

Water Management and Conservation

WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

APAS supports the creation of comprehensive plan for water management with goal of enhancing our capacity to deal with periods of excessive moisture or drought while limiting the adverse impacts. APAS believes the comprehensive water strategy should include the following principles:

- Resources need to be allocated for continued mapping and modelling of water basins.
- Sufficient resources must be allocated to administration and regulation.
- Economic support for landowners that manage water for the public good, by storing or retaining water.
- Adequate support for watershed community organizations to perform coordination activities.
- Agricultural producers must be fully engaged and consulted in the development of provincial water management regulation, conservation and development policies.

ECOLOGICAL GOODS AND SERVICES

Agricultural producers are the largest group of private sector land managers in Canada, and their property provides many of the environmental goods and services enjoyed by society. APAS believes in a conservation approach that includes financial support to farmers providing these public goods and services.

APAS supports the Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) model that provides economic incentives for environmental stewardship projects, including wetland retention and restoration, shelterbelts, grassing and native prairie establishment, stream channel and riparian restoration and stabilization, wildlife habitat, soil conservation and fishery habitat projects.

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

APAS believes conservation easement holders must be held responsible for the cost of managing water, maintaining culverts and providing storm surge holding capacity to avoid flooding of adjacent lands and roadways.