



Framework for Action 2005-2008



Status Report to November 30, 2007

Minister's Message



I am pleased to provide a status report on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (ENR) Framework for Action 2005-2008. This status report highlights the Department's activities on action items and additional activities undertaken from December 2006 to November 2007.

During the past eleven months, several major action items have been completed and progress has been made on a number of others.

The renewed Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy and a new Energy Plan were finalized and released in March 2007.

The GHG Strategy identifies northern actions to control the emissions of greenhouse gases, provides linkages to national and international actions on climate change and establishes a target to reduce emissions from Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) operations. The Energy Plan provides a policy framework to guide future GNWT decisions with respect to energy development and management.

The GNWT also entered into an ecoTrust agreement with the Government of Canada for funding for energy and climate change initiatives.

Conserving our wildlife populations is a high priority for the Department. ENR has been working with partners in the co-management of caribou and wood bison populations. A number of monitoring initiatives are underway or completed including monitoring of the Nahanni bison population and barren-ground caribou calving ground distribution surveys, including surveys of the Bathurst, Bluenose West and Bluenose East herds.

ENR has also started the process of monitoring the ecological impacts of seismic activities on caribou and other wildlife populations. Northwest Territories (NWT)-wide guidelines for seismic operation will be developed during the next year to ensure that impacts are minimized and addressed in a proactive manner.

Other highlights include the joint submission with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) of a draft closure and reclamation plan for the Giant Mine, and actions to address water management issues of concern to NWT residents, including signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Alberta and INAC towards the negotiation of a bilateral water management agreement with Alberta, and holding a successful WaterWise Conference to share information about water issues in the Mackenzie Basin. The Department has also signed a MOU with Municipal and Community Affairs on FireSmart planning and implementation.

Support for the Beverage Container Program continues to grow. Since November 2005, residents of the NWT returned more than 49 million containers to community recycling depots.

Work continues on a variety of less visible, but no less important projects, to protect and conserve our natural environment and its resources. With the involvement, participation and partnership of NWT residents, our shared commitment to a healthy environment that supports and contributes to the long-term economic and social stability of the NWT will continue well into the future.

J. Michael Miltenberger, Minister

Summary of Initiatives, Actions and Progress

1. Protecting Our Environment

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
1.1 Species at Risk Legislation	1.1.1 Convene a meeting of regional political leaders to develop a collaborative approach to revising the Acts (<i>Wildlife, Species at Risk</i>).	Agreement on collaborative approach achieved.	Summer 2005		✓ Completed - Collaborative process proposed to land claim organizations. - Species at Risk working group has been formed. - The working group is meeting on an ongoing basis to make recommendations for completing the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> .
	1.1.2 Sign Bilateral Cooperation Agreement on Species at Risk.	Bilateral Cooperation Agreement signed.	Fall 2005	Winter 2008	- A draft agreement with Canada has been reviewed by the Department of Justice. - The federal government is reviewing the draft agreement.
	1.1.3 Release a draft Species at Risk Act for further public consultation.	Draft <i>Species at Risk Act</i> completed and released.	Fall 2005	Summer 2008	- Pending completion of the draft through collaborative process with land claim organizations. - The first complete draft was reviewed by land claim organizations in July 2007. A revised draft will be provided to land claim organizations in December 2007 for review in early January 2008. It is expected that at least one more round of revision and review by the working group will be required to ensure the legislation respects and reflects the authorities granted by the four settled land claim agreements. - Once a draft is complete it will be shared in confidence with Aboriginal organizations without a settled land claim. - Public consultation document outlining major elements of proposed legislation was released for public review September 2006.
	1.1.4 Complete public consultation and a revised draft.	Revisions to draft made following consultation.	Summer 2006	Winter 2009	- Pending public consultation in the summer of 2008.
	1.1.5 Introduce the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> .	New <i>Species At Risk Act</i> introduced in the Legislative Assembly.	Fall 2006	Spring 2009	- Bill to be introduced in spring 2009.

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	1.1.6 <i>Implement actions under the Species at Risk Act once passed by the Legislative Assembly.</i>	Actions identified within the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> are implemented.	Fall 2007	Fall 2009	- Once passed, implementation of the bill will require the formation of a Species At Risk Committee (SARC) and a Conference of Management Authorities (CMA) and implementation of an assessment, listing and recovery/management process.
1.2 A New Wildlife Act	1.2.1 <i>Convene a meeting of regional political leaders to develop a collaborative approach to revising the Acts (Wildlife, Species at Risk).</i>	Agreement on collaborative approach achieved.	Summer 2005		✓ Completed - Collaborative process has been established with land claim organizations to complete the drafting of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> . - This process will be used as a model for developing the <i>Wildlife Act</i> .
	1.2.2 <i>Release a draft Wildlife Act for further public consultation.</i>	Draft <i>Wildlife Act</i> completed and released.	Winter 2007	Spring/Summer 2010	- Work on drafting a new <i>Wildlife Act</i> will commence after the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> is complete. The collaborative drafting process established with the land claim organizations to complete the species at risk legislation will be used. It is anticipated the process will take approximately two years and will require the services of a contract drafter. Ongoing financial support will be required to enable the land claim organizations and their legal counsel to continue to participate in the process.
	1.2.3 <i>Complete public consultation and a revised draft.</i>	Revisions to draft made following consultation.	Fall 2007	Winter 2011	- Pending the completion of the public consultation.
	1.2.4 <i>Introduce the Wildlife Act.</i>	New <i>Wildlife Act</i> introduced in the Legislative Assembly.	Winter 2008	Spring/summer 2011	- The new <i>Wildlife Act</i> will be implemented using the wildlife management structure already in place within ENR.
1.3 Waste Recovery Programs	1.3.1 <i>Implement a beverage container recovery program with depots in at least six major territorial communities.</i>	Recovery depots are operating in identified communities.	Fall 2005		✓ Completed - The Beverage Container Program was implemented on November 1, 2005, with depots in 11 communities.
	1.3.2 <i>Increase the number of communities with depots to include at least 75% of territorial communities, representing 90% of the population.</i>	Recovery depot operation expanded to cover majority of communities.	Fall 2006	Spring 2006	✓ Completed - 24 privately owned depots are operating in communities across the Northwest Territories, serving 96% of the NWT population. ENR contracts the operation of periodic 'satellite depots' in the remaining 7 communities so all residents can return their empty beverage containers. - More than 49 million empty beverage containers have been recovered through community depots during the first two years of the Program. - Recycling markets have been identified for 91% of the materials collected.

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	1.3.3 Undertake public consultations to identify additional waste types for recovery.	Public consultation on further waste recovery is completed.	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The consultation plan and discussion paper were drafted in November 2007. - Public consultation on expansion of the waste recovery program will be initiated in December 2007.
1.4 Forest Management Legislation	1.4.1 Identify framework components and major steps for development of new forest management legislation and policy.	Forest management framework is completed.	Winter 2007	Fall 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A contract is in place to have the framework developed by March 31, 2008. - Letters will be sent to Aboriginal governments advising that ENR is beginning the process of developing new legislation and advising they will be contacted regarding their involvement. - A steering Committee has been established to guide the process of developing the framework and action plan.
	1.4.2 Develop draft action plan for new forest management legislation and policy.	Action plan based on the forest management framework is completed	Fall 2007		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An Action Plan will be drafted on the completion of the framework identifying the steps to be taken and associated timelines.

2. Building on Partnerships

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
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2.1 Energy and Climate Change	2.1.1 Initiate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Cooperation on Addressing Climate Change.	MOU with Canada is finalized.	Summer 2005	Winter 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed - The Government of the Northwest Territories entered into an ecoTrust agreement with the Government of Canada in March 2007. The Agreement provides \$5 million to the GNWT for energy and climate change activities.
	2.1.2 Prepare and release a revised Greenhouse Gas Strategy and implementation plan.	Revised strategy and implementation plan are completed.	Fall 2005	Winter 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed - Environment and Natural Resources released a revised Greenhouse Gas Strategy and implementation plan in March 2007.
	2.1.3 Prepare and release an Energy Policy "White Paper".	White Paper is released for discussion and feedback.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed - The Departments of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) and Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) jointly released the Discussion Paper <i>Energy for the Future</i> for consultation in June 2006.

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	2.1.4 <i>Prepare and release a broad NWT Energy Plan.</i>	Energy Plan completed.	Spring 2006	Winter 2007	✓ Completed - The Departments of Environment and Natural Resources and Industry, Tourism and Investment jointly released the document Energy for the Future – An Energy Plan for the Northwest Territories in March 2007.
	2.1.5 <i>Prepare and release a climate change impacts and adaptation plan developed in consultation with affected departments.</i>	Plan developed.	Spring 2006	Summer 2008	- ENR is working with GNWT departments to collect information on what departments are doing to adapt to climate change. This will inform a broader consultation process and drafting of an Adaptation Plan in 2008.
	2.1.6 <i>Support the Arctic Energy Alliance to initiate community energy plans.</i>	Support provided.	Spring 2006	On-going	- The GNWT provided \$930,000 to the Arctic Energy Alliance during 2007/08 for core administrative support and to fund energy management, public awareness, community energy planning and EnerGuide assessment programming. In addition, the Alliance is delivering the new Energy Efficiency Incentive Program (EEIP) on behalf of the GNWT.
2.2 Con Mine Reclamation	2.2.1 <i>Work with Miramar Con Mining Limited and the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) technical working group to complete the review of the proposed Con Mine closure and reclamation plan.</i>	Review of the closure and reclamation plan is completed.	Winter 2006	Winter 2007	✓ Completed - Following an extensive three-year review of Miramar Con Mine Limited's Closure and Reclamation Plan by a multi-stakeholder technical working group, the MVLWB approved the final plan for Con Mine in April 2007.
	2.2.2 <i>Monitor implementation of the approved closure and reclamation plan by Miramar Con Mine Limited.</i>	Monitoring of the closure and reclamation plan is underway.	2010	Ongoing	- ENR monitors cleanup activities to ensure the final closure and reclamation plan is implemented.
2.3 Giant Mine Reclamation	2.3.1 <i>Implement a mine site care and maintenance plan.</i>	Care and maintenance plan is implemented	Summer 2005		✓ Completed - In March 2005, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the GNWT entered into an Agreement to cooperate and coordinate the care and maintenance of Giant Mine and implement the approved remediation plan. - A senior-level Oversight Committee has been established to coordinate implementation of the Agreement. - As part of the Cooperation Agreement, Deton'Cho Nuna Logistics has been contracted by INAC, to provide care and maintenance services ensuring that the mine site remains safe, secure and in compliance with regulatory requirements.
	2.3.2 <i>Finalize and submit a Giant Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan for regulatory approval.</i>	Closure and reclamation plan is submitted to the Land and Water Board.	Winter 2006	Summer 2007	✓ Completed - A draft Closure and Reclamation Plan was jointly submitted by the GNWT and INAC to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board on October 19, 2007 for joint submission to regulatory agencies.

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	2.3.3 <i>Implement the approved Giant Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan.</i>	Closure and reclamation plan is implemented.	Winter 2008	On-going	- ENR will work collaboratively with INAC to implement the Closure and Reclamation Plan once regulatory approval is obtained.
2.4 Historic Uranium Transportation Route Clean-Up	2.4.1 <i>Develop and implement a comprehensive plan for managing contaminated soil along the Northern Transportation Route.</i>	Management plan for final disposal of contaminated soil is implemented.	Winter 2007	Winter 2008	- Uranium-contaminated soil at Tulita has been bagged and is awaiting permanent disposal by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) during the summer of 2008. ENR and NRCan's Radioactive Waste Management Division are reviewing options for the long-term management of radioactive wastes located along the remaining Northern Transportation Route sites.
2.5 Keeping Our Water Clean	2.5.1 <i>Work with NWT and federal partners to identify steps needed to map those areas surrounding communities where land and water activities could impact community drinking water supplies.</i>	Steps to map NWT community drinking water source protection areas are identified and underway.	Winter 2006	Fall 2007	✓ Completed - Published maps are web-accessible at http://maps.gnwtgeomatics.nt.ca/portal/watershedmaps.jsp . The public is also able to prepare their own maps using water management and related data layers: http://maps.gnwtgeomatics.nt.ca/portal/thematic_maps.jsp - Work continues to add additional information layers related to water management.
	2.5.2 <i>Work with NWT and federal partners to develop a GNWT protocol to help protect community drinking water sources through the use of existing legislation.</i>	GNWT drinking water protocol is completed and implemented.	Spring 2006	Winter 2008	- Summaries of legislation and management frameworks related to water management were provided through presentations at WaterWise held in November 2007. - ENR will use this information to draft protocol(s) and finalize these with each jurisdiction.
	2.5.3 <i>Identify and proceed with actions towards an NWT-Alberta bilateral agreement under the Mackenzie River Transboundary Master Agreement.</i>	Process for achieving a trans-boundary agreement is identified and implemented.	Fall 2007		- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed by Alberta Environment on behalf of Alberta, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Environment and Natural Resources on behalf of the NWT is being used as the basis for an Action Plan to be completed in December 2007.
	2.5.4 <i>Canada-wide Strategy (CWS) for Municipal Wastewater and Effluent (MWWWE)</i>	CWS completed.	Fall 2006	Spring 2008	- It is anticipated that Ministers of the CCME will review a final draft of the CWS in spring 2008. - A draft Strategy that includes technical supplements related to risk assessment as well as economics and funding, was released for public comment in October 2007. - The GNWT is working with Environment Canada to consult the NWT public, including Aboriginal organizations and land and water boards, on the draft strategy. - The GNWT will submit comments on the draft by January 31, 2008.

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	2.5.5 In collaboration with INAC and Environment Canada, develop a GNWT Strategy and action plan to address water management issues of concern to NWT residents.	Framework and strategy are completed	Winter 2008		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preliminary work on the strategy has identified three focus areas for actions related to Keeping NWT Water Clean: public water supply source protection; transboundary water matters (communications and agreements amongst federal-provincial-territorial jurisdictions); and aquatic ecosystem indicators. - Work continues in these three areas to develop the plan.
2.6 Protecting Communities From Forest Fire	2.6.1 Develop an MOU for wildfire management between ENR, Parks Canada and Alberta for the area adjacent to Fort Smith.	Wildfire management MOU for Fort Smith is completed.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed - At the operational level, a new protocol is in place for fire response between ENR, Parks Canada and Alberta Sustainable Development.
	2.6.2 Initiate an MOU for wildfire management between ENR and the Yukon for the area adjacent to Fort Liard and the Peel River area.	Development of wildfire management MOU for Fort Liard is underway.	Fall 2005		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed - An updated Cross Border Agreement has been signed between the Yukon and the NWT that addressed concerns in the Fort Liard and Peel River areas.
	2.6.3 Update the MOU on FireSmart planning and implementation between Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) and ENR.	FireSmart MOU updated.	Winter 2006	Summer 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed - MOU with MACA has been signed.
	2.6.4 Develop FireSmart interface fire management plans for four communities: Tsiigehtchic, Fort Smith, Enterprise, Fort Providence.	Landscape fire management plans for identified communities are completed.	Spring 2007	Fall 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft FireSmart Interface Plan has been completed for Fort Smith. - A meeting is to be scheduled with the Community of Fort Smith the fall of 2007 to review the plan and it's recommendations. - The development of FireSmart Interface Plans for the other areas will be initiated fall 2007.

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3. Managing Development to Sustain the Environment

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3.1 Best Management Practices	3.1.1 <i>Develop Protocol Agreements between ENR and Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) to maintain linkages, support joint activities and ensure ongoing cooperation between the two new departments.</i>	Protocol Agreements are completed and implemented	Fall 2005		✓ Completed - Protocols were signed by the Deputy Ministers of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) and ENR on Compliance, Shared Assets, Devolution, Traditional Economy, Agriculture, and Fisheries Programs, and Shared Services.
	3.1.2 <i>Develop "air quality best management practices" for the upstream oil and gas industry.</i>	Oil and gas industry "air quality best management practices" are completed.	Winter 2006	Spring 2008	- Environment Canada (EC) and ENR have collaboratively developed an "Air Emissions Management Framework for the Upstream Oil & Gas Industry." This Framework provides recommendations for air quality and emissions management in northern Canada. - ENR has consolidated these recommendations into a 'best practices' document that will be applicable to the northern oil and gas industry. Consultation on a draft document is currently being completed with the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and National Energy Board.
	3.1.3 <i>Create Standard Operating Procedures for Commercial Timber Harvesting and Oil and Gas Development to minimize impacts to the forest resources.</i>	Standard Operating Procedures are completed.	Winter 2006		✓ Completed - Standard Operating Procedures for Commercial Timber Harvesting were completed. Development of procedures for oil and gas development to minimize impacts to the forest resource has been combined with Initiative 3.1.5.
	3.1.4 <i>Create Guidelines for Domestic Use of Forest Resources.</i>	Guidelines for Domestic Use of Forest Resources are completed.	Spring 2006	Spring 2008	- Guidelines for Permitting, planning, monitoring, and reporting domestic wood use will be completed by Spring 2008.
	3.1.5 <i>Develop "best management practices" compendium for minerals, oil and gas development to reduce environmental impacts, especially on forest, wildlife and habitat, including improvements to the regulatory regime.</i>	Minerals, oil and gas development "best management practices" compendium is completed.	Fall 2007	Ongoing	- A review of current literature was initiated to identify management practices from other jurisdictions that could be applied in the NWT. - A departmental working group has been established. - Information on Best Management Practices for seismic exploration and domestic camp waste management has been compiled. - A Symposium on Best Practices, Stewardship Initiatives and Research Intended to Understand, Reduce and Mitigate the Effects of Oil and Gas Development Across Northern Landscapes was held in Inuvik, October 2007. - Best management practices for monitoring and mitigation of impacts of diamond mining are being compiled.

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	3.1.6. <i>In collaboration with Environment Canada and INAC, develop NWT-wide Guidelines for Seismic Operations, to ensure that: 1) the ecological impacts of seismic activities on woodland caribou and other species are minimize; and 2) the ecological impacts of seismic operations are addressed in a proactive manner.</i>	NWT-wide Guidelines for Seismic Operations	Spring 2008		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information on options for minimizing environmental impacts of seismic operations in the NWT is being compiled. - Workshops will be held with Industry, regulatory boards and communities in February 2008.
3.2 Managing Human Activities to Reduce Cumulative Effects	3.2.1 <i>In partnership with industry and Dehcho First Nations, establish the Dehcho Boreal Caribou Committee to identify management actions to reduce and mitigate impacts on boreal caribou and their habitat from oil and gas development.</i>	Dehcho Boreal Caribou Committee is in place and has begun work	Fall 2005	Spring 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussions were held with Dehcho leadership in March 2007 and support from the leadership was obtained for the formation of a Dehcho Boreal Caribou Working Group. - Dehcho First Nations staff and ENR are preparing a Terms of Reference for the working group.
	3.2.2 <i>Develop a Final Terms of Reference for a Multi-Project Monitoring Agency.</i>	Terms of reference for multi-project agency developed.	Spring 2006	Winter 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An effort to complete a final Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Multi-Project Environmental Monitoring Agency (MPEMA) is on-going. - Representatives from ENR have participated in the Steering Committee. - A draft Terms of Reference was prepared in October 2005. Remaining unresolved issues are being addressed. - The Steering Committee will meet in late December 2007 to finalize TOR.
	3.2.3 <i>Establish environmental assessment, protection and monitoring specialists throughout the NWT to track environmental changes and management actions taken.</i>	Positions established in regions and headquarters.	Spring 2007		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed - Regional Environmental Protection Officer positions have been established in each of the GNWT 's five Regional Office and Regional Environmental Assessment (EA) biologists in the Inuvik, Sahtu and Dehcho. - An Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Unit has been established within the ENR Directorate to strengthen linkages with regional EA coordination. All positions have been staffed as of November 14, 2007.
	3.2.4 <i>Develop and implement a GNWT strategic framework for assessing and managing cumulative effects.</i>	Framework developed and implementation underway.	Spring 2007	Spring 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A workshop is planned for the winter of 2007/2008, to assess potential cumulative effects methodology and links to mine-specific and regional monitoring programs for barren-ground caribou. - ENR is participating in studies with Aboriginal groups, regulators and industry looking at the use of thresholds in managing landscape change and cumulative impacts.

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3.3 A Forest Renewal Strategy for the NWT	3.3.1 <i>Prepare a Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT.</i>	"A Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT" is completed.	Spring 2006	Winter 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A summer planting project for the Cameron Hills area was completed. - Development of a Forest Renewal Strategy has been initiated with a Strategy to be drafted by March 31, 2008.
	3.3.2 <i>Complete Regenerating Stand Surveys for the Dehcho and South Slave Regions.</i>	Stand surveys are completed.	Fall 2006	Fall 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surveys were completed in the Cameron Hills area, Dehcho region in 2004 and 2005. Work in the Slave River area has been deferred due to the availability of personnel.
3.4 Species At Risk	3.4.1 <i>Work with Renewable Resource Boards and Aboriginal Governments to complete the Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy and implement actions.</i>	Boreal Caribou Action Plan is completed and implementation is underway.	Fall 2006	Spring 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community consultations were carried out during winter/spring 2007. - A draft action plan is being reviewed by the Wildlife Division. - The draft action plan will be sent in spring 2008 to co-management boards, Aboriginal governments, communities and interest groups (e.g. industry and environmental groups) for review and finalization.
	3.4.2 <i>Work with the Dehcho and Tlicho communities to develop a Mackenzie Wood Bison Management Plan to address the expanding population and public safety concerns along Highway 3.</i>	Management Plan for Mackenzie Wood Bison is completed.	Fall 2007	Fall 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENR established project teams to develop management plans for the Liard and Mackenzie wood bison herds. - A joint ENR/Transportation committee was established to address highway bison conflicts. - ENR has hired a new Bison biologist and initiated discussions with the Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board on bison management planning.
	3.4.3 <i>Develop management plans for grizzly bear and wolverine.</i>	Grizzly bear and wolverine management plans are completed.	Fall 2007	Spring 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENR biologists are developing draft management plans. Wildlife co-management boards will be consulted. Completed management plans will constitute NWT contribution towards national requirement for management plans once grizzly bear and wolverine are listed under the federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i>.

4. Building On What We Know

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
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4.1 Classifying and mapping ecosystems	4.1.1 <i>Prepare maps of revised eco-regions for the Mackenzie Valley.</i>	Mackenzie Valley ecoregion maps are completed.	Fall 2006	Winter 2007	✓ Completed - Maps and report have been completed. - Final report and map of the revised Taiga Plain Ecozone (Mackenzie valley) was released in April 2007.
	4.1.2 <i>Complete ecological land classification for the Taiga Shield Ecozone.</i>	Land classifications are completed.	Spring 2007	Fall 2007	- Fieldwork was completed during the summer of 2006. The report and maps are scheduled for completion on December 1, 2007.
4.2 Gathering Baseline Information and Monitoring Cumulative Effects	4.2.1 <i>Implement the Bathurst caribou monitoring program.</i>	Bathurst caribou monitoring program implemented.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	✓ Completed - ENR North Slave regional staff are implementing a Bathurst caribou monitoring program with YKDFN and Tlicho communities, outfitters and resident harvesters to collect information on caribou condition, pregnancy rates and harvesting.
	4.2.2 <i>Establish a more extensive permanent forest monitoring plot network to contribute to the baseline knowledge of forests in the NWT.</i>	Network expanded by 30 plots.	Fall 2005		✓ Completed - 42 new permanent forest monitoring plots have been established.
	4.2.3 <i>Expand the existing air quality network into small communities.</i>	Network expanded beyond current larger centers.	Spring 2007	Spring 2008	- Funding has been obtained through the NWT Biophysical Study Program to expand the existing air quality network into small communities. Monitoring equipment will be installed in selected communities to monitor spring and summer dust levels
	4.2.4 <i>Identify appropriate aquatic ecosystem indicators in areas related to GNWT mandate</i>	Indicators identified	Spring 2008		- ENR is working with First Nations and federal government agencies through Mackenzie River Basin Board initiatives to identify indicators.

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5. Getting Information to Those Who Need It

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5.1 Reporting on the NWT State of the Environment	5.1.1 <i>Produce annual reports and publish scientific reports on the results from the Western NWT Biophysical Study.</i>	Annual reports are completed and available for distribution.	Annually	Winter 2008	✓ Completed - The 2004/05 annual report was released in winter of 2006. - The 2005/06 annual report was released in fall of 2006. - The 2006/07 annual report will be released in Winter 2008
	5.1.2 <i>Complete the second report of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan.</i>	Report is completed and available for distribution.	Fall 2005	Spring 2006	✓ Completed - The second report of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan was released in spring of 2006.
	5.1.3 <i>Complete the 2005 report of general ranking of species.</i>	Report is completed and available for distribution.	Spring 2006	Fall 2006	✓ Completed - NWT Species 2006 – 2010 was released in the fall of 2006. - All species are ranked with the exception of marine fish (responsibility of Fisheries and Oceans Canada).
	5.1.4 <i>Develop a “state of the environment” summary to report annually on the NWT environment, especially its air, wildlife and forests.</i>	Report is completed and available for distribution.	Fall 2007	Summer 2008	- ENR Working Group was established to guide the development of the report. - Indicators for the state of environment in 20 general areas of interest are being developed.
5.2 Designing a Wildlife Management Information System (WMIS)	5.2.1 <i>Complete the design and testing of the WMIS.</i>	Wildlife Management Information System is fully operational.	Fall 2006		✓ Completed - The WMIS design is complete and data is being entered into the system. - Regional data collection began in the fall of 2007. - User training will occur during the fall/winter of 2007/08.

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5.3 Developing a Forest Management Information System (FMIS)	5.3.1 <i>Complete the Implementation Phase of FMIS.</i>	Report is completed.	Spring 2006	Fall 2006	✓ Completed - Implementation Phase related to the common data repository was completed in October 2006. - Development of the Wildfire Management Application (EMBER) that will be part of the overall FMIS was initiated in October 2006. - This is a three year project with funding through the IT Capital Funding process. The first modules of EMBER will be delivered February 2008 for testing and use during the 2008 fire season.
	5.3.2 <i>Develop an Information Management Strategic Plan.</i>	Strategic plan for information management is completed.	Spring 2006		✓ Completed - The Information Systems Plan has been completed.
5.4 Tracking Environmental Assessment and Management of Development Projects (EATS)	5.4.1 <i>Conduct an Initial Needs Assessment and Preliminary Analysis for the development of an Environmental Assessment Tracking System.</i>	Needs assessment completed and reported as a basis for further actions.	Spring 2007	Spring 2006	✓ Completed - Funding was approved for a needs analysis for 2006/07. A working group and steering committee made up of representatives from five GNWT departments was established to guide the needs analysis and eventual development of the tracking system. - The Initial Needs Assessment and Preliminary Analysis were completed. Reports were prepared and recommended solutions made.
5.4a Tracking Environmental Assessment and Management of Development of Projects (EATS)	5.4a.1 <i>Design, build and implement the EATS system to better manage the environmental assessment process and associated information management library.</i>	System is fully operational.	Spring 2008		- IT Capital funding has been approved. Funding is available for the 2007/08 fiscal year. - The contractor has been engaged to design the EATS pro-type by spring 2008.
5.5 Upgrading the Compliance Database	5.5.1 <i>Merge regional information into central database, and transfer into web-based application.</i>	Web-based enforcement database is fully operational.	Summer 2005		✓ Completed - Central database now online.

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
5.6 Develop a Publicly Accessible Air Quality Information System	5.6.1 <i>Provide real-time access to air quality monitoring information through the Internet.</i>	Real-time air quality information is available online.	Fall 2005	Spring 2006	<p>✓ Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air quality monitoring information is continuously being uploaded to ENR's Internet-based Air Quality Monitoring Network website. The site provides real-time and historic air quality information collected from monitoring stations in Yellowknife, Fort Liard, Norman Wells and Inuvik. The site also provides descriptions of the types of air pollutants measured and helps residents understand what these measurements mean.
5.7 Public Awareness of ENR	5.7.1 <i>Develop a communications plan for the Department of ENR.</i>	Communications plan is developed.	Fall 2005		<p>✓ Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A communications plan has been developed and is being implemented.
5.8 Spatial Data Warehouse	5.8.1 <i>Develop a Spatial Data Warehouse</i>	Spatial Data Warehouse is available online.	March 2006		<p>✓ Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of the warehouse is complete. Data is currently being entered and is available to Geomatics Centre clients and partners.
5.9 Licensing System (LISIN)	5.9.1 <i>Conduct an Initial Needs Assessment and Preliminary Analysis for the development of a new Licensing System</i>	Needs assessment completed and reported as a basis for further actions.	Spring 2006		<p>✓ Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A working group and steering committee made up of representatives from ENR and ITI were established to guide the needs analysis and eventual development of the licensing system.
5.9a Licensing System (LISIN)	5.9a.1 <i>Design, build and implement the LISIN system according to Phase One deliverables – fishing licences, hunting licences, tag receipts, vendor returns, reporting.</i>	First phase of system is fully operational	Spring 2008		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Initial Needs Assessment and Preliminary Analysis are complete. Reports were prepared and recommended solutions made. - Funding has been approved from IT Capital to design, build and implement the system for both departments. This is a multi-year project. The first phase of the project is expected to be completed during the 2007/08 fiscal year. At that time, future phases will be evaluated and scheduled as needed.
5.10 Electronic Documents Management System	5.10.1 <i>Conduct an Initial Needs Assessment and Preliminary Analysis for the development of a new Electronic Documents Management System for both ENR and ITI</i>	Needs assessment completed and reported as a basis for further actions.	Spring 2008		<p>✓ Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A working group and steering committee made up of representatives from ENR and ITI will be established to guide the needs analysis and eventual development of the Electronic Documents Management System. - IT Capital Funding was not approved for this initiative, as there was no new funding available.

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6. Managing Shared Resources Cooperatively

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
6.1 Managing Shared Wildlife Populations	6.1.1 Assist the Inuvialuit to complete agreements on the polar bear populations shared with Nunavut.	Polar bear population agreements completed.	Spring 2006	Fall 2007	✓ Completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Inuvialuit and the Kitikmeot Inuit have completed a user-to-user agreement on polar bear management. - ENR the Government of Nunavut (GN) and other polar bear jurisdictions are also preparing inter-governmental agreements to ensure coordination of management actions.
	6.1.2 Release GNWT Response to the Bathurst Caribou Management Plan and implement actions.	GNWT response to management plan released and actions are implemented.	Summer 2006		✓ Completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENR hosted the second annual Bathurst Caribou Management Plan(BCMP) workshop on December 4 to 6, 2006, bringing together management agencies, harvesters and stakeholders to review implementation of the plan. - During this workshop ENR heard that the time for implementing the actions identified in the BCMP is now.
	6.1.3 Develop agreements with the Government of Alberta and British Columbia on the management of shared boreal caribou populations.	Shared Boreal caribou agreements are completed.	Summer 2007	Spring 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation with other jurisdictions began in the fall of 2006. - British Columbia, Yukon and NWT are cooperating on the development of a Mountain Woodland Caribou Action Plan. - Alberta provided assistance for an interjurisdictional boreal caribou study in the South Slave region.
	6.1.4 Work with the Government of Nunavut to conduct a census of the Beverly caribou herd.	Beverly caribou census is completed.	Summer 2007	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With funding assistance from INAC and the Beverly/Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, ENR regional staff deployed collars on Beverly caribou cows in March 2006. The Government of Nunavut purchased fuel, which was delivered during the summer 2006 sealift for the 2007 survey. - 20 collars were deployed on the Beverly herd winter range in March 2006. - Weather conditions prevented completion of census in June 2007. A new date for another census is pending discussions with the Beverly/Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board. - A calving ground survey was conducted in June 2007 with assistance from Nunavut and Saskatchewan. The results of the survey were presented to the Beverly/Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board in November 2007.
	6.1.5 Prepare and Implement a Barren-Ground Caribou Management Strategy	Strategy released and actions implemented.	Spring 2007		✓ Completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategy was approved and funding has been secured for the life of the Strategy. - An NWT Barren-ground Caribou Summit was held in Inuvik in January 2007. - Actions are underway on all Strategies. - An annual report will be published in November 2007.

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
	6.1.6. <i>Develop agreements with the Yukon Government and Government of British Columbia on the management of shared wood bison populations</i>	Shared wood bison agreements are delivered	Spring 2008		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A population survey of the Nahanni Bison Population was conducted by the Yukon Government (YG) and GNWT biologists in March 2004. - Permits for sample collection of Nahanni Bison in northern BC by GNWT biologists have been provided. - GNWT, YG and BC biologists participated in a bison and roads workshop, in Fort Nelson, in December 2006, which created a bison/roads interagency committee that has been meeting regularly in 2007. - YG and GNWT will deploy collars on Nahanni bison during the summer of 2007. - Consultation with other jurisdictions is ongoing.
6.2 Managing Diseased Bison	6.2.1 <i>Engage First Nations, Parks Canada, the Government of Alberta, Agriculture Canada and industry associations to address the diseased bison in Wood Buffalo National Park.</i>	Consultations with all parties on options are completed.	Fall 2005	Fall 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canadian Council of Resource Ministers approved development of a Bovine Tuberculosis Strategy under the National Wildlife Disease Strategy in October 2006.
	6.2.2 <i>Develop an action plan and a complementary program with the Deninu K'ue First Nation and Fort Resolution Métis Council to reintroduce disease-free bison to the Hook Lake area.</i>	Action plan and program developed with all parties involved.	Fall 2006	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In May 2005, the discovery of tuberculosis (TB) in one bison in the captive Hook Lake Herd resulted in a quarantine of the herd. An epidemiological investigation was undertaken to determine the source and extent of TB in the captive herd. - The Minister of ENR announced in mid-December that the herd would be destroyed in 2006, due to lack of federal support and funding. - All bison were removed from the facility by April 2006 and remediation of the land will be completed in the summer of 2008.

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7. Promoting NWT Management of its Resources

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		June 2006 Update
			Original	Revised	
7.1 Participation in Devolution Negotiations	7.1.1 <i>Develop options for organizational design models that include responsibilities and functions associated with the transfer of the Northern Affairs Program.</i>	Post-devolution organizational design options for ENR are identified.	Fall 2006		- Work on organizational design is pending federal decision to resume Devolution negotiations.

8. Supporting Our Partners

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
8.1 Implementing the Protected Areas Strategy (PAS)	8.1.1 <i>Review the organizational structure of the PAS and recommend ways to improve its effectiveness to PAS partners.</i>	Review completed and recommendations made.	Summer 2005	Winter 2006	<p>✓ Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The PAS Steering Committee has hired a Managing Director to coordinate actions by INAC, GNWT and Environmental Non-government Organizations. - A Sahtu Regional Coordinator was hired as a pilot project to assist Sahtu communities to protect areas prior to or concurrently with pipeline construction as per the PAS Five-Year Mackenzie Valley Action Plan. - A second PAS Coordinator for the NWT Secretariat will be hired in 2007 to assist communities in moving PAS proposals forward.
	8.1.2 <i>Develop a preliminary map of critical wildlife habitat in the Mackenzie Valley.</i>	Draft critical wildlife habitat map is completed and available for review.	Winter 2007	Winter 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A project description and work plan has been developed to identify important wildlife areas. Consultation with biologists has occurred. - A draft map will be released in Winter 2008.
	8.1.3 <i>Complete renewable resource assessment for candidate areas.</i>	Candidate area renewable resource assessments are completed.	Fall 2007	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewable resource assessments for the Edézhzié and Sahoyúé – rhdacho candidate protected areas have been completed.

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
8.2 Supporting Community Based Forestry Development	8.2.1 <i>Conduct a community workshop on Forestry Development.</i>	Workshop is completed.	Fall 2005		✓ Completed - A workshop was held in October 2005. There were 48 participants representing First Nation, Métis and private industry. Workshop topics included planning a forest-based business, accessing capital and financing, harvesting and processing time and product marketing. - Follow up workshops were held in October 2006 in Hay River, and September 2007 in Inuvik.
	8.2.2 <i>Develop a Gwich'in Forest Management Plan.</i>	Management plan is completed.	Spring 2006		✓ Completed - The plan has been completed and an advisory committee has been put in place to address implementation.

