



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Global Institute for Water Security

USASK.CA/WATER



Prairie Water

Enhancing the resilience of Prairie communities through sustainable water management

Why Prairie Water?

- > 5.5 million people
- 80% of Canada's agricultural land (\$116 billion industry)
- Intensive land use
- A challenging climate
- Significant management and governance challenges:
 - a) lake eutrophication
 - b) wetland drainage
 - c) water availability and quality
 - d) groundwater sustainability



Key Outcomes

- 1) Predictions of water availability and quality under different climatic and land use scenarios across the Prairies.
- 2) Assessments of groundwater resources and management using linked surface – subsurface models
- 3) Multi-stakeholder process to mobilize science and governance models with communities to improve resiliency





Four Research Themes

Hydrology

John Pomeroy
Chris Spence



Groundwater

Grant Ferguson
Masaki Hayashi



Wetlands

Nandita Basu
Helen Baulch
Angela Bedard-Haughn
Ken Belcher
Bob Clark
Karsten Liber
Christy Morrisey
Colin Whitfield

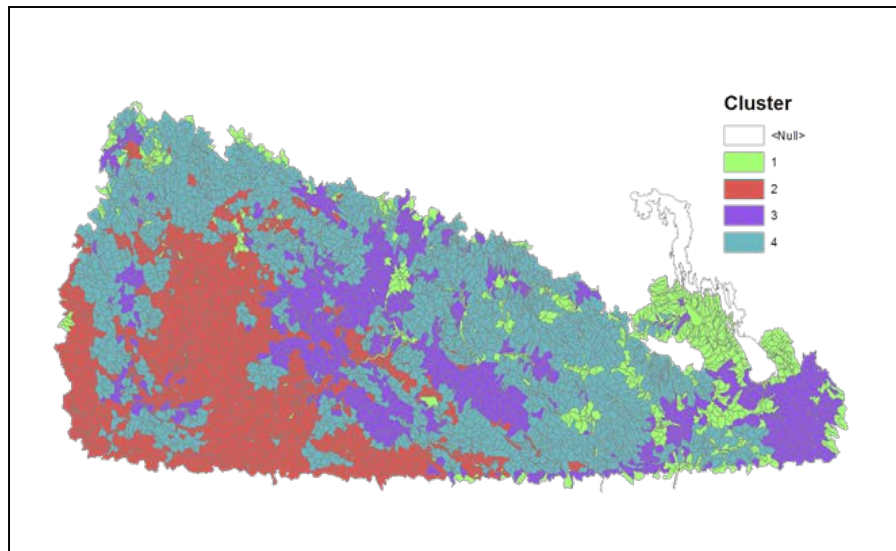


Governance

Lalita Bharadwaj
Maureen Reed
Graham Strickert



Progress to date




- 1) Recruitment mostly on track
- 2) The Wetland theme had a series of very successful webinars with stakeholders last summer that galvanized the project.
- 3) Preliminary Prairie catchment classification complete.
- 4) Four Governance workshops to date, but no results are ready.
- 5) Partners are excited about the program and looking forward to the kick-off meeting.




GWF Collaborative Opportunities

- Agriculture Water Futures
 - FORMBLOOM
 - Integrated Modelling Program for Canada
 - Lake Futures

 - Pillar 1 & 2 projects investigating governance, water issues on indigenous lands, and climate.
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The Core

- We are using Core Modelling expertise (Kevin Shook) to help with catchment classification and small basin modelling.
 - We will soon need to address our lack of a good data management plan with Branko Zdravkovic.
 - Stephanie Merrill has been participating in monthly theme lead lunches and assisting in rolling out our KM plan.
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Stakeholders and KM

- Kickoff meeting Jan. 28 – 29 at NHRC in Saskatoon
- Current invitees from provincial and government agencies, watershed stewardship groups, First Nations, agricultural producer associations, and mining industry associations.

