



Northwest Territories
Biodiversity

Action Plan

First steps



Biodiversity ?

Diversity of life

–Ecosystems

(e.g., ecozones, ecoregions,
habitats, special
management areas... etc.)

Biodiversity ?

Diversity of life

–Ecosystems

–Species

(vertebrates, invertebrates,
plants, etc.)



Biodiversity ?

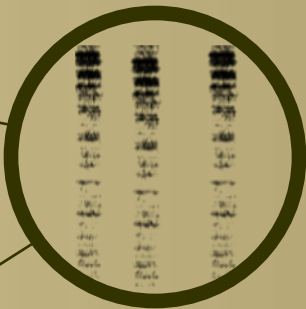
Diversity of life

– Ecosystems

– Species

– Genes

(variations in individuals,
populations, herds, etc...)



Background

Rio 1992

Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

Canada's implementation plan

Canadian Biodiversity Strategy (1995)

WSSD Johannesburg, South Africa (Rio+10)

- renewed commitments.... (2002)



Action Plans

- « highlight continued progress on implementing the Convention on Biodiversity and the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy endorsed by all jurisdictions in 1995 »
- and show the road ahead – next 10 years.
- Provincial and Territorial Action Plans and responses were done in the past 10 years (BC, QC, MB)
- Federal departments' Action Plans

NWT Background

Many actions, programs and projects relevant to biodiversity have been implemented in the NWT:

- we signed the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy
- we have yet to officially report on our progress
- we will be a more active participant in the implementation of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity
- we will be more active in renewing Canada-wide priorities:
 - Invasive alien species,
 - Stewardship,
 - Science-TK capacity, and
 - Information management & Biodiversity Index.



Why do we need a *Biodiversity* Action Plan?

- **To strengthen linkages** at the Ministerial level to oversee the implementation and monitoring of the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy



Why do we need a *Biodiversity* Action Plan?

- **To report on policies, programs, strategies and actions** – reduce duplications, improve communications, pin-point gaps, help us plan for future actions



Why do we need a *Biodiversity* Action Plan?

- **To foster a better understanding of opportunities for participation** of regions, First Nations, interested individuals and groups, business interests, and the scientific community



Five Goals of the Canadian *Biodiversity* Strategy

Goal 1

Conservation and Sustainable Use

- To preserve biodiversity and use biological resources in a **sustainable** manner

Examples of NWT activities:

- Protected Area Strategy
- SAR Recovery work



Five Goals of the Canadian *Biodiversity* Strategy

Goal 2

Ecological Management

To improve our understanding of ecosystems and increase our resources management **capability**

Examples of NWT activities :

- Co-management (legislated stewardship approach)
- MV Cumulative Impact Assessment Framework
- Biophysical study



Five Goals of the Canadian *Biodiversity* Strategy

Goal 3

Education and Awareness

To promote an understanding of the need to conserve biodiversity and use biological resources in a sustainable manner.

Examples of NWT activities

- GLOBE program, Wildlife Week, Bear Safety , Educational Camps
- Aurora College, Arctic Energy Alliance



Five Goals of the Canadian *Biodiversity* Strategy

Goal 4

Incentives and legislations

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

Examples of NWT initiatives

- Proposed Species At Risk Act, revised Wildlife Act
- Greenhouse Gas Strategy, Mackenzie Valley RMA



Five Goals of the Canadian *Biodiversity* Strategy

Goal 5 International Cooperation

To **work with other countries** to conserve biodiversity, use biological resources in a sustainable manner and share equitably the benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources.

Examples of NWT activities:

- Arctic Council
- International wildlife management plans (polar bear)

First...

Report 1

- Review of how NWT biodiversity is changing
- List of initiatives
- Short descriptions of initiatives
- Searchable database
- Linked to Canadian Biodiversity Strategy
- Linked to Organizations-Agencies-Groups

TOOL to find, compare, and analyze



Secondly...

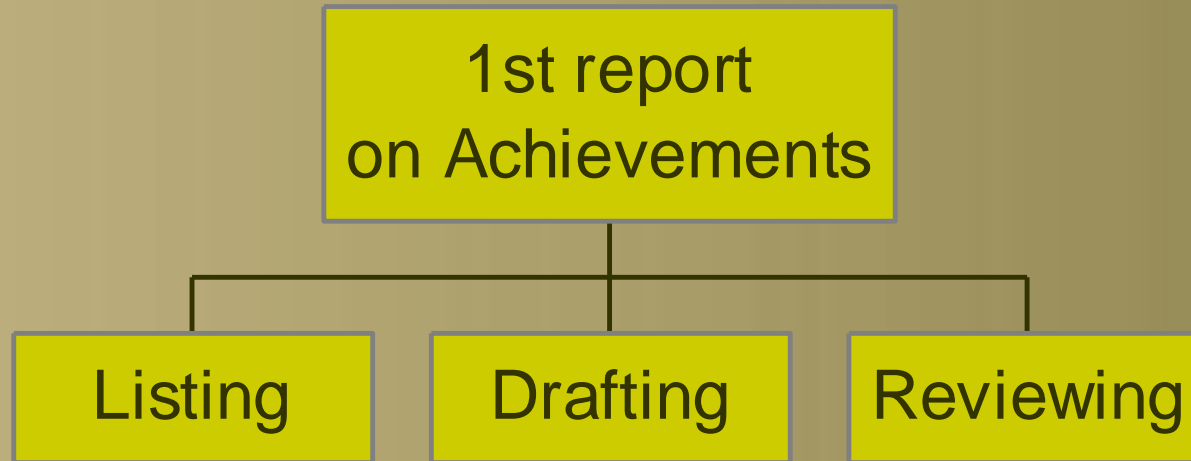
Report 2

- Second document with list of **FUTURE** priorities
- Timeframe
- Linked to Goals
- Linked to Lead Organizations-Agencies-Groups

RESPONSE to needs.

Biodiversity Team

Building the Tool



Members so far: SRRB, INAC, CWS, RWED W&F,
DOT (observer only)

Timeframe

Done – Build a shell database to help team members input activities and match them to biodiversity goals and strategies.

- Fall 2002
 - new intern
 - Contract for Chapter 1 on « biodiversity review »
 - Team work to draft short descriptions (Chapter 2)
 - List activities in database (Chapter 3)
 - Re-send invitations to participate
- Winter 2003
 - Team work to review Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
 - Contracts for database formatting and report layout
 - Issue contract Web page (searchable database)
- Spring 2003 – Launch of report and web site.
- Summer 2003 Report 2