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Celebrating 20 Years of Watershed Management

IN STREAM Newsletter

AUGUST 2020

WHERE IN THE WATERSHED IS THIS?



This photo shows one of hundreds of lakes in our watershed. We hope that you have been able to enjoy some time by the water this summer! This photo is taken in the Sturgeon subwatershed.

The first person to correctly identify this lake will win a copy of *Living in the Shed* - send your guesses to water@nswa.ab.ca

Want some **#RoamClose2Home** ideas? Follow us on social media to see features on unique places for day trips and staycations in our watershed. Our book, *Living in the Shed*, can be used as a tour guide to the watershed. You can order a copy at our [SHOP](#).

Send us some watershed stay-cation photos (water@nswa.ab.ca) so we can share them on our social media pages. Each month we will choose a photo to win a copy of *Living in the Shed*! Also watch for NSWA 20th Anniversary giveaways over the next few months. We hope you enjoy your summer wherever you may roam!

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP GROUPS

Lakes are some of Alberta's most treasured resources. Some of our significant partners under the [Water for Life Strategy](#) are Watershed Stewardship Groups (WSGs). Over the last 20 years, NSWA has worked with a number of WSGs on State of the Watershed reports, Watershed Management Plans and other on-the-ground projects. Our website has more information on our WSG partners.

WSGs

NSWA has completed many lake reports in collaboration with WSGs. You can search for reports under lakes/lake name at our website's Resources Library.

LAKE REPORTS

ADVENTURES OF RACHEL AND JILLIAN



NSWA's summer students, Rachel and Jillian, have been travelling to many places in the watershed - photos taken at Wizard Lake, Lake Wabamun, Abraham Lake and the Sherwood Park Farmers Market. They will be at the farmers market Wednesdays in August with some 20th Anniversary giveaways! Check our social media feeds for more information.

NSWA appreciates the **Canada Summer Jobs** funding we received for July and August. This program provides employers with funding to hire students, to enable them to gain work experience helpful to their future careers. Both Rachel and Jillian have recently graduated, and this summer they have worked on a variety of activities including field work, research, GIS projects, communications and community engagement. Their sampling work with the Alberta Lakes Management Society (ALMS) has given them the opportunity to work with one of NSWA's partners. Thanks Rachel and Jill for all of your hard work this summer!

VERMILION RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE - "DO FENCE ME IN"



The VRWA posted a new blog on their website "***Do Fence Me In - Fencing with Water and Wildlife in Mind***". A wildlife fencing 101 diagram shows some considerations for choosing types of fencing. On the VRWA website, check out past articles on the health of the Vermilion River, Stories of Stewardship and more.

DO FENCE ME IN

WATERSHED MODELLING SYMPOSIUM

The **Watershed Modelling Symposium** was held by the NSR WaterSHED Steering Committee in July. The purpose of this symposium was to showcase the "State Of" various modelling techniques in the NSR. This is part of an overall strategy to align and integrate water quality and hydrology modelling efforts for the NSR basin and develop a 5 year modelling strategy. Presentations are on the NSWA website.

PRESENTATIONS

LA FARGE KESTREL BANDING



Lafarge Canada has an active conservation program for various species at the Berrymore Pit located on the south banks of the North Saskatchewan River near Tomahawk. Kestrels are banded and monitored for health, and nest box cameras have provided a wealth of information on kestrel behavior. This photo shows the banding and monitoring of a male kestrel this spring. Observations are also made on saw-whet owls.

In addition to raptors, Lafarge also monitors amphibians and mammals on-site, using techniques such as game cameras, frog call surveys and tadpole counts. Several frog species and over 17 mammals such as coyotes, elk and moose have been documented. These observations, as well as the owl and kestrel monitoring efforts, provide valuable data on these species' population trends, migration and breeding patterns over time.



20 YEARS OF MEMORIES ~ DO YOU REMEMBER?

Pat Alexander, a rancher and former County Councillor and Reeve for Clearwater County, was first elected to the NSWA Board in 2006 and served until 2017. He provided both a municipal and agricultural perspective to the Board. Serving as Board President for several years, Pat helped guide the organization through a growth phase, and had input into the publication of many reports. His dedicated leadership was deeply appreciated.

OTHER WATERSHED RESOURCES

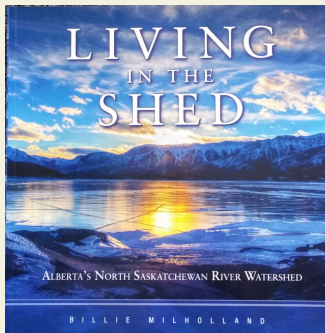
Join the **Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society** and **Cows and Fish** for a free hands on workshop along a creek near Tofield - Stream and Pond Field Day . Learn about techniques to diagnose and improve the health of your riparian area, wetland, or pond. Register on [Eventbrite](#) as space is limited.

The **Miistakis Institute's** [Map of Beaver Co-existence Tools](#) is a knowledge sharing platform that allows exploration of beaver co-existence tools in Alberta.

The **Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS)** has more information on lakes in Alberta. NSWA has been pleased to help with some of their projects this summer.

The **Alberta Government** publishes a [Agri-News bulletin](#) with developments across the province - the July 13th edition featured several projects in our watershed.

Check out the new **NSWA DISCOVER** section on our website with watershed resources and activities for adults and children. There are many activities to encourage watershed learning over the summer.



2020 ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

Living in the Shed is priced at \$20 per copy for our 20th Anniversary. Purchase your copies today at our [SHOP](#). **Some deliveries may be delayed at this time.**

NSWA is a registered charity - for information on supporting our watershed projects go to our [DONATE](#) page.



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