



*Primarily  
Bogs  
And  
Fens*

*Primarily  
Marshes  
And  
Shallow  
Water*

## What is a wetland?

A wetland is an area of land that is saturated with water for all or part of the year.

- Close to 21% of the province is covered by wetlands.
- About 93% of Alberta's wetlands are peatlands.
- Alberta has lost approximately 63% of its slough / marsh wetlands.

## What is a peatland?

- Commonly called muskeg, peatlands contain peat.
- Peat is the remains of partially decomposed plants - primarily sphagnum mosses - that build up over hundreds of years to form deep layers.
- Peat is like a sponge, holding 10 to 20 times its own weight in water.

**Wetland ecosystems are among the most productive and biological diverse ecosystems in the world.**