

Updated as of April 16, 2004.

GOAL IV – Legislation and Policy

To maintain or develop incentives and legislation that support of the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biological resources.

Accords, Agreements and Policies

Agreements, accords, “signed” strategies, and policies are formal commitments from which we can initiate and coordinate actions on biodiversity in Canada, including the NWT. They represent the spirit of a government’s position and actions, and they are often the result of public input and expectations. These commitments are grouped by Goal as described in this report. Many of these commitments are described in more detail elsewhere in this report.

Agreements, Accords and Strategies	
Biodiversity and Sustainable Development	
See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
Agenda 21 (The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development) Agenda 21 recommends over 2,500 actions in 150 program areas (without explicit priorities) for an environmental work program for the period beyond 1992 and into the twenty-first century. <i>✍ Signed:</i> Adopted June 12, 1992 by 174 national governments.	↪ www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/index.htm
Convention on Biological Diversity <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada, June 11, 1992; ratified December 4, 1992. As of 2003, 32 other countries have also signed the Convention, and 48 have ratified it.	↪ http://www.biodiv.org/
Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on Arctic Cooperation <i>✍ Signed:</i> January 11, 1998, by the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States.	↪ http://www.lexum.umontreal.ca/ca_us/en/vctts.1988.29.en.html
Species at Risk	
See → Goal I for more information on Species at Risk initiatives.	
See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) CITES is an international agreement between Governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada on March 3, 1973; ratified April 10, 1975. Also ratified by 163 other countries (as of October 1, 2003).	↪ http://www.cites.org/ and ↪ http://www.cites.ec.gc.ca/
Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears <i>✍ Signed:</i> November 15, 1973, by Canada, Denmark (Greenland), the United States, Norway, and the Russian Federation.	↪ pbsq.npolar.no/ConvAgree/agreement.htm
Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk in Canada Federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for wildlife commit to a national approach for the protection of species at risk. The goal is to prevent species in Canada from becoming extinct as a consequence of human activity. <i>✍ Signed:</i> October 1996, by most federal, provincial, and territorial Wildlife ministers. Modified in 1998 to include Stewardship. Not signed by GNWT.	↪ www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca/recovery/accord_e.cfm
Inuvialuit-Inupiat Polar Bear Management Agreement in the Southern Beaufort Sea <i>✍ Signed:</i> March 4, 2000, by the Inuvialuit of Canada and the Inupiat of the United States.	↪ pbsq.npolar.no/ConvAgree/inuvi-inup.htm

Protected Areas See → Goal I for more information on Protected Areas initiatives. See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada on February 2, 1971; date of accession January 15, 1981. 138 Parties to the Convention as of November 26, 2003.	http://www.ramsar.org/
Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada, November 23, 1972; acceptance July 23, 1976. More than 170 countries have signed in all.	whc.unesco.org/nwhc/pages/home/pages/homepage.htm
Statement of Commitment to Protect Canada's Network of Protected Areas This document confirms Canada's commitment to establish a network of national protected areas representing each of Canada's 39 ecological regions. <i>✍ Signed:</i> November 25, 1992, by federal, provincial and territorial governments.	www.cd.gov.ab.ca/preserving/parks/fppc/1992statement_eng.pdf
Protected Areas Strategy <i>✍ Signed:</i> September 27, 1999, by the Government of Canada (INAC) and the Government of the Northwest Territories (RWED).	http://www.gov.nt.ca/RWED/pas/
Forest Management See → Goal I for more information on Forest Initiatives. See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
Canada Forest Accord The goal of the Canada Forest Accord is to maintain and enhance the long-term health of our forest ecosystems, for the benefit of all living things both nationally and globally, while providing environmental, economic, social and cultural opportunities for the benefit of present and future generations. 3rd Canada Forest Accord (2003-2008) <i>✍ Signed:</i> May 2nd, 2003 by Federal, Provincial (with the exception of Quebec) and Territorial ministers responsible for forests, as well as Aboriginal organizations, industry and NGOs.	nfsc.forest.ca/accord.html
Wildlife Sustainable Use and Management See → Goal I for more information on Sustainable Use of Wildlife initiatives. See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
Convention on the Protection of Migratory Birds in Canada and the United States <i>✍ Signed:</i> August 16, 1916, by the United Kingdom (for Canada) and the United States. Ratified December 7, 1916.	www.lexum.umontreal.ca/ca_us/en/cus.1916.465.en.html
Porcupine Caribou Management Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> October 26, 1985, by the Government of Canada, the Government of the NWT, the Government of Yukon, and Native organizations in the Yukon and NWT.	www.yfwmb.yk.ca/comanagement/mgmtplans/pcmbplan/thecaribou.html
Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of The United States of America on the Conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd <i>✍ Signed:</i> July 17, 1987, by the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States.	www.canadianembassy.org/environment/caribou-en.asp
Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> April 1, 2002 by the Governments of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Canada.	http://www.arctic-caribou.com/PDF/ManagmtAgreement.pdf
Climate Change See → Goal I for more information on Climate Change initiatives. See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada, June 12, 1992; ratification December 4, 1994. As of February 17, 2003, 165 other countries have also signed the Convention, and 187 have ratified it. Kyoto Protocol <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada, April 29, 1998; Ratification December 17, 2002. As of September 29, 2003, 83 other countries have also signed the Convention, and 118 have ratified it.	unfccc.int/index.html

Contaminants	
See → Goal II for more information on contaminant programs. See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution Establishes internationally agreed-upon reduction goals and management approaches for selected POPs and heavy metals. <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada on November 13, 1979; ratified December 15, 1981. As of September 26, 2003, 167 other countries have also signed the Convention, and 187 have ratified it.	www.unece.org/env/lrtap/lrtap_h1.htm
Canada-wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization The Accord was designed to lead to improved cooperation and better environmental protection across Canada. <i>✍ Signed:</i> January 29, 1998, by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) – with the exception of Quebec.	www.ccme.ca/assets/pdf/accord_harmonization_e.pdf
Canada-wide Acid Rain Strategy for Post-2000 Calls for a pollution prevention approach for regions such as western and northern Canada to further protect the environment from acid deposition. <i>✍ Signed:</i> October 19, 1998 by the Ministers of Energy and the Environment.	http://www.ec.gc.ca/acidrain/strat-e.pdf
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants <i>✍ Signed:</i> By Canada, May 23, 2001; ratified same day. As of September 26, 2003, 150 other countries have also signed the Convention, and 39 have ratified it. This Convention is not yet in force.	www.pops.int/documents/convtext/convtext_en.pdf
Land Claims Settlements and Self-Government	
See → Goal II for more on Aboriginal and Local Involvement.	
Inuvialuit Final Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> July 25, 1984, by the Inuvialuit of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region the Government of the NWT, the Government of the Yukon, and the Government of Canada.	http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/agr/inu/wesar_e.html
Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> September 6, 1993, by the Sahtu Dene and Metis, the Sahtu Tribal Council, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada.	http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/agr/sahtu/sahmet_e.pdf
Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> April 22, 1992, by the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada.	http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/agr/gwich/gwic_e.html
Deh Cho First Nations Interim Measures Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> May 2001, by the Government of Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Deh Cho First Nations.	http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/agr/dci_e.pdf
Deline Self-Government Agreement in Principle <i>✍ Signed:</i> August 23, 2003, by the Deline Dene Band, the Deline Land Corporation, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada.	www.gov.nt.ca/MAA/negotiations/deline_aip_highlights.pdf
Tli Cho Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> August 25, 2003, by the Government of Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Tli Cho First Nations.	http://www.tlicho.com/
Ecosystem management and Environmental Accountability	
See → Goal II for more information on Environmental Accountability and Emergency Planning.	
Whitehorse Mining Initiative Leadership Council Accord <i>✍ Signed:</i> September 13, 1994, by the mining industry, senior governments, labour unions, Aboriginal peoples and the environmental community.	http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mms/pdf/accord.pdf
Environmental Agreement – BHP Billiton <i>✍ Signed:</i> January 6, 1997, by BHP Diamonds Inc., the Government of Canada, and the Government of the Northwest Territories.	See → Goal II Ecological Management http://www.monitoringagency.net/
Environmental Agreement – Diavik Diamond Mines Inc. <i>✍ Signed:</i> March 8, 2000, by DDMI, the Government of Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories, Dogrib Treaty 11 (Tlicho), Lutsel K'e Dene Band, Yellowknives Dene First Nation, North Slave Metis Alliance, and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association.	http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nr/prs/j-a2000/envagr_e.PDF
Agricultural Policy Framework Agreement <i>✍ Signed:</i> June 2002, by the Government of Canada, and the governments of all provinces and territories except Nunavut.	http://www.agr.gc.ca/cb/apf/pdf/accord_e.pdf

Cooperation and Coordination	
See → Goal V for more information on Circumpolar Cooperation initiatives.	
Declaration On The Protection Of The Arctic Environment and Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy ✍ Signed: June 14, 1991 by Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the USSR and the USA.	🔗 www.arctic-council.org/files/pdf/artic_environment.PDF
Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on Cooperation in the Boreal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study (BOREAS) ✍ Signed: April 18, 1994, by the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States.	🔗 www.lexum.umontreal.ca/ca_us/en/cts.1994.26.en.html
Policies	
Biodiversity and Sustainable Development	
See → Goal I for more information on Sustainable Use of Wildlife initiatives.	
Sustainable Development Policy Commits the GNWT to apply the concept of sustainable development to all decisions and actions related to natural and heritage resources in the NWT. ✍ Signed: May 28, 1990 (Date Effective) by the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.	See → Goal I Sustainable use of Wildlife 🔗 http://www.gov.nt.ca/RWED/plc/pdf/5205.pdf
Protected Areas See → Goal I for more information on Protected Areas initiatives.	
Federal Policy On Wetland Conservation ✍ Signed: 1991, by the Minister of the Environment.	🔗 dsp-psd.communication.gc.ca/Collection/CW66-116-1991E.pdf
Marine Protected Areas Policy Outlines the overall policy and objectives of the Marine Protected Areas program. ✍ Signed: March 1999, by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.	🔗 http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/canwaters-eauxcan/infocentre/legislation-lois/policies/mpa-policy/pdf/policy.pdf
Wildlife Sustainable Use and Management	
See → Goal I for more information on Sustainable Use of Wildlife initiatives.	
Policy for the Management of Fish Habitat ✍ Signed: 1986, by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.	🔗 http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/canwaters-eauxcan/infocentre/legislation-lois/policies/fhm-policy/index_e.asp
Wildlife Policy for Canada ✍ Signed: 1990, by the Wildlife Ministers Council of Canada.	🔗 http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/birds/pol_e.cfm
Traditional Knowledge	
See → Goal I for more information on Sustainable Use of Wildlife initiatives.	
Traditional Knowledge Policy Recognizes traditional knowledge of Aboriginal peoples of the NWT and commits GNWT to incorporate traditional knowledge into Government decisions and actions. ✍ Signed: November 30, 1993 (Date Effective) by the Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.	🔗 http://www.gov.nt.ca/RWED/plc/pdf/5206.pdf
Contaminant and Protection of the Environment	
See → Goal II for more information on contaminant programs.	
Toxic Substances Management Policy ✍ Signed: June 1995 by the Minister of the Environment.	See → Goal I Contaminants 🔗 http://www.ec.gc.ca/toxics/en/index.cfm