

Cows and Fish Training Workshops, 2010



Registration:

Register with Norine Ambrose by deadline indicated for each workshop: 403-381-5538 or nambrose@cowsandfish.org

Registration Fees: **For all workshops *except* July 8-9 Communication

Workshops: For those working in education, extension and other for non-profit organisations, the only fee (if any) will be to cover the cost of lunch/coffee (if provided), unless indicated otherwise below.

For those working in the for-profit sector, please note the fee is \$150/day. For Communication Workshops July 8-9, see details below.

Date	Workshop	Location/Cost	Registration Deadline (please let me know if you are tentatively interested as soon as possible)
	<p style="color: blue;"><i>See details regarding the workshops below the table.</i></p> <p><i>If you are looking for another workshop, or want one customised for your organisation's needs, contact us.</i></p>		
May 18	Advanced Riparian Systems and Grazing Workshop (indoor topics, eg. economics, livestock behaviour, grazing case studies, wetlands 101) – all INDOORS	Red Deer County office – conference room Cost**: lunch (approx \$15)	Spaces available: Approx 15 Register by May 10
May 19	Riparian and Pasture Management Application Workshop – all INDOORS	Red Deer County office-council chambers Cost**: lunch (approx \$15)	Spaces available: Approx 15 Register by May 10
June 22	Riparian and Range Health Assessment Field Training – all OUTDOORS	South of Calgary; Exact locale TBA No cost**; bring your own lunch/snacks	Spaces available: Approx 25 Register by June 14
July 7	Riparian Health Assessment and Plant Identification Field Training – all OUTDOORS	Edmonton/Central Alberta area; Exact locale TBA No cost**; bring your own lunch/snacks	Spaces available: Approx 25 Register by June 28
July 8	<i>Communications Skills and Engaging with Communities Part 1: Talking with People:</i> the Art & Science of Communication with Landowners; <i>Part 2: Delivering Unpopular Messages and Working in & with Communities</i>	Edmonton Cost**: Lunch will be on your own. Registration cost depends on number of registrants; will range from \$40-80; AESA-	Spaces available: Approx 30* Register by June 28

		supported staff will be able to attend at no cost.	
July 9	<i>Communications Skills and Engaging with Communities Part 3: Delivering Effective Presentations</i>	Edmonton Cost: Lunch will be on your own. Registration cost depends on number of registrants; will range from \$40-80; AESA-supported staff will be able to attend at no cost.	Spaces available: Approx 30* Register by June 28

**Note for July 8- 9: priority will be given to those attending the International Congress for Conservation Biology and those supported by the AESA funding program.*

Participants:

Due to the nature of our grant funding, priority for available spaces (except for July 8-9) will generally be given to rural extension conservation and agriculture staff and others working for non-profit organisations in the agriculture, conservation and stewardship area. For the July 8-9 workshops, ICCB Conference attendees will be given priority, along with AESA supported staff.

Workshop Content Overviews

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

May 18, 2010

The intent of this indoor 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 and applying management and land use decisions that will lead to improved riparian health, water quality and pasture/range health.

The following is a list of topics:

- Economics of Riparian Management
- Provincial Riparian Health
- Wetlands 101 – function, health and classification
- Livestock Behaviour
- Biodiversity and Range / Pasture Management Linkages

Additional Topics for Future Workshops:

- Fish Habitat and Riparian Management
- Linking water quality and nutrient management to riparian and water management
- Problem solving & Group Discussion on program delivery & design challenges

- Riparian Grazing Strategies/Case Studies
- Range Health Assessment
- Outdoor Riparian Plant Identification
- Stocking rate/ carrying capacity (calculation & background)

2. Riparian and Pasture Management Application Workshops: May 19, 2010

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.

3. Riparian and Range Health Assessment Field Days. Attend either June 22, 2010 (both Riparian and Range Health Assessment); July 7, 2010 (Riparian Health Assessment, with Plant Identification)

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.

4. Talking with People- The art and science of engaging and interacting with people, in rural situations. Approx 2-3 hours plus discussion. July 8, 2010.

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

5. Delivering Unpopular Messages- Understanding the context, preparing for delivery and delivery techniques for success. Approx 2 hours. July 8, 2010.

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?

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

Approx 1-2 hours. July 8, 2010.

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?

7. Communications Skills: Delivering Effective Presentations July 9, 2010.

Talking to People- The art and science of making presentations effective, memorable and enjoyable. 7-8 hours.

Workshop summary: This one day workshop is tailored for people in natural resource management who interact with the public, with the agricultural community, with industry, with conservation groups and other resource professionals. It is designed for individuals already engaged in extension or education activities, those who need to communicate more effectively, and those who wish to become more comfortable in presentation venues. Participants will leave the workshop with a greater skill set to develop and deliver presentations. The workshop is interactive and builds on the collective experience of the audience and the instructor, who has delivered hundreds of presentations and is a well recognised, skilled speaker. The workshop will include the following topics:

- The purpose and value of presentations.
- Presentation anatomy
- Negotiating your way through an invitation to speak.

- What do you want them to remember?
- Substance without overwhelming them.
- Prompts, humour, voice and body communication.
- The set up- Calming yourself and rehearsal.
- Pitfalls to avoid.
- Visual aids and Photography basics.
- Final words-Reflect, remember and reinforce.