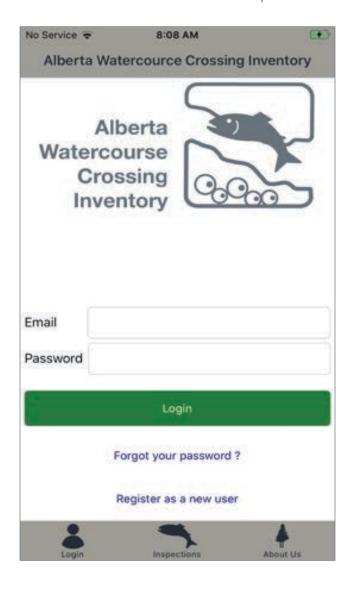
# The Alberta Watercourse Crossing Inventory App

Old and Poorly maintained watercourse crossings can fragment fish habitats and impact water quality. The Alberta Watercourse Crossing Inventory (ABWCI) App is a tool to help document stream crossings and support the prioritization and remediation of habitat for Alberta's fish species.



## **ABWCI Functions**

The App allows anyone to collect data in a constant format using a phone or tablet without a cellular connection. The App collects information on:

- The type and condition of the crossing
- Road erosion or sediment problems
- Allows you to take pictures and write notes

There are 2 different types of survey depending on your access permissions/user type.

- 1. Long form for use by practitioners, industry, stewardship groups, trained professionals
- 2. Short form for use by citizen scientists and recreational user groups

To request access permission changes to your account please e-mail AEP.WCCrossing@gov.ab.ca with your username and affiliation.

## Open to All Albertans

If you have a smartphone or tablet you can help! This App is built for industry, government and public use. By engaging with people who work and play on the land we can get more done together.

# Get the App

You can download the ABWCI app from the Google play store for Android or App store for Apple/iOS devices or use the QR code below.



Android



iOS/Apple



## What is the data used for?

The data is helping the Government of Alberta to create a database of watercourse crossings across the province. This information will be used to manage for the cumulative effects of stream crossings and help to prioritize and coordinate remediation efforts across watersheds.

Remediated crossings will:

- Help improve threatened fish populations by allowing fish access to more habitat
- Improve water quality and fish habitat by keeping sediment out of streams and rivers

Help keep motorists and recreationalists safe

More information can be found at <a href="www.alberta.ca/">www.alberta.ca/</a> watercourse-crossing-program.aspx

Please note this app is not a compliance complaint tool. Any spill, release or emergency that may cause, is causing or has caused an adverse effect to the environment must be immediately reported to Alberta Environmental Hotline by phoning 1-800-222-6514. Please consult the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and the Release Reporting Regulation for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law.

## Before you go checklist

## Safety First!

- Ensure you are equipped for a day in the great outdoors (water, food, first aid supplies, bear spray).
- Plan where you are going, know how to get back and make sure you bring a map if required.
- Ensure you have a check in protocol with someone in case you are delayed!
- NEVER put yourself at risk to complete a survey! If you are unsure or don't feel safe don't do it!

## Before you go

- Download the ABWCI App from the play store or App store.
- While in cellular service, register as a new user, login to the AbWCI app using your email and password and test a survey to ensure the app is working correctly.
- Download the PDF manual from the 'About Us' tab in the app. Save this on your device for an offline reference
- Review all the available training materials provided https://www.alberta.ca/watercourse-crossingprogram.aspx
- You don't need any tools to complete the citizen science form but a battery charger might come in handy for your device.
- Make sure you are logged into the app with your account before you head out.

## Survey Tips

- If you encounter an area with multiple crossings please complete one assessment for each crossing.
- If you don't complete multiple assessments, please select the crossing that looks the worst from a fish passage or sediment issue.
- If you are unsure how to answer any of the survey fields please refer to the user manual or the blue "information" icons imbedded in the survey.

#### After you get back

- Make sure to submit your surveys once you are back in cellular service or connected to Wi-Fi.
  You will manually have to submit surveys onto the dashboard from your device (using the play button the inspections tab).
- Log onto the dashboard <a href="http://abwci.azurewebsites.net">http://abwci.azurewebsites.net</a> to ensure your surveys were uploaded and view your data.



