



2022-2023 ALMS Annual Report





Current Staff

- Kirsten Letendre: Program Technician
- Kurstyn Perrin: ICBM Program Coordinator
- Brittany Onysyk: Program Manager
- Bradley Peter: Executive Director



Outgoing Staff

- Program Manager: Caleb Sinn
- Seasonal Rec Water Technician: Sarah Klimchuk
- Seasonal LakeWatch Technician: Dominic Wong



Thank you for your financial
support





LICA
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS



Alberta Conservation
Association



**UNIVERSITY
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OUTDOOR FUND

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Strategic Objective 1

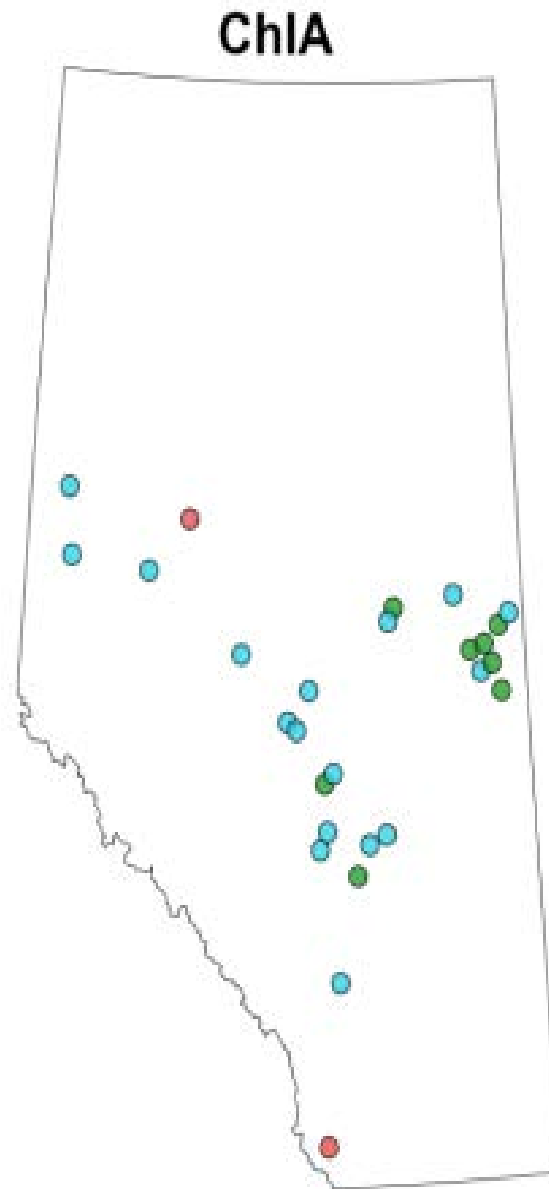
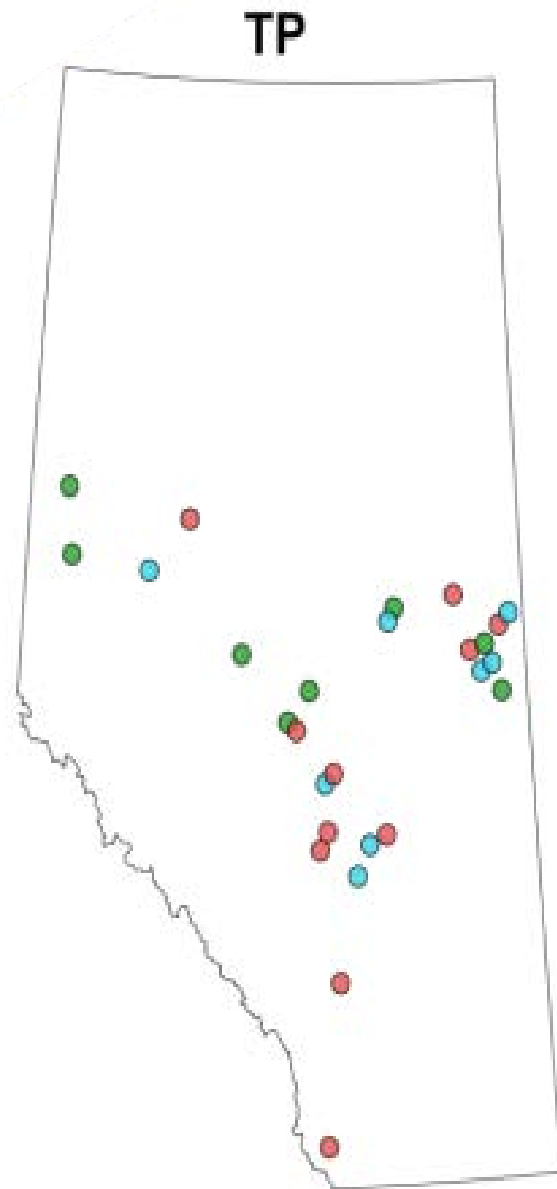
- Monitoring and Research Goals
- Supporting Indigenous Communities
- Foster linkages between water quality and fisheries



Lakewatch

- 103 Sampling Events
- 26 Unique Lakes
- 532 Volunteer Hours
- AIS Monitoring
- 14 Long Term Trend Reports

- Decreasing (red) increasing (green) and no trends (blue) detected at lakes with more than 10 years of data.
- See Annual Trend Summary at www.alms.ca/reports.



2022 Volunteer of the Year Award

Awarded to the Wabamun Watershed Management Council for outstanding contributions to ALMS programs and for advances in lake management planning.

Photo (left to right): Caleb Sinn, Stan Franklin, and Sue Styles.





Summer LakeKeepers Program

- Focus on remote and under-sampled waterbodies.
- 16 Lakes samples
- 26 Monitoring Trips
- Key partnerships with Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance, Mackenzie County, Alberta Conservation Association, and others.



- Traditional citizen science program
- Volunteers trained and equipped to collect data
- Involvement of Kehewin Cree Nation
- Furthest North: Wadlin Lake by Mackenzie County



LakeKeepers

Lakes of the Carvel Pitted Delta Project

- 50 lakes sampled by small group of volunteers.
- Development of bathymetric charts.
- Full suite of water chemistry.
- Ion samples revealing unique groundwater relationships
- Thank you to Mayatan Lake Management Association.

Left to Right: David Trew (MLMA), Walt Nielson (MLMA), Dave Mussle, and Brian Smerdon

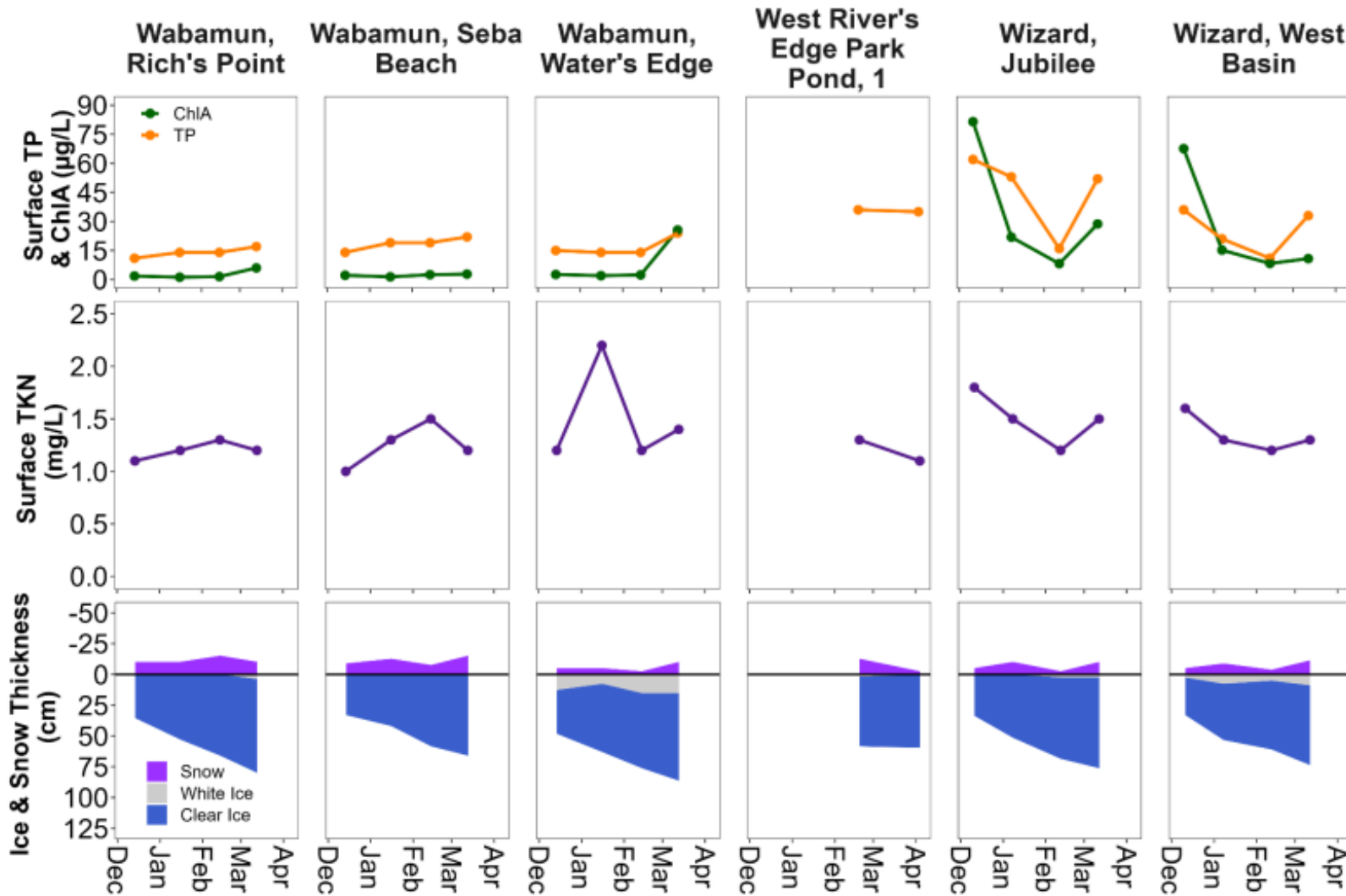


Winter LakeKeepers Program

- Nearly 200 monitoring trips per winter
- 99 locations sampled
- 77 unique waterbodies
- 984 volunteer hours
- Filling a major data gap

Winter LakeKeepers Program

- Report now available at www.alms.ca/reports
- New figures available describing snow and ice thickness.

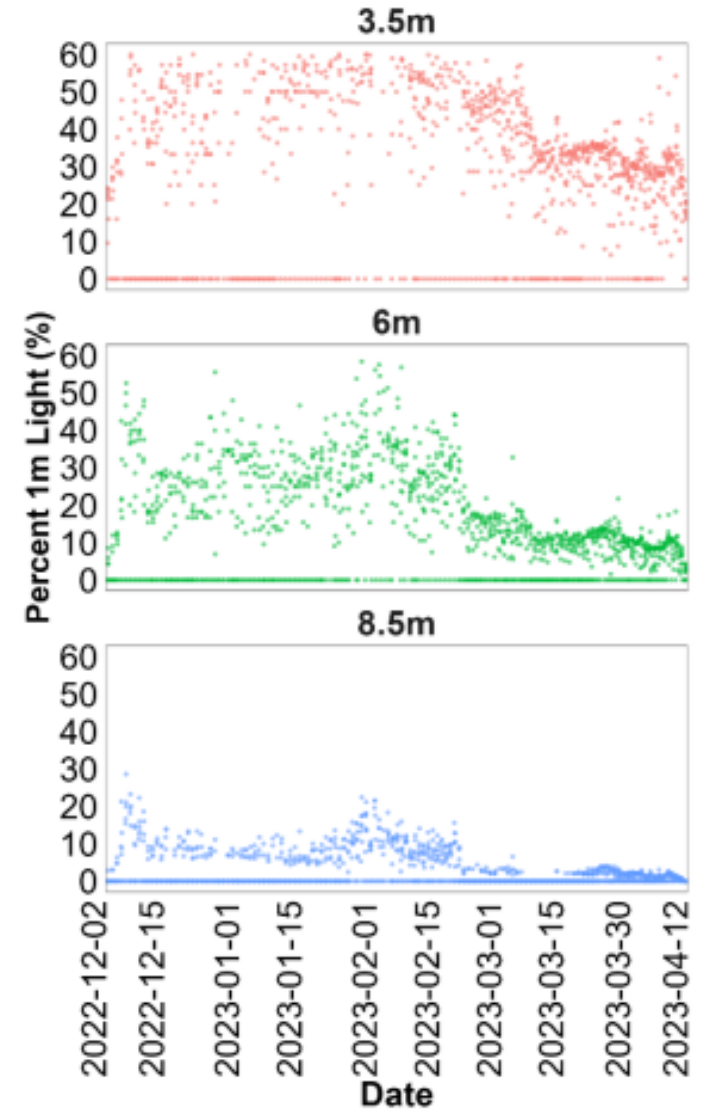
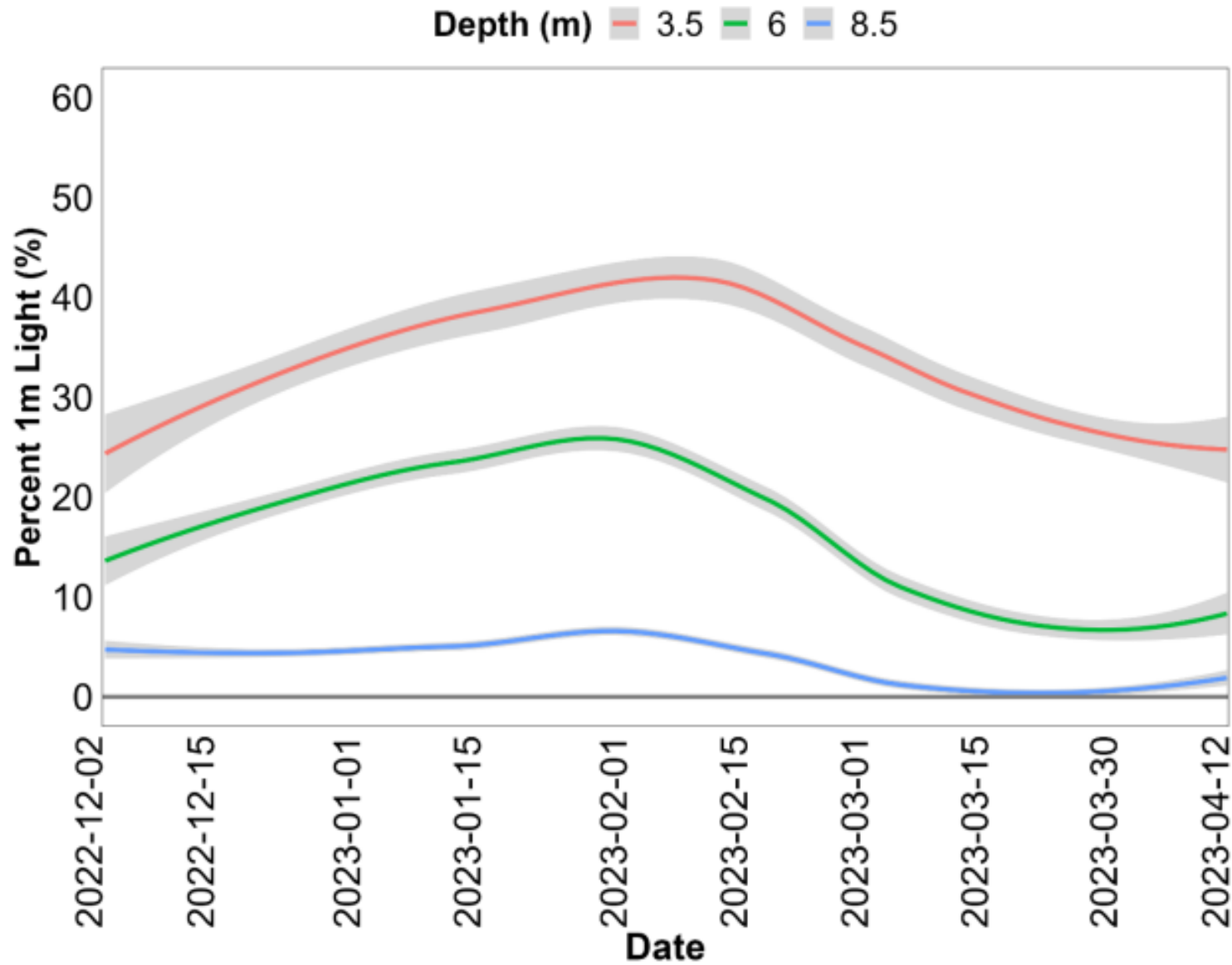




LakeKeepers

Pigeon Lake High Frequency Sensor

- High frequency buoy installed December 1 2022 to April 12 2023.
- 30 minute dissolved oxygen and temperature readings at 3 depths.
- Hourly light readings at 3 depths.



Changes in water clarity as determined by light intensity loggers attached to a remote high-frequency sensor array during the winter at Pigeon Lake.

Recreational Beach Water Monitoring

- 182 public beach sampling events for enterococcus and/or cyanobacteria.
- Ten sampling events to Lac Ste. Anne to support enhanced monitoring for Papal visit.



Indigenous Community Based Monitoring

- Supporting 7 Indigenous Communities in Alberta's Oil Sands Region with winter lake monitoring
- Enhanced monitoring for industrial pollutants.
- Participation in two Indigenous focused workshops.



Indigenous Community Based Monitoring

- Site visits to each community and attendance at fish camps at Winefred Lake and Willow Lake.
- Total sampling events across all communities: 23



The northern lights at a fish camp help at Winnifred Lake.



Invasive Species Monitoring

- 52 samples for Dreissenid mussels and spiny water flea collected from 26 lakes.
- 31 watermilfoil samples tested genetically for Eurasian watermilfoil.
- 98 aquatic plant samples collected from Lacombe Lake.

No aquatic invasive species detected in 2022.

Thank you to the Alberta Plant Health Lab for genetic testing support.

ALMS Scholarship

2022 Recipient: Ceilidh Welch

Assessing the Reliability of a Community-Based Approach to qPCR Water Monitoring





Strategic Objective 2 & 3

- Be an authoritative voice on lake management in Alberta
- Promote an effective lake management planning process consistent with Water for Life goals
- Influence policy and governance
- ALMS stakeholders are informed and enabled to conduct lake management activities through participation in ALMS programs.
- Raises awareness and involvement of Albertans in lake monitoring and management activities
- Improve Albertan's lake literacy to promote protection and respect of lakes, reservoirs and their watersheds.



ALMS and Alberta Water Council



- ALMS represents the Lake Conservation Sector on Alberta Water Council.
- Jay White and Steph Neufeld represent ALMS on AWC. Jay White also serves as AWC's vice president.
- Contributions to:
 - Water for Life Action Plan Project Team
 - Source Water Protection Phase 1
 - THREATS Platform

ALMS Kirsten Letendre paddling at sunset on Sylvan Lake.

Lake Stewardship Community of Practice



- Connect, invigorate, and engage Alberta's lake watershed stewards.
- Quarterly virtual meetings where stewards can network and share information.
- Support community level action to support healthy lakes for Alberta's future.

Lake Stewardship Community of Practice

Date	Topic
May 2022	Community Engagement featuring Blake Bartlett of the Wizard Lake Watershed Stewardship Society
July 2022	Advocating for your Lake featuring Don Davidson and Catherine Pierce of the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association
September 2022	Lake Management SWOT Analysis
February 2023	High and Low Lake Water Levels: featuring Kellie Nichiporik of the Moose Lake Watershed Society and Peter Cordingley of the Muriel Lake Basin Management Society
July 2023	In Lake Treatment : featuring Richard Normandeau of the Half Moon Lake Residents Association



2022 Annual Conference

- Annual conference took place September 28-29 in St. Albert.
 - 18 speakers
 - 80 attendees
 - Indigenous awareness training by Eleven Eleven Consulting
 - Tour of John E. Poole Wetland
- Presentations available online at www.alms.ca/2022-annual-conference.



Thank You to Workshop Sponsors

- The North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
- Municipal Planning Services
- E8 Innovations
- Aquality Environmental Consulting
- Wabamun Watershed Management Council

And Alberta Environment and Protected Areas for continued financial support!

Presenter Leta van Duin from ALIDP speaking about Low Impact Developments at the 2022 annual workshop in St. Albert.



Communications and Outreach

- 32 public outreach events and presentations to nearly 1500 Albertans.
- Quarterly newsletter delivered to nearly 3000 contacts.
- Presentations at:
 - Calgary CWRA Conference
 - Minneapolis NALMS Symposium
 - ACA Citizen Science Forum
 - NSWA Road Salts Workshop



Communications and Outreach

- Lacombe Lake Aquatic Plant Bioblitz
- Shoreline assessment for native and invasive aquatic plants.
- 98 plant specimens identified.
- No invasive aquatic plants detected.

Volunteer Cliff Soper paddling ALMS staff across Lacombe Lake for the Lacombe Lake aquatic plant bioblitz event.



Strategic Objective 4

- Build a strong board of directors with a wide range of skills/expertise and with representation from many sectors
- Build resilience for ongoing sustainable operations.
- Improve organization promotion, elevate the ALMS brand, and maintain operational funding.

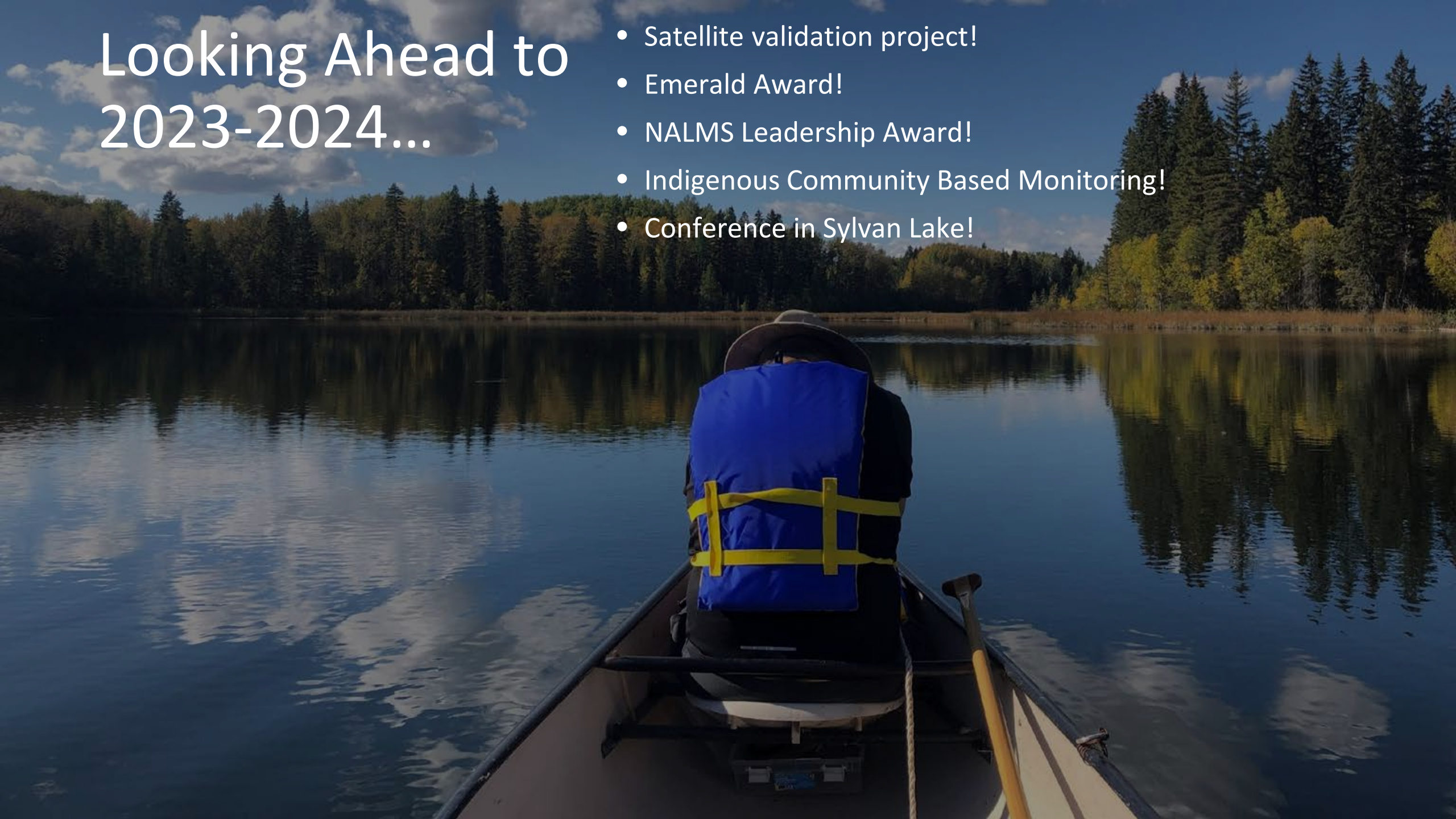
2022-2023 Organizational Growth

- Completion of modernized staff HR Handbook.
- Review and update to staff salary bands.
- Nomination of Jennifer Kerr, Mike Conway, and Melissa Logan to the Board of Directors.
- Modernization of ALMS bookkeeping process.
- Development of successful project proposals through Oil Sands Monitoring, University of Alberta, and University of Calgary.
- Successful proposal for increased operational funding through Environment and Protected Areas.



Looking Ahead to 2023-2024...

- Satellite validation project!
- Emerald Award!
- NALMS Leadership Award!
- Indigenous Community Based Monitoring!
- Conference in Sylvan Lake!





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