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SEPTEMBER BUDGET UPDATE 2005

*Ministry of
Environment including
Environmental Assessment Office*

**2005/06 – 2007/08
SERVICE PLAN UPDATE
SEPTEMBER 2005**



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Ministry of Environment
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Table of Contents

Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement	3
Ministry of Environment	
Overview and Core Business Areas	5
Resource Summary	10
Strategic Context	12
Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Results	16
Environmental Assessment Office	
Overview and Core Business Areas	36
Resource Summary	37
Strategic Context	38
Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Results	40
Related Initiatives and Planning Processes	47
Appendices	49



Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement

As British Columbia's new Minister of Environment, I am pleased to present the ministry's 2005/06–2007/08 Service Plan Update September 2005. Here you will see how we are continuing to build on our leadership role in environmental protection, stewardship and sustainable resource management.

Compared to most of the world, British Columbia has a relatively small population, a prosperous society, a sound economic base and a clean and healthy environment. We have tremendously rich resources, a large and diverse land base and abundant fish and wildlife. We have a wonderful environmental legacy to preserve in our province.

To maintain our exemplary standing in environmental quality, we are renewing our commitment to ensure that all parts of the province meet or exceed Canada-wide standards for air quality. We are also furthering our clean air agenda by leading the implementation of the government's new Climate Change Action Plan, creating more regional airshed plans, and encouraging green development within communities.

Our quality of life and future economic prosperity depend on a safe and sustainable supply of high-quality water and well-managed fisheries and marine waters. In this plan we are further defining our approaches to water stewardship, the protection of water resources, our expanding role in coastal marine management and the sustainability of ocean industries. We are committed to maintaining public health and safety as well as environmental quality through effective compliance approaches and by protecting watersheds and marine areas.

We are continuing to pursue excellence in freshwater fish, wildlife and habitat management by promoting stewardship and shared responsibility. Also, we are working hard to further enhance our parks system and expand the wonderful opportunities they offer. We are now in a position to invest additional resources in this significant public asset. Our parks encourage healthy activity and contribute directly to an active and healthy population.

In the 2005/06–2007/08 Service Plan Update I would like to welcome the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO). The EAO is a neutral agency with a separate budget that delivers a thorough and timely review of proposed large-scale projects in British Columbia. When both federal and provincial environmental assessment processes apply, the EAO leads a harmonized review for both governments. The environmental assessment process results in the creation of valuable jobs in support of British Columbia's economy while maintaining best management practices in public consultations and environmental management. During project reviews, the EAO works with First Nations to facilitate their involvement to ensure the potential impacts on First Nations' asserted aboriginal rights and title are identified

and addressed through meaningful consultation and accommodation in accordance with applicable policy and legal requirements.

With a strong commitment to environmental sustainability in the decade ahead, it is my job to work with my colleagues and dedicated staff to see that British Columbia leads the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management — bar none.

The Ministry of Environment 2005/06 – 2007/08 Service Plan Update September 2005 including the Environmental Assessment Office 2005/06 – 2007/08 Service Plan Update September 2005 were prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared. All material fiscal assumptions and policy decisions as of August 30, 2005, have been considered in preparing the plan and I am accountable for achieving the specific objectives in the plan.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry Penner". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops.

Honourable Barry Penner
Minister of Environment
and Minister Responsible for Water Stewardship and Sustainable Communities

August 30, 2005

Ministry of Environment

Overview and Core Business Areas

Overview

The Ministry of Environment was created in June 2005 as part of a government-wide reorganization. The new ministry has the responsibilities of the former Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection and several new areas related to water stewardship and ocean management. The Minister of Environment is also responsible for the Environmental Assessment Office.

In this updated Service Plan, the Ministry of Environment renews the mandate to protect and enhance the quality of British Columbia's water, land and air in a way that contributes to healthy communities, park and outdoor opportunities, a sustainable environment, and a strong and vibrant provincial economy. The ministry strives to bring an effective and balanced approach to environmental management that optimizes benefits from a healthy economy and retains British Columbia's world-renowned natural beauty and environmental integrity. To accomplish this, the ministry provides leadership by developing innovative legislation, programs and initiatives, and promoting effective relationships with clients including other government bodies, First Nations, industry, and the range of groups in the environmental community. Our clients also encompass the public at large, small business, park users and our staff.

The ministry relies on six core business areas and more than 1,000 staff located in all regions of the province to achieve its goals and objectives. To reflect the government's Five Great Goals and organizational restructuring, two new core business areas and a number of responsibility areas have been added to the ministry.

In British Columbia, our quality of life and future economic prosperity depend on a safe and sustainable supply of high-quality water for communities, industry and the environment. The Water Stewardship Division has been established to lead this work.

Sustainable marine fisheries and oceans are integral to a healthy environment and a thriving economy. The Oceans Division has been established to work with the federal government on issues of coastal marine planning and fisheries management.

In order to achieve its mandate, the ministry depends on the contributions and support of a range of partners. The ministry's service partners include, but are not limited to, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Ministry of Forests and Range, Ministry of Health, Integrated Land Management Bureau,

Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Parks Canada and a variety of other ministries, federal government organizations, and industry and professional associations. These service partners contribute to the ministry's achievements through a wide range of activities. For a list of service partners and their contributions, please see Appendix A.

Legislation is the foundation upon which government delivers its programs and services. Significant legislation that drives the ministry's mission and programs includes:

- the *Environmental Assessment Act*
- the *Integrated Pest Management Act*
- the *Wildlife Act*
- the *Water Act*
- the *Environmental Management Act*
- the *Protected Areas of British Columbia Act*
- the *Park Act*

For a complete list of legislation administered by the ministry, see Appendix B.

Core Business Areas and Structure

1. Environmental Protection

This core business area is led by the Environmental Protection Division. Key programs and services focus on protecting human health and the environmental quality of water, land and air. Key functions aim at maintaining high environmental standards by: promoting sustainable environmental practices in communities through partnerships and education on best management practices; maintaining a system for air and water quality monitoring and reporting; and regulating and monitoring industrial and community activities to ensure compliance. Providing opportunities such as industry-led stewardship programs for the disposal of post-consumer products and shifting the responsibility for lower risk spills to industry and partners enable the ministry to better focus its resources on high-risk issues.

One of the major focuses of this business area has been developing new legislation. Examples include: bringing into force the *Environmental Management Act*; implementing the Waste Discharge Regulation and other regulatory amendments, codes and protocols; and approving Phase 1 of the Ground Water Protection Regulation under the *Water Act*.¹ Such legislative changes continue to facilitate outcome-based regulations that provide clear roles for governments and stakeholders, consistent performance standards, updated fee structures, decreased remedial and legal costs, and a greater focus on parties who do not comply with regulatory requirements.

Approximately \$39,807,000 and 247 FTEs are dedicated to this core business area.

¹ Responsibility transferred to the newly created Water Stewardship Division.

2. Environmental Stewardship

This core business area is led by the Environmental Stewardship Division. Key programs and services focus on working with other ministries, industry, communities and governments to establish standards for the use and protection of species and habitats. This area supports the Ministry of Forests and Range in its lead role on British Columbia's Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan by continuing to mitigate mountain pine beetle impacts and initiate ecosystem restoration activities throughout British Columbia's wilderness, parks and protected areas.

Environmental Stewardship has the lead role in collecting, maintaining and managing the scientific information necessary to ensure established standards represent the best available science. Other programs and services focus on providing outdoor opportunities in British Columbia parks and protected areas, allocating natural resources for hunting, angling and wildlife viewing, and helping to ensure the economic potential of these activities is realized in a sustainable way. Key functions focus on shared stewardship and sustainable economic development and are aimed at maintaining and restoring fish and wildlife species and their habitats. This core business area also works to promote the effective management of fish, wildlife and park resources. Environmental Stewardship provides and enhances park, freshwater fish and wildlife services and opportunities for British Columbians and others. This area establishes legislation, policies and procedures that allow for the protection and preservation of our natural environment.

Approximately \$66,107,000 and 433 FTEs are dedicated to this core business area.

3. Water Stewardship

This new core business area is led by the Water Stewardship Division. Key programs and services focus on the protection and maintenance of conditions essential for sustaining the quantity of both the surface and ground water resource in the short and long term. This is accomplished through planning, source water protection, allocation and regulation, water utility regulation, water resource information collection and management, flood and drought forecasting, and dam and dike safety. Key activities include: early detection, warning and response to public health and safety threats and drought; demand side management and promotion of water conservation; implementation of the ministry's responsibilities for source water protection under the Action Plan for Safe Drinking Water in B.C.; completion of phases 2 and 3 of the Ground Water Protection Regulation; fair and equitable allocation of surface and ground water; and the fostering of stewardship through public awareness, education and responsibility toward a sustainable water resource. This core business area is also responsible for actively encouraging communities to integrate water resource management into municipal and regional planning and development programs.

Approximately \$21,256,000 and 85 FTEs are dedicated to this core business area.

4. Oceans

This new core business area is led by the Oceans Division and is responsible for the overall coordination of strategies and initiatives related to fisheries and coastal marine issues. Key programs include joint provincial-federal oceans strategies that place priority on coastal and oceans planning, sustainable oceans industries and a marine protected areas framework. Other key functions include a lead role in the development and implementation of a B.C. Fisheries Strategy Framework, a collaboration between federal and provincial agencies, other governments, First Nations and a diverse range of stakeholders.

Approximately \$2,131,000 and 10 FTEs are dedicated to this core business area.

5. Compliance Operations

This core business area is led by the Compliance Division and provides support to other ministry divisions. Key programs and services in this business area address a range of compliance-related activities, and include those of the Conservation Officer Service (COS). This area provides education to help citizens be better stewards; promotes understanding of, and compliance with, regulatory requirements; conducts investigations; and, when needed, works within ministry programs on a range of enforcement options.

Approximately \$16,308,000 and 145 FTEs are dedicated to this core business area.

6. Executive and Support Services

This core business area is led through the Deputy Minister's Office, Strategic Policy Division and Corporate Services Division and is responsible for strategic planning and policy development. Key programs and services in this business area focus on providing effective planning and legislative support to assist core business areas in achieving their objectives. Other key programs include: risk assessment and structured decision-making; State of the Environment reporting; economic analysis; service planning, reporting and evaluation; a full range of financial and administration services; and information systems planning and delivery. The Corporate Services Division also provides financial, administration, human resource and systems support to the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands and the Integrated Land Management Bureau.

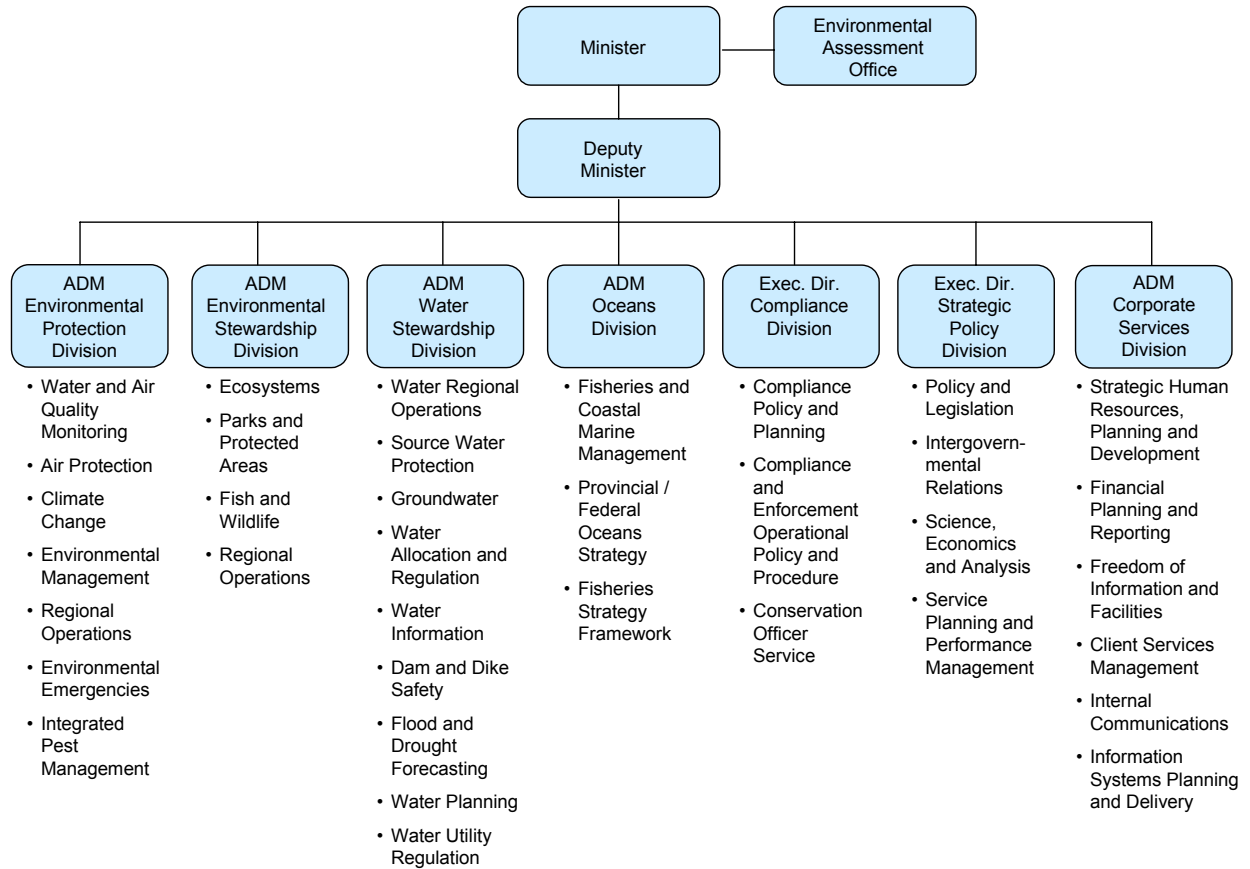
Approximately \$24,476,000 and 130 FTEs are dedicated to this core business area.

Ministry Organizational Structure

The ministry's structure supports the services, programs, regulatory reform and other initiatives carried out in each core business area.

Figure 1 below shows the ministry's organizational chart and the main responsibilities of each division.

Figure 1. Ministry of Environment organizational structure



Resource Summary

Core Business Areas	2004/05 Restated Estimates ¹	2005/06 Estimates ²	2006/07 Plan ²	2007/08 Plan ²
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Environmental Stewardship	61,521	66,107	65,717	65,717
Water Stewardship	6,966	21,256	65,070	65,481
Oceans	2,193	2,131	2,131	2,131
Environmental Protection	38,315	39,807	39,467	39,467
Compliance Operations	14,582	16,308	16,808	17,308
Executive and Support Services	23,109	24,476	25,257	25,317
Total	146,686	170,085	214,450	215,421
Full-time Equivalents (Direct FTEs)				
Environmental Stewardship	408	433	433	433
Water Stewardship	54	85	116	116
Oceans	11	10	10	10
Environmental Protection	222	247	249	251
Compliance Operations	129	145	149	153
Executive and Support Services	117	130	139	139
Total	941	1,050	1,096	1,102
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund)³ (\$000)				
Environmental Stewardship	18,421	24,678	56,965	16,277
Water Stewardship	194	214	106	106
Oceans	—	—	—	—
Environmental Protection	172	272	272	272
Compliance Operations	—	150	150	150
Executive and Support Services	2,500	4,543	2,080	1,703
Total	21,287	29,857	59,573	18,508

¹ These amounts have been restated, for comparative purposes only, to be consistent with the addition of the Compliance Operations, Water Stewardship and Oceans core business areas and the presentation of the September Update 2005 *Estimates* 2005/06. Schedule A, of the updated 2005/06 *Estimates*, presents a detailed reconciliation.

² Water Stewardship and Executive and Support Services operating expenses and FTEs include draft figures related to the integration of Land and Water BC effective October 1, 2006. Water Stewardship capital expenditures also reflect that adjustment.

³ Environmental Stewardship capital expenditures include funding increases for the potential costs associated with the creation of parks. Capital expenditures for 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/07 include a funding allocation for expenditures associated with the reconstruction of the Myra Canyon trestles.

Environmental Appeal Board and Forest Appeals Commission

The Environmental Appeal Board (Board) and Forest Appeals Commission (Commission) are independent, quasi-judicial tribunals jointly administered by the same office. They hear appeals of government decisions under several provincial statutes concerned with natural resource management, environmental quality and public health protection.

As well, the Board and Commission administer the Hospital Appeal Board and Community Care and Assisted Living Appeal Board for the Ministry of Health.

While the Board and the Commission operate independently from the Ministry of Environment, their budget vote is the responsibility of the ministry. Therefore, they are not considered one of the core business areas accountable to the Minister of Environment, but they are included in the Resource Summary of this Service Plan.

Environmental Appeal Board and Forest Appeals Commission	2004/05 Restated Estimates ¹	2005/06 Estimates	2006/07 Plan	2007/08 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)	1,955	1,955	1,955	1,955
Capital Expenditures (CRF) (\$000)	30	15	15	15
Full-time Equivalent (FTEs)	11	11	11	11

¹ These amounts have been restated, for comparative purposes only, to be consistent with Schedule A of the September Update 2005 *Estimates* 2005/06.

Strategic Context

Vision, Mission and Values

Vision

The ministry's vision is a clean, healthy and naturally diverse environment that enriches people's lives, now and in the future.

Mission

The ministry provides leadership and support to British Columbians to help them limit the adverse effects of their individual and collective activities on the environment, while fostering economic development and providing outdoor opportunities.

Values

The ministry plays a leadership role in sustainable environmental management using scientific and economic information in decision-making processes and in promoting safe, healthy communities. Fulfillment of this role depends on a skilled workforce operating in an innovative and accountable culture, an integrated approach to service delivery and an emphasis on shared stewardship.

- We respect our staff and create a healthy workplace that sets and communicates clear expectations, and supports a culture of staff development, recognition, reward and opportunity.
- We ensure that professional accountability and discipline characterize our behaviour.
- We focus on achieving high environmental standards through a culture of continuous adaptation to change.
- We strive to consistently meet agreed-upon client requirements and deliver our services in a transparent, fair and timely manner.
- We are committed to continuous improvement in the environmental management of the province.

Principles

- A sustainable environment is central for providing economic and social opportunities for all British Columbians and is our legacy for future generations.
- A sustainable environment is a naturally diverse environment.
- All sectors of society are responsible for ensuring a sustainable environment — government, business, industry and citizenry.
- Citizens have the right to safe, healthy communities.

Our values and principles guide us in the attainment of our goals and are reflected in our objectives, and we have developed performance measures to gauge our success in meeting them.

Planning Context and Key Strategic Issues

The ministry operates within the context of government priorities and trends in the environment, economy and society. A regular review of the ministry's progress in meeting priorities laid out in the Government Strategic Plan and of any external and internal factors that shape the context of the organization is performed. From this, the ministry has the opportunity to refine its strategic direction and business methods to align with changing needs.

Ministry Organization

The government's Five Great Goals will guide the ministry's actions and directions over the next three years of the Service Plan. These new strategic directions and the government's reorganization have resulted in two new ministry responsibility and priority areas: Water Stewardship and Oceans. The Minister of Environment is also responsible for the Environmental Assessment Office.

Activities are underway to fully integrate all new responsibility areas into the planning, management and reporting operations of the ministry (e.g., Sustainable Communities, Conservation Data Centre, ecosystem information, water licensing, water use planning, water utility regulation, dam safety and marine coastal planning). This work will be a major focus of the ministry over the coming months and will be further defined in the 2006/07 – 2008/09 Service Plan.

Environmental Trends

Rapid population and urban growth in the province stresses the natural environment and can have a significant impact on air, land and water quality. The Ministry of Environment has responded to this issue by continuing to work on the following: the implementation of source water protection under the Action Plan for Safe Drinking Water in B.C.; the completion of phases 2 and 3 of the Ground Water Protection Regulation; and province-wide

and airshed-specific air quality issues. In addition, the ministry has also increased funding for invasive weed control, and for habitat and wildlife protection and restoration projects.

The rise in global temperatures and its impacts on climate are concerns for British Columbia. Over the last century, average temperatures have changed, causing shifts in ecosystems. Warmer temperatures throughout the province have supported the rapid spread of the mountain pine beetle. The province has also experienced an increase in recent extreme weather events such as forest fires, droughts and floods. In response, the ministry is funding the B.C. Climate Exchange program, which connects people with education and training programs, resources and tools to address climate change. The ministry has also released an action plan for climate change — *Weather, Climate and the Future: B.C.'s Plan*. The plan builds on the significant strides already made in clean energy, infrastructure and forestry.

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of severe and unpredictable natural or biological events that have an impact on ecosystems, human health, and local, national as well as international economies. Last year, an outbreak of the Avian Flu affected the poultry industry in the Lower Mainland. Also, there is the increasing possibility of the West Nile virus making an appearance in British Columbia.

These factors influence how the ministry operates. The ministry focuses on and responds to issues that pose a high risk to the environment and encourages agencies and stakeholders to incorporate environmental technology and clean energy into their operations. At the same time, the ministry continues to pursue environmental excellence by promoting stewardship and shared responsibility for all British Columbians.

Economic Trends

The Ministry of Environment acknowledges that British Columbia's economy is based on the direct use of natural resources and on environment-related activities that depend on a high-quality, diverse environment. In turn, a healthy environment supports a healthy economy and a healthy economy supports the ministry's ability to deliver on its environmental goals. In 2004, the province's economy grew by 3.9% — leading all Canadian provinces, up from 2.5% in 2003. This growth has allowed the government to invest additional resources toward British Columbia's natural environment.

Other issues, locally, nationally and internationally, that have an impact on the province's economy and on how the ministry carries out its business include: the softwood lumber dispute with the United States; the rapid spread of the mountain pine beetle in the province's forests; and the continuance of war and terrorism globally.

To deal with these and other important economic issues, the ministry takes into consideration environmental and economic impacts while developing and implementing policy, and continues to integrate science into decision-making.

Societal Trends

Local, national and international interest in British Columbia's environment and environmental practices continues to be strong. Non-government environmental groups are highly informed and active; the people of the province are highly informed and active. Society can express its satisfaction or dissatisfaction with government programs and policies through consumer actions and involvement in special interest groups.

With this in mind, the ministry is cognizant about working with communities, addressing public interests and increasing public accessibility to environmental information. The ministry is also maintaining the province's standing in environmental excellence by ensuring exceptional air and water quality, and enhancing the fish, wildlife and park resources that are valued by residents of and visitors to the province.

In addition, the ministry has been given responsibility for a cross-government Sustainable Communities Initiative. Over the next six months of the Service Plan, the ministry will be working to establish parameters and structures for this new responsibility. Currently, there are a variety of leading-edge community sustainability efforts throughout all levels of government, the private sector, non-government organizations and universities.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Results

Ministry of Environment Goals and Their Linkage to the Five Great Goals

With its Five Great Goals, the government is poised to continue its work of the last four years and build on its accomplishments. The ministry has been assigned primary accountability for achieving the government's objectives under the following Great Goals:

Great Goal 4

To lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management — bar none.

Ministry linkage:

- Leadership role in sustainable environmental management using scientific and economic information in decision-making processes.
- Lead role in monitoring air quality, responding to climate change, and taking action to limit air pollution.
- Lead role in ensuring safe, high-quality drinking water, and reducing and removing toxins and wastes from the environment.
- Provincial responsibility for managing British Columbia's freshwater fisheries and fostering joint decision-making related to marine fisheries, sustainable ocean industries and marine protected areas.

Great Goal 2

To strive to improve health care and lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.

Ministry linkage:

- Responsibility for contributing to the health of British Columbians by maintaining the high quality of air and water in the province, and by providing outdoor opportunities through parks, fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing.

Great Goal 5

To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.

Ministry linkage:

- Responsibility for contributing to the economy through sustainable environmental management, which fosters job creation and investment opportunities.

Ministry of Environment Mission The ministry provides leadership and support to British Columbians to help them limit the adverse effects of their individual and collective activities on the environment, while fostering economic development and providing outdoor opportunities.		
Five Great Goals	Goals	Key Objectives
<p>To lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management — bar none.</p> <p>To strive to improve health care and lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.</p> <p>To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.</p>	1. Protect the environment and human health and safety by ensuring clean and safe water, land and air.	1. Streamline standards and improve monitoring, reporting and compliance. 2. Limit air pollution and lead British Columbia's efforts to respond to climate change. 3. Ensure safe, high-quality drinking water and reduce discharges that threaten water quality. 4. Reduce/remove toxins and wastes that contaminate land. 5. Effective response to high-risk environmental emergencies.
	2. Maintain and restore the ecological diversity of fish and wildlife species and their habitats.	1. Clear strategies and legislation to protect and restore species and their habitats. 2. Improved use of scientific and inventory information for the development of standards and for effective management, monitoring and reporting. 3. Increased number of partnerships to conserve species and their habitats.
	3. Provide and enhance park, fish and wildlife services and opportunities for British Columbians and others.	1. High-quality park facilities, services and opportunities. 2. High-quality hunting, angling and wildlife viewing opportunities. 3. Optimize the economic contribution of park, fish and wildlife opportunities.
	4. Provide effective and efficient planning and support for ministry programs.	1. Clear vision, leadership, direction and support for all ministry programs. 2. Efficient program management, fiscal responsibility and client service.

Ministry of Environment Performance Plan Summary

Ministry Goals	Ministry Key Objectives	Measures
<p>1. Protect the environment and human health and safety by ensuring clean and safe water, land and air.</p>	<p>← 1. Streamline standards and improve monitoring, reporting and compliance.</p>	<p>← Contaminated sites backlog reduction. Average processing time for issuing permits. Turnaround time for pesticide certification.</p>
	<p>← 2. Limit air pollution and lead British Columbia's efforts to respond to climate change.</p>	<p>← Percentage of communities achieving the Canada-wide standard (CWS) for particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and low level ozone. Per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions relative to other provinces.</p>
	<p>← 3. Ensure safe, high-quality drinking water and reduce discharges that threaten water quality.</p>	<p>← Water quality trends.</p>
	<p>← 4. Reduce/remove toxins and wastes that contaminate land.</p>	<p>← Products with industry-led product stewardship.</p>
	<p>← 5. Effective response to high-risk environmental emergencies.</p>	<p>← Response to environmental emergencies.</p>
<p>2. Maintain and restore the ecological diversity of fish and wildlife species and their habitats.</p>	<p>← 1. Clear strategies and legislation to protect and restore species and their habitats.</p>	<p>← Designations established under the <i>Forest and Range Practices Act</i>.</p>
	<p>← 2. Improved use of scientific and inventory information for the development of standards and for effective management, monitoring and reporting.</p>	<p>← Number of Collaborative Management Agreements and Official Wildlife Processes with First Nations.</p>
	<p>← 3. Increased number of partnerships to conserve species and their habitats.</p>	
<p>3. Provide and enhance park, fish and wildlife services and opportunities for British Columbians and others.</p>	<p>← 1. High-quality park facilities, services and opportunities.</p>	<p>← Visitor satisfaction with park and campground facilities and services.</p>
	<p>← 2. High-quality hunting, angling and wildlife viewing opportunities.</p>	<p>← Client satisfaction with fish and wildlife opportunities.</p>
	<p>← 3. Optimize the economic contribution of park, fish and wildlife opportunities.</p>	<p>← Number of hunting and angling licences sold. Number of recorded visits to B.C. parks.</p>
<p>4. Provide effective and efficient planning and support for ministry programs.</p>	<p>← 1. Clear vision, leadership, direction and support for all ministry programs.</p>	<p>← Regulatory reform targets.</p>
	<p>← 2. Efficient program management, fiscal responsibility and client service.</p>	<p>← Percentage of staff with an Employee Performance and Development Plan (EPDP).</p>

Performance Plan

This section presents the ministry's goals and outlines how specific objectives, strategies, performance measures and targets are helping to achieve them.

Goal 1: *Protect the environment and human health and safety by ensuring clean and safe water, land and air.*

Clean and safe water, land and air support healthy communities and the economy in British Columbia. This goal reflects the ministry's commitment to developing results-based environmental standards and workable regulation, protecting air and water quality and enabling the removal of contaminants from land.

Core Business Area: *Environmental Protection*

Objective 1: *Streamline standards and improve monitoring, reporting and compliance.*

The ministry has been shifting from a prescriptive approach to environmental regulation to a results-based approach informed by science and is streamlining standards and processes to remove unnecessary impediments to business and foster economic development while maintaining strong environmental protection. The ministry is working to change some of its processes, clarify regulatory requirements and improve the use of science in the decision-making process.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: revising appropriate legislation and regulatory requirements to increase flexibility in methods used to achieve environmental standards; updating scientific information used to develop best practices, guidelines and standards for environmental protection; and improving systems used to monitor the achievement of air and water quality standards.

Performance Measures:

Reducing the backlog of contaminated sites applications: The ministry's efforts to eliminate the backlog have been facilitated by recent legislative and regulatory changes to the *Environmental Management Act* and approval processes. Currently, the April 2003 backlog has been eliminated. This performance measure will be reviewed for the 2006/07 – 2008/09 Service Plan. It is important to monitor the progress toward reducing the backlog because a delay in providing decisions for the applications, which are primarily for low- and medium-risk situations, may be preventing some development from proceeding.

Average processing time for permits: The ministry is streamlining, where appropriate, the regulatory requirements perceived as an impediment to economic development and

diversification of regional economies in British Columbia. This will result in consistent processing standards, encourage greater compliance and enforcement, and result in lower costs to government and industry. This performance measure assesses average processing time for issuing similar permits in British Columbia compared to Alberta. Efforts to align environmental management approaches between British Columbia and Alberta are currently underway. As these joint harmonization efforts continue to move forward, base data for this measure will be established.

Processing time for pesticide certification: Applicators and dispensers of pesticides are required to be certified and candidates must pass the appropriate examination. In conjunction with the development of the new *Integrated Pest Management Act*, the process for examination was reviewed and a streamlined approach introduced. The target is to reduce the time people must wait to receive examination results.

Performance Measures	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Reduction in backlog of applications for medium- and low-risk contaminated sites.	Approximately 150 (2003/04)	The 2005/06 target has been met and the backlog in place at April 2003 has been eliminated. This performance measure will be reviewed for the 2006/07 – 2008/09 Service Plan.		
Average processing time for issuing permits, compared to Alberta.	To be determined.	Continue to match Alberta 90% of the time.		
Turnaround time for pesticide certification.	2 weeks	Maintain two-week turnaround time.		

Benchmark/Explanatory Information:

Contaminated sites backlog: At the beginning of 2003/04, the backlog was estimated to consist of approximately 150 contaminated sites applications. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Pesticide certification turnaround time: In 2003/04, the typical turnaround time for receiving examination results was at least six weeks. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Core Business Area: *Environmental Protection*

Objective 2: *Limit air pollution and lead British Columbia's efforts to respond to climate change.*

Protecting the quality of air remains a key component of the ministry's goal to protect the environment and human health. The ministry is undertaking action in a number of areas related to air quality issues in the province and is leading the implementation of the government's climate change action plan.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: working in partnership with other levels of government to support the development of a climate change strategy to ensure the province's interests are addressed in a national strategy; and encouraging incorporation of environmental technology and clean energy by industries, businesses, households and government.

Performance Measures:

Air quality: The ministry's efforts toward achieving this objective include addressing province-wide and airshed-specific air quality issues. The outdoor air contaminants of most concern in British Columbia, from a human health perspective, are the concentrations in the air of fine particulate matter under 2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}) and low level ozone.

To measure the ministry's commitment to ensuring all parts of the province meet or exceed the Canada-wide standard for air quality, the percentage of monitored communities achieving the Canada-wide standard for both PM_{2.5} and low level ozone is being tracked.

Greenhouse gas emissions: To assess performance in its lead role on addressing global climate change within British Columbia, the ministry is using an outcome measure of per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions relative to that of other provinces. A per capita scaling improves comparability to other jurisdictions. The relative benchmark measures British Columbia's contribution to national efforts, while accounting for the largely unknown effects of future national GHG commitments and clean technology development that are likely to apply to all provinces.

Performance Measures	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Percentage of monitored communities achieving the Canada-wide standard (CWS) quality objective for PM _{2.5} and low level ozone.	<p>PM_{2.5}: 14 out of 16 communities (87.5%) achieved the CWS where PM_{2.5} is monitored and sufficient data are available to generate the statistic (based on 2004 data).</p> <p>Low level ozone: 28 out of 29 (97%) communities achieved the CWS where low level ozone is monitored and sufficient data are available to generate the statistic (based on 2004 data).</p>	By 2010, 100% of communities monitored achieve, or continue to achieve, the CWS for PM _{2.5} and low level ozone.		
Per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions relative to other provinces.	3rd-lowest emissions in Canada (based on 2002 data)	Maintain or improve on ranking.		

Benchmark/Explanatory Information:

CWS for PM_{2.5} and ozone: Comparable data for previous years are: PM_{2.5}: 13 out of 15 communities (86.7%) in 2003; 10 out of 11 communities (91%) in 2002. Low level ozone: 23 out of 24 (96%) in 2003; 23 out of 23 communities (100%) in 2002. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Per capita GHG emissions: Based on 2002 data, British Columbia currently ranks third-lowest in Canada after Prince Edward Island and Quebec in GHG emissions per capita. (Source: *Canada's Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2003*, Environment Canada.) In 2003/04, reporting was based on 2001 data, with British Columbia ranking third-lowest in Canada after Prince Edward Island and Quebec. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

**Core Business Areas: *Environmental Protection
Water Stewardship***

Objective 3: *Ensure safe, high-quality drinking water and reduce discharges that threaten water quality.*

The ministry is continuing to protect water quality and ensure clean and safe water. Two divisions are ultimately responsible for water — the Environmental Protection Division is responsible for water monitoring and reporting, and the newly established Water Stewardship Division is responsible for water protection, water planning, water allocation and regulation. A detailed set of objectives for the Water Stewardship Division are being developed and will be provided in the 2006/07 – 2008/09 Service Plan.

Key Strategy:

The ministry is working on activities that protect surface water and ground water from health-threatening contamination by implementing appropriate ground water regulations.

Performance Measure:

Water quality trends: This is an outcome measure of surface water quality in 30 water bodies monitored under a federal/provincial agreement. The measure monitors trends based on the presence of environmentally significant variables, such as metals and nutrients. Tracking such trends will indicate the cumulative effect of multi-agency land use activities and resource management activities in source watersheds. This information helps inform how performance standards, authorizations and further monitoring activities are established for water bodies in the province.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
The trends in environmentally significant variables, such as metals and nutrients, that indicate the health of water for 30 water bodies monitored under federal/provincial agreement.	96% of the monitoring stations in the 30 water bodies have stable or improving water quality trends.	Maintain or improve water quality trends for water bodies monitored under the federal/provincial agreement by 2006.		

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: In addition to the 30 stations funded under the Canada – BC Water Quality Monitoring Agreement, the ministry uses water quality data from approximately 150 other community-based stations on other water bodies. This number compares with Ontario’s 200 stations for monitoring the water quality of streams and rivers. (Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. 2000. Research Branch. *The Health of Our Water: Toward Sustainable Agriculture in Canada.*) In 2003/04 and 2002/03, 90% of the monitoring stations in the 30 water bodies had stable or improving water quality trends. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Core Business Area: *Environmental Protection*

Objective 4: *Reduce/remove toxins and wastes that contaminate land.*

The ministry is continuing its efforts to protect the environment and ensure clean and safe land.

Key Strategy:

The ministry is developing a business strategy that enables producers to remove high-risk and/or high volume components from the waste stream and expand the number of products that can be recycled.

Performance Measure:

Industry-led stewardship: The ministry is using a performance measure based on the number of post-consumer product categories with industry-led product stewardship to track its progress toward achieving this objective. Industry-led product stewardships expand producer responsibility for the treatment or disposal of the toxins and waste remaining after product consumption. Since these stewardships tend to focus on reducing waste from product categories posing a relatively high risk to the environment (e.g., paint and used oil), this measure is a reasonable indicator of success in attaining this objective. Performance targets are based on the lead time for industry-led product stewardship programs to be developed for additional product categories. The ministry is currently monitoring the effectiveness of the industry-led stewardships and may move to an outcome-based measure such as product recovery rate in the future.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Number of product categories that pose a high risk to the environment, or contribute significantly to the waste stream, with industry-led product stewardship.	7 product categories (as of March 31/05)	1 additional product category	1 additional product category	1 additional product category

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: British Columbia is a recognized leader in industry-led product stewardship with seven product categories (paint, used oil products, beverage containers and four other post-consumer residuals). Many other provinces have only one or two products managed through industry-led product stewardship. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Core Business Area: Environmental Protection

Objective 5: Effective response to high-risk environmental emergencies.

Responding to environmental emergencies is an area in which the ministry is implementing its shift to focusing on high-risk issues. This objective pertains to all components of the goal, encompassing water, land and air.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: responding effectively to high-risk² environmental emergencies in conjunction with other ministries, local governments and industry; and expanding industry responsibility for response to and clean-up of spills.

Performance Measure:

Response to environmental emergencies: To assess its progress toward achieving the objective, the ministry is using an outcome measure of the percentage of high-risk environmental emergencies responded to effectively. The measure focuses on responses to environmental spills. Effectiveness considerations include identifying the spills that require attendance by ministry staff and the timeliness of their response, addressing the technical issues at the site, and ensuring that responsible parties (or others when there is no responsible party) respond appropriately and initiate proper clean-up. The ministry has made considerable progress toward transferring responsibility for low- and medium-risk spills to industry, local governments and other partners. The responsible party addressing a low- or medium-risk spill will report how impacts were mitigated to enable further monitoring and evaluation. The ministry is able to contract for the resources required to respond effectively to high-risk spills and hold the responsible party accountable for those costs.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Percentage of high-risk environmental emergencies responded to effectively.	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: The proportion of spills responded to by the ministry has declined from nearly 20% before the ministry's transition to focusing on high-risk spills to less than 10% currently. (Source: Ministry of Environment.) The ministry is working with local governments, industry, emergency response organizations (such as the Canadian Coast Guard), and other partners to improve the effectiveness of the response to all spills.

² High-risk spills are defined as those that pose a threat to human health, the natural environment or infrastructure.

Goal 2: *Maintain and restore the ecological diversity of fish and wildlife species and their habitats.*

Maintaining and restoring ecological diversity, fish and wildlife species and natural habitats provides environmental, social and economic benefits for all British Columbians. This goal focuses on the development of effective legislation and the improved use of science and scientific information, and promotes a shared-stewardship approach involving First Nations, other government agencies, stakeholders and communities within British Columbia.

Core Business Area: *Environmental Stewardship*

Objective 1: *Clear strategies and legislation to protect and restore species and their habitats.*

The ministry continues efforts to focus on environmental outcomes by providing clear direction, known information and certainty for people who must comply with ministry regulations. To achieve this, the ministry develops standards informed by science, provides known information about environmental values and clearly identifies expectations and required results.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: focusing on reducing regulatory requirements to implement results-based stewardship and providing clear guidelines and standards for appropriate protection and conservation of species and habitats on Crown land outside the protected areas system.

Performance Measure:

Designations under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*: The ministry is piloting an output measure to demonstrate its progress in establishing designations and objectives for fisheries, wildlife and water quality under the authority of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA). This measure will indicate the ministry's progress in setting results-based environmental standards informed by science under the FRPA, which will be critical to attaining the desired environmental outcomes. To adequately demonstrate progress, two types of data are being collected: (1) the number of designations and objectives established, and (2) the area of forest land base for which designations and objectives have been established. Initially, information is provided for designations of wildlife habitat areas (WHA) and ungulate winter ranges (UWR). Performance targets are based on expected levels of funding from the Forest Investment Account and other funding sources related to achieving the performance measure, and are provided only for the number of designations because the size of the areas will depend on the species. The targets for approval of UWR designations decrease over the next three years, reflecting an expected decrease in the UWR remaining for approval. Data

and targets for other areas, such as significant community and fisheries watersheds, may be provided as data become available.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Ministry progress in establishing designations and objectives for fisheries, wildlife and water quality using statutory authorities under the <i>Forest and Range Practices Act</i> .	Designations approved as of March 31/05: 320 WHA (658,935 hectares) 28 UWR* (2,284,917 hectares)	An additional 30 WHA and 15 UWR designations approved.	An additional 30 WHA and 10 UWR designations approved.	An additional 30 WHA and 5 UWR designations approved.

* Specifies the number of UWR packages; each package may have as few as 1 to more than 1,000 winter ranges. Thus, when monitoring progress in this area, it is important also to consider the amount of area designated.

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: As of March 31, 2004, there were 160 wildlife habitat area (WHA) designations approved (covering 49,120 hectares) and 15 ungulate winter range (UWR) designations approved (covering 913,462 hectares). As of March 31, 2003, there were 129 WHA designations approved (covering 44,233 hectares) and no UWR designations approved. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Core Business Area: *Environmental Stewardship*

Objective 2: *Improved use of scientific and inventory information for the development of standards and for effective management, monitoring and reporting.*

This objective has been changed to incorporate new program areas of the ministry that increase its capacity and responsibilities for collection, storage and dissemination of scientific information. The application of the best available science is a key part of developing environmental standards and monitoring and reporting on their implementation and effectiveness.

Key Strategies:

The ministry is focusing on a range of strategies for this objective that include: improving access to scientific information to inform and implement strategies and actions for addressing issues associated with biological diversity; tracking species and habitats and their responses to management actions; developing standards and an assessment process for the protection of fish habitat in urban areas; and working with partners to develop and implement environmental standards for the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

Key Issue:

In previous Service Plans, the ministry used the performance measure of the percentage of known native species that are threatened or endangered in the province regarding species at risk to track progress in achieving this objective. As reported in the ministry's 2003/04 Annual Service Plan Report, however, new data relating to this measure will not be available until 2006. Hence, the measure has been removed from the ministry's Service Plan.

Under the Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk (1997), provincial, territorial and federal wildlife agencies committed to an ongoing process for wild species assessment and monitoring. Tremendous progress has been made in recent years to compile information on wild species, but considerable challenges remain to expand, improve and update this information. A key role of ministry regional and headquarters staff in working toward the desired outcome of protecting species at risk is to put recovery planning processes in place in partnership with the federal government, First Nations, local governments, industry and other stakeholders.

As of November 2004, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) has listed 170 species in British Columbia. The province is responsible for leading or co-leading the recovery planning processes for 127 of these species. Recovery planning is underway for all extirpated, endangered and threatened species for which the province has responsibility.

Core Business Area: *Environmental Stewardship*

Objective 3: *Increased number of partnerships to conserve species and their habitats.*

Partnerships will be a crucial mechanism in promoting a shared stewardship approach.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: working to establish and maintain relationships with First Nations, communities, academia, environmental organizations and industry to undertake activities to conserve species and habitats; and providing standards, guidelines and best management practices to private landowners to develop and implement sustainable stewardship practices.

Performance Measure:

Number of partnerships: The ministry is monitoring its progress in forging partnerships by focusing on its efforts at building relationships with First Nations. In the past, the ministry has used a performance measure based on the number of Collaborative Management Agreements³ with First Nations. The measure has been changed to include the number of Official Wildlife Processes in addition to the Collaborative Management Agreements. Collaborative Management Agreements define how the province and First Nations will work together on the management of protected areas. Official Wildlife Processes are designed to bring First Nations and key stakeholders with an interest in wildlife together in a forum to discuss wildlife management and allocation issues.

Both of these partnerships are important in providing a significant role to First Nations in making recommendations around protected area and wildlife management.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Number of Collaborative Management Agreements and Official Wildlife Processes with First Nations.	15 Collaborative Management Agreements 5 Official Wildlife Processes	2 new Collaborative Management Agreements or Official Wildlife Processes per year.		

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: The ministry has several other stewardship partnerships in place and is working to develop more. It is difficult to identify an aggregate measure of the extent to which all established partnerships are appropriate or of how effectively they produce the intended results and contribute to desired outcomes. The ministry may consider evaluating the effectiveness of individual partnerships to monitor progress. In 2003/04, there were 14 Collaborative Management Agreements and 2 Official Wildlife Processes with First Nations. In 2002/03, there were 12 Collaborative Management Agreements and 2 Official Wildlife Processes with First Nations. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

³ In previous Service Plans and Service Plan Annual Reports, the word “plans” was used instead of “agreements.” This wording change does not affect the meaning of the measure.

Goal 3: *Provide and enhance park, fish and wildlife services and opportunities for British Columbians and others.*

Park, fish and wildlife opportunities contribute significantly to the provincial economy. To help ensure that British Columbia's parks continue to showcase the natural beauty of the province and attract visitors, this goal focuses on the provision of high-quality outdoor experiences, services and economic contributions created by the provincial parks system and wildlife and freshwater fish opportunities.

Core Business Area: *Environmental Stewardship*

Objective 1: *High-quality park facilities, services and opportunities.*

The ministry is continuing its efforts to provide high-quality client service in provincial parks. British Columbia's provincial parks are world renowned and contribute to tourism and conservation, and therefore to the economy and sustainable communities. Parks also encourage healthy activities and contribute to a healthy population.

Due in large part to a thriving British Columbia economy, the ministry has been able to commit additional financial resources in the order of approximately \$20 million to upgrade park facilities over the next three years. These additional resources will fund improvements to facilities such as campgrounds, water systems and trails in parks across the province.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: implementing a new management model for provincial parks to increase visitation through day use and camping; implementing a parks lodge strategy in support of the provincial resort strategy; initiating further opportunities for delivery of appropriate park services through partnerships with commercial operators; and monitoring park operations to ensure service standards and facilities are maintained and conservation and habitat-restoration priorities are met.

Performance Measure:

Visitor satisfaction with park and campground facilities and services: The ministry provides campground facilities and services in provincial parks throughout the province. To assess client satisfaction, the ministry has conducted an annual satisfaction survey of visitors to campgrounds in the provincial parks system since 1985. This important outcome measure enables the ministry to capture campers' views about the quality of services being provided in campgrounds and to identify priorities for service and facility improvements.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Visitor satisfaction with park and campground facilities and services.	80% (five-year rolling average of surveys from 2000/01 to 2004/05)	Maintain or improve based on a five-year rolling average.		

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: The five-year rolling average for 2003/2004 was approximately 80%, which is based on the Visitor Satisfaction Index rating of the reporting years of 1999/2000 to 2003/04. The five-year rolling average for 2002/03 was approximately 80%, which is based on the Visitor Satisfaction Index rating for the reporting years of 1998/1999 to 2002/2003. (Source Ministry of Environment.)

Core Business Area: *Environmental Stewardship*

Objective 2: *High-quality hunting, angling and wildlife viewing opportunities.*

The ministry is continuing its efforts to provide high-quality outdoor opportunities through a range of strategies and programs.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: working with the Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. to cooperatively manage the stocking of fish in lakes and streams and undertake conservation activities; implementing new initiatives to enhance and diversify fish and wildlife experiences; increasing the involvement of First Nations and other users in allocating natural resources for hunting, angling and wildlife viewing opportunities; and providing hunting and angling authorizations based on allowable harvest levels informed by science to ensure sustainability of the populations.

Performance Measure:

Client satisfaction with fish and wildlife opportunities: This outcome measure will assess the ministry's effectiveness in providing British Columbians and visitors with fish and wildlife opportunities (e.g., hunting, angling and wildlife viewing). The ministry intends to use a survey of hunters and anglers to acquire this data.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Client satisfaction with fish and wildlife opportunities.	Hunters: 82.9% Anglers: 82.6%	The ministry intends to acquire the necessary data for this performance measure through surveys of hunters and anglers. Survey methods are under development.		

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: Survey results from 2003/04 were: Hunters 80.0% and Anglers 89.7%. The first survey was conducted in 2003/04; data are not available for earlier years. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Core Business Area: *Environmental Stewardship*

Objective 3: *Optimize the economic contribution of park, fish and wildlife opportunities.*

Economic contribution is an important factor that the ministry considers when determining the level and types of park, fish and wildlife services and opportunities to provide.

Key Strategies:

To optimize the economic contribution of outdoor experiences, the ministry is: promoting participation in outdoor opportunities; working with First Nations, governments and communities to develop parks and special tourism destinations; providing unique hunting and fishing opportunities to enhance regional tourism; and exploring electronic service delivery to improve timeliness of licensing, authorization and permitting processes for fish, wildlife and park activities.

Performance Measures:

Hunting and angling licences sold: The ministry is reporting the number of basic hunting and angling licences sold in a particular year. This measure reflects the actual number of hunters and anglers benefiting from freshwater fishing and hunting opportunities in British Columbia.

Park visitors: A measure of the economic contribution of parks is being provided through an estimate of the number of park visitors (measured as the number of recorded visits to provincial parks).

Changes in the numbers of hunters, anglers and park visitors provide a reasonable indication of changes in the economic contribution resulting from their activities. However, changes in the number of participants will become a less accurate indicator of changes in the economic contribution of park, fish and wildlife opportunities as the types of experiences provided become more varied. It is anticipated that the development of key parks and special tourism destinations and the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games will offer new opportunities for participation in and enjoyment of British Columbia's outdoor experiences.

Work has begun to more directly estimate the economic contribution to the provincial economy.

Performance Measures	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Number of basic hunting and angling licences sold.	Hunting: 84,003 resident; 5,931 non-resident Angling: 248,052 resident; 68,328 non-resident	Increase the number of basic hunting licences sold to 100,000 over the next 10 years (baseline in 2004/05). Increase the number of angling licences sold by 30% over the next ten years (baseline in 2004/05).		
Number of recorded visits to B.C. parks.	Approximately 18.3 million recorded visits	Increase the number of recorded visits to B.C. parks by 20% by 2010 (baseline in 2004/05).		

Benchmark/Explanatory Information:

Hunting and angling licences sold: 2003/04: Hunting — 81,368 resident and 5,785 non-resident; Angling — 252,867 resident and 69,398 non-resident. 2002/03: Hunting — 85,714 resident and 6,234 non-resident; Angling — 275,430 resident and 79,772 non-resident. (Source: Ministry of Environment.) Future Direction: With the changing demographics of hunters and anglers and increasing pressures on fish and wildlife populations, the focus of resource allocation for fish and wildlife opportunities is emphasizing the provision of unique opportunities matched to the preferences of participants. With this shift, changes in the number of basic licences sold may no longer provide the best indication of economic contribution from fish and wildlife opportunities. The ministry has worked with BC Stats to develop an economic model for estimating economic contribution more directly. The model estimates that in 2003, resident and non-resident hunters, anglers and trappers contributed an estimated \$161 million (0.13%) to the province's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These activities also generated employment for approximately 9,770 British Columbians.

Recorded park visits: The number of recorded visits to B.C. parks was approximately 19.0 million in 2003 and approximately 22.6 million in 2002. (Source: Ministry of Environment.)

Goal 4: *Provide effective and efficient planning and support for ministry programs.*

The ministry provides corporate leadership and planning services that support the effective and efficient delivery of ministry programs.

Core Business Areas: *Executive Support Services
Compliance Operations*

Objective 1: *Clear vision, leadership, direction and support for all ministry programs.*

Good policy and planning guides ministry activities, provides leadership and direction and helps position the ministry for the future.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: establishing strong strategic policy leadership that focuses on broad directions; undertaking strategic planning and providing leadership to staff that ensures a coordinated and integrated approach to ministry initiatives in all regions of the province; providing leadership in intergovernmental harmonization of regulatory requirements and streamlining of processes through work with the federal government, provinces and territories; eliminating, revising or developing legislation as appropriate; undertaking comprehensive service and performance planning, reporting and evaluation; identifying risk⁴ within a structured decision-making framework; developing State of the Environment Reports; and providing leadership and services in support of the delivery of effective compliance and enforcement activities.

Performance Measure:

Regulatory reform: As part of its *New Era* commitments, the government pledged to reduce regulations by 33% overall by June 4, 2004. This was the initial step in reducing the economic burden of prescriptive regulations for industry and other stakeholders. To support this initiative, the ministry had a three-year plan that reduced its regulations by 38% as of June 4, 2004. The next phase of regulatory reform has been identified and related performance targets have been established to continue to monitor ministry progress toward regulatory reform.

⁴ The performance measure “progress in implementing risk management processes throughout the ministry” that was in the ministry’s 2004/05–2006/07 Service Plan is not included in this plan. The ministry is attempting to reduce its performance measures to focus on a smaller number of key outcome measures. Risk management will continue to be done as a normal part of the ministry’s business operations. For an overview of risk management in the ministry, please see the former Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection’s 2004/05 Annual Service Plan Report at: <http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/annualreports/wlap/wlap.pdf>.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Progress toward delivery of a three-year regulatory reform plan.	Ministry's regulatory count: 12,410 (as of June 2004)	Zero percent net increase in regulatory count	Zero percent net increase in regulatory count	Zero percent net increase in regulatory count

Core Business Area: *Executive and Support Services*

Objective 2: *Efficient program management, fiscal responsibility and client service.*

Managing programs efficiently, meeting fiscal targets and promoting client satisfaction enables the ministry to have resources available for more initiatives and to make greater progress in delivering on its mandate.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: implementing a human resource strategy that acknowledges changing workforce requirements, fosters healthy and knowledgeable staff and supports achievement of business objectives; ensuring service requirements and fiscal targets are aligned; identifying methods to reduce the costs incurred by those who must meet environmental standards, reduce conflicts and eliminate service backlogs; and implementing an effective information system strategy.

Performance Measure:

Employee performance and development plans: Achieving this objective requires ministry staff to focus on developing key performance and development goals that will enable them to contribute to accomplishing ministry objectives articulated in the Service Plan. A key initiative for ensuring that this occurs is a ministry requirement for all staff to have an Employee Performance and Development Plan (EPDP). This plan identifies what work an employee is accountable for and makes clear links to the ministry's Service Plan. As the EPDP initiative is being implemented, the ministry is using an output measure to indicate the percentage of staff with an EPDP.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual / Base	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Percentage of staff with an Employee Performance and Development Plan.	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %

Benchmark/Explanatory Information: The ministry is considering that eventually it will move to an outcome measure that shows the extent to which work performed and staff development are consistent with the EPDPs and thus with meeting Service Plan commitments.

Environmental Assessment Office

Overview and Core Business Areas

Overview

The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) is now under the statutory authority of the Minister of Environment. The Environmental Assessment Office leads reviews of proposed large-scale projects in British Columbia as required under the British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act*. The current Act came into force in December 2002, replacing the former Act that had been in place since 1995. The current Act provides greater flexibility and timeliness for proponents.

Environmental assessment is a process for identifying, predicting, evaluating and mitigating potentially significant adverse impacts of major projects. The process examines a broad range of possible effects — environmental, economic, social, health and heritage — and supports balanced decision-making. Issues or concerns identified by provincial, federal and local governments, First Nations and the public may trigger modifications or changes to a project as it moves through the environmental assessment process. Proponents also have specific accountabilities in the review process.

The core functions of the Environmental Assessment Office form the basis for fulfilling its mandated responsibilities. These core functions are delivered through two business areas: Major Project Environmental Assessments and Corporate Operations.

Core Business Areas and Structure

1. Major Project Environmental Assessments

The Environmental Assessment Office oversees and manages the province's major project environmental review process to assess environmental, economic, social and other aspects of proposed projects in the following sectors: industrial, mining, energy, water management (dams, dykes, and reservoirs), waste disposal, food processing, transportation and tourism (destination resorts).

2. Corporate Operations

Many of the Environmental Assessment Office's corporate services are shared with the Ministry of Environment. Corporate operations that are the responsibility of the Environmental Assessment Office include service planning, budgeting, expenditure control, staff development, human resources, policy and legislation, records management, and management of the electronic Project Information Centre (ePIC) and website. Resources for corporate operations are included under the Environmental Assessment Office's "Core Business."

Resource Summary

During 2004/05, the Environmental Assessment Office experienced a significant increase in the volume of reviewable projects. In the 2005/06–2007/08 Service Plan, the budget was increased to appropriately reflect the project volume.

Core Business Areas	2004/05 Restated Estimates ¹	2005/06 Estimates	2006/07 Plan	2007/08 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Major Project Environmental Assessments	2,820 ²	4,480 ³	4,380	4,380
Corporate Operations	Rolled into core business item 1			
Total	2,820	4,480	4,380	4,380
Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)				
For Both Core Business Areas	29	34	34	34
Total	29	34	34	34
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)				
Corporate Operations	70	62	62	62
Total	70	62	62	62

¹ These amounts have been restated, for comparative purposes only, to be consistent with Schedule A of the September Update 2005 *Estimates* 2005/06.

² Internal and External recoveries provided an additional \$630,000.

³ EAO has received an increase of \$1,660,000 above its 2004/05 base budget to fund the resources required to sustain the current project review volumes (approximately three times what they were anticipated to be).

Strategic Context

Vision, Mission and Values

Vision

Sustainable economic development that reflects the social, cultural and environmental values of British Columbians.

Mission

Provide British Columbians with a well-designed and well-delivered environmental assessment process that reflects the government's objectives for economic growth, strong communities and responsible resource management, based on maintaining high environmental standards.

Values

The Environmental Assessment Office is guided in its organizational behaviour by the following values:

- Cooperation and teamwork;
- Respect for the values and opinions of others;
- Continuous improvement to ensure quality service;
- A professional and high-performance culture, encouraging innovation and creativity;
- A healthy workplace supporting staff development, recognition, and opportunity; and
- Accountability to the people of British Columbia.

Principles

The Environmental Assessment Office is guided by the following principles:

- **Neutrality** — Neutrally and centrally administered process.
- **Fairness** — Fair and open process.
- **Balance** — Decisions are based on impartial, balanced and informed recommendations.
- **Science-based decision-making** — Best available information, knowledge and technologies are considered and utilized.
- **Consultative** — Participatory and transparent, ensuring meaningful opportunities for public and First Nations input.
- **Inter-jurisdictional coordination** — Streamlined process minimizing duplication and overlap.

Planning Context and Key Strategic Issues

The increased economic growth in the province of British Columbia (3.9% growth in 2004, up from 2.5% in 2003) has had a significant impact on the Environmental Assessment Office. The number of reviewable projects has tripled compared to the levels expected when the Service Plan and budget were first developed in 2001. Over the last two years, the EAO has experienced an unprecedented number of mining, energy and infrastructure projects entering the environmental assessment process. The EAO is expecting the current high project volume to continue in the near future.

The Environmental Assessment Office continues to work with other government agencies, including the federal governing bodies and our clients to improve upon the environmental assessment process. The Environmental Assessment Office also works with First Nations to facilitate their involvement in project reviews to ensure the potential impacts on First Nations asserted aboriginal rights and title are identified and addressed through meaningful consultation and accommodation in accordance with policy and legal requirements.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Results

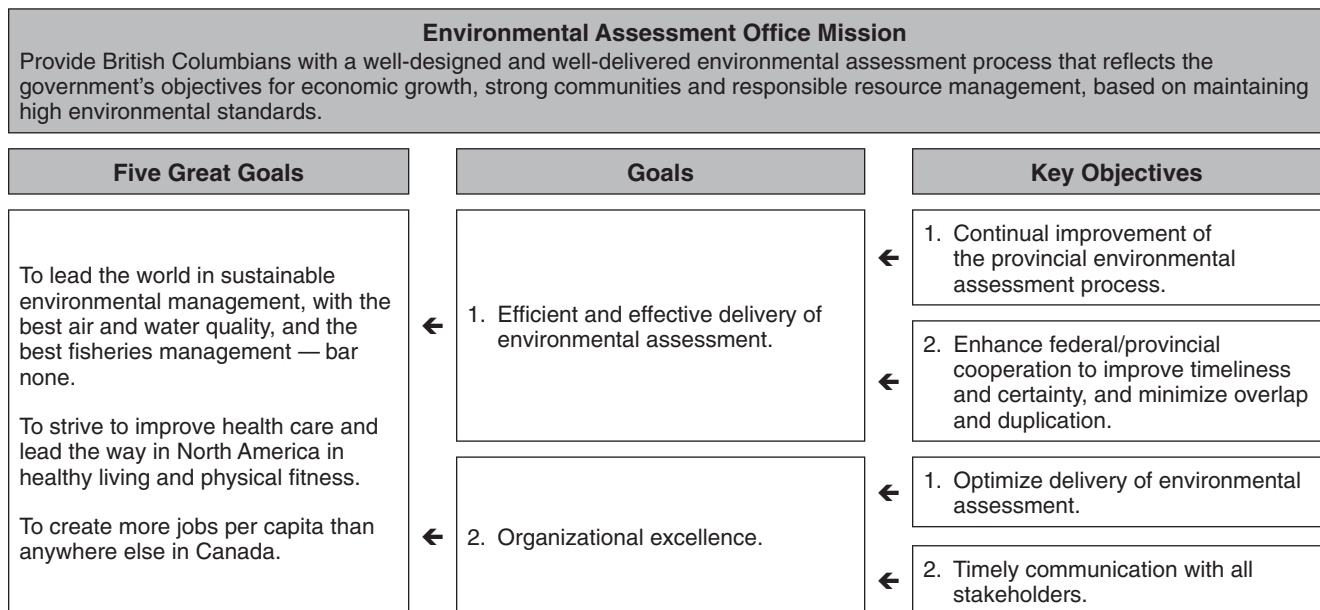
Environmental Assessment Office Goals and their Linkage to the Five Great Goals

With an ever-expanding economy and the public’s demand for environmental accountability, the work of the Environmental Assessment Office is closely aligned to the following Great goals:

- To lead the work in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management — bar none.
- To strive to improve health care and lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.
- To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.

The environmental assessment process provides for a thorough and public review of major development projects to ensure they meet the government’s environmental, social, economic, health and heritage objectives. In this way, a predictable, timely and cost-effective environmental assessment process leads to greater investor confidence in British Columbia, which in turn yields expanded economic investment and significant employment opportunities.

The diagram below displays the government’s strategic goals and the Environmental Assessment Office’s mission, goals, and objectives, and indicates their linkage.



Environmental Assessment Office Performance Plan Summary

Goals	Key Objectives	Measures / Targets
1. Efficient and effective delivery of environmental assessment.	1. Continual improvement of the provincial environmental assessment process.	← Percentage of application reviews completed in 180 days.
		← Proponents' overall level of satisfaction with the review process.
		← Value of the EAO's advice to the proponent during the pre-application stage.
		← Deregulation: reducing unnecessary red tape and regulation.
2. Organizational excellence.	2. Enhance federal/provincial cooperation to improve timeliness and certainty, and minimize overlap and duplication.	← Percentage of harmonized reviews that meet provincial timelines.
		← Internal policies and procedures are relevant and consistent with new environmental assessment direction.
	1. Optimize delivery of environmental assessment.	← Percentage of staff with an Employee Performance and Development Plan (EPDP).
		← Posting of public and agency comments on the EAO's electronic Project Information Centre (ePIC) within 7 days.
2. Timely communication with all stakeholders.		

Performance Plan

Goal 1: *Efficient and effective delivery of environmental assessment.*

This goal will be met through two objectives — continual improvement of provincial environmental assessment and greater procedural certainty when both the provincial and federal review processes are triggered. The objectives and targets outlined in this section are based on planned expenditures and staffing levels.

Core Business Area: *Major Project Environmental Assessments*

Objective 1: *Continual improvement of the provincial environmental assessment process.*

Continuous improvement in our process has allowed streamlining and process certainty to be incorporated into the environmental assessment process. Most recently, reforms to the British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act* have streamlined and improved the process

by making it less prescriptive and more flexible. The strategies set out below are aimed at addressing areas of the process to focus improvements over the next three years.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: delivering a timely and cost-efficient provincial environmental assessment process; evaluating the environmental assessment process, and refining it based on implementation experience to deliver a timely and cost-efficient process; aligning environmental assessment and permitting/licensing requirements to achieve greater process certainty; and fulfilling government's legal obligations toward First Nations.

Performance Measures:⁵

The Environmental Assessment Office is working to ensure the delivery of a timely and cost-efficient environmental assessment process. Four performance measures are used to demonstrate progress in this area.

Percentage of application reviews within 180 days: One key objective of environmental assessment is timeliness as a measure of process certainty. The British Columbia environmental assessment process has legislated timelines and the Environmental Assessment Office monitors whether these timelines are being met. The Environmental Assessment Office is proactive in anticipating and scheduling activities and encouraging consultation during the pre-application stage to ensure that projects stay on track to meet schedules and stay within legislated timelines once they enter the application stage.

Proponents' overall level of satisfaction with the review process: This measure addresses the level of client satisfaction with the environmental assessment review process by asking clients to rate the EAO on its delivery of a timely and effective environmental assessment process. This is measured through the Client Satisfaction Survey by asking proponents to rate their overall experience with the Environmental Assessment Office (regardless of where they are in the process) on a scale of 1 to 10.

Value of the EAO's advice to the proponent during the pre-application stage: This captures the effectiveness of the Environmental Assessment Office's efforts in managing projects during the pre-application stage. The EAO works with proponents during the pre-application stage to ensure issues are being addressed appropriately in order to facilitate a timely and effective application review stage. The baseline will be determined in 2006 when the next client satisfaction survey is administered.

⁵ The following performance measures have been dropped from the 2005/06–2007/08 Service Plan: Stage of Enterprise-wide risk management implementation and average annual cost of project environmental assessment. The office is attempting to reduce its performance measures to focus on a smaller number of key outcome measures. Risk management will continue to be done as a normal part of business operations. For an overview of risk management in the EAO, please see the Environmental Assessment Office's 2004/05 Annual Service Plan Report at: <http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/annualreports/eao/eao.pdf>. Average annual cost of environmental assessment was determined from experience not to be a good measure due to its sensitivity to the project workload that is not under the control of the Environmental Assessment Office.

Deregulation — reducing unnecessary red tape and regulation: The Government of British Columbia has met and exceeded its target for reducing red tape for the three-year period ending June 2004. In 2002/03, the Environmental Assessment Office reduced regulations from the previous year, which exceeded the Environmental Assessment Office’s target. The Environmental Assessment Office is committed to maintaining or reducing the level of regulations set in 2002/03.

Performance Measures	2004/05 Actual/ Benchmark	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Percentage of application reviews completed within 180 days.	100%	90%	Maintain or improve.	Maintain or improve.
Proponents’ overall level of satisfaction with the review process.	8 out of 10	Maintain or improve.	Maintain or improve.	Maintain or improve.
Value of EAO’s advice to the proponent during the pre-application stage.	No data.	Baseline to be determined.	Maintain or improve.	Maintain or improve.
Deregulation: reducing unnecessary red tape and regulation.	56% reduction in regulatory requirements.	Zero percent net increase. ¹	Zero percent net increase.	Zero percent net increase.

¹ Baseline has been set to zero in 2005/06, and any increase from the baseline will be measured accordingly.

Objective 2: *Enhance federal/provincial cooperation to improve timeliness and certainty, and minimize overlap and duplication.*

When a project is subject to both the Canadian *Environmental Assessment Act* as well as the British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act*, the Environmental Assessment Office works closely with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and other federal agencies to ensure the requirements of both levels of government are met through a single harmonized process. Under the Canada/British Columbia Agreement for Environmental Assessment Cooperation signed by both governments in March 2004, the requirements of both processes are met through a single coordinated assessment to minimize duplication and overlap. Work plans, signed off by the Environmental Assessment Office and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, are developed for each project requiring a harmonized review. They set out the project-specific procedures for completing a harmonized review, which includes scope of project, scope of assessment and project review schedule.

Performance Measures:

Percentage of harmonized reviews that meet provincial timelines: The purpose of work planning and other measures undertaken as part of harmonization is to increase the likelihood that provincial timelines will be achieved by both levels of government. The federal review process has unique requirements that make it difficult to proceed in tandem in all cases. The Environmental Assessment Office and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency try to anticipate and resolve problems through the Environmental Assessment Office/Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency Harmonization Working Group. This performance measure will demonstrate whether the majority of harmonized projects are meeting provincial timelines.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual/Benchmark	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Percentage of harmonized reviews that meet provincial timelines.	100%	80%	Maintain or improve.	Maintain or improve.

Goal 2: *Organizational excellence.*

The Environmental Assessment Office strives to improve its client-service delivery by ensuring: the culture of the office is client-focused; process improvement opportunities are identified and acted upon; and relevant information is available in a timely manner to all parties interested in the environmental assessment process.

Core Business Area: *Corporate Operations*

Objective 1: *Optimize delivery of environmental assessment.*

This objective focuses on creating a healthy, performance-focused environment with proactive leadership and continuous improvement.

Key Strategies:

Key strategies for this objective include: evaluating existing Environmental Assessment Office policies to identify gaps and redundancies; developing innovative approaches to managing the environmental assessment process; continuing learning opportunities for staff to remain current on government’s legal obligations to First Nations in order to manage the process and provide advice to proponents on building and maintaining positive relationships with First Nations; reviewing Employee Performance and Development Plans annually with all staff; and providing opportunities for staff training, development, recognition and succession.

Performance Measures:

Internal policies and procedures are relevant and consistent with new environmental assessment direction: The Environmental Assessment Office has established policies and procedures to guide the province’s environmental assessment process to ensure consistency and provide process certainty for clients. For example, the Environmental Assessment Office developed the *Guide to the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Process* that was published in March 2003. It sets out policies and procedures. As part of the Environmental Assessment Office’s ongoing efforts to improve the way environmental assessment is done, the EAO regularly reviews its policies and procedures to ensure their continued relevance. Where policy gaps or opportunities for improvement are identified, the Environmental Assessment Office ensures they are addressed and implemented.

Percentage of staff with an Employee Performance and Development Plan: Achieving the objective of efficient program management, fiscal responsibility and client service requires Environmental Assessment Office staff to develop performance and development goals for themselves that will enable them to contribute to the achievement of organizational objectives. All Environmental Assessment Office staff have Employee Performance and Development Plans (EPDP) in place as of 2004, and plans are reviewed and updated during the year. The Employee Performance and Development Plan identifies employee accountabilities and linkages with the Environmental Assessment Office Service Plan and sets out staff training and other opportunities for staff development.

Performance Measures	2004/05 Actual/ Benchmark	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Internal policies and procedures are relevant and consistent with new environmental assessment direction.	100% of gaps and redundancies addressed	100%	100%	100%
Percentage of staff with an Employee Performance and Development Plan.	100%	100%	100%	100%

Objective 2: *Timely communication with all stakeholders.*

The British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act* establishes an electronic Project Information Centre (ePIC) to facilitate access to general information about the environmental assessment process, as well as specific information on individual project assessments. The principal means of accessing the electronic Project Information Centre is through the Environmental Assessment Office website (<http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca>). The Public Consultation Policy Regulation identifies documentation related to each project’s

environmental assessment that is normally made available to the public through the website. Information on the Project Information Centre is updated on an ongoing basis. The Environmental Assessment Office is committed to improving the access and ease of use of the website since this is the primary mechanism for access to information.

Performance Measure:

The performance measure under this objective assesses the Environmental Assessment Office’s timeliness in communicating with stakeholders.

Posting of public and agency comments on the EAO’s electronic Project Information Centre (ePIC) within 7 days: It is the policy of the Environmental Assessment Office that the records generated for the purposes of the assessment of a reviewable project are made accessible to the public through the Project Information Centre. The types of records to be posted are listed in the Public Consultation Policy Regulation. This performance measure tracks the Environmental Assessment Office’s success in posting records in a timely manner.

Performance Measure	2004/05 Actual/Benchmark	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Posting of public and agency comments on the EAO’s electronic Project Information Centre (ePIC) within 7 days.	100 %	Maintain.	Maintain.	Maintain.

Related Initiatives and Planning Processes

Deregulation and Regulatory Reform

The Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Assessment Office have undertaken significant deregulation and regulatory reform initiatives that aim to ensure British Columbia's regulatory climate enables strong economic growth while maintaining effective environmental standards. The Ministry of Environment's achievements to date in the area of deregulation are described under Goal 4, Objective 1. The Environmental Assessment Office's achievements to date have been incorporated into its goals and performance measures described under Goal 1, Objective 1.

Regulatory reform has been and will continue to be undertaken under each core business area as the Ministry of Environment pursues its shift from a prescriptive to a results-based approach to regulation. For example, the enactment of new legislation (e.g., the *Integrated Pest Management Act*; the *Environmental Management Act*) and the amendment of existing statutes (e.g., the *Water, Land and Air Protection Statutes Amendment Act*; the *Flood Hazard Statutes Amendment Act*) are intended to reduce regulatory burden, clarify responsibilities and make more efficient use of ministry resources. Another three-year plan for regulatory reform has been introduced by the government. Over the next three years, the ministry will continue its review of legislation and regulations (e.g., the *Wildlife Act*) and measure its progress in delivering this plan using the new targets set in the government's regulatory reform plan. (See Goal 4 in the Ministry of Environment section for the performance measure.)

Overviews of Human Resource Plans and Information Resource Management Plans

Human Resource Plans

The Human Resource Plans of the Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Assessment Office outline the key human resource objectives for the coming year and look forward to their respective future needs. These plans support the achievement of the Service Plan goals and objectives and are aligned with the government-wide Corporate Human Resource Plan.

An overview of the Ministry of Environment's Human Resource Plan is available on the ministry's website:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/sp2005/hrmp.html> or
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/sp2005/hrmp.pdf>

An overview of the Environmental Assessment Office's Human Resource Plan is available on the Environmental Assessment Office's website:

<http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/publicat/hrmp-05-06/HRMP-05-01-17.pdf>

Information Resource Management Plans

Both the Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Assessment Office identify the alignment between information management, information technology and the business requirements in their respective Information Resource Management Plans.

An overview of the Ministry of Environment's Information Resource Management Plan is available on the ministry's website:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/sp2005/irmp.html> or
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/sp2005/irmp.pdf>

An overview of the Environmental Assessment Office's Information Resource Management Plan is available on the Environmental Assessment Office's website:

<http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/publicat/irmp-05-06/IRMP-05-01-17.pdf>

Appendix A: Significant Ministry of Environment Service Partners and Examples of Their Contributions

B.C. Government	Contributions	B.C. Government	Contributions
Ministry of Agriculture and Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental management tools: Contribution to the development of codes and regulations under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i>. Evaluation of a pilot private land hunting program in the Kootenays. Liaison with Species at Risk Coordination Office. Implementation of Land Use Plan. Collection, storage, analysis and provision of provincial resource data. Support of the Ministry of Environment's function regarding overseeing the province's wild stock fishery and ocean management interests. 	Ministry of Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental management tools: Contribution to the development of codes and regulations under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i>. Climate change: Contribution to B.C.'s efforts to respond to climate change. Air quality: Addressing air quality issues and greenhouse gas emissions. Climate change: Contribution to B.C.'s efforts to respond to climate change. Delivery of alternative energy and power technology. Environmental management tools: Contribution to the development of codes and regulations under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i>.
Integrated Land Management Bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ILMB's Front Counter: Natural Resource Opportunity Centres — Service BC assists the ministry in the preparation of applications for tenures, permits, licences, free Crown grants and other services. Provision of a range of decision support services including mapping and GIS services to support land use planning, wildlife habitat areas and ungulate winter ranges. Support of sustainable development of Crown land through land use planning and improved relations with First Nations. 	Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change: Contribution to B.C.'s efforts to respond to climate change. Delivery of alternative energy and power technology. Environmental management tools: Contribution to the development of codes and regulations under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i>. New oil and gas legislation, joint solutions workshops, environmental guidelines. Changes to the <i>Social Services Tax Act</i> to transfer responsibility for tire and battery recycling programs to industry. Lead in B.C.'s Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan.
Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and implementation of Collaborative Management Agreements and Official Wildlife Agreements with First Nations on a variety of parks, fish and wildlife issues. Support of the new relationship. 	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental management tools: Contribution to the development of codes and regulations under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i>. Implementation of forest and range practices legislation. Forests for Tomorrow Reforestation Program. Forest Investment Account Forest Science Program.
Ministry of Attorney General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal support and role in developing and advancing ministry legislation, regulations and Orders-in-Council. Provision of Prosecutorial Services. 	Ministry of Forests and Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of habitat: Designations of wildlife habitat areas and ungulate winter ranges under the <i>Forest and Range Practices Act</i>.

<p>B.C. Government</p> <p>Ministry of Health</p> <p>Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General</p> <p>Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts and Tourism BC</p> <p>Ministry of Transportation</p>	<p>Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best air quality: Contribution to airshed planning. • Water quality: Contribution to drinking water protection. • Sustainable communities: Public Safety (environmental emergencies). • Integration of BC Parks into broad marketing initiatives targeted at international and local audiences. • Promotion of fishing and hunting opportunities. • Air quality: Contribution to B.C.'s efforts to respond to air quality. • Climate change: Contribution to B.C.'s efforts to respond to climate change. • Electricity provider for parks on the Sea to Sky Corridor. 	<p>Other Organizations</p> <p>Communities and Citizens</p> <p>Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. and Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund</p> <p>Habitat Conservation Trust Fund</p> <p>Industry Associations</p>	<p>Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared stewardship initiatives. • Planning of restoration and species conservation and management initiatives. • Delivery partner for freshwater hatcheries. • Undertaking of habitat and species activities (the ministry provides technical support and standards). • Responsibility for product stewardship and recycling programs. • Sustainable communities: Public safety (environmental emergencies).
<p>Other Governments</p> <p>Federal Governments: Transportation</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Environment</p> <p>Parks Canada</p> <p>Alberta Ministry of Environment</p> <p>Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment</p> <p>Local Governments</p>	<p>Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable communities: Public safety (environmental emergencies). • Fisheries. • Marine Protected Areas Strategy. • Species at risk. • Parks and protected areas planning. • Promotion of regulatory harmonization between B.C. and Alberta. • Federal government and provinces working together to develop a national environmental sustainability framework. • Air quality: Contribution to development and implementation of airshed management plans. • Sustainable communities: Public safety (environmental emergencies). 	<p>Oil and Gas Commission, Exploration Industry</p> <p>Park Facility Operators</p> <p>Professional Associations</p> <p>Recreation, Wildlife and Habitat, Conservation and Environmental Advocacy Organizations</p> <p>Vancouver Foundation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New oil and gas legislation, joint solutions workshops, environmental guidelines. • Delivery of park recreational services. • Streamlined delivery of assessments under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i>. • Shared stewardship. • Research and science-based decision-making. • Partnership to implement the Living Rivers initiatives. • Home of the B.C. Parks Trust.
<p>Other Organizations</p> <p>Academia</p> <p>B.C. Conservation Foundation</p>	<p>Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and science-based decision-making. • Administration and overseeing of the delivery of the B.C. Conservation Corps program. • Undertaking of fisheries and wildlife inventory work related to ministry business. 		

Appendix B: Legislation Administered by the Ministry of Environment

The following legislation, in alphabetical order, is currently administered by the Ministry of Environment:⁶

Beaver Lodge Lands Trust Renewal Act

Commercial River Rafting Safety Act (only some sections relating to safety inspections and enforcement remain in force)

Creston Valley Wildlife Act

Dike Maintenance Act

Drainage, Ditch and Dike Act

Ecological Reserve Act

Environmental Assessment Act

Environmental Management Act

Fish Protection Act

Industrial Operation Compensation Act

Integrated Pest Management Act

Land Title Act (s. 219 only, insofar as it relates to the Portfolio of the Minister)

Ministry of Environment Act (all except s. 4(2)(d))

Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing Act (ss. 3(3), 5(b), 6 only)

Okanagan River Boundaries Settlement Act

Park Act

Protected Areas of British Columbia Act

Skagit Environmental Enhancement Act

Sustainable Environment Fund Act

Water Act

Water Protection Act

Water Utility Act (to be added to the ministry's list by upcoming OIC)

Wildlife Act

⁶ Citations for all Acts and regulations are to the most recent or original versions. Readers are strongly advised to confirm the currency of legislation with appropriate legal research before relying upon these citations as they are frequently amended and are subject to change without notice.

