

## **2017 River Watch Forum Assignment**

### **Our Place in the Basin: Understanding our Subwatersheds**

This year's River Watch Forum assignment will take you on a deep dive into your subwatershed. The Tamarac, the Buffalo, the Forest, the Red Lake- all River Watch teams represent a subwatershed which contributes to the Red River of the North. In turn, the Red River of the North flows to its outlet at Lake Winnipeg, which ultimately drains to Hudson Bay in the subarctic region of northeast Manitoba.

So what makes your subwatershed unique to the ~30 in the Red River Basin? Your first task will be to complete the attached worksheet which will reveal quantitative and qualitative (look these up) information about your subwatershed. Information revealed through this research will guide your team toward devising a 30-60 minute lesson intended for 4th or 5th grade students in your school, which will be implemented with the help of a 4th-5th grade teacher this fall or winter. After delivering the activity/lesson, you will discuss strengths and weaknesses with the elementary teacher so that the lesson might be used again in the future. What would they add or subtract from the lesson? What visuals or examples might have made the lesson better? Evaluation can include pre/post quizzes given to the elementary students to track what they learned or anecdotal quotes or testimony from the teacher and students. **Your poster will be populated with background on your subwatershed, the activity/lesson you developed, and any evaluation measures produced throughout.**

In order to deliver the lesson, you will need to master the basics of your subwatershed and be able to put things in context for elementary level learners. All lessons will begin with watershed vocabulary (headwaters, outlet, tributary, confluence, etc.) and must discuss the subwatershed's fit into the larger Red River Basin. Beyond that, you have the freedom to utilize whatever tools you would like (Google Earth flyovers, mapping activities, water quality 101, geography basics, and relevant books, videos, or other web resources).

The lesson must be implemented this winter. Rough draft posters must be submitted by February 3 so we can review before beginning the printing process. Final posters are due February 17. **Your team will not be presenting at the Forum. Instead, all teams will record their presentation in a 4-6 minute video to be submitted for judging by March 8.**