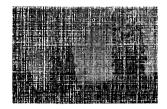
Framework for Action 2005–2008









Status Report to December 31, 2005

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Minister's Message



I am pleased to provide the first status report on the implementation of Environment and Natural Resources Framework for Action 2005–2008. This status report highlights activities of the Department on action items and includes new information on additional activities undertaken from June to December 2005.

During the past six months, 10 action items have been completed and progress has been made on a number of items. One of the major items completed is the Beverage Container Program. Residents have become active participants in the program. Beverage container depots have opened in 19 communities, representing 91 per cent of the Northwest Territories' (NWT) population.

Other actions may not be as "visible" to residents, but they are vitally important in protecting and conserving our natural environment and its resources, particularly our forests and wildlife.

Three additional items have been added to the Framework for Action: providing NWT input on a Canada-wide Strategy for Municipal Wastewater and Effluent, developing and implementing a Barren-ground Caribou Management Strategy and the development of a spatial date warehouse for use by a wide range of clients including governments, industry, environmental organizations and resource boards.

Public awareness, involvement and participation are critical factors in building on our shared commitment to a healthy environment that will support and contribute to the long-term economic and social stability of the NWT.

It is my pleasure to provide this status report on our progress during the past six months. I look forward to providing a new status report in another six months.

J. Michael Miltenberger

SM. Miltenburger

Summary of Initiatives, Actions and Progress

1.0 Protecting Our Environment

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Tim Original	eline Revised	Status
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 (Wildlife, Species at Risk).	Agreement on collaborative approach achieved.	Summer 2005		 ✓ Complete Collaborative drafting process proposed to land claim organizations. Species at Risk working group members have been identified. A first meeting of the working group was held on December 13, 2005.
	1.1.2 Sign Bilateral Cooperation Agreement on Species at Risk.	Bilateral Cooperation Agreement signed.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	- A draft agreement with the federal government has received initial review by the Department of Justice.
	1.1.3 Release a draft Species at Risk Act for further public consultation.	Draft Species at Risk Act completed and released.	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	- Pending signing of Bilateral Cooperation Agreement.
	1.1.4 Complete public consultation and a revised draft.	Revisions to draft made following consultation.	Summer 2006	Winter 2007	- Pending public consultation.
	1.1.5 Introduce the Species at Risk Act.	New Species At Risk Act introduced in the Legislative Assembly.	Fall 2006	Spring 2007	- Pending revised draft.
	1.1.6 Implement actions under the Species at Risk Act once passed by the Legislative Assembly.	Actions identified within the Species at Risk Act are implemented.	Fall 2007		- Pending introduction of the Species at Risk Act.
1.2 A New Wildlife Act	1.2.1 Convene a meeting of regional political leaders to develop a collaborative approach to revising the Acts (Wildlife, Species at Risk).	Agreement on collaborative approach achieved.	Summer 2005		 ✓ Complete Collaborative drafting process proposed to land claim organizations Species at Risk working group members have been identified. A first meeting of the working group was held on December 13, 2005

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Tim Original	eline Revised		Status
	1.2.2 Release a draft Wildlife Act for further public consultation.	Draft Wildlife Act completed and released.	Winter 2007		_	Pending revision to the Wildlife and Species at Risk Acts.
	1.2.3 Complete public consultation and a revised draft.	Revisions to draft made following consultation.	Fall 2007		_	Pending completion of public consultation.
	1.2.4 Introduce the Wildlife Act.	New Wildlife Act introduced in the Legislative Assembly.	Winter 2008		-	Pending completion of revised draft.
1.3 Waste Recovery Programs	1.3.1 Implement a beverage container recovery program with depots in at least six major territorial communities.	Recovery depots are operating in identified communities.	Fall 2005		-	Complete Beverage Container Program was implemented on November 1, 2005 with 11 depots.
	1.3.2 Increase the number of communities with depots to include at least 75% of territorial communities, representing 90% of the population.	Recovery depot operation expanded to cover majority of communities.	Fall 2006	Spring 2006		As of December 1, 2005, 57% or 19 communities, have opened or will soon open beverage container depots. This represents 91% of the Northwest Territories (NWT) population.
	1.3.3 Undertake public consultations to identify additional waste types for recovery.	Public consultation on further waste recovery is completed.	Fall 2007			Public consultation to begin when Beverage Container Program at full operation.
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			Preliminary work to begin spring 2006.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Time Original	eline Revised	Status
	forest management legislation and policy.	Action plan based on the forest management framework is completed		Neviseu	- Action Plan to be drafted on completion of a developmental framework.

2.0 Building on Partnerships

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Ori	eline ginal vised	Status
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 2006	- Conclusion of MOU and Annex discussions WAS delayed until after the federal election.
	2.1.2 Prepare and release a revised Greenhouse Gas Strategy and implementation plan.	Revised strategy and implementation plan are completed.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	- A revised Strategy will be released for discussion in early 2006.
	2.1.3 Prepare and release an Energy Policy "White Paper".	White Paper is released for discussion and feedback.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	- Implementation of early actions is proceeding through the government-wide Energy Conservation Action Plan. The Energy Policy "White Paper" for longer-term actions (written in conjunction with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment), will be released for discussion in winter 2006.
	2.1.4 Prepare and release a broad NWT Energy Plan.	Energy Plan completed.	Spring 2006		Funding has been approved by FMB and a communications plan is currently being developed.
	2.1.5 Prepare and release a climate change impacts and adaptation plan developed in consultation with affected departments.	Plan developed.	Spring 2006		- Contextual outline to be determined from the revised Greenhouse Gas Strategy.
	2.1.6 Support the Arctic Energy Alliance to initiate community energy plans.	Support provided.	Spring 2006		- Further support for the Arctic Energy Alliance is being considered in the context of implementation of the Greenhouse Gas Strategy and the Energy Policy "White Paper".

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Ori	eline ginal rised		Status
2.2 Con Mine Reclamation	2.2.1 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.	Review of the closure and reclamation plan is completed.	Winter 2006			A ruling by the MVLWB on a request from Miramar to extend their water licence for two years is forthcoming. Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) stated no objection so as to facilitate the timely completion of the closure plan and associated reclamation activities. ENR's participation in the working group is ongoing. Completion of the review is expected early in 2006.
	2.2.2 Monitor implementation of the approved closure and reclamation plan by Miramar Con Mine Limited.	Monitoring of the closure and reclamation plan is underway.	2010			Once the plan is approved by the MVLWB, ENR will undertake monitoring which is anticipated to commence 2006.
2.3 Giant Mine Reclamation	2.3.1 Implement a mine site care and maintenance plan.	Care and maintenance plan is implemented.	Summer 2005		-	Complete 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 meeting bi-monthly to coordinate implementation of the Agreement. Deton'Cho Nuna Logistics was contracted in March 2005 to provide care and maintenance services ensuring that the mine site remains safe, secure and in compliance with regulatory requirements.
	2.3.2 Finalize and submit a Giant Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan for regulatory approval.	Closure and reclamation plan is submitted to the Land and Water Board.	Winter 2006	Spring 2006		ENR and INAC are developing a final draft Giant Mine Remediation Plan. The draft plan is close to completion and will be submitted to the GNWT and Canada prior to submitting the plan to regulatory authorities for final approval.
	2.3.3 Implement the approved Giant Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan.	Closure and reclamation plan is implemented.	Winter 2008		_	Once the plan receives regulatory approval, ENR will work collaboratively with INAC to implement it.
2.4 Historic Uranium Transportatio n Route Clean-Up	2.4.1 Develop and implement a comprehensive plan for managing contaminated soil along the Northern Transportation Route.	Management plan for final disposal of contaminated soil is implemented.	Winter 2007		-	ENR is currently undertaking a review of options that will address this issue.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Ori	eline ginal rised	Status
2.5 Keeping Our Water Clean	2.5.1 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.	Steps to map NWT community drinking water source protection areas are identified and underway.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	- GIS mapping of watershed and some community water supply information has been completed. Cooperative work has been delayed to winter 2006.
	2.5.2 Work with NWT and federal partners to develop a GNWT protocol to help protect community drinking water sources through the use of existing legislation.	GNWT drinking water protocol is completed and implemented.	Spring 2006		- Additional approval to develop a protocol will be needed, as only partial funds are expected in 2006/07.
	2.5.3 Identify and proceed with actions towards an NWT-Alberta bilateral agreement under the Mackenzie River Transboundary Master Agreement.	Process for achieving a trans-boundary agreement is identified and implemented.	Fall 2007		 Based on tri-lateral discussions at the December 2005 Mackenzie River Basin Board (MRBB) meeting, INAC will prepare the latest draft of an MOU that will lead towards ar Agreement. ENR is anticipating the final draft soon. Technical work towards the Agreement is being scheduled through the MRBB technica group. Much of the NWT technical information originates from the federal government.
	2.5.4 *New - Canada-wide Strategy (CWS) for Municipal Wastewater and Effluent (MWWE)	CWS completed.	Fall 2006		 Elements of a CWS are being developed based on input received in a preliminary round of consultation held in summer 2005. A northern working group was formed to develop northern components of the CWS for MWWE. Consultation on the draft Strategy will be held in the spring of 2006.
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	 A meeting is planned for early 2006 to draft an MOU. The approach has moved beyond an MOU to developing operational procedures for actioning fires. In addition, a risk mitigation project will continue to be developed and implemented for the community.
	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		 ✓ Complete A meeting was held in November 2005 to discuss management concerns between provincial and territorial agencies. A new draft agreement has been prepared.
	2.6.3 Update the MOU on FireSmart planning and implementation between Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) and ENR.	FireSmart MOU is updated.	Winter 2006		 An initial meeting was held with MACA in March 2005. Follow-up discussion is continuing and a meeting to finalize an MOU is planned for early 2006.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline Original Revised		Status
	2.6.4 Develop landscape fire management plans for four communities: Tsiigehtchic, Fort Smith, Enterprise, Fort Providence.	Landscape fire management plans for identified communities are completed.	Spring 2007		- Work continues with the Fort Smith Fire Smart Committee. The Committee is in the process of drafting a funding proposal for various projects in, and around, Fort Smith.

^{*} New action not previously identified in the 2005–2008 Framework For Action

3.0 Managing Development to Sustain the Environment

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Tim Original	eline Revised		Status
3.1 Best Management Practices	3.1.1 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.	Protocol Agreements are completed and implemented.	Fall 2005		-	Complete Protocols were signed by the Deputy Ministers of ITI and ENR on Compliance, Shared Assets, Devolution, Traditional Economy, Agriculture, and Fisheries Programs, and Shared Services. Operational delivery of ITI mandated activities is proceeding.
	3.1.2 Develop "air quality best management practices" for the upstream oil and gas industry.	Oil and gas industry "air quality best management practices" are completed.	Winter 2006	Summer 2006	-	An "Air Emissions Management Framework for the Upstream Oil & Gas Industry" has been developed by Environment Canada (EC) in collaboration with ENR. This document is now finalized and provides a series of recommendations for air quality and emissions management based on a review of existing 'best practices' in several jurisdictions. The recommendations will be reviewed for application in the NWT and consolidated into a 'best management practices' document specific to the NWT. Discussions are underway with EC to determine who should lead this final step.
	3.1.3 Create Standard Operating Procedures for Commercial Timber Harvesting and Oil and Gas Development to minimize impacts to the forest resources.	Standard Operating Procedures are completed.	Winter 2006		-	Standard Operating Procedures for Commercial Timber Harvesting were completed. Development of procedures for oil and gas development to minimize impacts to the forest resource was initiated in November 2005.

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Tim Original	eline Revised	Status
	3.1.4 Create Guidelines for Domestic Use of Forest Resources.	Guidelines for Domestic Use of Forest Resources are completed.	Spring 2006		- Work to begin early 2006.
	3.1.5 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.	Minerals, oil and gas development "best management practices" compendium is completed.	Fall 2007		 A review of current literature was initiated to identify management practices from other jurisdictions that could be applied in the NWT.
3.2 Managing Human Activities to Reduce Cumulative Effects	3.2.1 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.	Deh Cho Boreal Caribou Committee is in place and has begun work	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	 A letter was sent to Dehcho First Nations to request the nomination of a member to the Committee. A first meeting will be scheduled for winter 2006. Regional ENR staff will participate on the Dehcho Boreal Caribou Committee.
	3.2.2 Develop a Final Terms of Reference for a Multi-Project Monitoring Agency.	Terms of reference for multi-project agency developed.	Spring 2006		 The De Beers Snap Lake Environmental Agreement commits the Parties to that Agreement to make best efforts to complete a final Terms of Reference for a Multi-Project Environmental Monitoring Agency (MPEMA) by March 31, 2006. A representative from ENR has been assigned to the Steering Committee. A preliminary draft Terms of Reference was reviewed in October 2005. A revised Terms of Reference will be discussed in January 2006.
	3.2.3 Establish environmental assessment, protection and monitoring specialists throughout the NWT to track environmental changes and management actions taken.	Positions established in regions and headquarters.	Spring 2007		 A submission has been included in ENR's 2006-09 Business Plan to staff Regional Environmental Protection Officers in the South Slave and Sahtu regions and Regional Environmental Assessment biologists in the Inuvik, Sahtu and Dehcho Regions as well as an Environmental Assessment Analyst at headquarters.
	3.2.4 Develop and implement a GNWT strategic framework for assessing and managing cumulative effects.	Framework developed and implementation underway.	Spring 2007		- A preliminary workshop was held in July 2005 to discuss an approach to cumulative effects in the context of the Dehcho Land Use Plan

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Tim	eline	Status
			Original	Revised	
3.3 A Forest Renewal Strategy for the NVVT	3.3.1 Prepare a Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT.	"A Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT" is completed.	Spring 2006		 A summer planting project is planned for the Cameron Hills area in 2006 Development of a Forest Renewal Strategy is scheduled to begin early in 2006.
	3.3.2 Complete Regenerating Stand Surveys for the Dehcho and South Slave Regions.	Stand surveys are completed.	Fall 2006		- Surveys were completed in the Cameron Hills area, Dehcho region. Work is planned for the Slave River area in spring 2006.
3.4 Species At Risk	3.4.1 Work with Renewable Resource Boards and Aboriginal Governments to complete the Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy and implement actions.	Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy is completed and implementation is underway.	Fall 2006		 A community consultation document and presentations were prepared for a NWT Boreal Caribou Action Plan. Biologists will begin community consultations in winter 2006. Co-management Boards have considered an approach for communication and consultation.
	3.4.2 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.	Management Plan for Mackenzie Wood Bison is completed.	Fall 2007		 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.
	3.4.3 Develop management plans for grizzly bear and wolverine.	Grizzly bear and wolverine management plans are completed.	Fall 2007		- Initial planning will commence during the fall of 2006.

4.0 Building On What We Know

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Time		Status
			Original	Revised	
4.1 Classifying and mapping ecosystems	4.1.1 Prepare maps of revised eco- regions for the Mackenzie Valley.	Mackenzie Valley ecoregion maps are completed.	Fall 2006		 Fieldwork was conducted in summer 2005 to collect soil samples and establish a geo-referenced photo collection of the proposed new eco-regions.
	4.1.2 Complete ecological land classification for the remainder of the NWT.	Land classifications are completed.	Spring 2007		 Work to begin upon completion of maps of revised eco-regions of the Mackenzie Valley.
4.2 Gathering Baseline Information and Monitoring Cumulative Effects	4.2.1 Implement the Bathurst caribou monitoring program.	Bathurst caribou monitoring program implemented.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	 A Coordinator position has been filled through a job transfer. Regional staff has been working with outfitters to monitor the health and condition of animals taken. Regional staff joined a Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) community hunt during late September 2005 to check general animal condition (body fat) and pregnancy rates. ENR, YKDFN and Dogrib representatives are partnering to monitor hunting activity on the winter road system.
	4.2.2 Establish a more extensive permanent forest monitoring plot network to contribute to the baseline knowledge of forests in the NWT.	Network expanded by 30 plots.	Fall 2005		 ✓ Complete During the past field season, 42 new permanent forest monitoring plots were established.
	4.2.2 Expand the existing air quality network into small communities.	Network expanded beyond current larger centers.	Spring 2007		- ENR is currently evaluating resources to determine a suitable scope of expansion.

5.0 Getting Information to Those Who Need It

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Time Original	line Revised	Status
5.1 Reporting on the NWT State of the Environment	5.1.1 Produce annual reports and publish scientific reports on the results from the Western NWT Biophysical Study.	Annual reports are completed and available for distribution.	Annually		- The draft 2004/05 report is currently being prepared and will be released in January 2006.
	5.1.2 Complete the second report of the NWT Biodiversity Action Plan.	Report is completed and available for distribution.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	A final draft of this report is currently under review. Printing and release is scheduled for March 2006.
	5.1.3 Complete the 2005 report of general ranking of species.	Report is completed and available for distribution.	Spring 2006		All species are ranked with the exception of freshwater fish and marine mammals (Department of Fisheries and Oceans' responsibility) The report will be finalized by March 2006.
	5.1.4 Develop a "state of the environment" summary to report annually on the NWT environment, especially its air, wildlife and forests.	Report is completed and available for distribution.	Fall 2007		Forest resource information was collected in March 2005 for input into this report and other national reports.
5.2 Designing a Wildlife Management Information System (WMIS)	5.2.1 Complete the design and testing of the WMIS.	Wildlife Management Information System is fully operational.	Fall 2006		The WMIS design is complete and data is being entered into the system. Regional data will be collected in spring 2006. User training will occur during winter 2006.
5.3 Developing a Forest Management	5.3.1 Complete the Implementation Phase of FMIS.	Report is completed.	Spring 2006		The implementation phase of the FMIS is underway and the database is scheduled to be in place by spring 2006. Related applications are scheduled for implementation in spring 2007.
Information System (FMIS)	5.3.2 Develop an Information Management Strategic Plan.	Strategic plan for information management is completed.	Spring 2006		Work has begun on developing an Information Management Strategic Plan for the Forest Management Division.
5.4 Tracking Environmental Assessment and Management of Development Projects	5.4.1 Conduct an Initial Needs Assessment and Preliminary Analysis for the development of an Environmental Assessment Tracking System.	Needs assessment completed and reported as a basis for further actions.	Spring 2007		Funding was approved for a needs analysis for 2006/07. A working group and steering committee will be established to guide the needs analysis and eventual development of the tracking system.

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline Original Revised			Status
5.5 Upgrading the Compliance Database	5.5.1 Merge regional information into central database, and transfer into web-based application.	Web-based enforcement database is fully operational.	Summer 2005		-	Complete Central database now online.
5.6 Develop a Publicly Accessible Air Quality Information System	5.6.1 Provide real-time access to air quality monitoring information through the Internet.	Real-time air quality information is available online.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	-	Modern software has been installed in all four of the NWT's community air quality monitoring stations (Yellowknife, Fort Liard, Norman Wells, Inuvik) to enable remote access to collected data. A commercially available data management and reporting system has been purchased that automatically downloads, verifies and stores the collected data. An air quality web site to provide public access to the downloaded information has been constructed and is undergoing final review.
5.7 Public Awareness of ENR	5.7.1 Develop a communications plan for the Department of ENR.	Communications plan is developed.	Fall 2005		-	Complete A communications plan has been developed and is being implemented.
5.8 *New - Spatial Data Warehouse	5.8.1 Develop a Spatial Data Warehouse	Spatial Data Warehouse is available online.	March 2006		-	Development of the warehouse is complete. Data is currently being inputted with a "go live" target of March 2006.

^{*} New initiative not previously identified in the 2005–2008 Framework For Action.

6.0 Managing Shared Resources Cooperatively

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Time Original	line Revised		Status
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		-	Discussions on polar bear co-management agreements were held at the December 2005 Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) and Inuvialuit Game Council meetings.
	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		-	ENR will host a workshop in late February 2006 to bring together management agencies and stakeholders to review implementation of the plan
	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		-	Consultation with other jurisdictions will begin in early 2006.
	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			The Minister of ENR wrote to the Beverly/Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board proposing to contribute to a 2006 census on the Beverly calving ground. The Board passed a resolution recommending satellite collars for 10 cows to track herd movements. ENR is preparing a funding proposal and will seek funding from partners to purchase and deploy collars and conduct a survey in June 2006.
	6.1.5 *New - Prepare and Implement a Barren-Ground Caribou Management Strategy	Strategy released and actions implemented.	Spring 2007		-	The Strategy has received initial approval and funding. ENR will start by developing actions in collaboration with Aboriginal governments, co-management boards and neighbouring jurisdictions.

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Time Original	eline Revised	Status
6.2 Managing Diseased Bison	6.2.1 Engage First Nations, Parks Canada), the Government of Alberta, Agriculture Canada and industry associations to address the diseased bison in Wood Buffalo National Park.	Consultations with all parties on options are completed.	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	The Minister of ENR met with the Ministers of Environment Canada, Parks Canada and Alberta Ministers to propose the development of a national diseased bison strategy at the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers in October 2006.
	6.2.2 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.	Action plan and program developed with all parties involved.	Fall 2006		- 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 is continuing to determine source and extent of TB in the captive herd. The Minister of ENR announced in mid-December that the herd will be destroyed in 2006, due to lack of federal support and funding.

^{*} New action not previously identified in the 2005–2008 Framework For Action.

7.0 Promoting NWT Management of its Resources

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline Original Revised		December 2005 Update
7.1 Participation in Devolution Negotiations	7.1.1 Develop options for organizational design models that include responsibilities and functions associated with the transfer of the Northern Affairs Program.	Post- devolution organizational design options for ENR are identified.	Fall 2006		- Work on organizational design to continue pending view of new federal government.

8.0 Supporting Our Partners

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline Original Revised			Status
8.1 Implementing the Protected Areas Strategy (PAS)	8.1.1 Review the organizational structure of the PAS and recommend ways to improve its effectiveness to PAS partners.	Review completed and recommendations made.	Summer 2005	Winter 2006	-	The PAS Steering Committee recommended contracting a managing director to coordinate actions by INAC, GNWT and ENGOs. Recruitment for this position is underway.
	8.1.2 Develop a preliminary map of critical wildlife habitat in the Mackenzie Valley.	Draft critical wildlife habitat map is completed and available for review.	Winter 2007		-	A project description and work plan has been developed to identify important wildlife areas. Consultation with biologists has occurred.
	8.1.3 Complete renewable resource assessment for candidate areas.	Candidate area renewable resource assessments are completed.	Fall 2007		-	Assessments are underway and final reports for these two areas will be completed in March 2006.
8.2 Supporting Community Based Forestry Development	8.2.1 Conduct a community workshop on Forestry Development.	Workshop is completed.	Fall 2005		-	Complete A workshop was held in October 2005. There were 48 participants representing First Nation, Métis and private industry.
	8.2.2 Develop a Gwich'in Forest Management Plan.	Management plan is completed.	Spring 2006		-	A draft plan is complete. The document requires further work before signing. ENR has moved forward to implement the 1-year and 5-year.work plan tasks.