From:

City Council

Sent:

February 14, 2017 9:35 AM

To:

City Council

Subject:

Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

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Submitted values are:

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2017

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

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Comments:

Presentation of the Meewasin Valley-wide Resource Management Plan (speaking)

We would like this report to go to SEAC (9th), EUCS (13th), and City Council in March 2017.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/60y9fjpwmxhdxkw/AABhKoxd1RR08LsKaJWDlPi5a?dl=0 (I can provide the document in other formats if necessary. Please confirm via email that you are able to open the document. Thank you.)

Meewasin is recognized locally, provincially, and nationally for its leadership in conserving, enhancing and managing the natural resources of the Meewasin Valley. In late 2015, Meewasin secured funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada to create a conservation action plan called the Meewasin Valley-wide Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Meewasin Valley. The scope of the plan is regional and includes the area within a 15km buffer of Meewasin's jurisdiction. The RMP will guide Meewasin's conservation efforts over the next decade by identifying threats to the ecological integrity of the Meewasin Valley along with pragmatic and realistic strategies and actions to ensure the long term value of the natural resources of Meewasin Valley. The RMP was developed in partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada and engaged over 45 stakeholders during the process, including representatives from local municipal, provincial and federal ministries, non-government

organizations, academic institutes, and special interest groups. The RMP aligns with Meewasin's 10-year Vision Document and 5-year Operational Plan.

The RMP has been vetted through all of Meewasin's advisory committees. This version of the RMP, while public, is intended primarily for agency partners, academic and internal use.

Four conservation targets were identified in the RMP and were assessed an overall rating of Fair condition. These targets include the river and creeks, swales, native grasslands and wetlands. Numerous threats for each conservation target were assessed and ranked according to its severity, irreversibility and scope. The largest threat to the Meewasin Valley is invasive species with a Very

High ranking overall. Threats that ranked High overall include dams and water management, stormwater, runoff of pesticides and fertilizers, suburban development, trespass issues, fire and fire suppression, and regional climate change.

The RMP identified over 180 key conservation actions for Meewasin to deliver over the next decade to mitigate these threats and improve the ecological integrity of conservation targets in the Meewasin Valley. Partnerships with various government agencies, non-government organizations, academic institutes and the general public are key to the successful implementation of this plan.

The RMP is intended to be a living document. It will be reviewed annually, with the conservation targets and threats updated based upon available information and action implementation reviewed, reported and updated. The RMP will serve as the guide for the renewal and development of site-specific resource management plans.

The results of this submission may be viewed at: https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/147425