

Red Deer River Watershed

The **Red Deer River Watershed** is one of four watersheds making up the **South Saskatchewan River Basin**.

The **Red Deer River** originates in the Canadian Rocky Mountains in Banff National Park near Lake Louise. The river flows northeast and then southeastward for 724 km and has a mean annual flow rate of 62m³/S, before entering the South Saskatchewan River at a point 8 km across the Saskatchewan border. The Red Deer River is fed primarily by snowmelt and precipitation and minimally by glacial runoff. The Red Deer River is also fed by numerous inflowing tributaries. The annual median flow of the river is 1,586,657 (dam₃).

The Red Deer River Watershed:

- Occupies 8% of Alberta or 49,000 km².
- Includes portions of 19 municipal districts/counties along with 50 urban centres (Cities, towns, villages and summer villages).
- Includes a wide array of natural regions including boreal, rocky mountain, foothills, parkland and grassland.
- Dickson Dam provides Albertans with an assured water supply, improved water quality downstream, flood and erosion control, recreational opportunities and the potential for hydroelectric generation on a limited scale.

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Sub-watersheds

