

Status Report to June 2010

# ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION 2008-2012





## Minister's Message



I am pleased to provide a status report on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (ENR) Framework for Action 2008-2012. The status report highlights the Department's activities on actions undertaken from January 2010 to June 2010. During the past six months, two new action items have been initiated, nine action items have been completed and progress has been made on a number of others.

In celebration of 2010 being the International Year of Biodiversity, ENR published a special State of the Environment Biodiversity Report. This report was released in May and examines the status and trends of our biodiversity to help us better understand pressures, such as rapid climate change, and help us plan for a sustainable future. An electronic copy of the report can be found on ENR's website.

The NWT Water Stewardship Strategy was tabled in the NWT Legislature on May 20, 2010 and is now available publicly. A Bilateral Water Management Agreements: Guidance Document, which will act as a basis for all bilateral negotiations is complete. Preparations are underway for negotiating an Alberta-NWT bilateral agreement to ensure the expertise is in place and a strong negotiating mandate is developed.

The new Species at Risk Act came into effect in February 2010. Staff for the new Secretariat have been hired; the first meeting of the new Species at Risk Committee (SARC) was held in March 2010, and the first meeting of the Conference of Management Authorities (CMA) was held in June 2010. An initial list of species to be assessed has been prepared.

Climate change remains a very serious issue in the Northwest Territories (NWT) and the rest of the world. The NWT Biomass Strategy was finalized in February 2010. Action has been initiated on all 39 actions identified in the NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy, and a report on the status of all actions was prepared in February 2010. Wind monitoring has been conducted in areas of wind energy potential, and energy partners are now using the products and information to prepare detailed proposals and secure funding for alternative energy projects.

ENR continues to expand waste reduction and recovery programs to reduce the impact on our environment. The addition of milk and milk substitutes to the Beverage Container Program came into effect on February 15, 2010. Phase I of the Single-use Retail Bag (SRB) Regulations came into force on January 15, 2010. The Regulations applied a 25 cent environmental fee to SRB's purchased in all NWT grocery stores. Phase II of the program will extend the 25 cent environmental fee to all retail stores in the NWT, in the winter of 2011. The Department will also investigate e-waste approaches and the potential costs of implementing similar programs in the NWT.

Wildfire management implemented the EMBER system for the 2010 fire season. Users are now using EMBER as their primary fire management software. Community Wildland Interface fire management plans have been completed for Fort Smith, Tsigehtchic, Kakisa, Fort Providence, Norman Wells, Enterprise, Jean Marie River and Fort Good Hope. Plain language versions are being prepared for improved community understanding.

I encourage all NWT residents to continue their involvement in the protection of the NWT environment and the conservation of our valuable natural resources.

J. Michael Miltenberger

## 1. Governance

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
1.1 Consultation Framework for ENR	<i>1.1.1 Develop a consultation framework for ENR based on the GNWT's Approach to Consultation with Aboriginal Governments and Organizations</i>	ENR Consultation Framework	June 2009	February 2011	A draft Guideline Document has been created by ENR. It is expected that a final version will be completed by late winter 2010-2011.
1.2 Land Use Policy Framework	<i>1.2.1 Report progress on ENR's participation in collaborative initiatives related to a land use framework, including landscape management activities and regional land use planning.</i>	Progress reports	June 2009 and then biannually		ENR participates in this initiative led by the Department of Executive. The draft framework is currently being reviewed.
1.3 NWT Protected Areas Strategy (PAS)	<i>1.3.1 Develop a preliminary map of important wildlife areas in the NWT.</i>	Preliminary map of important wildlife areas in the NWT	December 2009	December 2010	A report for the western NWT has been written and will be released with maps in the fall of 2010.
	<i>1.3.2 Prepare a Four-Year PAS Action Plan for 2010-2014.</i>	Four-Year PAS Action Plan: 2010-2014	March 2010		✓ <b>Completed</b> The GNWT has signed off on the Establishment Action Plan: 2010-2014. Final document is currently at the printers.
	<i>1.3.3 Work with Nunavut to implement the Thelon Management Plan.</i>	Implementation plan and status report	March 2010	March 2011	A meeting to form the management committee is expected to be held in 2011.
	<i>1.3.4 Use ENR legislation, such as Critical Wildlife Areas, to sponsor candidate sites.</i>	<i>Candidate site(s) process underway using ENR legislation</i>	December 2011		In March, ENR announced it will sponsor Buffalo Lake and Trails as a Critical Wildlife Area. ENR is currently conducting a GNWT internal review of the proposed Yampahtsi Critical Wildlife Area to determine if the GNWT should sponsor it.

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1.4 Managing Landscape Change	1.4.1 <i>In partnership with industry and Aboriginal organizations and boards, identify management actions to reduce and mitigate impacts on boreal caribou and their habitat from resource development.</i>	Action plan and status report	December 2009		✓ <b>Completed</b> The Action Plan for Boreal Woodland Caribou Conservation in the NWT 2010-15 was released in September. A draft implementation plan is in progress.
	1.4.2 <i>Report on the Environmental Stewardship Framework (ESF) and Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (CIMP), progress.</i>	Progress report	December 2009 and then annually		A draft 2010 NWT Environmental Audit Report has been submitted by the auditor to the audit sub-committee for accuracy review. The Final 2010 NWT Environmental Audit Report is to be released by the end of December 2010.
1.5 NWT Science Agenda	1.5.1 <i>Identify ENR research needs and research priorities.</i>	Annual action plan and status report	June 2009 and then annually	Annually	Identification of long term research needs and priorities has been integrated into the ENR business planning process.
	1.5.2 <i>Work with other GNWT Departments to prepare a GNWT Science Agenda.</i>	GNWT Science Agenda	September 2009		✓ <b>Completed</b> Building a Path for Northern Science: GNWT Science Agenda was tabled in the Legislative Assembly and released to the public in November 2009.
1.6 ENR Succession Planning	1.6.1 <i>Work with the Department of Human Resources to develop a Succession Plan.</i>	Succession Plan	December 2010	December 2011	Following the development of the GNWT Succession Planning Framework by the Department of Human Resources (March 2011), an ENR Succession Plan will be developed.

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## 2. Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
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2.1 Energy and Climate Change	2.1.1 <i>Work with energy partners to prepare detailed plans for action on enhancing use of alternative energy sources (biomass, geothermal, wind).</i>	Alternative energy action plan(s) and status report(s)	December 2009		<span style="color: green;">✓</span> <b>Completed</b> The NWT Biomass Strategy was finalized in February 2010. A Northwest Territories (NWT) Geothermal Favourability Map was completed in March 2010. Wind monitoring has been conducted in areas of wind energy potential. Energy partners are now using the products and information to prepare detailed proposals and secure funding for alternative energy projects.
	2.1.2 <i>Support actions identified in the NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy and report progress annually.</i>	Progress report	April 2009 and then annually	Annually	Action has been initiated on all 39 actions identified in the NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy. A report on the status of all actions was prepared in February 2010.

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	<i>2.1.3 Support NWT residents, businesses and communities to reduce energy consumption and implement alternative energy solutions.</i>	Support program - Alternative Energy Technologies Program (AETP)	April 2009 and then annually	Annually	ENR has three programs designed to reduce energy use and promote alternative energy. In 2009/10 the AETP, the Energy Conservation Program and the Energy Efficiency incentive Program combined provided \$428,532 for 830 projects that will result in an estimated annual savings of \$740,700 to NWT residents, businesses and communities and an annual reduction of 2110 tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions.
	<i>2.1.4 Work with the Tuktoyaktuk Development Corporation and a wind energy developer to install wind turbines in Tuktoyaktuk.</i>	Installation of wind turbines in Tuktoyaktuk	July 2011		The Tuktoyaktuk Power Corporation (TPC), a partnership between the Tuktoyaktuk Development Corporation and Dowland Construction Ltd. is the project proponent. The NWT Power Corporation is negotiating a power purchase agreement with TPC for wind energy. Environmental screening has taken place. TPC has the necessary permits. Geotechnical studies and detailed project design are complete. Details of Federal and Territorial funding and proponent equity are now being worked out. Site preparation work for the Tuktoyaktuk installation will be completed by spring 2011 and the turbines will be installed and begin operation in summer 2011.

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	<i>2.1.5 Undertake a review of the NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy and release an updated Strategy for 2012 – 2017</i>	Updated NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy	June 2011		Assessment of actions under the 2007-2011 Greenhouse Gas Strategy is underway.
2.2 Climate Change Adaptation	<i>2.2.1 Prepare and release a climate change impacts and adaptation plan developed in consultation with affected departments.</i>	Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Plan	December 2009	March 2011	The NWT Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Report was completed in 2008. Preliminary work has started on the Adaptation Plan and ENR has hired a climate change specialist who will complete the plan.
2.3 Climate Change Network	<i>2.3.1 Provide communication and coordination support to organizations involved in greenhouse gas mitigation and climate change adaptation.</i>	Establishment of organizational support	September 2009	February 2010	✓ <b>Completed</b> ENR has established a network of contacts to provide input during the review and update of the Greenhouse Gas Strategy. Over the coming year this network will be broadened and enhanced to provide input on the Adaptation Plan and to provide a venue for circulation of climate change information.

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### 3. Environmental Knowledge

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
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3.1 Classifying and Mapping Ecosystems	3.1.1 Complete and publish ecological land classification for the Taiga Shield Ecozone.	Ecozone classification map and descriptors	March 2009		✓ <b>Completed</b> Ecological land classification for the Taiga Shield Ecozone has been completed. The Taiga Plains (Mackenzie Valley) and Taiga Shield (forested areas north and south of Great Slave Lake) reports and posters have been distributed to the public (schools, industry, land and water boards, communities, etc) and are available on the ENR website.
	3.1.2 Complete and publish ecological land classification for the Cordillera Ecozone.	Ecozone classification map and descriptors	April 2010	July 2010	✓ <b>Completed</b> The field work for the Boreal and Taiga Cordillera and the analysis is complete. The report and the poster will be published in July 2010.
	3.1.3 Complete and publish ecological land classification for the Southern and High Arctic Ecozones.	Ecozone classifications map and descriptors	September 2011		Fieldwork for the Southern Arctic ecozone was completed in the summer of 2009. The analysis and reporting will be completed by the fall of 2011. The first season of the High Arctic Ecozone field work is underway. A second season is planned for July 2011. The analysis and final report will be completed in spring 2012.

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3.2 Gathering Baseline Information and Monitoring Cumulative Effects	3.2.1 <i>Expand the existing air quality network into small NWT communities.</i>	Network expanded and operational	June 2009		Efforts to secure funding to expand the air quality monitoring have been unsuccessful. ENR is not currently pursuing this expansion.
	3.2.2 <i>Review available baseline data on wildlife and vegetation and develop a plan to address data gaps to ensure cumulative impacts and landscape change are well monitored and assessed.</i>	Action plan to address data gaps	December 2009	17 <sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly	This action has been deferred to develop a comprehensive path forward on ENR's role in cumulative effects management.
	3.2.3 <i>Implement programs through the Western NWT Biophysical Study to address gaps in baseline data and information and enhance monitoring of cumulative impact indicators.</i>	Implementation of program(s); status report	December 2010		A report on 2008-09 NWT Biophysical Program project is being completed. Projects related to boreal caribou and grizzly bear continue.
3.3 Building a Forest Management Information System	3.3.1 <i>Design and develop a Wildfire Management application (EMBER Module).</i>	Wildfire Management (EMBER) Application	September 2009	March 2010	<span style="color: green;">✓</span> <b>Completed</b> The EMBER system has been implemented for the 2010 fire season. Users have been trained and the system has been installed. Users are now using EMBER as their primary fire management software.
3.4 Environmental Assessment Tracking System (EATS)	3.4.1 <i>Design, build and implement the EATS system to better manage the GNWT's environmental assessment processes and associated information management library.</i>	Environmental Assessment Tracking System operational	June 2009		<span style="color: green;">✓</span> <b>Completed</b> EATS was formally implemented in April 2009. Tracking of obligations from past Reports of Environmental Assessment is now underway.  EATS is currently undergoing an enhancement cycle. These enhancements should be available for release by mid-July.

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3.5 Compliance Database	<i>3.5.1 Design, build and implement the Compliance Management Information System (CMIS). CMIS will enhance the ability for the Department to effectively carry out the compliance duties of its Officers through enhanced case management and intelligence collection functions.</i>	Compliance Management Information System Operational	June 2010	March 2011	Work is currently underway on the detailed analysis in order to determine functional requirements and build a design specification. Work is also underway on evaluating sourcing options.  Currently, an RFP for the development/acquisition of software is published and due to close June 23, 2010.
3.6 Reporting on the Northwest Territories "State of the Environment"	<i>3.6.1 Develop a 'State of the Environment' report on the NWT environment, focusing on its air, wildlife and forests.</i>	NWT State of the Environment Report	June 2009		✓ <b>Completed</b> The NWT State of the Environment Report has been completed and the Highlights Report published.
	<i>3.6.2 Develop a special report on State of Biodiversity to celebrate International Year of Biodiversity 2010</i>	NWT State of Biodiversity Report	March 2010	May 2010	✓ <b>Completed</b> The NWT State of the Environment 2010 Biodiversity Special Edition was tabled on May 19, 2010.
3.7 Traditional Knowledge (TK) Policy Implementation	<i>3.7.1 Work with Aboriginal governments and partners, including communities and regional resource management agencies, to support the implementation of the ENR TK Implementation Framework.</i>	Implementation plan and status report	March 2009		✓ <b>Completed</b> The ENR TK implementation plan has been completed. Status reporting will begin in March 2011.
	<i>3.7.2 Develop and implement protocols with regional Aboriginal governments and agencies to access and share TK.</i>	Protocols for information access and sharing	June 2012		Work on protocols for information access and sharing has begun. Research continues into protocols.

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	3.7.3 <i>Work with the GNWT Interdepartmental TK Working Group to develop a plan for government-wide implementation of TK Policy.</i>	GNWT TK Implementation Framework	September 2012	March 2009	<p>✓ <b>Completed</b>            The GNWT TK Framework was completed in March 2009. Work will continue on developing individual department plans, as required.</p>
	3.7.4 <i>Implement the TK Policy Implementation plan for ENR</i>	Workshops for all employees  Best Practices Guide distributed	March 2010	March 2011	Six workshops have been held. Upcoming workshops will be held in Fort Simpson, Norman Wells and Yellowknife. Best Practices Guidelines are being distributed at workshops.

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#### 4. Environmental Stewardship

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4.1 Past Environmental Legacies	4.1.1 Work with the federal government to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for managing contaminated soil along the Northern Transportation Route (NTR).	NTR contaminated soil management plan	December 2009	November 2010	Since completion of the removal and disposal of the soil from Tulita, work on this file by the federal government has slowed. ENR has continued to press for the development and implementation of the plan and has raised the need for a further assessment of the Bennett Field site given use of the area by Tulita residents.
	4.1.2 Report progress on implementation of the approved closure and reclamation plan by Miramar Con Mine Ltd.	Progress report(s)	Ongoing until remediation of site is complete and continued site monitoring		Reclamation of the mine site continues. ENR is receiving regular updates from Miramar on cleanup activities, future activities, and timelines. Remediation work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2012.
	4.1.3 Support the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) processes to complete the Environmental Assessment for Giant Mine's remediation in partnership with the Giant Mine Remediation team.	N/A	December 2009	December 2011	ENR continues to work with the Giant Mine Remediation Office to complete the environmental assessment (EA) process.  The Developers Assessment Report has been delayed and will not be submitted to MVEIRB until fall 2010.  The anticipated timeframe for completing the EA process and obtaining regulatory approval is late 2011, but will depend on the timelines MVEIRB sets for the EA process.

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	<i>4.1.4 Address recommendations resulting from the review of the Giant Mine Remediation Plan and begin remediation of the Giant Mine site.</i>	N/A	September 2010 (begin remediation)	January 2012 (begin remediation)	Upon completion of the EA process, ENR will work with the Giant Mine Remediation Office to implement the approved remediation plan.
4.2 Waste Recovery Programs	<i>4.2.1 Introduce a Paper Products Diversion Initiative to provide financial support for NWT businesses, municipalities and environmental groups to investigate and/or pilot creative solutions for diverting paper products from community landfills.</i>	Paper Products Diversion Initiative status report	June 2009		<span style="color: green;">✓</span> <b>Completed</b> A Paper Products Diversion Initiative has been initiated and will run for three years. ENR will report on the initiative annually.
	<i>4.2.2 Implement actions to reduce the use of single-use retail plastic and paper bags including introduction of a fee on single-use retail bags.</i>	Environmental fee for single-use retail bags introduced	September 2009	January 2010	<span style="color: green;">✓</span> <b>Completed</b> The Single-use Retail Bag (SRB) Regulations came into force on January 15, 2010. The Regulations apply a 25 cent environmental fee to SRB's used in NWT grocery stores. The program will be expanded to all retailers in the winter of 2011.

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	<i>4.2.3 Add milk containers to the Beverage Container Program.</i>	Updated Beverage Container Program Regulations	June 2009	February 2010	✓ <b>Completed</b>	The addition of milk and milk substitutes to the Beverage Container Program came into effect on February 15, 2010.
	<i>4.2.4 Determine the appropriate approach to, and the setting up of a comprehensive electronics waste recovery program in the NWT.</i>	Discussion Paper	September 2010	September 2011	ENR will investigate e-waste	approaches in other jurisdictions and the potential costs of implementing similar programs in the NWT. Detailed studies of the financial viability of the most promising approaches will be conducted as funding permits.
4.3 Best Management Practices, Standards and Guidelines	<i>4.3.1 In collaboration with Environment Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, develop NWT-wide Guidelines for Seismic Operations, to address the ecological impacts of seismic operations in a proactive manner.</i>	Guidelines for Seismic Operations in the NWT	March 2009	August 2010	Public consultation was completed in October 2009. A final draft is being prepared for release in August 2010 by ENR, Environment Canada, INAC and Fisheries and Oceans.	
	<i>4.3.2 Develop 'air quality best management practices' for the oil and gas industry, including exploration, preliminary processing and transport.</i>	Air Quality Best Management Practices	December 2009	N/A	Following consultations with	Environment Canada (EC), the National Energy Board (NEB) and industry, ENR has determined the most effective approach to ensuring best management practices are used is to work with EC and NEB on the development of effective base level industrial emissions requirements for oil and gas operations in northern airsheds. This work will proceed under the comprehensive air management strategy developed under the Canadian Council of Environment Ministers.

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	<i>4.3.3 Identify additional 'best management practice' guidance documents for minerals, oil and gas development, and other industrial activities to reduce and mitigate environmental impacts, especially on forests, wildlife and habitat.</i>	Action plan for additional guidance	Summer 2010 and annually		ENR is in the process of reviewing existing guidance documents to ensure they are up to date and is preparing guidance on the management of domestic wastes in temporary camps.
4.4 Managing Shared Wildlife Populations	<i>4.4.1 Conduct an independent peer review of barren-ground caribou survey methods and outcomes.</i>	Independent peer review	March 2009		<span style="color: green;">✓</span> <b>Completed</b> The independent peer review has been completed. Barren-Ground Caribou Management in the NWT: An Independent Peer Review was tabled in the Legislative Assembly in March 2009.
	<i>4.4.2 Develop a Five-Year NWT Barren-ground Caribou Management Strategy 2010-2015.</i>	NWT Barren-ground Caribou Management Strategy 2010-2015	June 2010	December 2010	ENR is preparing a draft strategy to review with boards in the fall of 2010.

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	<i>4.4.3 Develop agreements with the Governments of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Yukon and Nunavut on the management of shared wildlife populations, including polar bears, barren-ground caribou and boreal caribou.</i>	Bilateral agreements on shared wildlife populations for each jurisdiction	December 2010		An agreement on shared boreal caribou populations has been completed with Alberta.  A draft Nunavut/NWT polar bear management agreement has been completed.  A format for barren-ground caribou management agreement has been agreed to by Yukon and Nunavut.
4.5 Species at Risk	<i>4.5.1 Develop a NWT Bison Management Strategy.</i>	NWT Bison Management Strategy	December 2008		✓ <b>Completed</b>  An NWT Bison Management Strategy has been completed.
	<i>4.5.2 Develop a NWT Action Plan for Boreal Caribou.</i>	NWT Action Plan for Boreal Caribou	June 2009		✓ <b>Completed</b>  The revised action plan is being sent to co-management boards for approval.
	<i>4.5.3 Develop Wood Bison Management Plans for the Liard, Mackenzie and Slave River Lowland Populations.</i>	Management Plans for each population	December 2010	March 2012	Initial meetings of joint planning committees established with communities will be held in fall 2010.
	<i>4.5.4 Update the General Status Ranks of Wild Species in the NWT 2011-2015.</i>	Status report	June 2011		Work on the status report is underway.

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4.6 Environmental Legislation					
4.6.1 Species at Risk Legislation	4.6.1.1 <i>Introduce the NWT Species at Risk Act.</i>	Species at Risk Act introduced in Legislative Assembly	December 2008		✓ <b>Completed</b> The new Species at Risk Act came into effect in February 2010.
	4.6.1.2 <i>Implement actions under the NWT Species at Risk Act.</i>	CMA and SARC Annual reports	June 2010 and then annually		✓ <b>Completed</b> Staff for the new Secretariat have been hired. A first meeting of the new Species at Risk Committee (SARC) was held in March 2010. A first meeting of the Conference of Management Authorities (CMA) was held in June 2010. An initial list of species to be assessed has been prepared. First annual SARC report has been completed.
	4.6.1.3 <i>Sign Bilateral Cooperation Agreement on NWT Species at Risk.</i>	Bilateral Cooperation Agreement	March 2010	December 2010	Environment Canada is completing its final review of the agreement.
4.6.2 A New Wildlife Act	4.6.2.1 <i>Release a draft Wildlife Act for public consultation</i>	Draft NWT Wildlife Act	March 2011	December 2010	The Wildlife Act Working Group continues to meet and drafting is underway. A public document outlining the main elements of the bill will be released during summer 2010. A draft Bill is expected to be released for public review in fall 2010.
	4.6.2.2 <i>Introduce the revised Wildlife Act.</i>	Introduce revised Wildlife Act in Legislative Assembly	December 2011	March 2011	Work is underway.

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4.6.3 Forest Management Legislation	4.6.3.1 Identify framework components and major steps for development of new forest and fire management legislation and policy.	Forest Management Legislative and Policy Framework	December 2008		✓ <b>Completed</b> ENR has received the final report on major steps towards legislative and policy framework for the NWT, prepared under contract by KBM Consulting.
	4.6.3.2 Develop draft action plan for new forest and wildland fire management legislation and policy.	Forest Management Legislative and Policy Action Plan	June 2009	September 2010	ENR has contracted a consultant to conduct background research and issues scoping on forest policy and legislation. This work was completed in May 2010. Next steps are to develop a draft action plan and schedule to completion, with dates to be determined.  The Draft action plan and schedule will be completed by September 2010.
	4.6.3.3 Develop and implement regulations that require issuance of an Incidental Timber Harvesting Permit when cutting trees related to an industrial development activity.	Incidental Timber Harvesting Regulations	December 2009	March 2011	Consultation with Justice has resulted in understanding of the issues and solutions for the creation of an Incidental Forest Use Authorization and implementation under the current land management jurisdictions in the NWT. ENR will bring the draft change to the <i>Forest Management Regulations</i> forward for implementation by March 2011. Meetings with DIAND to resolve issues of joint management jurisdictions will occur over the next few months. Public consultations will take place in the winter of 2010/ 2011.

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4.7 Maintaining Forest Fire Management Services Program Effectiveness	<i>4.7.1 Conduct a review of ENR's strategic approach to wildland fire management that includes recommended changes. This will include a review of how the NWT Forest Fire Management Policy is implemented related to values at risk and the need to consider natural resource values such as habitat and needs of migratory species such as caribou.</i>	Discussion paper	September 2009	October 2010	<p>Initial Community consultation was undertaken during 2008-2009 in a sample of communities. Issues and concerns identified in the consultations formed part of the Terms of Reference established for a Wildland Fire Management Program Review.</p> <p>Facilitated Community workshops, with the support of consultants with expertise in fire management policy reviews and targeted discussions are underway. A report on issues and recommendations will be provided by October 2010.</p>
	<i>4.7.2 Develop a Forest Fire Management Action Plan to address issues or gaps identified through the aforementioned review.</i>	Forest Fire Management Action Plan	December 2009	March 2011	<p>Based on results obtained above, and internal analyses of operational issues, a plan of action on the recommendations of the Wildland Fire Management Program Review will be prepared for implementation by the 2011 Wildfire season.</p>

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4.8 Wildland Fire Management					
4.8.1 Protecting Communities from Forest Fire	4.8.1.1 Develop FireSmart interface fire management plans for Fort Smith, Kakisa and Tsiiigehtchic.	FireSmart plans for each of Fort Smith, Kakisa and Tsiiigehtchic	December 2009	March 2010	✓ <b>Completed</b> Community Wildland Interface fire management plans have been completed for Fort Smith, Tsiiigehtchic, Kakisa, Fort Providence, Norman Wells, Enterprise, Jean Marie River and Fort Good Hope. Plain language versions are being prepared for improved community understanding.
	4.8.1.2 <sup>NEW</sup> Develop FireSmart interface fire management plans for Hay River, Hay River Reserve, Fort Resolution, Fort Simpson, Trout Lake, Wrigley, Fort Liard, Lutsel K'e and Tulita	FireSmart plans for each of Hay River, Hay River Reserve, Fort Resolution, Fort Simpson, Trout Lake, Wrigley, Fort Liard, Lutsel K'e and Tulita.		March 2011	Community Wildland Interface fire management plans will be completed for Hay River, Hay River Reserve, Fort Resolution, Fort Simpson, Trout Lake, Wrigley, Fort Liard, Lutsel K'e and Tulita
	4.8.1.3 <sup>NEW</sup> Develop FireSmart interface fire management plans for Fort McPherson, Behchoko, Yellowknife, Whati, Nahanni Butte, Colville Lake and Deline.	FireSmart plans for each of Fort McPherson, Behchoko, Yellowknife, Whati, Nahanni Butte, Colville Lake and Deline.		March 2012	Community Wildland Interface fire management plans will be completed for Fort McPherson, Behchoko, Yellowknife, Whati, Nahanni Butte, Colville Lake and Deline.

\* Spring (March 20 – June 20)

Summer (June 21 – September 22)

Fall (September 23- December 20)

Winter (December 21 – March 19)

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
	<i>4.8.1.4 Develop a new inter-jurisdictional multi-year research plan to identify and address research gaps in community protection.</i>	Community protection multi-year research plan	December 2009	March 2010	Work is underway on the research plan, which will include research work at the Fort Providence research site and cooperative ventures with partner agencies, to address wildland fire research in terms of community protection.
4.8.2 Forest Renewal	<i>4.8.2.1 Prepare a Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT to ensure sustainable use of forest resources.</i>	Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT	June 2009	March 2011	A draft Forest Renewal Strategy has been received from contract specialists. A Forest Management specialist is reviewing the recommendations and will prepare an implementation plan.
4.9 Managing Forest Resources	<i>4.9.1 Develop a forest management plan for management of forest resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Region (GSR).</i>	GSR Forest Management Plan	June 2009	December 2010	The Gwich'in Forest Management Plan: A Framework for Forest Management has been completed. ENR is waiting for advice from the Gwich'in Tribal Council that an approval process may be initiated. A target of joint signing ENR – Gwich'in Tribal Council in the fall of 2010 is proposed.

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## 5. Protect Territorial Waters

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
5.0 Protect Territorial Waters	5.0.1 <i>Compile NWT transboundary water data for use in future transboundary agreement negotiations, based upon concerns and issues identified.</i>	Technical information report	December 2009	December 2010	Considerable background work has been compiled by a GNWT/federal working group. Additional information will continue to be shared with negotiating teams in the bilateral negotiations phase commencing in January 2011.
	5.0.2 <i>Engage Aboriginal governments, Land and Water Boards and others to develop a NWT water stewardship strategy to address concerns and issues.</i>	NWT Water Stewardship Strategy	June 2009	May 2010	✓ <b>Completed</b> NWT Water Stewardship Strategy was tabled in the NWT Legislature on May 20, 2010 and is now available publicly.
	5.0.3 <i>Work with interested parties to identify appropriate aquatic ecosystem approaches, including indicators that will help in monitoring NWT values at risk.</i>	Aquatic Ecosystem Approach	December 2010		A draft GNWT discussion paper is in the process of being finalized. Planning for related workshops is underway.
	5.0.4 <i>Complete transboundary waters agreements negotiations for Peace-Athabasca-Slave watersheds.</i>	Bilateral Water Management Agreements (AB-NWT primary)	December 2011	AB-NWT Bilateral December 2012	A Bilateral Water Management Agreements: Guidance Document as a basis for all bilateral is complete. Preparations are underway to prepare for negotiating an Alberta-NWT bilateral agreement.

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
	<i>5.0.5 Work with the Federal Government, Land and Water Boards, communities and others to develop an implementation plan and inter-jurisdictional agreement, and implement the endorsed Canada-Wide Strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluent.</i>	Implementation Plan and Inter-Jurisdictional Agreement	March 2011		A northern working group has been formed and preliminary work is underway to establish communications between F/P/T parties, to decide how research needs will be accomplished and the role of the Northern Research Working Group.
	<i>5.0.6 Develop effective resources, management and assessment tools, like catchment area maps, to help NWT communities manage risk to watersheds that are the source for public water supplies.</i>	Community risk assessment tools	June 2012		Preliminary work is underway to establish appropriate methods.
	<i>5.0.7 Complete transboundary waters agreements negotiations to address the Hay River and Great Slave watersheds.</i>	Bilateral water management agreements with Alberta, in association with British Columbia and Saskatchewan	December 2012		Member jurisdictions completed and agreed to a Bilateral Water Management Agreements Guidance Document in the fall of 2009. The NWT (led by ENR and INAC) are now preparing for negotiations of a bilateral with Alberta, ensuring expertise is in place and a strong negotiating mandate is developed.

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