



**NEWS RELEASE**

**for immediate release**

## **Meewasin Announces the Valley-Wide Monitoring Framework**

**September 9, 2021**

**Meewasin is pleased to announce the creation of a Valley-wide Monitoring Framework that will help guide the development of the region with the direct involvement of the public.**

The scope of Meewasin is a vast ecological corridor, currently spanning 67 square km, which is the equivalent of 13,400 football fields. Effectively monitoring this area and managing its resources is a challenge, one that Meewasin has been up to for more than 40 years.

Meewasin is in the early stages of using the Valley-wide Monitoring Framework to organize and identify data needed to manage this important natural area. As this project moves forward, Meewasin aspires to foster a collaborative network of regional monitoring-related partnerships designed to share knowledge, expand observational capacity, and inform best practices.

This process is largely internal, but the later stages of implementation of the strategy will require ongoing consultation and participation from local community members, conservation groups, traditional knowledge-keepers, partner institutions, and stakeholders.

Andrea Lafond, CEO of Meewasin spoke to the importance of this project, "Meewasin has always prided itself as being a leader in the conservation of ecosystems, both internally and with our various community partners. The Valley-wide Monitoring Framework is an expansion of that team but focused on the specific, important goal of retaining and reporting critical ecological data."

**For more information, contact Andrea Lafond at 306-665-6887 or at [alafond@meewasin.com](mailto:alafond@meewasin.com)**

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### **About Meewasin Valley Authority**

*The Meewasin Valley Authority exists to ensure a healthy and vibrant river valley, with a balance between human use and conservation by:*

- *Providing leadership in the management of its resources;*
- *Promoting understanding, conservation and beneficial use of the Valley; and*
- *Undertaking programs and projects in river valley development and conservation, for the benefit of present and future generations.*

*There are 67 square kilometers of land and over 90km of established trail, which has seen up to 1.65 million trail visits per year, in the Meewasin Valley. The area also features sites that help people to connect to nature through experiences such as Beaver Creek Conservation Area, the Northeast Swale, Saskatoon Natural Grasslands, the River Landing Spray Area, and the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink @Nutrien Plaza. Meewasin is a non-profit organization that relies on donations and volunteers for sustainability. To get involved or learn more visit [www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com)*