

# Foothills Stream Crossing Program

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## Foothills Model Forest Annual General Meeting

**June 20, 2007**

**Calgary, Alberta**

**Jerry Bauer**  
**Program Manager**



# Situation

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- ❑ **Important natural resource – watersheds, streams, associated habitat**
- ❑ **Stream crossings = huge risk to the quality of this natural resource**
- ❑ **Strict rules (federal, provincial) to protect**
- ❑ **Enforcement is somewhat sporadic and inconsistent**
- ❑ **Need a better approach involving all owners with a priority on the watershed**



# Goal

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**“.....to help companies and crossing owners manage stream crossings in the long term.....”**

# Objectives

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- ❑ **Develop an industry-driven approach**
- ❑ **Establish a standardized stream crossing inspection process and protocols**
- ❑ **Establish a system to identify priorities for maintenance and replacement**
- ❑ **Improve the quality or performance of stream crossings**



# Benefits to participants

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- ❑ **Standard inspection protocols**
- ❑ **Reduced cost**
- ❑ **Regulatory compliance**
- ❑ **Positive public impact – “social license”**
- ❑ **Voluntary participation**



# Current membership (voting)

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- ❑ **BP Canada**
- ❑ **CN (inactive)**
- ❑ **CNRL**
- ❑ **ConocoPhillips**
- ❑ **Devon**
- ❑ **Hinton Wood Products, West Fraser Mills**
- ❑ **Petro Canada**
- ❑ **Suncor Energy**
- ❑ **Talisman Energy**
  
- **Anadarko**
- **Burlington Resources**



# Current membership (non-voting)

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- ❑ **Fisheries and Ocean Canada**
- ❑ **ASRD Public Land and Forests**
- ❑ **ASRD Fish and Wildlife**
- ❑ **Foothills Model Forest**
- ❑ **Alberta Chamber of Resources**
- ❑ **Alberta Conservation Association**
- ❑ **Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation**



# Inspection priorities

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□ **Safety**

□ **Water quality**

□ **Fish passage**





Employee and Public Safety

: Foothills Model Forest

A person is kneeling in a grassy field, pouring water from a black bucket into a stream. A white ruler is held vertically next to the bucket to measure the water level. The water is flowing into the stream, creating white foam. The background is filled with green grass and various wildflowers.

# Fish Passage

Photo credit: Foothills Model Forest

# Erosion and deleterious Substances



# Inspections – key points

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- ❑ **Designed for the crossing owners, not for enforcement**
  - **Industry and government working together**
- ❑ **Need to be cost effective**
- ❑ **Watershed approach**
- ❑ **Need significant data to determine problems and to rank crossings**
- ❑ **Safety of inspectors**



# Progress to date

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- **First official meeting of Steering Committee – April 5, 2005**
- **Program Manager hired**
- **MoA signed by members in June 2005**
- **Inspection protocols developed**
- **“Stream Crossing Inspections Manual” finalized and approved in spring of 2006**



# Progress to date

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- **Inspection of 303 crossings during the summer of 2006**
- **Inspection reports and summaries finalized and provided to members during the winter of 2006-07**
- **Approval of work plan and budget for 2007-08**



# 2007 Work Plan

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- ❑ **Budget of \$33,600**
- ❑ **Minor revisions, updates to Manual**
- ❑ **Develop protocols for monitoring**
- ❑ **Continue with membership recruitment and promoting (on a limited scale)**
- ❑ **Develop a strategy for remediation work with a watershed and collaborative approach**

# Summary

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- ❑ **Good example of integration**
- ❑ **Lots of support and cooperation from industry, FtMF, ASRD and DFO**
- ❑ **Need to keep it simple**
- ❑ **Need to identify the priorities**
- ❑ **Consistent with Water for Life Strategy**
- ❑ **Get results**







