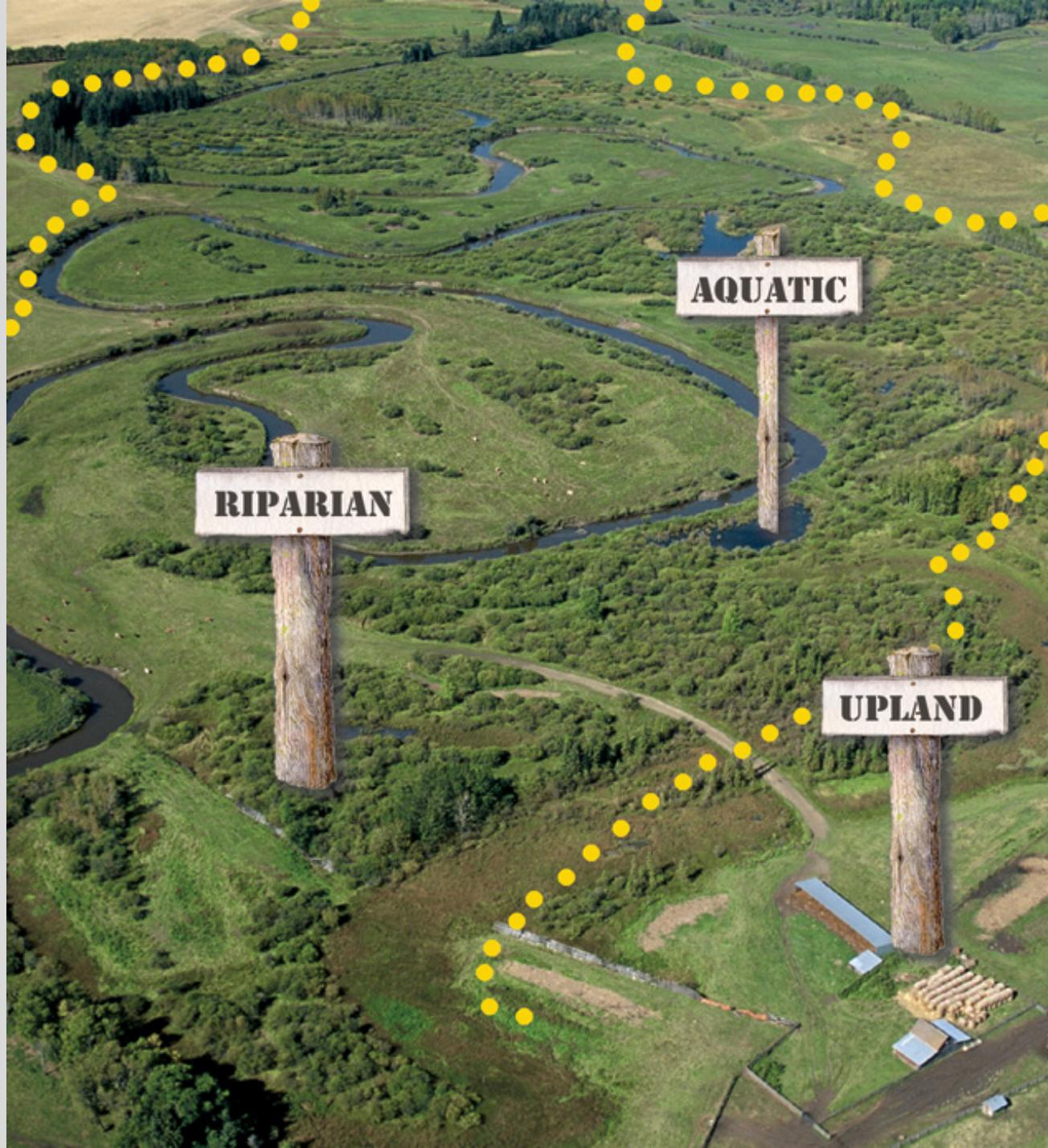
ABP office



ESRD office



*Office space provided as in-kind support



RIPARIAN

AQUATIC

UPLAND



Working Together for Watersheds

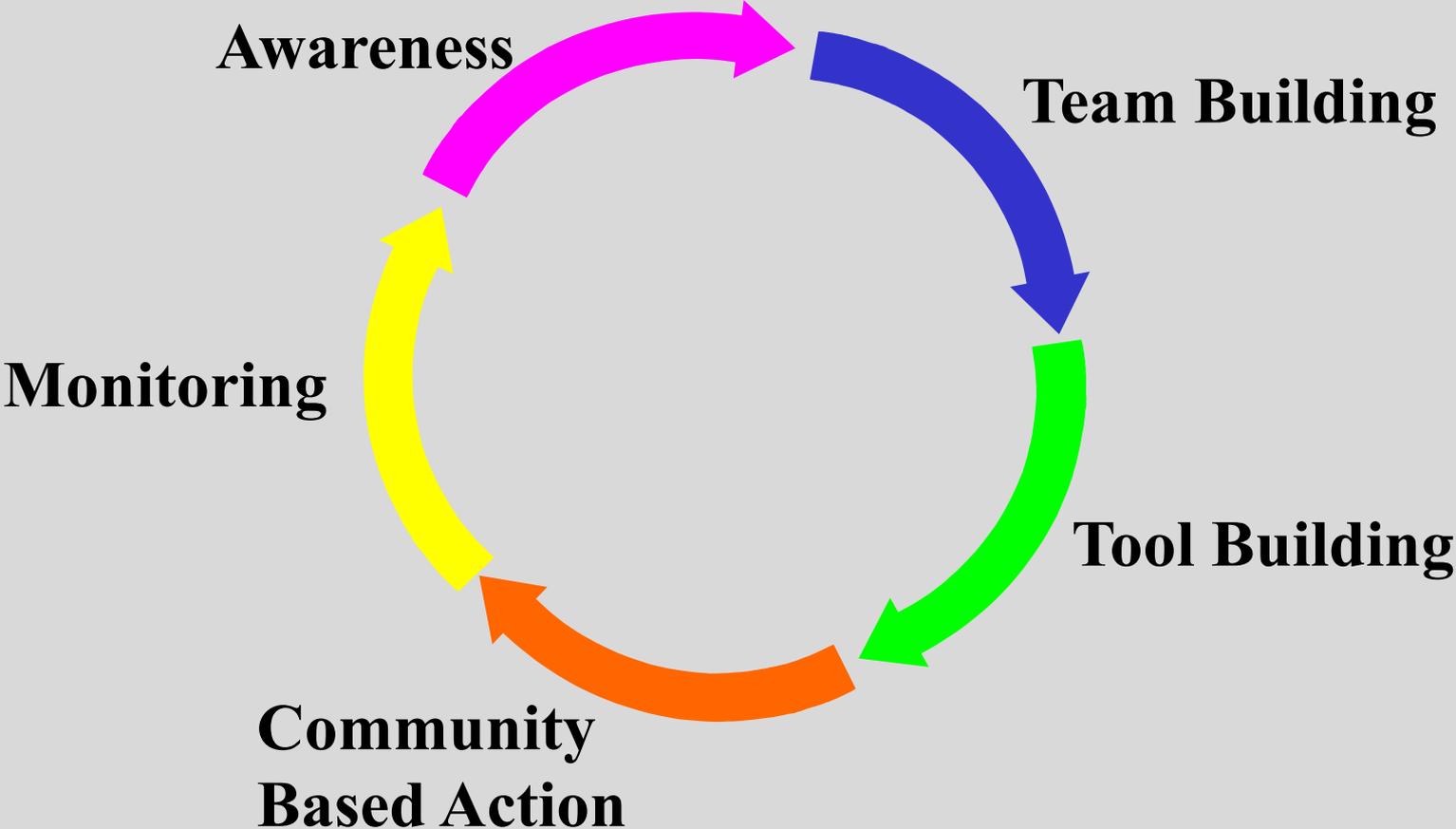
“We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

Aldo Leopold





The Cows and Fish Process

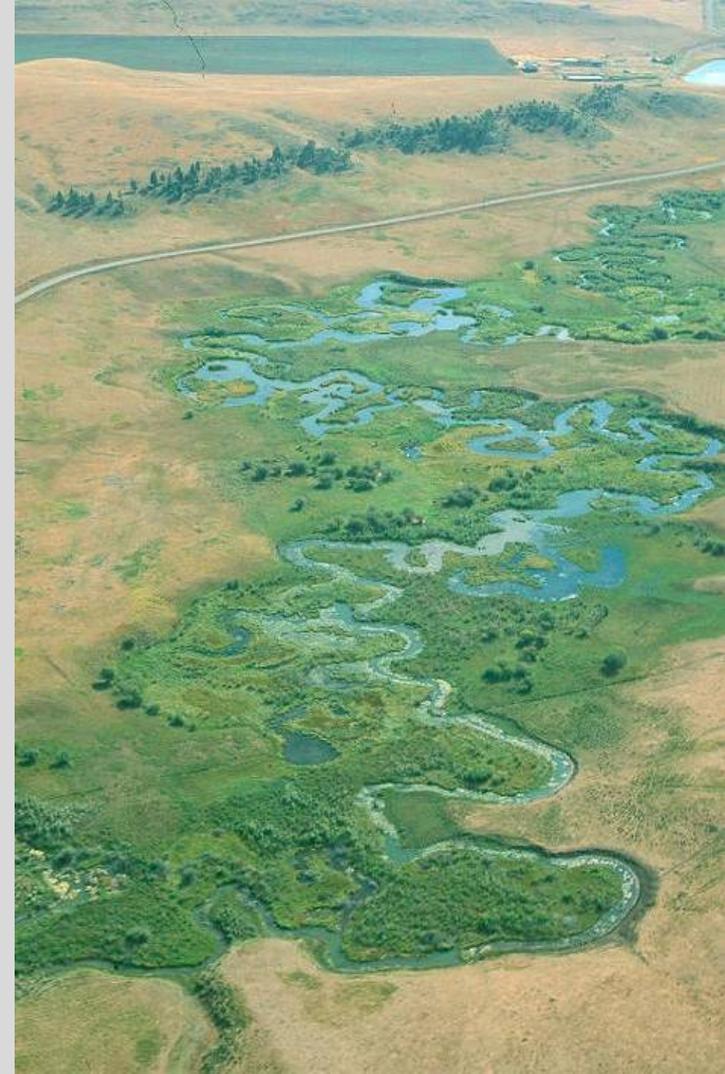


Awareness

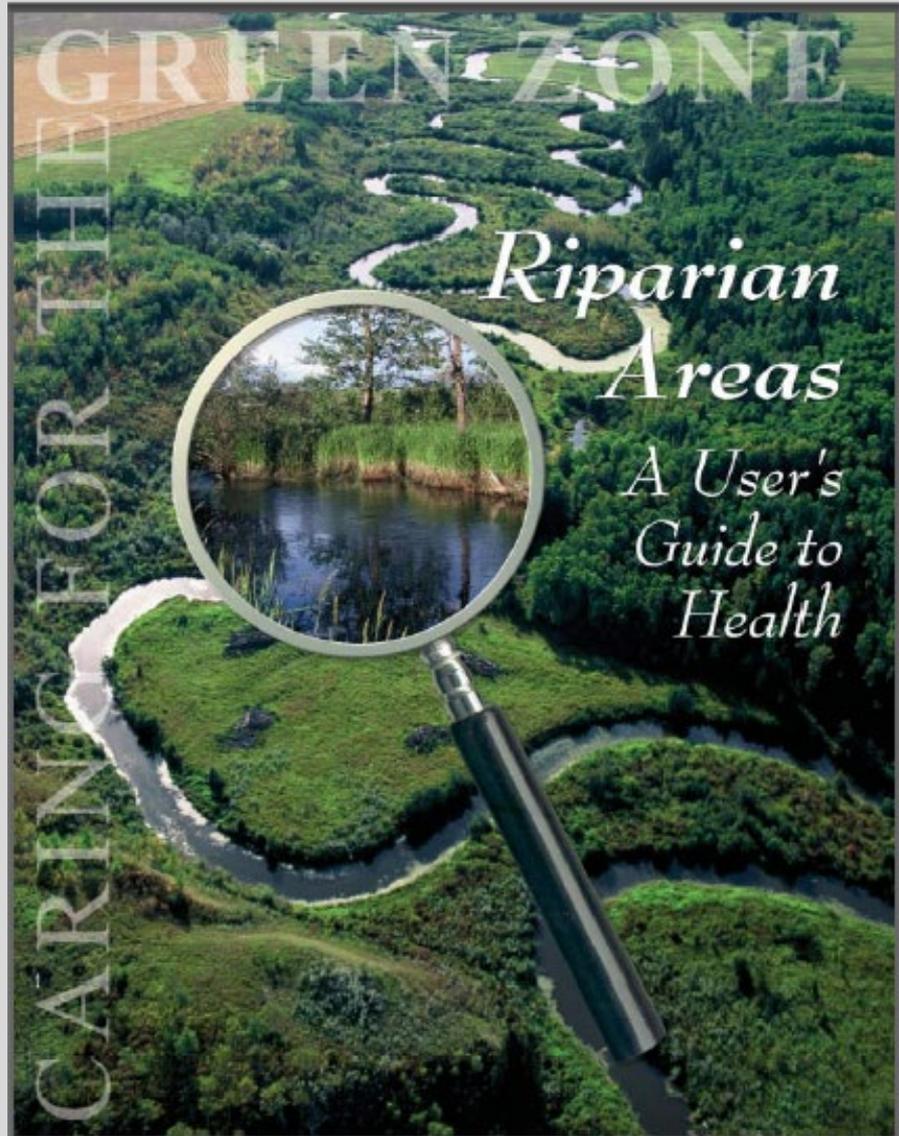
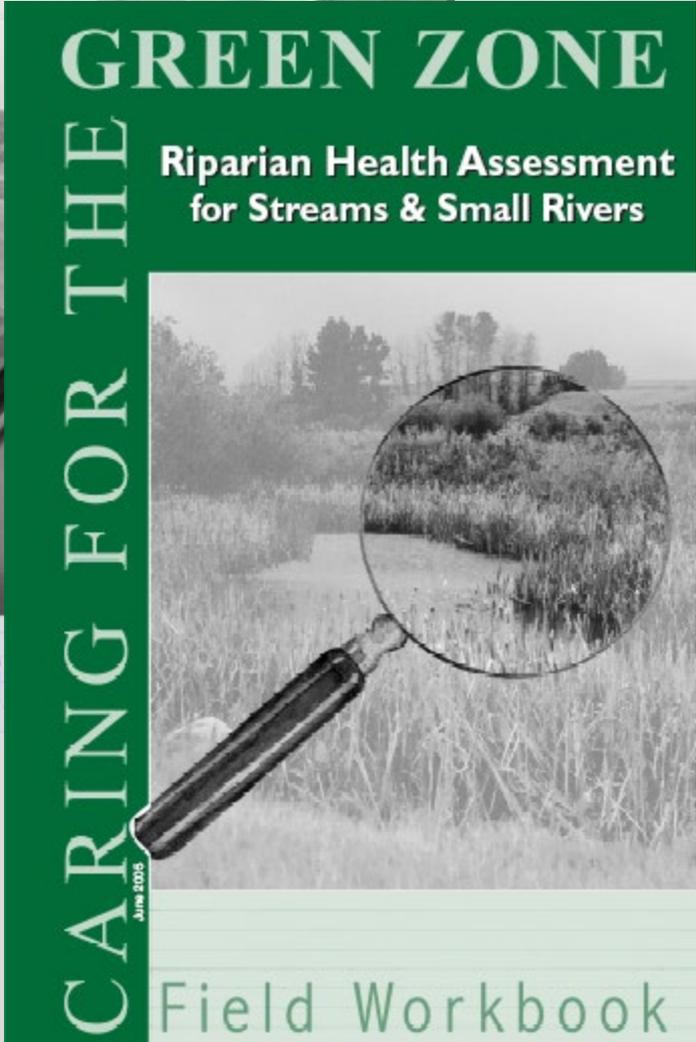
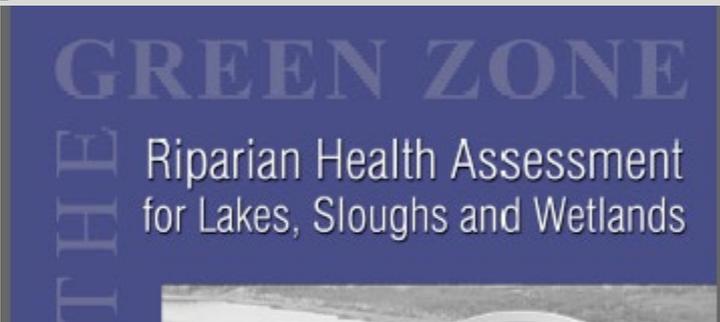
Awareness



- Building ecological literacy to help recognize a riparian area, how it functions, and its value
- Provides people, communities and watershed stewardship groups with the information required to make wise decisions



Health Assessment Education and Awareness Material



Riparian Health Assessment and Management Field Days



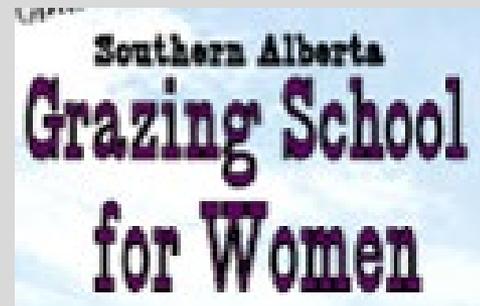
- Students from Lakeland College and Augustana University

- Landowners from Lac Ste. Anne County
- Municipal staff from counties within the North Saskatchewan Watershed

Youth Education

- Guest presenter at Junior Forest Wardens
- Cows, Fish, Cattledogs & Kids game show at City Slickers in Stony Plain





Team Building

Awareness

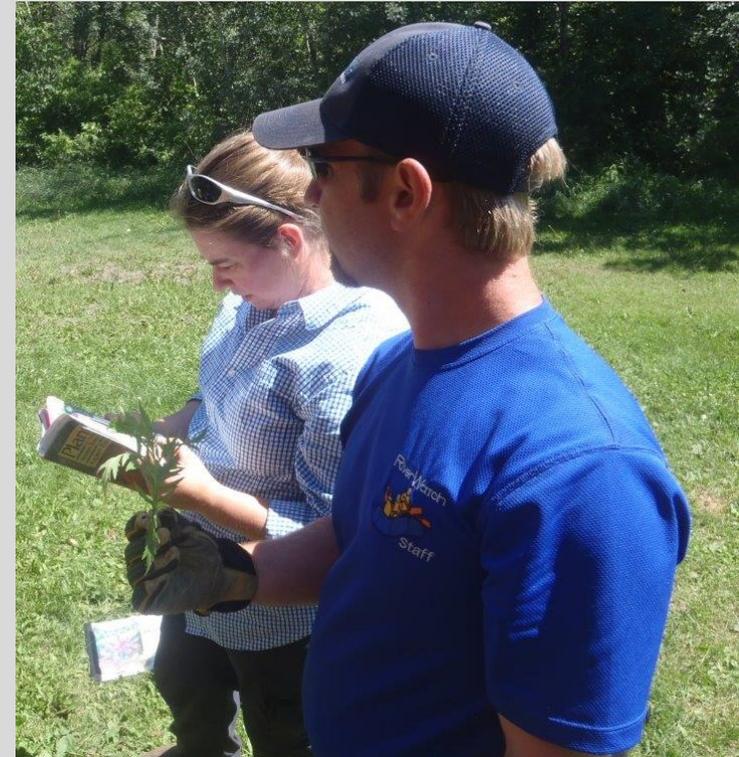
Team Building



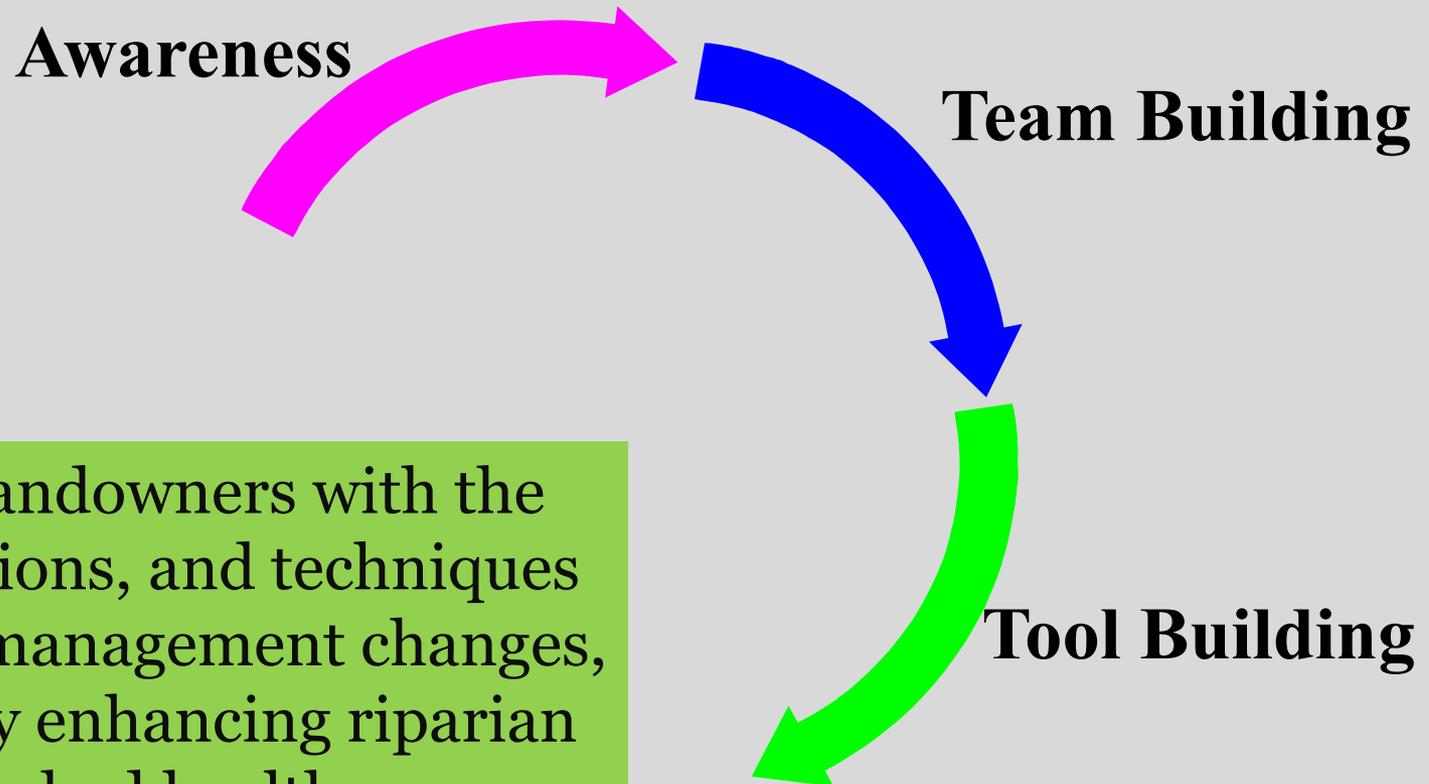
- Linking knowledge and experience between scientists, resource managers, and landowners
- Blending natural wisdom with scientific knowledge to enable change

Team Building

- Cows and Fish participates in:
 - Water's Edge Resource Group
 - City of Edmonton Biodiversity Working Group
 - River Watch training



Tool Building



- Provide landowners with the tools, options, and techniques to make management changes, ultimately enhancing riparian and watershed health



Wetland southwest of Vermilion

Before management change



After 1 year rest with electric fencing

Community Based Action

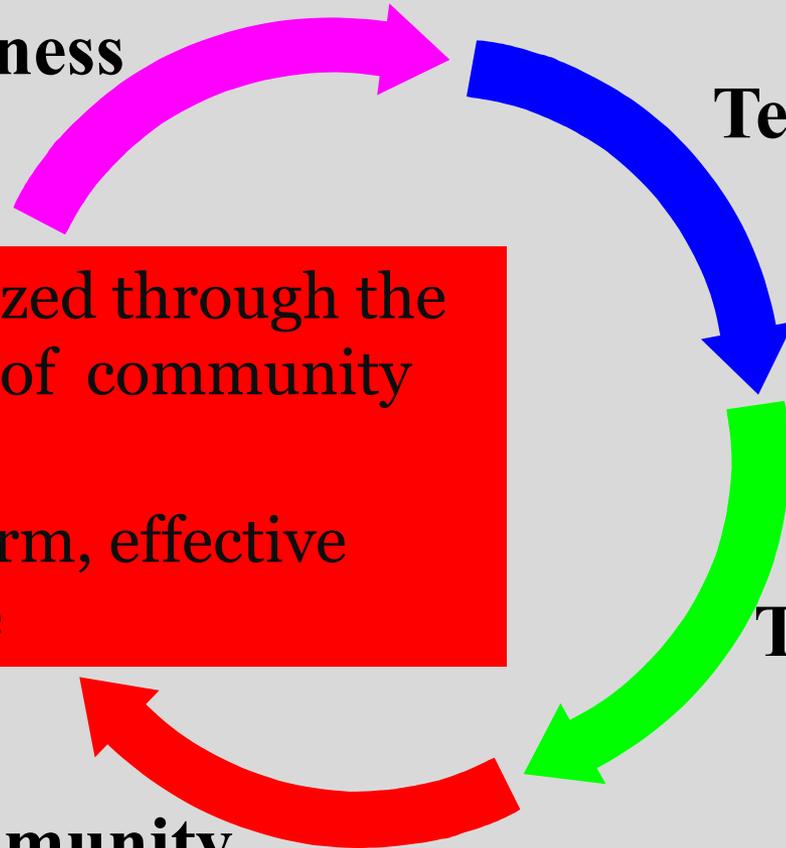
Awareness

Team Building

Tool Building

**Community
Based Action**

- Stewardship realized through the combined efforts of community members
- Results in long term, effective landscape change



Community Based Action



- County of Vermilion River
- Parkland County

ALUS Growing In Alberta

There's exciting news coming from one of the largest, most politically important county's in Wild Rose Country. Parkland County, just west of Edmonton, officially embraced ALUS at its September 27th council meeting. The county also has a new staffer on board to help develop the ecological goods and services program near the provincial capital.

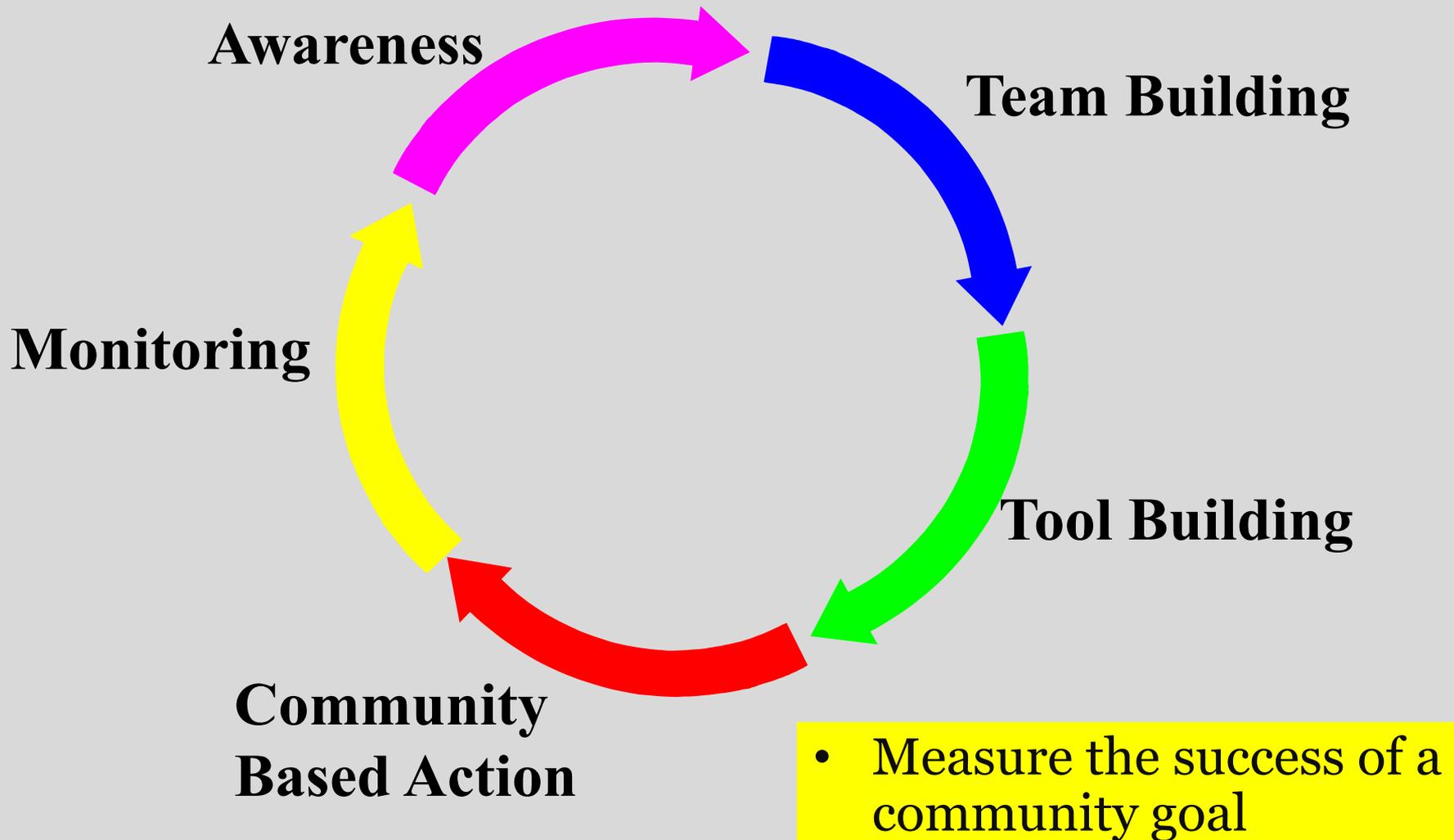


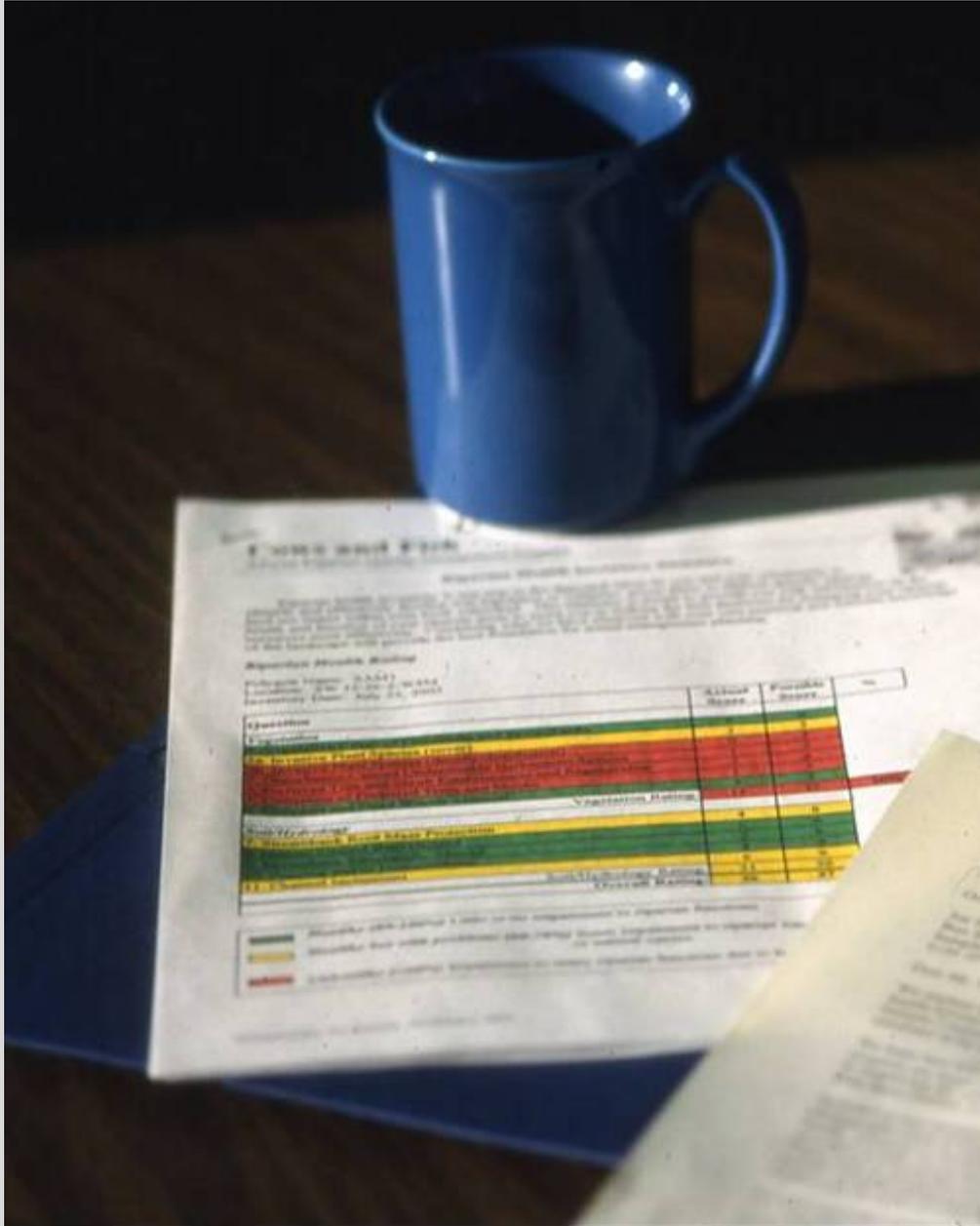
Field staff from Cows and Fish enjoy a tour of the CVR ALUS project.

Cows And Fish Tour County Of Vermilion River ALUS Site



Monitoring

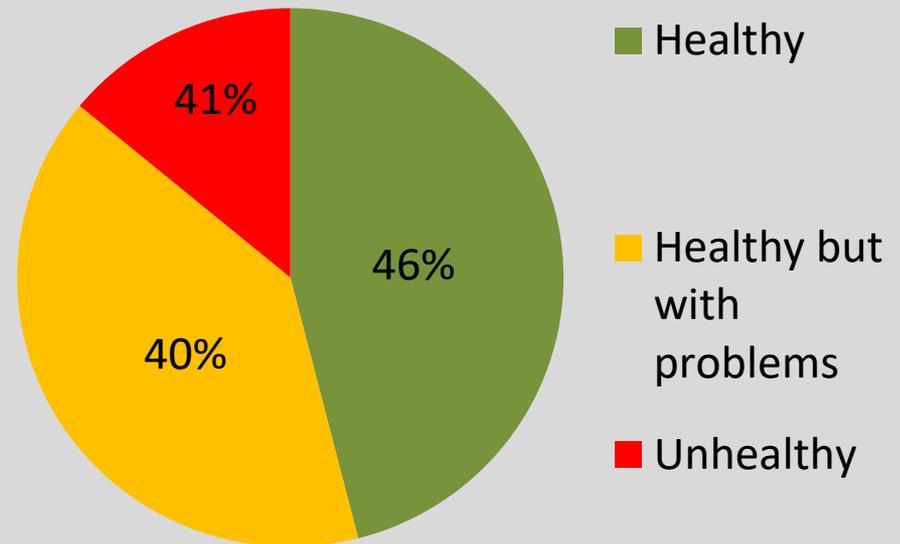




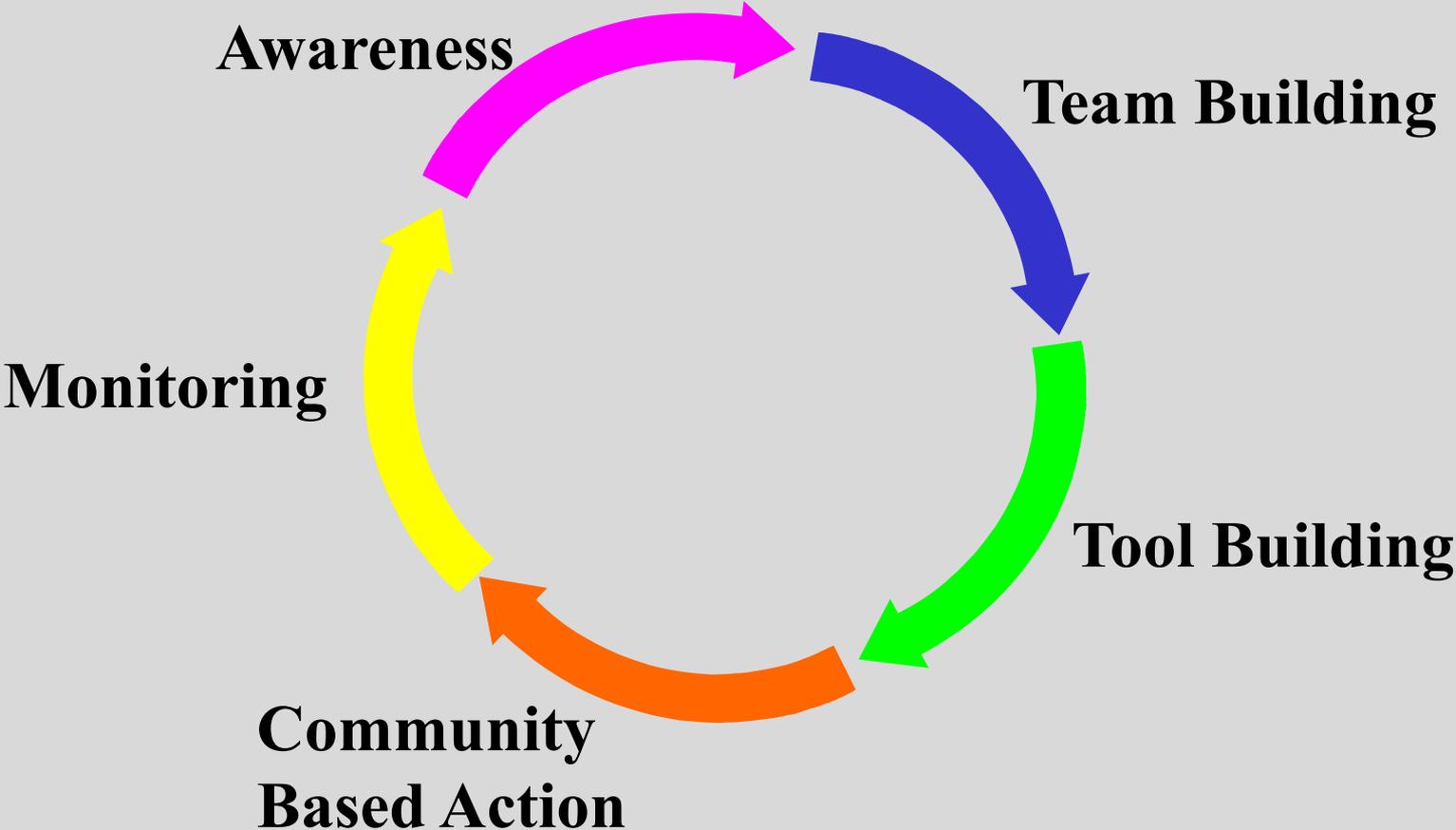
Monitoring

- A total of 100 RHI have been completed in the North Saskatchewan River Basin between 1997 and 2012

- RHI work has also been completed for:
 - GF2 Watershed Enhancement Program on Stretton Creek in the Vermilion River Watershed
 - ALUS



The Cows and Fish Process



Future Activities in the North Saskatchewan Watershed

- Grazing School for Women
- Envirothon 2014 Hinton
- Nature Alberta
- Junior Forest Wardens
- Continuing with ALUS and Growing Forward 2
- Developing a beaver awareness document and management matrix
- Reconnecting with landowners and revisiting sites (funding dependent)
- Always looking for new partnerships



Contact Info

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