

Community Preparedness



Resilience in Practice: Responsible Stewardship of Saskatchewan's Water

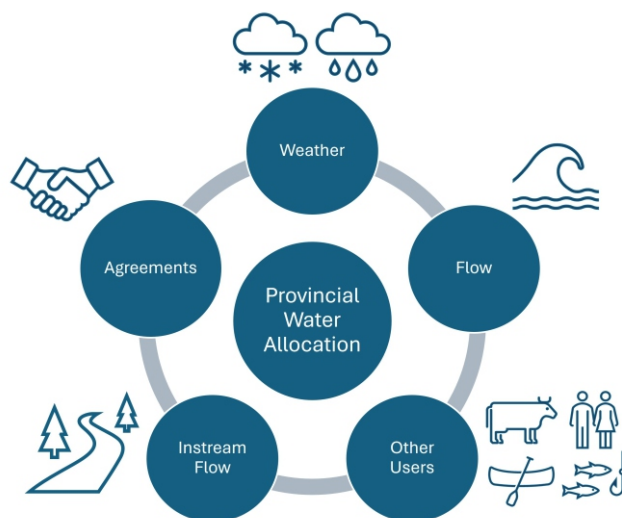


A safe and reliable water supply underpins Saskatchewan's economy, communities and quality of life. From agriculture and industry to growing towns and cities, water supports nearly every aspect of daily life. Through careful management, the Water Security Agency ensures Saskatchewan's water resources continue to serve the province today and into the future.

Water in Saskatchewan is allocated through a regulated and science-based process designed to balance competing demands and protect shared water sources. The Water Security Agency reviews requests for water use for agricultural, industrial, municipal and selected domestic purposes, and may apply licensing conditions. This process ensures water is available where it is needed while safeguarding the health of rivers, lakes and aquifers.

Saskatchewan applies a balanced approach within each reservoir. This method allows water to be shared equitably among users and helps prevent over allocation during dry periods.

To support informed decisions, the Water Security Agency carries out water supply studies to assess whether new or expanded water use is feasible. Guided by the Sustainable Water Allocation Framework, these studies integrate data on existing licences, environmental requirements and water availability over time. Depending on the project, assessments may involve detailed long-term analysis or more streamlined evaluations using annual runoff data. Since 2022, the Water Security Agency has completed 163 water supply studies, strengthening the province's understanding of water availability across watersheds and regions. Taken as a whole, these studies provide a strong and consistent foundation for responsible water allocation decisions across the province.



Since 2022, WSA has conducted 163 water supply studies to determine water availability

The Water Security Agency considers many factors when determining water allocation in Saskatchewan.

Why It Matters

Reliable water is not the result of chance. It is built through careful planning, shared responsibility and long-term thinking. Saskatchewan's approach to water allocation is grounded in balancing today's needs with tomorrow's realities. Through the Sustainable Water Allocation Framework, the province manages both water quality and quantity across shared watersheds, ensuring communities, agriculture and industry have dependable access to this essential resource while promoting optimized water use across the province.

The framework also recognizes that water systems do not end at provincial borders. By co-ordinating water quality and quantity commitments with neighbouring jurisdictions, Saskatchewan supports responsible, equitable and resilient water management across shared basins. By protecting healthy watersheds and ecosystem functions while making efficient and optimized use of available water, the province is preparing for changing conditions and growing demand. This forward-looking approach supports economic growth today while securing water resilience for the long term.

Links to Related Information

[Water Security Agency's Adaptive Water Use Prioritization Policy](#)

[Water Security Agency Water Allocation](#)

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