Westlake Integrated Watershed Management Plan

Public Consultation Summary

INTRODUCTION

In November 2008, the Province of Manitoba designated the Alonsa Conservation District (ACD) as the Watershed Planning Authority for the Westlake Watershed (Figure 1). This designation granted the ACD the authority to create an integrated watershed management plan (IWMP) for the Westlake Watershed.

Early in the planning process, the ACD formed a Project Management Team* to guide development of the Westlake IWMP. One of the first steps in the development of the plan was to hold public forums to explore the land and water concerns of local residents and other stakeholders within the planning area. Four public meetings were held in October 2009: Toutes Aides (October 14), Eddystone (October 15), Amaranth (October 21), and Alonsa (October 22). The issues identified at these public forums are reported in this document and will provide direction to the ACD on the scope and priorities of the integrated watershed management plan.

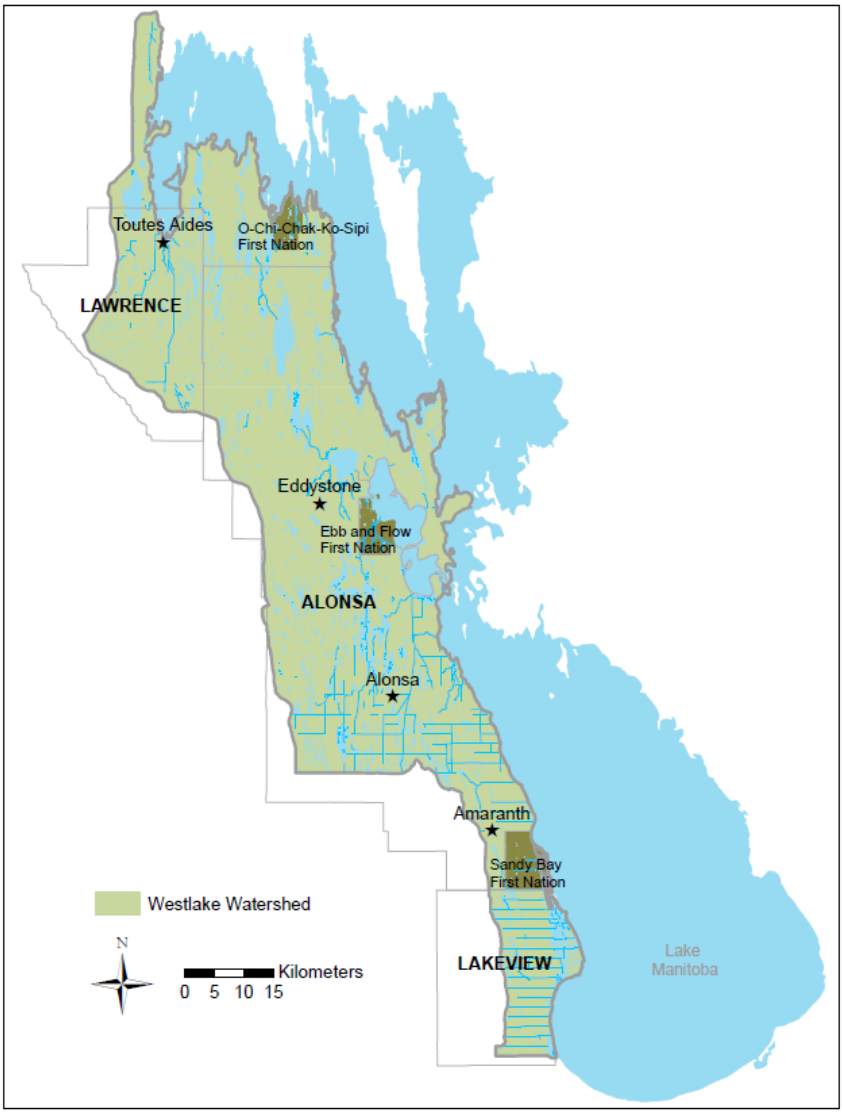


Figure 1

At each public meeting, participants were asked to complete a worksheet to prioritize land and water issues in the watershed. They were then encouraged to provide additional information on their top three priority issues, including suggested solutions and a description of success.

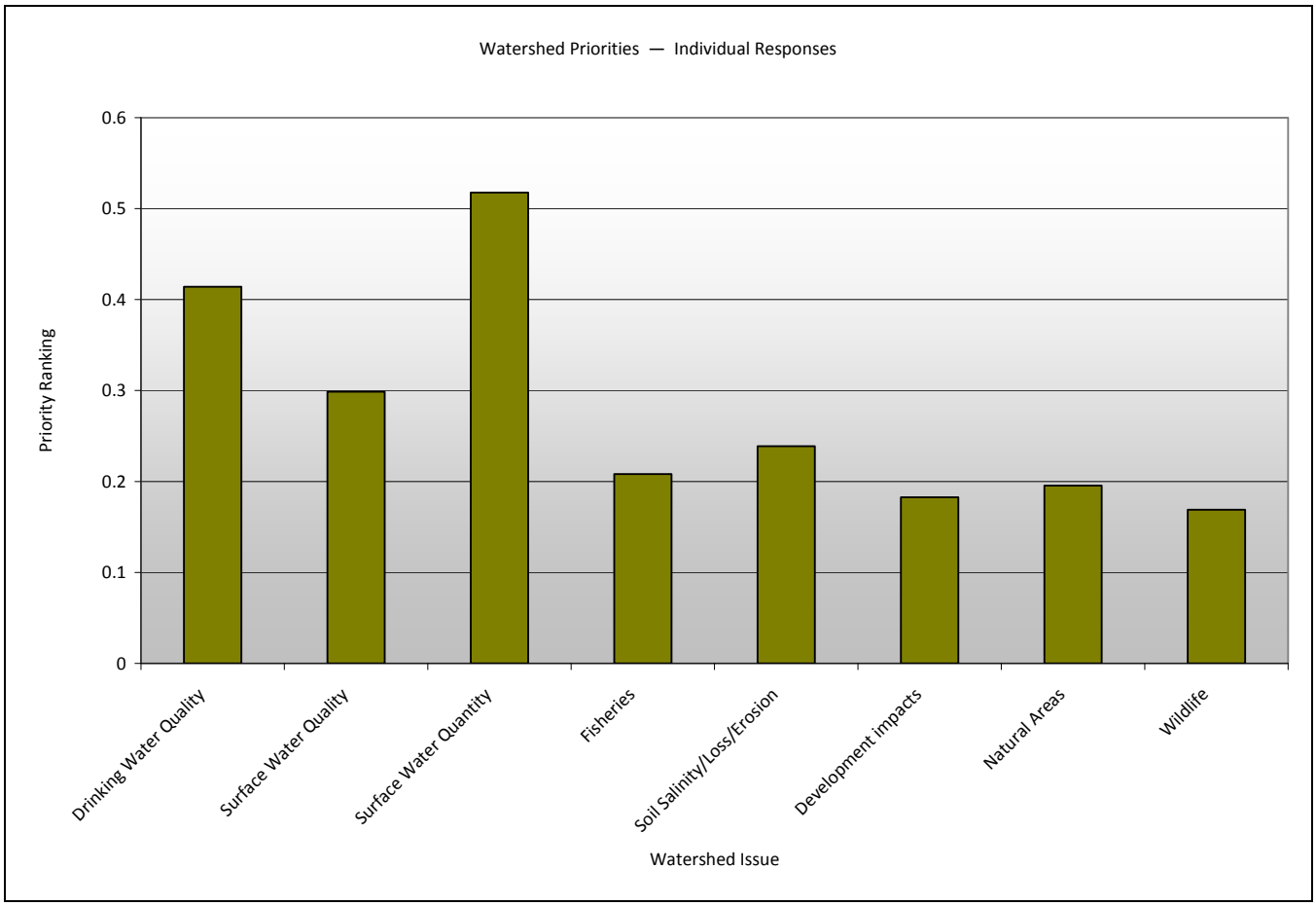
* Project Management Team Members: Fred Taylor (Chairman, Reeve – RM of Lawrence), Ed Zdan (Vice-Chairman, Chairman – ACD Board), Darcy Houle (Ebb and Flow), Derm English (Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs), Harry Harris (Manager – ACD), Lyle Finney (watershed resident), Dave Milani (Lake Manitoba Stewardship Board), Suzanne Smith (Watershed Planner – Manitoba Water Stewardship).

Participants then worked in small groups of 4-8 to reach a consensus on the top three priority issues in the watershed. The groups suggested possible solutions to the issues raised, and identified the geographic location of watershed issues on a large map. All of the rankings and comments (individual and group) were collected and compiled verbatim in a digital format, and are attached to this document.

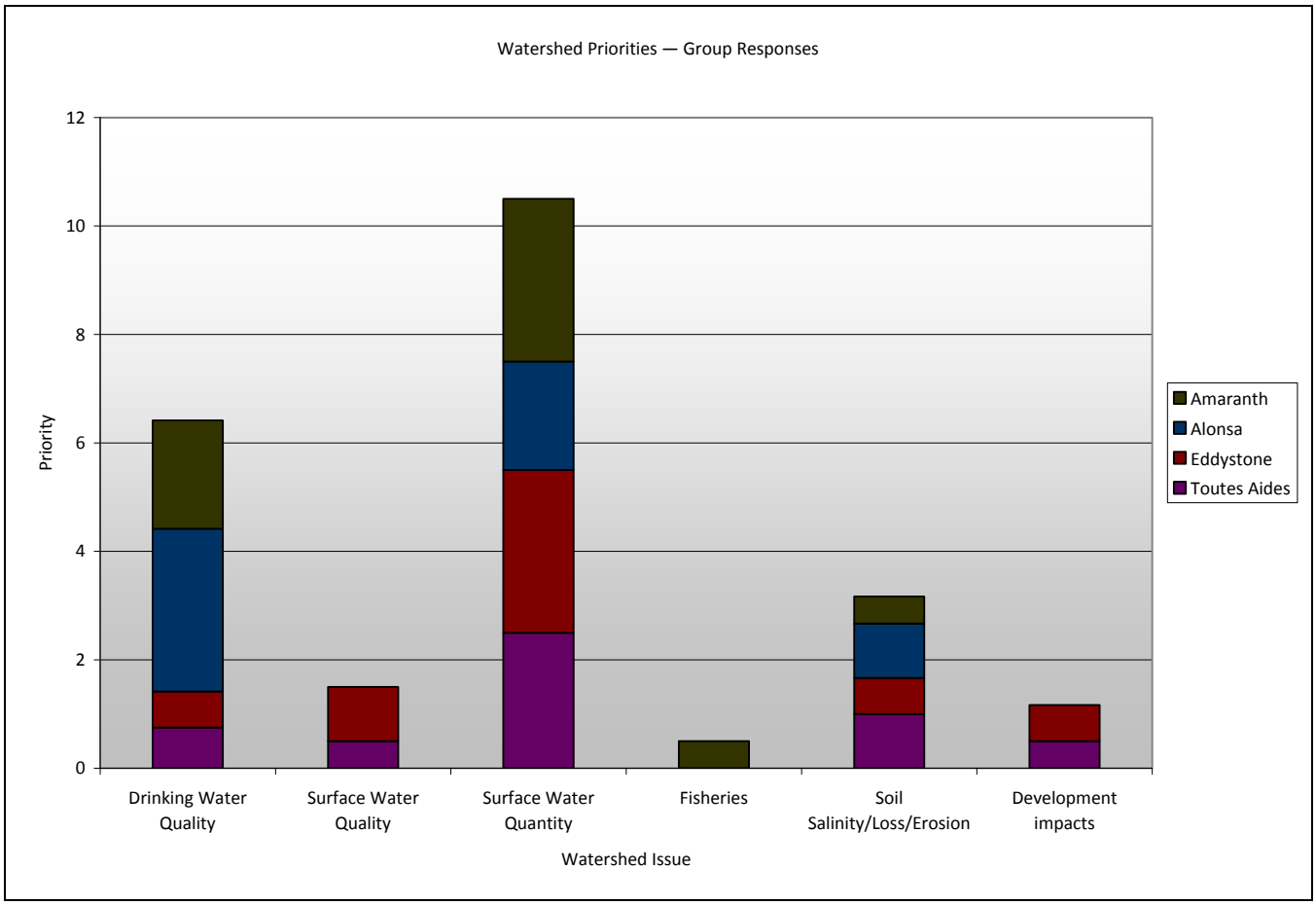
PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESULTS

Total attendance at the public consultation meetings was 88 (31 in Toutes Aides, 31 in Eddystone, 17 in Amaranth, and 9 in Alonsa).

The PMT collected a total of 55 completed worksheets at the public meetings and compiled the results displayed below. Surface water quantity received the highest priority ranking, followed by drinking water quality, surface water quality, soil salinity/loss/erosion, fisheries, natural areas, development impacts, and wildlife.



Participants at the open house meetings were divided into groups to discuss watershed priorities and to reach consensus on the top three issues in the watershed. The meeting in Toutes Aides had 4 groups, Eddystone had 3 groups, Amaranth had 2 groups, and Alonsa had 1 group. The group responses were compiled and are displayed below. Surface water quantity received the highest priority ranking, followed by drinking water quality, soil salinity/loss/erosion, surface water quality, development impacts, and fisheries.



SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Surface water quantity was the highest ranked priority in the watershed; 67% of individual responses and 80% of group responses identified this as their highest priority. Based on the public responses and consideration of year-to-year fluctuations in factors such as weather, markets, and public interest, the PMT has identified six priorities for the Westlake IWMP:

Rank	Individual Responses
1	Surface water quantity
2	Drinking water quality
3	Surface water quality
4	Soil salinity / loss / erosion
5	Fisheries
6	Development impacts

DRINKING WATER QUALITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
ALONSA	Water is the cornerstone of life. Human consumption. Bacteria. Sickness.	Control barnyard runoff. Pesticides containers rinsed properly – taken to disposal sites.	No sulphates in water.	
	While this is important, it is not an issue here as most wells are very deep (mine is 190 feet) and contamination is very unlikely.			
	I love drinking water and I like good water.			
AMARANTH	Drinking water is most important to me as I live in town and don't farm. We have done water testing and in the last 5 years drinking water is no longer safe to drink. We are almost as bad as a 3rd world country and need to start looking at a solution for Amaranth.	Tap into Portage water or provide a treatment plant and have water plumbed into our homes.	Drinking water from our kitchen taps and not having to buy drinking water.	
	Water that is supposed to be moving down our drainage system is backing up and endangering the quality of our well water – used for livestock and house (human use).	Clean the drains and maintain them so that we do not have the backlog of excess water harming mini lakes close to your yard site.	Regularly maintained drains that move the water quickly to the lake.	
	Wells either salt or rust			
EDDYSTONE	My drinking water is of good quality			
	Maintenance of good quality water to drink.			
	Drinking water quality	Monitor wells in the area on a regular basis to get a handle on the quality.	Idea of water quality. What we'll have to do.	
	Same as 2 (Maintain good surface water.)	Same as 2 (Reduce number of gallons to water from cities into river streams (ex. Red River).)	Same as 2 (Cities like Winnipeg paying massive fines for dumping sewage into rivers.)	

DRINKING WATER QUALITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
	We must continue to always have drinking water for humans and livestock.	Proper drainage		
	We have enough water supply, but very hard water. Leaves rust stains and plugs appliances.		Treated water.	
	Good quality.	Draining out of yard.		
	We need good drinking water for us (people) and cattle as well as for wildlife.	Good drainage near the water wells.	Very good water.	
	We have good water in most areas, so we want to keep it that way.	Monitor runoff as to quality.	1. We still have good drinking water 2. Make Manitoba doesn't become like Lake Winnipeg	
	For health reasons	Testing water and allowing proper drainage away from wells.	You could actually drink well water without filtering it.	
TOUTES AIDES	Drinking water is important. Most if not all of my neighbours buy their drinking water. We have salt water is we dig wells.	Drinking or treated water is hauled to community (Spence Lake) by myself from Meadow Portage and maybe soon Waterhen.	Hope to have clean pure water available to all Spence Lake residents if by pipe line (from Waterhen) or at least better water from Meadow Portage. Right now their treated water is required to be boiled before drinking.	
	Drinking water that be here for years and we can't stop sewer from being put into lakes and rivers. Some thing else to blame on the producers.	Waterhen sewer lagoon being dumped in Lake Manitoba. The sewer lagoon at Manipogo being dumped into Toutes Aides Bay.	Find different places to put sewer.	It's bad business to keep dumping waste into a good lake.
	We don't have a good drinking water source of water in this area.	We pay taxes to Northern Affairs. Crane River has a pump house which is treated water. Join with them so we could get water from there.	Access to good drinking water.	
	Put up decent pump house in Toutes Aides for drinking water as most of the people in this area have to haul for household use.		A farm auction and goodbye from this municipality.	

DRINKING WATER QUALITY

Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
Quality of drinking water has been become an issue. Cost of obtaining reasonably good drinking water has increased and to a great degree is more difficult to obtain.	Development of water stations that are affordable to the public. Have government make proper drinking water a major priority.	Good quality water would be available to all that require water at a reasonable cost and easily accessible.	Governments have note provided quality water at a reasonable cost.
Our greatest valuable resource.	Replenishing through sustainable reliance, caution on development and management of water resource.	A very vibrant ecosystem.	
For better health for all the people and everything that uses water.	Get rid of pollution.	Cleaner water for everyday.	
Keep good drinking water (well).	No livestock near well. No dugouts for watering cattle.	Clean drinking water.	
Our area is salty. So wells are out. We use dugout water.	There is a waterline coming south from Waterhen. This will be costly.	Probably depends on how water line works.	Probably all mentioned above.
We haul our drinking water. Cost is a factor. Quality of water.	Connect to water supply in Meadow Portage coming from Waterhen.	Cottage and permanent homeowners. Increase population.	
For the health of our communities.	Cap abandoned wells. Minimize chance of contamination. Manage flood waters to reduce chance of contamination.		
When some people use lake water for drinking water. When does it get better if sewage is diverted to the lake?	Stop the sewage!		
	Stop the water pollution by the cattle industry.		
Draining land south of Highway #364 across highway to areas with no drainage in place.			

DRINKING WATER QUALITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
		Clean out drainages starting from the lake		This is not wetland loss—the wetlands have claimed over 50% of a lot of my quarters due to drainage, silt, and bulrushes grown in, slowing or stopping drainage of water altogether.

SURFACE WATER QUALITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
ALONSA	All issues go back to # 1 (surface water quantity). Without the ability to control water flow, surface water suffers. Stagnant water or no water affects wildlife and humans.	Back to #1. Water management!		
	Phosphorus and nitrogen deposits in lakes and creeks.	Control runoff off of fields. No manure spreading in winter.	Clean lakes. No algae.	
AMARANTH	Lake water is getting water runoff from the crops and this is causing pollution in our lake.			
		There are two mines in this area and both pump water in the lake.		
EDDYSTONE	Healthy environment – leads to improved economic conditions.	Same as 1 (Controlled drainage, development of water storage basins.)	Same as 1 (Improved cattle business, improved land base, healthy environment.)	
	Maintain good surface water.	Reduce number of gallons to water from cities into river streams (ex. Red River).	Cities like Winnipeg paying massive fines for dumping sewage into rivers.	
	Poor surface water quality would contaminate water. Standing water as well as drinking.			
	Keeping the lakes clean for future generations.			

SURFACE WATER QUALITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
	We will get better growth and less bad land is drained and fert.	Let ranchers improve their land as they see fit.	Better land more production.	
		Fix priority #1 (surface water quantity) and #2 (surface water quality) will take care of itself.		
TOUTES AIDES	We have no good drinking water in Toutes aides. With all the waste coming in from the south no wonder our water is what it is.			
	Water in Lake Manitoba has been under great stress from the agriculture sector. This is a source for some of the drinking water stations. Also used for recreation in the area.			
	Proper management of surface water directly affects not only sustainable ecosystem but also serves to replenish ground water sources.	Better managed waterways and educational process to carry forward the importance.	Clear, clean waterways and lakes and streams.	
	Lake Manitoba. Presently good quality. Very nice lake. Water still very clean.	Use swamps or Spence Lake to clean water before entering lake. Septic systems. Waterhen sewage treatment plant. How it affects Lake Manitoba. Keep Lake Manitoba water quality – high importance.	Not be like Lake Winnipeg.	
	To maintain a healthy ecosystem.	Ensure agriculture, cottage and residential development use practices with maintaining a healthy water quality in mind.	Continue to strive for improvements.	
	The quality is fine, we just have to get it in the right channels.			
		Greater control of agriculture and other industry. Reduce chemical use.		

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
ALONSA	As a producer I have suffered major losses because of inability to manage the water that crosses my land.	Engineered, linked, water management systems that would enable me to control flooding and drought.	I would be able to earn a living from land I control, without harming neighbours or environment.	
	In this area we are one rain of 3-5 inches in a flood because of poor land water retention.	To control water – ditches to stop flooding on cultivated acres. Ditches in fields to stop pooling in low areas.		
	Tree encroachment and build-up of old grasses and moss has caused the runoff water to lay dormant in the fields and not run towards the lakes and holding ponds. This area is becoming a large swamp. My parents homesteaded here in 1909 and only in the last 20 years has it gotten so bad!	Drainage! Ditches with controls for depth of retained water. We don't want all the water gone, just the top 12 inches in April-May. Then evaporation would take care of the rest.	We could be farming the same area that out fathers and previous farmers have done in the past.	
	Good drainage is something we have tried to get done. One person can stop drainage, even if it does not affect them.	Take a good look at the whole picture and why let one person stop or close drainage when it does not affect them.	Drain where it is needed to make good sense for all.	
AMARANTH	Too much water flowing to Lake Manitoba and not enough outlets into lake. Water level in lake too high.	Make improvements to Fairford outlet.	Lower lake levels and less water backed up on west side marshes.	
	Drainage. Slow to act, up to 2 years.	Don't want a culvert across a road that will take water into the marsh.	More productive land.	
	Ditches need cleaning			
	Removing excess water off the areas. Improving drainage. Getting rid of the problem with the beaver.	Clean the ditches. Lowering the level of the marsh (improve outlet to Whitemud)	Dry farm land. No beavers.	

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
	We regularly (yearly) have a problem with excess water caused by beaver dams and reed growth in our drains.	Maintain the drains. Keep them clean all the way to the lake.		
	Water building up and staying on land year round. Trees falling over.	Check areas, clean ditches.		
		Clean out the ditches more than 30 years.		
EDDYSTONE	My main feed producing area and my main ranch yard are located at the "bottom" end of the Melanville Drain. Any excess surface water gets to us quickly and can't get away fast enough.	Maintain and clean all drains and ditches (natural and man-made) to enable continuous drainage.	A spring "flood" with improving dryness as the summer goes on.	In our case, there is a DU project in the swamp which is of concern. The natural cycle of flood and drain has worked for years, but the natural outlet of this lowland into Lonely Lake has slowly grassed in.
	Prone to flooding during unpredictable rain. Inability to obtain all winter feed. Costly to purchase hay.		Predictable haying season.	
	Surface water quantity – flooding – with some capacity for future back flood.	Major drains	Drainage in wet years	
	To let the water get into the lake.	Cut the bank so the water can go in.	The water can run in and out of the lake freely.	
	Sustaining out main industry, beef. Quality of life. Health of environment.	Controlled drainage, development of water storage basins.	Improved cattle business, improved land base, healthy environment.	Drainage without control leads to more problems of flooding farther down drain as more drains empty into main drain. Holding back water until later in run off will solve this problem and be more healthy for environment.

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY

Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
Because the effect of the flooding is loss of weight on the cattle, because there is not enough grass, it is under water. And it takes years for this grass to come back to what it was. Flooding has been at last 3 consecutive years. Drowns out forages. Wildlife loss of habitat.	Drainage of the flooding. Cleaning existing drainage, even expand to handle more water because more water is getting in too fast and more an avenue to get out. A very aggressive beaver removal program.	To see grass, wildlife living in a more desirable environment.	
Continual flooding on out land over the past few years.	Aloe producers to drain property to achieve full use of their land – the beavers don't pay my taxes.	Land that could withstand heavy rainfall and not be continually out of use.	
This could easily be #1. I continue to be flooded from excess rainfall.	Better drainage to stop existing drainage from being overloaded and flooding over. Eliminate the beaver.	No bulrushes growing in ditch. Lush growth in hay land.	
Too much water lying around and can't get it off.	Get the land surveyed and design some kind of drainage system.	Consistent hay crops and better pasture.	
Flooding – on a wet year, excess water has nowhere to go.	Have a way to drain excess water, but hold it on dry years. Not having other drainage end-up on my lower hay land.	A dry yard at home, dry hay land roads, hold moisture early in the year and let it drain if too wet.	
Spring Flood	Make ditches		
Flooding is my biggest priority because it affects my ranch so much.	Put more drainage ditches in.	I can get enough hay every year. Drop the lake about 2 feet.	
We have a lot of marsh land on our ranch, and it has been too wet to hay since 1995.	Expand drainage in all areas of Alonsa Conservation District.	All areas of Alonsa CD have adequate drainage.	
My home ¼ where my house is always has water in the front slough. This causes water to come into my basement almost all year.	Better drainage from my yard to the main drainage ditch by Flora Precourt.	Successfully put in a better and cheaper ditch to drain.	Most problems in the Cayer and Eddystone areas all fall into water drainage problems. We need to get the different parties involved to work together.
Because we have 12 quarters of land that always seem to have excessive water sitting or running through.	The main solution would be to either clean out the water runs or have a proper drainage ditch made.		

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
	Drainage between lakes	Bigger and better culverts	Clear drainage ditches and grass.	
	60,000 acres flooded for the past 2 years. Shelgrove Drain Tamarack Lake Lonely Lake Drain	Finish the drain from the north west of Shelgrove to the Taylor Road east to Lonely lake.	An efficient spring drain as well as any extreme rain fall.	
TOUTES AIDES	Improved drainage projects as far as 20 miles south of my property are not permitting spring thaw water to be absorbed where it originates and instead it rushes towards us who are near the mouth of this drain outlet.	Improving drain outlet is a must! Can we control rate of flow from source? Beaver control Construct crossings – i.e. culverts, etc.	Low meadows would be back to normal hay and pasture production.	We have been waiting for help with this problem for years and no help has come.
	I have 3+ quarters affected by flooding. Water from Spence Lake cannot lower fast enough due to poor drainage, not enough culverts, plugged drain ways, and Ducks Unlimited structure.	Remove Ducks Unlimited structure, clean drainage, or build proper drainage structures.	To have a lake that you could more properly maintain its ideal level.	
	Flooding. Water draining on to out land. No place for it to go from there. Stays on land until it evaporates or soaks in.	Drainage to lakes.	Water able to drain into lake and not still be sitting on land in the fall.	
	Much of the land that was in production (i.e. hay land, etc.) is now a swamp/marsh/ A real change in vegetation and not for the better.	Require more drainage in north end – must start drainages from north end and work south.	Return of land use comparable to 10 years ago.	
	Land is getting flooded more and more. Municipal ditches not maintained; no culverts.	Get reeve and councillors to look at this at least once in ten years.	Hard to say. Nothing was done for 40 years.	
	Spence Lake	Keep water passing all channels to get to the proper places and channels	Water will be backed up and we will be sitting at another meeting	Too many jobs for what monies are allocated and too many people spending money on things that are not necessary.
	Approximately 25% of our pasture is under water because of poor drainage.	Clean creeks out. Clear bush away from creek.	Dry land.	

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY

Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
Clean the drainage of bulrushes and silt	Clean the drainages starting from the lake going south instead of from the south where the grain guys are then stopping 5 miles from the lake where the cattle guys are and having the water back up into our fields.	Having someone in the water resource board who isn't partial to the grain guys down south.	
Hay land sitting not used because of flooding. Having to buy hay.	Clean out Hamelin Ditch so water can move faster. Clean out Spence Lake exit to water can move freely all summer long and not flood us out.	Land would be back into production. Not having to spend money every year on hay.	
I have land along the Spence Lake north end (no bank). The water in the lake has been really night for the past 6 years mainly because of the exit.	The exit to Spence Lake needs to be cleaned out and maintained so we can reclaim out hay land that we have been paying taxes on for many years for nothing.		Ask Ag. Rep. about a tax break and they tell you is you can not satisfied – too bad.
Hay lands & pastures have been flooded due to water coming in from other municipalities and there is no way it can drain into the lake as the exits have been blocked by beavers and silt. RMs should think of the end plan before making drainages.	1. Free up the natural drain so that the water can drain in time for haying. 2. Make a man made drain with a water control.	25 to 30 quarters of land can be back into production.	
With excessive rainfalls, there is poor drainage from the Hamelin ditch for the past few years no hay has been made.	Clean out the ditch of debris & bulrushes.	More hay made & dry pastures.	
So we can depend on our hay crop and farm land from year after year.	Draining flooded areas with ditches and more culverts.	Be able to get hay every year.	
Beavers are holding back water so we can't get to our hay	Trapping, lowering water levels in their dams.	Fewer beaver where they can do damage.	

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY

Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
Flooding is mainly brought on by poor drainage which brings on more beaver damaging the forest and hay land which leads to loss of pasture and hay land.	Over the years construction of drainage has been backwards – starting off at a certain area and working it's way to ruin much land and hurting many producers to get to the lakes and creeks. Should start at the lake and work the other way.	Success will be very slow progress as damage has taken years to happen.	
Flooding on Spence Lake into hay fields.	Drainage into Lake Manitoba.		
Our ranch is becoming a swamp. We moved here 7 years ago and the change in our land is scary.	We feel that the farm land is being drained onto our ranch land, drain are made up to us.	No increase in cattails, only decrease. Drains being properly made from lake on.	
I have been flooded for the last 10 years. Hay and pasture land.	Water has been coming from south due to new roads and cutting runs in places where the water should be going a different direction.	A drain right to the lake.	They start projects in the south and do not do a study to where this water is going. Work should start from the lake and work back.
Spence Lake outlet. No control of water coming out of lake, causing extensive land flooding and cutting off access to my land and residence.	A control drain along road allowance. It would stay in drain with a control and not cause land flooding. Also when water level in lake is at its level control could be closed.	Normal lake level with access to hay and pasture.	
Private land has been flooded for last 5 years reducing hay production. Water being drained from farm land onto poorer agricultural lands that in which drains are not maintained.	Clean out of drainages badly needed. Beaver needed to be removed from creeks and rivers.	Cattails eliminated and hay production up.	
Losing some land (pasture) to flooding. Getting worse every year. Muskrats.	Drain out of Spence lake (improvement to the drain).	No more flooding (less frequent).	
Flooding	Drainage	Probably nothing if government doesn't see need.	Hoping a proper drain out of Spence Lake will happen.
	Clean drainage ditches.		

SURFACE WATER QUANTITY

Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
Flooding damaging roads, private property and creating hardships.	Determine amount of water to create the infrastructure to accommodate. In the planning develop strategies to minimize impact of drought.	Infrastructure developed to manage the water.	
	Keep beaver dams out and the drains clean!		
	Slow down water drainage in spring.		
	Clean out exits to ensure water moves out freely all season, to ensure hay crops and the making of them. Hamelin Ditch – should be cleaned out once in a while, the land cannot drain properly.		
	Proper controlled drain out of Spence Lake to control level of lake.	Landowners could use land again.	

FISHERIES

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
AMARANTH	Bad water quality is not good for fisheries.			
	As for the ditches, sucker and carp are only fish that come up them.			
EDDYSTONE	I have been a commercial fisherman for 39 years. I want to see Lake Manitoba kept as a viable fishery for both anglers and commercial fisherman.	Monitor quality of drainage.	Lake Manitoba is still an unpolluted lake and still has a viable fishery.	
TOUTES AIDES	Fish stocks have been reduced.			
	So we have some fish in the lake in years to come.	Keep the level of water the same in the lake. Protect fish spawn in the lake.	Be able to make a better profit out of fishing each year.	

FISHERIES

Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
We commercial fish. We like to see healthy fish stocks in lake for us and anglers as tourism is also important for the area.	Protect spawning areas. Reduce over fishing, people catching in nets without licenses and floating nets. Over fishing in summer. Pollution and destruction of fish habitat. Restocking lake.	Sustainable income so we could make a reasonable profit every year without hurting our fish stock.	
Draining small lakes into big lakes.	Pertains to Proulx Lake.		
More fish stocks in Lake Manitoba. Blockages for spawning.	Look at Fairford structure for fish blockages. More hatcheries.	More fish in Lake Manitoba.	
Reside on lake. Permanent year-round resident. Fishing. Out future generation. First Nations should not have different rules.	Not allow First Nations to fish during spawning season. Keep out quality of water which will help out fish supply.	Better tourism. Fishing. Young generation. More interest.	
	Once the above is done (keep beavers out, clean drains) then the small lakes could be used for spawning. E.g. Spence Lake and Proulx Lake, etc.		

SOIL SALINITY/LOSS/EROSION

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
ALONSA	Because of flooding problems in recent years I have lost land to salinity and lost use of land because of over wet conditions, after years of water sitting, moss and reeds have totally plugged any natural drains.			
	These areas will not produce hay or pasture grass.	Not informed.	Good forage growing where not it is only black dirt and foxtail grass.	
	Seeing ditch banks washing away.			
EDDYSTONE	Excess moisture causes loss of grain, hay, pasture. Losses very expensive.	Better drainage. Get more aggressive beaver removal. Enlarge existing drains.		

SOIL SALINITY/LOSS/EROSION

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
	Soil Erosion. Hay land and roads washed out from excess water.	Direct water flow.	Drainage for each "piece of land"	
	Makes production reverse	More drainage. More fertilizer (manure on pure land).	Way better grasses.	Too many governments trying to stop both drainage and fert.
TOUTES AIDES	Due to salt water lakes expanding in our community I am losing good pasture land and hay land.	Pray for less rain. Cannot drain this water anywhere.	Find a way to use this area?	
	Flooding has killed the alfalfa in my hay fields—grown mass and cattails on my hay land.	Drainage – drainage – drainage		
	Soil loss/erosion is related to issues #1. Valuable land use is lost.			
	Water pouring from south bringing in all kinds of alkali and chemicals. Affecting our land.	Get some certain people to close their feedlot drainages that all manure, etc, come down stream.	I hope this success.	
	Land that has been soaked for years and then wild hay has changed to rushes and we cannot get enough hay. Lakes at high levels the main cause!	Develop hay on other land. Roads to get to higher ridges where there would be little or no effects on surrounding land or neighbours.	More hay, less water on land.	Cool, rainy summer weather has a negative effect on this situation and hay isn't growing and ground doesn't dry up as quick.
	Soil erosion has been costly for fence repairs. Can never be replaced to the way it was as nature has had it developed.		A minimal of erosion every years will change our land, climate, & environment.	
	Land is salty	Flooding has to be controlled on salty land.	Difficult to say.	
		Manmade drainage ditches need to be scraped out regularly so more erosion is prevented.		

DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
AMARANTH	No planning in our sewage disposal. Someone is sleeping.			
EDDYSTONE	Development must consider the ramifications of the existing communities ability to make money.	Producers must be considered with future development plans.	A community centre with a well-equipped store and hardware area.	
	We actually need more development. Land clearing/drainage/producing tame forage.	A cooperate effort by provincial government, RMs, ranchers, and MAFRI.	Profitable farms. Ranchers not dependent on low land hay but leave it for dry years.	
TOUTES AIDES	What appears to really help some is greatly hurting others.			
	Not wanting water to drain into lakes because it floods their seasonal areas or hay land.			
	Development directly affects and if not properly managed impacts upon fresh water supply.	Management of retention basins, guarding against polluting impacts on ground water as well as surface water and disruption of ecosystem.	Enhanced environmental atmosphere.	
		Concentrate on current projects. Stop any further lakeshore destruction including more cabins or lake lots being developed.		
		Where one RM develops drainages, but floods another community down stream because of excess water.		
		A drain out of Spence Lake would be a benefit to fish and restoring lost land.		

NATURAL AREAS

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
EDDYSTONE		Same as 1 (Controlled drainage, development of water storage basins.)	Same as 1 (Improved cattle business, improved land base, healthy environment.)	
TOUTES AIDES	All natural areas as I knew them are being destroyed by too much stagnant water.			
	Habitants have taken over much of the forest, making much swamp with is costly to the producer.			
		Send Louisiana Pacific packing – leave our bush alone!		

WILDLIFE

	Why is this a priority?	Solution(s)	What does success look like?	Additional Comments
EDDYSTONE	Beavers			
		Wildlife will move in and adjust.	Better land, more wildlife.	
TOUTES AIDES	Draining small lakes and ruining habitat of wildlife.			
		Keep the bush and we will have more wildlife where they belong.		

OTHER

	Comments
EDDYSTONE	Purple loosestrife
TOUTES AIDES	Department of Conservation needs to be more concerned about the needs of producers/ranchers and not the recreational needs of the public! If you have a livelihood/job you can afford to "go to the lake" and other luxuries.
	Greater control of ATV use.

TOUTES AIDES

Group 1	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Surface Water Quantity – Flooding • Drainage (none)	• Clean existing drains • Control beavers • Build more drainage • Start drainage at the lake – work back
Issue 2	Soil salinity/Loss/Erosion • Lost trees • Lost farm land – wild hay • Lost tame hay from trees • Moss & cattails growing on fields	• Surveying – water doesn't run uphill • Drainage. Drainage. Drainage… • See issue 1 solution
Issue 3	Development Impacts • Can't put water in one lake – Spence Lake is flooding • Can't let Spence Lake drain into Lake Manitoba – Cottage owners don't want their areas flooded	• ?

Group 2	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 4	Flooding • Due to improper drainage & maintenance of drainage ditches	• Clean exits and drainages so water can get to the lake without flooding productive farmland
Issue 5	Refer to issue #1	
Issue 6	Refer to issue #1	

Group 3	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Drinking Water Quality	• Surface water management • Development planning to reduce contamination • Government make water a priority • Proper management to supply water at a minimized/reasonable cost
Issue 2	Surface Water Quality	• Education on good practices • Using methods to reduce pollution
Issue 3	Flooding/Drought - Both disrupt ecosystem	• Manage surface water runoff

Group 4	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Surface Water Quantity • Flooding • Drought (minor)	• Need to improve drain outlets & inlets • Beaver control • Control flow of water coming from the south • Improve infrastructure crossings – culverts to create access • Vegetation management
Issue 2	Soil Salinity/Loss/Erosion	• Surface water management – better drainage • Establish proper vegetation on alkaline pasture that is not able to have great success of grass for grazing
Issue 3	Development Impacts • The drainages that were constructed south of us resulting in their land being well drained and dumping on our land	• Improve drainage starting at the lake working upstream • Beaver control – again • Find proper funding for clean outs (either municipality or producers) and infrastructure • Control rate of flow from source (from the south)

EDDYSTONE

Group 5	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Surface Water Quantity – flooding • W.R.L. How to convince Crown Lands – Ag and Conservation (fisheries, wildlife, forestry) • Cooperation between stakeholders • Beavers	• More or better drains • Control of basin storage • START AT THE RIGHT END
Issue 2	Water Quality • Health issues • Laundry problems • Sewage ejection legislation • Surface flooding affects quality • Supply issues – fire truck	• Protect source • Holding tanks & lagoons
Issue 3	Development Issues • Roads needed but don't change drainage • Better drains = better land use • Outlets to lake insufficient for drainage area • Proper consultation before development	• Consultation to take in everybody's issues • Improve outlets to large lakes

Group 6	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Surface Water Quantity	• Controlled drainage • Get all players working together (Alonsa CD, Crown lands, Conservation, Manitoba Cattle Producers, Highways)
Issue 2	Drinking Water Quality	• Monitor runoff as to quality to keep our drinking water good
Issue 3	Surface Water Quality	• Monitor quality of water being drained

Group 7	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Surface Water Quantity • Drainage • Too much water downstream • Farmers/ranchers make a living off our investment • Red tape to drain land	• Drain land • Drain land faster • Allow ranchers to take some responsibility for drainage • Major drains should take into account amount of water coming • Drain Lake Manitoba faster • Well developed back flood projects
Issue 2	Soil salinity/erosion/loss	• Keep the soil on prime land • Better/more drainage
Issue 3	Development • What control do we have on crown land? • Windmills • Cottage development • Garbage disposal • Development must allow existing producers to make a living • Trespassing	• Develop long range plans with input from producers • More control by producers

AMARANTH

Group 8	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Surface water quantity – flooding • Lack of efficient drainage • Beavers • Vegetation build up • Water can't get to lake	• Rotational ditch cleaning • Environmentally friendly spray • Stop protecting beavers
Issue 2	Drinking water quality • Excessive surface water	• Limit cottage development • Costly lagoon • Natural areas • Develop wetlands (beaver-free)
Issue 3	Soil salinity / Erosion • Lack of surface drainage souring land	• Slow water flow • Wetland inventory • Beaver control

Group 9	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Surface water quantity • Flooding	• Improve ditch water capacity to prevent water from going on farmers fields and running the chemicals from the fields in the lake • Improve water outlet
Issue 2	Water quality • Drinking water • Industrial pollution • Sewage disposal	• Properly protect and maintain wells • Keep cattle out of water
Issue 3	Fisheries	• Shut down Assiniboine Diversion

ALONSA

Group 10	Issue	Solution(s)
Issue 1	Drinking water • Wells-nitrates • Surface water (Lake Manitoba, silt, E. coli)	• Javex shock • Water softener • Education on value of water • Increased inflow of fresh water – diluting salinity
Issue 2	Surface water quantity – flooding • Vegetation build-up in drains and water runs • Insufficient gradient to move water • Beavers • Encroachment of wetlands on hay land (kills alfalfa)	• Better management to address flood and drought • Burn vegetation on regular basis • Water release/back flood on timely basis • Engineer drains to prevent standing water • Ongoing bounty program – evaluate • Maintenance on DU drains
Issue 3	Soil erosion/salinity • Wind erosion on summer fallow • Water erosion with snow melt • Salinity closet to Lake Ebb and Flow	• Reduce overgrazing to decrease salinity • Establish permanent forage cover • Prevent standing water on surface