

# Landowner Beaver Management Experience

Case Study: Saddle and Sirloin

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# The Challenge

- Beavers flooding common grazing lands in the Saddle and Sirloin community



# The Vote

- A community vote was held and the side in favour of coexistence was democratically chosen
- My involvement
  - Consulted with the community prior to the vote to discuss possible solutions
  - After vote, was asked to supervise the implementation of a pond levelling device in the beaver dam in order to lower the water level to 10 inches



# Pond Leveller Installation

- Materials
  - Pipe (waste material from construction company)
  - Cage around inflow side of pipe (from empty water container, waste)
  - Tools (borrowed)
  - Elbow grease
    - 6-8 volunteers efficiently completed the installation in one afternoon



# Pond Leveller Installation

- Creative approaches sometimes work best!



# Pond Leveller Installation

- Dam was partially excavated to allow for pipe outflow installation



# Pond Leveller Installation

- Inflow pipe end was sunk with rocks and staked into place



# Outcome

- The water level dropped 10 inches and the beavers were able to stay in place, providing benefits to the community while no longer being a 'pest'



# Key Takeaways

- Coexistence tools are cost effective and simple to install
- This pond leveller solved the community's beaver challenge
- A Permit from Alberta Environment and Parks must be obtained prior to installation of a pond leveller and other coexistence tools
- There is an informal community of practice that can help provide information about coexistence tools and installation



Questions?!