



Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan

What is a Wildlife Management and Monitoring Plan (WMMP)?

A WMMP is an important tool for the protection and conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat. It is a document written by developers to demonstrate how they will reduce the negative effects of their development project on wildlife and wildlife habitat and address public concern. Developing a WMMP to outline how impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat will be minimized is considered a best practice for all development projects in the Northwest Territories (NWT). As a general rule, WMMPs are only required for larger developments, which are expected to have the most effects. Small projects or activities will generally not require a WMMP.

Is a WMMP mandatory?

An approved WMMP is required for development activities that are likely to result in significant disturbance or pose a threat of harm to wildlife, cause substantial damage to wildlife habitat or significantly contribute to cumulative impacts on wildlife or habitat. Developers requiring a WMMP will need to have it approved by the Minister of ENR. The WMMPs are binding and enforceable.

What goes in a WMMP?

In a WMMP, a developer must describe:

- the types of impacts their development project might have on wildlife and wildlife habitat;
- the actions they will take to avoid, reduce or make up for those impacts;
- how they will measure their impacts and check that their actions are working;
- when and how they will report on the results of their efforts.

What is the process for requiring a WMMP?

The need for a developer to have a WMMP for a project is usually decided during the regulatory process when a developer applies to the land and water board for authorizations to conduct their work. ENR uses the public review part of that process to evaluate and understand people's opinions on the impacts of the project and how the developer is proposing to reduce those impacts. If ENR finds that the impacts of the project on wildlife and wildlife habitat meet certain criteria, then the Minister of ENR lets the developer know that they will require a WMMP for their project. In some cases, ENR might ask an existing development that does not have a WMMP to provide a WMMP directly to ENR, and in that case, ENR posts the WMMP to the ENR website for the public review. Once a developer provides a WMMP that meets the requirements and incorporates people's comments, they submit it to ENR for approval.

Where can I learn more about WMMPs?

ENR has developed guidelines and templates to assist developers in navigating WMMP requirements and preparing a WMMP available at the [ENR's WMMP Webpage](#). Samples of procedural manuals and data reporting tools are also provided below:

- [WMMP Process and Content Guidelines](#)
- [Annotated Table of Contents](#)
- [Screening Questionnaire](#)
- [Template for a Tier 1 WMMP](#)
- [Sample Procedural Manuals and Data Reporting Templates](#)
- [Statutory Requirements for Wildlife in the NWT](#)

WMMPs approved by the Minister of ENR can be found at [ENR's WMMP Resources](#) webpage.