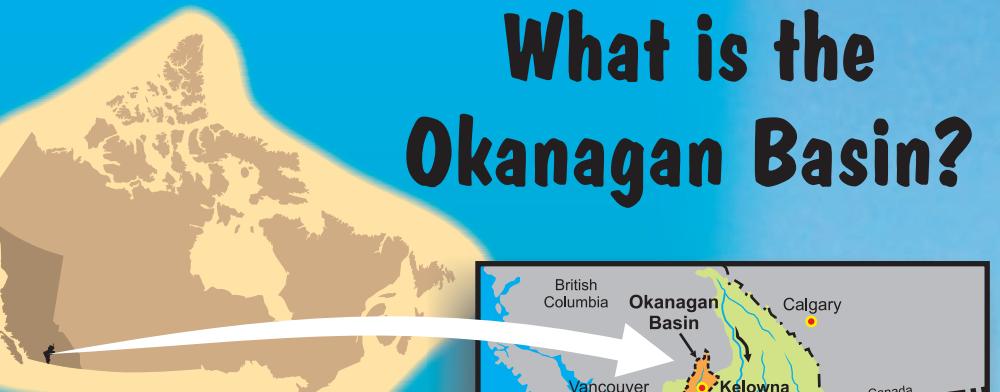


What is the Okanagan Basin?

Okanagan Basin Waterscape

Water — the myth of abundance



A river basin or watershed is high at its edges and low in the center where the water flows down. The Okanagan Basin includes all the land that feeds water to our big lakes, Kelowna, Vernon, Penticton, and Osoyoos all lie within the Okanagan Basin. The Okanagan River drains the land and flows south across the International Boundary as a small tributary to the Columbia River.



Okanagan Basin water flows into the Columbia River, past the city of Portland, to the Pacific Ocean.

From highlands to valley floor

The highlands

The Okanagan Valley is a great trout fishery and the headwaters of southern British Columbia. These forested highlands are the largest part of the basin and are the source of most of our water. In addition to outdoor recreation, forestry and cattle grazing are important in the highlands.

