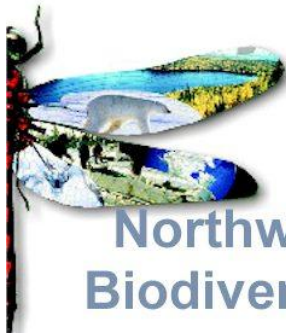


# The Northwest Territories

## *Biodiversity Action Plan*

### *~~Second~~Next Steps*

## *Towards the Second Report*



## Northwest Territories Biodiversity Action Plan

REVISED DRAFT

Post-meeting Document  
For Review

9/12/2008

FOR REVIEW

Post-meeting Document

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## Background

Since Canada signed the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, a Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group has developed strategic documents to help implement the Convention in Canada. The first major strategic document, the *Canadian Biodiversity Strategy* was published in 1995. Each province and territory, including the GNWT, signed the *Canadian Biodiversity Strategy* and committed to facilitating the implementation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development principles in its own jurisdiction.

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Between 1995 and 2004, most federal departments and agencies developed strategies for the implementation of sustainable development as part of their business planning. Some of these Sustainable Development Strategies are key documents for the Northwest Territories, as they include strategies and commitments specific to the north or to northern Aboriginal people (see Appendix 1).

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### **What ~~was~~ *has been* accomplished *in the NWT* so far?**

In 2001, ~~the project~~ NWT Biodiversity Action Plan Project was initiated ~~in 2001~~ to examine what actions were being taken to conserve and protect biodiversity in the NWT :

**Part 1** — Prepare a list of NWT biodiversity actions currently underway, and

**Part 2** — Analyze gaps and overlap, and to make recommendations ~~on for~~ future actions. The intent of the project was to examine biodiversity actions carried out by all groups in the NWT, not just actions taken by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT).

~~This~~ The Biodiversity Action Plan Project was ~~initiated~~ undertaken with the help of many collaborators, who formed organized ~~in at~~ the NWT Biodiversity Team. The team is made up of a wide range of organizations interested in working together on a Biodiversity Action Plan.

~~, to include a complete list of what all groups are doing on biodiversity, not just GNWT.~~

**Completed First Steps:** The first report of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan ~~called~~ "MAJOR INITIATIVES ON BIODIVERSITY" was provided to the public in April

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2004. It is a list of all actions related to biodiversity currently under way in the NWT. This report is available in paper form as well as on the Internet. Most of the 500 NWT biodiversity actions listed in the report involve the close collaboration of more than one NWT agencies/agency or groups.



~~For your information please find below a list of NWT biodiversity actions in which GNWT is involved in some capacity. The complete list of biodiversity actions, with extra information on each theme and searchable by Articles of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity is also available on the Internet under the name in the “NWT Biodiversity Matrix of Actions” at: [www.nwtwildlife.rwed.gov.nt.ca/biodiversity/matrix.htm](http://www.nwtwildlife.rwed.gov.nt.ca/biodiversity/matrix.htm). The matrix includes additional information on each biodiversity theme and is searchable by Articles of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, or by Strategies under the 1995 Canadian Biodiversity Strategy.~~

### **What remains to be done?**

~~**Proposed Part 2:** The second report of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan will look for identify overlaps in actions and gaps between our actions and our commitments under the *Canadian Biodiversity Strategy* and *UN Convention on Biological Diversity*. It will also suggest ways to streamline current actions, increase collaboration and recommend new initiatives. The second report will also look for gaps between our commitments and our actions under the *Canadian Biodiversity Strategy*.~~

~~RWED proposed to continue working in close collaboration with other agencies and groups as part of the NWT Biodiversity Team to develop that the second report of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan second report will also be published in close collaboration with other agencies and groups, working together as part of the NWT Biodiversity Team. All members would work according to their own capacity and interest. Membership on the Team is always open. New members willing to participate on the Team are welcome at any time.~~

~~During the production of the first report on biodiversity actions, the majority of members provided lists of their organization’s activities, reviewed text and helped develop the design and content of the report. The second report will involve more analytic work, and may require more involvement from each member.~~

~~The Matrix is designed to help the NWT Biodiversity Team during the analysis of gaps and overlap. It can be used to quickly find and compare what we already have accomplishing to what is expected at the International and National levels. The Matrix is also designed to help the NWT set priorities in biodiversity actions over the next decade or so. Prioritizing will require a review each goal of the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy from the context of NWT, and the drafting of strategic recommendations to implement actions that would help resolve priority biodiversity issues.~~

~~Examples of how this can be done are available form other jurisdictions and from analysis done from other perspectives (e.g., Economic perspective) by other organizations.~~

~~One of the tasks of the NWT Biodiversity Team will be to detail how this analysis will be~~

~~done and to design both the content and the format of the Second report.~~

## **Next Steps**

~~Development of the second report of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan by the Biodiversity Team can be broken down into four general steps.~~

~~**Step 1 – Verifying and Updating the Matrix**~~

~~**Step 2 – Developing Analytic tools**~~

~~**Step 3 – Applying the Analytic Tools**~~

~~**Step 4 – Making Recommendations and Listing Future Actions**~~

### ~~**What is the NWT Biodiversity Team and what is the scope of its work?**~~

~~The NWT Biodiversity Team includes any organizations interested in working together on a Biodiversity Action Plan. All members work according to their own capacity and interest. During the production of the first report on biodiversity actions, the majority of members provide lists of their organizations' activities, reviewed text and participated in the design and content of the report.~~

~~The second report will involve more analytic work, and may require more involvement from each member. Also, as the Team is always open, it can be expected that new members would be willing to participate in the Team at any time.~~

~~For the purpose of continuing work on the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan, the NWT Biodiversity Team will draft Terms of References to help streamline work plans, clarify working principles, increase capacity, and help current and new members in scoping their own involvement in future work. Draft Terms of References are presented in Appendix 1.~~

### ~~**What other jurisdictions and organizations are doing?**~~

~~Since Canada signed the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, a Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group has developed strategic documents to help implement the Convention in Canada. The first major strategic document, the *Canadian Biodiversity Strategy* was published in 1995. Each province and territory, including the GNWT, signed and committed to facilitate the implementation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development principles in its own jurisdiction. Between 1995 and 2004, most federal departments and agencies have developed strategies for the implementation of sustainable development as part of their business planning. These Sustainable Development Strategies (SDS) are reviewed regularly. Some SDS are key documents for the Northwest Territories, as they include strategies and commitments specific to the north or to northern Aboriginal people. These key documents can be found on the Internet at:~~

- ~~Environment Canada's Sustainable Development Strategy:  
[http://www.ec.gc.ca/sd\\_dd\\_consult/SDS2004/index\\_e.cfm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/sd_dd_consult/SDS2004/index_e.cfm)~~
- ~~Indian and Northern Affairs' Northern Affairs Program – Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Plan North of 60°N 2001-2003:  
[http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/index\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/index_e.html)~~

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~~Links to any Federal SDS are available at:~~

~~[http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/depts\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/depts_e.html)~~

~~Links to Sustainable Development documents from agencies or groups with a northern perspective are available at:~~

~~[http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nin/lmk\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nin/lmk_e.html)~~

~~Other important planning documents have relevance to a Gap and Overlap Analysis of biodiversity action in the NWT. The Economic Strategy Panel published a set of recommendations in "*Common Ground – NWT Economic Strategy 2000*", of which many have relevance to biodiversity issues.~~

~~The work of the CIMP Environmental Audit will also have great relevance to any analysis of gaps and overlap in NWT biodiversity actions.~~

## ~~Step Step\_1 – Verifying and Updating the Matrix~~

~~Our starting point for the gap/overlap analysis is the Biodiversity Matrix. The Biodiversity Matrix lists all the biodiversity actions the team identified during the drafting of Report 1. The first step is to ensure that the matrix is complete and current.~~

~~The Biodiversity Action Plan was designed as a working tool, and participating in its implementation is thus helping to make and improve that tool— to increase its usefulness.~~

~~An effective Action Plan for NWT would be useful to:~~

- ~~❖ List the activities, initiatives, studies and legislation that relate to biodiversity issues in the NWT and link these to the lead agencies;~~
- ~~❖ Review and compare that list with those in other areas, especially within Canada and with other northern countries;~~
- ~~❖ Help focus on priorities and on fill gaps in our efforts~~
- ~~❖ Measure our successes~~

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~~Like any tool, the Action Plan should be updated to reflect changes in needs, in challenges, and in expectations.~~

~~The Biodiversity Matrix should be updated before a gap/overlap analysis is performed. Each Team member is invited to verify and update the matrix, adding any actions that are not included, correcting errors in how each action were coded to a CBD article or a CBS strategy, etc, and removing actions that no longer exist.~~

*RWED will look for possibilities to have an outside “biodiversity expert” verify if all our NWT are linked to all the appropriate UN-CBD articles and CBS strategies. Help may be found at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montréal, for the UN-CBD coding, and the Environment Canada, Biodiversity Office, Ottawa, for CBS coding.*

**Proposed Completion Date:** End January 2005 for actions that can be considered in the Analysis – this can continue during each step and even after publication of report 2.

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## ~~Step 2 – Gathering Information and Drawing the Big Picture~~

~~Many organizations have a vision and over-arching guiding principles. If an organization has incorporated sustainable development into its business ethics, this vision and these principles will have aspects that are of interest here. Members should gather their own organizational long-term planning documentation to form a starting point for a NWT-wide vision and for decision-making principles.~~

**Vision**

~~This part is essential and it should not require too much time as we can merge ideas that are already in print for the NWT. This vision should be a “short statement about how you want the region to be for future generations”.~~

~~For example, RWED’ vision is:~~

~~A prosperous and diverse economy built on the strengths of our people and the wise use and conscientious protection of our natural resources, one which attracts investment and provides communities and individuals with opportunities to be productive and self-reliant.~~

~~Our children will inherit a secure future which provides a healthy environment and which balances traditional lifestyles with a modern economy.~~

~~We may want simply to adapt the Vision in the CBS to the NWT context.~~

~~The CBS’ vision is~~

~~A society that lives and develops as part of nature, values the diversity of life, takes no more than can be replenished and leaves to future generations a nurturing and dynamic world, rich in its biodiversity.~~

~~Saskatchewan Government modified this to:~~

~~Saskatchewan will act with wisdom and prudence today to ensure we leave future generations a nurturing and dynamic environment, rich in its biodiversity.~~

**Decision-making principles**

~~These are also essential. The Team can turn to them when we have difficulty in making decisions on priorities and on process. Again modified the Guiding principles in the CBS for the NWT context would be a good first cut. Draft principles adapted from the CBS for the NWT context (Appendix 2) are described in Appendix 3.~~

~~**Proposed timeline:** December 2004—reviewed any time~~

**Step 3-2 – Developing an Analytical tool**

~~The next step is to develop a simple tool to Tools to track measure and track how well the NWT is doing in implementing the UNCBD and the CBS. ~~should be simple and easy to apply.~~ The NWT Biodiversity Team will look at tools developed by others and design or can modify tools to satisfy our requirements.~~

This tool development can be done with any level of consultation at each member’s discretion.

For example, the Team ~~can~~ could modify tools already in use in other countries or jurisdictions:

UNEP

[http://www.undp.org/bpsp/thematic\\_links/docs/sectoralGuidelinesEng.pdf](http://www.undp.org/bpsp/thematic_links/docs/sectoralGuidelinesEng.pdf)

Australian Local Government Association -

[-http://www.alga.net.au/policy/environment/res/resmain.htm](http://www.alga.net.au/policy/environment/res/resmain.htm)

During tool development, these tips should be kept in mind.

- 1- Keep it simple
- 2- Make it elegant and focused
- ~~2-3-~~ Team members should be able to use the analysis tools at any time
- ~~3-4-~~ Team members should be able to use the analysis tools independently of other members.

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~~The Canadian Biodiversity Strategy lists a total of 157 specific strategies to help in the implementation of the different aspects of the UN Biological Diversity Convention. Some strategies may not be relevant from a northern perspective. Other strategies may be more appropriate if they are merged together. The team will develop guidelines to help members determine which strategies to focus their analysis on. The principles used to determine if there are gaps in our actions on biodiversity will depend on the scope of NWT issues in general and of each team member's mandate in particular. These tips may be added to, or modified by the Team.~~

**Proposed Completion Date:** Mid-January 2005 **Proposed timeline:**

## Step 4.3 – Applying the Analytical Tools

### Step 3.1

~~Once a tool is developed and a process decided on, each member of the team would be asked to examine the actions of their own agency within the context of their own mandate and jurisdiction. They would be asked to identify gaps in their activities and overlaps with other organizations or agencies. Canadian Biodiversity Strategy lists a total of 157 specific strategies to help in the implementation of the different aspects of the UN Biological Diversity Convention. Some strategies may not be relevant from a northern perspective. Furthermore, it may be more efficient for us to merge some other strategies.~~

### Context

~~In applying the analytical tool, it would be useful to weigh strategies that reflect our needs and our perspective. The principles used to determine if there are gaps in our actions on biodiversity will depend on the scope of NWT issues in general and of each team members, mandate in particular.~~

## Consultation

The analysis can be done with any level of consultation at each member's discretion. ~~Again, the principles used to decide the level of consultation will depend on the scope of the analysis. Consultation and public input will also be part of the publication of the second report itself, where all will be invited to make comments on all the recommendations and to use the analytical tools to determine how they can contribute to the implementation of the UNCBD in their own context.~~

Step 3.2 ~~Members would bring their individual analysis back to the team. The team would then carry out a broader assessment of gaps and overlaps for the NWT as a whole.~~

*The NWT-wide analysis would be performed at a 2-day workshop, with facilitator proposed for the end of January.*

~~Proposed Completion Date~~ **Proposed timeline:** End- of January 2005

## Step 5.4 – Format and Content of the Second Report

### Making Recommendations and Listing Future Actions

~~The final step will be to look at the gap/overlap analysis results and make recommendations for change. As a tool, the usefulness of an action plan document is determined not only by its content, but also by its format. Consequently, the final format of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan should be carefully planned.~~

~~The~~ deliverable of this phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan will be a report that includes:

~~The final format of the Second report may be assessed and prepared as the plan progresses, but we can already point that the most important information in the Second report will likely be:~~

#### ❖ **The Goals based on the CBS**

❖ **NWT Objectives for Biodiversity Actions** – NWT-relevant objectives that are specific to each theme in the first report – Think Long-Term (25-50 Years)

❖ **Strategic Recommendations To Fill Gaps** – What can be done, in general, to fill gaps so that we can work towards achieving each objective – more than one recommendation can be drafted to ~~patch-fill~~ gaps – think ~~for about the next~~ the next 5 years

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❖ **Strategic Recommendations To Reduce Overlap Or Increase Coordination** - What can be done, in general, to increase cooperation and efficiency so that we can work towards achieving each objective – more than one recommendation can be drafted to increase efficiencies – ~~think about the next 5 yearsthink for the next 5years.~~

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Three types of Recommendations are suggested:

**Type 1 – “New” Recommendations** – propose new strategies to help NWT organizations review or develop new actions that would significantly help fill gaps or increase efficiencies during the next 5 years.

**Type 2 – “Enhancing” Recommendations** – point to strategies already proposed elsewhere and that, if enhanced or fully implemented, would help significantly in filling gaps or in increasing efficiencies in biodiversity actions during the next 5 years.

**Type 3 – “Continuing” Recommendations** – point to existing key strategies and actions that are already significant in fulfilling biodiversity commitments in the NWT, and that should be continued.

❖ **Key Collaborators** for each Recommendation.

❖ **Milestones (also called Response Indicators in a State-Pressure-Response model)** – ~~how will we know if~~ a set of ~~actions~~ is been ~~successful and~~ that ~~the objective~~ is ~~achievable?~~  
We may not be able to propose relevant milestones for all objectives-recommendations, but we can try.

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Other jurisdictions have used a table format to convey ~~that this type of~~ information in an efficient way (see Appendix 5).

The Team would also carefully design the final format of Report 2, keeping the style simple, elegant, and easy to follow.

**Proposed Completion Date**~~Proposed timeline~~: Drafting: February 2005; Printing: March 2005.

**Proposing Indicators**

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~~This portion of the report is optional, but may be one of the most useful parts for future reporting. There are many kinds of “indicators”, but for this exercise only three kinds are highly relevant.~~

~~These indicators are part of the State-Pressure-Response Model of implementation.~~

*State Indicators:*

~~These are indicators of the condition of the environment, or of valued components of the environment, including natural variability (e.g., fires, population cycles, storms, floods).~~

~~These are modified with as new research and new social values emerge (long-term).~~

~~*Pressure Indicators:*~~

~~These provide information on the effects, positive and negative, of human activities on the environment. These are modified, as new pressures are perceived (medium term). Syn.: Impacts, Threats, Issues, Concerns.~~

~~*Response Indicators:*~~

~~These provide reportable information that can show how we are doing towards meeting an objective. These indicators are met to demonstrate success, to verify if we are on the right course, and should be modified as we move towards the objective (short-term). Response indicators are used to keep the Response (Action) in the right track. Syn.: Flags, Milestones, Tracked activities.~~

~~The later indicator can be readily integrated into the Second report, as a proposed tracking system for the short-term actions. The first two types of indicators can be part of a separate Biodiversity Index report.~~

~~**Proposed timeline:** Can be done after the publication of the Second report. April 2005 to April 2006~~

## **APPENDIX 1 - Programs, Strategies, and Documents to keep in mind**

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The **main documentation** for the Action Plan, including the

- UN Convention on Biological Diversity
- Canadian Biodiversity Strategy
- Guide to Developing a Biodiversity Strategy from a Sustainable Development Perspective

can be found on the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan web site archive at:

<http://www.nwtwildlife.rwed.gov.nt.ca/Biodiversity/archive.htm>

To help during the work leading to report 2, additional documents may be useful.

The Saskatchewan and Quebec work on **Biodiversity strategies** can provide examples and relevant insights to help us draft report 2.

These can be found at:

Between 1995 and 2004, most federal departments and agencies developed strategies for the implementation of sustainable development as part of their business planning. These Sustainable Development Strategies (SDS) are reviewed regularly. Some SDS are key documents for the Northwest Territories, as they include strategies and commitments specific to the north or to northern Aboriginal people.

These key documents can be found on the Internet at:

- Environment Canada's Sustainable Development Strategy:  
[http://www.ec.gc.ca/sd-dd\\_consult/SDS2004/index\\_e.cfm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/sd-dd_consult/SDS2004/index_e.cfm)
- Indian and Northern Affairs' Northern Affairs Program - Sustainable Development Strategy and Action Plan North of 60°N 2001-2003:  
[http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/index\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/index_e.html)

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Links to any Federal SDS are available at:

[http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/depts\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/ps/nap/sust/depts_e.html)

Links to Sustainable Development documents from agencies or groups with a northern perspective are available at: [http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nin/lnk\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nin/lnk_e.html)

Some annual updates of the Report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development from **The Office of the Auditor General of Canada** offers very useful insights on how Sustainable strategies can be improved. This information may be useful to the NWT Biodiversity Team during the drafting of report 2.

Relevant chapters can be found at: [http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/domino/reports.nsf/html/c2002menu\\_e.html](http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/domino/reports.nsf/html/c2002menu_e.html)

Also all the work of the **National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy**

(NRTEE) can be relevant to the proposed work for report 2 of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan. Their web site can be found at: [http://www.nrtee-trnee.ca/eng/index\\_e.htm](http://www.nrtee-trnee.ca/eng/index_e.htm)

**Important NWT planning documents** have relevance to a Gap-Overlap Analysis of biodiversity actions in the NWT.

- The Economic Strategy Panel published a set of recommendations in "*Common Ground – NWT Economic Strategy 2000*", of which many have relevance to biodiversity issues.
- The work of the *CIMP Environmental Audit* will also have great relevance to any analysis of gaps and overlap in NWT biodiversity actions.

## **APPENDIX 2 - Summaries of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy**

### **Convention on Biological Diversity**

The Convention has three main objectives:

- 1) The conservation of biological diversity,
- 2) The sustainable use of its components, and
- 3) the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits that arise out of the use of genetic resources.

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### **Canadian Biodiversity Strategy**

#### **GOAL 1 - Active conservation and sustainability**

To **conserve** biodiversity and use biological resources in a **sustainable manner**

The seven Essential elements of Goal 1 are:

- Maintenance of viable population of wild flora, fauna, and other organisms (11 strategies)
- Protected Areas (8 strategies)
- Restoration and Rehabilitation of species and ecosystems (11 strategies)
- Sustainable use of biological resources in Agriculture, Aquatic, and Forested areas (49 strategies)
- Biosafety (4 strategies)
- Atmospheric changes (5 strategies)
- Human population and Settlement (7 strategies).

#### **GOAL 2 - Increase capabilities**

To improve our understanding of ecosystems and increase our **resource management capability**.

The three Essential Elements of Goal 2 are:

- Improving our ecological management capability in research, in traditional knowledge and in inventories at the landscape, species and genetic levels (10 strategies)
- Increasing resource management capability in terms of data and information management, integrated planning, ecological management, environmental assessments, emergency planning, and training (16 strategies)
- Monitoring (6 strategies).

#### **GOAL 3 - Promote**

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

No specific Essential Element (4 strategies).

#### **GOAL 4 - Support with incentives and legislations**

To maintain or develop **incentives and legislation** that support the conservation of

biodiversity and the sustainable use of biological resources.

The two Essential Elements of Goal 4 are:

- Incentives (6 strategies)
- Legislation (2 strategies).

**GOAL 5 - Work on international initiatives**

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.

No specific Essential Element (6 strategies)

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**Appendix 1 – Proposed Terms of References**

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## Appendix 32 – Example of The Northwest Territories Context

**Challenges** related to ecologically sustainable development and the protection of biological resources exist in the Northwest Territories that are unique in Canada.

- ❖ **The NWT economy is characterized by a duality.** Modern development involving monetary transactions, wage employment and often large-scale enterprises coexist with extensive traditional activities such as subsistence harvesting of biological resources involving no direct monetary transactions. The value of biological resources may thus be greatly underestimated if traditional use is not properly considered.
- ❖ **There is increasing pressures on northern ecosystems.** Increasing industrial activities throughout the World impacts on northern ecosystems. In addition, the NWT's human population is growing rapidly, and there is increasing non-renewable resource development and increasing commercial use of biological resources.
- ❖ **There are areas where land claims are outstanding.** In vast areas where a Land Claim Agreement is still unsettled, there exist further inefficiency in determining opportunities, and uncertainty in determining responsibilities and ownership. Settlement of Land Claims in many areas of NWT resulted, for example, in clarifying rules and responsibilities for resource development and in giving more control to the people.
- ❖ **The changes in the economy are out-pacing the capacity of northern communities to adapt to change.** *The capacity of NWT communities to make decisions related to their own environment, their social health, and their use of biological resources has increased significantly during the past decades. This capacity now may be stressed due to increasing expectations and high personnel turnover rates.*

On the other hand, major **opportunities** related to ecologically sustainable development and the protection of biological resources exist in the Northwest Territories that, also, are unique in Canada and in most of the World.

- ❖ **The NWT is vast and relatively pristine.** Habitat fragmentation is the loss and subdivision of portion of a given habitat and the corresponding increase in other habitats in the landscape. It is one of the most important contributors to the loss of biological diversity in temperate regions. Fragmentation is scale dependent and cumulative. In the NWT, opportunities exist to gather basic information on wildlife species and ecosystems that are relatively unfragmented and undisturbed, and to alleviate early the effects of fragmentation at a wide range of spatial scales.
- ❖ **The NWT harbor people with complementing knowledge perspectives.** Our understanding of the complexities of ecosystem dynamics and of how to best preserve their integrity requires that we pursue studies from many perspectives. Integrating scientific and traditional ecological knowledge is recognized as a potentially significant contributor to that understanding.

## Appendix 3.4 - Proposed Guiding Principles for Biodiversity Actions in the NWT

These principles can provide a context for applying the analytical tool and for making recommendations.

(revised for NWT, based on the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy 1995).

- ❖ Biodiversity has ecological, economic, social, cultural and intrinsic values.
- ❖ All life forms, including humans, are **ultimately connected** to all other life forms.
- ❖ All NWT residents depend on biodiversity and have a **responsibility** to contribute to biodiversity conservation and to use biological resources in a sustainable manner.
- ❖ All NWT residents should be encouraged to understand and appreciate the value of biological diversity and to **participate** in decisions involving the use of our air, water, land and other resources.
- ❖ An **ecological approach** to resource management is central to conserving biological diversity and using our biological resources in a sustainable manner.
- ❖ **Development** decisions must reflect ecological, economic, social and cultural values.
- ❖ **Healthy, evolving ecosystems** and the maintenance of natural processes are prerequisites for the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biological resources.
- ❖ **Off-site measures** may be required to support the conservation of some species and populations and are essential to ensuring the sustainable use of many northern resources.
- ❖ The knowledge, innovations and practices of **indigenous** and local communities should be respected, and their use and maintenance carried out with the support and involvement of these communities.
- ❖ The conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of biological resources should be carried out using the **best knowledge available** and approaches refined as new knowledge is gained.
- ❖ The conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of biological resources require local, regional, provincial, territorial, national and global **cooperation** and a sharing of knowledge, costs and benefits.

**Appendix 4.5 - Example of the table format**

GOAL 1 “To conserve biodiversity and use biological resources in a sustainable manner.”

**Protected Areas (one objective per theme)**

Explanatory text here –Result of Analysis

Objective – Example = “Establish a network of protected areas that is representative of biodiversity in the NWT”.		Key Collaborators <i>(Which agency, department, group is best placed to lead for the completion of the recommendation?)</i>	Optional TEAM Action Milestones <i>(What information or data can be used to determine if we are achieving our objective – can be a set of indices;</i>
TEAM Strategic Recommendations  <i>(How can this objective be achieved ? – suggestion one or a few priority recommendations per gap or overlap per sub-theme)</i>			
Example under sub-theme Planning and Implementation.	<p><b>“Enhancing” Recommendation</b> Fully implement the PAS Mackenzie Valley Fire-Year Action Plan as a key step to preserve additional representative portions of NWT ecoregions.</p>	PAS partners	<p>Example.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Protect at least one part of each of the 42 ecoregions in the NWT.</li> <li>⌘ As of 2004, # ecoregions are not part of a protected area.</li> </ul> <p>(other one?)</p>

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GOAL 1 “To conserve biodiversity and use biological resources in a sustainable manner.” Con,t

**Species at Risk (one objective per theme)**

Explanatory text here – Result of Analysis

Objective – Example = “Protect or recover wild species at risk and prevent species from becoming extirpated as a consequence of our activities”		Key Collaborators	Optional TEAM Action Milestones
TEAM Strategic Recommendations			
<i>(How can this objective be achieved ? – suggestion one or a few priority recommendations per gap or overlap per sub-theme)</i>		<i>(Which agency, department, group is best placed to lead for the completion of the recommendation?)</i>	<i>(What information or data can be used to determine if we are achieving our objective – can be a set of indices;</i>
Example under sub-theme Species Recovery	<p><b>“Enhancing” Recommendation</b> Continue the development of key management or recovery planning tools for all Species at Risk in the NWT in a cooperative and consultative manner, in which all Accord and legislative requirements are met.</p>	EC, Parks, DFO, RWED, WMBs, and many partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>O Produce a recovery-planning tool for each species at risk in the NWT. . Tools include management plans, recovery strategies etc..</li> <li>⌘ As of 2004, a recovery-planning tool exists for 40% of Endangered and Threatened species in the NWT</li> </ul> <p>(other one?)</p>

Additional columns as required.

**Appendix 6. Background information on Indicators**

This portion of the report is optional, but may be one of the most useful parts for future reporting. There are many kinds of “indicators”, but for this exercise only three kinds are highly relevant.

These indicators are part of the *State-Pressure-Response Model* of implementation for planning and management exercises<sup>1</sup>.

*State Indicators:*

These are indicators of the condition of the environment, or of valued components of biodiversity, including natural variability (e.g., fires, population cycles, storms, floods). These are modified with as new research and new social values emerge (long-term). Syn.: Health, Risk of extinction, Integrity, Quality.

*Pressure Indicators:*

These provide information on the effects, positive and negative, of human activities on the environment. These are modified, as new pressures are perceived (medium term). Syn.: Thresholds, Impacts, Threats.

*Response Indicators:*

These provide reportable information that can show how we are doing towards responding to pressures and changes in states indicators. They relate to specific short-term objectives. These indicators are met to demonstrate success, to verify if we are on the right course, and should be modified as we move towards the objective (short-term). Response indicators are used to keep the Response (Action) in the right track. Syn.: Flags, Milestones, Tracked activities.

The later indicator can be readily integrated into the Second report, as a proposed tracking indicator system for the proposed recommendations.

Investigating the use and application of the first two types of indicators, along with an update on the proposed response indicators, could be part of a future separate NWT Biodiversity Index report.

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<sup>1</sup> More detailed information of different versions of this model can be found in <http://www.biodiv.org/doc/meetings/cc/tegcc-01/official/tegcc-01-02-en.pdf>. A pragmatic application of this model can be found in WWF’s Nature Audit for example: [http://www.wwf.ca/AboutWWF/WhatWeDo/TheNatureAudit/resources/PDF/The\\_Nature\\_Audit\\_PART\\_I\\_No1\\_May2003.pdf](http://www.wwf.ca/AboutWWF/WhatWeDo/TheNatureAudit/resources/PDF/The_Nature_Audit_PART_I_No1_May2003.pdf)