

The allocation of water to the major irrigation projects in Alberta, as approved by the Prairie Provinces Water Board, are as follows:—

<i>Project</i>	<i>Acres Irrigable</i>	<i>Water Allocation in Acres Feet</i>
St. Mary and Milk River Development.....	465,000	796,000
Western Irrigation District.....	50,000	85,700
Eastern Irrigation District.....	281,000	562,000
Bow River Irrigation Development.....	240,000	478,534
United Irrigation District.....	34,000	51,000
Lethbridge Northern District.....	96,135	150,000
Mountain View Irrigation District.....	3,600	6,000
Aetna Irrigation District.....	7,300	13,000
Leavitt Irrigation District.....	4,400	7,000
Macleod Irrigation District.....	5,000	8,000
Private Projects.....	70,000	80,000
TOTALS.....	1,256,435	2,237,234

The following paragraphs outline developments during 1952-53.

St. Mary River Project.—Progress on this important project for 1952-53 was excellent and contrasted sharply with progress reported in the 1951-52 season when adverse weather greatly retarded the work. In 1952-53, 54,000 acres of new land were put under the ditch and expenditures of the Water Resources Office on the development were about \$4,200,000, used for the construction of canals, purchase of material, acquiring rights and colonization. The estimated expenditure for 1953-54 is \$3,975,000.

Bow River Project.—During 1952, P.F.R.A. continued work on enlarging the main canal. Total expenditure given by that organization in the 1951-52 report was \$6,738,745. This amount has been augmented by 1952 expenditure and will be greatly exceeded in 1953 when the Travers Dam will be built.

The Government of Alberta has made an initial appropriation for 1953-54 of \$250,000 for development of the Retlaw-Lomond tract.

William Pearce Irrigation Project.—During 1952, the Water Resources Office submitted a brief to the Royal Commission investigating the merits of the South Saskatchewan Project (in Saskatchewan), pointing out that the William Pearce project provided a more economical method of irrigating those lands in Saskatchewan covered by the South Saskatchewan proposal and in addition will irrigate the large tract near Hanna in Alberta. The Commission recommended that the entire Saskatchewan River problem be reviewed. This recommendation would entail the inclusion of the William Pearce project.

In 1952, further studies were made of the suitability of the soils in those areas blocked out for the William Pearce project.

Macleod Irrigation District.—The Water Resources Office reconstructed part of the distribution system and built a considerable portion of new distribution works. Expenditure on this development for the year ended Mar. 31, 1953, totalled \$30,188.

Lake-Level Stabilization.—In co-operation with Ducks Unlimited, three projects were constructed in 1952—at Moore and Tucker Lakes near Bonnyville, and at Grey's Lake near Hemaruka. All of these projects consist of dams in the outlets to lakes with pipes inserted under the dams to permit continuous flow. The Water Resources Office built, for fishing and recreation, two dams for the Department of Lands and Forests—one at Elkwater Lake near Medicine Hat and the Hartell Dam, near Turner Valley. Expenditure on the five dams was about \$25,000.