

# ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION 2012-2016



*December 2014*  
Status update



## Minister's Message



I am pleased to provide a status report on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (ENR) Framework for Action (FFA) 2012 to 2016. The status report highlights the Department's activities on actions taken from June 2014 to January 2015. During the past seven months progress on several major action items has been made.

The *Wildlife Act* came into force on November 28, 2014. The Act provides the GNWT with tools to effectively manage and protect wildlife populations and their habitat. *Wildlife Act* regulations are being developed in three phases. This first phase is complete and addressed regulations bringing the new Act into force. The second phase is now underway and addresses changes needed to implement some of the new concepts in the legislation, such as harvest reporting and harvester education. The third phase will be on-going and will deal with new regulations, as required.

Support has been provided to NWT residents, businesses and communities to reduce energy consumptions and to implement energy solutions. Rebates for solar and biomass energy programs were provided to 23 residents and eight businesses through the Alternative Energy Technologies Program. A total of \$373,647 in rebates were provided under the Energy Efficiency Incentive Program.

Forest Management Agreements were signed with Aboriginal government held corporations in Fort Resolution and Fort Providence. Discussions on a forest management planning initiative with the Kátlódeccehe First Nation are underway and discussions with Jean Marie River and the Ka'a'gee Tu First Nations are in the early stages.

A new air quality station is now monitoring for a meteorological conditions and a variety of pollutants in Fort Smith. Data capture for all NWT air quality monitoring stations have been improved due to upgrades in instrumentation and improved technical capacity in regions.

A project to use remote sensing imagery, funded by the Canadian Space Agency, to identify approaches to measure water indicators, such as flow, flooding, water temperature and ice quality, is now underway. Preliminary findings are expected to be available in early 2015.

Six key cumulative impact monitoring projects, addressing community and decision-maker concerns, were identified through the Cumulative Impacts Management Program for on-going research projects. Primary focus areas include caribou, water and fish near development or exploration as well as community engagement and capacity building, partnering with academic and government experts and delivering results to communities and decision makers.

I encourage all NWT residents to continue their involvement in the protection of the NWT environment and the conservation of our valuable natural resources.

J. Michael Miltenberger

## 1.0 Protecting Our Environment

*“Developing, recommending and enforcing legislation, policies and agreements to maintain the integrity and biological diversity of natural ecosystems and thereby protect the condition and quality of the environment.”*

### – ENR Establishment Policy

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
1.1 Species at Risk Legislation	<i>1.1.1 Sign Bilateral Cooperation Agreement on NWT Species at Risk</i>	Bilateral Cooperation Agreement signed.	Spring 2015	Formal bilateral agreements are being reconsidered by Environment Canada and the provincial and territorial jurisdictions. Environment Canada and ENR staff are developing an informal memorandum of understanding on cooperation.
	<i>1.1.2 Implement actions under the Species at Risk (NWT) Act.</i>	Conference of Management Authorities (CMA) and Species at Risk Committee (SARC) Annual Reports.	Annually July (SARC) September (CMA)	✓ <b>Completed</b> Conference of Management Authorities Species at Risk 2013-14 Annual Report and NWT Species at Risk Committee 2013-14 Annual Report complete and tabled in October 2014.
	<i>1.1.3 Update and approve a five-year species assessment schedule.</i>	Assessment schedule updated by SARC and approved by CMA.	Annually July (SARC) September (CMA)	SARC completed its annual review of the assessment schedule and submitted it to the CMA for approval. The CMA reviewed the 2013-2020 assessment schedule in June 2014 and returned it to SARC with suggestions for changes, as per paragraph 29(2)(b) of the Species at Risk (NWT) Act. SARC incorporated the suggestions and returned a revised assessment schedule to the CMA for approval. The revised schedule was approved by the CMA on September 30, 2014.
	<i>1.1.4 Complete required recovery strategies and management plans for species on NWT List of</i>	Recovery strategies and management plans for species	Within two years of listing; first four plans must be complete by	Management plans and recovery strategies for the first four listed species (polar bear, Peary caribou, boreal caribou and hairy braya) are being developed in cooperation with the other

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	<i>Species at Risk</i>	on NWT List of Species at Risk	February 2016	management authorities for species at risk. Section 35 consultation on drafts is underway, and public engagement will occur in 2015.
1.2 A New Wildlife Act	<i>1.2.1 Release a draft Wildlife Act for further public engagement and s.35 Aboriginal consultation.</i>	Draft Wildlife Act completed and released.	Public Engagement Spring 2012  s.35 Aboriginal Consultation Winter 2013	<p>✓ <b>Completed</b> In April 2012, a Stakeholders Wildlife Act Advisory Group was established to secure input from residential hunters, industry partners and other interest groups.</p> <p>✓ <b>Completed</b> In May- June 2012, broad public consultation was undertaken through a series of community meetings across the NWT, and S.35 consultations (May 2012 –January 2013) with potentially impacted Aboriginal rights holders.</p>
	<i>1.2.2 Complete public consultation and a revised draft</i>	Revisions to draft made following consultation.	Public Engagement Summer 2012  s.35 Aboriginal Consultation Winter 2013  Revised Draft Winter 2013-14	<p>✓ <b>Completed</b> Through the public engagement process, steps were taken to ensure the general public as well as various interest groups had opportunities to provide input into the new WLA.</p> <p>Section 35 consultation efforts occurred both inside and outside the NWT.</p> <p>All input from consultation, public engagement, the Stakeholders Wildlife Act Advisory Group, and the Wildlife Act Working Group was considered in the development of Bill 3.</p>
	<i>1.2.3 Introduce the Wildlife Act.</i>	New Wildlife Act introduced in the Legislative Assembly.	Winter 2013-14	<p>✓ <b>Completed</b> A new Wildlife Act was passed in the Legislative Assembly in October 2013 and came into force in November 2014.</p>

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	<i>1.2.4 Comprehensive Review of Regulations and implement the Wildlife Act</i>	Wildlife regulations are updated; new Wildlife Act implemented.	2013-14/15 onwards - 2016/17  (ongoing 3 year process)	A phased approach is being taken to bring the new developing regulations for the Wildlife Act into force. The first phase is completed and addressed the immediate regulation changes needed to bring the Act into force. The second phase will address regulations required to implement new concepts in the Act such as the import of harmful species, and wildlife management and monitoring plan requirements for developers, and harvest reporting and hunter training requirements. The third phase will be ongoing and will deal with development of regulations as the need arises.
	<i>1.2.5 Execute necessary enhancements / modification or new development of appropriate technology supports required to ensure the effective implementation of the new wildlife regulations</i>	Appropriate systems, tools and processes are in place to operate and administer the new regulations	15/16 and on going (tied to 1.2.4)	Changes are anticipated to exiting technology support tools such as the Licensing System and Wildlife Management Information System to accommodate changes introduced as a result of new or amended regulations. In addition, new tools and processes may be required.
1.3 Forest Management Legislation	<i>1.3.1 Develop draft action plan for new forest management legislation and policy.</i>	Draft action plan is completed.	Spring 2015	An action plan and Legislative proposal which will include scheduling the development of new Forest Management legislation. The Action Plan will be formulated to lead the discussion of the development of a northern reflective Forest Management Act.
	<i>1.3.2 Develop a draft Forest Management Policy.</i>	Draft is complete for internal review.	Fall 2015	ENR will draft policy discussion papers on issues and challenges identified during past engagement exercises and policy discussions. An internal review process will provide discussion points for engagement and consultation.

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	<i>1.3.3 s.35 Aboriginal Consultation and public engagement on Forest Policy directions and legislative framework.</i>	Consultation completed.	Winter 2015 through Spring 2016	A process of engagement with stakeholders and partners on a northern-focused and supported forest policy, with consensus on direction for implementing legislation.
	<i>1.3.4 Complete s.35 Aboriginal consultation and public engagement and draft Forest Management Act</i>	Draft Act	Spring 2017	
	<i>1.3.5 Introduce Forest Management Act</i>	New Forest Management Act introduced in the Legislative Assembly.	Fall 2017	
1.4 Forest Management Regulations	<i>1.4.1 Complete s.35 Aboriginal consultation and public engagement and draft Regulations on the Incidental Use of Forests Licence (IUFL)</i>	Consultation and Regulations Complete.	Spring 2015	Revised drafts of Forest Management Regulations have been completed, addressing the incidental Use of Forests. Draft Regulations are now out for consultation with completion now intended for spring 2015.
	<i>1.4.2 IUFL Regulations promulgated</i>	New Regulations in place.	Fall 2015	
1.5 Forest Management Charges and Fees	<i>1.5.1 Develop options for new Forest Management Charges and Fees</i>	Options Paper developed.	Spring 2015	A contract for technical advice on options available respecting timber cutting and reforestation charges has been completed. Options on suitable charges for the NWT economic and social environment are being developed from the work.
	<i>1.5.2 Draft Forest Management Policy for Charges and Fees.</i>	Draft completed	Fall 2015	

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	<i>1.5.3 Complete public consultation and engagement on charges and fees</i>	Consultation and Regulations Complete.	Spring 2016	
	<i>1.5.4 Charges and fees Schedule to Forest Management Regulations Fee draft</i>	New Regulations in place.	Fall 2016	
	<i>1.5.5 Fees Schedule in force</i>	New schedule in place	Winter 2016	
1.6 Maintaining Forest Fire Management Services Program Effectiveness	<i>1.6.1 Develop a Forest Fire Management Action Plan to address issues or gaps identified through the Fire Program review.</i>	Forest Fire management Action Plan complete.	Spring 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> Recommendations from the wildland fire management program review have been address through action plans, and where budget adjustments were required, budget submissions have been made.
	<i>1.6.2 Conduct a review of ENR's Strategic approach to wildland fire management.</i>	Discussion Paper	Spring 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> Wildland fire management program review and follow-up analyses were completed.
	<i>1.6.2.a</i>	Public Forums on the 2014 Forest Fire Season	March 31, 2015	Public forums will be conducted to gather input and comment on issues and outcomes of the 2014 forest fire season providing ongoing guidance to fire managers and the Department. Six themes have been identified as important topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Safety</b> – Issues around the need for a true safety management system, reporting tracking and work/rest guidelines.</li> <li>2. <b>Human Resources</b> – Issues around the overall capacity and human resource management of the fire operations program including adequate staffing, coverage, recruitment, retention, training and</li> </ol>

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				<p>qualifications.</p> <p>3. <b>Financial Practice</b> – Issues around procurement and expenditure management control.</p> <p>4. <b>Stakeholder Engagement</b> – Issues around stakeholder engagement, collaboration, public education and internal coordination and communication.</p> <p>5. <b>Wildland Fire Management Policy</b> – issues around the interpretation, understanding and implementation of the forest fire policy and the Strategy for the Management of Forest Fire Responses.</p> <p>6. <b>Operations</b> – Issues around the application of the incident command system and understanding and adherence to standard operating procedures and guidelines.</p>
	<i>1.6.3 Implement Forest Fire Management Action Plan</i>	Actions that address the review's recommendation are implemented.	Spring 2013	<p>✓ <b>Completed</b> ENR has taken the recommendations of the review and follow-up assessments and revised operating practices to reflect the recommendations.</p>
1.7 Forest Protection Act	<i>1.7.1 Develop draft action plan for new forest protection legislation.</i>	Action plan is completed.	Spring 2015	An action plan and legislative proposal which will include scheduling development of new Forest Protection Legislation. The Action Plan will be formulated to lead the discussion of development of a northern reflective Forest Protection Act.
	<i>1.7.2 Develop draft Forest Protection Policy</i>	Draft is complete for internal review.	Fall 2015	ENR will draft policy discussion papers on issues and challenges identified during past engagement exercises and policy discussions. An internal review process will provide discussion points for engagement and consultation.

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	<i>1.7.5 Introduce Forest Protection Act</i>	New Forest Protection Act introduced in the Legislative Assembly.	Fall 2017	

## 2.0 Working With Our Partners

*“Representing the Government of the Northwest Territories and coordinating the Government’s involvement in territorial, national and international matters related to conservation and protection of the natural environment, climate change and the sustainable use of wildlife, habitat and forest resources.”*

### – ENR Establishment Policy

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
2.1 Climate Change Mitigation	<i>2.1.1 Work with energy partners to implement the NWT Solar and Biomass Energy Strategies</i>	Biomass – doubled the current (14%) total space heating demand.	Fall 2015	<p>The NWT Forest Industry and Biomass Initiative (FIBI-GNWT Canada Partnership) has been extended through 2015-2016. Funding of \$1.0 million annually for two years (CANNOR) is secured, while \$865,000 in 2014-2015 is secured from NRCAN. Of the total of \$1.865 million, Principally, the funding supports the FIBI biomass supply initiatives including development of Forest management Agreements in the South Slave and Dehcho and community initiatives in implementing the sustainable community forest industry initiative under the umbrella of the FMA process.</p> <p>Forest Management is working with other partners to substitute fossil fuels with local renewable biomass for space heating in the NWT.</p> <p>The Climate Change Program (CCP) section is working on a new funding proposal for the next three years, including fiscal year 2014-15. With this energy partnership funding, CCP was able to provide \$109,000 in funds for a biomass business and operations plan, \$11,500 on a wood harvesting project which provided community employment and \$50,000 on an NWT Forest Industry and</p>

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		Solar-displaced 10 percent of diesel electricity generation in the NWT.	Fall 2017	<p>Biomass Markets research project.</p> <p>CCP provided funds for five small renewable energy fund (residential) biomass stoves, five medium renewable energy fund (MREF) biomass boilers and two community renewable energy fund (CREF) biomass boilers in 2014-15. AEA is now administering the SREF and MREF funds while CCP continues to administer the CREF funds. The ENR funding provided to the AEA also maintained the NWT Biomass Energy Association, hosted Burn-it-Smart! workshops in NWT communities and created community Biomass Education Videos.</p> <p>In 2014-15 two grid connected solar PV systems were installed totalling 38 kilowatts representing a diesel displacement of 0.03%.</p> <p>ENR provided funding through the Community Renewable Energy Fund for 2 community installations and provided NTPC with \$505,000 for the second phase of the Colville Lake solar/diesel hybrid system (85kw).</p>
	<i>2.1.2 Support Actions identified in the NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy and report progress annually</i>	Prepare progress reports for public release.	Annually	The progress report has been completed for 2011-2013. The report will be updated to 2015 and will then be released.
	<i>2.1.3 Support NWT residents, businesses and communities to reduce energy consumption and implement alternative energy solutions</i>	Deliver the Alternative Energy Technologies Program (AETP), Energy Conservation Program, and	Annually	As of December 2014, a total of \$133,332 was provided in rebates under AETP (Solar & Biomass). In total 23 residents, 8 businesses received funding. Responsibility for administering the residential and business portions of the AETP was transferred to the Arctic Energy Alliance (AEA) by ENR in May 2014.

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		Energy Efficiency Incentive Program.		<p>As of December 2014, a total of \$190,193 was provided in rebates under the Energy Conservation Program for 9 projects.</p> <p>As of December 2014, a total of \$373,647 was provided in rebates under the EEIP program. In total, 751 residents in 27 communities received rebates for energy efficient items.</p> <p>As of December 2014, a total of \$71,254 was provided in rebates under CECEP (Energy Conservation). In total, 11 businesses received funding.</p>
2.2 Climate Change Adaptation	<i>2.2.1 Work with GNWT departments to support and coordinate departmental adaptation projects including securing federal adaptation funding</i>	Provide support and information to Departments that can enhance their ability to respond to climate change impacts affecting their operations.	ongoing	ENR obtained a four year adaptation funding partnership agreement with AANDC, beginning in 2012-13, which provides the GNWT with \$500,000 per year. The partnership supports GNWT departmental projects and pan-territorial projects. Projects include an NWT Mountain Pine Beetle Vulnerability Assessment, Hazardous Waste Risk Assessment, Terrain Mapping and Community Heritage Resource Management Assessment (lead by Education, Culture and Employment and the Centre for Geomatics), Hazard Identification to update the Territorial Emergency Plan (lead by MACA), Building Vulnerability (PWS), Climate Change Curriculum (School of Community Government, MACA), Community Wildfire Resiliency (ENR-FMD) and Mapping of Permafrost Hazards (Centre for Geomatics).
	<i>2.2.2 In collaboration with Nunavut and Yukon implement the Pan-Territorial Adaptation Strategy</i>	Work with Yukon and Nunavut to implement key elements of the Strategy.	ongoing	ENR produced five Information Notes to inform decision makers of NWT adaptation projects and resources. Nunavut and Yukon are also preparing notes to allow best practices to be shared across the North. A pan-territorial adaptation internet site has been established at <a href="http://www.northernadaptation.ca">www.northernadaptation.ca</a> . The site contains Pan-territorial information notes and 36 video presentations from the permafrost workshop.

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	<i>2.2.3 In collaboration with Nunavut and Yukon, organize a Pan-Territorial Permafrost Conference</i>	Host Permafrost Conference, working with Nunavut and Yukon representatives.	Fall 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> ENR collaborated with the Nunavut Department of Environment and Environment Yukon to organize the Pan-Territorial Permafrost Workshop that was held in Yellowknife in November 2013. The workshop shared best practices for working with permafrost in northern Canada to enable climate change adaptation and was attended by over 200 people in person and remotely
	<i>2.2.4 Develop a draft Climate Change Adaptation Framework</i>	Prepare Framework for senior management review and public release.	Summer 2015	A draft of the framework has been developed. After further review within ENR, the draft framework will be circulated to GNWT departments for review.
	<i>2.2.5. In collaboration with Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Saskatchewan support the Cold Regions Hydrologic Model as an adaptation tool</i>	Work to train GNWT staff	ongoing	ENR is working with universities to support the Cold Regions Hydrologic Model as an adaptation tool. The Climate Change Adaptation Planning Specialist been trained on the model so that he can support GNWT staff in utilizing this model to support climate change decision making. A workshop will be held for GNWT staff in March 2015.
2.3 Con Mine Reclamation	<i>2.3.1 Report progress on the implementation of the approved closure and reclamation plan by Newmont Miramar Northern Mining Ltd. (Newmont).</i>	Annual Progress report.	Annually	ENR continues to work with the proponent during the closure and reclamation activities of Con Mine. The annual progress report was submitted by Newmont to the MVLWB. Reclamation is ongoing as set out under the Closure and Reclamation Plan. Newmont has applied for a four year extension for their water licence. This will allow for them to complete all reclamation activities and then apply for a final closure water licence at that time. Additionally, Newmont security and its Closure and Reclamation Plan were sent out for stakeholder review by the MVLWB. Post Closure monitoring, on-going water treatment and a decision on Robertson's head frame by the City of Yellowknife are anticipated in 2015.

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	<i>2.3.2 NEW Release of Rat Lake and Tin Can Hill Leases</i>			ENR is working with the Department of Lands and have reviewed the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA). Lands and ENR will be requesting a Phase II ESA be conducted by the company to get a better understanding of the arsenic deposition in that area.
2.4 Giant Mine Reclamation	<i>2.4.1. Participate in activities to implement the Remediation Plan</i>	N/A	After Water License Issuance begin remediation ~ 2018	The Project Team has received a Land Use Permit and Water License to carry out urgent activities in 2013-2015 to address high risk items at the mine site; this included Roaster Complex decontamination and deconstruction, which has been completed, and Underground Stabilization, which will continue into 2015. The Project Team received a final decision on the EA measures August of 2014. Work planning to address and carry out the measures is underway, specifically on human health risk assessment, and establishing an Environmental Agreement for an Oversight Body.
2.5 Historic Uranium Transportation Route Clean-Up	<i>2.5.1 Work with the federal government to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for managing contaminated soil along the Northern Transportation Route (NTR).</i>	Soil Management Plan	Ongoing until remediation of the entire route is complete	Continuing remediation of the route is ongoing in conjunction with the federal government. Completed remediation in the Northwest Territories includes Tulita (January 2009), Fort Smith (January 2009), and Bell Rock (January 2009), Monitoring will continue to ensure that no further impacts are present.
2.6 Protecting Territorial Waters	<i>2.6.1 Work with interested parties to develop community based monitoring partnerships.</i>	Establishing watershed-level community based partnerships.	Ongoing to 2017	ENR collaborated with 20 communities to test surface water quality at 42 sites across the NWT during the 2014 open water season. This monitoring was the third year of the NWT-wide community-based water quality monitoring program and includes basic water quality parameters, dissolved hydrocarbons and dissolved metals. A larger-scale community-based monitoring program is also taking place in the Slave River watershed through the Slave River and Delta Partnership, entitled the Slave Watershed Environmental Effects Program (SWEEP).

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	<i>2.6.2 Work with communities to support them to develop source water protection plans.</i>	Source Water Protection Plans for interested communities.	Ongoing to 2017	A community source water protection guidance document was distributed to NWT communities as well as water partners and is currently available online: <a href="http://www.nwtwaterstewardship.ca">www.nwtwaterstewardship.ca</a> . A 2013 calendar was released which explains how communities can develop source water protection plans. ENR is continuing to work with interested communities to develop source water protection plans and support broader watershed planning processes, through collaborative workshops. ENR held a 'Source Water Protection Planning Facilitator's' Workshop in February 2014 to train ENGO participants to facilitate source water protection planning with NWT communities. ENR is piloting a new partnership-based approach for implementing source water protection planning in 2014-2015.
	<i>2.6.3 Work with the federal government, land and water boards, communities and other to develop an implementation plan and inter-jurisdictional agreement, and implement the Canada -Wide Strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluent (MWWE).</i>	Implementation Plan and Jurisdictional Agreement.	Ongoing to 2017	A Northern Working Group of the national Coordinating Committee continues to discuss and undertake initiatives related to the NWT, Nunavut, Nunavik region of Quebec and Nunatsiavik region of Newfoundland/Labrador. ENR and MACA, who receive input from PWS and HSS, are members of the Coordinating Committee and Northern Working Group. A Five-Year Progress Report on the Canada-Wide Strategy for MWWE was recently completed. The Northern Working Group has recently requested to suspend activities and development of northern performance standards until early 2015, while it awaits the results of research into municipal wastewater effluent systems being conducted in Nunavut by Dalhousie University.
	<i>2.6.4 Develop effective resources, management and assessment tools to help NWT communities participate in water</i>	Website, geomatics tools, and communications products	Ongoing to 2017	The NWT Water Stewardship website was launched spring 2013 and provides resources for communities interested in aquatic monitoring and other water stewardship activities. A remote sensing project led by C-core and GNWT is funded

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	<i>stewardship initiatives.</i>			by the Canadian Space Agency to identify approaches to measure water indicators such as flow, flooding, water temperature and ice quality using remote sensing imagery (earth observations). Preliminary findings will be presented to water partners in early 2015. Plain language templates to communicate research and monitoring results to NWT communities have been prepared and are publicly available. Currently, a data management system is under development in partnership with the Walter Duncan and Gordon Foundation.
	<i>2.6.5 Complete transboundary water management agreement negotiations with Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Yukon.</i>	Bilateral water management agreements with Transboundary Jurisdictions.	Bilateral Agreements with Alberta and British Columbia (Winter 2015). Bilateral Agreements with Saskatchewan and Yukon (2015)	Through numerous bilateral and multilateral meetings, ENR has negotiated Intentions Documents with both Alberta (AB) and British Columbia (BC). Building on NWT-wide Aboriginal government engagement on NWT interests and NWT-wide Aboriginal government consultation on the development of negotiation positions, ENR has consulted on the NWT-BC Intentions Document and is consulting on the NWT-AB Intentions Document. ENR also is completing public engagement on these two Intentions Documents. Input from these processes will inform the final agreements, signing of which is anticipated for March 2015. Discussions with Saskatchewan and Yukon Territory are anticipated once the NWT-BC and NWT-AB agreements are complete.
	<i>2.6.6 Collect and utilize northern water quality and quantity data and climatic information to identify water management priorities for the NWT.</i>	Website, geomatics tools, data collection partnerships, and water related environmental reports.	Ongoing to 2017	Several baseline and environmental data collection programs have been transferred to ENR from AANDC as part of devolution. These programs include water quality, water quantity and climatic data collection. ENR has adopted these programs and will continue these monitoring programs into the future. In 2014/15, ENR will review monitoring programs to ensure information needs are being addressed and identified water management priorities are being supported. This work will build upon an external review of the water quality

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				network prepared by SUMMIT Environmental in early 2014 in collaboration with ENR and AANDC. Additionally, an environmental database program (Lodestar) is in its early stages of implementation. The database is intended to support data queries and dissemination to outside agencies and interested parties including communities, research institutions and universities.
	<i>2.6.7 Work closely with the regulatory Boards in the NWT and provide regulatory review and advice to support water licencing processes.</i>	Regulatory review and advice, legislative and policy review, coordinate Ministerial decisions processes, develop water standards, and guideline development.	Ongoing to 2017	Provision of regulatory comment and advice to NWT co-management Boards is ongoing as the GNWT now has an obligation to provide this support as the primary water manager in the NWT, in accordance with the <i>Waters Act</i> and <i>Regulations</i> . Technical and regulatory advice is provided on water licence applications and plan submissions regarding water quality objectives, effluent quality criteria, mitigation plans, closure and reclamation plans and reclamation security provisions. Recent recommendations were provided for the North American Tungsten Corporation Cantung Mine water licence amendment and work is ongoing related to the De Beers Snap Lake water licence amendment to increase effluent discharge limits. Additionally, the WRD recently worked with the MVLWB in the development of a guidance document for the calculation of project security using the RECLAIM Model. Other work is ongoing, including the development of 'water standards' for the NWT which WRD will endeavour to finalize in 2015-2016.
	<i>2.6.8 Provision of analytical water quality results for the NWT.</i>	Public and private laboratory services, legal sample analyses, and regulatory obligations.	Ongoing to 2017	Laboratory services conducted at Taiga Lab has been transferred to ENR from AANDC. The laboratory is accredited by the Canadian Association of Environmental Laboratories and regularly provides sample analyses to both public and private enterprises. Additionally, in accordance with the <i>Waters Acts</i> , the 'Analyst' provides advice to regulatory Boards pertaining to sample collection, analysis and quality assurance/quality

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				control techniques.
2.7 Community Wildland Fire Risk Management	<i>2.7.1 Work with MACA to develop community hazard and risk mitigation plans reflecting Community Wildland Fire Protection Plans.</i>	Implementation plans for communities at risk.	2012 – 2016 3 year commitment  Review and Renewal commencing fall 2015	ENR developed templates for community hazard and risk mitigation planning, based on Community Wildland Fire Protection Plans (CWPP's) completed in 2012. Currently, planning and implementation is based on ENR capacity and funding resources.  Review and Renewal of CWPP's is proposed to occur on a five-year rotation from first issue. The first slate of plans is scheduled to be reviewed and updated fall 2015.
	<i>2.7.2 Funding model and implementation process for Community Wildland Fire hazard and risk mitigation projects. (in conjunction with MACA)</i>	Funding model and process submitted to cabinet.	Spring 2015	A funding model was proposed through the FMB budget adjustment process. The model proposed did not meet the approval of Cabinet. A revised proposal is being drafted for submission in the spring of 2015.
2.8 Protected Areas Strategy	<i>2.8.1 Work with PAS partners to complete objectives of the PAS Establishment Action Plan (2010-2015)</i>	Objectives implemented. As far as possible, with emphasis on completion of existing PAS candidate areas.	Fall 2015	In progress. Objectives reviewed given devolution. Greater emphasis being placed on the use of Northern Tools to establish areas and less emphasis on establishing areas through federal legislation.
	<i>2.8.2 Begin working with protected areas partners on Ecological Representation Network Planning</i>	New candidate protected areas that fill gaps in ecological representation.	Winter 2014-15	Drafting and engaging on next steps in Ecological Representation Networking Planning, including the drafting of an action plan which will propose: vision, goals, objectives, actions and anticipated implementation budget for a five-year period.
2.9 Develop a Greening Government	<i>2.9.1 Develop partnerships with key departments</i>	Formal commitments with key departments.	Winter 2015	ENR continues to be actively involved in the Interdepartmental Green Advisory Team as chair of the committee and is leading discussions on ways to reduce the GNWT's environmental impact.

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Strategy	<i>2.9.2 Determine baseline data</i>	Report summarizing findings.	Summer 2015	
	<i>2.9.3 Stakeholder engagement</i>	Engagement completed.	Winter 2016	
	<i>2.9.4 Development of a greening government strategy</i>	Greening Government Strategy submitted for Cabinet consideration.	2016-17	
	<i>2.9.5 Develop an implementation plan for greening government</i>	Implementation plan submitted for Cabinet consideration.	2016-17	
2.10 Conduct priority cumulative impact monitoring projects with partners	<i>2.10.1 Work with monitoring partners to develop, implement and report on priority cumulative impact monitoring projects.</i>	Raw data and reports summarizing results	Ongoing	In 2013/14 CIMP staff championed six key cumulative impact monitoring projects that addressed community and decision maker concerns. The projects focus on caribou, water and fish near areas of development or exploration. Ongoing work involves community engagement and capacity building, partnering with academic and government experts, and delivering results to communities and decision makers.

**3.0 Managing Development to Sustain the Environment**

*“Maintaining and protecting the condition, quality, diversity and abundance of the environment, including wildlife, habitat and forest resources, in the Northwest Territories through comprehensive assessment and evaluation, monitoring and compliance measures.*

**– ENR Establishment Policy.**

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
3.1 Best Management Practices	<i>3.1.1 Identify additional 'best management practices' guidance documents for minerals, oil and gas development, and other industrial activities to reduce and mitigate environmental impacts, especially on forest, wildlife and habitat</i>	Development of several guidance documents for industry to minimize and/or mitigate the impact of human activities on wildlife and wildlife habitat	<p>Annually Standard Advice Spring 2015</p> <p>Guidance for operating in boreal caribou range Summer 2015</p> <p>Guidelines for developing WWHPPs and WEMPs Spring</p> <p>Guidelines for monitoring barren-ground caribou ZOI Spring 2015</p>	<p>ENR is updating existing wildlife standard advice for screening level reviews.</p> <p>ENR is in the process of developing a guidance document for assessing and mitigating impacts of development on boreal woodland caribou and their habitat. The first phase of this document will focus on the oil and gas sector, followed by the forestry sector and mining sector.</p> <p>In August 2013, ENR released a first draft of guidelines for Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Protection Plans (WWHPP) and Wildlife Effects Monitoring Programs (WEMP) for developers for public review. A second draft of the guidelines has been completed and was circulated for public review on December 05, 2014.</p> <p>ENR has convened a technical task group to develop guidelines for when and how caribou zone of influence (ZOI) monitoring should be undertaken by operators. Final guidance is expected by spring 2015.</p>

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>3.1.2 Develop best practices sustainable management plan formats, guidelines and procedures for implementation of significant biomass harvesting operations</i>	Guidelines developed	Spring 2015	<p>Forest Management, Wildlife, Department of Lands and ENR Regions are collaborating on harmonization of best practices for development of northern natural resources. Harmonization is to ensure that best practices for forest lands and wildlife are consistent for implementation by managing departments and divisions</p> <p>A multi-departmental committee has been struck and is to complete the terms of reference for harmonization by March 2015. The harmonization process is scheduled for completion by December 2015.</p>
3.2 Managing Human Activities to Reduce Cumulative Effects	<i>3.2.1 Develop an overarching ENR framework to address cumulative effects in mandated areas that can guide future participation and collaborations</i>	Framework completed	Spring 2015	<p>Preliminary progress was made in outlining primary components based on departmental experience, including earlier frameworks of the cumulative effects assessment and management framework partnership. Work will proceed in 2014-15 to connect various cumulative effects initiatives, including the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program, as appropriate.</p>

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>3.2.2 Develop a comprehensive approach to monitoring, assessing, and managing cumulative effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat</i>	Strategies and frameworks for monitoring, assessment, and managing cumulative effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat are completed. The Slave Geological Province (Bathurst caribou range) and Sahtu are primary areas of focus.	Slave Geological Province Spring 2015  Estimate Spring 2018  Sahtu Estimate Spring 2018 for full program initiation	In summer 2013, ENR completed a draft framework for the monitoring, assessment and management of cumulative effects on Bathurst caribou and its range. This framework will undergo public review and will be finalized by spring 2015. A multi-partner process for developing a range plan to manage cumulative effects of land disturbance on the Bathurst caribou herd has been initiated and is expected to be complete within the next three to five years. Technical work to support range planning such as a disturbance inventory and caribou seasonal range mapping are being conducted over summer and fall 2014.  Development of a collaborative cumulative effects monitoring program for wildlife in the Sahtu region was initiated in Fall 2014 with a multi-partner workshop to identify monitoring priorities and approaches. The results of this workshop will be used to inform the development of more detailed monitoring protocols and plans, which will be piloted in 2015/16.
3.3 A Forest Renewal Strategy for the NWT	<i>3.3.1 Prepare a Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT to ensure sustainability of forest resources.</i>	A Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT is completed.	Spring 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> A Forest Renewal Strategy draft is complete.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
3.4 Species At Risk	3.4.1 NWT Action Plan for Boreal Caribou	<p>A management plan and a range management plan for Boreal Caribou is developed</p> <p>Monitoring programs are initiated in regions where there is no current program</p>	<p>Guidance document on developing boreal caribou range plans in the NWT – March 2015</p> <p>NWT wide range plan – 2019</p> <p>Initiate region specific monitoring programs in Inuvik, Sahtu and North Slave regions: Spring 2018</p>	<p>A range plan is a legal requirement of the national Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy and is also identified as important for management in NWT’s Action Plan for boreal caribou. ENR received new funding to develop range plans starting in 2014/15. A draft guidance document on developing boreal caribou range plans was developed in 2013/14 and is being revised based on comments received to date. A final guidance document is expected by March 2015.</p> <p>Habitat mapping is underway and will be used to inform range plans.</p> <p>Wildlife will start developing region-specific range plans with co-management partners in winter 2015, beginning with community workshops in the Dehcho region. Once region specific plans are complete, they will be rolled up into a NWT wide range plan. ENR contracted an options report for monitoring NWT’s boreal caribou population in 2013/14. The report has been shared with co-management partners.</p> <p>At a workshop in November 2014, ENR and its co-management partners discussed the recommendations report for boreal caribou monitoring options and next steps for establishing region-specific population monitoring programs in the NSR, Sahtu, ISR, and GSA. These include contracting a report on options for Traditional Knowledge-based approaches to population monitoring, conducting sightability trials in areas with collared caribou, and assessing the feasibility of DNA collection. ENR and its partners also discussed the approach to be used in community workshops on range plan development.</p> <p>A NWT recovery strategy for boreal caribou (required under the Species at Risk (NWT) Act) is being developed and will be completed by February 2016; see initiative #1.1.4.</p>

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<p>3.4.2 <i>Develop Wood Bison Management Plans for the Liard, Mackenzie, and Slave River Lowland Populations</i></p>	<p>Management Plans for each population</p>	<p>Mackenzie Population Spring 2015</p> <p>Nahanni Population Fall 2015</p> <p>Slave River Lowlands Population Spring 2017</p>	<p>Interim management: as a conservation measure following the large losses to anthrax in 2012, all harvesting of bison in the Mackenzie wood bison range was closed in November 2012. A population survey conducted in the spring of 2013 indicates the population is about 700 animals and so is no longer considered a recovered population. ENR has proposed hunting of the Mackenzie population be suspended while the estimate is less than 1000 animals as recommended in the draft management plan. ENR has proposed the suspension continue until after the next population survey, currently planned for late winter 2016 and consulted with co-management partners on this action.</p> <p>A draft management plan for the Mackenzie population was submitted to ENR in April 2014 has been reviewed within the department. ENR will then undertake a public review of the plan, including consultation with appropriate co-management partners. The final plan is expected by spring 2015.</p> <p>A draft management plan for the Nahanni population has been submitted to ENR and expected to be completed by fall 2015.</p> <p>Interim management: A resident harvest of the Slave River Lowlands population was opened in January 2014. The Slave River Lowlands population estimate was updated in early 2014 (preliminary estimates suggest over 1000 animals). A final management plan for the Slave River Lowlands population is expected by spring 2017.</p>

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>3.4.3 Implement National Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy</i>	Action Plans completed	<p>Guidance document on developing boreal caribou range plans in the NWT – March 2015</p> <p>NWT range plan – 2019</p> <p>Action Plan (informed by NWT recovery strategy): February 2016</p> <p>Initiate region specific monitoring programs in Inuvik, Sahtu and North Slave regions: Spring 2018</p>	<p>A range plan for the entire NWT boreal caribou range is being developed; see 3.4.1 for progress on the range plan and associated monitoring. ENR considers the Action Plan required under the federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i> to be Environment Canada's responsibility, but the NWT recovery strategy being developed (see 1.1.4) will inform the Action Plan.</p> <p>ENR participates on the National Boreal Caribou Technical Committee, which will advise the Canadian Wildlife Directors on how best to meet the objectives outlined in the national recovery strategy.</p>
3.5 Land Use Decision Support Tools	<i>3.5.1 In partnership with the Department of Executive conduct preliminary analysis into key business objectives and scope for Land Use Decision Support Tools</i>	Analysis completed.	Winter 2013	<b>Transferred</b> With the transfer of the Informatics Division to the Department of LANDS, in April, 2014, this initiative will fall under LANDS.
	<i>3.5.2 Identify priority areas for collaboration between government agencies for the sharing and acquisition of new data and information</i>	GNWT Land Information Acquisition Report	Spring 2013	<b>Transferred</b> With the transfer of the Informatics Division to the Department of LANDS, in April, 2014, this initiative will fall under LANDS.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>3.5.3. Develop data information inventory methodologies and tools</i>	Data information inventory and methodologies completed	Winter 2014	<b>Transferred</b> With the transfer of the Informatics Division to the Department of LANDS, in April, 2014, this initiative will fall under LANDS.
3.6 Forest Management Practices in support of the Biomass Strategy	<i>3.6.1 Inventory of forest resources for partners and stakeholders</i>	Update the South Slave Region inventory information and complete new inventory listing for Tlichó settlement area.	Fall 2015/Tlichó	A forest resource inventory of the Behchoko area of the North Slave Region was completed in December 2014. The information will be used to assess timber harvest sustainability along Highway 3 between Fort Providence and Behchoko, and north towards Whati.  Plans are underway for acquisition of new photography to continue building new information on forest resources in the NWT.
	<i>3.6.2 Develop Forest Management Agreement (FMA – Forest Resource Agreement) with Aboriginal partners</i>	1. Forest Management Agreement Template	Winter 2013-2014	Forest management agreements have been developed to use forest industry biomass opportunities as an anchor support to sustainable forest-based community economies.
		2. Agreements in place as opportunity presents itself	Ongoing	Agreements have been signed with Aboriginal government held corporations in Fort Providence (October 2014) and Fort Resolution (February 2014) Discussions on a Forest Management Planning Initiative with Kátlódeeché First Nation are underway. Discussions with Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation and Jena Marie First Nation are in early stages.
3.7 Land Use Planning	<i>3.7.1 Coordinate GNWT input into the Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan</i>	GNWT written comments to the SLUPB	Spring 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> The GNWT in collaboration with the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada signed the final draft of Sahtu Plan. The SLUP became effective August 8, 2013.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>3.7.2 Coordinate GNWT input into the Draft Tłicho Land Use Plan</i>	GNWT written comments to the Tłicho Government	Spring 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b>  On April 25, 2013, the Tłicho Government finalized the land use plan for their private lands. The plan came into effect on June 1, 2013.
	<i>3.7.3 Coordinate ENR input into the draft interim Dehcho land Use Plan</i>	ENR participation in DLUP	Transferred to Lands	Department of Lands took over the lead on land use planning files for GNWT as of April 1 <sup>st</sup> . ENR will continue to provide departmental input to Lands.
	<i>3.7.4 Coordinate ENR input into the Finalized Revised Gwich'in Land Use Plan</i>	ENR written comments to the Department of Lands	Ongoing	Department of Lands took over the lead on land use planning files for GNWT as of April 1 <sup>st</sup> . ENR will continue to provide departmental input to Lands.
	<i>3.7.5 Coordinate ENR's input into the Gwich'in Regional Plan of Action</i>	ENR Written Comments	Ongoing	Review of the Gwich'in Regional Plan of Action was undertaken by the Department of Lands post-devolution April 1, 2014. ENR will continue to provide departmental input to Lands.
	<i>3.7.6 Coordinate ENR's input for GNWT authorizations that are subject to LUPs</i>	ENR Written comments for draft GNWT LUP Guidance Documents	Unknown	Department of Lands took over the lead on land use planning files for GNWT as of April 1 <sup>st</sup> . ENR will continue to provide departmental input to Lands.
3.8 Environmental Assessment	<i>3.8.1 Develop internal GNWT protocol for GNWT interventions in environmental impact assessments.</i>	Protocol developed	Fall 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b>  All GNWT interventions have to be vetted through the newly created Deputy Minister's Environmental Assessment Committee before being presented.
	<i>3.8.2 Intervene and provide expert advice for NWT environmental assessments and environmental impact reviews</i>	ENR submissions throughout the assessment process	Project dependent	ENR participates as an intervener and provides expert advice in all EAs undertaken. In 2014 ENR participated in six environmental assessments in the Northwest Territories, and two in Nunavut (trans-boundary issues).

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<p><i>3.8.3 Implement Environmental Assessment Tracking System.</i></p>	<p>EATS implemented</p> <p>Enter all relevant commitments and tasks/follow-up on these commitments into EATS.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>✓ <b>Completed</b></p> <p>EATS system is implemented and all current relevant commitments and tasks have been entered into EATS. New projects and tasks are entered into EATS as they arise.</p> <p>The EATS system is used by ENR to circulate all information related to regulatory matters. Divisions then respond back through EATS with comments on these applications and comments are sent to the land and water board.</p>
	<p><i>3.8.4 Meet the follow up requirements for environmental agreements for projects as required.</i></p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Post devolution, ENR has taken over responsibility for administering the environmental agreements for the territory's three diamond mines. We work collaboratively in ensuring all aspects the agreements are completed as required, and have met with all of the diamond mines on various occasions to discuss various items under the environmental agreements. Since April 2014, ENR has coordinated reviews of the annual reports required under each environmental agreement, and participated in the annual general meetings for each of the advisory boards. As well, the ENR has completed a security review for the Diavik Diamond mine, and a review for Ekati is ongoing.</p> <p>ENR works closely with the three diamond mines that we have environmental agreements with. We work collaboratively in ensuring all aspects of the agreements are completed as required. This includes reviewing annual plans, working with monitoring agencies and undertaking security reviews.</p>

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>3.8.5 Standardize comments for ENR mandated areas for inclusion in regulatory permits.</i>	Standardization of comments (ie wildlife, waste management)	Summer 2015	ENR, EAM has been working closely with Wildlife Division and Environment Division to develop a Standard Advice document to be used by staff in responding to regulatory applications. The document is in late stage, in draft form. Also see section 3.1.
**NEW** 3.9 Interim Resource Management Assistance Program (IRMA)	<i>Provide funding to Aboriginal groups and organizations in unsettled land claim areas to participate in regulatory processes</i>	Review funding applications and distribute funds	Annually	Base funding is provided each year to Aboriginal groups and organizations who apply for funding. There is an application process for consideration of additional funding through the Resource Pressure Funding. Each year ENR looks to maximize the amount of funding it can deliver to communities.
3.9 Air Quality Management System	<i>3.9.1 Implement Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards in accordance with AQMS developed through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment</i>	1. Update <i>Guideline for Ambient Air Quality Standards</i> and Reporting requirements	Fall 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> 1) The Guideline for Ambient Air Quality Standards in the Northwest Territories has been updated to include new CAAQS standards for PM <sub>2.5</sub> & O <sub>3</sub> .  2) Action is on-schedule.
		2. CAAQS Achievement	Summer 2015	
	<i>3.9.2 Develop Air Zone Management Plans in accordance with AQMS,</i>	1. Delineate Air Zones	Fall 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> 1) The preliminary Air Zone Delineation Map has been completed and is currently being reviewed by Environment Canada. 2) The NPRI is used to inventory major pollutants in each Air Zone. Air quality monitoring is currently underway in 4 out of the 5 Air Zones and CAAQS pollutant reporting is on-schedule.
	2. Management Plans (inventory, monitoring, reporting)	Fall 2014		
	<i>3.9.3 Airshed coordination</i>	Develop process between Yukon, Nunavut and Environment Canada	ongoing	Environment Canada is the lead for Air-shed coordination, since it is a transboundary issue, with ENR as a participant in the process. This is action is currently on-schedule.

## 4.0 Tools for Decision Making

*“Promoting and supporting the use of scientific research, traditional knowledge and public education to support decision-making and increase understanding of ecosystem integrity and biological diversity, climate change, integrated resource management and sustainable development in the Northwest Territories.”*

### – ENR Establishment Policy

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
4.1 Traditional Knowledge Policy Review	4.1.1 <i>Develop and implement protocols with regional Aboriginal governments and agencies to access and share TK.</i>	Protocols for information access and sharing.	Fall 2013	The Traditional Knowledge Coordinator position was filled and the incumbent is building relationships with communities, providing funding for TK projects, and attended assemblies in July – August 2013. Work has initiated on developing a path forward to develop protocols.
4.2 Classifying and mapping ecosystems	4.2.1 <i>Complete and publish ecological land classification for the Southern Arctic and Northern Arctic Ecozones</i>	Ecozone classifications map and descriptors published	Summer 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> The Northern Arctic report, the fifth and final ecozone report, was completed in August 2013 and has been distributed. As with all the reports of this series, it was accompanied by an overview poster for use in NWT schools and by the general public.
4.3 Gathering Baseline Information and Monitoring Cumulative Effects	4.3.1 <i>Review available baseline data on wildlife and vegetation and develop a plan to address data gaps to ensure cumulative impacts and landscape changes are well monitored and assessed.</i>	Action plan to address data gaps	Spring 2014	In the spring of 2013, ENR, AANDC-CIMP, and Environment Canada jointly completed a report comparing various modeling tools for assessing cumulative effects on wildlife. The report also identified information gaps for monitoring, assessing and managing cumulative effects on Peary caribou, woodland caribou (mountain and boreal), and barren-ground caribou.  ENR is working with AANDC-CIMP on the “Inventory of Landscape Change” to determine available disturbance data in the NWT and to identify information gaps.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>4.3.2 Implement programs through the Western NWT Biophysical Study to address gaps in baseline data and information and enhance monitoring of cumulative impact indicators.</i>	Implementation of program(s) produce Annual Report on results every winter period	Annually	The Western NWT Biophysical Study provided \$390,000 annually towards projects in 2011/12 and 2012/13. The 2012/13 annual report was paired with the annual Wildlife Research Permit report as all Biophysical Study projects require a Wildlife Research Permit.
	<i>4.3.3 Expand the existing air quality network to include Fort Smith to monitor impacts from tar sands.</i>	Air quality monitoring program in Fort Smith	Spring 2014	✓ <b>Completed</b> A new air quality station was successfully installed in the town of Fort Smith in December, 2013 which monitors for meteorological conditions, and a variety of pollutants, on a continual basis.
	4.3.4 Strengthen the existing air quality monitoring network to reduce downtime and satisfy our partnership with NAPS and the requirements of AQMS.	Air quality monitoring program across NWT	Summer 2016	Data capture for all air quality monitoring stations is generally improving due to upgrades in instrumentation and improved technical capacity in the regions. Re-establishing a monitoring station in the Deh Cho Region, to fully satisfy the requirements of AQMS, will take additional time to acquire crucial monitoring instrumentation and technical resources.
	4.3.5 Work with EC to expand the existing CAPMoN Network to the South Slave	CAPMoN station in the South Slave	Spring 2015	CAPMoN station in South Slave has been installed and is currently operating at 80% capacity. Finalization of the site is expected to occur in the Spring of 2015.
4.4 Implement the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan	<i>4.4.1 Inventory NWT's biodiversity and provide, every 5 years, baseline information on the general biological status of species, including on species that may be at risk and alien invasive species</i>	<i>NWT Species 2016-2020 report is released</i>	<i>Summer 2016</i>	Action is underway. Participated in a national working group meeting in November 2014. Batch 1 and 2 of draft species ranks were sent to NWT wildlife co-management boards for review. Batch 3 and 4 will be sent in February and June 2015. Review of ranks follows a schedule coordinated across Canada. The general status ranks report will assess more than 5000 species and will coincide with the National Report.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>4.4.2 Conduct and update the Gap and Overlap analysis on biodiversity actions in the NWT, with a focus on the Goals and Targets on biodiversity as endorsed at the United Nations for 2020</i>	Updated report on Gaps and Overlap Analysis of Biodiversity in the NWT is released. Implementation of proposed actions are underway.	Fall 2016	Will be initiated in Spring 2016 pending availability of internal resources.
4.5 Northern Tools	<i>4.5.1 Work on Interdepartmental Working Group to inventory and assess Northern Tools</i>	Completion of Phase 1 and Phase II reports	Summer 2014	✓ <b>Completed</b> Starting in August 2013, the Interdepartmental Group produced a Phase 1 report which focused on an inventory and brief analysis of existing Northern Tools available in the NWT for land and resource management. Phase II report, completed in June 2014, focused on implementation of the LUSF and identification of priority areas for GNWT.
	<i>4.5.2 Refinement of Northern Conservation Tools</i>	Ongoing collaboration to refine legislation and policies accordingly	Ongoing	Upon completion of the Phase II report, ENR continues to work internally with other departments and externally with partners to refine existing Northern Tools to meet protected areas establishment and management needs and values for all parties. An example is in discussions on the Thaidene Nene area of interest.
4.6 Lac de Gras Cumulative Impact Monitoring	<i>4.6.1 Compile effects monitoring data to conduct a cumulative effects assessment of the water quality of Lac de Gras.</i>	Published report	March 2015	Contract underway to analyze monitoring data and make conclusions about cumulative effects of Misery, Ekati and Diavik on Lac de Gras. A Working Group of industry, regulators and government set the contract terms of reference and are reviewing and commenting on draft documents.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>4.6.2 Develop hydrodynamic model of Lac de Gras for future cumulative effects assessment</i>	Publically accessible model, model user manual, and published report	March 2015	Contract underway to develop the hydrodynamic model of Lac de Gras. A Working Group of industry, regulators and government set the contract terms of reference and will review and comment on the draft model. Model will be used in MVEIRB EA and land and water board regulatory processes to determine cumulative impacts to water quality.
4.7 Inventory of Landscape Change	<i>4.7.1 Develop key landscape disturbance datasets and a user interface</i>	Publically accessible landscape disturbance datasets	March 2016	Strategic plan and two year work plan developed with key partners. Two key disturbance datasets related to the range of Bathurst and boreal caribou under development in conjunction with academic and government partners. Planned contract to develop user interface in Q3 2014.

## 5.0 Getting Information to Those Who Need It

*“Providing timely, relevant and accessible information to support sustainable development in the Northwest Territories.”*

– ENR Establishment Policy

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
5.1 Upgrading compliance and licencing databases	<i>5.1.1 Design, build and implement the Compliance Management information System (CMIS).</i>	CMIS is operational.	Spring 2013	✓ <b>Completed</b> The Compliance Management System development is complete. Staff training was delivered in November 2013 and the application is now in service.
5.2 Reporting on the NWT State of the Environment	<i>5.2.1 Update information on the "State of the Environment" and provide results to the public.</i>	Highlights and Special reports completed; information updates ongoing	Fall 2015	The Working group is updating the information on the internet annually.
5.3 NWT Science Agenda	<i>5.3.1 Identify ENR research needs and research priorities</i>	Annual action plan and status report	Annually	Survey of research activities and needs was completed in April 2014. Draft report circulated in June and will be finalized in September 2014.  A research roundtable was held January 2015 in Yellowknife with research colleagues of academia and others considering the research need and opportunities presented by the forest fire season of 2014. A collaborative plan of action is being formulated to gather information on the effects of the 2014 fires.
	<i>5.3.2 Initiate the development and publishing of best practices and standards for community consultation on science projects</i>	Best practices and standards guidelines published	Fall 2014	Working with ECE and the Aurora Research Institute to review and improve the community consultation process delivered through the proposed <i>Scientist Act</i> legislation.
5.4 Renewal of the Wildlife Management Information System	<i>5.4.1 Redevelop the Wildlife Management Information System</i>	Successfully develop and implement a modern new information	Spring 2015	The initial development phase is now complete. Work is underway on contracts for the final development cycles. Three releases are planned. Anticipated first release completion target is Spring 2015.

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
		management system to support ENR's wildlife management programs and services		
5.5 Implement Digital Integrated Information Management System (DIIMS)	<i>5.5.1 Implement the GNWT DIIMS to support improved records management practices, more efficient storage of information and allow for improved efficiency in handling electronic information. This will be essential to enable the effective transfer of records from the Government of Canada as a result of Devolution.</i>	System is implemented	Winter 2014/15	✓ <b>Completed</b> DIIMS implementation began in ENR during the winter of 2015.
5.6 Public Education and Engagement	<i>5.6.1 Develop and implement a Hunter's Education Program</i>	Program is developed	Fall 2015	All draft modules have been completed, a Hunter Education Committee workshop was held in December 2014. Work on the final Student Workbook is underway and input will be sought from local harvesting committees, band councils or Metis locals, renewable resources boards, and organizations representing resident hunters.
	<i>5.6.2 Production and distribution of protected areas related publications and ongoing public engagement activities</i>	Thirty public engagement activities and twenty different publications produced for protected areas.	Summer 2015	Seventeen public engagement activities, led by the PAS Secretariat, took place in 2014-2015. Over 25 different publications have been created and distributed.
5.7 Training	<i>5.7.1. Implement an ENR wide training database – Training Partner</i>	Database is implemented	Fall 2015	Database has been implemented and updated. Staff training is needed before it can go live for staff across ENR.
	<i>5.7.2 Develop and implement</i>	Procedures	Fall 2015	Once Job Descriptions are finalized training

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>standard procedures for staff training</i>	developed and implemented.		standards will be one of the results. Ongoing process.
5.8 Reporting on CIMP-supported projects	<i>5.8.1 Post CIMP-supported project results on the NWT Discovery Portal</i>	NWT Discovery Portal an up-to-date repository of all CIMP-supported projects	ongoing	Work to track down project deliverables and post them on the Portal is ongoing.
5.9 Upgrade NWT Discovery Portal	<i>5.9.1 Upgrade Portal search functions and link Portal with sources of NWT monitoring data.</i>	All NWT environmental monitoring data is searchable and easy to access through the Portal	March 2016	Phase 2 of NWT Discovery Portal upgrades are complete with a better search function and data harvesting from the Polar Data Catalogue. Planning for Phase 3 is underway with consideration for future data harvesting opportunities.

## 6.0 Managing Shared Resources Cooperatively

*“Negotiating and recommending agreements with the federal, provincial and other governments concerning the environment and the sustainable use of wildlife, habitat and forest resources.”*

*– ENR Establishment Policy*

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
6.1 Managing Shared Wildlife Populations	<i>6.1.1 Develop an agreement with the Governments of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Yukon and Nunavut on management of shared wildlife populations including polar bears, barren-ground caribou and boreal caribou.</i>	Bilateral agreements on shared wildlife populations for each jurisdiction	Spring 2015  Fall 2017	<p>Agreement between Alberta and NWT on management of shared boreal caribou populations is completed.</p> <p>NWT, Yukon, and Alaska manage the transboundary Porcupine Caribou herd as members of the Porcupine Caribou Management Board.</p> <p>NWT, Nunavut, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Canada jointly manage the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou herds as members of the Beverly Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board.</p> <p>Agreement between NWT and Nunavut on shared populations of barren-ground caribou has been drafted and sent to Nunavut for review.</p> <p>Agreement between NWT and the Yukon on shared population of boreal caribou is not completed but is expected as an outcome of boreal caribou range planning.</p>

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<p><i>6.1.2 Implement actions in the 2011-2015 Barren-Ground Caribou Management Strategy</i></p>	<p>Actions being implemented</p>	<p>Ongoing 2011-2015</p>	<p>Population size estimates for the Porcupine, Cape Bathurst, Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula, Bluenose-West, Bluenose-East, Bathurst, Beverly, and Ahiak herds were updated as of fall 2013. Herd specific monitoring actions (recruitment, fall sex ratio, harvest summaries, etc.) are ongoing.</p> <p>The Porcupine Caribou Management Board has developed a Strategic Framework for the comprehensive management of the Porcupine herd. The harvest management plan for the herd is being implemented.</p> <p>The Advisory Committee for the Cooperative Management of Wildlife is revising the draft management plan for the Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, and Bluenose-East herds. The plan is expected to be completed in 2014/15.</p> <p>A draft cumulative effects framework has been developed for the Bathurst herd and will now undergo internal and public review. A process to develop a range plan for the herd has been initiated and is expected to be completed in three to five years. A mechanism for the long term management of the Bathurst herd has been initiated. ENR and the Tlicho are developing a proposal to outline short term management actions for the Bathurst herd by fall 2014.</p> <p>The management plan for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds is expected to be completed by the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board by fall 2014.</p> <p>As of January 2014, resident NWT hunters are allowed one bull caribou tag from U/BC/01 (mainly Beverly caribou)</p>

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>6.1.3 Develop management plans for Bathurst and Beverly herds with co-management partners</i>	Management plans developed	Fall 2014	See 6.1.2

## 7.0 Promoting NWT Management of Its Resources

*“Planning and facilitating the devolution of provincial-type responsibilities within the departmental mandate.”*

**– ENR Establishment Policy**

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
7.1 Participation in Devolution Negotiations	<i>7.1.1 Facilitate the transfer of administration of lands and regulatory systems from the federal government.</i>	Support development of: a Land Use Planning Framework; Best Management Practices	Ongoing	A new organizational design to incorporate the additional responsibilities ENR will receive from AANDC was completed. Job descriptions for all AANDC employees being transferred to ENR and for newly created positions were completed. Job offer are to be sent out Oct. 1, 2013. Transitional work needed to ensure that the department will be able to assume its new responsibilities and deliver programs and services on April 1, 2014 is underway.

## 8.0 Supporting Our Partners

*“Providing financial and administrative support to other government agencies or secretariats when required.”*

### – ENR Establishment Policy

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
8.1 Implementing the Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) and Ecological Representation Network Planning	<i>8.1.1 Maintain a Secretariat to support communities and other partners in the implementation of the PAS Candidate Areas and Ecological Representation Network Planning.</i>	Secretariat	Ongoing	Ongoing. ENR and AANDC staff and resourced PAS Secretariat until April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014. Post devolution, ENR houses the PAS Secretariat.
8.2 Supporting Community based Forestry Development	<i>8.2.1. Work with communities interested in forest development initiatives.</i>	Develop woodlots in North Slave, South Slave and Dehcho; willow field management plan in Fort McPherson	Ongoing	In 2012-2013, \$276,652 was spent specifically on the development of wood marshalling yards for the communities of Fort McPherson, Behchoko and Jean Marie River. Fort McPherson is currently working on a Strategic and Operational Business Plan to figure out the next steps in harvesting their willow resource. Fort Providence and Fort Resolution are in the final stages of forest management agreement (FMA) negotiations and they stand to receive significant economic impacts from the development of the forestry sector once harvesting begins.
8.3 Supporting cumulative impact monitoring	<i>8.3.1 Gather key cumulative impact monitoring priorities from partners</i>	Monitoring Blueprints that can be used to make funding decisions	Ongoing. Proposal Guide and Blueprints released each fall	CIMP has requested Renewable Resource Boards, Aboriginal organizations in the South Slave and Deh Cho regions, and GNWT-Wildlife Division to comment on the 2012 Caribou Blueprint. CIMP has asked MVEIRB, Land and Water Boards, EIRB and NWT Water Board to review the 2009 NWT Board Forum Research and Monitoring Priorities. These documents will be used to inform CIMP's 2015/16 Proposal Guide.

FFA Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Estimated Timeline	Status
	<i>8.3.2 Administer Request for Proposal Process</i>	CIMP's partners conduct monitoring that addresses CIMP's priorities.	Ongoing. Proposal Guide and Blueprints released each fall	CIMP will initiate a call for letters of intent in October 2014. After a review process, successful project leads will be asked for a full proposal. Proposal review takes place between January and February, with CIMP Working Group recommendations taking place in March.