
VISION STATEMENTS FOR THE OLDMAN WATERSHED

Draft statements for public discussion

Selection criteria for inclusion of statements: 75% or greater overall agreement in the combined visioning survey results (see attached)

Overall Vision Statement

A healthy and resilient watershed, with a safe, secure water supply for a stable economy and healthy aquatic ecosystems, where people, wildlife and habitats can thrive in the face of climatic changes and extremes.

Desired Future Conditions

Water Quality and Quantity

- *Cleaner ground and surface water, for safe drinking and healthy ecosystems*
- *More natural river flows for improved ecosystem health, including flooding flows for regenerating cottonwood stands and flushing flows for removing silt*
- *Aquifers that are replenished, not mined*

Ecosystem Health

- *Abundant, healthy and biologically diverse ecosystems (both aquatic and terrestrial)*
- *Healthy, protected and restored riparian areas*
- *More native grasslands*
- *Healthy native fish populations*
- *Fewer invasive species*
- *Protected areas for medicinal plants*

Water Allocation/Use

- *Water allocations balanced between humans and the ecosystem*
- *Enough water for everyone*
- *More water for the ecosystem*
- *More efficient water use through reduced urban, agricultural and industrial water demand*

Land Use, Landscapes & Recreation

- *Land managed for multiple users, such that urban sprawl is minimized and the agricultural land base is maintained*
- *Well planned, low impact development, with restricted development along waterways*
- *Sustainable population growth, managed in a way that improves watershed function*
- *Protected and forested headwaters, with reduced recreational impact, lower road density and less evidence of human activity*

- *A blue-ribbon trout stream*
- *Youth-based ecotourism in historically significant areas.*
- *Beautiful natural and historic viewscapes*
- *Recreational public access to waterways and river valleys*

Attitudes

- *Environmentally responsible and motivated watershed residents*