

March 17, 2025

fiona.vance@nrcb.ca

laura.friend@nrcb.ca

[lynn.stone@nrcb.ca](mailto:lynn.stone@nrcb.ca)

From:

Name: Thomas and Heidi Rohe

Legal Land Location: Plan: 9021566 Lot: 1

ATS Reverence: 4; 16; 42; 17; NE

Distance from proposed Feedlot: [REDACTED]

In response to:

**Application for Amendment RA23022A - Notification Letter Mitchel Kroetsch NW  
15-47-16 W4M**

This letter is to express our continued concerns, opposing the development of this CFO.

The amended application to the originally plan will not change any of our concerns mentioned in the previous concern letters to the NRCB and our concerns stated in the letter to the Government regarding the water license application.

Our concerns are still very relevant, and regardless of a shallower collection basin, the water table is still an issue. The new "proposal" in which Mr. Kroetsch just makes his catchment pens larger and shallower, but even then, when the water levels return to normal his catchment system will likely be interfering with the water table.

**While reading this letter, you might realize that these are the same words I used in the concern letters to the Government on December 8, 2024 and in another letter before since THESE are my main concerns which didn't change over the last year! We are still very concerned about this planned CFO!**

We are a directed affected party to the proposed CFO, and we are very concerned about our water in the future, should the water license application that Mitchel Kroetsch has filed of total of 62,421 m3 of groundwater annually be approved.

We are all on the same aquifer and we are constantly reminded by water experts and politicians like Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Environment and Protected Areas that we are heading toward a scary time of draught in Alberta and to start planning how to use less water in the future. The amount of 62,421 m3 of water could cause massive water supply shortage for our acreage, for our close by Village of Heisler, the small farmers around us and all environmental areas on the Battle River Basin.

Regarding the Village of Heisler, fact is that the CFO is planned way to close to Heisler.

The Battle River Basin, a key watershed in east-central Alberta, covers approximately 30,000 square kilometres, most of which lies inside the province's borders. Extremely rich and diverse in plant and animal life, the basin's water supply is derived entirely from rain, snow melt and groundwater, without benefit of the mountain/foothill snowpacks or glacial melt typical of other river basins in Alberta. *As of the AB Government - Battle River water management plan - overview*

## *2.5 Rationale for developing the Plan*

*The Battle River is an important watershed in east-central Alberta, covering an area of 25,000 square kilometers in the province. The river's water supply is derived entirely from local surface runoff (rain and snow melt) and groundwater flows. It is therefore without the benefit of prolific mountain/foothill snow packs and glacial melt. The Battle River watershed falls entirely within the Parkland Natural Ecoregion, the richest ecoregion in Alberta for biodiversity. The Battle River provides the ecoregion with a rich variation in ecosystems associated with its aquatic environment, associated living organisms and the ecological complexes of which they are part.*

*Increasing pressure on the Battle River's water supply is presenting a challenge for residents of the watershed and for Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, the provincial department responsible for the management and allocation of water in Alberta. As demand for water meets or exceeds the river's natural supply, social, ecological and economic limitations and issues become apparent. A key tool to address this resource management challenge is a Water Management Plan.*

*Approved Water Management Plan for the Battle River Basin (Alberta) First Nations Consultation Report - December 2013*

The biggest environmental concern is long-term contamination of our water from the CFO runoff running into our water source and spreading high volume of manure close by, including antibiotic waste.

The NRCB has temporarily halted Mr. Kroetsch's development permit because he hit already the water table in two areas while he was going to dig out his catch basins. Currently, the NRCB is reviewing the situation, and was supposed to reapply with a new plan for the catchment basin where he missed his deadline to re-apply. (attachment emails from September 17/24)

My Husband and I responded with an email of concern (attachment email September 18/24) to the NRCB legal council and never received a response.

*It is not news that the water table is too high in this area, already in 1954, the close by St. Mary's "Wanda cemetery was shut down by the Bureau of Vital Statistics due to the high-water level. (Attachment cemeterywatertable).*

*What about the 1-5% dead cattle? Will they be left to rot, burned, or buried when even humans can not be buried in this area anymore?*

In addition, attachment *basementwatertable* shows the water table that was encountered when Dallas Oberg, directed affected property owner, SW of proposed CFO was digging a basement.

The attached documents Mr. Kroetsch has received permission to spread manure that have water runoff and/or standing water/dugouts that could be contaminated. The feedlot location itself as shown in maps clearly has water runoff areas that ultimately find their way into the Battle River.

You will also find attached an email from the Battle River Watershed Alliance regarding BRWA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS:

*Non-point Source Pollution Management*

*The BRWA Non-point Source Pollution Management Implementation Guidelines offers recommendations for crop and manure beneficial management practices, where applicable. This advice was developed with broad input from watershed residents, stakeholders and decision-makers. Regarding CFOs proposed within the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds, the following is recommended:*

*Recommendation 2.4.8: Efforts should be taken to limit the development of new Confined Feeding Operations within the effective drainage area of the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds. Rationale: The effective drainage area is that portion of the watershed that might be expected to contribute runoff to the main stem during a flood with a return period of two years. As these areas regularly contribute water to the main stem, the potential for nutrient transport from these areas is greater than in non contributing areas. Source: Non-point Source Pollution Management Implementation Guidelines, PDF*

With the water table being high in this area, there is also the concern of how the contaminants will find their way into the water well systems.

Not just our water well system is extremely endangered of contamination and the risk of running dry. Also, the Village of Heisler, located way to close to the planned CFO is endangered. Heisler's majority of residents are seniors and a lot of them already suffer from health issues. Currently, the Village of Heisler is in the growing process (2023 Census incorrectly); in the last few years more and more younger families with children moved into the community and will be impacted by health issues from water contamination, not to mention increase of flies, rodents, predators, air pollution and increase of crime resulting from a CFO with 5,000 heads of cattle. Yes, I am totally aware that my last point of comment is not directly related to the water license application, but the department of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas should also be the right place to provide these important concerns.

In addition, I am referring to the very concerning article on the Battle River Watershed Alliance website:

<https://www.battleriverwatershed.ca/drought-update/>

**October 30, 2024**

By Sarah Skinner, BRWA Watershed Programs Manager

## Current Conditions in the Battle River and Sounding Creek Watersheds

The entirety of the Battle River watershed remains under provincial water shortage advisories. The North Saskatchewan River, Battle River, and Sounding Creek watersheds are also currently classified as Stage 2 (Active Management) within the Alberta Drought Response Plan. The criteria for this stage states that “water management thresholds are not being met and stream flows are not forecasted to improve. There is increasing risk to water users and the aquatic environment.”

[Water shortage advisories](#) | [Alberta drought map](#) | [Alberta Drought Response Plan](#)

## Battle River Flows

Data from Oct 29, 2024, show the following flow rates at various sites along the river:

Upstream of Ponoka – 0.00 cubic meters per second (cms)

Highway 21 near Duhamel – 0.23 cms

Highway 53 near Forestburg – 0.00 cms

Highway 872 near Brownfield – 0.00 cms

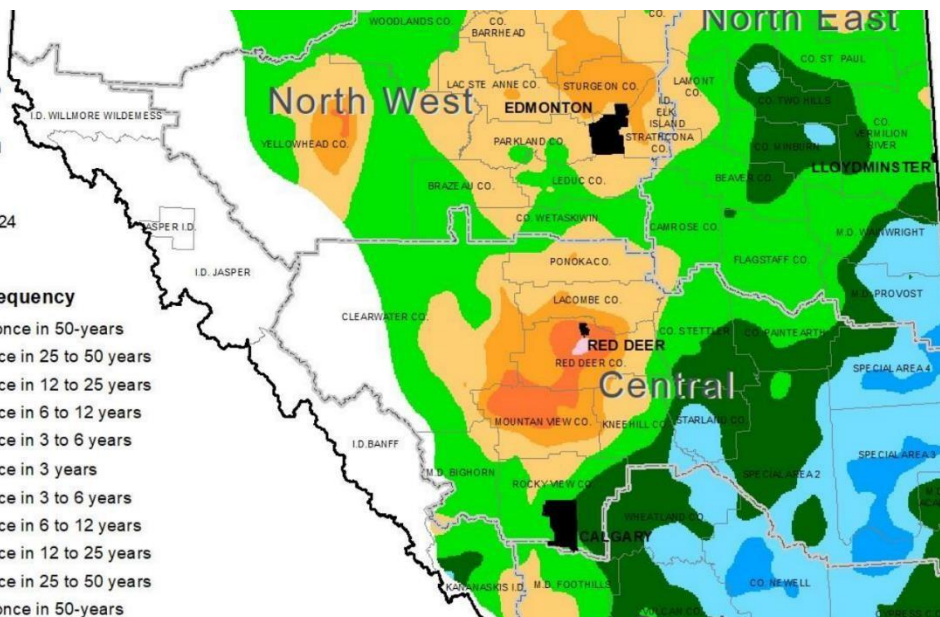
Near SK border – 0.64 cms

## Soil Moisture Reserves

**Spring Wheat  
Soil Moisture  
Reserves Relative to  
Long Term Normal  
to a Depth of 120 cm**

Estimated as of October 08, 2024

Condition	Frequency
driest	< once in 50-years
extremely low	once in 25 to 50 years
very low	once in 12 to 25 years
low	once in 6 to 12 years
moderately low	once in 3 to 6 years
near normal	once in 3 years
moderately high	once in 3 to 6 years
high	once in 6 to 12 years
very high	once in 12 to 25 years
extremely high	once in 25 to 50 years
wettest	< once in 50-years



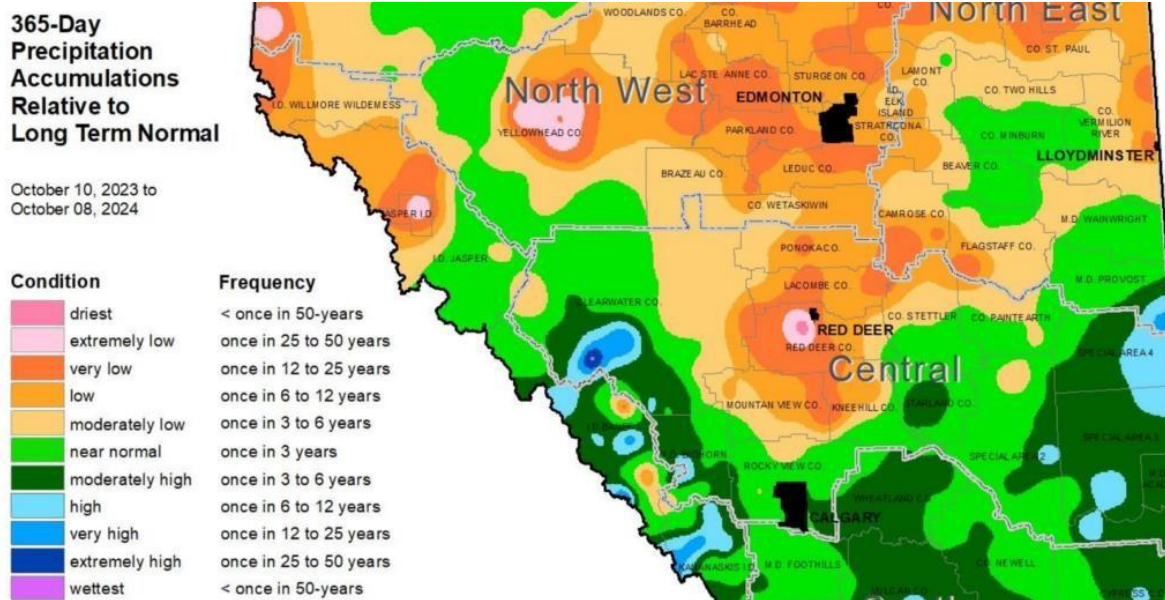
Map 1: Soil

Moisture Reserves (Source: Government of Alberta [Agricultural Moisture Situation Update October 10, 2024](#))



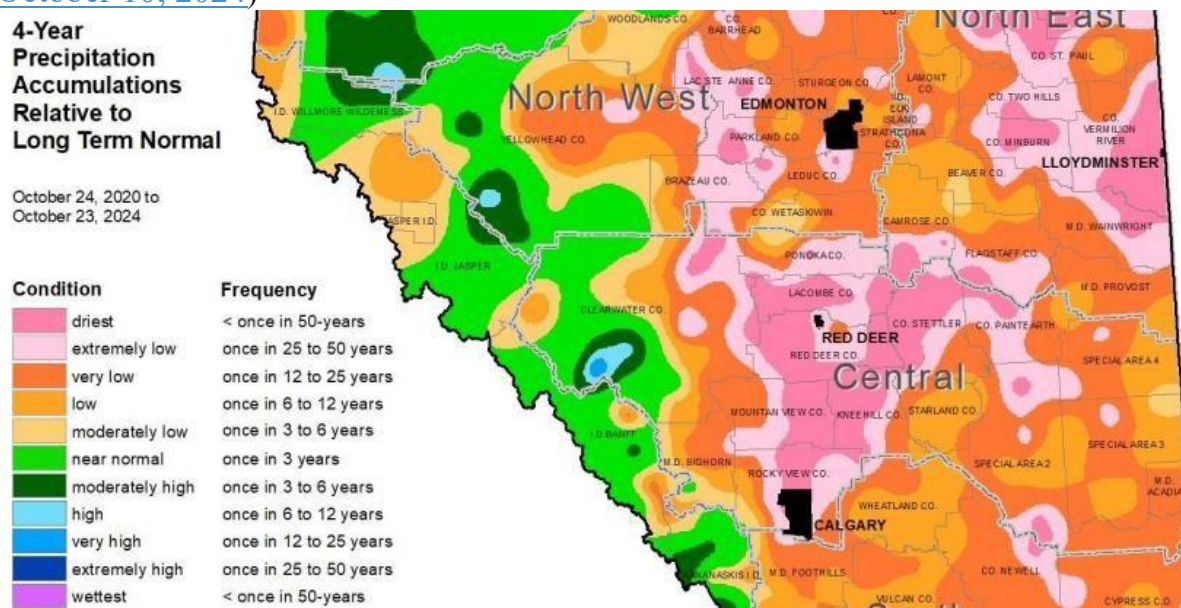
Fall has been relatively wet, which has helped replenish soil moisture reserves significantly (see Map 1). Many areas across the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds currently have near normal soil moisture, and some areas (especially in the Sounding Creek watershed) are experiencing moderately high to very high soil moisture reserves relative to long-term normal conditions.

## Precipitation



**Map 2: 365-Day**

Precipitation Accumulations (Source: Government of Alberta [Agricultural Moisture Situation Update October 10, 2024](#))



**Map 3: 4-Year**

Precipitation Accumulations (Source: Government of Alberta [Agricultural Moisture Situation Update](#))

[October 23, 2024](#))

Precipitation accumulations over the past year (October 2023 – October 2024) have been variable across the region (see Map 2).

Much of the Sounding Creek watershed has received near normal, moderately high, or high levels of precipitation relative to the long-term normal conditions for that area.

Some central and eastern regions of the Battle River watershed have received near normal precipitation levels, while many other areas have received very low, low, or moderately low precipitation relative to the long-term normal.

Although recent precipitation has brought much needed moisture, many regions are still suffering from long-term precipitation deficits over the past few dry years (see Map 3). When you compare precipitation accumulations over the last four years to the long-term normal conditions, several areas within our watersheds are experiencing extremely low moisture conditions that typically occur only once in 25 to 50 years (with some areas estimated to be this dry less than once in 50 years).

This has resulted in dwindling surface water levels in many lakes, streams, marshes, and dugouts in our watersheds, and has also likely impacted groundwater levels. Wet years are essential to recharge deeper water reserves beyond surface soil moisture. Much of the province will need sustained, well above average moisture to address the cumulative effect of recent dry years.

## Harvest Update

The Alberta Crop Report from October 22 provides final estimates of dryland yields for this crop season. Much of the Battle River watershed falls within the North East region (including the MDs of Wainwright and Provost, and the counties of Beaver, Vermilion River, Camrose, and Flagstaff). The yield index for major crops estimates that yields are 10.6 per cent below their 5-year average in this area. Yields in the North West region (which includes the counties of Leduc and Wetaskiwin) are 2.8 per cent above their 5-year average, and yields in the Central region (which includes Special Area 4 and the counties of Ponoka, Lacombe, Stettler, and Paintearth) are 16.4 per cent below their 5-year average.

[Alberta Crop Report: Crop Conditions as of October 22, 2024](#)

## Drought Resiliency Discussions

Drought resiliency conversations have been ongoing over the past year. Alberta's Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils hosted 7 community workshops across the province to distribute drought tools and resources and support partners in managing the current drought and building resilience for future events. BRWA has also attended various municipal council presentations and community events in the watershed to share information and updates locally.

### [2023-24 WPAC Drought Activities Summary](#)

**Even though water issues are our main concern, I would like address again another concern. As of the NRCB the construction of the CFO was halted, we realized over the past few months a lot of construction noise reaching our close-by acreage, even in the morning hours and weekends. What will the noise be if there be 5000 heads of cattle?**

I know, I am repeating myself, but the amended application to the originally plan of the CFO will not change any of our concerns mentioned in the previous concern letter to the NRCB and our concerns stated in the letter to the Government.

Once again, to protect our environment, our and our children's future, the future of our neighbours and the Village of Heisler, I appeal to not approve the applications for the planned CFO.

Sincerely,

Thomas and Heidi Rohe

CC:      Honorable Rebecca Schulz  
            Minister of Environment and Protected Areas  
            Honorable Damien Kurek, MP – Camrose Office  
            Honorable Jackie Lovely, MLA – Camrose Constituency  
            Flagstaff County Development and Planning Committee  
            Battle River Watershed Alliance  
            Battle River Water Management Plan (Province of Alberta)  
            The Village of Heisler

Enclosures:



## St. Mary's, Wanda Cemetery

Although St. Mary's Church closed in 1952 and the building moved to Forestburg in 1957, we respect the cemetery and site. It is a cherished part of our history.

In 1954 Reverend Father J. Rolheiser received a letter from the Bureau of Vital Statistics advising effective immediately there was to be no further burials in St. Mary's "Wanda" cemetery. Extensive soil testing was done and it was found the water table was too high along with the type of soil making it a restricted cemetery.

The thirty-eight bodies interred at the Wanda Cemetery are:

Dominic Schares  
Jacob Schares  
Christina Schares  
John Schares

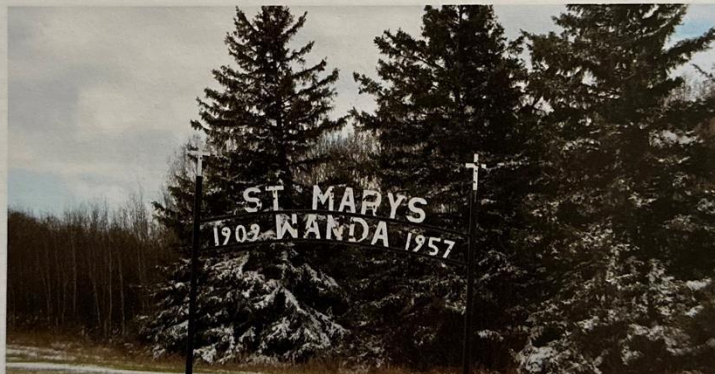
Annie Fischer  
Christian Klein  
Louise Poepping  
Blanche Kroetsch

Mike Schares  
Irvin Dietrich  
George Kroetsch  
Mary Kroetsch  
John Kroetsch  
Joseph Laporte  
Theresia Kuntz  
John Messner  
Frank Rich  
Rosanna Dietrich  
Mary Steil  
Barnaby Steil  
Rosina Laporte  
Nicholas Dietrich

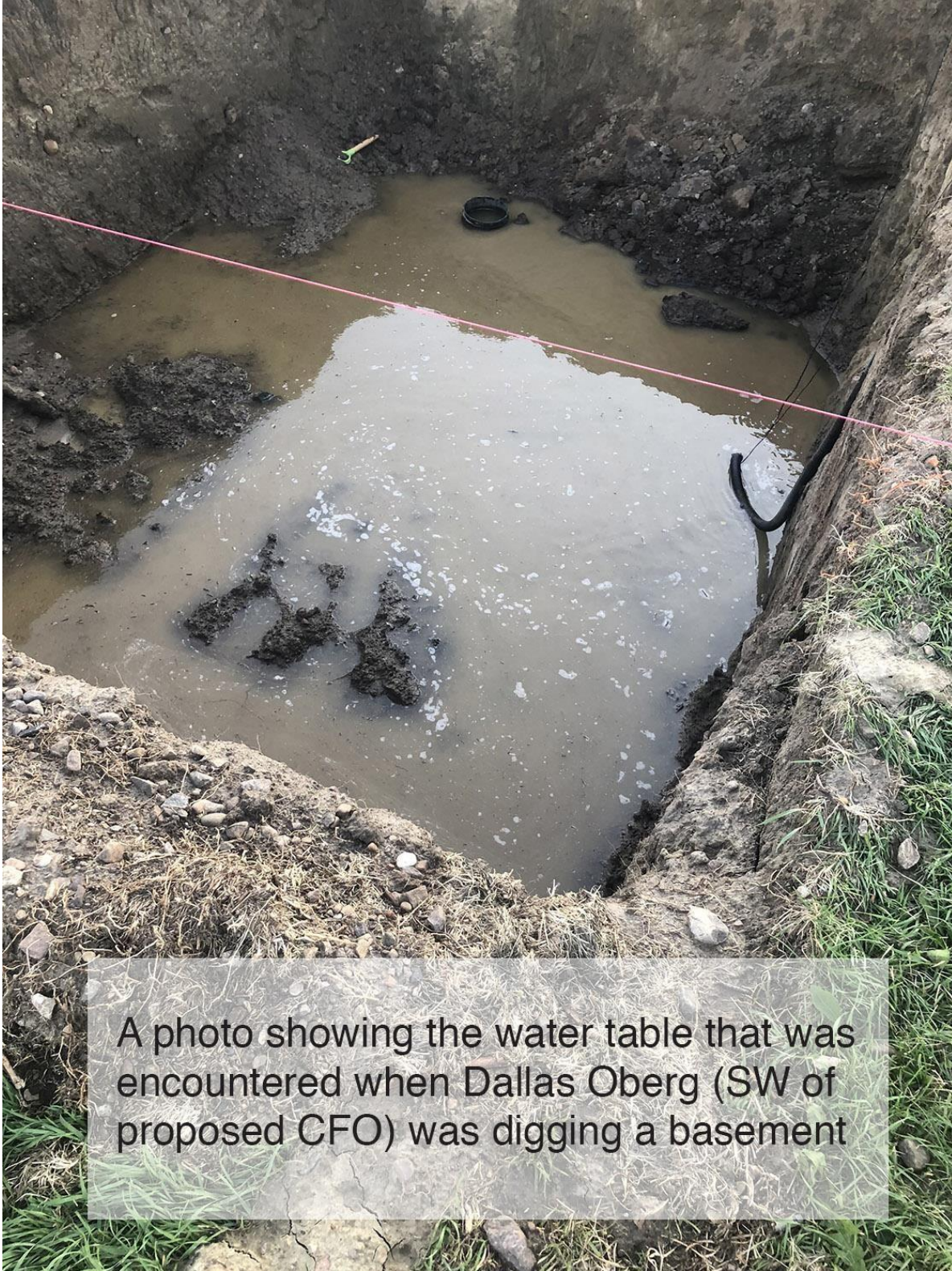
Nellie Plant  
Donna Messner  
Alice Plant  
Albert Ault  
Lawrence Kroetsch  
Loren Kroetsch  
Robert Plant  
William Godfrey  
Bernadette Kroetsch  
Edmund Kroetsch  
Marion Strauss  
Eldon Kroetsch  
Reuben Messner

There are three unmarked graves in the cemetery as well.

Wagon Trails in the Sod First Edition has a detailed account of the Wanda district.







A photo showing the water table that was encountered when Dallas Oberg (SW of proposed CFO) was digging a basement



Fwd: Ground Water Contamination

From: Thomas and Heidi Rohe ([REDACTED])  
To: [REDACTED]  
Date: Friday, October 18, 2024 at 08:55 p.m. MDT

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Catherine Peirce <executivedirector@battleriverwatershed.ca>  
**Date:** October 18, 2024 at 14:57:54 MDT  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Ground Water Contamination

Hi Thomas,

Thank you for stopping by the Battle River Watershed Alliance Office this week. I appreciate the update of the CFO. Your concerns about the high water table are important to communicate to the NRCB and for Water Well License Considerations. I reviewed the Government's document on catch basin construction (a link is included below). As you indicated, your plan to highlight this in a statement of concern through the Digital Regulatory Assurance System is a good idea. A water well licence should be contingent on proof that the groundwater will not be contaminated on the site where a water well will be located.

**Protect Groundwater Quality: Minimize the Risks**

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/ab1646bf-5caf-495f-8526-e62f7e1ac927/resource/b2e6b848-8f8a-48cd-8842-e7275072a188/download/576-5.pdf>

**Catch Basin Design and Management**

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/5be14e3c-5357-40fa-b1e3-4bfc0ca349d1f/resource/50c1bacd-9b9a-4341-b3ad-29fba8f36767/download/af-catch-basin-design-and-management-2021-05.pdf>

Some additional information:

**BRWA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Non-point Source Pollution Management**

The BRWA Non-point Source Pollution Management Implementation Guidelines offers recommendations for crop and manure beneficial management practices, where applicable. This advice was developed with broad input from watershed residents, stakeholders and decision-makers. Regarding CFOs proposed within the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds, the following is recommended:

Recommendation 2.4.8: Efforts should be taken to limit the development of new Confined Feeding Operations within the effective drainage area of the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds. Rationale: The effective drainage area is that portion of the watershed that might be expected to contribute runoff to the main stem during a flood with a return period of two years. As these areas regularly contribute water to the main stem, the potential for nutrient transport from these areas is greater than in non contributing areas.

Source: Non-point Source Pollution Management Implementation Guidelines, PDF

Below is the other information we were looking at when you were in the office regarding the Flagstaff MDP. While it is important to minimize negative effects on the environment and support stewardship, I am not sure this is applicable in this case:

**OBJECTIVE: MINIMIZE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS ON THE ENVIRONMENT & ADJACENT LAND USES BY ENCOURAGING GOOD LAND STEWARDSHIP PRACTICES**

Clause 13 CFOs will be discouraged from locating in environmentally sensitive areas where slope instability and or groundwater contamination may be of concern.

<https://www.flagstaff.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2018-Bylaw-10-18-Municipal-Development-Plan-MDP-CURRENT-compressed.pdf>

Best regards,

Catherine



**Title:**

Detailed Site Layout Plan  
Part II Technical Requirements  
Mitchel Kroetsch  
NW-15-042-16-W4M  
Flagstaff County, Alberta

**Project No:**

2304-43021

**Date:**

March 12, 2024

**Figure No.:**

**Scale:**

**Prepared By:**

L. Predy

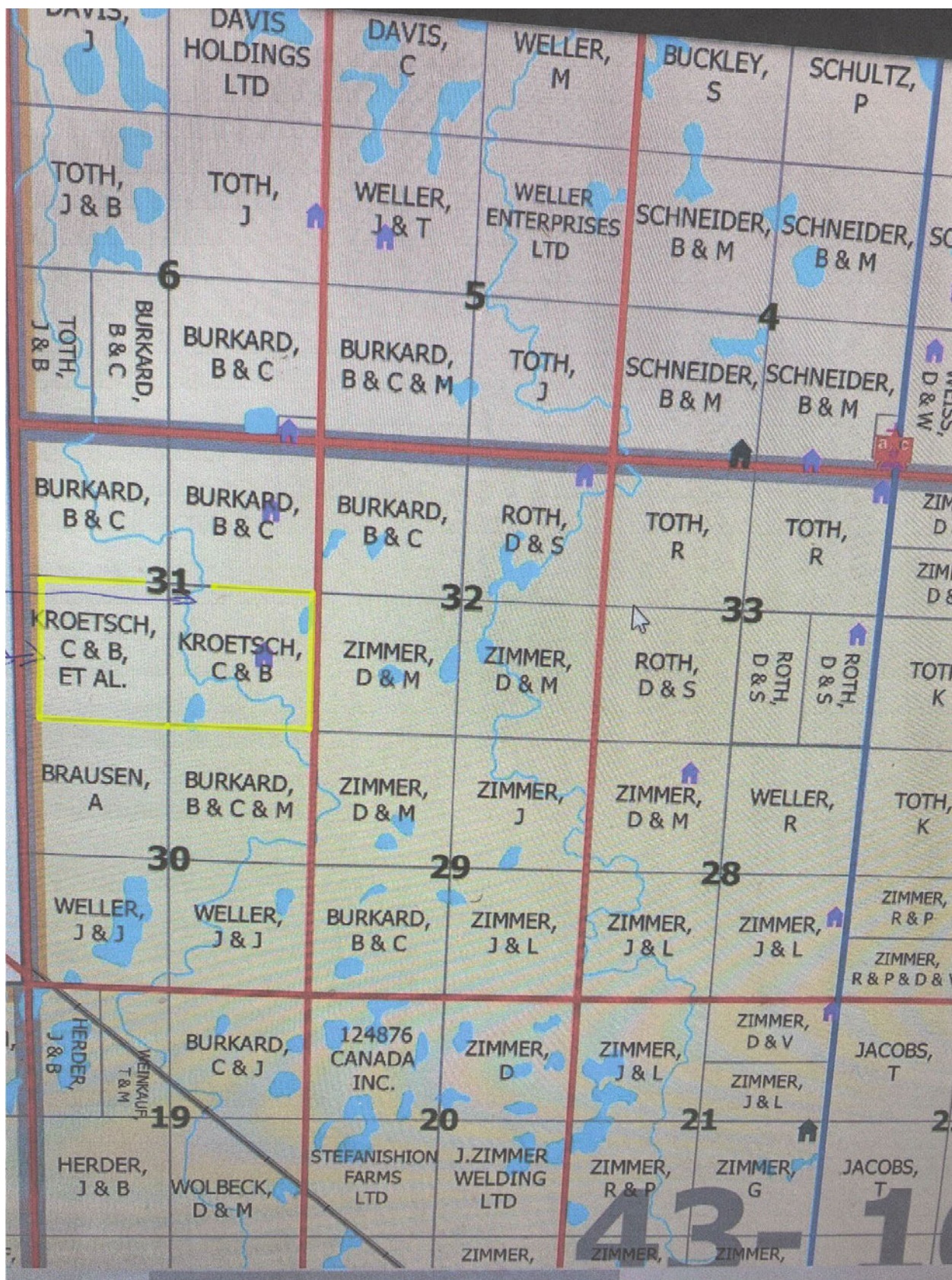
**Image Source:**

Google Earth Pro (2022)

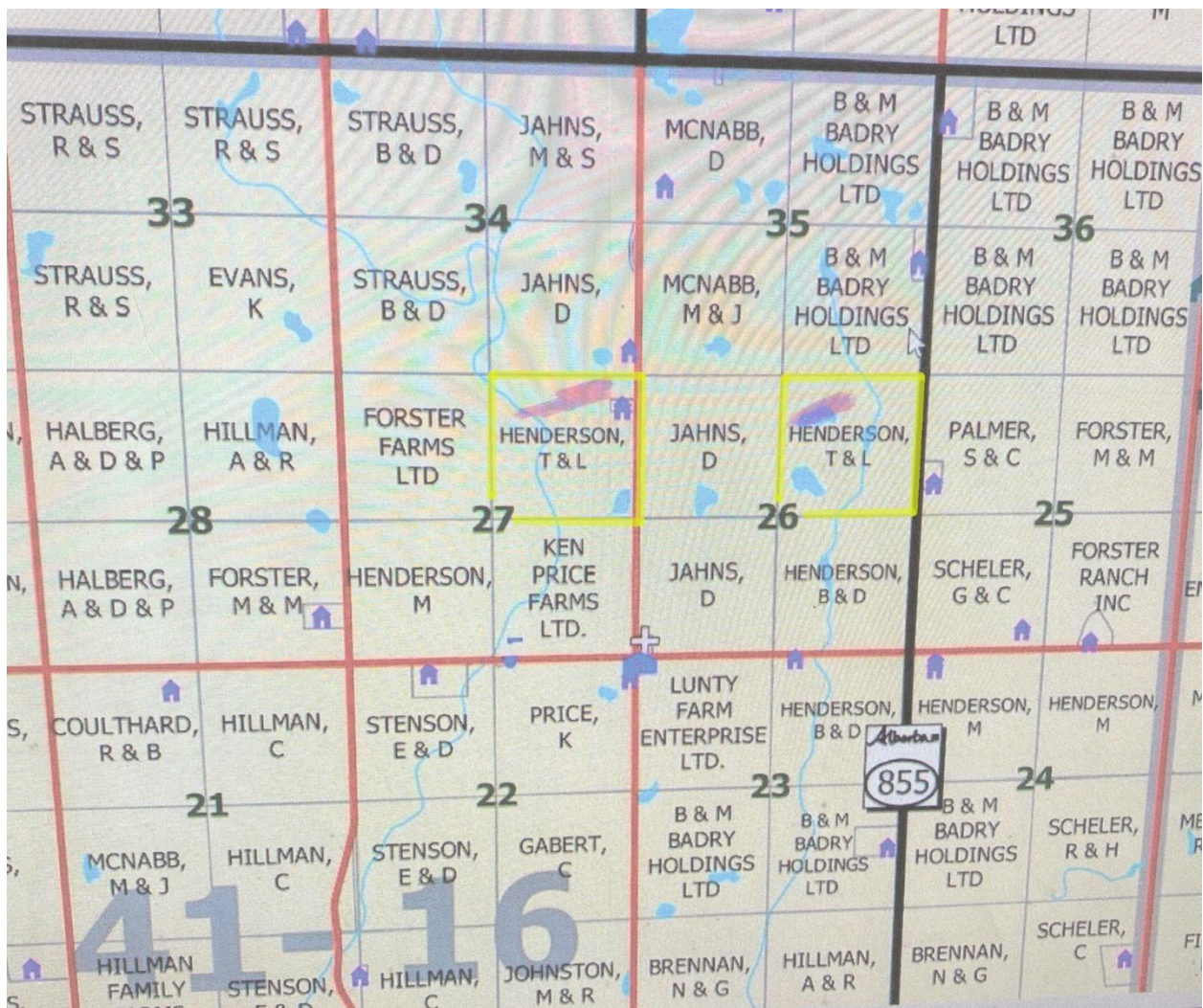
Page 6 of 92

**2.0**









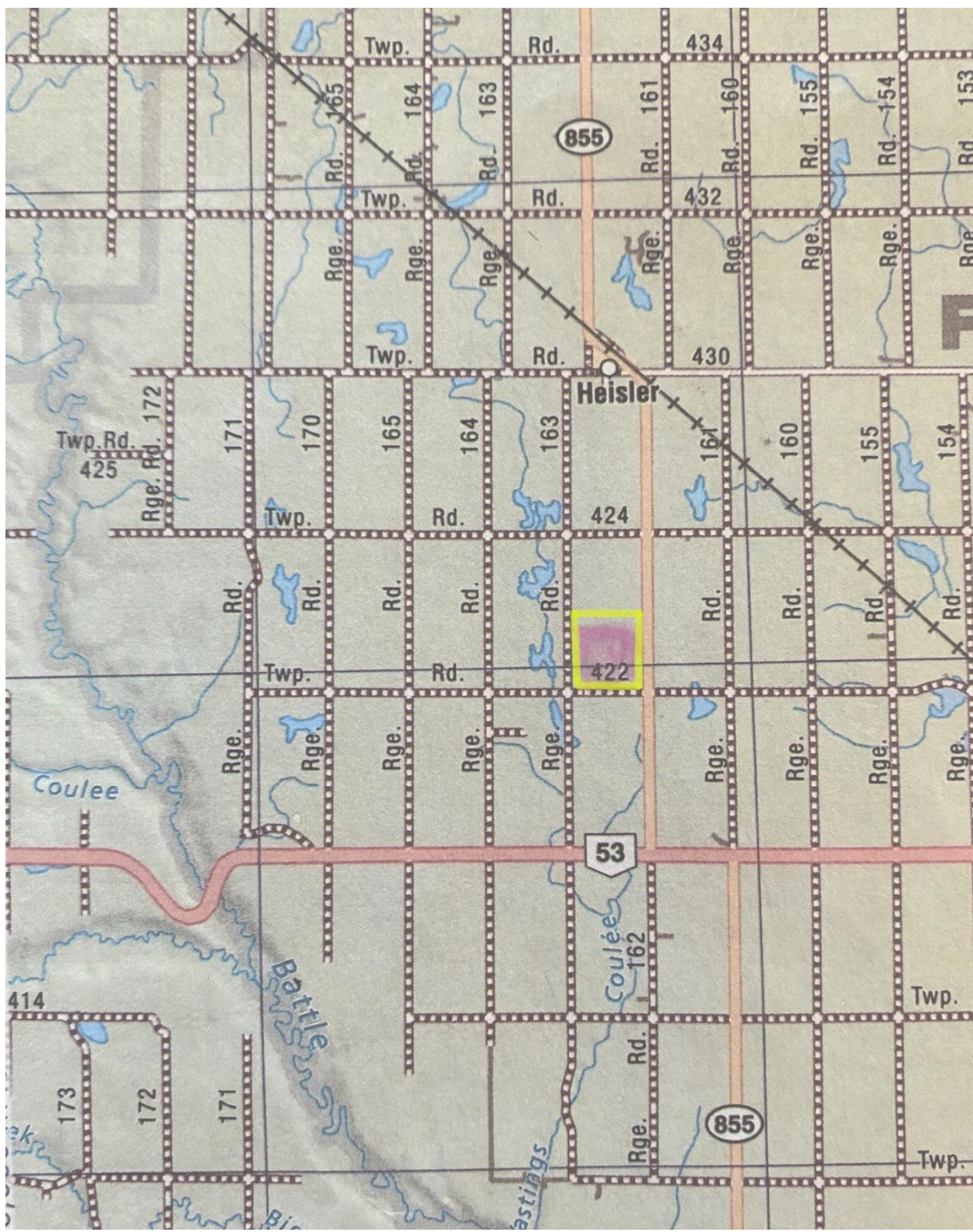
Name of Landowners	Land Location	Acres	Soil Zone
Barbara and Colin Kroetsch	SW-3-43-16-W4	117	Black
Barbara and Colin Kroetsch	SE-31-43-16-W4	110	Black
Barbara and Colin Kroetsch	SW-31-43-16-W4	148	Black
Barbara and Colin Kroetsch	NE-24-43-17-W4	130	Black
Betty and Debbie Henderson	E½-29-41-16-W4	264	Black
Betty and Debbie Henderson	SW-29-41-16-W4	150	Black
Betty and Debbie Henderson	SE-30-41-16-W4	150	Black
Lorraine J Henderson	NE-26-41-16-W4	155	Black
Lorraine J Henderson	NE-27-41-16-W4	143	Black
Lorraine J Henderson	SW-6-42-15-W4	147	Black

AO Note: The applicant has provided 1,514 ac of land with black soil













January 2000

Agdex 576-5

## Protect Groundwater Quality: Minimize the Risks

**G**roundwater is an important natural resource in Alberta. Many farmers and small towns rely on wells to provide drinking water for both domestic and livestock use. Groundwater, however, is vulnerable to contamination from activities around wells and sometimes activities on the land.

Groundwater is water that occupies the pore spaces in soil and rocks. It originates as precipitation that moves down through the soil and can be stored in aquifers.

Aquifers are geologic deposits capable of producing water in quantities sufficient for use by humans, livestock or industry.

Unconfined aquifers or water table aquifers are close to the ground surface while confined aquifers are overlain by geologic deposits of low permeability, such as clay or shale.

Confined aquifers are porous layers of rock (i.e. sandstone) trapped between layers of less porous rock. Most rural wells in Alberta are supplied by deep, confined aquifers. Unconfined aquifers are more sensitive to contamination from activities on the land surface.

Confined aquifers can be contaminated by activities around a well.

### Groundwater contamination

Groundwater quality is influenced by natural conditions and human activities, and pollution can occur through direct or indirect contamination.

A well can be a direct conduit from the land surface to an aquifer. Thus, activities around a well can directly contaminate groundwater. Direct contamination of a well

and an aquifer can result from spills beside wells, improperly sealed well casings or abandoned wells, flooded well pits or back-siphoning from pesticide mixing tanks.

Indirect contamination can come from leaking sewage systems, fertilizer or manure spreading and pesticide spraying. Since nitrate-nitrogen is very mobile in soil, leaking septic systems or spreading manure or fertilizers at rates that exceed crop uptake of nitrogen can result in groundwater contamination over time.

Similarly, pesticides that are relatively persistent and mobile as well as pesticide application on highly permeable soils can also contaminate groundwater. Point source pollution like pesticide or fertilizer spills around a well is the greatest risk for groundwater contamination.

*It is less costly  
to protect  
groundwater  
than to clean  
it up.*

### Protect water resources

Groundwater is a vital resource on the farm. Prevention of contamination is the key to protecting the quality of groundwater.

#### Prevent direct contamination of wells and aquifers:

- **Ensure wells are properly sealed and cased.** Poorly constructed casings allow surface water to seep along the outside of the casing into groundwater. Contaminated surface water or shallow groundwater can collect in well pits. Eliminate well pits in older wells.

*Alberta*  
Government

- **Locate wells up-slope and away from sources of contaminants.** Locate wells away and up-slope from septic systems, manure storage areas and feedlots. Maximizing the distance between the well and contaminant sources minimizes the risk of contamination. Divert any runoff away from the well.
- **Fill sprayers from nurse tanks away from wells or other sources of water.** Mix pesticides in the sprayer or nurse tank away from the well. This method reduces the risk of back-siphoning pesticides into the well and contaminating groundwater.
- **Properly plug abandoned and unused wells.** Abandoned wells are a serious risk to groundwater quality. Improperly plugged wells can act as a direct conduit for contaminants to reach groundwater. Use bentonite products to properly plug or seal unused or abandoned wells.

**Prevent indirect contamination of wells and aquifers:**

- **Apply manure and fertilizers to meet crop nutrient needs.** Over-application of manure and fertilizers can result in excess nitrate leaching to groundwater. Apply manure at recommended rates according to soil and manure nutrient content as well as crop demand. Ensure adequate land is available for spreading at appropriate rates.
- **Maintain septic systems.** Septic systems can pollute wells when placed too close to the well, when not properly maintained or when not properly installed. Make sure the septic tank is cleaned out regularly.

**Prepared by**

Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development

**More information**

Alberta Ag-Info Centre  
Call toll free: 310-FARM (3276)

Website: [www.agriculture.alberta.ca](http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca)



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From: Thomas and Heidi Rohe [REDACTED]  
Subject: Fwd: Kroetsch RFR RA23022 - Field Services information  
Date: Oct 20, 2024 at 11:20:22 AM  
To: Thomas and Heidi Rohe [REDACTED]

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Fiona Vance** <[Fiona.Vance@nrcb.ca](mailto:Fiona.Vance@nrcb.ca)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at 1:34 PM  
Subject: Kroetsch RFR RA23022 - Field Services information  
To: Laura Friend <[Laura.Friend@nrcb.ca](mailto:Laura.Friend@nrcb.ca)>  
Cc: [elow@envirowestengineering.ca](mailto:elow@envirowestengineering.ca) <[elow@envirowestengineering.ca](mailto:elow@envirowestengineering.ca)>, [rhoyland@flagstaff.ab.ca](mailto:rhoyland@flagstaff.ab.ca) <[rhoyland@flagstaff.ab.ca](mailto:rhoyland@flagstaff.ab.ca)>, Bill Kennedy <[Bill.Kennedy@nrcb.ca](mailto:Bill.Kennedy@nrcb.ca)>, Lynn Stone <[Lynn.Stone@nrcb.ca](mailto:Lynn.Stone@nrcb.ca)>, Francisco Echegaray <[Francisco.Echegaray@nrcb.ca](mailto:Francisco.Echegaray@nrcb.ca)>

Good morning,

I am legal counsel to NRCB Field Services in this matter, including the Approval Officer.

We take no position on whether a review should be scheduled based on the Requests for Review ("RFRs").

To assist the Board, I have shared with Laura Friend (Manager, Board Reviews at the NRCB) the original responses to application RA23022 that were submitted to the Approval Officer in May, by individuals who have filed RFRs. I have not attached those responses to this e-mail, due to volume. The responses are available upon request to either Ms. Friend or to myself.

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In addition, one correction and one update have come to our attention that we feel the Board and the parties should be aware of in the context of the RFR process.

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#### Correction

An inadvertent error in the decision documents for RA23022 appears in two places:

1. Page 24 of Technical Document RA23022 lists the two proposed catch basins and their calculated capacity ( $4017 \text{ m}^3$  and  $2529 \text{ m}^3$  respectively). This information is correct. However, in identifying runoff volume from contributing areas, the Approval Officer inadvertently only listed the contributing runoff area from Catch Basin 1 ( $3809 \text{ m}^3$ ). With the contributing areas from both catch basins, the total contributing runoff area for the feedlot should require a capacity of  $6109 \text{ m}^3$ . The corrected information is:

Total required capacity for the feedlot:  $6109 \text{ m}^3$

Total proposed catch basin capacity (CB1 + CB2):  $6546 \text{ m}^3$

2. Flowing from this error, page 16 of Decision Summary RA23022 states that the catch basins would have 170% of their required capacity. The Decision Summary should instead state that the catch basins provide 107% of the required storage capacity.

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Update

The Approval Officer has advised as follows:

On Tuesday, September 10, 2024 I received a text message from Mitchel Kroetsch. He stated that he was trenching in water lines for his feedlot, and observed that water was flowing in, presumably from the water table.

He then dug two test holes in the area of where the south catch basin (CB1) will be constructed. One hole at 10 feet below grade was dry; however the other hole at approximately 13 feet below grade (3.96 m) had water in it. The test holes were filled in.

Mitchel notified me as per condition 5 in RA23022. I verbally directed him to not construct the catch basins while we decide the next steps.

Approval RA23022 permits the construction of the two catch basins using a synthetic liner. Both catch basins are to be 3.5 m below grade. It appears that this site may be in conflict with AOPA's Standards and Administration Regulation 9(3)(a) as the bottom of the liner must not be less than 1 m above the water table at the time of construction.



Typically in scenarios like this, we have the operator submit an amendment application. This means that the operator will consult with their engineer, and modify their catch basin dimensions to propose a shallower catch basin, in order to meet the water table requirements. Often this also means that applicants may need to expand the length and width of the catch basin, in order to have sufficient capacity. Depending on the site, additional adjustments may need to be made to the location of pens to accommodate the change in catch basin dimensions.

This message is blind-copied to Mitchel Kroetsch, Arthur Congdon, Heidi Rohe, Thomas Rohe, Lorraine Congdon, Norman Congdon, Dallas Oberg, Lynn Poole, Gary and Carol Scheler, Wanda Bednarz-Hihn, David Hihn, Caitlin and Kevin Van Slyke, Nancy Hewson, John Congdon, Robert Burke, Ruth Burke (via Robert Burke), Bonnie Webber and Roxanne Westgate (for Chester Hastings), Rick Hewson, and Leann Congdon.

Regards,

Fiona N. Vance (*she/elle*)

Chief Legal Officer - Operations, NRCB

[Fiona.Vance@nrcb.ca](mailto:Fiona.Vance@nrcb.ca)

[\(780\) 999-3197](tel:(780)999-3197)

Response to email NRCB legal council from Sep 17/24

From: Thomas and Heidi Rohe [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: Kroetsch RFR RA23022 - Field Services information  
Date: Sep 18, 2024 at 12:39:18 PM  
To: Fiona Vance Fiona.Vance@nrcb.ca  
Cc: Laura Friend Laura.Friend@nrcb.ca,  
elow@envirowestengineering.ca, rhoyland@flagstaff.ab.ca,  
Bill Kennedy Bill.Kennedy@nrcb.ca, Lynn Stone  
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Good afternoon Fiona Vance,

We have received and read your email below and we are very concerned about your last update regarding the CFO catch basins and run-offs.

First of all, your email states and I cite; *I verbally directed him to not construct the catch basins while we decide the next steps. Approval RA23022 permits the construction of the two catch basins using a synthetic liner. Both catch basins are to be 3.5 m below grade. It appears that this site may be in conflict with AOPA's Standards and Administration Regulation 9(3)(a) as the bottom of the liner must not be less than 1 m above the water table at the time of construction...*

For myself and my husband questions and more concerns arise:

Where is the designated area for run-off and how will it affect the resident's immediate surrounding areas and environment?

Will the capacity for catch basins be changing, thus taking up more area?

Will a change in the size of new catch basins affect the whole scope of the engineered dimensions?

This matter is way too important to just 'fix an error' in the application process, it should result in dismissal of the existing RA23022 application approval decision and a new application should be requested by NRCB for Mitchel Kroetsch's planned CFO.

We also would like to request information updates regarding NRCB current policies on how the NRCB addresses situations like this.

Thank you,