

## Public Notice

# Restoring Wetlands within the Lake Winnipeg Basin with Cowessess First Nation – Public Comments Invited

**January 29, 2021** – Environment and Climate Change Canada must determine whether the proposed project “Restoring Wetlands within the Lake Winnipeg Basin with Cowessess First Nation”, located in Cowessess First Nation, Saskatchewan is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.

To help inform this determination, Environment and Climate Change Canada is inviting comments from the public respecting that determination. All comments received will be considered public [and may be posted online]. For more information, individuals should consult the Privacy Notice <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/Protection?culture=en-CA> on the Registry website.

Written comments must be submitted **by February 28, 2021** to:

Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Dana Hay, Senior Program Officer  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Telephone: 204-983-7040  
Email: [dana.hay@canada.ca](mailto:dana.hay@canada.ca)

### The Proposed Project

The Assiniboine River Basin Initiative is partnering with the Cowessess First Nation to restore wetlands on Cowessess First Nation lands in southeastern Saskatchewan. The proposed project, which will incorporate Indigenous knowledge and science, will result in approximately 33 hectares of wetland habitat restored. Other key project partners include Ducks Unlimited Canada and local watershed groups. The proposed project sites are located on annual cropland where natural wetlands were previously drained. The drained wetlands will be restored to natural historic levels using earthen plugs. The earthen plugs will be covered by top soil and seeded with grasses and other native plants to prevent erosion and provide cover. Once restored, the wetlands will be able to capture runoff and naturalize over time, providing habitat for migratory birds and wildlife.