

Cows and Fish Training Workshops, 2009

Registration: For the Fairview Aug 5-6 workshop, please register with Kelsey Spicer-Rawe: 403-968-5565 or email kspicer@cowsandfish.org

FOR ALL OTHER DATES: Register with Norine Ambrose by date indicated for each workshop: 403-381-5538 or nambrose@cowsandfish.org



Registration Fees:

For rural extension conservation and agriculture staff and others working for non-profit organisations, the only fee (if any) will be to cover the cost of lunch (if provided) (except the Fairview Aug 5-6). For other individuals, please contact Norine Ambrose for information on the cost to attend.

Participants:

Due to the nature of our grant funding, priority for registration will be given to rural extension conservation and agriculture staff and others working for non-profit organisations in the agriculture, conservation and stewardship area.

Date	Workshop	Location	Registration Deadline
DONE April 28 – 9-12 am Lorne Fitch	<i>Talking with People: the Art & Science of Communication with Landowners</i> (see below for more info)	Red Deer – Kerrywood Nature Centre	April 20 Approx. 40 spaces available
DONE April 28 – 1- 5 pm Lorne Fitch/Norine Ambrose	<i>Delivering Unpopular Messages and Working in and with Communities (Building Capacity)</i> (see below for more info)	Red Deer – Kerrywood Nature Centre	April 20 Approx. 40 spaces available
DONE July 14 Kerri O’Shaughnessy & Kathryn Hull	<i>Riparian and Range Health Assessment Field Day</i> (outdoor) (see below for more info)	Parkland Conservation Farm, between Mundare & Vegreville	July 3 Approx. 25 spaces available
DONE July 15 Kerri O’Shaughnessy & Kathryn Hull	<i>Riparian and Pasture Management Application Workshop</i> (indoor)	Parkland Conservation Farm, between Mundare & Vegreville	July 3 [lunch cost: \$15] Approx. 25 spaces available
POSTPONED TO OCTOBER July 28 Kelsey Spicer – Rawe & Michael Gerrard	<i>Advanced Riparian and Grazing Training - Going Beyond the Basics</i> (more advanced topics) (see below for more info)	Airdrie, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development boardroom	[lunch cost: \$15] Max 22 spaces.

POSTPONED TO OCTOBER July 29 Michael Gerrand & Amanda Halawell	<i>Riparian and Pasture Management Application Workshop</i> (indoor) (see below for more info)	Airdrie, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development boardroom	[lunch cost: \$15] Max 22 spaces.
DONE August 5 Kerri O'Shaughnessy & Kelsey Spicer-Rawe	<i>Advanced Riparian and Grazing Training - Going Beyond the Basics</i> (more advanced topics) (see below for more info)	Fairview Provincial Building	Registration fee \$35 (covers both Fairview dates)
DONE August 6 Kerri O'Shaughnessy & Kelsey Spicer-Rawe	<i>Riparian Health Assessment Field Day</i>	In field, Fairview area	Registration fee \$35 (covers both Fairview dates)
DONE August 18 Norine Ambrose & Amanda Halawell	<i>Range & Riparian Health Field Day</i>	In field, east of Strathmore (Crowfoot Creek near Hussar)	22 spaces available
NEW October 20 Kelsey Spicer-Rawe and Michael Gerrand	<i>Advanced Riparian and Grazing Training - Going Beyond the Basics</i> (indoor, see below for topics)	Airdrie Agriculture Centre Boardroom (97 East Lake Ramp NE, Airdrie)	22 spaces available
NEW October 21 Michael Gerrand and Amanda Halawell	<i>Riparian and Pasture Management Application Workshop</i> (indoor, see below for more info) ATTENDANTS: should try to bring a pasture project they are working on (see list below of what to send/bring)	Airdrie Agriculture Centre Boardroom (97 East Lake Ramp NE, Airdrie)	20 spaces available

Workshop Content Overviews

1. Talking with People- The art and science of engaging and interacting with people, in rural situations. Approx 2-3 hours plus discussion. April 28

Workshop summary: Far away from the security of the office, out of the comforting glow of fluorescent lights, beyond the traffic and into the country are found landowners. They may live

on acreages or engage in agricultural pursuits. Most of the land in the settled regions of Canada is private. This land base not only supports agricultural activity, timber harvest, oil and gas extraction and acreage development, it also supports watershed functions, habitat for fish and wildlife, recreation, scenic/aesthetic attributes and space. Resource professionals engaged in management, protection, regulation, planning or extension will find themselves interacting with landowners, sooner than later. For many, the prospect of this interaction causes anxiety. This workshop is provided to avert some of this anxiety and to allow those in resource management to successfully interact and engage with people, one on one:

- Understanding the Context
 - Who are the “they” you want to talk with and what do they do?
 - Who are “you” and what do you do?
- Approaching the Contact
 - Setting up the need and the opportunity to meet
- Engagement
 - Preparation to establish rapport
 - Establishing rapport
 - Refocus on intent
- Providing Value
 - Broad level
 - Interactive level
- Common Errors/Irritants to Landowners
- Situations Involving Conflict

2. Delivering Unpopular Messages- Understanding the context, preparing for delivery and delivery techniques for success. Approx 2 hours. April 28

Workshop summary: We’d all like to deliver popular messages, the ones people want to hear, the positive and uncontroversial ones and those that evoke emotional responses like gratitude, pleasure and warmth. In a perfect world what other messages would there be to deliver? As someone who is going to deliver an unpopular message in a less than perfect world, reactions of anger, resentment and disbelief are predictable, unsurprising and not totally unjustified. How do we better provide the messages people do not want to hear initially? This workshop provides a thinking pathway to allow message deliverers the opportunity to anticipate and recognize responses, prepare messages and focus on message delivery:

- What is the essence of an unpopular message?
- What are some examples of unpopular messages?
- How do people react to unpopular messages?
- Why do people react negatively to unpopular messages?
- What are the principle lessons we can learn from the reactions?
- How can we improve the delivery of unpopular messages?
- What can you do to make unpopular messages easier to deliver?
- What is the goal of message delivery?

3. Working in and with Communities- Understanding approaches, motivations, processes, impediments, timing, training and monitoring.

Approx 1-2 hours. April 28

Workshop summary: The successful delivery of conservation programs within an agricultural setting depends on an understanding of rural communities (and their neighbours, the urban communities) and how to work in and with those communities. This workshop begins to build understanding and capacity for those who develop and deliver conservation programs. The material is based on the collective experience of the Alberta Cows and Fish program, an initiative with a highly successful track record of working on riparian issues with the people who own the issue. Community programming includes descriptions and discussion on the following elements:

- What is a community?
- How do you engage with a community?
- Why work with and within communities?
- When do you work on a community basis?
- Where do you begin to work with a community?
- What if the community doesn't want you?
- How long does it take?
- What are the elements for successfully working with a community?
- What skills do you need?
- How do you monitor progress?

4. Riparian and Range Health Assessment Field Days. Attend either July 14th, August 6th or 18th.

These field days will help you identify what constitutes a healthy riparian or pasture area, so you have a sense of "Is this riparian area or rangeland health?". Through hands on interaction, participants will become familiar with the parameters or indicators of health in both riparian and upland situations. In addition to familiarisation with the actual health assessment methods, there will be discussion on management alternatives and options to address riparian/range health issues. *Note:* these field days are not intended to fully train participants in accurate or precise use of the range or riparian health assessment tools for monitoring or data collection purposes. Rather, they are intended to increase understanding of riparian / range ecosystems and the overall concepts behind health and health assessments, so that participants can more effectively work in these areas.

5. Riparian and Pasture Management Application Workshops: Attend either July 15th or date October 21st, 2009.

To ensure hands-on learning and application of riparian grazing management strategies, stocking rates, and realistic management options, Rural Extension Staff and others will be asked to work

through real or realistic grazing management situations. This workshop will require technical skills development and growth, as well as the ability to apply management decision-making and planning. The workshop will help participants address actual management solutions on real farm/ranch situations. Management choices will be discussed and reviewed with Cows and Fish, as well as with other participants, to increase learning.

Participants will work through an example of their own project/demonstration site or similar pasture situation. [If you do not have a project you are working on/have worked on, realistic case scenarios will be provided, but we strongly encourage you to bring your own example]. **Gather the following** for that project/pasture example:

- Air photo(s) and legal land location
- Soils information, if known
- Forage production information (how much feed is harvested/produced)
- Number of head/Animal units using site
- Timing of use (in/out dates, season, length of use, etc)
- Pasture type (tame, native, grass or forest, species mixture if possible)
- Current and past management and future goals/objectives
- Fenceline locations, water sources, etc
- Any info on: Potential future plans and budget / cost estimates including particular watering systems, etc.
- Calculator, pencils and notebook

Please try to provide air photo and location information ahead of time, digitally, to khull@cowandfish.org

6. Advanced Riparian and Grazing Training - Going Beyond the Basics:

Attend either July 28th, August 5th or October 20th, 2009

The intent of this workshop is to increase technical skills and understanding of riparian areas and grazing systems, beyond the basic understanding of what a riparian areas is. The topics covered are intended to help participants directly, or indirectly, through their work with others (eg. landowners), in understanding riparian systems and applying management and land use decisions that will lead to improved riparian/pasture/range health, maintenance of biodiversity, and other ecosystem services.

The following is a list of some of the topics that will be considered for inclusion (not all may be included):

- Economics of Riparian Management
- Riparian Grazing Strategies/Case Studies
- The Secret Life of Cows - Livestock Behaviour & Grazing Management
- Biodiversity and Riparian – Linking Fish, Fur and Feathers to Riparian Health
- Riparian Monitoring
- Working & Communicating with Communities