

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship

Conservation et Gestion des ressources hydriques Manitoba

**Annual Report
2014-2015**

**Rapport annuel
2014-2015**

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**MINISTER OF
CONSERVATION AND WATER STEWARDSHIP**

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

Her Honour the Honourable Mrs. Janice C. Filmon, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba
Room 235
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Your Honour:

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report for the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund for the period of April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

“Original signed by”

Tom Nevakshonoff
Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship





Conservation and Water Stewardship
Deputy Minister
Room 332 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0V8

The Honourable Tom Nevakshonoff
Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship
Room 330 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report of the Manitoba Department of Conservation and Water Stewardship for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2015.

The Department is committed to delivering quality programs and services to protect the environment and sustainably manage natural resources, while balancing diverse community interests and ensuring a prosperous and environmentally-conscious economy.

The Annual Report provides information on the Department's operations and activities during the 2014/15 fiscal year. Key results and accomplishments include the following:

- Released the second edition of *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*, incorporating feedback from Manitobans to include a greater focus on the health of Lake Winnipeg, parks and protected lands, and wildlife populations and habitats.
- Released a discussion paper on recycling and waste reduction for public consumption and consulted with stakeholder groups, with the goal of cutting Manitoba's per capita waste in half by 2020.
- Expanded watercraft inspection under the Aquatic Invasive Species program, including five decontamination units that worked around the province in high traffic boating areas.
- Designated provincial parks and playgrounds as no smoking zones.
- Engaged signatories and others in the Lake Friendly Accord with the goal of reducing nutrients through the engagement of all stakeholders. Signatories included the Red River Basin Commission, the State of Minnesota and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation,
- Initiated a regional cumulative effects assessment of hydroelectric development in the Nelson, Burntwood and Churchill River systems, in partnership with Manitoba Hydro and in response to recommendations from the Clean Environment Commission.
- Established three novel wild turkey populations in southern Manitoba, in partnership with affiliate clubs of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation.

- Hosted a Boreal Summit in The Pas with representatives from Aboriginal communities, industry, municipalities and other government, academia and non-government organizations, as the start of a comprehensive cross-government Boreal Strategy.
- Established Upper Fort Garry Provincial Heritage Park, Walter Cook Caves Ecological Reserve and Chitek Lake Provincial Park, the first park to be designated under the Indigenous Park Traditional Use park classification.
- Prohibited the use of prescribed non-essential pesticides on lawns and the grounds of schools, hospitals and child care centres.

I am pleased to report on the Department's protection of the environment and stewardship of natural resources. Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship has talented and dedicated staff. It is to their collective credit that the Department provides the quality programs and services described in the attached report.

Respectfully submitted,

"Original signed by"

Grant Doak
Deputy Minister



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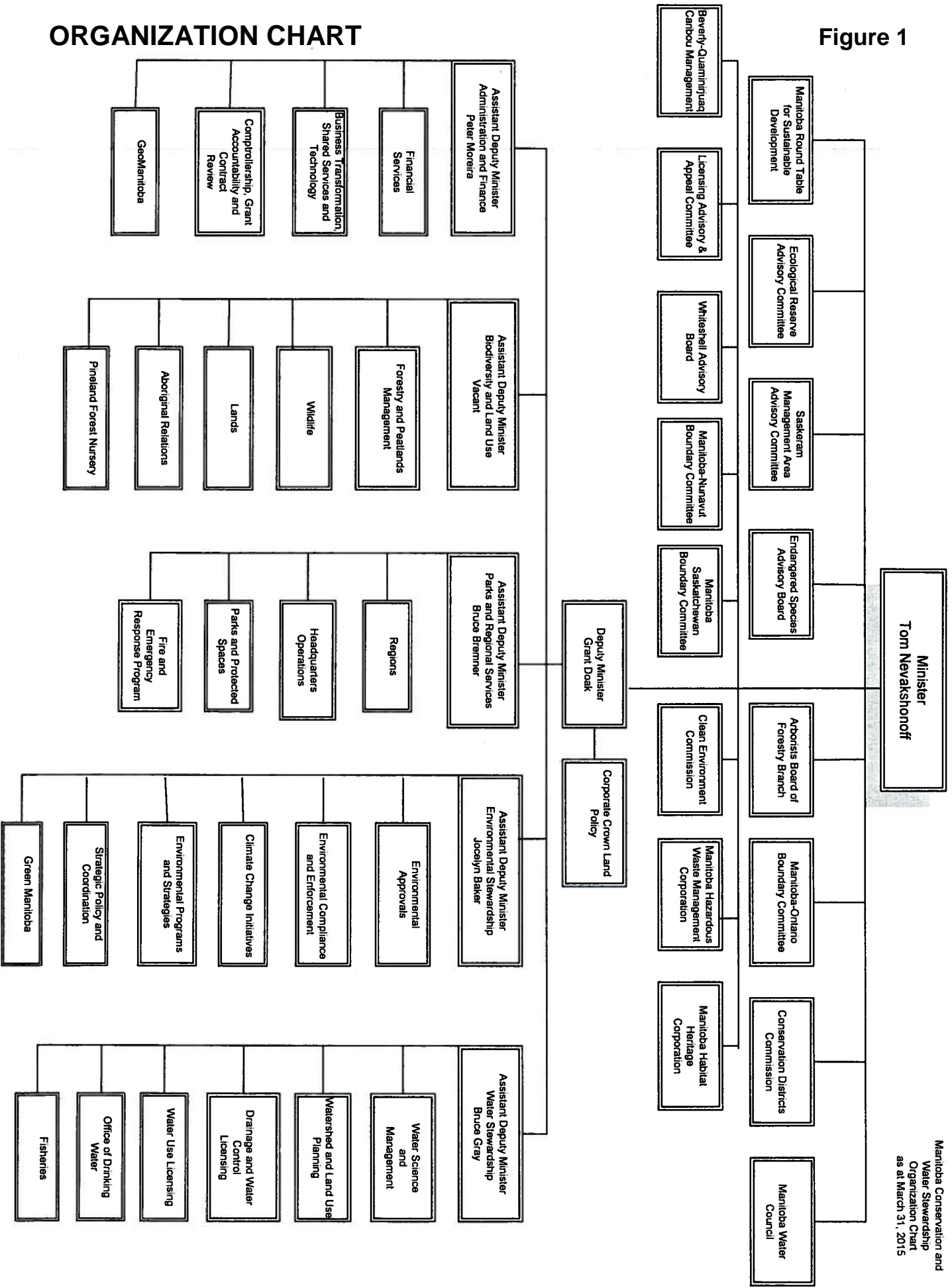
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ORGANIZATION CHART

Figure 1



Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship Organization Chart as at March 31, 2015

Highlights

Parks and Regional Services

The Walter Cook Caves Ecological Reserve was officially designated on October 10, 2014. This site is near Grand Rapids and totals 3,200 hectares. Its outstanding feature is karst topography – limestone and dolomite areas etched by water creating several karst features. There are 6 caves found in the area of which two are known hibernacula for little brown bats and moths.

In July 2014, *The Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park Act* came into effect and Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park was proclaimed.

In October 2014, Chitek Lake Park Reserve was permanently designated as Chitek Lake Provincial Park, the first park to be designated under the Indigenous Traditional Use park classification.

Winnipeg Beach was re-certified for the second time under the Blue Flag program, as well as West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park. The Blue Flag is a highly respected and recognized international eco-label that symbolizes clean and well-managed beaches and marinas. The international designation recognizes the beach's high standards of service related to environmental management, water quality, environmental education, and safety and services.

Provincial park beaches and playgrounds were designated as “no smoking” zones in 2014, and a corresponding regulatory amendment was made

An interactive water routes mapping tool for canoeists visiting Nopiming Provincial Park was developed. This tool shows GPS coordinates for campsites, portages and staging areas as well as campsite descriptions and pictures.

The Department incorporated the use of social media tools (Twitter/YouTube) as a means to engage with park visitors, promote park-related programs and services as well as highlight the Province's natural and biological assets, eg. Narcisse snake dens.

Wildlife

The Delta Marsh Common Carp Exclusion Project continued to operate during the spring of 2014. There was a reduction of carp in May and June which resulted in improved water quality and enabled the re-establishment of submerged aquatic vegetation in portions of the marsh.

Manitoba partnered with affiliate clubs of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and established three novel wild turkey populations in southern Manitoba, based on local interest and consultation.

Environmental Programs and Strategies

The Environment Act Amendment (Reducing Pesticide Exposure) and The Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulation (MR 286/2014) came into force in January 2015. The regulation prohibits the use of prescribed pesticides on lawns and on the grounds of schools, hospitals and child care centres, except in specific circumstances. More information on the program is available at: www.manitoba.ca/pesticide-reduction.

A discussion paper on recycling and waste reduction for public consultation was released in December 2014. Staff consulted with stakeholder groups on proposed actions for implementation under seven key priority areas with the aim of cutting Manitoba's per capita waste in half from 840 kg in 2013 to 420 kg by 2020.

Environmental Approvals

The Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership's Keeyask Generation Project and the associated Manitoba Hydro Keeyask Transmission Project received Environment Act licences in 2014. Among projects licenced during the year, nearly half were for industrial projects, and most of the remaining projects were for municipal infrastructure projects in the areas of water supply and treatment, wastewater treatment, and solid waste disposal.

The Branch and Manitoba Hydro initiated a regional cumulative effects assessment of hydroelectric development in the Nelson, Burntwood and Churchill River systems, in response to earlier recommendations from the Clean Environment Commission.

Strategic Policy and Coordination

Released the second edition of *Tomorrow Now – Manitoba's Green Plan* in June 2014, following feedback on the initial version released in 2012. *Tomorrow Now* is the government's eight-year strategic plan for protecting the environment while ensuring a prosperous and environmentally conscious economy.

Released The Peatlands Stewardship Strategy, a priority initiative under *Tomorrow Now* which integrates and coordinates efforts to manage and protect peatlands. Public feedback was received from individual members of the public, environmental non-governmental organizations, and industry.

Commenced the development of a comprehensive, cross-government Boreal Strategy based on the commitment made in *TomorrowNow*. The process was initiated by hosting a Boreal Summit in The Pas in February 2015 bringing together and involving 88 representatives from Aboriginal communities, industry, municipalities, academia, non-governmental organizations, and all levels of government.

Water Science and Management

Worked to engage signatories and others in the Lake Friendly Accord with the goal of improving water quality by reducing nutrients through the engagement of all. Key signatories in 2014/15 included the Red River Basin Commission, the State of Minnesota and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation. More information is available at www.manitoba.ca/lakefriendlyaccord.

Provided technical comments to the Bureau of Reclamation on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement for the proposed Northwest Area Water Supply Project (NAWS). NAWS would be the first-ever US Federal project to artificially connect the Missouri River Basin, which drains south to the Gulf of Mexico, to the Hudson Bay Basin, which drains north to Hudson Bay. The Project could move significant quantities of water from the Missouri River Basin to the Hudson Bay Basin. In so doing, it would threaten to introduce non-native and potentially destructive organisms into the Hudson Bay watershed and thus, into the Manitoban and Canadian environment.

Provided the engineering design along with technical input, advice and planning assistance for the Pelly's Lake Water Retention Project. The Pelly's Lake Project, led by the La Salle Redboine Conservation District, provides water storage that will contribute to flood mitigation, nutrient reduction, wetland enhancement, water storage, climate change adaptation, habitat protection and public education.

Fisheries

The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program greatly expanded its Watercraft Inspection program. An increased number of watercraft inspectors were out on the landscape as well as five decontamination units that rotated around the province to high traffic boating areas. During the 2014 open water season, over 2,800 watercraft were inspected and of those 136 were decontaminated.

Waterhen Lake became the second freshwater fishery in the world to achieve Marine Stewardship Council sustainable fishing certification.

The Office of Drinking Water

The Office of Drinking Water implemented a new process to investigate non-compliance with bacteria standards, and modified the annual audit process to allow for auto-generated reports that focused on non-compliance issues rather than average performance. The new annual audit process set a higher standard for public water system owners; reduced staff time associated with reporting; and improved the reliability of information generated for statistical purposes.

FAIT SAILLANTS

Parcs et services régionaux

La Réserve écologique des Cavernes-de-Walter-Cook a officiellement été établie le 10 octobre 2014. Située près de Grand Rapids, elle compte 3 200 hectares. Sa particularité remarquable est la topographie karstique : des zones de roches calcaires et dolomitiques gravées par l'eau créant plusieurs caractéristiques karstiques. La région compte six cavernes, dont deux qui sont des hibernacula connus pour les petites chauves-souris brunes et les papillons nocturnes.

En juillet 2014, la *Loi sur le parc provincial du patrimoine d'Upper Fort Garry* est entrée en vigueur et le parc provincial du patrimoine d'Upper Fort Garry a été établi.

En octobre 2014, la Réserve de parc Lac-Chitek a été désignée en permanence parc provincial du Lac-Chitek, le premier parc à être désigné en vertu de la classification de parc mettant en valeur les terres traditionnellement utilisées par les peuples indigènes.

La plage de Winnipeg Beach a reçu, pour la deuxième fois, la reconnaissance Blue Flag, tout comme West Beach au parc provincial de Grand Beach. Le Blue Flag est une éco-étiquette très respectée et reconnue à l'échelle internationale qui symbolise la propreté et la bonne gestion des plages et des marinas. La désignation internationale reconnaît la haute qualité des normes de service adoptées pour la plage sur le plan de la gestion environnementale, de la qualité de l'eau, de l'éducation environnementale, et de la sécurité et des services.

Les plages et les terrains de jeux des parcs provinciaux ont été désignés zones non-fumeurs en 2014, et la modification réglementaire correspondante a été apportée.

On a élaboré un outil interactif de cartographie des voies navigables pour les canoéristes visitant le parc provincial Nopiming. Cet outil indique les coordonnées GPS des emplacements de camping, des zones de portage et des aires de repos, et fournit des descriptions et des images des emplacements de camping.

Le ministère a incorporé l'utilisation des médias sociaux (Twitter, YouTube) pour communiquer avec les visiteurs des parcs, promouvoir des programmes et des services liés aux parcs et mettre en vedette les atouts naturels et biologiques de la province, par exemple, les nids de couleuvres de Narcisse.

Faune

L'initiative d'exclusion de la carpe au marais Delta s'est poursuivie au printemps 2014. Il y a eu une réduction de la carpe en mai et en juin, ce qui a entraîné une meilleure qualité de l'eau et a permis la réapparition de la végétation aquatique submergée dans certaines parties du marais.

Le Manitoba s'est associé à des clubs affiliés de la Manitoba Wildlife Federation et a établi trois nouvelles populations de dindons sauvages dans le sud du Manitoba, se fondant sur des consultations et l'intérêt local.

Stratégies et programmes environnementaux

La *Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'environnement (réduction de l'exposition aux pesticides)* et le *Règlement sur l'utilisation de pesticides à des fins non essentielles* (RM 286/2014) sont entrés en vigueur en janvier 2015. Le règlement interdit l'utilisation des pesticides visés par règlement sur les pelouses et sur les terrains des écoles, des hôpitaux et des garderies, sauf dans des circonstances particulières. Il est possible d'obtenir des détails sur le programme à : www.manitoba.ca/pesticide-reduction (en anglais seulement).

Un document de travail sur le recyclage et la réduction de déchets a été publié en décembre 2014 à des fins de consultations publiques. Le personnel a consulté des groupes d'intervenants sur les actions proposées pour une mise en œuvre dans sept domaines prioritaires clés ayant pour but de réduire les déchets par habitant au Manitoba de moitié, allant de 840 kg en 2013 à 420 kg d'ici 2020.

Autorisations environnementales

Le projet de production Keeyask de Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership et le projet associé de ligne de transmission Keeyask de Manitoba Hydro ont reçu des licences en vertu de la *Loi sur l'environnement* en 2014. Parmi les projets ayant obtenu une licence pendant l'exercice, près de la moitié étaient des projets industriels, et la plupart des projets restants étaient des projets d'infrastructure municipale dans les domaines de l'approvisionnement en eau et du traitement de l'eau, du traitement des eaux usées et de l'élimination des déchets solides.

La Direction et Manitoba Hydro ont entamé une évaluation régionale des effets cumulatifs liés aux aménagements hydro-électriques dans les réseaux des rivières Nelson, Burntwood et Churchill, en réponse aux recommandations antérieures de la Commission de protection de l'environnement.

Politiques et coordination stratégiques

La deuxième édition de *Vert l'avenir – Plan écologique du Manitoba* a été publiée en juin 2014, à la suite de la rétroaction obtenue concernant la version initiale publiée en 2012. *Vert l'avenir* est le plan stratégique de huit ans du gouvernement qui vise à protéger l'environnement tout en assurant une économie prospère et respectueuse de l'environnement.

On a lancé la stratégie de gestion des tourbières, une initiative prioritaire de *Vert l'avenir* qui intègre et coordonne les efforts de gestion et de protection des tourbières. On a obtenu des commentaires de la part de membres du public, d'organismes environnementaux non gouvernementaux et de l'industrie.

On a commencé l'élaboration d'une stratégie boréale globale et pangouvernementale fondée sur l'engagement énoncé dans *Vert l'avenir*. Le processus a été lancé par la tenue d'un sommet boréal à The Pas en février 2015, qui a rassemblé et fait participer 88 représentants de collectivités autochtones, de l'industrie, de municipalités, du milieu universitaire, d'organismes non gouvernementaux et de tous les ordres de gouvernement.

Gestion et sciences de l'eau

On a visé l'engagement de signataires et d'autres participants à l'accord Lake Friendly dans le but d'améliorer la qualité de l'eau en réduisant les nutriments grâce à la participation de chacun. Les signataires clés en 2014-2015 comprenaient la Red River Basin Commission, l'État du Minnesota et la Lake Winnipeg Foundation. Pour en savoir plus, rendez-vous à www.manitoba.ca/lakefriendlyaccord (en anglais seulement).

On a fourni des commentaires techniques au Bureau of Reclamation concernant l'ébauche d'énoncé supplémentaire des incidences environnementales pour la proposition de Northwest Area Water Supply Project. Ce projet serait le premier projet fédéral américain à relier artificiellement le bassin de la rivière Missouri, qui s'écoule vers le Sud dans le golfe du Mexique, au bassin de la baie d'Hudson, qui s'écoule vers le Nord dans la baie d'Hudson. Le projet pourrait déplacer d'importantes quantités d'eau du bassin de la rivière Missouri vers le bassin de la baie d'Hudson. Ce faisant, des organismes non indigènes et potentiellement destructeurs risqueraient de s'introduire dans le bassin hydrographique de la baie d'Hudson, et donc dans l'environnement du Manitoba et du Canada.

On a fourni la conception technique et ainsi que des données techniques, des conseils et de l'aide à la planification pour le projet de rétention de l'eau du lac Pelly. Ce projet, dirigé par le district de conservation de La Salle-Redboine, offre une capacité de stockage de l'eau qui contribuera à

l'atténuation des inondations, à la réduction des nutriants, à l'amélioration des terres humides, au stockage de l'eau, à l'adaptation au changement climatique, à la protection des habitats et à l'éducation du public.

Pêche

Le Programme de lutte contre les espèces aquatiques envahissantes a grandement élargi son programme d'inspection des embarcations. Un nombre accru d'inspecteurs des embarcations étaient sur place, ainsi que cinq unités de décontamination qui faisaient une rotation entre les zones de navigation à grande circulation dans la province. Pendant la saison des eaux libres de 2014, plus de 2 800 embarcations ont été inspectées et, parmi celles-ci, 136 ont été décontaminées.

Le lac Waterhen est devenu le deuxième lieu de pêche en eaux douces au monde à obtenir une certification de pêche durable du Marine Stewardship Council.

Service de l'eau potable

Le Service de l'eau potable a mis en œuvre un nouveau processus pour enquêter sur le non-respect des normes bactériologiques, et a modifié le processus de vérification annuel pour permettre des rapports générés automatiquement qui mettent l'accent sur les questions de non-conformité plutôt que sur les moyennes de performance. Le nouveau processus de vérification a établi une norme plus élevée à l'intention des propriétaires de réseaux publics d'alimentation en eau; a permis de réduire le temps nécessaire au personnel pour préparer les rapports; et a amélioré la fiabilité des renseignements générés à des fins statistiques.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The Administration and Finance Division provides executive management of programs and management services, including financial, information services, administrative support, planning and policy development, and stewardship of Manitoba's shared geospatial technology and information assets.

Minister's Salary

The Minister's salary provides the Minister with additional compensation to which an individual appointed to Executive Council is entitled.

Table AF.1
12.1(a) Minister's Salary

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	37	1.00	37	0	
Total 12.1(a)	37	1.00	37	0	

Executive Support

This area comprises support staff in the offices of the Minister and Deputy Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship.

The purpose of Executive Support is to develop, implement and oversee policies and programs that are designed to attain, over the long term, the goals set in the Department's vision and mission statements; advise the Minister on matters relating to the Department; provide policy direction for departmental programs; coordinate departmental communications, activities, and initiatives; and provide administrative support for the offices of the Minister and Deputy Minister.

Table AF.2
12.1(b) Executive Support

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	804	10.00	765	39	
Other Expenditures	116		182	(66)	
Total 12.1(b)	920	10.00	947	(27)	

Administrative and Financial Services

Administrative and Financial Services is comprised of three sections:

- Administration and Comptrollership
- Financial Services
- Business Transformation, Shared Services and Technology.

Administration and Comptrollership provides executive, financial and administrative direction, fleet vehicle coordination, office accommodation, parking administration, environmental impact file searches, advice, guidance and administration related to procurement, contracts and grants and overall comptrollership support.

Financial Services develops, communicates, monitors and evaluates departmental financial policies, systems, and procedures to ensure the effective, efficient and economical operation of departmental financial functions in compliance with requirements of the Department, Treasury Board, the Department of Finance and the Office of the Auditor General. Financial Services' scope of activities includes processing payments and revenue receipts, accounting, financial planning, internal reporting, auditing and review, budgeting exercises and capital planning.

Business Transformation, Shared Services and Technology section is responsible for business transformation support, information services including public information, library services and access to information under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, records management, the delivery of the Safety, Health and Risk Management program, coordination of departmental French language services, licencing, and information technology services. This section also oversees the warehouse which is the equipment/supply storage and mobilization point for branches and the Fire Operations Centre. In emergencies, such as fire and flood, the warehouse becomes the logistical support base for all equipment.

Key Results Achieved:

- In the 2014 calendar year, 157 requests for information were received and 124 past and current year requests were completed under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Of the requests received in 2014, 10 were carried forward to 2015. More detailed information regarding *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, including information specific to Conservation and Water Stewardship, can be found in the FIPPA Annual Report at: http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/fippa/annual_reports/pdf/2012_report.pdf or http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/fippa/annual_reports/pdf/fippa_supp_stats2012.pdf
- The Licensing section oversees the Big Game Draw program through a multi-level draw system to ensure a transparent program providing equal opportunity to all Manitoba hunters to hunt elk and moose where these animals are limited in numbers. For the 2014 draw, 4,572 individuals applied and 2,538 applicants were drawn for the available 52 hunting season choices.
- Built an interactive water routes mapping tool for canoeists visiting Nopiming Provincial Park that shows GPS coordinates for campsites, portages and staging areas as well as campsite descriptions and pictures.
- Re-worked the Manitoba Beaches web pages to include a mapping tool that better shares out reported algae, E. coli levels, and advisory information for each beach monitored by the Department.

Incorporated the use of social media tools (Twitter/YouTube) as a means to engage with park visitors, promote parks-related programs and services as well as highlight the Province's natural and biological assets, e.g. Narcisse snake dens.

Table AF.3
12.1(c) Administration and Financial Services

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,954	59.75	3,958	(4)	
Other Expenditures	1,365		1,254	111	1.
Total 12.1(c)	5,319	59.75	5,212	107	

1. Over-expenditures in operating due to unfunded accommodation costs for VIA, Library and Warehouse and increase in insurance, printing and general operating costs.

Corporate Crown Lands Policy

Reporting to the Lands Committee of Deputy Ministers, Corporate Crown Lands Policy provides consulting services to various departments regarding Government-wide Crown land policies and practices and legislation to ensure effective horizontal governance.

Key Results Achieved

Corporate Crown Lands Policy (CCLP) engaged with various departments in identifying ways to streamline the agricultural Crown land sales process by using a Lean Management process improvement method.

Improvements to overall coordination and harmonization of Crown land management and administration were achieved through interpretive, analytical and developmental work in various areas such as disposition policies, sale agreements and circulation processes. Assistance was provided in the development of various service agreements for Crown Lands and Property Agency (CLPA) with its client departments and with multiple listing brokers.

CCLP provided secretariat and advisory services to the Lands Committee of Deputy Ministers and the Crown Lands Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee regarding Crown land related policies, programs, planning and legislative matters. It also maintained the respective policies and procedures manual which is used extensively by various departments and Bloc Planning Committees (BPCs) for Crown land use planning, administration and management.

CCLP participated in an effectiveness review of CLPA since it was established as a special operating agency mandated to administer all Provincial/Crown lands and improve customer service. Assistance was provided in support of this review by drafting terms of reference, providing input to the consultants conducting the review, and participating as a member of the steering committee.

Work continued on a multi-year project involving the coordinated internal review of Crown land related policies and legislation with various departments under the general guidance of the Lands Committee of Deputy Ministers. CCLP also participated in several inter-departmental committees and working groups to represent Government interests in Crown land policy.

For greater transparency concerning the administration of Crown lands by CLPA, updates to legal authorities and delegations were developed.

Key Program Outputs

Review and analysis of 40 proposed sales, transfers and exchanges of Crown land were completed for consideration by the Lands Committee of Deputy Ministers prior to seeking Cabinet or Ministerial approvals.

As Chair of the Crown Lands Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee, responded to 45 requests for review of denied applications for Crown land sales, leases and permits; reviewed two proposed designated areas of Crown land; and directed the classification process for Crown land acquired through the Shoal Lakes Voluntary Buy-out Program. The Committee approved land use classification coding for these acquired lands and other Crown land coding changes, as proposed by the regional BPCs.

Table CLP.1
12.1(d) Corporate Crown Land Policy

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	264	3.00	252	12	
Other Expenditures	26		16	10	
Total 12.1(d)	290	3.00	268	22	

Clean Environment Commission

Under *The Environment Act*, The Clean Environment Commission (CEC) provides a mechanism through which the public can participate in environmental decision making. The Commission conducts public reviews and hearings into matters of environmental concern and provides advice and recommendations to the Minister. The Commission, while reporting directly to the Minister, is independent of the Department.

The Commission issues its own Annual Report with information on its mandate and operations. Copies can be obtained from the CEC at 305 – 155 Carlton Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3H8. The CEC can be contacted at 204-945-0594 or toll free at 1-800-597-3556 or by fax at 204-945-0090. The CEC's web site is www.cecmanitoba.ca

Table CEC.1
12.1(e) Clean Environment Commission

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	420	3.00	338	82	
Other Expenditures	656		394	262	
Total 12.1(e)	1,076	3.00	732	344	1.

1. Over expenditure in operating costs related to Lake Winnipeg Regulation Hearings.

GeoManitoba

GeoManitoba is responsible for geospatial technology and information assets. In addition to providing surveying, remote sensing, topographic, cadastral mapping services and sales, GeoManitoba supports government's intentions to develop corporate-wide GIS capacity, to provide a revitalized approach to support delivery, acquisition and management of geospatial information for all Manitoba government departments. This includes providing leadership in the Province's use of GIS technology and specialized geomatics capabilities, stewardship for corporate GIS datasets and to centrally coordinate the development of GIS capacity for the Province, including:

- Centralized geospatial data storage, management and dissemination (spatial data infrastructure)
- Enterprise GIS software licensing
- Corporate data acquisition such as digital ortho imagery
- Improved human resource capacity for GIS

GeoManitoba encourages and facilitates sharing of geographic and spatially linked business data between departments to enhance decision making and to add value across government. GeoManitoba also assists government departments to evolve the use of GIS and spatial management technologies in support of program objectives

Key Results Achieved:

- Achieved \$846,207.23 in cost recoveries for survey services to provincial government departments and agencies. Major clients included the Departments of Infrastructure and Transportation, Conservation and Water Stewardship, and Aboriginal and Northern Affairs.
- Northern and Eastern regions – approximately 28 legal survey projects initiated by new requests or verification surveys of old files. These various projects throughout Manitoba included but weren't limited to retracement surveys and survey monument restoration, several PTH and PR public road survey plans, water control survey plans, public road closings, Notable projects included: Headingly Centerport bypass retracement and the PTH 59 and 101 interchange expropriation plans.
- Prepared legal (land) descriptions for disposition of Crown land and/or interest therein – for Crown Lands and Property Agency, Mines Branch and Petroleum Branch.
- Prepared boundary plans to define the limits of administrative areas such as wildlife management areas, ecological reserves, provincial parks, aboriginal traditional lands and land planning areas/zones. Notable work included Whiteshell Provincial Park and Land Use Categories, Chitek Lake Provincial Park, Lac Du Bonnet Fire Attack Centre and Pimitotah Planning Area and Land Use Zones.
- Continued to provide marker posts to Manitoba land surveyors free of charge for protection of survey monuments of the Township Survey System (200).
- Responded to requests for land and control survey information, (128).
- Issued survey instructions examined plans of survey for approval on surveys for the disposition of Manitoba Crown lands. This included the approval of Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Selection Sites. (137 individual projects). Notable projects included Keeyask Dam plans and Bipole Transmission line plans.
- Provided control survey services for LiDAR ground truthing in the Cooks Creek capture area.

- Readjusted the Manitoba Spatial Reference Network to the latest realization of NAD83 (CSRS) and to the new Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 2013.
- Updated the province wide digital parcel inventory to ensure currency of Manitoba's parcel data.
- Continued the development of a seamless digital reference grid that approximates the location of townships, sections and quarter-sections of the Dominion Government Survey System throughout southern and northern Manitoba. This product is essential for meeting public sector requirements for a general purpose land grid that supports GIS applications.
- Created daily and weekly composites of changes in the Canadian landscape for the Global Climate Change Program.
- Together with the Canadian Space Agency, provided CWS with radarsat imagery of flooded areas in Manitoba.
- Mapping Woodland Caribou Habitat in Manitoba in progress.
- Provided Manitoba Hydro with a preliminary turbidity classification utilizing Landsat 8 satellite imagery of Playgreen Lake. Further discussions are underway with Manitoba Hydro to investigate other applications of the turbidity classification and modelling.
- Completed two compliance monitoring projects using remote sensing data which included Manure Management and Irrigation pivot monitoring for the department.
- Produced land use and land cover maps of Agro-Manitoba for the Agri-Environment Services Branch. This activity is on-going using remote sensing technology and Landsat 8 satellite imagery. Data was also provided to the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation to supplement their peat land inventory.
- Lake depth maps for lakes in Manitoba and Ontario were updated and produced to include the Universal Transverse Mercator grids and coordinates. Geographic mapping produced 75 new lake depth maps this year and also provided customized mapping for the general public, private sector companies and other government agencies/departments maintained and updated the base maps of Manitoba.
- The Distribution Centre is the second largest distributor of Topographic maps in Canada, selling 18,653 maps directly or through the 150 dealers in Manitoba, Ontario and the north central United States.
- The Canadamapsales.com website received 800 map orders from across North America and internationally from Finland and England. Two Departmental products were added to the e-commerce website this year, including Annual Park Passes and Environment's Water & Wastewater Operator Certificates, providing the public and clients to purchase and pay for more departmental products and services through the internet.
- A Vexcell photogrammetric scanner was used to scan air photo negatives to transition government's Air Photo Library into a digital format. In 2014/15, 2,445 air photo products were produced and sold to the general public and government agencies.
- Conducted GIS analyses and specialty mapping products were created for the following program areas: Watersheds and Ecosystems, Métis Hunting Areas, Dutch Elm Disease Reporting Database, Wildlife Management Areas, Park Management Maps including updating the Proposed Areas of Special Interest (enduring features database) with Eco Regions, location of Parks Capital assets, RCMP Mapbook, Treaty Land Entitlement, School Division Boundaries, Conservation Districts

updates, Waste Management, FireSmart program web mapping, Ecological Reserve Boundaries, National Hydrography Network, Game Hunting Areas, LiDAR data inventory, creation of contours from LiDAR data, and GIS data library updates and maintenance.

- The Manitoba Land Initiative website was updated with new geospatial datasets. This site has 17,967 registered users accessing land based data information.

Table GE.1
12.1(f) GeoManitoba

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,335	50.00	3,273	(938)	
Other Expenditures	903		1,244	(341)	
Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations	(874)		(1,621)	747	
Total 12.1(f)	2,364	50.00	2,896	(532)	1.

1. Under-expenditures due to in year vacancies and recruitment delays, and fewer Surveys done.

PARKS AND REGIONAL SERVICES

Regional Support Services

2014/15 Objectives and Key Results Achieved

Regional field staff are given the necessary knowledge, tools, and resources and are trained and certified in skill sets that will result in safe, effective, and professional delivery of department programs.

- Firearm qualification for 112 full-time Resource Officers was completed by Regional Training Officers and department peer Firearms Instructors.
- Re-certification in self-defense tactics was achieved for all Natural Resource Officers (NROs) and Park Patrol Officers (PPOs).
- Six (6) new NRO Recruits attended the Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy in Hinton, Alberta. The 14-week Conservation Law Enforcement Academy included training in firearms, emergency driving, defensive tactics, and investigations.
- Training for 27 new hire seasonal Park Patrol Officers was conducted by Regional Training Officers and departmental peer instructors and held at the Canadian Mennonite University. This provided the PPOs certification for park enforcement, safety, and security duty.
- Trained 12 NROs and departmental staff in Chemical Immobilization by the Assiniboine Park Zoo Veterinarian. This better enables field staff to handle wildlife in problem situations where a non-lethal method of handling them is preferred.
- A combination of 13 NROs and departmental staff received Surface Ice Rescue Training at Roblin during February 2014.
- Certified and trained 4 NRO's as new Defensive Tactics Instructors, to complement the existing 4 peer instructors, for training NRO's and Park Patrol's in arrest, and control tactics.
- Special Investigations Unit team participated in undercover operations to catch poachers and to curb the significant black market wildlife parts trade.
- Set new standards for emergency equipment on NRO vehicles.
- K-9 unit participated in several search and rescue operations, illegal hunting, and fishing busts, and public education in school programs. New training for K-9 units to detect zebra mussels was undertaken.
- Developed a Wildlife Handling Course that was delivered to 40 Natural Resource Officers to provide information on handling, caring for, and proper euthanasia of Wildlife. Course delivered by the Assiniboine Park Zoo veterinary staff.

Sufficient liaison is maintained with other government departments, federal/provincial agencies and non-governmental organizations to maintain up-to-date and continually improving service delivery models.

- Continued to work with Manitoba Justice to address issues such as authorities of Resource Officers and legislative changes. New legislation in the form of the *Conservation Officer Act* will be proclaimed in 2015.
- Participated as a member of the Canadian Natural Resource Law Enforcement Chiefs Association.
- Participated in the formation of Manitoba Rabies Central with Manitoba Health and Manitoba Agriculture and Rural Development to form a new provincial rabies reporting and sampling system made necessary when Federal government divested themselves of those responsibilities.
- Continued to work with the Wildlife Enforcement Division of Environment Canada and the United States Fish & Wildlife Service on cross border investigations. Successful prosecutions in joint operations were achieved.
- Continued to work with Manitoba Fire Program throughout the province with NROs providing logistical support during wildfire fighting operations.
- In cooperation with Safari Club International, Manitoba purchased a moose decoy for use in the apprehension of poachers.
- Participated in the Western Canadian Law Enforcement Academy (WCLEA) for the delivery and training of 29 new recruits from Alberta, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia.

The regions and department executive are kept updated on emerging changes and issues. Strategies are prepared to handle problems and introduce new initiatives.

- Worked with the Wildlife and Fisheries Branch on developing a Restitution Bill to assess penalties against convicted wildlife violators.
- Work continues on ensuring enforcement authority for NROs through introduction of pending new legislation – The Conservation Officers Act.
- Contributed monthly stories to new Central Communications project for release to local media. Stories highlight the work of Natural Resource Officers such as apprehending illegal hunting and fishing violators, rescuing wildlife, and aiding in search and rescue operations.
- NRO portable radios were enabled with the ability to contact the RCMP Telecoms center with one-touch speed dial option to enhance officer safety.

Specialized enforcement needs such as detailed investigations, covert operations, forensic lab services, and canine detection are developed sufficiently to meet the needs of the department's field officers in addressing violations of resource law.

- Regional investigators assisted several districts with complex investigations primarily related to illegal harvest and use of fish and wildlife. In addition, the Special Investigations Unit assisted numerous districts with electronic surveillance equipment targeting illegal harvesting practices as well as implemented the use of specialized surveillance equipment allowing for remote activity monitoring to aid in detection of illegal harvest, movement, and commercialization of fish, wildlife, and resources.

- A joint covert Investigation conducted in 2010 between Conservation and Water Stewardship, Environment Canada and the US Fish & Wildlife Service relating to the illegal outfitting/guiding of Migratory Birds in the Arborg area was concluded in the courts by way of guilty pleas from 3 individuals and resulted in \$21,500 in fines.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2011 and 2012 concluded with the execution of a search warrant being conducted on a Winnipeg business and 2 individuals being charged. As a result, one of the individuals concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea in 2013 and resulted in \$2,600 in fines and the other co-accused pled guilty and is currently awaiting disposition from the courts.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2013 was concluded in the courts by way of guilty plea and resulted in \$1,200.00 in fines.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2013 was concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea resulted in \$1,900.00 in fines and an order of \$225.00 restitution.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2013 was concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea and resulted in \$150.00 in fines.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2013 and 2014 was concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea and resulted in \$2,500.00 in fines.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of wildlife, namely bear galls, in the Minnedosa area conducted during 2013 and 2014 was concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea and resulted in \$6,891 in fines and a 1-year suspension of hunting privileges under the Wildlife Act.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of wildlife, namely selling and possessing elk meat, in the rural municipality of South Norfolk conducted during 2013 and 2014 resulted in 7 charges against one individual. The case is currently before the courts.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of wildlife, namely parts of a wild animal, in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2013 and 2014 resulted in charges against one individual. The case is currently before the courts.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2010 and 2011 resulted in 2 charges against one individual. The case is currently before the courts.
- The 2 Canine teams were used throughout the province on a variety of compliance checks and investigations of illegal fishing and hunting activities, including 10 decoy operations, 38 night hunting patrols, 14 occurrences of searching for evidence in non-confined and confined areas, 13 occurrences of searching vehicles, 2 occurrences of searching for suspects, 8 occurrences providing assistance on the execution of search warrants, and 3 occurrences searching for lost persons.
- The Canine Teams conducted 23 public education programs in schools and at public meetings throughout the province.
- The Canine handlers are trained Wildfire Investigators and the teams responded to 7 investigations of human caused wildfire.

- District Officers utilized the services of a Forensic Laboratory for Firearm analyses within 1 investigation of Wildlife offences to corroborate evidence obtained.
- District Officers utilized the services of a Forensic Laboratory for DNA analyses within 5 investigations of Wildlife offences to corroborate evidence obtained.

The public has access to well-advertised TIP 24-hour toll-free numbers to report forest fires and resource-law violations.

- The 24-hour toll free telephone service (1-800-782-0076), aimed at reducing the illegal harvest of fish and wildlife received 392 calls, resulting in 20 prosecutions and 10 warnings. In addition, the toll free line received 81 calls reporting forest fires.
- See Tables RO.1 and RO.2.

Table RO.1 T.I.P. Calls by Region 2014/15									
Region	Number of Calls					Number of Prosecutions			
	Fish	Wildlife	Other	Fire	Total	Fish	Wildlife	Other	Total
Central	49	102	20	7	178	5	2	0	7
Western	24	102	17	10	153	0	6	0	6
Eastern	7	43	14	21	85	0	6	1	7
Northwest	3	4	2	14	23	0	0	0	0
Northeast	2	3	0	29	34	0	0	0	0
Total	85	254	53	81	473	5	14	1	20

Table RO.2 T.I.P. Calls by Year 2004/05 to 2014/15 (excluding Fire)										
	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
Total Calls	330	364	312	300	319	317	311	358	310	392
Information	10	11	6	6	25	32	13	15	45	8
Actioned	217	261	192	153	156	129	161	247	146	206
Prosecutions	37	28	18	22	23	20	14	31	20	20
Warnings	8	15	1	5	6	6	9	8	3	9

Hunter-killed livestock claims are evaluated and processed promptly and livestock producers are fairly compensated for animals accidentally killed by hunters.

- Hunter-Killed Livestock Program compensates livestock owners for animals deemed accidentally shot by licensed hunters during an open big game season. Claims are investigated by Natural Resource Officers and occasionally by the RCMP. This year, two claims qualified for compensation totalling \$3,922. Program activity for the past ten years is illustrated in Table RO.8.

Table RO.3 Common Violations under <i>The Provincial Parks Act</i>				
Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences	Evictions
No Park Vehicle Entry Permit	1859	0	1859	0
Cause Disturbance	23	48	71	301
Parking Violations	78	7	85	0
Disobey Officer/Sign/Permit	33	47	80	4
Camp w/o Permit/Prohibited	13	14	27	0
Unlawful Vehicle Operation	40	24	64	6
Possess Fireworks	10	4	14	0
Have Liquor Where Prohibited	89	25	114	45
Fail to Control Pet / On Beach	11	9	20	1
Fire w/o Permit/Unattended Fire	2	4	6	0
Fail to Maintain Campsite	3	2	5	0
Damage Pollute Park Property	11	5	16	7
Hunting/Firearm Violations	3	2	5	0
Other	7	10	17	0
Total	2182	201	2383	364

Table RO.4 Common Violations under <i>The Wildlife Act</i>			
Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Hunt/Trap/Guide W/O Licence / Licence Infractions	16	28	44
Hunt From or Have Loaded Firearm in Vehicle	46	7	53
Tagging/Transport/Import/Export Infractions	16	12	28
Hunt Prohibited Area/Private Land W/O Permission	30	19	49
Hunt or Discharge Firearm From Road	22	1	23
Equipment Infractions	21	25	46
Hunt for Remuneration / Illegal Sale of Wildlife	24	6	30
Night Hunting / Dangerous Hunting	20	0	20
Abandon/Waste Game	10	1	11
Bait Infractions	6	5	11
Possess Illegally Taken / Prohibited Wildlife	9	6	15
Hunt Out of Season	10	1	11
Other	9	13	22
Total	239	124	363

**Table RO.5
Common Violations under The Fisheries Act (Canada), and
The Fisheries Act (Manitoba)**

Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Equipment Infractions	563	46	609
Licence Infractions	198	172	370
Exceed Limits	116	12	128
Transportation Infractions	10	14	24
Illegal Sale / Possession of Fish	31	7	38
Wastage of Fish	20	4	24
Fish During Closed Time / Closed Area	10	20	30
Live Bait Infractions	3	1	4
Other	8	3	11
Total	959	279	1238

**Table RO.6
Comparison of Wildlife, Fisheries, Parks and Migratory Birds
Prosecutions 2005/06 to 2014/15**

Fiscal Year	Wildlife	Fisheries	Parks	Migratory Birds
2005-06	376	707	1,634	15
2006-07	289	547	1,559	18
2007-08	244	595	1,537	23
2008-09	234	802	1,636	13
2009-10	256	786	*448	9
2010-11	306	722	*455	11
2011-12	308	904	*381	24
2012-13	352	894	1,371	14
2013-14	316	800	1,670	26
2014-15	239	959	2182	6

*Years where no Park Vehicle Passes were required

**Table RO.7
Record of Violations Occurring 2014/15**

Acts	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Crown Lands Act	54	23	77
Environment Act	16	3	19
Forest Act	10	29	39
Forest Health Protection Act	2	2	4
Fisheries Act (Canada)	733	85	818
Fisheries Act (Manitoba)	226	194	420
Freshwater Fish Marketing Act	0	2	2
Liquor and Gaming Control Act	53	24	77
Migratory Birds Convention Act	6	9	15
Off Road Vehicle Act	46	25	71
Provincial Parks Act	2182	201	2383
Resource Tourism Operators Act	10	10	20
Wild Rice Act	1	0	1
Wildfires Act	11	23	34
Wildlife Act	239	124	363
Total	3589	754	4343

Total Fines: \$383,845 for 2014/15

Table RO.8 Hunter-Killed Livestock Compensation 2005/06 to 2014/15				
Year Paid	Claims	Claims Paid	Total Paid	Average Paid
2005-06	3	2	\$1,100	\$550
2006-07	2	1	\$2,600	\$2,600
2007-08	9	6	\$3,624	\$604
2008-09	4	2	\$1,087	\$543
2009-10	4	2	\$1,777	\$888
2010-11	4	0	\$0	N/A
2011-12	2	2	\$2,100	\$1,050
2012-13	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013-14	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014-15	3	2	\$3,922	\$1,961

Table RO.9 Problem Wildlife Occurrences 2014/15							
Species	Region						% of Total
	NE	NW	E	C	W	Total	
Beaver	4	6	32	40	11	93	3%
Black Bear	279	174	254	353	385	1445	49%
Polar Bear	197	0	0	0	0	197	7%
Big Game	3	0	7	29	26	65	2%
Wolf	13	17	32	35	19	116	4%
Migratory Birds	4	3	8	98	92	205	7%
Other*	24	50	100	478	173	825	28%
Total	524	250	433	1033	706	2946	100%

*Other includes coyote, fox, raccoon, skunk, etc.

**Table RO.10
12.2(a) Headquarters Operations**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,130	34.95	2,734	396	1.
Other Expenditures	1,464		1,004	460	2.
Total 12.2(a)	4,594	34.95	3,738	856	

1. Over-expenditures due to unfunded Workers Compensation and Retirement and Severance payments.
2. Over-expenditures mainly due to transitioning of Snoman Program to Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation and Parks safety costs.

Northwest Region

The Northwest Region has a Regional Office located at The Pas and District Offices located at Cranberry Portage, Flin Flon, Snow Lake, and Grand Rapids with sub offices at Sherridon/Cold Lake, Cormorant, and Moose Lake. The area encompasses a diverse landscape that includes parts of Manitoba's Lowlands, an inland Delta along the Saskatchewan River and Canadian Shield natural regions. The

Boreal forest is dominated by lakes, and rivers, largely in a natural state and its lands made up of predominately seven (7) species including black and white spruce, jack pine, tamarack, white birch, balsam poplar, trembling aspen and scattered pockets of eastern white cedar.

Mineral extraction, commercial timber harvesting and processing, agriculture, resource-based tourism and commercial fishing continue to be the main industries providing economic and employment benefits in the region. The harvesting of wild rice and trapping also provide for some local employment. Domestic and recreational use of the region's wildlife, fish, and forest resources by the residents of the region is also significant.

The region is home to world-class angling with many of the Manitoba records caught on the lakes and rivers including Tullibee, Brook Trout, Burbot, Goldeye, Lake Whitefish and the old Lake Trout record recorded at 64 lbs. The excellent fishing attracts many visitors from North America pursuing the many species with several master anglers of each species produced annually.

The Region's parks provide a scenic natural setting with modern conveniences, great camping, fishing, canoeing and boating opportunities. Staff delivers services, programs, and security to the many visitors at Clearwater Lake, Bakers Narrows, Grass River, and Wekusko Provincial Parks, which includes seven (7) campgrounds: Bakers Narrows, Gyles, Iskwasum, Reed, Wekusko Falls, Campers Cove, and Pioneer.

Due to the values-at-risk associated with towns and communities and with timber values, the Region's fire management and suppression program is the most significant and highest priority program delivered in the Northwest Region in terms of both employment and expenditures. It normally runs from May through September.

Cost-effective and professional delivery of field services to the public.

- As a result of an internal survey for the 2013 season to all fire staff within the province and region, this year management focused more on the issues identified by the crews and are aggressively training to assist the initial attack success and cost effective delivery of the program.
- The Northwest Region experienced an average number of fires this season with a total of 52 fires, of which 41 were lightning caused and 11 human caused, with a less than average total amount of burnt forest reduced to only 140 hectares. This indicates that successful initial attack occurred and weather had a part in the amount of forest burnt.
- The Districts focused on fire prevention and education within the northern communities resulting in a decrease in the number of human caused fires. In addition, there is an increased emphasis on fire investigations and cost recovery of significant wildfires, of which one investigation, after court hearings resulted in over \$2 million in cost recovery.
- Improved infrastructure at Wekusko Falls Fire Base with the addition of a fire warehouse and two new bunkhouses, plus renovations to the existing Grand Rapids District Office and Bunkhouse.

Angler and hunter compliance.

- Resource Officers checked approximately 2,232 anglers, 451 hunters, and 80 commercial fishers for compliance resulting in 172 required enforcement actions.
- As a result of additional Game Hunting Area closers for moose in other areas of the province, officers reported a continual increase in licensed and subsistence moose hunting activity within the region. Increased compliance checks and simulated moose operations occurred during and after the licensed hunting seasons in an attempt to reduce the amount of road hunting activity, resulting in two prosecutions.

- Resource Officers reported a notable increase in numbers of guests from the United States and other provinces, especially Saskatchewan during their closed season in April, that frequent the region to recreationally fish in the many lakes and rivers.

New initiatives to effectively reduce illegal traffic in fish and wildlife.

- More aggressive and dedicated enforcement work focusing on possible illegal trafficking in fish continued again this season with officers conducting several business, special dealer and commercial fisher compliance checks.
- Officers report an increase in illegal activity by way of social media sites advertising sale of fish without the required licences and wildlife to the public. Monitoring and investigations continue in this area.

Control of park rowdyism and reduced level of related public complaints; increase in the level of visitor satisfaction within Provincial Parks.

- Canada's Parks Day resulted in excellent attendance and an increase in visitor satisfaction. In working cooperatively with the fire program a static display set up at Clearwater Provincial Park and the Flin Flon Airport for Bakers Narrows Provincial Park was well received this year. In addition, various activities also occurred in Grass River and Wekusko Provincial Parks.
- Improvements were made to park infrastructure including upgrades to pump house and change house, replaced roofing on several buildings, and upgrades to fish cleaning buildings.
- Park rowdyism and complaints were controlled because of the available Park Patrol and local NRO staff that worked during busier times, assisted the public when requested, conducted patrols and compliance checks as needed.

Maintenance of effective community relations particularly greater involvement, participation, and co-operation of Aboriginal people in resource management, and effective liaison with organized sportsmen's and park user groups.

- Regional and District staff continue to participate as provincial representatives on the Cedar Lake, Cormorant, OCN, and Moose Lake Resource Management Boards. Opaskwayak Cree Nation and the Province signed a new 20 year Joint Management Agreement to jointly manage the natural resources and develop a land use plan for the traditional territory.
- Staff continue to hold annual Cottage Association meetings, attend Chief and Council meetings, Rural Municipality and City/Town meetings when requested, and attend all meetings requested by the sportsmen's groups to provide assistance and information.
- Districts continue to hold presentations in the local schools on fire prevention, resource management, bear smart program, career days and special requests made by the local schools.
- Staff participate with joint initiatives working directly with other departments or branches to assist with effective community relations. One of the main focuses was moose populations within the region with continuing meetings and public information sessions with the northern and First Nations Communities.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated.

- The Northwest Regional Integrated Resource Management Team (IRMT) continues to review and provide consolidated regional comments on timber harvesting mitigations, complex work projects, sales, leases, general permits, assignments, and lease renewal applications. The IRMT also reviews and comments on all regional Licence Advisory Committee requests, exploration proposals, road development, Environment Act Licensing, quarry applications and work permit applications.
- District Resource Officers issue numerous work permits yearly under *The Crown Lands Act* for construction projects, industrial operations within and during the burning permit area under *The Wildfires Act*. Work permits are used to mitigate the negative impacts of an activity and as a method of ensuring that the proponents are made aware of local concerns and requirements.
- The region is continuing to review wild rice allocations, has formed a Provincial Wild Rice Committee, and continues to work on a policy to standardize the review of wild rice applications and assignments.
- There were approximately 12 various exploration companies involved in claim staking, diamond drilling, soil sampling, line cutting, mapping, and geological reconnaissance. Two new mines, Lalor and Reed continue to be in operation and anticipate several years of mineral extraction.
- The region continues to identify land available for cottage lot opportunities under the Provincial Cottage Lot Program.

Other Notable Highlights

- Continued clearing of Bipole III from The Pas south to to the regional boundary near the junction of Highways 10 and 60 commenced this winter. Construction in the northern portion of the region continued from north of The Pas to Ponton. District and Regional staff developed and issued work permits to Manitoba Hydro for construction camps, access roads, and surveying of the transmission line location. Compliance inspections occurred and reports were submitted to identify any areas that required additional work and ensured the conditions of the Environment Act Licence and Manitoba Hydro's Environmental Protection Plan were followed.
- A consultation process was offered to 15 communities to review Tolko's operating plan with additional notices offered to various communities regarding small forestry related projects not covered by Tolko's plan.
- A total of 19 new work permits and 73 extended work permits were issued by staff for logging, road construction, and silviculture operations. Approximately 440,000 m³ of timber was harvested of which 406,000 m³ of conifer and 34,000 m³ of aspen within the region. The region supervised the planting of 320,000 trees throughout the cutovers in the region.
- Monitoring and development of action plans for boreal woodland caribou, listed as threatened provincially and federally, continue to occur for the many identified ranges across the region with monitoring started this year for the first time in the Wheadon and William Lake ranges.
- Staff work with and received funding assistance from local industries, resource management boards, and other departments for the three-year collaring and monitoring projects to determine caribou movements and habitat requirements. This data collected aids in identification of critical habitat, core use areas, establishes mortality rates, herd stability and allows us to direct and accommodate industrial development within the areas.

- Walter Cook Caves Ecological Reserve was officially designated on October 10, 2014. This site is near Grand Rapids and totals 3,200 hectares. Its outstanding feature is karst topography – limestone and dolomite areas etched by water creating several karst features. There are 6 caves found in the area of which two are known hibernacula for little brown bats and moths.

**Table RO.11
12.2(b) Northwest Region**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,962	31.75	2,033	(71)	
Other Expenditures	638		626	12	
Total 12.2(b)	2,600	31.75	2,659	(59)	

Northeast Region

The Northeast Region encompasses 60% of the land area of Manitoba and is comprised primarily of vast uninterrupted tracts of boreal forest transitioning to taiga in the far north. The majority of the land base remains in its natural state, unaltered and undeveloped, and is largely inaccessible due to an extremely limited road network.

On a capita per area basis, the Northeast Region is the most sparsely populated region in the Province. Mineral extraction, processing and exploration, hydro-electric generation and transmission, resource-based tourism (lodges and outfitting), and commercial fishing and trapping are the main industries generating economic and employment benefits for the Region and Province. Domestic and recreational use of the Region's wildlife, fish, and forest resources by the residents of the Region is also significant.

Due to the values-at-risk associated with towns, communities, lodges, out camps remote cottages and timber values, the Region's fire management and suppression program is also a priority program delivered in the Region in terms of both employment and expenditures. It normally runs from May through September. The delivery of services, programs and security at Paint Lake Provincial Park and several other provincial parks is a priority during this same time period. Undertaking the Crown's Duty to Consult (Section 35) with the 20 First Nation communities and 15 Aboriginal communities located in the Northeast Region on government decisions or actions that could affect or infringe upon Treaty and Aboriginal rights is a year round priority in the Northeast Region. The management and allocation of Crown land and resources to different, often competing, users and compliance monitoring and the enforcement of Crown land and resource legislation are year round activities in the Region. Participation on co-management boards and handling problem wildlife complaints, including the high profile Polar Bear Alert Program at Churchill, are also important program activities in the Region.

The Northeast Regional office is located at Thompson. District offices are located at Churchill, Gillam, Thompson, Wabowden, Lynn Lake, Norway House, God's Lake Narrows, and Island Lake. Sub-District offices are located at Split Lake, Nelson House, Pukatawagan, South Indian Lake, Cross Lake, Oxford House, and Leaf Rapids.

Cost-effective and professional delivery of field services to the public.

The 2014 fire season was a wet one and saw a below average number of fires and area burned within the region. There were a total 137 fires burning 31,167 hectares in the NE region. Of the 137 fires, 72 were

caused by lightning and 65 were human caused. 103 fires were actioned and extinguished, 21 fires received limited action, and 13 were no action.

The Northeast Region issued 280 burning permits, with 214 being issued from the Norway House District. With the quiet fire season, the region was able to concentrate on the delivery of the Fire Smart Program. A Fire Smart Demonstration site was created at Paint Lake Helitac Base. We also completed a Pre-Response Plan for Paint Lake Provincial Park. The cleanup of dead trees continued in the campground and around the park. Gillam District started a Fire Smart brushing program with the Town of Gillam, showing town staff how to fire smart treed areas. Fire Prevention was another priority with the districts participating in Canada Day Parades, Nickel Days, Treaty Days, and numerous school presentations with appearances by Smokey Bear.

Fires by District	
Island Lake	20
Gods Lake	8
Gillam	24
Leaf Rapids	2
Lynn Lake	38
Norway House	18
Wabowden	8
Thompson	18
Churchill	1

Angler and hunter compliance.

- Natural Resource Officers checked 1163 anglers, 471 hunters, and 54 commercial fishermen for compliance. Angler checks were higher than in previous years because of the slower fire season, which gave officers more time to be out on the landscape.

Maintenance of effective community relations particularly greater involvement, participation, and co-operation of Aboriginal people in resource management, and effective liaison with organized sportsmen's and park user groups.

- Regional and District staff participated as provincial representatives on Resource Management Boards located at Nelson House, Split Lake, York Factory, Norway House, and Fox Lake. Staff also participated on the Wapisi Caribou Committee, the Northeast Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee, the Churchill Northern Studies Centre Board, the South of 60 Inuit Land Claim committee along the Hudson Bay Coast as well as participated in community consultation meetings with the proposed new Polar Bear Provincial Park.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- There were a total of 202 polar bear occurrence reports (bear complaints/sightings) received.
- The 2014 Polar Bear season started when a female and 2 cubs were on the Bay ice near Cape Merry on June 8th. The first reported bear on land was on June 23rd when tracks were spotted on the beach in front of the Churchill Complex. The first polar bear staff handled was on July 2, 2014 and the last bear handled was on November 12, 2014.
- A total of 55 Polar Bears were handled during the 2014 season compared to 38 in 2013.

- An open house was held on July 23rd at the Polar Bear Holding Facility. At the time, 2 bears were in the facility but were put into the back corner cells so they would be well isolated from the public. The open house was very well received with approximately 350 people attending the event.
- The polar bears remaining in the holding facility at the end of the season were released onto the ice of Hudson Bay on November 14th, 15th and 16th.
- On September 24th, two Polar Bear cubs were observed along the Hudson Bay coast near Kaskattama. No female mother bear was located and it was established that these were two orphaned coys. This resulted in the two coys, one male, and one female, caught and later transported to the International Polar Bear Conservation Center in Winnipeg, MB.
- Polar Bear Alert staff conducted 39 media interviews and public education events.
- The Northeast also had 279 black bear district occurrence reports, as well as 4 beaver and 13 wolf complaints.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated

- The Region reviewed and provided comments on 62 Crown Land applications, 154 Casual Quarry Permits applications, 29 Environmental Licence reviews/applications, 141 Work Permits
- 225 Timber permits were issued. Approximately 90,715 cubic metres of softwood and hardwood was harvested in the Thompson and Wabowden districts for Tolko.
- Manitoba Hydro's Bipole III right-of-way clearing has been mostly completed in the Northeast Region. Inspections were carried out by NRO's on a regular basis. Gillam, Thompson, and Wabowden districts were the key work project areas.
- Manitoba Hydro's Keeyask Generation Project work continued with the completion of the road ROW, temporary camps, and work along burrow pits and quarry pits. The coffer dam construction also began to take shape in the Nelson River.

Other Notable Highlights

- Regional and District staff participated with the Manitoba Trappers Association at the annual Thompson Fur Table in 2014. There were 4 fur buyers in attendance. A total of 211 trappers came to the fur table dealing with the wild furs on hand and for a total of \$239,421.00 in fur sales. Prices were lower than last year, but trapper turnout was still high.
- Barren-ground caribou remains an important big game animal, with all resident licenses sold out for the 2014 season. The Qamanirjuaq herd traveled as far south as the Brochet junction during the winter months resulting in good hunter success.
- Wildlife staff continued to work and identify new Polar Bear denning areas along the Kaskatamagan area.
- 2014/2015 was the first full year operating with a waste transfer station at Paint Lake Provincial Park. It was also the full year operating with the new water treatment plant.
- The 22-kilometer round trip hiking trail from Pisew Falls to Kwasitchewan Falls was re-opened after the successful cleaning up by Helitac Crews from the large windstorm that occurred in late summer of 2013.

Table RO.12

12.2(c) Northeast Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,548	37.95	2,536	12	
Other Expenditures	1,127		963	164	1.
Total 12.2(c)	3,675	37.95	3,499	176	

1. Over-expenditure due to monitoring and interception of high risk polar bears, rescuing and caring of two orphaned polar bear cubs and additional patrols for Manitoba parks protection.

Central Region

The Central Region delivers programs and services associated with the Parks and Regional Services Division of Conservation and Water Stewardship, including field activities for provincial park operations and maintenance and capital projects management, resource management, compliance and enforcement activities related to natural resources and parks safety and security, wildfire protection and suppression, protection of people, livestock, crops and property from problem wildlife. This includes development, delivery, and evaluation of programs and services, inspection, compliance monitoring, and enforcement of natural resource legislation. This is done by multi-disciplined full-time and seasonal staff working from a Regional office in Gimli and District offices in Ashern, Grand Beach, Gypsumville, Hodgson, Lundar, Manitou, Portage la Prairie, Riverton, Selkirk, Winnipeg Beach, Birds Hill, and Winnipeg.

Enforcement actions were up 16% from the previous year. Prosecutions increased by 26%, Written Warnings increased by 44% and Evictions decreased by 29%. Increases can be attributed to improved planning and organization to focus on high public resource use within the Region.

- Regional staff responded to 2,264 district occurrence reports from the public related to parks safety and security, problem wildlife and resources related complaints. In addition, staff provided representation on behalf of the department and professional advice to a large number of public, industry, and interest groups on forestry, wildlife, Crown lands, parks and other resource concerns and issues.
- Staff undertook 1,271 enforcement actions resulting in 805 charges, 280 warnings, and 186 evictions from provincial parks. These actions were primarily in response to public complaints on regulatory resource issues and park safety and security concerns.

The combined, focussed efforts of multiple Natural Resource Officers working together on specific resource use concerns, resulting in increased productivity and public awareness.

- In response to the Central Region Enforcement Strategy, enforcement efforts were directed to Regional priorities of park safety and security, commercial fish and sport fishery enforcement. Commercial businesses within the region continue to be inspected as new locations are identified. Extensive investigations have been conducted with additional prosecutions pending in the new fiscal year.
- The Regional Enforcement Strategy has been revised for 2015/16 with specific goals and objectives, improved organization and increased data tracking to assist in evaluating and adjusting future plans. The overall goal is to provide adequate NRO staff to meet the compliance needs of high public use and high public resource consumption areas.

Proactive enforcement initiatives to identify problems before they occur is reducing rowdy behavior and resulting in fewer public complaints and an increase in the level of visitor satisfaction.

- Park rowdiness, public safety, and security remain priority issues requiring the primary attention of the Region's enforcement resources. The addition of liquor free camping at Grand Beach Provincial Park and the continued efforts to prohibit liquor in provincial park campgrounds on the May long weekend has greatly reduced complaints of unacceptable behavior in our park campgrounds.
- Prosecutions under *The Provincial Parks Act* and Regulation were up 222% as compared to the previous year. This was due to reduced authority under *The Liquor Control Act* requiring all liquor related prosecution to proceed under the Parks Activity Regulation. Evictions from provincial parks in the Region were down 29% from the previous year, which is the second year in a row that a reduction by this amount has occurred. A significant portion of this reduction can be attributed to the added measures taken to identify and address potential problem situations before they become an issue requiring address.

Maintaining effective community relations creates greater involvement, participation, and co-operation of Aboriginal people and organized sportsmen's and park user groups in addressing resource management issues.

- Regional Wildlife and Services staff co-ordinated a Working Group with members of Peguis First Nation, Fisher Game and Fish Association and the Rural Municipality of Fisher to address and resolve access road and camping area maintenance concerns within the Mantagao Lake Wildlife Management Area
- Regional parks staff continued work with Parks Branch staff regarding address of First Nations concerns on Park Reserves and Parks.
- Improvements at Birds Hill Provincial Park assisted in maintaining the longer-term viability of the Winnipeg Folk Festival, one of Manitoba's largest music festivals.
- Interior and exterior work was completed on the Provincially Designated Historic Bohemier House at St. Norbert Provincial Heritage Park. District and Branch staff continued working with the Fort Garry Historical Society to ensure the house could be reopened for public tours in 2015.
- The tennis courts at Winnipeg Beach were resurfaced in advance of the town's 100th anniversary celebration resulting in a successful tennis tournament organized by the Anniversary Committee.
- An agreement was reached with A Rocha, a Christian Conservation organization, for the day-to-day maintenance of Pembina Valley Provincial Park.
- Regional, District and Branch Park staff were successful in establishing a pet friendly fenced off leash dog area with the cooperation of the City of Portage la Prairie and the local Dog Park Committee. Located at Yellow Quill Provincial Park, on the Portage la Prairie by-pass, this pet friendly area has proven to be extremely popular with resident dog owners and those persons travelling both east and west on the Trans-Canada Highway.

Education is the first response to complaints related to problem wildlife.

- The number of wildlife related complaints (1033) in the Region was 31% lower than the previous year. Winnipeg continues to receive the highest number of complaints. Even though the Winnipeg District staff no longer respond to raccoon complaints within the City, they continue to provide educational information to the public on how to address problems created by raccoons. The Region's staff provides education to the public for all problem wildlife complaints on ways to prevent occurrences and removal of attractants remains the most effective way to co-exist with wildlife.
- The number of black bear complaints in the Region increased by approximately 56% (353) from the previous year. Dry conditions in the northern part of the Region and a higher than normal black bear population in the Grand Beach area resulted in a higher number of human-black bear conflicts. Grand Beach, Gypsumville, and Hodgson Districts accounted for 64% of all complaints in the Region. The Bear Smart Program continues to be an effective tool in educating the public on ways to reduce and remove attractants that create human-black bear conflicts

Development of short and long-range regional resource management plans.

- The inter-departmental Regional BLOC Planning Committee continues to review operational Crown land use codes to improve long-term land and resource use and reduce land use conflicts.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated.

- Land use allocations are reviewed by the Region's Integrated Resource Management Team (IRMT) to ensure regional natural resource issues and operational considerations are included.
- A First Nation Assessment, including reviews in accordance with existing Treaty Land Entitlement Agreements, continues for all Crown Land disposition applications within the Region.

Other Notable Highlights

Park Operations and Improvements

- In support of *Tomorrow Now – Manitoba's Green Plan* and *Building The Parks Province: Manitoba's Parks Strategy*, the Region acquired four additional new electric golf carts for use in provincial park maintenance operations, reducing fossil fuel consumption and green house gas emissions within various Central Region provincial parks. Additionally, the lagoon at Stephenfield was upgraded to meet current environmental standards.
- In 2014, the West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park maintained its Blue Flag Designation and the beach at Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park was awarded the Blue Flag Designation for the first time. Blue Flag is an internationally recognized eco-label symbolizing clean and well-managed beaches and marinas worldwide.
- At Hnaua Beach Provincial Park, staff installed shoreline erosion protection materials to preserve the dike protecting the park which was previously damaged during summer wind events on Lake Winnipeg.
- Regional park staff continued to work with Parks Branch staff to initiate or complete many Minor Capital and Part B Capital infrastructure improvements, as well as flood remediation projects, in the region.
- At Birds Hill Provincial Park, the Birds Hill beach and lake expansion project was initiated and work continued on the expansion of the maintenance shop.

- At Grand Beach Provincial Park, staff assisted Parks Branch staff with the construction of a natural children's play structure as well as with the Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive trail and development project.
- High water levels on Lake Manitoba continued to pose a flooding risk at St. Ambroise Beach Provincial Park further delaying the reconstruction of the campground following flooding impacts from 2011 and 2012.
- Following remediation and reconstruction efforts to address 2011 and 2012 Lake Manitoba flooding impacts, Watchorn Provincial Park reopened in August. Improvements to park infrastructure proved to be very popular with new and returning guests. Construction of a new campground office commenced in the fall.
- The replacement of aging play structures continued throughout the Region with new play structures being installed in the campgrounds at Hecla, Grand Beach, and Watchorn Provincial Parks. A new railway themed play structure was installed at the Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park Campground.

Table RO.13
12.2(d) Central Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,510	57.05	3,896	(386)	
Other Expenditures	1,068		1,096	(28)	
Total 12.2(d)	4,578	57.05	4,992	(414)	1.

1. Under-expenditures due to vacancies and Retirements.

Eastern Region

The Eastern Region is comprised of rural towns, First Nation communities, Canadian Shield boreal forest, and agricultural lands. The region contains extensive tracts of natural undisturbed areas with the majority of the land not developed for human occupation. As a result, significant economic benefits are derived from natural resource based industries, such as forestry/peat harvesting, and from diverse recreational opportunities. Major programs administered by the region include park operations and maintenance, park safety and security, resource compliance/enforcement, problem wildlife, and wildfire prevention and suppression.

The Eastern Region programs and public services are provided by multi-disciplined full time and seasonal staff working with the Regional Office in Lac du Bonnet and District offices in Lac du Bonnet, Lake Winnipeg East, Pine Falls, Rennie, Seven Sisters, Sprague, Falcon Lake, Steinbach, and Beausejour. There are Sub-District offices in Berens River, Little Grand Rapids, and Bissett. Public lands in addition to undesignated Crown land administered through these offices include 14 provincial parks, 8 provincial forests, 9 wildlife management areas, and 8 ecological reserves.

Whiteshell Provincial Park boundary was expanded to include an additional 2,950 hectares of land and water,

Hunter and Angler Compliance Levels

- Natural Resource Officers conducted 1,000 big game, 287 upland game bird, 83 migratory bird, 5,738 angler, 223 Snopass, and 46 work permit inspections in the region. In addition, there were seven decoy wildlife operations, 149 park evictions, and 801 cottage inspections conducted within parks.

Fire Management

- The region experienced a very few fires in 2014. A total of 30 wildfires 244.9 hectares within the region. Twenty of the fires were deemed to be human caused 10 were started by lightning.

Park Operations

- Tulabi Campground electrification project started in Bay 1 completed. Davidson Lake, Beresford Lake and Caribou Landing boat launch upgrades completed.
- Lac du Bonnet park maintenance shop roof upgrade completed.
- Tulabi Campground Short Haul Backcountry site construction started fall 2014.
- Shoe Lake Backcountry site construction completed.
- White Lake modern washroom upgrade completed.
- Nutimik West Beach washroom replacement completed.
- South Whiteshell picnic shelter replacement completed.
- South Whiteshell picnic area washroom completed.
- The new water treatment plant for Brereton Lake Campground was tendered for design.
- Big Whiteshell water line relocation was completed.
- Brereton wastewater treatment plant started 2014 and will continue into 2015
- Brereton water treatment plant is in the design phase started in 2014 and will continue into 2015.
- Opapiskaw water treatment upgrade started 2014 and will continue into 2015 (design was last fiscal).
- Nutimik bulk filling station started 2012 and will continue into 2015.
- Coin Op showers Falcon Lake and Toniata started and will continue into 2015.
- Caddy Lake boat launch completed.
- West Hawk Marina docks completed.
- Moose Lake day use area completed installation of new playground equipment.
- Moose Lake park maintenance shop upgrades completed.

- Moose Lake wastewater treatment field started and will continue into 2015.
- Moose Lake Modern Washroom/Shower building and water treatment plant completed.
- St. Malo campground electrification upgrade project started Bay 1, 2 and 4 and will continue in the fall of 2015.
- St. Malo campground new washroom at Sunset Shores project started and will continue throughout the winter and into 2015.

Cost-effective and professional delivery of field services to the public.

- Natural Resource Officers from within the Eastern region continued to conduct dedicated patrols throughout GHA 26 to ensure compliance with the moose conservation closure. Staff have noted that for the most part the closure has been respected and have detected few violations, Over all the Department's efforts continue to be well received by the public and stakeholders.
- Construction of a new Regional Fire Centre and District Initial Attack Base in Lac Du Bonnet started in April 2014. The new base will replace the existing district fire base near Lac du Bonnet, which does not meet current federal heliport standards. The Lac du Bonnet location is centrally located to provide effective regional forest fire protection and suppression coordination for eastern and central Manitoba. This includes the Whiteshell, Nopiming, Hecla and Atikaki Provincial Parks, which include many homes and cottages. It is anticipated that the facility will be fully operational in summer 2015.

Maintenance of effective community relations particularly greater involvement, participation, and co-operation of Aboriginal people in resource management, and effective liaison with organized sportsmen's and park user groups.

- Regional and District staff regularly participated as provincial representatives at meetings with First Nations communities. Some of the regular meetings are:
 - Traditional Area Advisory Committees (TAAC) with Hollow Water and Black River FNs.
 - Resource Stewardship Boards with Poplar River, Bloodvein, Little Grand Rapids, and Pauingassi FNs.
 - Model Forest Eastern Region Committee for Moose Management which involves First Nations from the area, industry, and various other stakeholders.
 - Shoal Lake 40 Freedom Road Project.
- Regional staff continued to participate in discussions with aboriginal groups and harvesters regarding management of the moose population in GHA 26 and 17A.
- Throughout the region staff continued to meet regularly with the Manitoba Trappers Association locals, Manitoba Wildlife Association and other user and special interest groups.
- Natural Resource Officers coordinated trapper education courses in remote First Nations communities
- Regional and District staff continued to meet regularly with the Whiteshell cottagers Association, the Falcon-West Hawk Chamber of Commerce, and various other cottage associations and special interest groups to discuss park operations and maintenance and park safety and security issues.

- Regional and District staff met with local fire departments, FN Communities, RM councils, and railway companies to pre-plan for forest fire prevention and suppression operations.
- Following the challenges experienced dealing with urban interface fires in the Vita and Sandilands area, Staff met with the RM of Piney and RM of Stuartburn to discuss concerns regarding the implementation of Travel and Burning Restrictions. As a result the Department has made amendments to its Travel Restriction guidelines that will be implemented in 2015/16.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- In an effort to reduce the number of complaints received, staff continue to educate the public in regards to Bear Smart practices and other wildlife such as deer and wolves.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated.

- The Eastern Region vets all Crown land, Licensing Advisory Committee (LAC), and mineral exploration applications by the appropriate district and the regional IRMT for review and consolidation of comments/recommendations.

Other Notable Highlights

- As part of the Departments commitment to the recruitment and training program, Natural Resource Officers from the Eastern Region assisted with EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operation Certification) and firearm training at the Western Canadian Law Enforcement Academy (WLCEA) in Hinton Alberta.
- Eastern Regional Office in Lac du Bonnet building ventilation project and parking lot upgrade were completed.

**Table RO.14
12.2(e) Eastern Region**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,711	60.60	3,777	(66)	
Other Expenditures	762		763	(1)	
Total 12.2(e)	4,473	60.60	4,540	(67)	

Western Region

The Western Region is an extremely diverse area that encompasses a range of land based development and activities from urban centres to extensive agricultural and industrial development to remote undeveloped natural habitat. The region reaches from the United States border on the south to the northern end of Lake Winnipegosis and is geographically divided in half by Riding Mountain National Park. It was formerly two regions, South West Region and Western Region, and while functioning as one region much of the administration and management is completed by two distinct sub-regions.

The region contains 58% of the Rural Municipalities in the province and is the second most populated area of the province. Agricultural land use is predominant in the region while the northern sub-region supports a significant portion of the province's forestry industry. As a result of agricultural land use, there is more human-wildlife interaction resulting in more problem wildlife issues (beaver, coyote, and elk

depredation). It is also home to 6 of the 7 known elk populations in the Province and attracts significant numbers of resident and aboriginal (First Nation and Métis) hunters. The region contains well-known natural topographic features in the form of the Spruce Woods sand dunes, Turtle, Riding, Duck, and Porcupine Mountains, as well as Lake Winnipegosis. In addition, Lake of the Prairies is one of the premier walleye fishing areas in the province. Recreational and Commercial use of natural resources are a major economic stimulus in the region. There are 21 provincial parks in the region. The region contains the majority of outfitters in the province. Virtually all of the oil and gas activities in Manitoba occur in the southwest part of the region where the majority of the listed Species at Risk occur in Manitoba. The western region is also the only region with a major military base, CFB Shilo. Conservation staff are members of the Shilo Environmental Advisory Committee.

All of the above uses and activities require extensive administration and monitoring under the Wildlife, Fisheries, Forestry, Parks, and Crown Lands Acts and Regulations and associated programs.

2014/15 Key Results Achieved:

Cost-effective and professional delivery of field services to the public.

- Several Natural Resource Officers (NROs) were deployed to other Regions to assist with wildfire operations, including wildfire investigations.

Angler and hunter compliance.

- NROs conducted 1501 big game, 38 upland game bird, 178 migratory bird, 5627 angler, 125 Snopass and 90 domestic fishing compliance checks, and 266 timber operation inspections in the region. As a result of these compliance checks there were 181 charges laid and 111 warnings issued.
- The spring Dauphin Lake and tributary walleye closure occurred May 1 to 21, 2014 due to a late spring causing a delay in ice melting from the lake and tributaries. 416 First Nation fishers and 79 Métis fishers were checked while engaged in fishing during the closure. NROs spent 352 man-hours patrolling for compliance, which resulted in no charges laid and 20 written warnings for various offences issued. No major enforcement issues were encountered and cooperation was good from most FN and Métis fishers checked with a 96% compliance rate noted.
- First Nation (FN) and Métis hunters and fishers continue to be very active in the Western Region. 796 FN fishers and 175 FN hunters were checked and Natural Resource Officers checked 321 Métis fishers and 175 Métis hunters.
- GHA 12 was added to the list of GHAs closed to moose hunting in 2014. Initially, there was some resistance to the addition of GHA 12 but overall the compliance with all the moose hunting closures remains high. Only 3 confirmed unlawful moose kills within the closure area were found and are not attributed to any one person or particular group. Investigations into that kill have not resulted in any charges to date.
- NROs continue to conduct decoy and night operations to ensure compliance with Wildlife legislation. Two trucks were seized as a result of night operations in the Neepawa and Swan River areas. The trucks are under seizure and charges are before the courts. Numerous decoy and night-time operations were conducted in all areas of the region with a focus on areas that have a moose conservation closure or where evidence of illegal hunting was present.

Control of park rowdyism and reduced level of related public complaints; increase in the level of visitor satisfaction within provincial parks.

- The May long weekend liquor-free camping program was again in place, resulting in high level of visitor satisfaction throughout all campgrounds in the Region.
- Camping opportunities at Rivers Provincial Park were enhanced with the conversion of some existing campsites to offer electricity and water
- A new playground was constructed in Max Lake campground in Turtle Mountain Provincial Park
- A new playground was constructed in Wellman Lake campground in Duck Mountain Provincial Park
- The newly constructed water treatment plant at the William Lake campground provides a better means of delivering potable water to park patrons.
- The newly constructed water treatment plant at the Rainbow Beach campground provides a better means of delivering potable water to park patrons.
- The newly constructed sewage lagoon at Spruce Woods Provincial Park provides a better means of dealing with waste effluent generated at the Kiche Manitou campground.
- After the 2014 Flooding event access has again been restored to the lower camping area at Kiche Manitou within Spruce Woods Provincial Park and the redevelopment continues
- 2014 Flood restoration work continues at Manipogo and Rainbow Beach provincial Parks
- Asessippi Provincial Park saw the main access road repaired and paved along with seven kilometers of paving taking place within the campground
- The South Duck Transfer Station servicing Singush, Blue and Child's Lakes was completed and sees recycling and waste being transported to approved facilities located outside of the Duck Mountain Provincial Park

Maintenance of effective community relations particularly greater involvement, participation, and co-operation of Aboriginal people in resource management, and effective liaison with organized sportsmen's and park user groups.

- The evolution of the Métis harvest rights issue continues to provide resource challenges to NROs in the region since a higher number of Métis people are exercising their right to harvest fish and wildlife. Consultation continued with rights based groups to foster greater involvement in the decision making process and to seek greater levels of cooperation.
- A Moose Conservation Closure was implemented in GHA's 18, 18A, 18B, 18C, 13, 13A, 14, 14A in August 2011 in response to declining moose populations throughout the North half of the Region. This was implemented following extensive consultation with First Nations, Métis communities, West Region Tribal Council, and local user groups. Swan Valley Moose Management Committee was formed representing 12 different stakeholders from the north half of the region. Development of a Moose Recovery Strategy is underway. Swan River Natural Resource Officers (NROs) and Wildlife staff spent a significant amount of time monitoring hunting and associated camps in the Duck Mountains in order to assess impacts on declining moose populations.

- Natural Resource Officers (NROs) attended youth hunts, Emergency Preparedness displays, resource user functions (trappers' meetings, commercial fisher meetings, seasonal campground draws, etc), and participated in local Envirothons. Swan River NROs assisted with the Swan Valley Sport Fishing Enhancement Association's annual fundraising banquet and fish fry.
- Department staff worked with the Oak Lake Cottage Association and the Oak Lake Natural Areas Playground committee in the establishment of a new playground at Oak Lake Provincial Park. Construction began in 2014 and is slated for completion in 2015.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- 687 occurrence reports regarding problem wildlife were received by district offices in the region. This represents a significant decrease over the previous year. Many of these complaints continue to be coyote/livestock related especially in the south portion of the region. Staff continue to educate producers in methods to minimize livestock or crop loss to problem wildlife.
- Staff educated the public in Bear Smart practices.

Other Key Results Achieved

- Flooding occurred in 3 Provincial Parks in 2014. Efforts were made in the fall of 2014 to start the restoration process, 2 out of the 3 campgrounds were completely open for the 2015 season. Restoration of Spruce Woods Provincial Park lower campground has been ongoing since and, through the combined efforts of district, regional and branch staff, it was re-opened in 2015. Restoration is nearing completion in Manipogo and Rainbow Beach. For Spruce Woods Provincial Park, full restoration and redevelopment is scheduled to occur in four stages. This new development is intended to increase camping site inventory and allow for more camping opportunities.
- A major rainstorm and heavy rains occurred in 2012 in Asessippi Provincial Park, which contributed to slumping of the main park access road. Repairs were made in July 2012, but further slumping occurred, which caused the road to be closed in the fall 2012. Ongoing efforts by branch, regional and district staff have resulted in development of alternative access to the park. A design plan for road reconstruction was developed and the reconstruction project was tendered in early 2014. The road reconstruction project started in the fall of 2014.
- NROs conducted restaurant inspections throughout the region for compliance with The Fisheries Act and regulations regarding the possession and sale of freshwater fish, mainly walleye. This is an ongoing initiative intended to educate the public and restaurant owners and to curb the illegal sale of fresh water fish species within Manitoba.
- In an effort to ensure the highest standard of solid waste management, a new solid waste transfer station was built in the Western Region in the Duck Mountain Provincial Park to serve cottagers, commercial operators, and campgrounds. District and Regional Park staff continue to work with the Child's Lake Cottage Association, Singush Cottage Association, and Wellman Lake Cottage Association in waste management and recycling.

Table RO.15
12.2(f) Western Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,678	56.80	3,694	(16)	
Other Expenditures	1,051		1,055	(4)	
Total 12.2(f)	4,729	56.80	4,749	(20)	

Parks and Protected Spaces

Parks and Protected Spaces Branch is responsible for managing provincial parks, ecological reserves, and the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, and building a protected areas network for the long-term benefit of Manitobans and the environment. These lands protect unique, representative, or outstanding natural, cultural, and heritage features and resources, conserve ecosystems, and provide recreational and educational opportunities to approximately five million visitors each year.

Key Results Achieved:

- Generated \$17.0 million in revenue by persons using the parks for personal enjoyment, commercial and general use.
- Park visitation exceeded 4.5 million visitors with cabin, yurt, group use and campsite reservations of 62,858, a decrease of 3,266 reservations over 2013.
- There was a continued focus on environmental infrastructure including water and wastewater systems and investments focussed on back to basics with the replacement and upgrading of existing park facilities.
- Manitoba's protected areas network was expanded by permanently protecting more than 125,000 hectares.
- Chitek Lake Provincial Park and Upper Fort Garry Provincial Heritage Park were established, Whiteshell Provincial Park was expanded, and Walter Cook Caves Ecological Reserve was established. A planning process began to establish a provincial park in the Hudson Bay area to protect polar bear habitat including existing and newly found polar bear denning areas, and to better promote the area as an international tourism destination.

Administration Section

The Administration Section is responsible for establishing strategic direction and guidelines, ensuring conformity to Department policies and government goals and assessing the effectiveness of programs and services offered to the public. This section provides many functions including administrative and human resources support, capital budget coordination, and the management of fees collected from Park users, commercial concessions, and the leased properties. Work programs are reviewed to ensure that goals are met and that expenditures conform to estimates, legislation, and policies. The Branch participates on the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board and the Canadian Parks Council. Grants were provided to the International Peace Garden, Manitoba Wildlife Foundation (upkeep and public programs at Fort Whyte Alive), and the Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters (water safety public education and programming).

Key Results Achieved:

- Managed park programs and facilities in accordance with policies, procedures, and standards to meet branch, department, and government goals.
- Developed park programs and facilities according to the branch current and capital spending estimates.
- Conducted the activities of Parks and Protected Spaces in a manner consistent with policy, the departmental mission, and government priorities.
- Provided grants to organizations who implemented activities in accordance with branch policy, departmental mission, and government priorities.

Planning and Development Section

The Planning and Development Section provides design and project management capacity, prepares land-use plans, development plans, policies, and regulations to guide establishment, management, and development of the Park System, to conserve ecosystems and maintain biodiversity, preserve unique and representative natural, cultural and heritage resources, and provide outdoor recreational and educational opportunities and experiences in a natural setting.

The Section guides establishment and management of provincial parks and ecological reserves, and manages the Canadian Heritage Rivers Program in Manitoba. The Section undertakes environmental licensing and land use allocation reviews. The Section also provides landscape architectural, architectural and project management capacity, overseeing the design and implementation of capital works projects within provincial parks.

Over the 2014/15 year, staff from the section participated in additional programs both internal to the branch and programs of other agencies. Examples include:

- Participation on the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Technical Planning Committee;
- Participation on the Canadian Council of Ecological Areas Board of Directors;
- Review of *Environment Act* Licence proposals, Crown land circulars and related items for proposed developments to assess possible implications on lands of interest to or administered by the Branch (provincial parks, park reserves, ecological reserves); and
- Consultation with stakeholders and the public to advance park system planning, management planning, and park development.

Park System Planning and Ecology

This program is responsible for the strategic direction of the Manitoba Provincial Park System, as well as establishing both new and revised park boundaries, classifications, primary park goals and objectives, and Land Use Categories (LUC). This is done via consultation involving the public, stakeholders, First Nations, and government agencies. A major function at present is undertaking the review process required to confirm permanent designations for existing Park Reserves. The program is also responsible for Manitoba's Ecological Reserves Program, including the designation and management ecological reserves.

Key Results Achieved:

- In July 2014, *The Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park Act* came into effect and Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park was proclaimed.
- In October 2014, the new Indigenous Traditional Use park classification and the new Indigenous Heritage land use category were created under *The Provincial Parks Act*.
- In October 2014, Chitek Lake Park Reserve was permanently designated as Chitek Lake Provincial Park, the first park to be designated under the Indigenous Traditional Use park classification.
- Phases 1 and 2 of the planning and consultation processes were completed for the designation of the proposed Polar Bear Provincial Park.
- In December 2014 the LUC boundaries and expansion of Whiteshell Provincial Park to connect protected areas within the park to other protected areas at Whitemouth Bog was completed.

- Work continues on a review of existing and future mining and oil and gas exploration and development activities in parks in partnership with Mineral Resources with the purpose of developing a green mining in parks strategy.
- Interim restrictions continued to be in effect for licensed trapping within provincial parks until a review of trapping activities in relation to public safety and public consultation on proposed changes to trapping in parks is completed.
- The emerald ash borer monitoring program continued in Grand Beach, Birds Hill, Spruce Woods, and Turtle Mountain provincial parks. No borers were found in 2013/14.
- A planning process was initiated to investigate options for reactivating the Spirit Sands in Spruce Woods Provincial Park. A contract was awarded to an external consultant in March 2015 to develop models for dune reactivation potential.

Ecological Reserves

Ecological Reserves are established under *The Ecological Reserves Act* to protect areas with unique and representative plants, animals, geologic features, natural landscapes, and ecological processes.

Key Results Achieved:

- The Five-year Report on Ecological Reserves 2009-2014 was completed and submitted for tabling to the Legislature.
- A new Regulation was registered in October 2014 to clarify existing permitted uses and activities within ecological reserves.
- Three members of the Ecological Reserves Advisory Committee saw their terms expire. A process was undertaken to replace these members.
- In October 2014, Walter Cook Caves Ecological Reserve was designated.
- Consultations with Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation continued toward the considered protection of Partridge Crop Hill as a protected area.
- Consultations for the permanent designation of Cedar Bog, Piney, Ste Anne Bog, St. Labre Bog, and Woodridge as ecological reserves, as well as the expansion of Lewis Bog Ecological Reserve were completed.
- A new form for nominating ecological reserves was added to the program's website.
- Tolko's Annual Operating Plan was reviewed to ensure that harvesting and renewal operations were consistent with regulations and licensing and that impacts on ecological reserves were reduced.

Management Planning

The Planning and Development Section is responsible for preparing park management plans, developing park policies and facilitating resource management projects. Development of management plans for individual provincial parks is a requirement of Section 11 of *The Provincial Parks Act*. Management plans address topics such as park use, landscape protection, and recreational development, and ensure that the main purposes of the park are considered when land-use decisions are made. They provide details on what land uses are appropriate and ensure that new activities or developments are compatible with the long-term management of the park.

Key Results Achieved:

- A management planning process for parks in the Western Region continued with the preparation of draft management plans for Grand Valley, Criddle Vane, Oak Lake, Rivers, Seton, and William Lake provincial parks.
- A management planning process for Manigotogan and Nopiming provincial parks was initiated. Management plans were completed for Camp Morton, Caribou River, Nueltin Lake, Colvin Lake, Numayakoos, and Sand Lake provincial parks.

Canadian Heritage Rivers System

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is Canada's national river conservation program. It promotes, protects and enhances Canada's river heritage, and ensures that Canada's leading rivers are managed in a sustainable manner. The CHRS is built on river stewardship, co-operation, and public support. Rivers in the CHRS possess outstanding natural and/or cultural values, offer quality recreational opportunities, and showcase the benefits of healthy river environments, now and in the future. The Bloodvein, Hayes, Red, and Seal are Manitoba's Canadian Heritage Rivers.

Key Results Achieved:

- The section played a key role in advancing the CHRS Strategic Plan 2008-2018 as well as functioning on the CHRS Technical Planning Committee.
- The ten-year monitoring report for the Seal River was completed.

Design and Development

This Section provides development direction, site planning, and public facility design and mapping. The Unit is also responsible for coordination of the Parks Capital budget and management of infrastructure projects throughout the park system, including the coordination of the Provincial Camping Initiative. This section also provides landscape architectural, architectural, and project management capacity, overseeing the design and implementation of capital works projects within provincial parks. A major function of this team at present is the development of new and the improvement of existing facilities.

Key Results Achieved:

- Progress continued on the beach expansion project at Birds Hill Provincial Park including construction of an expanded lake and beach area, new playground, new volleyball courts, improved pathway connections and site amenities.
- Construction was started on the new Piping Plover Plaza natural playground at Grand Beach Provincial Park.
- Construction was completed on the Stephenfield wastewater lagoon upgrade project.
- Continued partnership with the Friends of Upper Fort Garry to support the park development of Upper Fort Garry Provincial Heritage Park.
- Repairs and improvements continue at Spruce Woods Provincial Park as a result of the significant damage from the 2011 and 2014 flood events. Work was completed on a new sewage lagoon, outside the flood-prone area. Design work was completed for a new entry road, internal road system improvements, and new lift stations and force mains to connect to the new sewage lagoon.
- Campground electrification improvements were initiated at St. Malo Provincial Park.

- New washroom shower buildings were completed at Spruce Woods Provincial Park. Construction was initiated on new washroom shower buildings at Stephenfield and St. Malo provincial parks.
- Construction of the boardwalk at Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail was completed.
- Construction was completed on a new wastewater treatment system and disposal field at Brereton Lake in Whiteshell Provincial Park. Design work continued for a water treatment system at Brereton Lake.
- Water treatment plant upgrades were completed at William Lake and Rainbow Beach Provincial Parks.
- Work continued on the Paint Lake Provincial Park yurt project.
- Construction of the Asessippi Provincial Park road improvement project was completed.
- A new campground office was completed at Watchorn Provincial Park and a new roof was installed on the district office at Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park.
- Improvements were completed on the West Hawk Marina in Whiteshell Provincial Park.
- New playground equipment was installed at Winnipeg Beach, Stephenfield, and Lundar, provincial parks.

Protected Areas Initiative

The Protected Areas Initiative (PAI) contributes to long-term sustainable development by building a network of designated protected areas that conserve ecosystems and maintain biodiversity in all 16 ecoregions across the province. Protected areas provide a range of ecological services, which have economic benefits to communities and businesses including natural regulation of water flow, water quality improvement, carbon storage and biodiversity conservation. They also conserve land and water where Aboriginal people can continue traditional activities such as trapping, hunting, fishing, and medicinal plant collection.

Currently, 7.0 million hectares (or 10.8% per cent of Manitoba) are protected. This includes two national parks, 24 ecological reserves, all or parts of 44 provincial parks and interim protected park reserves, all or parts of 50 wildlife management areas, parts of two provincial forests, parts of four traditional use planning areas, and private lands owned by Ducks Unlimited of Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada, and Nature Manitoba. Protected areas are land, freshwater, or marine areas where oil and gas exploration and development, hydroelectric development, exploring for and harvesting peat, logging, mining, and other activities that may significantly and adversely affect habitat are legally prohibited.

Key Results Achieved:

- Manitoba's protected areas network was expanded by permanently protecting more than 125,000 hectares through designation of a new ecological reserve, two provincial parks, and the expansion and land use category boundary amendment in one existing provincial park.
 - Led protected area planning work in the proposed Langford Biodiversity Conservation Area as well as other priority areas across the province including southern Manitoba (agro-Manitoba), the Saskatchewan River Delta (Natural Region 5a), and the Arctic Tundra (Natural Region 2a).
 - Drafted a modern protected areas strategy, as committed to in *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*.

- Contributed to national reports on the expansion of Manitoba's protected areas network.
- Continuation of the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Natural Areas Conservation Program through a Grant Funding Agreement. A \$500.0 installment was made towards conservation programming. The agreement helps to deliver on objectives to conserve and protect important habitats and areas of ecological significance that are articulated in *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*.
- Reviewed *Environment Act* Licence proposals, Crown land circulars, and related items for proposed developments to assess possible implications on lands of interest to the PAI. Maintained effective relationships with other governments, non-government organizations, and Aboriginal organizations.

Recreation and Education Services

The Recreation and Education Services section sets the direction of the outdoor recreation, beach safety and the interpretation programs in Manitoba Provincial Parks, evaluates, and implements new initiatives in campground, day-use, backcountry management and outdoor education, as well as customer-service training and volunteer activities. The Section guides and supports Regional Operations in ensuring high quality outdoor recreational experiences. This includes analysis of operating strategies and procedures, policy review, market research, marketing strategy development, promotion, and statistical compilation and trend evaluation.

Recreation Programming

The Recreation Programming Unit is responsible to provide recreational opportunities that are diverse in scope through camping, cabins, and yurts, and group use facilities through fair and equitable access to provincial parks. The program must ensure that both field and head office staff provides quality customer service. The Parks Reservation Service and Seasonal Camping are major components of Recreation Programming.

Key Results Achieved:

- Delivery of the recreation programming in Manitoba's provincial parks including nightly and seasonal camping; cabins and yurts; group use; Parks Reservation Service; and Campground Host.
- Reservations were made available through a call centre, on-line and through 32 campground offices in 2014. There are two opening days for reservations - Cabin, Yurt, Group-Use area, and Birds Hill Campground reservations opened mid-March and all other campgrounds open the first Monday in April. Bringing Birds Hill reservations forward to cabin, yurt, and group use opening dates created positive results for Birds Hill customers and all other campsites customers acquiring reservations in April. There are 59 yurts across 8 provincial parks, and 34 cabins in 2 provincial parks.
- Park programs and initiatives were promoted through news releases, and handouts. Information included opening and closing dates, Free Park Entry on select weekends, May long-weekend liquor-free camping, and the Parks Reservation Service. Also included was the distribution of promotional items to community events, non-profit organizations, and youth groups. The Head of Interpretation supplied daily Twitter feed information to the central government Twitter account during the peak summer months.
- There were 2 campgrounds that offered a limited quantity of liquor-free campsites for the entire camping season. Two bays (67 campsites) are located in Birds Hill and three bays (72 campsites) are located in Grand Beach to provide liquor free camping opportunities for those who are seeking a more family-oriented camping experience. The initiative continues to receive mixed reviews from the public.
- The Park Vehicle Permit entry remained in effect in 2014.

- Wireless Internet continued to be offered at Birds Hill, Falcon Beach, and Winnipeg Beach campgrounds.
- St. Ambroise Provincial Park campground remained closed due to flooding in 2011. Watchorn Provincial Park campground re-opened in August 2014. The lower Kiche Manitou campground in Spruce Woods re-opened to campers on the July long-weekend and then closed again for the remainder of the season due to overland flooding.

Beach Safety

- Beach Safety Officers (BSO) made over 13,400 visitor contacts at three provincial park beaches during the summer 2014. BSOs documented a number of emergency medical responses, handling a total of 3 cases categorized as “major” medical emergencies within Birds Hill Provincial Park alone. Many visitor contacts involve BSOs advising parents / guardians of supervisor responsibilities of children while visiting the beach. Public inquiries and injury prevention education comprised a majority of remaining contacts. Two Manitoba companies manage Beach Safety services for 2011-2014 - Criti Care EMS Inc. at Birds Hill and Emergency Rescue Response Services at Grand Beach and Winnipeg Beach. There were two drowning incidents at a non-staffed beach at St. Malo Provincial Park in 2014. The second occurred after the park had closed for the season.
- Winnipeg Beach was re-certified for the second time under the Blue Flag program, as well as West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park. The Blue Flag is a highly respected and recognized international eco-label that symbolizes clean and well-managed beaches and marinas. The international designation recognizes the beach’s high standards of service related to environmental management, water quality, environmental education, and safety and services.
- Provincial Park Beaches and Playgrounds were designated as “no smoking” zones in 2014, and a corresponding regulatory amendment was made.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship continues to work with the Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters (MCSW), an interagency group that co-ordinates water and ice safety activities in Manitoba and provided an annual \$5.0 grant for public education initiatives, currently focusing on water safety for new Canadians. As per Treasury Board direction, this grant has been amalgamated with two other grants issued by Healthy Living, Aboriginal and Northern Affairs into one grant for the Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters and one grant for the Lifesaving Society. The department share for this grant remains at \$5.0 K. The Department and MCSW expanded the “Lifejacket Loan Program” to Stephenfield, Rainbow Beach, and Manipogo in 2014.

Interpretation

The Interpretation program offers visitors a deeper understanding and appreciation of natural and cultural resources in provincial parks. This in turn assists the public in understanding the goals and programs of the department. Live field programs complemented by publications, outdoor exhibits, and audio-visual materials bring visitors in direct contact with park resources and management. The program also undertakes research leading to trail and brochure development and delivery of live programs throughout the park system.

Key Results Achieved:

- Delivery of the field program included 3 year-round interpreters at Birds Hill (52 weeks), Spruce Woods (48 weeks) and Whiteshell (51 weeks) provincial parks, and 6 seasonal interpreters. Programs were presented at Birds Hill, Grand Beach, Hecla/Grindstone, St. Norbert, Spruce Woods, and Whiteshell Provincial Parks. In addition, Green Team Interpretive Assistant members provided assistance at these parks.

- Interpreters contacted about 30,000 visitors at interpreter-led events and in interpretive centres and museums.
- School programs were conducted in all 6 locations in June and over the fall, winter, and spring at Birds Hill, Spruce Woods, and Whiteshell. Programs were ensured that they correlate to the Manitoba Education School Curriculum. Provided 200 school programs to approximately 6,000 Manitoba students.
 - Hosted 3 workshops for science and social studies teachers as part of October in-service and development days, focusing on getting students in all grades into provincial parks. Hosted an additional two workshops in February promoting winter opportunities for education and recreation in provincial parks.
 - Continued partnership with Leave No Trace Canada to promote low-impact activities in provincial parks and incorporated Leave No Trace principles into interpretive programming and trail refurbishment.
 - Annual trailhead refurbishment initiative saw new trailhead structures and signs produced and erected for 10 trails in 5 parks.
 - Updated self-guiding trail publications for eight locations.
- The Heritage Properties program was coordinated in Manitoba's Provincial Parks including building assessment and restoration work at Hecla/Grindstone, Whiteshell, River Road - Captain Kennedy House, and St. Norbert.
- The children's activity booklet program saw a major reduction in number of redemptions, as not as many booklets were distributed due to the loss of interpretive programs across the province. Only 600 booklets were redeemed, compared to the previous annual average of 1,500. Booklets were available for distribution in every campground and at every interpretive event.
 - The Provincial Park Passport to Adventure program also saw a major reduction in number of redemptions for the second year, as not as many booklets were distributed and not as many stamps available due to the loss of interpretive programs across the province. Only 32 passports were redeemed this year, compared to the previous annual average of 50. To date, over 1,600 park visits have been prompted by the program since its inception in 2009. Passport booklets were available for distribution in every campground and at every interpretive event.
- Winter public programming continued in popularity at Birds Hill, Spruce Woods and Whiteshell provincial parks with interpretive programs being offered on winter recreation trails and in the interpretive centres. Programs were offered every month in the three year-round locations, with an emphasis on several programs every weekend in February to coincide with free park entry.
- A Manitoba Parks Twitter channel was launched in January and is coordinated through the Interpretation Unit. Daily content focused on promoting recreation, interpretive programs, and parks news.

Key Program Outputs:

Outdoor Recreation Programming	Amount
Number of visitors	4.5 million
Total Number of campsites*	6,168
Transient Campsites*	4,586 (4,104 available for reservation or 89%)
Transient Camping Nights	184,282
Seasonal Campsites (# does not include Permanent Trailer Village or Concessionaire campsites)*	1,527
Campgrounds offering reservation	44**
Group Use Sites*	90
Family Vacation Cabins	34 (at 2 locations)
Yurts	59 (at 8 locations)
Reservations	62,858 (87% of camping stays in computerized locations reserve ahead)
Reservation Rate, compared to 2014/15	3,266 fewer reservations or 5% decrease
Reservations made through Web	83%

* campsites closed due to flooding not included. 2 recreation halls included.

** Kiche Manitou campground offered reservations but was closed due to flooding in 2014

Park Districts

The Park Districts Section administers the Vacation Home Lot development program, Commercial Operations and Special Consideration Organization (SCO) operations under the authority of *The Provincial Parks Act* and regulations including the Park Activities Regulation and the Permits and Leases Regulation. The section manages and controls land use activities and developments on vacation home, commercial business, and SCO lots through a site plan permitting process. The section takes a lead role in the resolution of development related disputes between neighbours. Management decisions are prescribed in various legislation, regulations, and policy guideline documents such as *The Cottager's Handbook for Manitoba Provincial Parks*. The costs of road maintenance, garbage handling, provision of water and sewer and other municipal type services provided to lessees, permittees and private landowners are recovered from those users through an annual invoicing program carried out by the Crown lands and Property Agency (CLPA). Permits were also issued by CLPA for commercial fish camps, wild rice cultivation, trapline cabin construction, hay and grazing, scientific research, and mineral claim-staking and exploration.

Key Results Achieved:

- February 2015 marked the second year in which invoices were issued as part of the 5-year phase-in for park district service fees and 10-year phase-in for Crown land rent for cottages in provincial parks.
- The first extensive revisions to *The Cottager's Handbook* in a decade have been prepared for review by department staff prior to planned consultation with cottage associations throughout the province.

Vacation Home Lot Development Program

The Program, in cooperation with the Crown Land and Property Agency, administers about 6,300 vacation homes on leased, permitted, and private lands in Parks.

Key Results Achieved:

- 296 permits were issued for cottage construction or structural modification.
- 98 leasehold inspections were carried out.
- \$6.2 million revenue generated in land rent, service fees, permits, and lot development fees.

Commercial Operations

This unit manages relations with private-sector business operators to ensure high-quality services for visitors.

Key Results Achieved:

- Approximately 139 commercial operations provide such services as restaurants, stores, accommodation, golf courses, marinas, and beach concessions throughout Manitoba's provincial parks.

There are 44 Special Consideration Organizations

Table RO.16
12.2(g) Parks and Protected Spaces

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	16,109	253.75	16,044	65	
Other Expenditures	10,270		9,757	513	1.
Grant Assistance	460		461	(1)	
Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(472)		(472)	0	
Total 12.2(g)	26,367	253.75	25,790	577	

1. Over-expenditure due to Hecla golf course operations agreement and increase in parks operation and maintenance costs related to campground upkeep and expansion.

Fire and Emergency Response Program

Objectives

To coordinate the Provincial Wildfire Program to ensure maximum utilization, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of fire suppression resources to minimize human, property and resource losses.

- The 2014 fire season was below average in terms of number of fires reported at 245 and hectares burned at 39,108. Full response fires totalled 203, Limited response at 22 and no action at 20, which is also below average.
- Below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation dominated the weather pattern provincially for most of April, May, and June into the middle of July. Wildfire activity and wildfire danger levels began to increase in July in the northern half of the province resulting in an increase in wildfire suppression operations, including areas near some northern communities.
- Due to these conditions, 73 initial attack personnel and 2 Agency Representatives along with 3 Incident Management Team personnel were deployed to assist on flood operations at various communities in southern Manitoba along the Assiniboine River system in early and mid July.

To minimize the number of human caused fire starts through prevention and education.

As reported by the regions in weekly reports, the following statistics apply to human caused wildfires:

- 110 Human Caused Wildfires were reported.
- All 110 Human Caused wildfires were investigated, 62 were investigated further by trained Wildfire Investigators. Of the fires that were investigated 56 were determined to have been intentionally started, 20 determined to be accidental, 33 determined to be negligence and 1 fire was determined unknown cause. Evidence collected through the investigations of the human caused wildfires supports cost recovery with 11 prosecutions and 23 warnings.

Human Caused Wildfires by Region		Investigated
Central	15	4
Western	8	8
Eastern	14	9
Northwest	11	10
Northeast	62	31
Total	110	62

Cause Determined	
Intentional	56
Accidental	20
Negligence	33
Unknown	1
Total	110

To provide the capability to detect, report and safely initial attack all fires throughout the province with minimal costs and loss in accordance with the Initial Attack Preparedness System and Fire Program Policy and Operational Guidelines.

Air Operations

The 2014 wildfire season resulted in relatively low activity for Manitoba aviation resources. Manitoba's CL-215/CL-415 water bomber fleet and bird dog aircraft flew 730.6hrs (1445.4 hrs in 2013). Out-of-province water bombers and bird dog aircraft from Saskatchewan were used to supplement Manitoba's water bomber fleet for a total 8.7 flight hours (211.3 hrs in 2013). Single Engine Air Tanker aircraft

provided by Manitoba's agricultural aviation industry flew 32.4 hrs (363.8 hrs in 2013). These aircraft were used to supplement Manitoba's CL-215/CL-415 water bomber fleet for community protection, new fire starts, and sustained wildfire action.

Manitoba helicopter operations also experienced relatively low activity. Casual hire helicopters were added as required by wildfire activity and supplemented the long-term helicopter contracts. Manitoba had 5 helicopters on long-term contracts. The estimated total for all aircraft expenditures was approximately \$6.5 million compared to \$35.3 million in 2013. This represents 2115.1 flight hours (9483.3 hrs in 2013) with minimal reported incidents.

Science and Technology

- Three 60" LCD displays were installed in the Winnipeg Fire Operations room to automatically display real time lightning, weather, and aircraft tracking information.
- Annual snow surveys were conducted through forested areas of the province, which showed a moisture deficit due to low precipitation levels.
- Manitoba was involved in CIFFC meetings with the national goal of producing a National data integration sharing framework and standard.

To assist in the prevention of forest fires through public education.

- Development and application of public displays and advertising materials to promote wildfire awareness, wildfire preparedness, and fire danger in particular throughout Manitoba.
- Analysis continued on regional and seasonal trends in human caused wildfires to ensure effective and efficient messaging.
- FireSmart meetings were conducted with other Branches and stakeholders to promote the benefits of developing and implementing Wildfire Protection and Hazard Mitigation Plans. These plans would include the implementation of vegetation management plans for the forested areas surrounding communities and cottage subdivisions to mitigate the risks of wildfires.
- Worked on the development of pre-response plans and sprinkler deployment plans for the Paint Lake Provincial Park area in the Northeast Region.
- Work continued with Forestry staff in meetings with Rural Municipalities an effort to introduce FireSmart concepts into mitigation plans after damaging weather events.
- Maintenance on FireSmart demonstration sites is ongoing at Falcon Lake Riding Stables, Falcon Lake District Office, Manitoba Forestry Association's Hadashville site, and the RM of Victoria Beach.
- Assistance was provided to stakeholders including other branches, the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Manitoba Hydro, local government, and the Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre by supporting or promoting their efforts in areas of wildfire hazard mitigation, public education, and community protection. The Wildfire Program encourages local adoption and championing of FireSmart and wildfire prevention initiatives.
- Continued direct public outreach and public education opportunities through various audiences including children's groups, cottage associations, outdoor users, and associations.

To provide a trained complement of fire-line staff to successfully meet policy objectives.

Fireline training included:

- 60 Type II Emergency Fire Fighters were trained and certified.
- 12 new Type II Emergency Fire Fighter Crew Leaders were trained and certified.
- 400 Type III Emergency Fire Fighters were trained and certified.
- 63 Type III Emergency Fire Fighter Crew Leaders were trained and certified.
- 34 new Initial Attack Crew Members (Type I) were trained and certified to the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) Exchange Standards. Including, I-100, Hover Exit, WHMIS, TDG, and Chainsaw Safety and Certification.
- 20 individuals were trained and certified to the Type I Crew Leader level.
- 5 Wildfire Investigators participated in the FI-210 course update and Railroad Investigation course in Duluth, MN.
- 5 WFX-Fit Evaluators were trained.
- 5 Individuals successfully completed the Advance Wildfire Behavior Course.
- 5 Individuals completed the L-380 Fireline Leadership course in Dryden, ON.
- 2 staff completed the M-410 Facilitative Instructor course.
- 7 individuals participated in introductory Safety Officer training.
- 4 Individuals completed intermediate Safety Officer training in Hinton, AB.
- 2 Staff participated in All-hazard Safety Officer training through the Canadian Inter Agency Forest Fire Centre.
- Additional training provided included First Aid / CPR, Transportation of Dangerous Goods, WHMIS, chainsaw and various online courses.

To coordinate the Provincial Wildfire Program to ensure adequate manpower, aircraft and equipment resources are available to achieve efficient and cost effective fire suppression activities required to minimize human, property and resource losses.

Plans and proposals completed in 2014/15:

- A second mobile Values Protection Unit (VPU) was constructed and outfitted along with a second VPU Team trained to be deployed with the Unit.
- Completed conversion of 2 ½-inch fire hose to quick connect couplings.
- Provincial Pump Parts Program was moved to the Eastern Region. Completion of pump parts inventory, establishment levels, and material number catalogue descriptions for each part was accomplished in order to tender items through Procurement Services.

- New 3-year contracts were tendered and issued for procurement of provincial fire equipment.

Imports and Exports:

- One import of a Saskatchewan CL215T air tanker group occurred in 2014 to assist in northern wildfire suppression.
- Exports to other agencies in 2014:
 - One CL215 air tanker group into Saskatchewan.
 - Two separate Air Attack Officer deployments to the Northwest Territories.
 - 20 person Type I Sustained Action crew and Agency Representative to British Columbia.
 - 5/4 person Type 1 Initial Attack crews and Agency Representative into the Northwest Territories.
 - 10 – 1,500 gallon relay water tanks to British Columbia.

Table R0.17
2014 - Number of Fires and Area Burned by Region and Cause

2014 CAUSE	Northeast		Northwest		Western		Central		Eastern		Province	
	# fires	area burned (hectares)	# fires	area burned (hectares)	# fires	area burned (hectares)	# fires	area burned (hectares)	# fires	area burned (hectares)	# fires	area burned (hectares)
recreation	15	62.8	6	1.6	2	4.2	3	59.1	5	1.2	31	128.9
settlement	22	37.6			1	10.2			7	17.3	30	65.1
woods operations			1	1.4							1	1.4
other industry			2	0.2					2	0.2	4	0.4
railroads									1	0.1	1	0.1
public projects	5	7.6	1	0.2			1	2.2			7	10.0
incendiary	17	77.2	2	33.6	4	34.4	8	541.1	3	1.0	34	687.3
miscellaneous	2	1.6			1	0.2			1	0.1	4	1.9
agricultural							3	276.4			3	276.4
lightning	74	37,239.2	40	70.7	2	6.5	1	16.8	13	603.2	130	37,936.4
all causes	135	37,426.0	52	107.7	10	55.5	16	895.6	32	623.1	245	39,107.9

**Table R0.18
2014- Number of Fires and Area Burned by Priority Zone and
Action Status**

2014	Actioned Fires				No Action Fires				Limited Action Fires				All Fires			
	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned
RED	108	53.20%	820.8	53.15%					4	18.18%	253.1	0.74%	112	45.71%	1,073.9	2.75%
YELLOW	10	4.93%	195.2	12.64%									10	4.08%	195.2	0.50%
GREEN	49	24.14%	212.5	13.76%	6	30.00%	911.0	29.04%	4	18.18%	546.6	1.59%	59	24.08%	1,670.1	4.27%
WHITE	36	17.73%	315.7	20.44%	14	70.00%	2,226.4	70.96%	14	63.64%	33,626.6	97.68%	64	26.12%	36,168.7	92.48%
ALL ZONE	203	100.0%	1,544.2	100.0%	20	100.0%	3,137.4	100.0%	22	100.0%	34,426.3	100.0%	245	100.0%	39,107.9	100.0%

Red Zone High Priority - Full fire suppression
 Yellow Zone Medium Priority - Suppression if resources available
 Green Zone Low Priority - Suppression if resources available
 White Zone No suppression unless values are at risk

**Table R0.19
2014 - Area burned by Priority Zone**

2014	Zone Area (ha.)	Hectares Burned	% of zone burned
Red	11,415,633.5	1,073.9	0.009%
Yellow	685,691.0	195.2	0.028%
Green	9,770,018.8	1,670.1	0.017%
White	23,081,244.9	36,168.7	0.157%
All Zones	44,952,588.2	39,107.9	0.087%

Figure 2

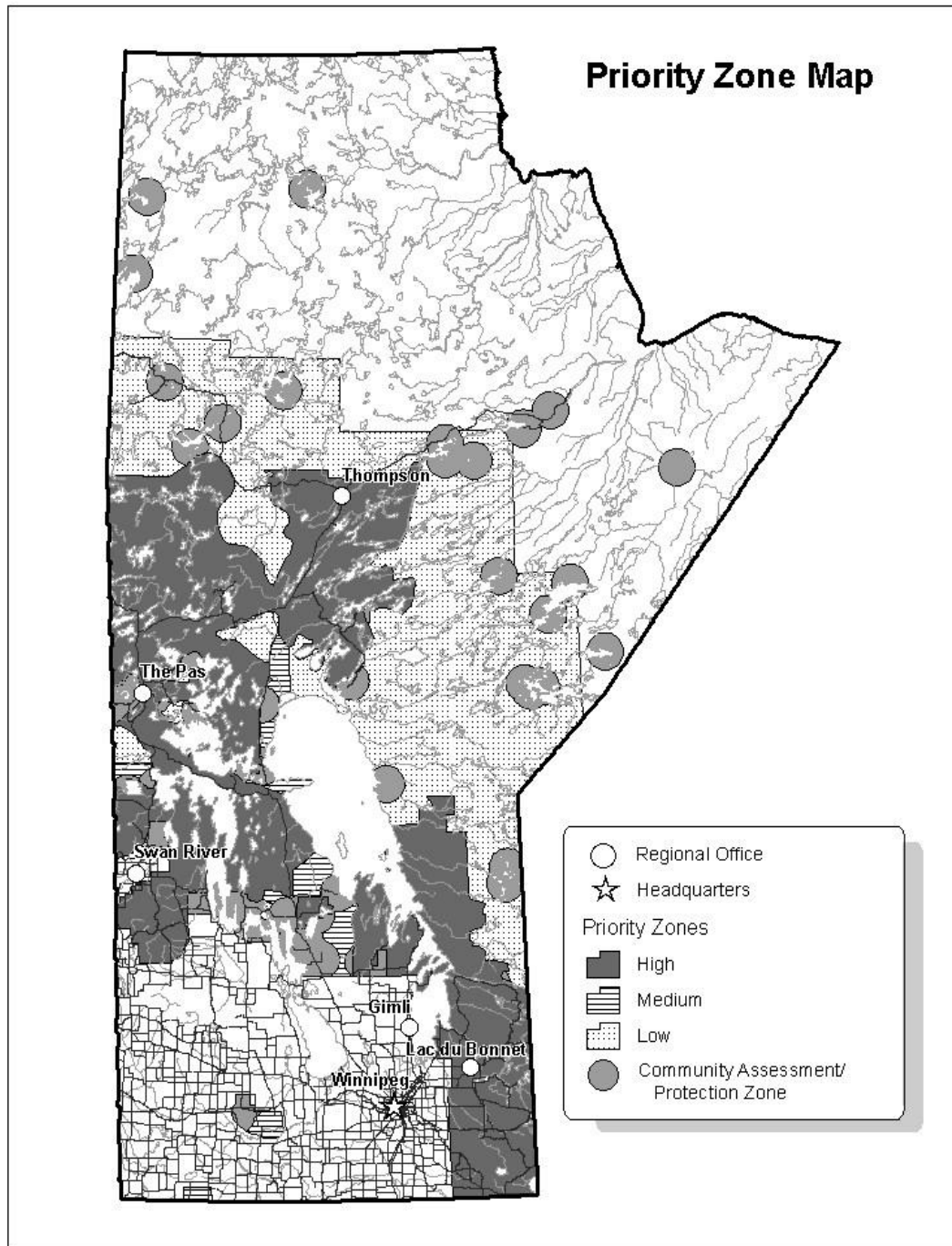


Figure 3

Number of Fires, 2001 - 2014

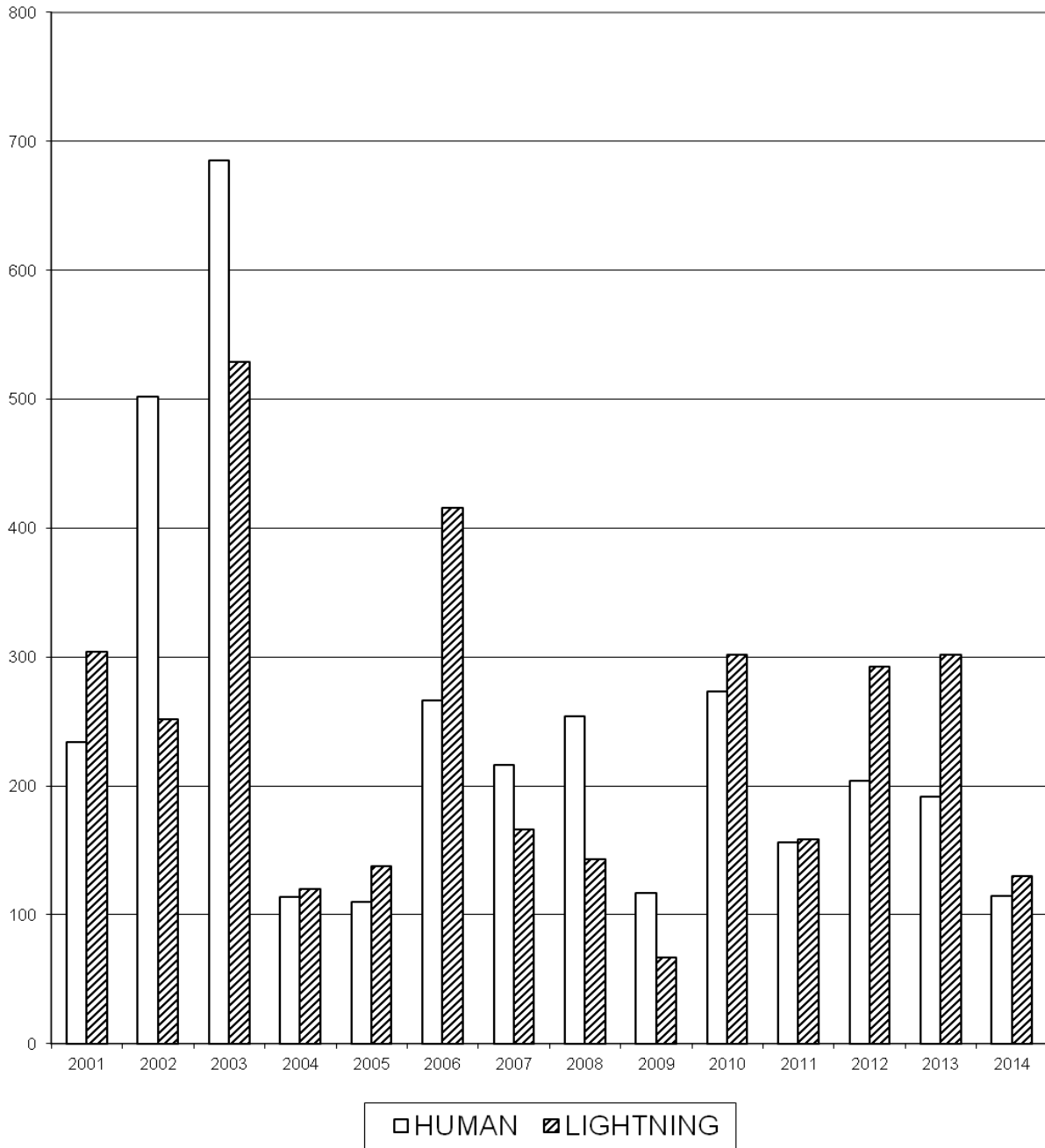


Figure 4

Area Burned 2001 - 2014

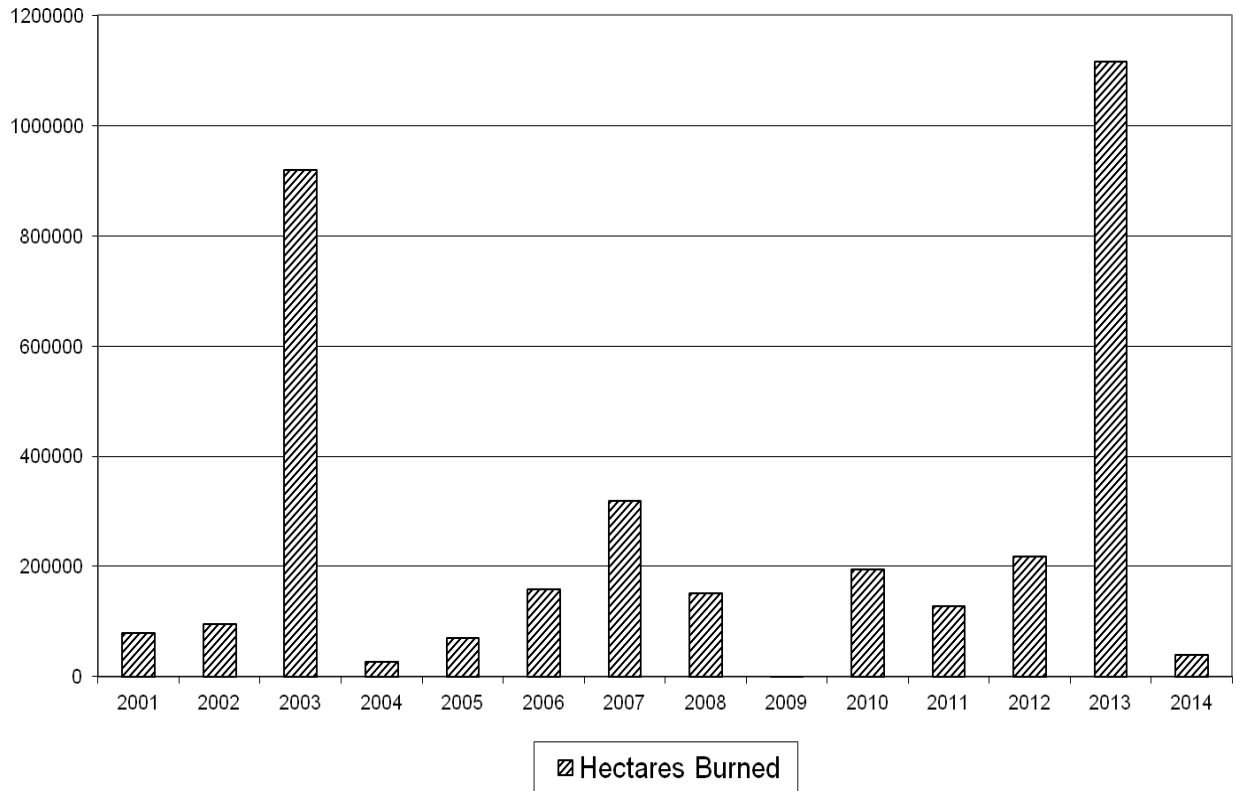


Table RO.20
12.2(h) Fire and Emergency Response Program

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	11,386	65.25	6,694	4,692	
Other Expenditures	4,929		10,596	(5,667)	
Less: Recoverable from Emergency Expenditures	(499)		(500)	1	
Total 12.2(h)	15,816	65.25	16,790	(974)	1.

1. Under-expenditure due to vacancies

BIODIVERSITY AND LAND USE

Divisional Administration

Divisional administration provides strategic and sustainable management of Manitoba's crown lands, forestry and peatlands, wildlife and aboriginal relations.

Table BLU.1
12.3(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	228	2.00	191	37	
Other Expenditures	257		244	13	
Total 12.3(a)	485	2.00	435	50	

Forestry and Peatlands Management

The Forestry and Peatlands Management Branch plans, manages and allocates forest and peat resources for the long-term social, economic and environmental benefit of Manitobans.

Crown forests are managed sustainably for all users, and forest management activities are implemented in a manner that conserves ecosystem diversity. New peatlands legislation ensures a balanced approach between the protection and use of peatlands.

To achieve these results, the Branch is organized into three key sections:

- Forest Inventory and Resource Analysis (FIRA)
- Forest Health and Renewal (FHR)
- Forest Management and Development (FMD)

The Branch works from a central office in Winnipeg and several regional offices, and is comprised of approximately 60 professional, technical and support staff. The central office sets the policy and planning framework for forest and peatlands management and develops and administers the programs on a provincial basis. Regional forestry staff from Lac du Bonnet, Gimli, Swan River, The Pas and Thompson, implement forest management programs on behalf of the Department.

The Branch website - <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/forestry/index.html>

Peatlands

- On April 30, 2014, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship announced the [Peatlands Stewardship Strategy](#), a priority under TomorrowNow - Manitoba's Green Plan.
- As a priority of the Strategy, *The Peatlands Stewardship and Related Amendments Act*, was introduced June 12, 2014. The Branch has been working with industry to prepare for the transition to the new operating requirements and the development of supporting regulations. This new legislation removes peat from *The Mines and Minerals Act* and transfers the responsibility to Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship.
- Manitoba is the only province in Canada that has stand-alone legislation related to the stewardship and management of peatlands. The new act establishes a framework to protect and conserve Crown peatland while providing for sustainably-managed commercial development.
- The [Peatlands Stewardship Strategy](#) highlights completed work and outlines 22 more planned initiatives. More information on Manitoba's peatland can be found at the following link: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/peatlandsstewardshipstrategy/index.html>

Forest Inventory and Resource Analysis (FIRA)

This Section supports the Branch in managing Manitoba's forest resources through three key program areas: Forest Inventory, Forest Productivity, and Resource Analysis.

Forest Inventory Program

The Forest Inventory Program creates and maintains a current, comprehensive, and accurate ecologically-based inventory of Manitoba's forest resources using a Geographic Information System (GIS) to manage and utilize forest inventory and related data.

Key Results Achieved

- Forest Inventory continued to be generated for Forest Management License 2 (FML #2) area of the Nelson River Forest section. The interpretation is anticipated to be completed over the next two years.
- Working with the National Forest Inventory (NFI) section of the Canadian Forest Service, 20 NFI photo plots were acquired and 306 additional plots were delivered. FIRA staff also completed the re-measurement of 7 NFI ground plots and data collected will be used to monitor forest change.
- Forest change imagery was obtained for all regions within the Province.

Forest Productivity Program

The Forest Productivity Program implements field sampling programs, manages associated growth and yield data, and uses statistical techniques to create models for consistently predicting the growth, decay, yield and quality of Manitoba's forests. The program also provides the base information to assist in timber supply, sustained yield projections and assessments of forest carbon storage and dynamics.

Key Results Achieved

- The Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) program is a long term monitoring survey of plots across the province to support the development of growth and yield models for the province. 94 PSPs were re-measured and 6 new plots were established. Data collected from those plots were added to the existing PSP database.
- A study was initiated to explore impacts of climate change on site productivities of Manitoba's forests using provincial wide climate and stem analysis data. Results achieved from the study help to better understand potential impacts of climate change on forests of the province.
- Development of Manitoba-variant growth and yield prediction system (MGYPSY) was completed. The model tested its predictive ability for Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) calculation based on the inventory data captured in the Highrock Forest Section. MGYPSY is a species-specific forest stand-level modeling system driven by PSP data. Its development provides a potential option forecasting yields of Manitoba's forests supporting wood supply analysis.

Resource Analysis Program

Resource Analysis supports forest management planning at the strategic, tactical and operational levels by determining sustainable harvest levels (referred to as Annual Allowable Cuts or AAC) ensuring ecological processes, timber and non-timber resources and values associated with forest ecosystems are accounted for.

This program also leads climate change initiatives for the Branch such as conducting climate change research, assessing vulnerability and mainstreaming adaptation options into forest management planning and practices. Other projects and responsibilities include calculation of forest biomass and carbon sequestration, integration of new principles of forest ecology and landscape design, and incorporation of natural disturbances, forest succession and wildlife habitat forecasting into forest ecosystem modeling.

Key Results Achieved

- A wood supply advisory technical committee was established to guide the landbase netdown, wood utilization level, and forest management objectives.

- The wood supply for Forest Management Units 11 and 12, the portion of the Mountain Forest Section, is underway. The GIS data has been processed and wood supply modeling results for the base case is expected in the next reporting period.
- FIRA collaborated with the Canadian Forest Service (CFS), the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers' Climate Change Task Force (CCFM-CCTF), and the Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC) to conduct a case study on assessing the vulnerability of the Pineland Forest Section to climate change using modeling and simulation techniques (LANDIS-II and PnET models) and the CCFM-CCTF adaptation framework approach. Two reports were produced for each approach.
- FIRA organized a workshop called Adapting Manitoba Forests to Climate Change: Challenges and opportunities. The workshop brought together forestry staff and representatives from the forest industry, CFS and the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement, to discuss how to incorporate climate change into forest management planning and to promote the use of existing CCFM-CCTF adaptation information, resources and decision-support tools.
- FIRA collaborated with the National Forests Sinks Committee (NFSC) in a study that analyzed the cost and mitigation potential of increased use of forest harvest residues for bio-energy in Manitoba (and other jurisdictions).

Forest Health and Renewal (FHR)

This Section ensures successful renewal of harvested Crown forested lands, conducts monitoring and control programs to reduce damage from invasive and native forest insects and disease and delivers urban forestry programs to engage communities to enhance forests within urban areas throughout Manitoba.

Forest Renewal Program

The role of Manitoba's Forest Renewal Program is to ensure that all harvested forests are satisfactorily regenerated to maintain the existing distribution of forest ecosystem stand types on untenured Crown land. The renewal program implements a variety of silviculture activities to regenerate areas, monitors and tracks renewal success, assesses renewal performance of industry and maintain tree improvement seed orchards.

Key Results Achieved

- In 2014, the renewal program contracted the planting of 2,472,000 trees on approximately 1,200 ha of Crown land. This was accomplished through 6 tendered contracts, of which 1 was awarded to a First Nation company through aboriginal tree planting initiatives.
- Regeneration surveys were conducted on 801 ha of renewal blocks. Of those areas surveyed, 713 ha achieved the provincial regeneration standards. Free to Grow (FTG) surveys were performed on 4,894 ha of softwood-dominated forest stands. The surveys indicate a total of 3,350 ha have achieved the provincial FTG standard for softwood leading renewal blocks.
- A total of 56.9 hectoliters of cones was collected in 2014 for future renewal efforts across the province. The Branch continues to maintain a seed bank with a forecasted 5 year supply of seed. There are 14 seed orchards for jack pine, white spruce and black spruce and 27 associated family tests across the province.

Forest Health Program

The Forest Health program monitors the health of Manitoba's urban, rural and Crown forests. Surveys and control programs are delivered to reduce the damage from native and invasive forest insects and

disease. The program collaborates with local, national and international governments and organizations to ensure continued improved forest pest management for the province. Management programs, surveys, research and public education on forest insect and diseases are also conducted.

Key Results Achieved

- Monitoring continues for spruce and jack pine budworm. Ground plots and aerial defoliation surveys supported monitoring efforts to determine population levels and necessity for a control program. Low populations of spruce budworm were observed in 2014, while an emerging population of jack pine budworm was detected in southeast Manitoba.
- Monitoring for the invasive emerald ash borer continued with 34 green sticky traps placed at high-risk locations across the province. Communities were encouraged to participate in monitoring efforts and supplement trap placements. In 2014, Emerald ash borer was not detected in Manitoba.
- Monitoring for the invasive European gypsy moth continued throughout Manitoba in 2014. Low numbers were observed for the majority of sampled areas; however, an expanding population was detected in the RM of Lac du Bonnet. Intensive sampling was conducted in this area and egg masses, pupal casings, dead larvae and a dead adult moth were found. An eradication program is planned for 2015, to control this emerging population of European gypsy moth. Monitoring will continue in 2015, with trap delineation deployed by the federal government, Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- Four firewood collection bins along three major highways into Manitoba are monitored to help prevent the establishment of invasive forest pests through the movement of firewood. These bins, along with informative highway signs, warn the public that by transporting firewood they may be spreading invasive forest pests.

Urban Forestry Program

The Urban Forestry program engages Manitoba communities in managing and protecting their urban forest resources from Dutch Elm disease (DED). The program is also developing policies and procedures to help enforce the Forest Health Protection Act and is responsible for administering and issuing arborist licenses to Manitoba tree care workers under the Arborist Regulation.

Key Results Achieved

- The Dutch Elm disease (DED) management program is delivered within 40 participating communities throughout Manitoba. In 2014, detection surveys marked a total of 4,026 infected and hazard trees. DED removal operations disposed of 4,117 infected trees and 154 elm firewood piles.
- An amendment to *The Forest Health Protection Act* was approved in 2013 establishing a provincial heritage tree program. The program has been developed in partnership with the Manitoba Forestry Association and Trees Winnipeg and is expected to be launched in the fall of 2015. The program is intended to raise public awareness and recognize trees with exceptional environmental, cultural, social, economic or historic significance to Manitobans and provide opportunities for their increased protection.

Forest Management and Development (FMD)

This Section provides cutting authorities, establishes conditions for all forestry operations, tracks and monitors timber harvesting, and collects associated timber dues and charges. The Section also fosters economic development by supporting new and existing industry and by facilitating increased aboriginal participation in the forest sector.

Timber Administration Program

The Timber program administers timber harvesting, provides cutting authorities, monitors harvest volumes and inspects timber operations. The program establishes commodity timber prices and collects timber dues, other fees and charges. The program also tracks the movement of Crown timber from forests to mill destinations and issues Timber Dealer and Wood Processing Facility licences.

Key Results Achieved

- Commodity prices for Kraft were at all time highs throughout 2014/15. This combined with the strong US dollar, pushed Kraft dues rates to a high of \$5.64.
- Softwood Lumber dues rates fluctuated between base rate and slightly above through the year. OSB and Newsprint dues remained at base rate throughout 2014/15.
- In total, 1,329,783 m³ of Crown timber was harvested in Manitoba and \$2,893,616 in revenue was collected from Timber Dues and Charges in 2014/15. Harvested volume continues to increase from the low in 2011/12 (up about 26%) but revenues remain low, due to reduced dues and charges attributed to the Eastern Region winter storm damaged salvage program.
- In the Eastern Region, there was over 88,000 m³ of salvage delivered with a reduction in timber dues and charges of \$540,000. Today, Jack Pine budworm salvage is a small activity, but it is expected to increase in the years ahead. The Western Region blow down salvage recovery was minimal in 2014/15 as wood quality had deteriorated.
- In 2014/15, Tolko Industries Ltd. continued to utilize residual fibre from sawmills, residual biomass from debris piles and hardwood from green harvest operations to replace the use of fossil fuels at their Kraft mill. Over 92,000 tonnes of biomass was delivered to Tolko from private and Crown sources within Manitoba, including 8,145 m³ of Crown residual biomass and 55,782 m³ of Crown hardwood bio product.
- 2014/15 marked the end of the 2010-2015 Quota Period, resulting in 139 quotas throughout the province, primarily concentrated in the Eastern and Western Regions. The number of quotas was reduced from 164 quotas at the beginning of the quota period as a result of quota assignments and amalgamations.
- A total of 425,370 m³ of softwood and 138,831 m³ of hardwood are allocated through quotas on an annual basis. Meetings were held with the Forest Industry Association of Manitoba and revisions were made to the 2010-2015 Timber Quota Policy to reflect the continuing slower than expected recovery of forest markets. A new 2015-2020 Timber Quota Policy was drafted to be approved for 2015-2020.

Forest Management Planning and Forest Practices Program

The program develops guidelines for forest management planning and monitors forestry operations with regional counterparts.

Key Results Achieved

- The Forest Practices Committee, comprised of representatives from other branches and departments of the Government of Manitoba and the forest industry, continues to develop guidelines for forestry practice. The approved guidelines are located <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/forestry/practices/guidelines.html>.

- Louisiana Pacific (LP) and the Mountain Quota Holders Association (MHQA) submitted a two year Operating Plan for 2014/15, which was approved. Annual meetings were held with each licensee, and the annual report was reviewed.
- The Branch and LP signed a Terms of Reference and established a planning team related to the development of a new Forest Management Plan for FML # 3.
- The Forest Management License Agreement (FMLA) with Tolko Industries Ltd. for FML #2 was extended to 2024 with the condition that the new forest management plan will include an enhanced Aboriginal engagement strategy.

Wood Measurement Program

This program ensures that Manitoba's scaling methods are consistent with national standards, provides training and licensing, calculates scaling factors for determination of net volumes and monitors industry wood measurement programs. All Crown timber harvested in Manitoba is accurately measured and its movement is tracked from forests to mills.

Key Results Achieved

- A Manitoba issued scaling licence is required for the measurement of harvested Crown timber before it is moved from the site on which it was harvested, and for the purpose of preparing timber returns or reports.
- The Provincial Scaling Committee met in April and June 2014 to create regional work plans, build scaling capacity within forestry staff across the province, and review the scaling course and the requirements for the Manitoba Scalers License.
- A five-day scalers course was held in Swan River in September/October 2014 resulting in the licensing or recertification of 9 provincial timber scalers. As of the end of the reporting period year, there were 75 licensed scalers in Manitoba. Improvements to the course are ongoing based on feedback from previous courses.

Legislation and Policy Program

All forestry activities must be properly authorized and approved. The Branch works within *The Forest Act*, *The Forest Health Protection Act*, *The Peatlands Stewardship and Related Amendments Act*, associated regulations and forestry policies.

Key Results Achieved

- [*The Peatlands Stewardship and Related Amendments Act*](#), was introduced on June 12, 2014. This new legislation removes peat from The Mines and Minerals Act and transfers the responsibilities to Conservation and Water Stewardship. Forestry and Peatlands Management Branch has been designated to manage and administer peatlands for the Department and participate in the development of the supporting regulatory framework required for implementation.
- The Offence Notices Regulation under *The Summary Convictions Act* was amended in 2014 to enable enforcement officers to issue offence notices with set fines for failure to comply with new and amended provisions established under *The Forest Act* and the Forest Use and Management Regulation. This change enables enforcement officers to use a set fine, short-form Common Offence Notice, thereby enabling voluntary payment of the fine without the need for a court appearance.
- The 2006 Canada/United States Softwood Lumber Agreement (2006 SLA) is a bilateral trade agreement which provides certainty and security to Canadian Softwood lumber producers who export

into the United States. The 2006 SLA is scheduled to expire in October 2015. As part of the provincial Head of Delegation, Manitoba participates regularly in discussions with both federal and provincial representatives on matters relating to the agreement and its pending expiry, and also provides the necessary notifications and certifications as required under the 2006 SLA.

Forest Development and Consultation

The Branch continues to promote economic development and support the existing forest industry. The section provides advice and support to regional staff and other departments on forestry Crown Aboriginal consultation and continues to facilitate increased Aboriginal participation in the forest sector.

Key Results Achieved

- The Branch continues to participate in numerous discussions and workshops to assess development opportunities throughout the province. Several Special Allocations and Auctions for forest products were issued to create and increase economic development opportunities. Six First Nation Community Timber Allocations were issued for a total of 28,700 m³. Three Special Timber Allocations were issued totaling 80,000 m³. Four Salvage Timber Allocations were issued for a total of 11,500 m³. Two Timber Auctions were conducted allocating a total of 3,500 m³.
- Consultations on Forest Operating Plans and amendments were conducted in the Central, Eastern, Northeast, Northwest and Western regions. Consultation agreements with several communities were signed in the Northwest Region.

Operational Highlights

Eastern Region

- Salvage efforts continue through the 2014/15 operating year and are forecast to continue into the early part of the 2015/16 operating year to cleanup damage from an October snow/wind storm that created an impact to jack pine stands across the southern part of the Eastern Region. Regional forestry staff worked with quota holders to salvage most of the severely impacted timber in close proximity to communities to reduce fuel loading for fire management purposes. The cumulative impact from this recent damage combined with recent fires and more wind storms left local residents concerned about the forest conditions. RM councils have been engaged and plans are being implemented to try and mitigate fuel loading close to communities.
- The Eastern Region continues to actively participate and engage First Nation communities. Highlights include initiating a review of the road infrastructure in former FML #1, to work towards developing a consultation process for the road decommissioning plans. The region participated in the Economic Development Committee of the Shoal Lake Watershed Group to develop economic opportunities with Shoal Lake # 40 First Nation. Regional staff worked with Berens River community members to obtain timber resources to support a timber home building company in the community. Community Timber Allocations were developed to aid in economic development for Buffalo Point First Nation. A Level 1 tree planting contract was awarded to a member of Sagkeeng First Nation. This contract was successfully completed and realized direct economic opportunities for approximately 10 community members.
- Site preparation and renewal activities continue to regenerate forests harvested by regular and salvage harvest operations. Approximately 2,000,000 trees were planted in the spring of 2014 and 350 ha of land was site prepped for planting in the spring of 2015.
- The region is developing an enhanced five year timber sale plan with the Winnipeg office. There are approximately 75 quota holders in the region and 2014/15 harvest volumes were approximately 120,800 m³ of softwood and 45,750 m³ of hardwood.

- Regional forestry staff participates on the Whiteshell Fire Smart Initiative committee. The goal of this committee is to examine and implement strategies to reduce fuel loading within the Whiteshell Provincial Park.
- A number of East Side Working Group meetings were held throughout the year. The East Side Working Group is composed of representatives from four First Nations (Black River, Hollow Water, Sagkeeng and Brokenhead), the Province and FP Innovations. The objective of the working group is to pursue an industrial development opportunity in Forest Management License Area #1 (formerly held by Tembec).

Central Region

- The Central Region invited 27 First Nations and/or Aboriginal Communities to consult on forest management activities planned as part of the 2014/15 operating plan and the 5 year (2015-2020) quota plan. Five communities requested meetings to review and discuss the plans in further detail with the region. These meetings were followed by two public information sessions and a field trip that increased awareness of forestry operations in First Nation traditional areas.
- The regional silviculture program completed the following activities:
 - Scarified 26 ha of harvested area in the Rosenberg area to promote natural regeneration.
 - Planted 350,000 seedlings (majority white spruce) in the spring of 2014 to regenerate 150 ha.
- A total area of 52 ha was harvested in the Central Region from FMU 40 (30.6 ha), FMU 41 (9.9 ha) FMU 45 (7.3 ha) and FMU 46 (4.2 ha).

Northeast Region

- Forestry Branch retains a seat on the advisory committee of Frontiers Foundation Inc. (Manitoba Division), an Aboriginal Registered Canadian Charity whose primary goal is to address housing needs in northern Aboriginal communities. Community allocations were issued to First Nation and Aboriginal communities to be used for log home building and fuel wood collection. Regional forestry staff assisted communities to obtain Timber Permits and Work Permits in order to harvest.
- Mine rehabilitation projects continue in the Northeast Region at three decommissioned mine sites: Ruttan, Farley and Soab. The rehabilitated mine sites were planted with jack pine.
- Tolko harvested approximately 60,000 m³ of softwood off the North Joey Lake Road and Sipiwesk Operating Areas. A contractor harvested, and marketed to Tolko, hardwood for biomass and softwood for pulp, reporting 30,364 m³ of hardwood and incidental softwood. 85,000 tree seedlings were planted, utilizing one contractor.
- Consultation on Tolko Sipiwesk amendment was completed with consultation funding agreement completed with Cross Lake First Nation.

Northwest Region

- Regional forestry staff continues to work with Tolko, Quota Holders and Wildlife Branch to integrate caribou recovery strategies into logging plans near or at Kississing Lake West, Wheadon and the south Bog herd.
- A consultation process was offered to 15 communities in North West and Western Manitoba for Tolko's 2015 to 2017 Operating Plan. Notices and consultations were offered to various communities regarding small forestry related projects not covered by Tolko's Operating Plans. In 2014/15, 19 work permits were issued and 73 were extended for logging, road construction and silviculture operations. Environmental issues and operating conditions were monitored.

- The existing Quota Holder Plan was modified to reflect available quota volumes.
- Timber sales were issued to *Opaskwayak Cree Nation* and two quota holders to facilitate poplar logging for hog fuel. Regional staff marked boundaries and provided basic supervision for these activities.
- Regional forestry staff actively participated in the scaling program and the fire smart program.
- About 440,000 m³ of timber was harvested in the Northwest Region, which included 34,000 m³ of poplar and 406,000 m³ of conifer. In the spring of 2014, 320,000 trees were planted, utilizing one contract.

Western Region

- Regional forestry staff reviewed and approved LP Canada Ltd. and the Manitoba Quota Holders Association (MQHA) Operating Plans for 2014-2016. Notices and Crown consultations on Operating Plans and special allocation timber requests were offered to 29 aboriginal communities.
- Consultations related to moose recovery in the Mountain forest section continues with aboriginal communities and stakeholder groups. As part of the Moose Management strategy, planned timber harvest was temporarily deferred from key moose wintering areas.
- Forestry staff continues to work with smaller timber operators requesting access to salvage timber for fuel wood. No further salvage of timber from the June 2012 wind storm occurred.
- Regional forestry staff provided education assistance in natural resources for elementary school students. More than 7,000 trees were planted with students and Boy Scouts in the Duck Mountains and at Spruce Woods Provincial Park. Regional staff also hosted a regional Envirothon (environmental education program) event for high school students.
- Regional staff assisted with delivery of provincial scaling course and licensing/re-certification of 9 provincial timber scalers. Staff developed and implemented a regional scaling work plan of factor sampling for various timber commodities at mill yards and in the bush, and scaling verification for timber report audits.
- Initiated assessment of declining historic plantations in Spruce Woods Provincial Forest in preparation of developing a five year operating plan for utilization and management.
- Continue to monitor and promote biomass utilization of wood residue from mill and logging operations.
- Review, mitigate and approve 2014/15 Annual Harvest Plans for Bipole III Transmission Project and maintenance of M39V distribution line in Duck Mountain including monitoring and assessment of timber utilization.

**Table FO.1
12.3(b) Forestry and Peatlands Management**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	5,727	60.00	5,563	164	
Other Expenditures	3,311		3,903	(592)	
Grant Assistance	23		41	(18)	
Forest Regeneration Stock	916		545	371	
Less: Recoverable from Urban and Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(1,607)		(1,608)	1	
Total 12.3(b)	8,370	60.00	8,444	(74)	

Wildlife

The Wildlife Branch manages wildlife resources to conserve biological diversity, including species and ecosystems, within the context of the principles of sustainable use.

Key Results Achieved:

Consistency of policy, objectives, and goals within government policy and priorities through timely revision and updating of strategies

- The Wildlife Branch continues to work on strategies to conserve biological diversity such as the Boreal Woodland Caribou Strategy which has been shared for public review.

Involved other agencies and user groups in Branch programs.

- The Wildlife Branch consults with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and the Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association on hunting regulation changes, and collaborates with organizations to deliver various wildlife related programs (ex: Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, Mentored Hunt Partnership, Nature Conservancy Canada, Wild Turkey Relocation Program, NatureServe Canada and NatureServe).
- The Branch worked with three First Nations to explore options for improving participation on resource management issues of interest to the communities, starting with moose management.

Provided policies and programs responsive to public needs within the sustainable capacity of ecosystems.

- The Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project works with livestock producers to implement sustainable prairie management prescriptions on private lands in south western Manitoba. This initiative serves to improve the quality of remaining native prairie, increase income to producers and ultimately leads to the long-term retention of native prairie grasslands which support biodiversity.

Game, Fur and Human-Wildlife Conflict Section

The Big Game Unit manages big game species including white-tailed deer, elk, moose, barren ground caribou, black bear and wolves. The Unit is committed to ensuring sustainable populations of these species and monitors population status and harvest through aerial surveys, hunter questionnaires and reports from district staff and stakeholders. The Unit is responsible for providing existing and new hunting opportunities for Manitobans, non-resident and foreign hunters for big game species.

The Game Bird Unit manages populations of grouse and wild turkeys, and cooperates with other agencies and jurisdictions in the international management of migratory birds. Populations are monitored using standardized surveys and abundance indices, and harvest is monitored using annual questionnaires and long-term banding programs. The Unit is responsible for providing existing and new hunting opportunities for Manitobans, non-resident and foreign hunters for game bird species.

The Furbearer and Human-Wildlife Conflict Management Unit promotes the sustainable harvest of furbearers ensuring economic, social, and cultural returns to trappers and their families through the administration and management of trapping areas. The Unit also seeks to prevent and mitigate situations where the needs of wildlife and people conflict. Programs managed and/or delivered by the unit include the Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention Program, the Problem Predator Management Program, Urban Wildlife Conflict Management, Farmland Beaver Damage Control Program and the Be Bear Smart initiative.

The Wildlife Allocation Unit is responsible for the season setting process and allocations for outfitting. The Unit works with the Big Game and Game Birds Units in providing existing and new hunting opportunities for Manitobans, non-resident and foreign resident hunters. The Unit is also responsible for promoting Manitoba's Hunting Heritage and administration for the Hunter Education Program.

Key Results Achieved:

Sustained direct and indirect economic benefit from hunting and trapping; economic returns to the Province; and direct income returns to primary producers.

- A total of 70,418 hunting and trapping licences were sold resulting in revenue of \$3.2 million.
- Manitoba's 8,863 licensed trappers harvested an estimated \$3.81 million in raw fur (2013/14 Fur Year).
- Trapping and hunting also maintains game and fur populations at levels that reduce human-wildlife conflicts such as property damage and livestock depredation.

Accounted 700,000 days of licenced hunting activity: over 700,000 game birds and 30,000 big game animals harvested.

- A total of 287,000 Big Game hunter days and 126,000 Game Bird hunter days were estimated based on 7.2 days per hunter.

Developed species management plans and procedures that provide provincial objectives and guidelines for management.

- The Wildlife Branch continued to engage First Nations, Métis and stakeholders in regional moose recovery efforts for the western and eastern regions.
- Annual program implementation plans were prepared for the Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) programs. The Big Game Health Program analyzed over 900 elk, white-tailed deer, moose, mule deer, and caribou samples for signs of Bovine TB, CWD, and other diseases. All samples were negative for signs of reportable diseases.
- The Big Game Health Program, with assistance from the Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, consulted with First Nations and the Manitoba Métis Federation regarding the impacts of feeding cervids in disease control areas. As a result the ban to feed of cervids in the Bovine TB and CWD Surveillance Zones was extended to include hunters.
- The Wildlife Branch conducted an aerial CWD Risk Assessment Survey in southwest Manitoba. Over a period of four days, approximately 2,100 sq. km of Game Hunting Area 27 along the Saskatchewan and United States borders were surveyed to pinpoint potential CWD risk sites as well as to identify wild cervid population clusters. In total, 265 CWD Risk Sites were identified and, 199 moose and 3,175 white-tailed deer were spotted.
- The Wildlife Branch initiated a winter severity index program to help predict the affects of winters on deer mortality. This program will be expanded to include more than 25 monitoring stations throughout the deer range and allow stakeholder groups to contribute to the program.
- The Wildlife Branch continues to develop annual harvest and harvest rate estimates of wild turkeys, which are used to estimate population size, and will inform a provincial management plan. Manitoba partnered with Environment Canada and several US jurisdictions on waterfowl population and harvest management programs, with a particular emphasis on sub-arctic nesting Canada Geese. Over 5,500

Canada geese were leg banded to estimate harvest and survival rates, and monitor the effect of international regulation changes. Manitoba and Ducks Unlimited Canada collaborated on waterfowl surveys in northern Manitoba and at Delta Marsh, to estimate breeding and staging waterfowl densities in several areas of mutual conservation interest.

- Manitoba partnered with affiliate clubs of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and established three novel wild turkey populations in southern Manitoba, based on local interest and consultation.
- Manitoba is a partner in a strategic cross-Canada research initiative on the biology and population dynamics of lynx. Manitoba monitors the prey (vole) driven 4-year cycle of marten harvest to sustainably manage this species.

Non-resident hunting licences allocated to registered tourism operators.

- Approximately 2,380 of the 5,100 allocated big game licences were utilized by 245 registered tourism operators.

The development and maintenance of a central data-storage and retrieval system for big game, fur-harvest and population information and the development and implementation of a new program for gathering hunter success data.

- Development of the big game management system is ongoing. The hunter questionnaire program returned to a mail-out format and response rates have increased. The Wildlife Branch continues to explore the development of an electronic licensing system and wildlife harvest data collection.

Produced the annual Hunting Guide and Trapping Guide for clients.

- The annual hunting and trapping guides were posted on the Wildlife Branch website and 125,000 hunting guides and 14,000 trapping guides were printed and distributed. The hunting guide provides information on seasons, bag limits, and regulation changes for the upcoming hunting season. The trapping guide also provides seasons, regulatory information, and summaries of management and human-wildlife conflict management programs in which trappers participate.

Provided education, training and services to manage human-wildlife conflict and secure the future of hunting and trapping.

- The Problem Predator Removal Program was delivered under an agreement with the Manitoba Trappers Association. In 2014, trappers responded to 37 requests and removed 5 foxes, 89 coyotes and 29 wolves.
- The Livestock Predation Working Group continued to work with the Manitoba Beef Producers, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation, Manitoba Sheep Association, Manitoba Goat Association, Manitoba Trappers Association and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. This working group is developing a Livestock Predation Protection Report and Strategy, and provided information to livestock producers during Manitoba Beef Producers Annual General Meeting/Tradeshaw.
- The Growing Assurance: Farmland Beaver Damage Control Program was developed in conjunction with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (MAFRD). This program is administered by MAFRD and delivered by the Branch. In 2014, program participants included 34 rural municipalities, four Northern Affairs Communities and one First Nation. Three Farmland Beaver Damage Control Workshops were delivered in chronic beaver conflict areas: Ethelbert, Alonsa and Clanwilliam.

- The Urban Goose Working Group is comprised of Environment Canada, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Airport Authority. One group objective includes reducing the Canada goose population along major high-speed travel corridors (ex.: Bishop Grandin and Kenaston Boulevards) and thereby reduce the number of conflicts associated with urban geese, particularly vehicle collisions for increased human safety.
- The 6th Annual Provincial Hunting Day was celebrated at Oak Hammock Marsh on September 27, 2014. Several Hunting Skills Day events and 14 formal mentored hunts for waterfowl and white-tailed deer were held in partnership with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation, Delta Waterfowl, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and Wild Gobblers Unlimited. These programs continue to significantly contribute to the recruitment and retention of hunters.
- Over 280 new trappers passed the mandatory trapper education exam through cooperative efforts with the Manitoba Trappers Association with added support from organizations or companies. Presentations were made to youth, conservation, and professional groups on trapping methods and research on furbearing animals.
- In conjunction with the Netley–Libau Local Fur Council a youth mentored trapping area was established within the Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area.
- Workshops on safe and effective use of traps and power snares were held and several trappers were loaned traps and snares for use in chronic problem areas.
- “Be Bear Smart” was funded through the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund. This initiative provided workshops, education displays and materials to industry, staff, association events, schools, and fairs. Since the Bear Smart principles were incorporated into department responses to black bear complaints in 2006, the number of complaints (occurrences) has dropped.
- The cost-shared Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention Program is intended to minimize waterfowl damage to agricultural producers. The program maintains lure crops and engaged landowner advisory committees in two chronic conflict areas; Grants Lake and Oak Hammock Marsh Managed Hunting Areas. This program is also linked to the federal-provincial Waterfowl Crop Damage Compensation Program which compensates producers for crop losses from ducks, geese and Sandhill Cranes. Two lure crops at Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area and feeding stations at Saskeram Wildlife Management Area and Lidcliff Marsh were decommissioned in 2014.
- The Wildlife Branch and Parks and Regional Services Division staff continued to develop the Wildlife-Human Attack Response Protocol. The protocol will provide consistent direction to staff for the response to an incident involving a wildlife attack on a person.

Effectively handled complaints for waterfowl crop damage. Prepared and activated Crown land lure crops as required. Purchased private land lure crops depending on demonstrated need. Publicize program objectives and activities.

- Staff responded to 310 waterfowl crop damage complaints involving 6,327 acres in 2014. Compensation claims from Manitoba Agriculture Services Corporation (MASC) by producers can exceed \$1.0 million per year; every \$1.00 spent in prevention is estimated to save \$3.97 in compensation paid to producers.

Biodiversity, Habitat and Endangered Species Section

The section provides information and services to sustain Manitoba’s natural biological diversity, including habitats and species at risk. Section activities are focused on: Inventory and Monitoring; Conservation Status Assessment; and Recovery or Management Strategies - coordinated through the Manitoba

Conservation Data Centre; Wildlife Lands Management and delivery of private land Habitat Stewardship initiatives.

The Manitoba Conservation Data Centre is the provincial storehouse of information related to biodiversity conservation and species at risk information in Manitoba. The Data Centre uses standardized scientific methods to collect and manage detailed local information on Manitoba's plants, animals and ecosystems in the Biotics database. The information is used for conservation and development planning within government, and is available to the private sector, and the public.

The Wildlife Lands Unit develops policies, plans and programs to secure, protect and enhance wildlife habitat on Crown and private land. It is responsible for the management of lands designated for wildlife including wildlife management areas, wildlife refuges, heritage marshes and special conservation areas.

The Habitat Stewardship Unit is responsible for the development and management of provincial projects including projects cost-shared with Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk and for management of the Agro-Manitoba Critical Wildlife Habitat Program, a co-operative initiative with the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation. The Critical Wildlife Habitat Program goal is to identify, preserve and manage native grassland habitats.

Key Results Achieved:

Delivered management and stewardship programs to identify, enhance and protect lands set aside for preservation of biodiversity. Protected wildlife habitat by identifying potential development impacts; recommending mitigation measures and sustainable management practices; integrating wildlife values in land-use planning; and securing critical habitats through various programs.

- The Conservation Data Centre Biotics data was used by the Protected Areas Initiative to set land acquisition goals. Biotics data was also used by the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation to secure 623 hectares (1,742 acres) of species-at-risk habitat through land purchases and Conservation Agreements.
- The Wildlife Lands Unit reviewed numerous Crown land sale requests, subdivision application circulars, and Crown land general permit applications as well as development plans, integrated watershed management plans, and over 500 parcels were reviewed for mineral dispositions, including oil and gas lease sales, casual quarry permits, and quarry leases.
- The Wildlife Lands Unit worked at the Delta Marsh Wildlife Management Area with the University of Manitoba, Ducks Unlimited Canada and others to support research related to marsh water quality, vegetation changes and the effect of Common Carp on wetland habitat.
- The Wildlife Lands Unit promoted the control of purple loosestrife and other invasive wetland species that threaten the biodiversity of Manitoba's southern wetlands. The Unit helped deliver the Manitoba Purple Loosestrife Project in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited Canada and the City of Winnipeg.
- The Habitat Stewardship Unit delivered the Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project that secured 492 hectares (1,215 acres) of native grassland on privately owned lands under two 5-year grazing management agreements. An additional 381 hectares (941 acres) of shrubs were mowed on project lands and 27 hectares (68 acres) were managed through prescribed burning.
- The Tall Grass Prairie Communities and Species at Risk Project resulted in the removal of 5.9 hectares (14.6 acres) of invasive species (leafy spurge and St. John's wort) and 6.7 hectares (16.5 acres) of aspen to limit encroachment on tall-grass prairie lands to conserve species at risk.

Effectively communicated with user groups and other government agencies, and increased involvement of aboriginal people, other users and the public in the planning, implementation, and funding of habitat and stewardship programs.

- Wildlife Lands Unit participated in public meetings (Whitewater Lake Wildlife Management Area) and on various working groups (Netley- Libau Marsh and Delta Marsh) to help with planning and implementation of wetland research and habitat improvement projects.
- The Manitoba Conservation Data Centre continues to partner with conservation groups (Nature Conservancy Canada and Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation) and governments (Canadian Wildlife Service and Rural Municipalities) to share data and update records in its database and conduct species at risk inventories. It also partnered with Parks Canada who provided information on plants and animals in Riding Mountain and Wapusk National Parks to the Data Centre to create new and updated records in its database for those species that are of conservation concern. The Data Centre continues to forge relationships with other provincial departments, including Mineral Resources, and Infrastructure and Transportation.
- The Biodiversity Unit participated on the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), the body which advises the federal government on the listing of species under Canada's national *Species at Risk Act*. Staff reviewed 53 status assessment reports covering 60 species or subspecies or populations, nine of which are found in Manitoba.
- The Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project delivered a 3-day workshop highlighting the importance of the mixed-grass prairie ecosystem to livestock producers and species *at risk*. Interviews with project co-operators were conducted to demonstrate that working with private landowners to implement sustainable prairie management practices improves the remaining native prairie, increases producer income and leads to the long-term retention of native prairie grasslands in southwest Manitoba. .
- The annual Tall Grass Prairie Day event was hosted at the Preserve with 85 people attending as part of the Tall Grass Prairie Communities and Species at risk Project. Three editions of "Prairie Ponders" were produced and distributed to local communities. A presentation "Orchids to Birds – Survey Projects at the Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Preserve" was given at the Portage Natural History Group meeting in April 2014.

Collected and compiled inventory data on the biodiversity of Manitoba's terrestrial ecosystems, primarily native grasslands: tall-grass prairie and mixed-grass prairie.

- The Manitoba Conservation Data Centre received over 18,000 observations for inclusion in its species at risk data base. Organizations contributing data included the Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas (4,246 observations), Manitoba Herp (reptiles and amphibians) Atlas (921), and the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve (over 6,800).
- The Habitat Stewardship Unit through the Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project inventoried an additional 2,679 hectares (6,619 acres) bringing the total included in the Mixed-grass Prairie Inventory to 80,887 hectares (199,876 acres). All of the Mixed-grass Prairie Inventory data from 1989 to 2014 was entered into the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre. Over 2,800 sites were entered. Western spiderwort was monitored on one property.
- As part of the Tall Grass Prairie Communities and Species at Risk Project detailed vegetation reclassifications and species at risk surveys were conducted at the Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Preserve on ten properties, totalling 585 hectares (1440 acres). Species at Risk monitoring continued on all Preserve for seven provincially listed species (five of which are also protected federally) and 14 provincially rare species.

- The Biodiversity Unit facilitated research in Manitoba on the biology and ecology of species, ranging from endangered butterflies to frogs, snakes, small mammals, cougars and polar bears, and rare ecosystems such as alvars. They collaborated on research activities with the University of Winnipeg and the Nature Conservancy Canada into the ecology and biology of Poweshiek Skipperling and Dakota Skipper butterflies, and with the Assiniboine Park Zoo and the University of Manitoba on source populations of cougars in Manitoba.

Data was made available to other units of the Department (e.g. Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch, Biodiversity Conservation Section, and Forestry Branch), other government departments, industry, organizations and the public.

- The Manitoba Conservation Data Centre entered into four Data Sharing Agreements to better assist partners in planning and implementing projects that minimized impacts on species at risk in Manitoba, and to improve data holdings of the centre's database. The Data Centre answered 662 requests for information from our rare species database. Over half of the requests came from industry (221), with other requests coming from provincial (359) and federal government departments (37), members of the public (five), environmental organizations (four), universities (six), and other organizations (21). Approximately 206 hours of staff time went into responding to these requests with an average turnaround time of 4.4 days.
- Critical Wildlife Habitat Program species at risk data collected at the Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Preserve is made available to the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre, Preserve partners and the Rural Municipality of Stuartburn to guide the implementation of management and maintenance activities.
- Critical Wildlife Habitat Program inventory information on mixed-grass prairie grasslands is provided to the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation to guide future securement activities in south western Manitoba. These inventories identify new areas and recommend sites where sustainable management or permanent protection should be implemented to benefit species at risk.

The use of the data collected and the technical expertise of staff, to provide a science-based assessment of potential impacts or sustainability of proposed developments seeking licensing under The Environment Act, and provision of recommendations for land-use practices to ensure sustainability of terrestrial ecosystems and associated biodiversity.

- Seventy-seven environmental licence applications were reviewed and recommendations and licence conditions were provided. The Data Centre received 92 requests for Technical Advisory Committee reviews or other information related to licensing, permits and land use planning.

Maintained and enhanced the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre, a data bank and decision-support system about Manitoba plants, animals and natural communities at risk and of conservation concern.

- The Data Centre maintains information on 7,956 wild plant and animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, mussels, crayfish, ferns, flowering plants, lichens, mosses, liverworts and mushrooms. Of these, 1,232 species are endangered or of conservation concern. The database contains 69,080 observations and over 41,000 mapped features based on species observations.

Regional Wildlife Programs and Aboriginal Relations Section

The section plans, develops, implements and administers wildlife programs in five provincial regions. While focus can vary somewhat by region, activities include species population monitoring, game and non-game management, wildlife habitat development and protection, wildlife health, public use/education,

environmental reviews, human-wildlife conflict, non-resident hunting resource allocation program, biodiversity management, species at risk and invasive species.

The section includes the front line staff representing wildlife and wildlife habitat interests at the regional level within and outside the department including all levels of government, private industry, regional resource management boards, local interest/user groups and the general public.

The Wildlife Branch continued to engage First Nations and Métis on wildlife conservation and management matters. A particular focus of engagement included building and maintaining effective working relationships with First Nation and Métis communities and their leadership.

Regional staff also support and participate in the development of branch policies, procedures, plans and strategies focusing on game and furbearer management and human-wildlife conflict issues.

Key Results Achieved:

Wildlife Monitoring and Research

- Research and monitoring of Boreal Woodland Caribou populations and the development of a provincial recovery strategy and range specific action plans.
- Conducted aerial surveys and collaborative research on polar bear, moose, elk, wolves and white-tailed deer.

Consultation with Aboriginal Peoples

- Coordinated and participated in consultation meetings with First Nation and Métis communities and leadership associated with moose hunting conservation closures as well as other wildlife concerns across the province.
- The Branch worked with three First Nations to explore options for improving participation on resource management issues of interest to the communities, starting with moose management.

Engagement with Specific Issues & Interest Groups

- Participated in National Boreal Caribou Technical Committee and Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement – Manitoba Regional Working Group.
- Provided input on the development of licence and monitoring plans for Bipole III and Manitoba Floodway and Eastside Road Authority projects.
- Participated in meetings with resource management boards, non-government organizations, local user groups and communities on wildlife or wildlife habitat management.
- Work with other government resource programs areas to help protect and manage regional wildlife resources.

**Table WI.1
12.3(c) Wildlife**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,635	46.05	3,602	33	
Other Expenditures	1,833		1,786	47	
Grant Assistance	874		874	0	
Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Damage Prevention Agreement	171		178	(7)	
Total 12.3(c)	6,513	46.05	6,440	73	

Habitat Enhancement Fund

The Fund provides a grant to the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation in support of the Critical Wildlife Habitat Program for the conservation, restoration and enhancement of Manitoba wildlife habitat, and stewardship initiatives to conserve native grasslands, protect species at risk and prevent other species from becoming at risk. This Fund is also used to provide a portion of the match required for Federal Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk allocations for Manitoba projects.

Key Results Achieved:

Conserved, restored and enhanced Manitoba wildlife habitat, particularly those habitats important to species at risk, and developed and implemented relevant land stewardship initiatives.

- Supported Critical Wildlife Habitat Program stewardship projects on mixed-grass and tall-grass prairies.
- Provided a portion of the funding for cost-sharing initiatives funded by Habitat Stewardship Program where a minimum 1:1 match is required. See detail on project accomplishments under Biodiversity, Habitat and Endangered Species Section.

**Table HE.1
12.3(d) Habitat Enhancement Fund**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Grant Assistance	45		45	0	
Total 12.3(d)	45		45	0	

Wildlife Enhancement Initiative

This long established Initiative provides support for various wildlife conservation initiatives with a primary focus on species inventories, management of wildlife management areas, urban wildlife conflict management, cooperative education with Manitoba universities, and the development and support of various hunting and trapping heritage initiatives. Funds are provided through a budgeted expenditure and revenue from a special impost on hunting licences is collected as general revenue but notionally allocated for these initiatives. The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund has been established to directly allocate a portion of angling, hunting and trapping licenses into a separate, stakeholder-governed, dedicated fund for enhancement of populations and habitat. The fund is further described in this report.

Key Results Achieved:

The annual wildlife population was estimated for performing resource-allocation decision making.

Big game populations were evaluated to assist in setting hunting seasons and to determine other management needs. Methods used included winter aerial surveys of populations to estimate abundance, sex and age composition, recruitment and distribution; hunter questionnaires to estimate harvests, hunter effort and hunter distribution; and collection of biological specimens to assess age and reproductive status. Data was entered into computer simulations (models) to estimate the consequences of alternative management options.

The 2014-15 big game aerial survey program for was significantly impacted by the late arrival of sufficient snow accumulation and some initial plans had to be altered. Aerial surveys were conducted to estimate deer populations in Game Hunting Areas (GHA) 22 and 25A, and the moose population in GHA 29 and 29A. Some smaller deer surveys were also conducted around Riding Mountain National Park and along the western provincial boarder (Disease Control Zones).

Hunter Education Programming continues to ensure hunting is conducted in a safe and ethical manner.

Manitoba introduced mandatory hunter education requirements that require all hunters to possess a Hunter Education Certificate. The Hunter Education Program successfully graduated 2,800 new hunters over the past year.

Resident hunter numbers stable.

Resident hunting licence sales and youth licence sales have stabilized in recent years.

Efficiently resolved problem wildlife issues such as urban geese and urban deer, negative interactions with people, and of potential zoonotic disease issues associated with wildlife.

Partnerships with other government agencies have successfully reduced Canada geese-related human safety concerns in select areas of Winnipeg. The Department continues to offer advice to people on means of reducing conflicts with urban wildlife.

Improved client service delivery of hunting programs and opportunities.

Regular meetings were held with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation, the Manitoba Lodge and Outfitters Association, and the Archers and Bow Hunters Association of Manitoba, as well as many local hunting affiliates to present information and discuss hunting and management programs and opportunities in Manitoba. The Branch simplified hunting regulations where possible and will continue this effort to encourage participation and recruitment.

See Biodiversity, Habitat and Endangered Species Section.

Standard signs were produced for selected WMAs and weed control was undertaken at a number of locations.

Lands

Manitoba's boundaries encompass an area of 65 million hectares consisting of 54.8 million hectares of land and 10.2 million hectares of water. The landscape varies from prairie grassland in the south, through to broadleaf, mixed wood and boreal forest, to tundra in the north. Lake Winnipeg, Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipegosis cover much of the areas in central Manitoba. Lake Winnipeg covers 2.4 million hectares and is the largest lake in Manitoba. It is also the 12th largest freshwater lake in the world.

Manitoba's provincial Crown lands comprise approximately 40.5 million hectares. The Branch is responsible for provincial and regional level management and control of provincial Crown lands that are governed under *The Crown Lands Act*, *The Wild Rice Act* and *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*. Branch functions also include policy development and recommendations, the delivery of the Cottage Lot, Treaty Land Entitlement and Manitoba Geographical Names programs and overseeing transactions administered through the Crown Lands and Property Agency (a special operating agency of the Manitoba Government).

Provincial and Regional Land Management and Planning

- Responsible for the management of Crown land on a provincial scale and for the delivery of services through five regional offices by Regional Land Managers (RLM). The Section is also involved in the development of departmental positions on various Crown land applications, including providing support to the Crown Lands Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee.

Volume of Reviews

Municipal Development Plan Reviews/Amendments	38
Municipal Zoning By-Laws and Amendments	112
Road Opening and Closing By-Laws and Other Reviews	22

- The RLMs provide direction, advice and information to the Region's Integrated Resources and Environmental Management Team (IRMT) and Field Services Section staff, the Bloc Planning Committee, as well as other provincial and federal government departments, to local governments and external clients on matters related to provincial Crown land administration, legislation, policies, procedures and guidelines.
- A total of 995 operational land use code changes were reviewed by the interdepartmental regional Bloc Planning Committee to ensure Crown land use codes ensure compatible long term land and resource use.

Key Results Achieved:

- Cost-effective and professional delivery of services to the public in an environmentally-responsible and resource-conscious manner in accordance with departmental direction and approved budgets.
- Development of short- and long-range regional integrated land and resource management plans and compliance levels in excess of 95% with land allocation policy and resource legislation.
- Maintenance of effective community relations, particularly greater involvement, participation and cooperation of Aboriginal people in resource management, and effective liaison with municipalities, industry, resource users and the interested public.

Volume of Crown Land Applications

Disposition Type	Total
Crown Land and Property Agency Circulars	243
Assignments	143
Environment Act Proposals	67
Casual Quarry Permits & Quarry Leases	900
Oil and Gas Sales	4
Oil Well Battery	3
Pipeline	3
Order-in-Council Designations	3

Aboriginal Land Programs and Cottage Lot Program

- Responsible for the preparation of various legal documents related to the fulfilment of Treaty Land Entitlement, other Aboriginal Land Claim settlement agreements and federal land transactions. These include issuance of Exclusive Use/Land Use Permits, Cabinet Submissions, Federal Transfers/Reversions of Administration and Control, Real Property Applications, Dissolving of Titles, and Fee Simple Transfers as specified in respective settlement agreements.
- Operates on provincial and federal levels to fulfill Treaty Land Entitlement and other Aboriginal Land Claim obligations to Manitoba First Nations. The Section provides technical assistance to First Nations, Canada, the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee and provincial government departments with respect to land transfer expertise, tracking and records management.
- Responsible for the delivery of the Government's multi-million dollar 2,000 cottage lot development initiative, continually identifying sites and assessing their potential for cottage lot development. This initiative requires consultation, and is working towards partnerships with First Nations and municipalities on future cottage subdivisions.
- Expedites the transfer of Crown land selected or Crown interests in private lands acquired by 29 First Nations in accordance with their respective Treaty Land Entitlement agreements.

Volume of Crown land and Other land designated as Reserve land to date

First Nation	Crown and Other Land Entitlement Acres +/-	Total Selected or Acquired Acres +/-	Reserve Land Designated
Barren Lands	66,420	28,252	0
Brokenhead	4,344	4,579	672
Brokenhead (Other)	10,137	485	7
Buffalo Point	3,432	4,103	2,370
Buffalo Point (Other)	607	70	0
Bunibonibee	35,434	35,220	31,342
Fox Lake	26,391	6,576	0
Garden Hill	45,339	53,263	43,576
God's Lake	42,600	41,077	16,301
Long Plain (Other)	26,437	5,595	1,911
Manto Sipi	8,725	9,910	4,284

First Nation	Crown and Other Land Entitlement Acres +/-	Total Selected or Acquired Acres +/-	Reserve Land Designated
Marcel Colomb	17,007	0	0
Mathias Colomb	217,364	183,045	172,538
Nisichawayasihk	61,761	72,736	33,816
Northlands	94,084	67,034	4,134
Norway House	104,784	106,083	42,045
Opaskwayak	47,658	47,980	24,375
Opaskwayak (Other)	8,410	185	0
O-Pipon-Na-Piwin	17,674	40,536	0
Peguis	55,038	40,077	0
Peguis (Other)	111,756	2,645	0
Red Sucker Lake	9,487	9,585	8,943
Rolling River	2,356	2,358	2,351
Rolling River (Other)	44,756	6,270	3,118
Roseau River (Other)	16,218	3,526	75
St. Theresa Point	34,908	35,310	35,310
Sapotaweyak	108,134	112,782	99,702
Sapotaweyak (Other)	36,045	2	0.14
Sayisi Dene	22,372	9,360	0
Shamattawa	24,912	19,350	0
Swan Lake (Other)	13,035	8,792	8,773
War Lake	7,156	5,586	480
Wasagamack	13,610	13,642	13,642
Wuskwi Sipiik	44,168	41,310	25,190
Wuskwi Sipiik (Other)	14,722	2,132	0
York Factory	29,173	12,917	0
TLE Grand Total	1,426,454	1,032,373	574,955.14

(Note: 1 acre = 0.404685 hectares)

Key Results Achieved:

- Non-TLE agreements include the Northern Flood Agreement, Grand Rapids Forebay Agreements, land exchanges and other requests from Canada and legal counsel. Currently these requests total 500,000 acres. Staff ensures that implementation is carried out in accordance with the respective land settlement agreements and relevant policies and legislation.
- To date, the Cottage Lot Program is estimated to have produced around \$100 million in economic activity, through lot sales, construction, purchasing of goods and services and recreational spending. These developments create opportunities for local employment, First Nations and new business start-ups which helps to grow the local economy. In the past year, approximately 60 lots have been allocated either through a Cottage Lot Draw or the First Come, First Served Cottage Lot Program.

- The Cottage Lot Program continues to fulfill Manitoba's commitment to enhance the quality of life for Manitobans through the availability of Crown land recreational cottage lots.

Traditional Area Planning and World Heritage Site Nomination

This section of Lands Branch administers planning area designations and land management plans proposed by First Nations for approval by the Government of Manitoba under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*. Coordinates the interdepartmental review of proposed planning area designations and plan approvals, participates in the department's review of applications for Crown land and resources on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and represents the Department on planning councils, management boards, and the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation.

The Pimachiowin Aki Corporation, representing the Government of Manitoba, the Government of Ontario, and five First Nations (Bloodvein, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, Pikangikum, and Poplar River), is leading the nomination for inscription of a 33,400 km² (3.3 million ha) World Heritage site in eastern Manitoba and northern Ontario. The Pimachiowin Aki nomination was submitted to the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) on January 26, 2015. This is a new nomination, following deferral of the initial bid by the World Heritage Committee (WHC) in 2013. The WHC decision to defer Pimachiowin Aki generated international interest in addressing the challenges posed by mixed (cultural and natural) nominations and indigenous cultural landscapes. More effective evaluations are expected as a result of enhanced collaboration, communications and joint reporting and recommendations by the Advisory Bodies to the WHC. A decision on the new nomination is expected in July 2016.

The Pimachiowin Aki nomination is identified as a priority in *Tomorrow Now*, the province's eight-year strategic plan for environmental protection and sustainable economic development. The nomination - and the land management plans that are a foundation of the nomination - build on priorities for boreal forest protection, eco-cultural tourism development, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and conservation of woodland caribou habitat, and stand as proud examples of collaboration between First Nations and the Government of Manitoba.

Key Results Achieved:

- Land management plans approved under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*, at the request of the Poplar River, Pauingassi, Little Grand Rapids and Bloodvein First Nations, continued to provide direction for the management, use and sustainable development of more than 20,000 km² (2.0 million ha) of provincial Crown land on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.
- Implementation of the plans continued to be guided by management boards established by agreements between the Government of Manitoba and the four First Nations. Staff of Lands Branch, Indigenous Relations Branch, Wildlife Branch, Parks Branch and Regional Services represents the Government of Manitoba on these boards.
- At the request of the Bloodvein First Nation, the Pimitotah Land Use Plan was formally amended in January 2015 to enact a prohibition on commercial logging.
- Preparation of the new Pimachiowin Aki nomination continued throughout the reporting year, supported by section staff, and with advice received from the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee.
- The section also participated in preparations for a workshop on thematic guidance for large landscape nominations, such as Pimachiowin Aki, at the IUCN World Parks Congress in November 2014.

- In collaboration with staff of Parks and Protected Spaces Branch, and the Manitoba Floodway and East Side Road Authority, the section contributed to a development plan for a boat launch and parking facility on Crown land at the new all-season road connection to the Bloodvein First Nation community.

Manitoba Geographical Names Program

- The Manitoba Geographical Names Program (MGNP) provides a provincial geographical name authority that supports Lands Branch, Conservation and Water Stewardship, and Manitobans through the development and implementation of policies and procedures, research and processing of decisions on new and established toponyms, and membership and liaison with the Geographical Names Board of Canada. Consistency and accuracy are indispensable in referring to a place and are essential to our personal, scientific, commercial, and economic environment.

Key Results Achieved:

- Maintained and disseminated the Manitoba Geographical Names Data Base ensuring the utilization of Manitoba's authoritative toponymic data via multiple digital and hardcopy formats.
- Supported the World Heritage Site nomination and Manitoba's Aboriginal people through the Aboriginal Names Project which is developing a collaborative relationship to recognize and record Aboriginal heritage, culture, history, and language through the compilation of traditional names in Manitoba.
- Responded to toponymic requests (i.e. new names, name changes, cultural and historical requests) from local, regional, national, and international clients on an ongoing basis.
- Represented Manitoba's toponymic interests as the Manitoba member with the Geographical Names Board of Canada. Board membership involves participation on various national sub-committees including Chairing the Governance Renewal and Cultural Generic Working Groups.
- Provided high quality client service to Manitobans as Manitoba's provincial names authority. This year, the MGNP completed 11 new Geographical Name Decisions.

**Table LA.1
12.3(f) Lands**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,610	22.00	1,632	(22)	
Other Expenditures	3,975		4,538	(383)	1.
Grant Assistance	234		234	0	
Total 12.3(f)	5,819	22.00	6,224	(405)	

1. Under-expenditure in operating due to change in accounting policies for CLPA services.

International Institute for Sustainable Development

The Institute promotes the concept of environmentally sustainable economic development and the integration of the principles and practices of sustainable development within and between the public, private and voluntary sectors on a national and international basis.

The Institute issues a separate Annual Report. Copies can be obtained from the Institute at 161 Portage Avenue East, 6th Floor, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0Y4. The Institute can be contacted at 204-958-7700.

Table IISD.1

12.3(g) International Institute for Sustainable Development

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Grant Assistance	1,013		1,013	0	
Total 12.3g	1,013		1,013	0	

Aboriginal Relations

The Branch was established to build relationships between the Department and the Aboriginal people of Manitoba. These relationships are necessary to maintain an ever increasing level of program and services to benefit all Manitobans.

In providing leadership and direction for the Department, the Branch participates in strategic planning processes, such as development of policies, legislation, and programs to ensure that Aboriginal and Treaty rights are recognized and respected. The Branch is accountable for the research, analysis, development, implementation and evaluation of new and existing resource programs. The Branch is also engaged in development of integrated resource policies, legislation relating to land use, co-management, resource allocation, environmental impacts, and sustainable development initiatives. The Branch also facilitates communication between the various user interests and the Department.

The Branch continues to play an instrumental role in developing and implementing the Crown's Aboriginal Consultation policy. One of the foremost objectives of consultation is to reconcile the relationship between the Crown and First Nations/Métis/Aboriginal peoples. This can only be achieved by engaging with the aboriginal community. The Aboriginal Relations Branch provides advice to other areas of the Department on engagement and maintaining dialogue amongst the parties and as a relationship building strategy beyond the obligations of consultation.

Key Results Achieved:

- Developed and coordinated natural resource policy issues associated with First Nations, Métis and other Aboriginal communities and participated in Crown-Aboriginal Consultation processes related to Manitoba Hydro's Bipole III Transmission Project and Moose Management Closures and development of provincial Moose Management Strategy, as well as other Crown Aboriginal Consultation processes.
- Participated in the review of existing legislation, policy and programs and recommended amendments as required in accordance with the Treaties, Natural Resources Transfer Agreement, the Constitution of Canada and Supreme Court decisions.
- Developed and maintained formal and informal communication mechanisms between the Department and Aboriginal communities, such as the Wabonong Nakaygum Okimawin Council on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.
- Evaluated new and existing resource programs, projects and policies, and where required, integrated the legal, cultural, social and economic requirements of the Aboriginal community.
- Responded to inquiries from the Department, resource users, public and educational institutions.
- Discussed with Aboriginal leaders, communities and individuals, the formation of dialogue forums and communication processes between the Department and Manitoba Aboriginal communities.
- Continued dialogue with Aboriginal resource users as requested by communities.
- Planning Speakers Bureau session(s) to promote improved understanding and respect for the values and requirements of working with Aboriginal communities for delivery in June 2014.
- Developed and participated on inter-departmental and intra-departmental working groups to integrate the interests of Aboriginal communities in the development of legislation, policies and programs.
 - Vice-Chair and participation - Interdepartmental Working Group on Crown Aboriginal Consultation.
 - Chair and Management of Conservation's Aboriginal Consultation Working Group.
 - Participate in Environmental Approvals Branch's Technical Advisory Committee.

- Participate in Organization and Staff Development – Duty to Consult Course Development and Delivery.
- Participate in the negotiations for development of formal initiatives such as co-management agreements and memorandums of understanding between Conservation and Water Stewardship and Aboriginal communities.
- Participated in the development and review of legislation, regulations, policies and programs and actions involving Aboriginal communities.
- Negotiated development of a Treaty-based Senior Officials Forum with Treaty 2 communities.
- The Branch advocates for the engagement of the Aboriginal community in all aspects of Conservation's programs and services promoting the inclusion of the Aboriginal community through engagement with leadership, elders, youth & resource users in the planning and decision-making processes. The Aboriginal community brings the world-view and a holistic approach respecting natural law with special consideration to harmony and balance and the seven teachings for seven generations ahead.
- The Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin (WNO) planning initiative has been revised. Under the 2012/13 government-wide program review, the Province had the opportunity to review the progress of the initiative and develop a new model that will serve to continue to provide greater support to those East Side First Nations who are ready to move forward. As a result of these changes some communities will see increased support and some will receive less support while overall costs will be reduced. The Department continues to provide ongoing support to the WNO First Nations through internal efforts to coordinate and prioritize the expertise provided by staff housed throughout the Department. Accordingly a Land Use Planning Unit has been created within Lands Branch to assist the WNO First Nations in completing their Traditional Area Land Use Plans. Staff from the unit will be available as land use plans are completed for the World Heritage Site First Nations. As noted above, this strategy ensured the timely completion of the World Heritage Site First Nations land use plans. It would also ensure an approach to land use plans consistent with the primary legislative tool in place, *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*. When funding agreements are signed it is important that provisions and guidelines are followed. It is also important that timelines are adhered to in order that agreement targets and deadlines are met. In the case where planning delays are necessary it is possible to extend deadlines keeping in mind that this impacts potential future funding timelines.

Table AR.1

12.3(h) Aboriginal Relations

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	341	5.00	417	(76)	
Other Expenditures	311		169	142	1.
Total 12.3(h)	652	5.00	586	66	

1. Over expenditure in operating, due to payment of grant to (OCN) Opaskwayak Cree Nation.

**Table AR.2
12.3(i) Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	49		335	(286)	
Total 12.3(i)	49		335	(286)	1.

1. Under expenditure due to delays in consultations and participation in review of existing legislation and amendments, as required in accordance with the First Nation Treaties.

Pineland Forest Nursery

Pineland Forest Nursery issues its own Annual Report with information on its mandate and operations. Copies can be obtained from the General Manager at Box 45, Hadashville, Manitoba R0E 0X0. The General Manager can be contacted at 204-426-5235 or toll free 1-800-539-8721 or by fax at 204-426-2106. Pineland Forest Nursery's web site is www.pinelandforestnursery.com .

Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund

Table SD.1

12.3(j) Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Less: Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	(2,410)		(2,410)	0	
Total 12.3(j)	(2,410)		(2,410)	0	

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Divisional Administration

Ensures the development, implementation and coordination of government-wide climate change programs, ensures the development and coordination of strategic policy initiatives for the department, ensures the management and implementation of the environmental policy, program and enforcement functions for the department and ensures that environmental impacts of developments are evaluated. Ensures the delivery of emergency response programming related to environmental emergencies.

Table ES.1
12.4(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	285	4.00	337	(52)	
Other Expenditures	55		50	5	
Total 12.4(a)	340	4.00	387	(47)	

Environmental Programs and Strategies

The Branch develops standards, guidelines and legislation to protect human health and the environment, and delivers provincial programs and services to prevent impacts to the environment from pollutants. The Branch provides technical expertise on these matters and supports these and other provincial priorities through grant funding programs.

The Branch administers *The Waste Reduction and Prevention (WRAP) Act*, *The Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) Act* and *The Contaminated Sites Remediation Act (CSRA)*. The Branch manages the Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund, and the Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF), targeted funding programs under the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF). The Branch also provides administrative support to the SDIF. Details on approved projects funded through the SDIF are provided in a separate Annual Report tabled in the Legislature. More information on the Fund is available at: www.susdev.gov.mb.ca.

Key Results Areas:

- Regulating and monitoring Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) responsible for management of designated products at end of life.
- Supporting initiatives to increase access and recycling of stewarded materials in northern and remote Manitoba communities.
- Encouraging public-private sector partnerships.
- Supporting initiatives to reduce the volume of waste generated and disposed.
- Facilitating the development of consistent and integrated environmental strategies and policies.
- Ensuring an effective and efficient regulatory framework, including periodically reviewing, updating and developing environmental legislation.
- Delivering provincial programs and services to manage or prevent the impact of pollutants.
- Administering programs related to the management of impacted and contaminated sites, petroleum storage facilities, solid waste, wastewater, and livestock mortalities and manure.
- Monitoring and reporting on Manitoba's air quality.
- Enhancing public awareness of environmental issues.

Air Quality Management

Activities included:

- Monitored ambient (outdoor) air quality at the five established provincial sites, providing hourly air quality data for several pollutants, including ground level ozone, fine particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and carbon monoxide. Air quality data at three stations in Southern Manitoba are used to provide an hourly Air Quality Health Index forecast for the cities of Winnipeg and Brandon.
- Reviewed or audited air quality monitoring activities of others as required under regulatory provisions, and when required, provided recommendations for improvements.
- Fulfilled provincial obligations as required by the existing Federal/Provincial/Territorial Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of the National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) program. This included submission of Manitoba's quality-assured air quality data to the Canada-Wide Air Quality Database. Presented Manitoba's annual air quality summary and 2015-16 work plan at the annual NAPS manager's meeting in Halifax, NS.
- Operated and maintained the publicly accessible air quality website for display of near real-time and historical ambient air quality levels from the provincial air quality monitoring system. manitobaairquality.ca

- Represented Manitoba in national discussions and negotiations regarding air quality management. This included the continued development of the federally-led new Air Quality Management System (AQMS) and its associated sub-groups and other air related programs under CCME.

Environment

Contaminated Sites Program

- Amendments to *The Contaminated Sites Remediation Act (CSRA)* and the Contaminated Sites Remediation Regulation (CSSR) were finalized and came into force April 1, 2014. In order to ensure consistent delivery of the program throughout the Province, the Branch assumed responsibility for the Contaminated Sites Program.
- Guidelines, policies and procedures have been updated to reflect the new changes.
- Staff responded to 804 requests for file searches for program specific information.

Environmental Remediation Program

- The Environmental Remediation Program continued to address the assessment and remediation of priority sites. The following activities were undertaken:
 - Remediation of Omand's Creek at the former Dominion Bridge site was completed.
 - Demolition works and an environmental site assessment were completed at a large site in the City of Winnipeg through an agreement with the former owner's estate. This agreement ensures that Manitoba will recoup as much its financial contribution as possible through a caveat to be placed on the property at the time of sale.
 - An environmental site assessment was completed at a priority government-owned site in northern Manitoba. A Remedial Option Analysis report was provided and remediation at this site is projected to occur within the next two years.
 - Soil remediation works were re-established at the Churchill Rocket Range site.
 - An inter-departmental group was established to discuss the groundwater contamination issue within the Community of Bird's Hill.

Solid Waste Program

- The Waste Disposal Grounds Regulation is under review. Consultations on the revised regulation happened in February 2015, and the regulation is anticipated to be implemented in late 2015. Associated policies and procedures are being prepared.

Petroleum Program

- The Petroleum Program has worked with industry to resolve issues surrounding 'mobile' storage tanks. Staff began developing key elements necessary to ensuring an efficient operating permit renewal process.
- Provided information via correspondence, website and public information sessions to operators and licensed petroleum technicians regarding the 2015 operating permit renewal process.
- Began receiving and processing operating permit renewal applications.

- Issued 80 permits to construct or alter a petroleum storage system: 30 alterations, 50 new installations.

Livestock

- Operations with 300 animal units or greater are required to submit annual source water analysis reports to the department. The department received 432 source water monitoring submissions.
- Manure Management Plans (MMPs) are regulated to ensure the sustainability of livestock production by requiring prior-to-spreading calculation of the rate of manure application.
- A total of 488 MMPs were processed and registered.
- Most common offences involving enforcement were failing to submit annual analysis reports and improper application of manure.
- The following Table summarizes enforcement of the livestock regulations since 2000 and Environmental Programs Enforcement for 2014/15.

Table EPS 1
Enforcement Statistics

Fiscal Year	Prosecutions	Warnings	Orders	Fines (\$)
2000-01	16	49	22	8,067
2001-02	16	53	34	11,903
2002-03	15	59	21	20,280
2003-04	19	54	57	23,076
2004-05	16	63	45	36,960
2005-06	12	53	35	8,935
2006-07	2	41	29	1,114
2007-08	0	17	21	0
2008-09	2	27	30	2,881
2009-10	1	41	45	300
2010-11	4	120	0	4,426
2011-12	2	28	0	0
2012-13	8	15	5	8,068
2013-14	19	100	4	30,907
2014-15	2	88	4	6,334
Total	134	808	352	\$163,251

Policies and Strategies

The Environment Act Amendment (Reducing Pesticide Exposure) and The Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulation (MR 286/2014) came into force in January 2015. Staff consultations with stakeholder groups prior to January 2015 and continued meetings with retail council helped to raise awareness and provide education of restrictions during the first year of implementation. The regulation prohibits the use of prescribed pesticides on lawns and on the grounds of schools, hospitals and child care centres, except in specific circumstances. More information on the program is available at: www.manitoba.ca/pesticide-reduction.

To build on current activities and propose new ways to improve Manitoba's waste diversion efforts, a discussion paper on recycling and waste reduction was released for public consultation in December 2014. Staff consulted with stakeholder groups on proposed actions for implementation under seven key priority areas with the aim of cutting Manitoba's per capita waste in half from 840 kg in 2013 to 420 kg by 2020.

Waste Reduction and Prevention

Regulated Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) operating under the authority of *The WRAP Act* recycled various materials:

Packaging and printed paper

- Multi Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM) supports municipal recycling programs in Manitoba.
- Under its approval, MMSM is required to reduce plastic bag use in Manitoba by 50% by 2015. Since 2010 MMSM and its retail partners have achieved a 40% reduction. The number of single use plastic bags issued in Manitoba has dropped from 212.5 bags per person in 2007 to 126 bags per person in 2013. On average, 60% of plastic bags are reused prior to disposal.
- In total, 718,594 kgs of materials were recovered from Post Secondary Education Institutions (PSEIs) down 3% or 739,892 kgs from last year. The decrease is attributed to better waste reduction awareness and better measurement.
- MMSM raised \$11,438,878 from packaging and printed paper stewards and spent \$12,502,521. A total of \$10,003,683 was paid to municipalities to support their recycling programs. MMSM reported a 63% diversion rate for 2014, an increase of 11% over the past five years.

Beverage containers

- The Canadian Beverage Container Recycling Association (CBCRA) focuses on away from home recycling of beverage containers and supports enhanced collection through the blue box. The “Recycle Everywhere” campaign is aimed at achieving the Province’s target of recovering 75% of all beverage containers sold in Manitoba by 2016.
- In 2014 CBCRA distributed 13,470 bins as well as almost 20,000 mini bins for multi-family dwellings. The organization continued to expand the infrastructure to collect beverage containers, in parks, schools, industries and commercial operations. According to CBCRA, Manitobans recycled 52% more containers in 2014 than in 2010, for a recovery rate of 64%.
- CBCRA raised \$8,897,135 through a two cent environmental handling fee on beverage containers and spent \$11,058,373 on program and operating expenses.

Agricultural pesticide containers

- CleanFarms, a national non-profit industry stewardship organization, collected 4.5 million empty pesticide and fertilizer containers, 65% of the total amount of containers sold. The plastic generated in Manitoba is either reprocessed directly into drain tile or it is washed and processed into recycled plastic resin. The resin is sold to manufacturers to make either plastic drain tile or industrial garbage cans.
- The organization held a collection program for obsolete pesticides and collected 223,831 kgs of obsolete pesticides. As well, in its first year partnering nationally with the Canadian Animal Health Institute to collect obsolete livestock and equine medication, Clean Farms collected 5,015 kgs of obsolete livestock medications.

Tires

- Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM) achieved an 81% diversion rate on tires in Manitoba. In total, 15,636 tonnes of discarded tires and tubes were recycled from 1,486 collection sites throughout Manitoba, an increase of 6% from last year.
- TSM raised \$6,494,020 through environmental handling fees on new tires and spent \$5,431,349 on administration and recycling costs. The environmental handling fee on the sale of new passenger/light truck tires was reduced from \$4.50 to \$4.00.

Used oil products and automotive antifreeze

- The Manitoba Association for Resource Recovery Corp. (MARRC) operates a province wide stewardship program for used oil, used oil filters and used oil containers; and automotive antifreeze and containers.
- In total, 53 municipal Eco-Centres and 27 privately operated depots collect used oil, filters and containers and antifreeze. MARRC also supports collection from larger generators.
- Oil recovery increased from 13.6 million litres to 14.4 million litres or 74% of the estimated amount recoverable, while filter recovery remained constant at 1.57 million filters, or 70% collected.
- Automotive antifreeze results include 279, 700 litres of antifreeze fluid (13%).
- MARRC raised \$4,611,515 through environmental handling fees and spent \$4,157,103 for the lubricating products and antifreeze stewardship programs.

End of life electronics

- Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA) Manitoba has 481 program stewards and manages 59 collection sites. Six new drop-off locations were added, expanding the collection network to cover up to 90% of the province.
- EPRA recycled 3,099 tonnes of end-of-life electronics, including microwaves diverting approximately 480,000 devices from Manitoba landfills.
- EPRA raised \$7,228,570 through environmental handling fees and spent \$3,553,234 for the electronics stewardship program.

Household hazardous waste

- Product Care operates the Manitoba Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program and supports 26 permanent, year round municipal and private collection sites and 54 return-to-retail collection sites for paint and fluorescent lights.
- Product Care raised \$887,427 through environmental handling fees and spent \$397,327 to establish and manage the Household Hazardous Waste program.

Table EPS 2
Household Hazardous Waste Recovery

Material	Quantity Sold	Quantity Recovered	Recovery Rate
Paint (Aerosol)	869,299 units	21,525 units	2.5%
Physically Hazardous	167,670 units	4,158 units	2.5%
Paint (non-aerosol)	6,548,004 litres	308,771 litres	4.7%
Flammable Liquids (Incl. Gasoline)	1,174,744 litres	6,954 litres	0.59%
Toxics (incl. Pesticides)	423,737 litres	2,529 litres	0.6%
Corrosives	683,201 litres	1,784 litres	0.26%
Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)	108,550 units*	25,058 units	23%
Tubes	38,250 units*	49,764 units	130%

Aerosol portions of flammable liquids, toxic and corrosive products are comingled during processing and therefore excluded from the residual recovery volume. The total volume (in litres) was derived using a weight to volume conversion.

Paint aerosol and physically hazardous material categories are in units and based on average units per drum.

*Units available to be collected only.

Household batteries

- Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation of Canada (RBRCC) operates Call2Recycle, a free, return to retail program to collect and manage all single use and rechargeable batteries weighing less than five kg. Cell phones are also collected.
- The organization has 403 collection sites in Manitoba where consumers can leave spent batteries, up from 395 sites in 2013.
- Collection of all batteries increased from 59,174 kg in 2013 to 72,521 kg in 2014. Since 2011, battery collection has more than tripled.
- Consumers also recycled 2,654 cell phones in 2014. Call2Recycle works with the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (CWTA) on cell phone recycling. Approximately 200 stewards support the program.

Lead-acid batteries

- Lead-acid batteries (LABs) are collected through two programs in Manitoba – the Canadian Battery Association (CBA) and Interstate Batteries.
- CBA identified 84 collection facilities throughout Manitoba and estimates that 7,500,000 kg of Lead Acid Batteries (LABs) were sold in Manitoba in 2014. The recovery rate for LABs was slightly over 102%.
- A total of 28 dealers have established collection sites to accept scrap sealed lead acid (SLA) batteries on behalf of Interstate Batteries. In total, 2,775,000 lbs or 258,718.8 kgs of scrap lead acid batteries were recycled. Approximately 97% of all LABs manufactured are recycled to make new batteries and other products.
- Funds to support operations in both programs are raised through the sale of battery components. A core charge on purchase of new batteries is credited when a new battery is purchased and an old one is returned.

Cell phones

- The Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (CWTA) operates Recycle My Cell, a free, return to retail collection system for cell phones and chargers.
- The program recovered 23,235 devices in Manitoba, with 151,619 devices recovered since 2005. The network of collection sites expanded from 134 retail outlets in 2013 to 140 in 2014.

Mercury thermostats

- Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI) operates Switch the 'Stat, a program to collect thermostats to recover the mercury containing ampoule, even though this type of thermostat is no longer sold in Canada.
- In total, 1,075 thermostats were collected from 90 participants, up by 50% from 2013 for collections and participants

Expired medications

- The Health Products Stewardship Association (HPSA) operates the Manitoba Medications Return Program, a free, return to retail program to recover unwanted or expired prescription drugs, over the counter medications and Natural Health Products sold in oral dosage form.
- The number of collection locations increased to 317 pharmacies representing 86.8% of all licensed pharmacies in Manitoba. The program collected and managed 17,705.8 kg of medications in 2014, up from 16,885 kg in 2013.
- HPSA received contributions of \$102,191 and reported expenses of \$109,239, in 2014.

More information on regulated Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) programs is available at: <http://greenmanitoba.ca/pros/>.

Ozone Depleting Substances Program

- The Federal-Provincial Working Group (FPWG) on Ozone Depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives is responsible for implementing Canada's National Action Plan (NAP) to control, reduce and eliminate ozone depleting substances (ODS) and other halocarbons in Canada. The NAP was created to meet national and international commitments under the Montreal Protocol and approved by the CCME in 2001. Discussions to update the NAP are ongoing.
- The Branch continued to administer an Annual Appointment Agreement for the Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association (MOPIA). The Agreement allows MOPIA to undertake administrative tasks under the Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbon Regulation.
- MOPIA issued 5,305 trained service technicians' certificates and 469 secondary distributor permits. MOPIA hosted several industry program information and awareness sessions and held 11 one-day environmental awareness training sessions for Manitoba refrigeration and air conditioning service technicians. Further information on MOPIA is available at www.mopia.ca.
- Chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants continued to be phased out from use. Chillers operating on CFC refrigerants have been converted, replaced or decommissioned from use in Manitoba.

Table EPS.3
12.4(b) Environmental Programs and Strategies

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,800	22.00	1,609	191	
Other Expenditures	485		524	(39)	
Total 12.4(b)	2,285	22.00	2,133	152	

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement

The purpose of the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch is to undertake inspection activities and enforce legislation to ensure regulatory compliance, and to respond to environmental incidents and complaints to protect human health and Manitoba's environment.

Key Results Achieved:

- Inspected and monitored developments, operations and activities that may impact the environment by the release of pollutants and contamination to ensure compliance with Manitoba's environmental legislation.
- Enforced environmental legislation by ensuring compliance via: education, negotiation, investigation, warnings, orders, offense notices, and informations. The legislation includes The Environment Act, the Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act, The Contamination Sites Remediation Act, and the Ozone Depleting Substances Act and associated regulations. This includes environmental legislation and programs that address the management of contaminated sites, crop residue burning, hazardous waste, livestock manure and mortalities, municipal wastewater, onsite wastewater, petroleum storage and solid waste;
- Responded to environmental accidents and complaints in a prompt and effective manner to prevent or minimize impacts of pollutants and contaminants to the environment.

2014-2015 Key Program Outputs:

Environmental Compliance

- Enforced an Environmental Protection Order against a composting operation in the RM of Macdonald by removing odour producing compost from the operating site.
- Completed year five of a five-year plan to inspect all Municipal Wastewater Management infrastructure in the province.
- Completed an enhanced inspection blitz of licensed facilities in the Mission Industrial area.

Emergency Response

- The environmental emergency response program received over 1900 calls to the emergency response 24-hour line.
- The emergency response coordinator received approximately 200 additional non-emergency phone enquiries related to dangerous good and emergency response.
- The Emergency Response Team participated in some high level strategic exercises, such as developing an Environmental Emergency Strategy for the province and drafting an Environmental Emergency Annex to the Manitoba Emergency Plan.
- The Emergency Response Team began enhanced training for NFPA Certification, Pipeline spill response and tank car emergency response.
- Major incidents responded to include numerous sewage releases in western Manitoba due to heavy rains in June 2014, along with assisting with the provincial response to flooding resulting from the rains.

**Table EO.1
Environmental Legislation Enforcement Summary 2014/15**

Legislation	Prosecutions	Warnings	Orders	Fines(\$)
<i>Contaminated Sites Remediation Act</i>			1	
<i>The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act</i>	57		4	31,492.50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation 	2	8		673.65
<i>The Environment Act</i>	1	18	68	673.65
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter Regulation 	5	3		2,951.25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation 	11	75		3,602.95
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation 	2	88	1	6,343.65
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Disposal Grounds Regulation 	2	28		5,014.30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Regulation 		1		2,543.65
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice and Reporting Regulation 		3		
Total	80	224	74	52,621.95

**Table EO.2
Suspensions or Variations under *The Environment Act* 2014/2015**

Date	Licensee	Purpose
June 30, 2014	Koch Fertilizer Canada	Divert plant effluent to Assiniboine River
June 30, 2014	RM of Shoal Lake-Oakburn Lagoon	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	Town of Birtle	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	RM of Siglunes	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	RM of Elton	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	RM of Arthur-Melita	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	RM of Saskatchewan-Rapid City	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	RM of Miniota	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	RM of Dauphin	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
June 30, 2014	RM of Angusville	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.
January 12, 2015	Cross Lake	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window.

Table EO.3
12.4(c) Environmental Compliance and Enforcement

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,049	54.00	3,589	(540)	
Other Expenditures	1,269		1,094	175	
Total 12.4(c)	4,318	54.00	4,683	(365)	1.

1. Under expenditure in Salaries, Employee Benefits and Other Expenditures is due to vacant positions.

Environmental Approvals

The Environmental Approvals Branch is responsible to assess development proposals and to issue environmental approvals to ensure that project effects do not adversely impact human health and Manitoba's environment.

Highlights and Sustainable Development

- Managed the regulatory processes for applications for new and existing developments to ensure they were thoroughly assessed in accordance with *The Environment Act* and supporting regulations.
- Facilitated public participation in the environmental assessment processes.
- Developed licence and permit terms and conditions that regulate construction and operation activities in an environmentally sustainable manner.
- Continued to improve website information about environmental assessment, permits, and licences. Information material for some common development types was updated and additional older licences were posted. More post-licensing information is also being made available.
- The Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership's Keeyask Generation Project and the associated Manitoba Hydro Keeyask Transmission Project received Environment Act licences in 2014. Among projects licenced during the year, nearly half were for industrial projects, and most of the remaining projects were for municipal infrastructure projects in the areas of water supply and treatment, wastewater treatment, and solid waste disposal. Upgraded water or wastewater treatment facilities were also licenced for several provincial parks and Hutterian colonies.
- The Branch and Manitoba Hydro initiated a regional cumulative effects assessment of hydroelectric development in the Nelson, Burntwood and Churchill River systems, in response to earlier recommendations from the Clean Environment Commission. A Phase 1 report consisting of a compilation of available data for the assessment was completed in 2014. The assessment of the data is expected to be completed in 2015.
- The Branch solicited public input on potential revisions to *The Environment Act* in the late summer and early fall of 2014. Responses to a discussion paper were received and posted from 24 individuals, organizations and process stakeholders. Consideration of this input is ongoing.
- The recorded value of environmental liabilities for the Department was \$97.5 million as of March 31, 2015.

Key Program Outputs

A summary of the environmental approvals reviewed, processed, and issued is provide in Table EA.1 below.

**Table EA.1
Environmental Approvals Activities**

Activities	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13
<i>The Environment Act</i>			
Project proposals received	57	65	57
Licences issued	61	64	35
Project proposals refused	0	0	0
Minor alterations requests processed	56	54	48
Revision requests to Licences approved	28	17	15
Other reviews – licence not required	39	41	32
Site inspections, monitoring	138	147	133
Pesticide Use Permits Issued	214	205	233
Post Seasonal Reports received/compiled	195	194	230
Public complaints investigated	9	13	18
Incinerator Registrations processed	2	5	2
Manure Storage Permits Issued	23	39	35
Manure Storage Repair Authorizations	4	20	22
Manure Storage Facilities Registered	10	29	36
<i>The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act</i>			
Project proposals received	12	18	18
Licences issued	10	14	12
Minor alterations requests processed	3	2	5
Pre-Licensing activities	13	11	1
Site inspections, monitoring	15	16	5
<i>The Public Health Act</i>			
Applications for Certificates of Approval processed	42	53	50
Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Regulation			
Certification Examination	606	511	499
Plant Classifications Issued	32	146	432
Operators Certificates Issued	370	280	383

**Table EA.2
12.4(d) Environmental Approvals**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,764	22.00	1,899	(135)	
Other Expenditures	304		191	113	1.
Total 12.4(d)	2,068	22.00	2,090	(22)	

1. Over expenditure in Other Expenditures is due to legal costs for Bipole III and Keeyask appeals.

Climate Change Branch

The Climate Change Branch leads Manitoba's response to the economic, environmental and social impacts of climate change by coordinating policy development and programs related to the government's climate change adaptation and mitigation activities, and developing Manitoba's Green Economy Action Plan.

Key Results Achieved:

- Implemented new and existing climate change policy commitments, programs, and legislation across government departments and agencies by:
 - Coordinating the government-wide implementation of the Climate Change Emissions Reduction Act in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the province.
 - Reporting on Manitoba's progress toward implementing its climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives.
 - Developing regulations required under *The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act*, and *The Environment Act* including *The Coal and Petroleum Coke Heating Ban Regulation*.
 - Implementing Manitoba's Emissions Tax on Coal and working with partner departments to ensure that coal users have appropriate supports enabling a switch to biomass and other forms of green heat.
- Monitored and participated in strategic discussions and negotiations related to federal, provincial, territorial, regional, and international climate change policy by:
 - Participating in regional discussions on climate change policy related to climate change mitigation opportunities, and climate change adaptation.
 - Liaising with the federal government on the advancement of the national sector-by-sector greenhouse gas mitigation regulations and climate change adaptation programs and ensuring that Manitoba's interests are taken into account in the development of future regulations and programs.
 - Working with Canada's international climate change team to prepare for ongoing negotiations related to development of a new global climate change agreement.
- Lead the development of Manitoba's post-2012 response to climate change and preparing Manitoba for the impacts of climate change through the development of a provincial adaptation strategy by:
 - Working with the International Institute for Sustainable Development to undertake a series of targeted climate change and green economy consultation sessions on behalf of the Manitoba government.
 - Convening the Manitoba Government's Interdepartmental Adaptation Working Group to ensure horizontal integration of adaptation priorities across provincial departments. This will lead to a comprehensive provincial adaptation policy that effectively manages the risks facing government associated with a changing climate.
 - Collaborating with other departments toward the development of a Manitoba action plan for mitigation and adaptation.
 - Partnering with Natural Resources Canada and the Prairie Provinces through the Prairies Region Adaptation Collaborative to study the impacts of climate change in key theme areas and seek appropriate adaptive responses.
- Ensured that effective risk assessment and management practices inform the development and implementation of provincial climate change policies and programs by:
 - Commencing work on a department-wide climate change risk assessment pilot project.

- Working with the University of Winnipeg and other partners to develop down-scaled regional climate change maps for Manitoba.
- Tracked Manitoba's provincial greenhouse gas emissions inventory, quantified reductions resulting from government policies and programs, and reporting progress toward Manitoba's reduction targets by:
 - Analyzing Environment Canada's annual greenhouse gas emission inventory for Manitoba and tracking expected reductions from programs being implemented in the province.
 - Reporting on Manitoba's progress towards meeting its climate change goals, and reports progress publicly as required in *The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act*.
- Communicated Manitoba's ongoing climate change mitigation, adaptation and green economy efforts to the public, and working with externally funded organizations that undertake climate change activities on behalf of Manitoba.

Key Program Outputs

- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
- Increased sustainable economic activity.
- Enhanced capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

**Table CC.1
12.4(e) Climate Change Initiatives**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	584	6.00	481	103	1.
Other Expenditures	216		222	(6)	
Total 12.4(e)	800	6.00	703	97	

1. Over expenditure in Salaries and Employee Benefits, due to secondment of position to cover Maternity leave replacement

Strategic Policy and Coordination Branch

The Branch is responsible for the development of policy, legislation, and program alternatives for departmental and governmental priorities and major initiatives. The Branch provides a leadership role in policy development and planning support through facilitation and coordination, and ensuring consensus building and consistency with governmental and departmental vision, goals and objectives.

The Branch also provides a strategic and systematic approach for the Department to cooperate with other governments on environmental issues, and contributed to a strong role and voice in national discussions on environmental protection in Canada. The Branch represents the department on interdepartmental, provincial, national, and international agencies, boards and committees. The Branch also represents Manitoba on national forums for inter-governmental cooperation and on issues related to national and international environment and trade agreements.

The Branch administers two pieces of legislation: *The Resource Tourism Operators Act*, and *The Sustainable Development Act*. On behalf of the department and government, the Branch leads the development of the annual work plan with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

Key Results Achieved:

- Released the second edition of *Tomorrow Now – Manitoba’s Green Plan* in June 2014, following feedback on the initial version released in 2012. *Tomorrow Now* is the government’s eight-year strategic plan for protecting the environment while ensuring a prosperous and environmentally conscious economy. The plan sets out over 130 actions, led by numerous government departments around five key priorities. The new version incorporates Manitobans’ feedback, with an enhanced focus on the health of Lake Winnipeg, climate change and parks and protected areas. It also includes items that were developed to better address recent issues and opportunities facing Manitoba’s environment. The branch continues to lead on the oversight and monitoring of the implementation of *Tomorrow Now*.
- Released The Peatlands Stewardship Strategy, a priority initiative under *Tomorrow Now* which integrates and coordinates efforts to manage and protect peatlands. Public feedback was received from individual members of the public, environmental non-governmental organizations, and industry. A ‘What We Heard’ document was posted on the department’s peatlands webpage. The vision of the Strategy is for healthy, well-managed peatlands ecosystems that are able to provide valued ecological good and services, including responsible economic development opportunities. Work also continued on the regulations required under *The Peatlands Stewardship Act* which received Royal Assent in June 2014.
- Lead in the development of a comprehensive, cross-government Boreal Strategy based on the commitment made in *TomorrowNow*. The Boreal Strategy is intended to improve coordination among existing and future management efforts and initiatives across all of the North, while ensuring the sustainable development and protection of key environmental areas. The process was initiated by hosting a Boreal Summit in The Pas in February 2015. The Summit kicked off discussion by bringing together and involving 88 representatives from Aboriginal communities, industry, municipalities, academia, non-governmental organizations, and all levels of government.
- Provided support to the Minister and Deputy Minister in their official activities representing Manitoba in the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment forum (CCME). The Branch worked cooperatively with other Canadian jurisdictions and the CCME Secretariat to coordinate and advance environmental management issues across Canada. Manitoba’s CCME activities in 2014-2015 focused on the duties associated with leading the organization as president and chair and preparing to host jurisdictions at a summer meeting in Winnipeg. Branch staff continued to lead the cumulative effects work and provide support to other working groups.

- Represented Manitoba on the intergovernmental committee for the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation and the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT), and monitored trade developments with respect to environment implications of the GATT/WTO agreements and the ongoing Canada-European Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) negotiations.
- Responded to concerns regarding Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) management in Manitoba and worked interdepartmentally and with interest groups and organizations in the implementation of an ORV strategy and the development of a public consultation process for Manitoba.
- Provided secretariat support to the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development, its task groups and committees. Chaired by the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship, the Round Table is an advisory body to the provincial government, which provides advice and support to decision makers. The Branch provides logistical support to the Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards program.
- Provided secretariat and analytical support to the Licensing Advisory Committee (LAC), the Administrator of Resource Tourism and the Resource Tourism Appeal Committee (RTAC) on matters relating to the regulation of resource tourism in Manitoba, as well as providing policy support on resource tourism policies and programming. The LAC is an advisory body which makes recommendations to the Administrator of Resource Tourism on the licensing of outfitters and the permitting of their facilities for the purposes of hunting, fishing and ecotourism activities. The RTAC is the appeal body for decisions made by the LAC.
- Provided secretariat and research services to the Manitoba Water Council, a statutory body under *The Water Protection Act* that provides advice to the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship on water policies, programs, plans, and legislation needed to achieve the Department's vision, mission and priorities. The Water Council continued to assist the Department with the Surface Water Management Strategy as its public conduit for external partners by Ministerial assignment of lead to the Surface Water Advisory Team. The Water Council also put forward advice to the Minister on water efficiency strategic issues; the integration of watershed planning into local community awareness and planning; and improving communication and outreach of water initiatives.

Key Program Outputs

- The Licensing Advisory Committee held six regularly scheduled and two additional meetings. A total of 182 applications were reviewed and recommendations developed for consideration of the Administrator of Resource Tourism. Approximately 1,200 annual licenses and/or permits were issued to lodge operators and outfitters.

Legislation

The Branch coordinates legislative and regulatory activities across Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, which has administrative responsibility for 43 statutes and 134 regulations.

The following legislative and regulatory activity within Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship's administrative mandate occurred during the reporting period:

- **The Contaminated Sites Remediation Amendment Act** was proclaimed April 1, 2014.
- **The Fisheries and Wildlife Amendment Act (Restitution)** was assented to on June 12, 2014.

- **The Environment Amendment Act (Reducing Pesticide Exposure)** was assented to on June 12, 2014 and proclaimed January 1, 2015.
- **The Peatlands Stewardship and Related Amendments Act** was assented to on June 12, 2014.
- **The Coat of Arms, Emblems and the Manitoba Tartan Amendment Act (Fish, Mammal and Grass)** was assented to and proclaimed on June 12, 2014.
- **The Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park Act** was proclaimed July 15, 2014.
- New Ecological Reserves Regulation (245/2014) under **The Ecological Reserves Act**.
- New Cervid Protection Regulation (209/2014) under **The Wildlife Act**.
- New Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulation (286/2014) under **The Environment Act**.

Twenty-three amending regulations were registered during the reporting period, amending 20 existing regulations including:

- Under **The Provincial Parks Act** amendments to:
 - Parks Activities Regulation (132/2014)
 - Park Reserves Designation Regulation (238/2014)
 - Provincial Parks Designation Regulation (242/2014) and (243/2014)
- Under **The Wildlife Act** amendments to:
 - Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits Regulation (155/2014) and (224/2014)
 - General Hunting Regulation (161/2014) and (196/2014)
 - Designation of Wildlife Lands Regulation (172/2014)
 - Use of Wildlife Lands Regulation (177/2014)
 - Hunter Education Regulation (185/2014)
 - Trapping of Wild Animals Regulation (210/2014)
 - Moose Conservation Closure Regulation (211/2014)
- Under **The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act** amendments to:
 - Electrical and Electronic Equipment Stewardship Regulation (201/2014)
 - Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship Regulation (202/2014)
 - Packaging and Printed Paper Stewardship Regulation (203/2014)
 - Tire Stewardship Regulation (204/2014)
 - Used Oil, Oil Filters and Containers Stewardship Regulation (205/2014)
- An amendment to the Ecological Reserves Designation Regulation (239/2014) and repeal of Ecological Reserves Regulation (240/2014) under **The Ecological Reserves Act**.
- An amendment to the Offence Notices Regulation (244/2014) under **The Summary Convictions Act**.
- An amendment to the Provincial Snowmobile Trail Regulation (19/2015) under **The Crown Lands Act**.
- An amendment to the Pimitotah Traditional Use Planning Area Regulation (30/2015) under **The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act**.

More detail regarding the contents of the legislative and regulatory initiatives identified above may be found in those sections of this report that provide program-specific descriptions of activities undertaken during the reporting period.

**Table SP.1
12.4(f) Strategic Policy and Coordination**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,875	25.00	1,852	23	
Other Expenditures	293		257	36	
Grant Assistance	97		96	1	
Total 12.4(f)	2,265	25.00	2,205	60	

Green Manitoba and Eco Solutions

Green Manitoba was created as a Special Operating Agency (SOA) effective April 1, 2006, by merging existing elements of the Departments of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines and Conservation. In its fourth year of operations, the SOA was moved to the Department of Conservation and Water Stewardship from the Department of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines. Since its inception, Green Manitoba has functioned as a catalyst, knowledge portal and service delivery agent for government departments and a wide range of public and private sector organizations to help create a greener and cleaner Manitoba.

The mission of Green Manitoba is to promote sustainability practices by bringing together all partners (governments, business and other stakeholder organizations) and in doing so achieve more than if each had acted alone. Green Manitoba continues to serve as the access point for the public to acquire information about provincial sustainability issues and helps citizens make better sustainability decisions. Using an entrepreneurial approach focusing on innovation and cost-effective and practical solutions, Green Manitoba delivers programs, projects and products on a cost-recovery basis to foster sustainable practices related to waste reduction, greening government, and promotes and enhances sustainability education across the Province in all sectors.

As a Special Operating Agency, Green Manitoba issues its own business plan and annual report with information on its mandate, activities and results. Copies of these reports can be obtained on Green Manitoba's website: www.greenmanitoba.ca.

Table GM.1
12.4(g) Green Manitoba Eco Solutions

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Grant Assistance	0		0	0	
Total 12.4g	0		0	0	

WATER STEWARDSHIP

Administration

Staff provide the necessary direction and program coordination for the Water Stewardship Division to ensure sustainable development, safe drinking water supply and allocation and conservation of water resources by developing new policy direction and adhering to current policy and procedures. Staff oversee funding, negotiate and administer contracts, and monitor efficiency and effectiveness of program results and resources.

Table WS.1
12.5(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub- appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	376	5.00	757	(381)	
Other Expenditures	905		452	453	1.
Total 12.5(a)	1,281	5.00	1,209	72	

1. Over expenditure in Other Expenditures due to higher legal costs and Zebra Mussel clean-up program.

Water Science and Management

Administration

The Water Science and Management Branch consists of 33 scientific and technical personnel, including hydrologists, limnologists, aquatic biologists, hydrogeologists, engineers, and support staff who provide services in the following main areas:

- managing and protecting the quality and quantity of groundwater and surface water including beach water quality;
- providing hydrological scientific services to support the sustainable use of surface and groundwater, to assure the protection of people, and to minimize damage to property from floods and droughts;
- providing engineering design services to conservation districts to assist in their water management planning and water infrastructure work;
- protecting the biological and ecosystem health of Manitoba's water systems;
- managing transboundary water issues that may have potential to affect the quality or quantity of waters that flow to Manitoba from upstream jurisdictions; and
- developing and implementing programs aimed at restoring the health of Lake Winnipeg.

The Branch is organized into three sections: The Groundwater Management Section, Surface Water Management Section, and Water Quality Management Section. Services are provided to the public, local governments, other units within the department, other Manitoba provincial government departments, and other provincial, federal, and international governments. The Water Science and Management Branch delivers strong, scientifically-based programs to ensure Manitoba's water resources and environment are managed and protected in a sound and sustainable manner, including the protection of human health and property.

The Branch is represented on numerous inter-departmental, provincial, national, and international boards and committees including the following:

- International Joint Commission's International Red River Basin Board and two of its Committees, Water Quality (co-chair) and Hydrology (co-chair)
- International Joint Commission's International Souris River Basin Board and its Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Hydrology Committees
- International Joint Commission's International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board
- Prairie Provinces Water Board – Hydrology, Water Quality and Groundwater Committees
- Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment – Water Management Committee
- Canada-Manitoba Memorandum of Understanding on Lake Winnipeg – Steering Committee
- Red River Basin Commission Board of Directors
- Lake Friendly Stewards Alliance Steering Committee
- Manitoba Drought Assessment Committee

The Branch provides technical and scientific support to a variety of audiences including other government agencies, conservation districts, the public, stakeholders, etc. and responds to thousands of telephone and written requests for information and advice from the private and public sectors.

The Branch provides ongoing technical input to and/or review of Environment Act proposals, development plans and subdivision proposals, zoning bylaws, Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation applications, Mining Exploration Borehole applications, pipeline developments, Drinking Water and Wastewater Plans, and Livestock Site Assessment applications.

Groundwater Management

The Groundwater Management Section is responsible for evaluating, monitoring, and protecting the province's groundwater resources. Major activities include: administering *The Ground Water and Water Well Act*; undertaking studies to map the occurrence and quality of groundwater; monitoring groundwater

quality and water levels and storing this information in databases; evaluating the sustainable development capacity of aquifers; and carrying out studies to assess the potential for water quality impacts from various human activities.

Key Results Achieved:

- Through participation on watershed and aquifer management programs and through support for regional water well surveys being undertaken by conservation districts, the public, and other government agencies have become more informed of groundwater conditions in many parts of the province and homeowners have been made aware of the water quality from their well and individual responsibilities for well maintenance.
- Groundwater information was compiled and summarized in several parts of the province to support integrated watershed or aquifer management plans. Reviews and updates were made to the Swan Lake, Cooks-Devil's Creek, Carrot-Saskatchewan River, and Central Assiniboine and Lower Souris River integrated watershed management plans.
- Staff from the Section continued their participation in the implementation of aquifer management plans for the Oak Lake, Assiniboine Delta and Winkler aquifers. Updates were completed and a presentation was made to the Winkler Aquifer Management Board on the Winkler three dimensional geological model developed by the section and shallow groundwater monitoring in the groundwater recharge area of the aquifer.
- Information on aquifer properties and water quality continued to be collected for the re-evaluation of the Assiniboine Delta aquifer including conducting pumping tests on monitoring wells and analyses of pumping test results.
- Field work including groundwater and stream flow monitoring continued in south eastern Manitoba in the general vicinity of the Pocock Lake Ecological Reserve and the Sandilands Provincial Forest. The work is being undertaken to improve the understanding of local groundwater conditions, interaction of shallow groundwater and surface water and responses of wetlands to wet and dry weather cycles and changing groundwater levels.
- A monitoring program has been established near Woodlands and Kleefeld to study groundwater levels and groundwater chemistry at sites of the endangered orchid, *Cypripedium candidum*. Groundwater monitoring indicates a locally high water table where the endangered species grows and evidence of focused groundwater discharge along the margins of shallow sand aquifers. Water quality sampling shows sulphate deficiency. Identification of site characteristics may help to locate previously unidentified growing sites and to protect known sites.
- Work continued on the compilation of hydrogeological information, mapping of aquifers and development of a three dimensional geological model for the Brandon – Turtle Mountain region. The geological model builds upon previous activities in the area including drilling programs and geophysical surveys.
- Progress continues on the development of supporting regulations for the new *Groundwater and Water Well Act* including consultation with stakeholders. The regulations are part of the eight point groundwater strategy to protect aquifers and groundwater.
- The Department continues to promote its Well Aware booklet that contains information for Manitoba well owners on groundwater and well basics, well construction and maintenance, well sealing, water testing and treatment options. The booklet is available in both official languages on the government website (http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/groundwater/well_aware.html). Hardcopies of the booklets are distributed through the Groundwater Management Section, the Office of Drinking Water, and Conservation Districts. Well drillers are also providing copies to owners of new water wells. The Well Aware booklet is part of Manitoba's eight point strategy to protect aquifers and groundwater.

- Technical support was provided on matters related to well water quality including TCE (Trichloroethylene) in groundwater in the Rockwood Sensitive Area and benzene in groundwater near the community of Birds Hill.
- Technical support was also provided to the Office of Drinking Water for GUDI (groundwater under the direct influence of surface water) screening of public/semi-public well water systems and to six conservation districts for private well inventory and sampling programs in which bacterial analyses were completed on 1,070 private water wells.
- In cooperation with the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch, ensured that wells drilled within the Rockwood Sensitive area were permitted as required under the Rockwood Sensitive Area Regulation.

Key Program Outputs:

- Twenty-three companies were licensed under *The Ground Water and Water Well Act* to drill water wells in Manitoba. The Well Drilling Liaison Officer provided regular communication between the well drilling industry, Manitoba homeowners and other government branches and departments. The officer also investigated a number of complaints including flowing wells and otherwise nuisance wells. In addition, the officer provided support to other areas of the department in their groundwater investigations.
- The groundwater monitoring network continued operation. The network consists of approximately 800 monitoring sites located on major and minor aquifers of which about 600 sites are equipped with water level recorders capable of continuous water level recording. Groundwater quality representative of aquifer conditions was sampled at 44 select monitoring wells throughout the province.
- Over 4,100 well reports were reviewed and examined and then updated or added to the GWDrill database including approximately 1,400 newly drilled wells. Approximately 437 groundwater chemistry analyses were also entered into the database and 230 sealed well reports were updated or added. Daily water level information that was collected from the observation well network was also entered in the Hydata database.
- Copies of the water well log data base that were used in environmental site assessment and site selection were provided to more than 24 industry or consulting companies.
- Groundwater level information was supplied to consultants, industry, municipal officials and private individuals upon request. Information on expected groundwater conditions and water well construction at specific locations was provided to water well drillers and the public upon request.

Surface Water Management

The Surface Water Management Section provides hydrological and other scientific services to monitor drought and water supply conditions, study climate change effects on water resources, support integrated watershed management planning and the sustainable use of surface water, and support the protection of people, property and the environment from floods and droughts. The Section also supports activities related to conservation districts' surface water management planning and the engineering design of their water infrastructure work. Finally, the Section plays a lead role in Manitoba's management of transboundary water quantity issues through its work on inter-jurisdictional water issues and opportunities.

Key Results Achieved:

- Ensured that consistent hydrological standards were developed, maintained and applied across Manitoba.

- Provided expert hydrology, water resource engineering and associated mapping support to other areas of the department.
- Produced regular water availability and drought conditions reports for Manitoba through analysis of precipitation, streamflow, groundwater, lake levels, water supply reservoir and on-farm water supply conditions.
- Continued the development of precipitation, streamflow and groundwater indicators to monitor drought conditions in Manitoba.
- Provided information to the North American Drought Monitor, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for updating the monthly Regional Drought Map.
- Investigated and reported on inter-jurisdictional, inter-provincial and international water issues and opportunities, such as surface water management and the equitable sharing of water, through participation on various committees and task forces.
- Represented Manitoba on the International Joint Commission's Lower Pembina River Task Force to identify and oversee overall technical work related to finding a scientific solution to flooding within the Lower Pembina River Basin;
- Participated on the Red River Basin Commission Water Supply Working Group which is developing an inter-jurisdictional drought preparedness, water conservation and communication strategy for the Red River Basin.
- Provided technical and engineering input, advice, planning assistance, assessments and information for integrated watershed management plans and surface water management plans being developed by watershed planning authorities. Similar technical and engineering services were provided to conservation districts for a variety of water management problems and water infrastructure proposals, as well as for the capital works program planning process in conservation districts that manage large, trunk drainage waterway infrastructure.
- Provided technical support and direction for the 2014 flood including expert advice on the operation of Red River Floodway, Portage Diversion and Shellmouth Dam.
- Provided expert technical support/advice to the department's climate change studies.
- Conducted research into long term water supply in the Boyne River Watershed under climate change conditions, including development of a hydrologic model of the Boyne River Watershed and analysis and application of Regional Climate Model data.
- Participated in hydrometric/meteorologic program planning activities.
- Maintained databases containing historical streamflow and water level information.

Key Program Outputs:

- Produced six Water Availability and Drought Conditions reports in 2014/15 through the analysis of drought indicators and other data including Environment Canada's seasonal forecast. More information is available on the Conservation and Water Stewardship website at: www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/water_info/hydrology/drought.html.

- Developed discharges for the design of waterways and waterway openings to accommodate passage of fish for infrastructure planning, design and environmental approvals. Input was provided to 17 sites. Completed low flow analysis for evaluating wastewater minimum flows for five locations.
- Input and advice was provided on the sustainable supply of water available for allocation and for instream flows under *The Water Rights Act*. Hydrological analysis or provision of input was provided for nine assessments in 2014/15.
- Provided technical and engineering input, advice, planning assistance, assessments and information for integrated watershed management plans and surface water management plans developed by watershed planning authorities. Eleven peak flow reduction storage analysis projects were completed for watershed management plans.
- Provided technical and engineering services to conservation districts for a variety of water management problems and water infrastructure proposals. The section provided engineering services of varying degrees for 25 conservation district projects.
- Provided the engineering design along with technical input, advice and planning assistance for the Pelly's Lake Water Retention Project.
- Responded to dozens of hydrologic data analysis/interpretation requests.

Water Quality Management

The Water Quality Management Section provides services in support of the Department's mission by protecting, maintaining, and where necessary, rehabilitating the quality of Manitoba's aquatic ecosystems. This is achieved through a number of activities including operating and maintaining long-term and short-term water quality programs, managing and providing water quality data to various client groups, responding in a timely manner to emergencies and emerging water quality issues, and developing policy to further protect and enhance Manitoba's surface water quality.

Key Results Achieved:

- Worked to engage signatories and others in the Lake Friendly Accord with the goal of improving water quality by reducing nutrients through the engagement of all. Key signatories in 2014/15 included the Red River Basin Commission, the State of Minnesota and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation. More information is available at www.manitoba.ca/lakefriendlyaccord.
- Provided support to the Lake Friendly Stewards Alliance under the Accord including facilitating information sharing; enhancing collaboration and coordination; improving reporting and accountability; increasing efficiencies and technology transfer; and enhancing stewardship and economic opportunities. Alliance membership grew to 64 different agencies by the end of 2014/15.
- Collaborated with upstream jurisdictions to develop and implement nutrient management strategies to reduce nutrient loading to the one million square kilometer Lake Winnipeg watershed. About 50 per cent of the nutrient load to Lake Winnipeg comes from upstream jurisdictions so efforts to reduce nutrients and improve water quality require cooperation.
- Work continued to reduce nutrient contributions to Lake Winnipeg and its watershed within Manitoba including implementing the *Canada-Manitoba Memorandum of Understanding Respecting Lake Winnipeg and the Lake Winnipeg Basin* to facilitate a cooperative and coordinated approach to understand and protect the water quality and ecological health of Lake Winnipeg and the Lake Winnipeg Basin.

- Regular monitoring of water chemistry and benthic invertebrates from numerous Manitoba streams, rivers, and lakes was conducted. Data is used to establish long-term trends in water quality and to quantify general water quality conditions such as with the Water Quality Index. Benthic invertebrate data are used along with water chemistry to further assess the aquatic health of Manitoba's streams and rivers.
- Monitoring of recreational water quality was conducted at beaches across the province and timely results were provided to the public through the Department web site and posting of advisory signs. Bathing water at approximately 60 Manitoba beaches is monitored each year for densities of the fecal indicator bacteria, *Escherichia coli*. Algal blooms are also monitored for concentrations of toxic algae. Incidents of swimmer's itch and subsequent beach posting are coordinated by the Section.
- Routine monitoring of physical, chemical and biological conditions on Lake Winnipeg from the *MV Namoo* continued in cooperation with the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium and others. Three scientific cruises on Lake Winnipeg were completed in 2014.
- Ongoing, high quality laboratory analytical services were acquired for the Departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship, Health and Healthy Living, and Agriculture, Food and Rural Development including ensuring on-going communication and collaboration with contracted analytical laboratories. A new three year contract for chemical and microbiological work was signed in 2014/15.
- Worked with wastewater treatment facility owners to implement the Water Quality Standards for Nutrients in wastewater including reviewing phosphorus compliance plans required under the Regulation. More information is available at http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/water_quality/quality/website_notice_mwqsog_2011.html.
- Worked with golf courses, municipalities and the agricultural sector to implement the *Nutrient Management Regulation* under *The Water Protection Act* (C.C.C. M. c. W65). This regulation encourages responsible nutrient planning, regulates the application to land of substances containing nitrogen and phosphorus, and restricts the development of certain types of nutrient generating facilities in sensitive areas. More information is available at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/wqmz/index.html>.
- Provided technical comments to the Bureau of Reclamation on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement for the proposed Northwest Area Water Supply Project (NAWS). NAWS would be the first-ever US Federal project to artificially connect the Missouri River Basin, which drains south to the Gulf of Mexico, to the Hudson Bay Basin, which drains north to Hudson Bay. The Project could move significant quantities of water from the Missouri River Basin to the Hudson Bay Basin. In so doing, it would threaten to introduce non-native and potentially destructive organisms into the Hudson Bay watershed and thus, into the Manitoban and Canadian environment.

Key Program Outputs:

Water quality was monitored at 67 long-term stations across Manitoba during 2014/15. The Section worked in collaboration with Conservation Districts, Environment Canada, the University of Manitoba, and Manitoba Hydro in collecting water quality samples at some sites. Water quality on Lake Winnipeg was monitored at 64 stations in collaboration with the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium. Benthic invertebrates were monitored at 2 sites across Manitoba.

Approximately 60 Manitoba beaches were monitored during the summer of 2014. Approximately 35 water samples were collected for analysis of algal toxins and the enumeration of cyanobacteria densities to assess the risk to bather health.

One hundred and seven Nutrient Management Plans were registered for golf courses across Manitoba.

Data, interpretation, and water quality recommendations concerning improvements to surface water quality were made through the Integrated Watershed Management Planning Process. The Section worked closely with conservation districts to deliver land-based programming aimed at reducing impacts to water quality.

Table WS.2
12.5(b) Water Science and Management

Expenditures by Sub- appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,632	35.00	2,727	(95)	
Other Expenditures	835		863	(28)	
Total 12,5(b)	3,467	35.00	3,590	(123)	

Fisheries

Fisheries Branch oversees the sustainable development of fisheries resources. Management programs are developed to provide the greatest benefits to Manitobans by maintaining or enhancing populations and habitat, monitoring harvest and habitat alterations and allocating resources for best return. The Branch directs and reports on programs and budgets, legislation and policy, standards and guidelines, and coordination and monitoring corporately as well as in all regions of the Province.

The objectives of the Branch are to direct effective branch operations through appropriate allocation of staff and budget by identifying management priorities and programs consistent with government policy, and to develop and interpret branch policies to ensure consistency with sustainable development principles and guidelines.

Detailed information about fisheries activities can be found at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/fish/index.html>.

Information includes data on:

- Distribution of Fish Stocked from Fish Hatcheries;
- Licensed Fishers Employed in Manitoba Commercial Fishery;
- Commercial Fishing Production (Round Weight kg), Total Value and Employment;
- Commercial Fishing Production (Round Weight kg) by Area and Total Value by Species,
- Angling Licence Sales and Revenue;
- Bait Fishing Industry Statistics; and
- Manitoba Fish Farming Statistics.

Key Results Achieved:

Review of fisheries governance continued to assure contemporary approaches to partnering and collaboration on management activities with key interest groups.

Regulatory variances were prepared as required to address season opening and closing dates and quota adjustments for sustainability purposes.

The Branch provided input to policy development in key areas, particularly sustainable fishing eco-certification.

Integrated planning continued by involving user groups such as The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund - Fisheries Enhancement Subcommittee in Branch planning exercises. This process contributed to the key principle of user group involvement in developing fish management strategies.

The Branch participated in the Inter-jurisdictional Working Group, Aquatic Invasive Species Task Group and Species at Risk Task Group reporting to the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers and the Freshwater Fisheries Committee.

The Branch participated in the Red River Basin Commission technical workshops with respect to aquatic invasive species.

The Branch participated in International Red River Board instream flow governance and technical work.

Conservation and Water Stewardship and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans continued work in areas of mutual interest through the *Canada-Manitoba Fisheries Advisory Committee*.

Fisheries Science and Fish Culture

The Section undertakes efforts to protect, conserve, evaluate, restore and enhance both fish communities and aquatic ecosystems to achieve a net gain in healthy, productive fish stocks. The objectives of the section are to coordinate, evaluate and develop science-based programs that support the sustainability of aquatic ecosystems and protect, enhance, restore and develop fish habitat to sustain fish resources and the benefits that they provide Manitoba. The Fisheries Science group is responsible for evaluating: the impact of all project development in Manitoba on its fisheries resources; fish health and disease issues; fish transfers and movement; in-stream flow needs; assessment and management of aquatic Invasive species; assessment and management of species at risk; fish stock assessments and methodology developments. The fish culture program rears and distributes fish for recreational, commercial and conservations stocking needs throughout the province. The program operates the Whiteshell fish hatchery year-round and seasonal facilities at Swan Creek and Clearwater Lake.

Key Results Achieved:

The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program greatly expanded its Watercraft Inspection program. An increased number of watercraft inspectors were out on the landscape as well as five decontamination units that rotated around the province to high traffic boating areas. The program began in mid-May and ended October 31. During the 2014 open water season, over 2,800 watercraft were inspected and of those 136 were decontaminated.

Monitoring of water-based infrastructure including navigational buoys and docks, for zebra mussels was conducted in the south basin and channel of Lake Winnipeg.

Monthly water samples were collected from the Red River at Emerson to check for zebra mussel veligers.

The Zebra Mussel Science Advisory Committee recommended Manitoba consider treatment options in an attempt to apply downward pressure on the zebra mussel population and reduce the spread of zebra mussels from these harbours. As a result, four harbours in the South Basin of Lake Winnipeg were treated with potash between May and June 2014. While the treatment within the harbours was considered a success subsequent sampling results showed zebra mussels had established in the open water of the south basin.

In 2014, 128 samples were collected from the *MV Namao* during the spring and fall cruise to monitor the spread of zebra mussels veligers and spiny waterflea.

Worked with colleagues in the Fisheries Branch, the Department, the University of Manitoba, and Fisheries and Oceans to model response of walleye fishery to changes in total phosphorus concentrations in Lake Winnipeg.

Contributed to technical report regarding developing nutrient targets for Lake Winnipeg.

In partnership with the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, continued monitoring of the offshore fish community of Lake Winnipeg from the *MV Namao*.

In collaboration with Environment Canada and colleagues from the Department, continued work on fish indicators of aquatic ecosystem health as a part of Federal-Provincial Lake Winnipeg State of the Lake Indicators.

Updated walleye stock assessment information for the Dauphin Lake Fishery Status of Walleye Stock and Conservation Measures report.

Over 9,000 fish were aged to support regional fisheries programs.

Developed a management and regulatory framework for monitoring the construction activity and post-construction aquatic effects monitoring for the Manitoba Hydro Keeyask Generating Station project.

Forty eight scientific collection, 39 live fish handling and three salmonid interprovincial fish movement permits were issued.

Undertook significant infrastructure renovations to Whiteshell fish hatchery

Produced and distributed over 40 million walleye fry and 495,000 salmonids for fisheries enhancement activities.

Recreational and Commercial Fisheries Management

The Section develops, administers, and evaluates management programs and policies for recreational, commercial, and domestic use, including commercial bait fishing and fish farming. It also manages the Fisheries Enhancement Fund and Northern Fishermen's Freight Assistance Programs, distribution and reconciliation of commercial fishing licenses and fish production information. The objective of the Section is to ensure management programs are delivered in an integrated manner that ensures sustainability of the resource and maximizes benefits from its use.

Key Results Achieved:

As of June, 2014, the Waterhen Lake Walleye and Northern Pike Commercial Gillnet Fishery successfully completed the full assessment process under the MSC program and been certified with the right to claim that it is a "*well managed and sustainable fishery*" in accordance with the MSC's Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing. Achieving eco-certification under the MSC program represents a significant accomplishment in the area of fishery sustainability not only at a provincial level, but also at a national and international level because:

- Efforts continued towards seeking full eco-certification of Manitoba's remaining commercial freshwater fisheries through undertaking discussions and planning sessions between departmental officials and interested commercial fisheries including Moose Lake, Cedar Lake, Swan Lake and Red Deer Lake.
- As part of government's obligation to consult with First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal communities in matters related to constitutionally protected Treaty and Aboriginal rights, the Branch participated in Crown-Aboriginal consultations on conservation measures being considered for Dauphin Lake and its tributaries.
- Continued work with the *Lake Winnipeg Fishery Co-Management Board* that provides fishers with an opportunity for consultative co-management. The department co-chairs the Board and provides Secretariat services.
- Extended the Whitefish Optimization Quota Allocation program on Lake Winnipeg for another year to reduce fish waste and provide economic opportunities to fishers by encouraging lake whitefish deliveries.
- Continued to coordinate Winnipeg's Urban Angling Partnership, which offers residents and visitors recreational angling opportunities through structured angling programs including: Winnipeg Fish Festival, Fish Winnipeg Challenge, Learn to Fish Clinics, Youth Angling Camps and Fall Fishing Derby.
- Supported the Youth Angling Card initiative and Gear Up - Tackling the Future programs.

- Launched a public initiative to nominate Manitoba's Official Provincial Fish through a web-based system that resulted in the selection of the walleye as the Provincial Fish.

Northern Fisherman's Freight Assistance

The Northern Fishermen's Freight Assistance program assists marginal commercial operations by partial subsidization of transport of eligible species from selected lakes to Winnipeg. Fishers pay the first 20¢/kg of freight, Manitoba pays the next 45¢/kg, and fishers pay any costs over 65¢/kg. Eligible species are lake whitefish, northern pike, lake trout, yellow perch, goldeye, cisco and several species of sucker. Subsidy payments to fishers are issued weekly by Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation on behalf of Manitoba.

Key Results Achieved:

The program paid approximately \$280,000 to 249 fishers for the 2014 summer season. Payments to 47 fishers for the winter season were approximately \$130,000.

**Table FI.1
Licensed Fishers Employed in Manitoba Commercial Fishery, 2013/14**

	Northern Lakes	Lake Winnipeg	Lake Manitoba	Lake Wpgosis	Other Lakes	Total*
Annual Licence Holders	419	816	302	168	200	1905

Note: Those who fish in more than one area or season, or who fish both as hired persons and licence holders, are counted only once in the appropriate total column. Commercial fishing licenses are issued on a fiscal year basis (April 1st - March 31st). Commercial fishing statistics for 2014/15 were not available in time to be included in this report. They will appear in the annual report for the next fiscal year.

*Annually, licensed commercial fishers hire approximately 1,000 hired men/helpers.

**Table FI.2
Commercial Fishing Production (Round Weight kg), Total Value and Employment (Licensed Fishers) 2000/01 to 2013/14**

Year	Northern Lakes		Lake Winnipeg		Lake Manitoba	
	Weight (kg)	\$ Value	Weight (kg)	\$ Value	Weight (kg)	\$ Value
2000-01	3,318,650	5,608,800	6,217,850	20,386,750	2,342,400	2,847,050
2001-02	3,188,100	5,341,850	6,237,950	20,380,350	2,115,750	3,797,100
2002-03	3,260,350	5,750,000	6,204,150	20,894,400	2,286,850	2,877,650
2003-04	3,025,250	4,883,100	6,543,300	17,030,250	1,995,650	1,992,400
2004-05	2,813,900	4,299,400	6,380,100	16,724,900	1,362,650	1,046,900
2005-06	2,231,600	3,135,350	6,397,500	16,736,250	1,074,000	1,201,500
2006-07	2,294,400	3,900,400	6,355,550	17,707,500	1,211,950	1,575,500
2007-08	2,140,916	3,013,438	6,201,620	17,797,541	935,164	1,261,735
2008-09	1,891,950	2,926,796	6,818,695	19,623,797	928,023	1,473,616
2009-10	1,852,977	2,504,732	6,763,585	18,640,267	795,132	1,355,354
2010-11	1,744,326	2,269,535	6,379,666	15,792,411	395,319	769,116
2011-12	1,369,135	1,902,879	6,294,268	16,934,883	923,278	1,917,100

2012-13	1,826,954	2,563,324	6,160,483	16,266,979	539,974	771,167
2013-14	1,538,380	2,001,320	6,584,352	15,714,994	879,382	895,484

Year	Lake Winnipegosis		Other Lakes		Manitoba Total	
	Weight (kg)	\$ Value	Weight (kg)	\$ Value	Weight (kg)	\$ Value
2000-01	2,753,550	2,004,200	892,250	1,131,450	15,524,700	31,978,250
2001-02	2,577,000	1,846,600	702,400	917,200	14,821,200	32,283,100
2002-03	2,681,150	1,416,400	661,250	827,800	15,093,750	31,766,250
2003-04	2,221,550	1,111,300	1,171,200	1,832,850	14,956,950	26,849,900
2004-05	1,079,350	842,000	1,113,800	1,826,650	12,749,800	24,739,850
2005-06	1,343,600	854,000	1,016,600	1,852,500	12,063,300	23,779,600
2006-07	1,228,900	916,500	1,110,450	1,879,400	12,201,250	25,979,300
2007-08	1,143,477	799,159	722,618	821,282	11,143,795	23,693,155
2008-09	1,451,871	1,285,677	1,039,638	1,428,048	12,130,177	26,737,934
2009-10	1,299,150	983,968	1,088,249	1,686,030	11,799,093	25,170,351
2010-11	794,838	814,564	1,009,939	1,494,951	10,324,096	21,140,584
2011-12	1,165,329	1,094,160	948,055	1,559,516	10,700,067	23,408,538
2012-13	994,314	1,130,288	1,002,454	1,579,164	10,524,179	22,310,922
2013-14	1,417,850	1,487,128	967,509	1,555,912	11,387,473	21,654,837

Note: Total value includes both Initial Value and Final Payment. Commercial fishing statistics prior to 2007/08 were based on a fiscal year (April 1st - March 31st). Statistics from 2007/08 on are based on a "fishing year" (May 1st - April 30th). Statistics for 2014/15 were not available in time to be included in this report. They will appear in the annual report for the next fiscal year.

*Annually, licensed commercial fishers hire approximately 1,000 hired men/helpers.

Table FI.3

Commercial Fishing Production (Round Weight kg) by Area and Total Value by Species, 2012/13

SPECIES	NORTHERN LAKES		WINNIPEG LAKE		MANITOBA LAKE		WINNIPEGOSIS LAKE	
	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER
BASS	0.00	0.00	9,408.95	10,893.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CARP	445.89	116.90	662.90	7,815.27	29,008.23	137,541.03	4,988.79	35,381.12
CARP ROE	0.00	0.00	7.21	687.00	31.50	19,479.90	0.00	5,293.60
CARP MILT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.00	0.00	0.00
CARP MAW	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.00	0.00	0.00
CATFISH	0.00	0.00	1,552.00	322.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CISCO	50,479.31	3,721.15	19,478.03	10,662.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CISCO ROE	1,631.20	0.00	184.50	307.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FRESHWATER DRUM	0.00	0.00	3,190.40	3,927.37	0.00	3.41	0.00	0.00
GOLDEYE	650.32	1,111.11	17,993.53	1,571.88	0.00	6.05	0.44	0.33
LAKE WHITEFISH	292,840.85	12,091.19	1,023,508.24	312,132.93	0.00	17,813.58	27,388.28	22,962.16
LAKE WHITEFISH ROE	5,045.65	0.00	20,818.58	234.20	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00
NORTHERN PIKE	336,348.35	100,472.35	153,818.54	27,049.94	6,742.50	299,681.66	58,321.95	413,892.30
NORTHERN PIKE ROE	0.00	4,190.80	0.00	592.40	0.00	2,012.30	0.00	17,155.75
NORTHERN PIKE HEADS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,126.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
SAUGER	2,913.68	15.91	132,595.25	180,730.90	0.00	994.10	0.00	5.00
SAUGER ROE	0.00	0.00	0.00	106.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUCKER	273,328.05	27,022.35	135,035.10	4,679.80	22,288.50	162,897.20	159,322.20	323,665.20
SUCKER ROE	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.80	0.00	128.40	0.00	0.00
SUCKER HEADS	44,846.00	7,120.00	22,999.20	673.90	8,131.80	29,515.90	30,357.30	95,100.50
TROUT	48,079.50	0.00	0.00	33.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
WALLEYE	315,112.92	10,452.87	3,914,835.37	542,554.51	0.00	123,571.31	154,400.68	69,259.76
WALLEYE ROE	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,369.11	0.00	129.00	0.00	33.20
YELLOW PERCH	99.10	244.60	16,062.87	5,847.35	0.00	16,179.80	68.10	223.50
Total	1,371,820.81	166,559.23	5,472,150.86	1,112,201.16	69,329.33	810,052.64	434,877.74	982,972.41

SPECIES	OTHER LAKES		TOTAL PRODUCTION			VALUE		
	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	TOTAL	SUMMER	WINTER	TOTAL
BASS	0.00	4.40	9,408.95	10,897.75	20,306.70	4,604.71	6,440.76	11,045.47
CARP	0.00	6,423.32	35,105.81	187,277.64	222,383.45	12,516.09	75,251.51	87,767.60
CARP ROE	0.00	762.20	38.71	26,222.70	26,261.41	82.43	49,902.46	49,984.89
CARP MILT	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.00	58.00	0.00	283.90	283.90
CARP MAW	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.00	41.00	0.00	200.70	200.70
CATFISH	0.00	0.00	1,552.00	322.00	1,874.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CISCO	3.60	317.27	69,960.94	14,700.59	84,661.53	70,234.45	12,419.12	82,653.57
CISCO ROE	0.00	0.00	1,815.70	307.80	2,123.50	17,985.63	3,056.34	21,041.97
FRESHWATER DRUM	0.00	0.00	3,190.40	3,930.78	7,121.18	356.45	251.71	608.16
GOLDEYE	2.64	7.15	18,646.93	2,696.52	21,343.45	30,111.90	5,200.98	35,312.88
LAKE WHITEFISH	42,338.43	91,549.00	1,386,075.80	456,548.86	1,842,624.65	2,256,686.69	906,694.06	3,163,380.75
LAKE WHITEFISH ROE	1,269.00	124.60	27,163.23	358.80	27,522.03	151,982.68	2,060.28	154,042.96
NORTHERN PIKE	90,478.05	148,226.82	645,709.39	989,323.06	1,635,032.45	424,177.46	632,647.51	1,056,824.97
NORTHERN PIKE ROE	0.00	4,792.60	0.00	28,743.85	28,744.05	0.00	198,152.91	198,152.91
NORTHERN PIKE HEADS	0.00	0.00	3,126.80	0.00	3,126.80	1,063.12	0.00	1,063.12
SAUGER	13.86	41.77	135,522.79	181,787.68	317,310.47	326,650.76	491,180.97	817,831.73
SAUGER ROE	0.00	0.00	0.00	106.50	106.50	0.00	530.08	530.08
SUCKER	100,221.15	105,717.80	690,195.00	623,982.35	1,314,177.35	313,312.92	288,309.35	601,622.27
SUCKER ROE	0.00	504.90	0.00	643.10	643.10	0.00	3,160.66	3,160.66
SUCKER HEADS	7,695.70	29,439.70	114,030.00	161,850.00	275,880.00	36,544.37	54,656.37	91,200.74
TROUT	0.00	0.00	48,079.50	33.00	48,112.50	34,063.50	20.24	34,083.74
WALLEYE	188,029.47	131,627.98	4,572,378.44	877,466.44	5,449,844.87	12,557,627.55	2,519,524.07	15,077,151.62
WALLEYE ROE	0.00	62.70	0.00	1,594.01	1,594.01	0.00	8,483.60	8,483.60
YELLOW PERCH	1.50	17,853.25	16,231.57	40,348.50	56,580.07	29,147.80	129,260.94	158,408.74
Total	430,053.40	537,455.47	7,778,231.95	3,609,240.91	11,387,473.06	16,267,148.51	5,387,688.52	21,654,837.03

**Table FI.4
Angling Licence Sales and Revenue 1997/98 to 2013/14**

Year	Resident/Manitoba – Senior Conservation			Total: Resident of Manitoba Senior	
	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$
1997/98	7,878	5.61	36,615.58	7,878	36,615.58
1998/99	8,700	5.61	40,315.00	8,700	40,315.00
1999/00	8,935	5.61	41,411.35	8,935	41,411.35
2000/01	8,532	5.61	39,537.52	8,532	39,537.52
2001/02	8,621	5.61	39,940.81	8,621	39,940.81
2002/03	8,341	5.61	38,657.01	8,341	38,657.01
2003/04	12,256	0	(9,593.98)	12,256	(9,593.98)
2004/05	12,530	0	(12,050.00)	12,530	(12,050.00)
2005/06	12,977	0	(12,491.00)	12,977	(12,491.00)
2006/07	13,923	0	(13,394.00)	13,923	(13,394.00)
2007/08	13,978	0	(13,518.00)	13,978	(13,518.00)
2008/09	14,585	0	(14,069.00)	14,585	(14,069.00)
2009/10	15,139	0	(14,579.00)	15,139	(14,579.00)
2010/11	15,353	0	(14,812.00)	15,353	(14,812.00)
2011/12	15,602	0	(15,044.00)	15,602	(15,044.00)
2012/13	16,901	0	(16,258.00)	16,901	(16,258.00)
2013/14	17,232	0	(16,533.00)	17,232	(16,533.00)

Year	Resident of Manitoba- Regular			Resident of Manitoba- Conservation			Total: Resident of Manitoba (includes Sr. licenses above)	
	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$
2004/05	44,885	15.89	669,173.65	73,934	10.28	686,978.52	131,349	1,344,102.17
2005/06	44,851	15.89	668,658.39	71,155	10.28	661,127.40	128,983	1,317,294.79
2006/07	46,810	15.89	697,872.90	74,851	10.28	695,393.28	135,584	1,379,872.18
2007/08	48,997	15.89	730,453.33	71,741	10.28	666,559.48	134,716	1,383,494.81
2008/09	50,196	18.89	898,899.44	72,379	13.28	889,604.12	137,160	1,774,434.56
2009/10	51,983	18.89	930,843.87	74,239	13.28	912,479.92	141,361	1,828,744.79
2010/11	53,284	18.89	954,034.76	72,225	13.28	887,663.00	140,862	1,826,885.76
2011/12	53,861	18.89	964,501.29	71,228	13.28	875,436.84	140,691	1,824,894.13
2012/13	58,406	18.89	1,045,817.34	77,014	13.28	946,675.92	152,321	1,976,235.26
2013/14	53,102	23.89	1,216,961.80	73,095	18.28	1,264,642.55	143,429	2,465,071.35

Year	Resident of Canada-Regular*			Resident of Canada-Conservation*			Total: Resident of Canada*	
	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$
1993/94	58,833	12.50	706,624.50	73,227	7.50	512,963.00	132,060	1,219,587.50
1994/95	57,783	12.50	694,044.00	77,716	7.50	544,498.00	135,499	1,238,542.00
1995/96	55,235	12.50	663,355.00	76,844	7.50	538,289.00	132,079	1,201,644.00
1996/97	52,158	12.50	626,742.00	75,081	7.50	526,422.50	127,239	1,153,164.50
1997/98	51,859	14.02	676,760.18	73,603	8.41	546,849.23	125,462	1,223,609.41
1998/99	57,381	14.02	748,238.62	84,000	8.41	623,386.00	141,381	1,371,624.62
1999/00	57,567	14.02	750,690.37	84,938	8.41	630,356.58	142,505	1,381,046.92
2000/01	56,092	14.02	731,276.84	85,256	8.41	632,700.96	141,348	1,363,977.80
2001/02	56,951	14.02	742,473.02	86,223	8.41	639,893.43	143,174	1,382,366.45
2002/03	54,801	14.02	714,456.02	81,629	8.41	605,678.89	136,430	1,320,134.91
2003/04	53,995	14.02	703,974.90	82,576	8.41	612,873.16	136,571	1,316,848.06
2004/05	1,906	37.38	69,383.28	8,939	18.69	158,350.91	10,845	227,734.19
2005/06	1,705	37.38	62,055.90	8,495	18.69	150,422.55	10,200	212,478.45
2006/07	1,831	37.38	66,634.78	9,106	18.69	161,263.14	10,937	227,897.92
2007/08	2,101	37.38	76,469.38	9,139	18.69	161,851.91	11,240	238,321.29
2008/09	2,043	40.38	80,495.34	9,626	21.69	199,366.94	11,669	279,862.28
2009/10	2,150	40.38	84,714.00	10,055	21.69	208,258.95	12,205	292,972.95
2010/11	2,085	40.38	82,149.30	9,759	21.69	202,126.71	11,884	284,276.01
2011/12	2,275	40.38	89,632.50	9,886	21.69	204,829.34	12,161	294,461.84
2012/13	2,603	40.38	102,544.14	10,488	21.69	217,254.72	13,091	319,798.86
2013/14	2,392	45.38	106,222.96	10,070	26.69	258,783.90	12,462	365,006.86

Year	Non-Resident of Canada – Regular			Non-Resident of Canada-Conservation			Total: Non-Resident of Canada	
	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$
1993/94	8,770	32.50	280,744.00	20,742	17.50	352,905.50	29,512	633,649.50
1994/95	8,299	32.50	265,668.50	21,906	17.50	372,702.50	30,205	638,371.00
1995/96	7,821	32.50	250,369.50	22,448	17.50	381,856.00	30,269	632,225.50
1996/97	6,840	32.50	218,945.50	21,757	17.50	370,199.50	28,597	589,145.00
1997/98	6,712	37.38	244,557.56	23,406	20.56	458,473.36	30,118	703,030.92
1998/99	7,149	37.38	260,237.62	26,223	20.56	513,312.88	33,372	773,550.50
1999/00	7,192	37.38	261,840.96	27,151	20.56	531,532.56	34,343	793,373.52
2000/01	6,130	37.38	223,166.40	29,959	20.56	586,452.04	36,089	809,618.44
2001/02	6,120	37.38	222,788.60	27,716	20.56	542,490.96	33,836	765,269.56
2002/03	6,075	37.38	221,122.50	26,121	20.56	511,251.76	32,196	732,374.26
2003/04	5,974	37.38	217,466.12	24,952	20.56	488,348.12	30,926	705,814.24
2004/05	4,755	51.40	239,777.00	24,089	28.04	651,714.56	28,844	891,491.56
2005/06	4,271	51.40	215,364.40	23,116	28.04	625,376.64	27,387	840,741.04

Year	Non-Resident of Canada – Regular			Non-Resident of Canada- Conservation			Total: Non-Resident of Canada	
	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$
2006/07	3,694	51.40	186,241.60	21,353	28.04	577,719.12	25,047	763,960.72
2007/08	3,331	51.40	167,975.40	20,448	28.04	553,163.92	23,779	721,139.32
2008/09	2,773	54.40	148,145.20	17,597	31.04	528,931.88	20,370	677,077.08
2009/10	2,637	54.40	140,908.80	14,801	31.04	444,855.04	17,438	585,763.84
2010/11	2,509	54.40	134,064.60	15,275	31.04	459,135.00	17,784	593,199.60
2011/12	2,472	54.40	132,084.80	14,259	31.04	428,605.36	16,731	560,690.16
2012/13	2,722	54.40	145,451.80	14,779	31.04	444,361.16	17,501	589,812.96
2013/14	2,455	59.40	143,406.90	14,490	36.04	508,288.50	16,945	651,695.40

Year	Total Regular Licenses		Total Conservation Licenses		Total Licenses	
	Number	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$
1993/94	67,603	987,368.50	93,969	865,868.50	161,572	1,853,237.00
1994/95	66,082	959,712.50	99,622	917,200.50	165,704	1,876,913.00
1995/96	63,056	913,724.50	99,292	920,145.00	162,348	1,833,869.50
1996/97	58,998	845,687.50	96,838	896,622.00	155,836	1,742,309.50
1997/98	58,571	921,317.74	104,887	1,041,938.17	163,458	1,963,255.91
1998/99	64,530	1,008,476.24	118,923	1,177,013.88	183,453	2,185,490.12
1999/00	64,759	1,012,531.20	121,024	1,203,300.49	185,783	2,215,831.79
2000/01	62,222	954,443.24	123,747	1,258,690.52	185,969	2,213,133.76
2001/02	63,071	965,251.62	122,560	1,222,325.20	185,631	2,187,576.82
2002/03	60,876	935,578.52	116,091	1,155,587.66	176,967	2,091,166.18
2003/04	59,969	921,441.02	119,784	1,091,627.30	179,753	2,013,068.32
2004/05	51,546	978,333.93	119,492	1,484,993.99	171,038	2,463,327.92
2005/06	50,827	946,078.29	115,743	1,424,435.59	166,570	2,370,513.88
2006/07	52,335	950,749.28	119,233	1,420,981.50	171,568	2,371,730.70
2007/08	54,431	974,898.11	115,306	1,381,575.31	169,737	2,356,473.42
2008/09	55,012	1,127,539.98	114,187	1,617,902.94	169,199	2,745,442.92
2009/10	56,770	1,156,466.67	114,234	1,565,593.91	171,004	2,707,482.00
2010/11	57,878	1,170,248.66	112,612	1,548,924.71	170,490	2,719,173.37
2011/12	58,608	1,186,218.59	110,975	1,493,827.54	169,583	2,680,046.13
2012/13	63,731	1,293,813.28	119,182	1,608,291.80	182,913	2,885,847.08
2013/14	57,949	1,466,591.66	114,887	2,031,714.95	172,836	3,481,773.61

Note: Total Revenue figure are net (less vendor's commission).
Resident of Manitoba Senior's Conservation Licenses were introduced in 1998/99.
Starting with the 1999/2000 season – angling licenses will be valid from May 1 – April 30.
License sale statistics for the 2014/2015 annual report will be based on the most recent complete season (i.e. the 2013/2014 season).
* The issuance of separate licences for Manitoba and non-Manitoba (Canadian residents) began in 2004.

**Table FI.5
Bait Fishing Industry Statistics**

	Year				
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
No. of licensed bait fish fishers (frozen & live)	64	63	63	66	65
No. licensed for collection of live bait fish	32	33	33	30	31
No. of leech harvesters	21	22	22	22	22
No. of live bait dealers	46	43	43	48	50
No. of kgs of Frozen Bait Fish Produced	102,710	79,200	99,170	78,716	112,180
No. of live bait fish Produced (dozen)	105,900	114,880	118,220	110,489	109,799
No. of kgs of Leeches Produced	1,180	1,120	1,260	805	814
Estimated Gross sales					
Live bait fish	\$198,690	\$209,620	\$227,280	\$217,316	\$213,083
Frozen bait fish	\$834,630	\$814,180	\$1,080,970	\$801,581	\$809,149
Leeches	\$66,450	\$65,800	\$63,450	\$48,454	\$47,345
Total	\$1,099,770	\$1,089,600	\$1,371,700	\$1,067,351	\$1,069,577

**Table FI.6
Manitoba Fish Farming Statistics**

		Year				
		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
No. of Licensed Operators		27	27	26	25	25
	Species					
No. of Eggs Imported	Rainbow Trout	0	110,000	200,000	200,000	0
	Arctic Char	10,000	0	0	10,000	5,000
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Fingerlings Imported	Rainbow Trout	189,810	93,000	106,000	100,000	103,000
	Arctic Char	0	0	0	0	0
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Eggs/Fry Purchased in Manitoba	Rainbow Trout	0	4,000	0	0	0
	Arctic Char	0	0	0	0	0
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0

No. of Fingerlings Purchased in Manitoba	Rainbow Trout	5,600	5,000	1,865	4,520	12,240
	Arctic Char	73,900	2,000	0	0	0
	Brook Trout	1,000	500	500	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Fingerlings Sold	Rainbow Trout	86,000	141,800	170,320	78,800	81,435
	Arctic Char	60,000	2,000	0	0	0
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	100,000	0	0	0
No. of Kgs of Fish Sold	Rainbow Trout	92,200	9,560	53,280	49,397	46,917
	Arctic Char	8,180	20,710	16,060	17,630	15,506
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	14	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Fingerling Customers		328	305	460	470	346

Regional Fisheries Management

The objectives of the Regional Fisheries Management Section are: delivering fisheries programs at a regional level; assisting in the development and management of related provincial programs; ensuring the maintenance of healthy aquatic ecosystems for the use and well being of present and future generations of Manitobans; providing input to compliance priorities; assuring the maintenance of long-term sustainability of fisheries resources; and ensuring an effective consultation role on behalf of the Branch with commercial and recreational fishers.

Key Results Achieved:

All Regions

Regional staff reviewed Licensing Advisory Committee applications, environmental licensing proposals, land-use applications, water control works licences, resource allocation requests, development proposals and scientific collection permit applications.

Northeast Region

Represented Fisheries Branch on the Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship - Manitoba Hydro Working Group, which oversees the Coordinated Aquatic Monitoring Program. The 2008-10 summary report was published and copies are being provided to northern resource management boards.

A sediment and erosion monitoring project was conducted on the north basin of Southern Indian Lake.

Participated in the Southern Indian Lake Environmental Monitoring Committee, whose efforts continued to focus on possible causes of the significant decline of the Southern Indian Lake commercial fishery.

Represented the Branch on the Norway House Resource Management Board and provided input to four other Resource Management Boards.

Participated on the Nelson River Sturgeon Board and managed its field program.

Participated in the Working Group formed to provide advice and feedback on Phase II of the Regional Cumulative Effects Assessment that Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro are conducting on northern hydroelectric development.

Eastern Region

Completed non-lethal fish surveys on Rice and Davidson lakes.

Monitored the Falcon Creek walleye spawning run to determine the capacity of Falcon and Hamilton creeks to supply walleye eggs for the Whiteshell Fish Hatchery and provide an index of the walleye spawning stock biomass in Falcon Lake.

Determined the efficiency of walleye stocking in the Eastern Region using oxytetracycline marked walleye fry in conjunction with the Whiteshell Fish Hatchery.

Continued long-term population assessment of lake sturgeon on Numao and Nutimik lakes.

Completed a juvenile lake sturgeon assessment for the upper Winnipeg River in conjunction with Manitoba Hydro.

Provided technical assistance to Lac du Bonnet Wildlife Association to assist in enhancement of the Lac du Bonnet trout ponds.

Completed the annual CAMP program on Lac du Bonnet in conjunction with Manitoba Hydro.

Western Region

Stocked 23,500,000 walleye fry, 30,604 juvenile and adult walleye, 3,051 northern pike, and 357,700 salmonids in approximately 80 waterbodies throughout the Western region to supplement natural recruitment and diversify angling opportunities.

Assisted local angling groups with electro-fishing and trap netting in North Steeprock and Bell lakes in the Porcupine Provincial Forest, Beautiful Lake walleye transfer and summer trap netting and walleye telemetry on Dauphin Lake.

Completed annual index netting on Lake of the Prairies, Dauphin Lake and Lake Winnipegosis (CAMP), commercial sampling on Lake Winnipegosis and Dauphin lakes, and completed the annual Dauphin Lake walleye spawning monitoring.

Conducted lake sturgeon research on the Assiniboine River as part of fish population assessments.

Completed fisheries assessment work on Vermillion Reservoir to determine stock status.

Consulted with Treaty 2 and other Aboriginal and Métis communities concerning proposed spring conservation measures for the walleye stocks on Dauphin Lake and its tributaries.

Participated in the Shellmouth Dam Liaison Committee meetings to manage Lake of the Prairies water levels to minimize impacts on fish stocks.

Participated in finalizing a draft report for the Assiniboine River Instream Flow Needs Study.

Northwest Region

Stocked 7,000 brook trout and 38,000 rainbow trout in regional waterbodies.

Assisted Fish Culture with collection of lake trout on Clearwater Lake for the purpose of disease testing.

Completed index netting to assess fish populations on Cedar, Wekusko and Cormorant lakes.

Participated in the Cedar Lake Resources Management Board and provided input to the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Moose Lake, and Cormorant Resource Management Boards.

Participated in the Saskatchewan River Sturgeon Management Board and managed the Manitoba portion of the lake sturgeon field program.

Reviewed and provided input to Crown Lands on applications for wild rice seeding and harvest.

Central Region

Waterhen Lake became the second freshwater fishery in the world to achieve Marine Stewardship Council sustainable fishing certification.

A new carp fishery in Delta Marsh was established on the Lake Manitoba side of carp exclusion gates within the marsh

The retention of freshwater drum during the summer carp fishery was permitted on Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba.

Three thousand in-person and 6,000 phone and e-mails contacts were handled with respect to fisher inquiries, commercial licence sales and quota transfers.

For the third year, used graded-mesh gillnets to measure 80 per cent completion of walleye spawning, which opens the spring commercial fishing season on Lake Winnipeg.

The Norway House quota was increased by 200,000 kg, and permissible north basin harvest of walleye was increased by 75,000 kg as a result of a 10 per cent increase in the walleye tolerance.

The Whitefish Optimization Program was doubled to 700,000 kg in response to increased catches of whitefish resulting from a strong year class of whitefish entering the fishery.

Central Fisheries work on Lake Winnipeg again contributed to the collaborative CAMP program with Manitoba Hydro.

The Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg monitoring programs completed their sixth years in their present enhanced gear conformation. The first year of a stock index program for Chitek Lake was begun.

The partnership with the University of Nebraska studying the Channel Catfish in the Red River resulted in the tagging of over 11,000 catfish and several hundred returns that revealed movement to as far as Fargo, ND and Lake Winnipeg.

**Table FI.7
12.5(c) Fisheries Branch**

Expenditures by Sub- appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,365	45.30	2,564	(199)	
Other Expenditures	971		463	508	1.
Northern Fisherman's Freight Assistance	410		410	0	
Total 12.5(c)	3,746	45.30	3,437	309	

1. Over expenditure in Other Expenditures due to Zebra Mussel clean-up program costs and Aboriginal Consultations for sustainability of Fish Culture for Sport and Commercial fisheries management.

The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund

As contained in *Tomorrow Now—Manitoba's Green Plan*, the government established The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund which facilitates projects that help Manitoba's fish and wildlife populations or associated habitat. The new fund, supported by an impost on angling, hunting and trapping licences, will help ensure healthy fish and wildlife populations, maintenance of associated habitats, and the successful rehabilitation, maintenance and operation of the provincial fish hatchery system. Applications to the fund are reviewed by two subcommittees, a Fish Enhancement Subcommittee and a Wildlife Enhancement Subcommittee which include representation from angling, wildlife and trapping organizations.

The Fish Enhancement Subcommittee reviewed applications for their first intake in January 2015. Twenty-four projects were received and reviewed by the Fish Enhancement Subcommittee, of which fifteen projects were recommended for funding in this first intake, totalling over \$260,000. They are as follows:

- **2014-15 Aerator System Refurbishment Project** - \$21,000 to install a new state-of-the-art aerator system and refurbish the existing aerator as a backup system.
- **Vermillion Reservoir Walleye Assessment** - \$7,725 to assess previous Walleye stocking success and determine migration patterns and growth rates.
- **SVSFE Integrated Fisheries Assessments and Initiatives** - \$79,150 to collect data on various waterbodies to determine rearing success of stocked walleye and rainbow trout. Inventory current sport fish waterbodies where there have been concerns. Assist in developing fisheries management objectives by collecting biological fish data. Undertake angler interviews to obtain information. Conduct fish assessments on high pressure walleye lakes. Conduct fish transfers and stocking.
- **The Great Outdoors-Fishing Gear** - \$5,010 for purchasing ice fishing equipment, to provide a "beyond the classroom" learning and outdoor education experience.
- **Channel Catfish Movement in the Lower Red River** - \$20,000 for purchasing acoustic transmitters and field supplies, to implant transmitters into Channel Catfish, to determine passage rate through St. Andrews Lock and Dam on the Red River. Also, to collect otolith samples from Channel Catfish for microchemistry analysis to determine movement patterns.
- **Shell River Fish Enhancement Project** - \$10,000 to create a fish passage over the Shell River Weir by creating a riffle; and constructing the riffle to create spawning and incubation habitat for all fish species within the watershed.
- **Spawning Shoal Effectiveness Study** - \$21,250 to study the effectiveness of 34 spawning shoals within six Lake Manitoba and Shoal Lake Tributaries and to educate the public on the importance of fish habitat.
- **2015 Dauphin Lake Telemetry Tracking** - \$4,438 to determine whether Walleye spawn in the same locations each year and to identify man-made and natural fish barriers within Dauphin Lake tributaries.
- **Lac du Bonnet Wildlife Association Ponds** - \$18,400 to install an aeration system on the Lac du Bonnet Wildlife Association Ponds and two additional angling ponds to mitigate winter kill of stocked trout and increase shore angling access.
- **Non-lethal lake surveys and Walleye stocking assessment support** - \$9,830 to complete non-lethal lake surveys on the Whitemouth and Moose Lakes and to complete Walleye young-of-the-year surveys on approximately 10 lakes in the Whiteshell and Nopiming Provincial Parks.
- **Assessment of the aerated stocked trout lakes in the Parkland region** - \$6,420 to assess the aerated stocked trout fisheries of the East and West Goose Lakes, Spear, Pybus, Patterson and Tokaryk Lakes in the Parkland region of Manitoba and to remove other captured fish which will then be restocked into other waterbodies.
- **Recreational Fishing Bathymetry Mapping Project** - \$41,520 to conduct sonar surveys on 25 popular angling lakes to enhance and develop bathymetry data for angling contour maps.
- **Red River Channel Catfish tagging** - \$9,950 to understand bi-directional catfish movement and habitat use in the Red River by taking advantage of the 2015 population assessment by Minnesota and North Dakota to tag catfish south of the International Border.

- **Emergency Repairs-Corstorphine Lake** - \$6,575 to construct a new aeration building and re-install aeration equipment on Corstorphine Lake.
- **Oxytetracycline Detection Analysis of Walleye Otoliths – Assessing Walleye Stocking Activities** - \$3,000 to assess the effectiveness of walleye stocking in selected recreational fisheries and to compare stocking contribution to walleye year class strengths in order to improve management of walleye fry stocking activities. This is the last year of a 5 year project funded by the former Fisheries Enhancement Fund

Total angling licence dollars deposited into the Fisheries Enhancement Fund were \$1.4 million. Income into the fund is directly related to angling licence sales; therefore the amount of money into the fund will vary annually based on licence sales.

The annual Fish Enhancement Stamp Competition was held in December 2014. The winning artwork “Walleye-the golden beauty” painted by Dodie Mitchell was unveiled at Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre.

The Wildlife Enhancement Subcommittee met several times during the fall and winter of 2014-15, during which a Terms of Reference was developed and approved. The subcommittee chose to allow the fund to build for one year before proceeding with the first grant cycle, for which the first intake for Wildlife Enhancement initiatives will be in October 2015. Income into the fund, \$390 thousand in 2014-2015, is directly related to hunting and trapping licence sales, therefore the amount of money into the fund will vary annually based on licence sales.

**Table FE.1
12.5(d) Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	0		0	0	
Total 12.5(d)	0		0	0	

Conservation District and Watershed Assistance

The Conservation Districts Program is a partnership between the Province and participating municipalities to provide for the conservation, control and prudent use of resources through the establishment of conservation districts under the *Conservation Districts Act*.

The mandate of the program is to promote the sustainable use and management of land, water and related resources on a watershed basis. The Province promotes watershed based partnerships with municipalities to: develop integrated watershed management plans; implement voluntary, incentive based programs and projects through partnerships that address risks to water resources and aquatic ecosystems; and ensure that the ecological integrity and overall health of each watershed is protected by empowering the local district boards to make decisions that will have impacts for present and future generations.

Manitoba provides annual grants to support conservation district operation and programming in areas such as water quality, surface water management, drinking water protection, water storage, soil conservation, wildlife habitat and public education programs that promote healthy watersheds.

In 2014/15 provincial grants totalling \$5,162,400.00 were provided to 18 Conservation Districts, as follows:

Alonsa	\$ 261,000.00
Assiniboine Hills	\$ 316,000.00
Cooks Creek	\$ 289,800.00
East Interlake	\$ 298,500.00
Intermountain	\$ 268,000.00
Kelsey	\$ 155,000.00
Lake of the Prairies	\$ 175,000.00
La Salle Redboine	\$ 224,700.00
Little Saskatchewan River	\$ 180,000.00
Pembina Valley	\$ 358,900.00
Seine-Rat River	\$ 378,000.00
Swan Lake Watershed	\$ 225,000.00
Turtle Mountain	\$ 302,500.00
Turtle River Watershed	\$ 409,500.00
Upper Assiniboine River	\$ 268,000.00
West Interlake Watershed	\$ 180,000.00
West Souris River	\$ 202,900.00
Whitemud Watershed	\$ 669,600.00
Total:	\$ 5,162,400.00

2014/15 Highlights:

- Drinking water protection:
 - o Tested 1,134 drinking water wells for bacteria and E.coli
 - o Conducted well constructions and vulnerability inspections of 902 private drinking water wells
 - o Sealed 236 abandoned wells
- Surface water management
 - o Constructed 65 small dams creating 3,336 dam³ of storage capacity
 - o Constructed 12 erosion control structures
- Water quality
 - o Sampled 247 surface water sites
 - o Restricted 2,895 head of cattle from rivers and streams through installation of 26km of fencing
- Public education:
 - o Planted over 53,000 trees through community plantings or field and property shelterbelts

- Protected over 21,426 hectares of natural habitat through funding 23 conservation agreements
- Educated over 10,000 students and landowners through delivery of water festivals, in class programming, and project tours and demonstrations

The annual budgets and activities of the eighteen conservation districts are overseen and directed by the Conservation Districts Commission, chaired by the Deputy Minister of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship. The Conservation Districts Commission is comprised of representatives from groups having a direct relationship with the program (six departmental deputy ministers, one representative from the Conservation Districts Association, one representative from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, and two private citizens). Watershed Planning and Program staff support and manage the program on behalf of the Conservation Districts Program, including developing integrated watershed management plans, administering provincial grant funding, developing and implementing program policy and monitoring the activities of conservation districts through a rigorous reporting scheme.

Table CA.1
12.5(e) Conservation District and Watershed Assistance

Expenditures by Sub- appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	5,162		5,162	0	
Less Recoverable from Other Appropriations	(1,165)		(1,165)	0	
Total 12.5(e)	3,997		3,997	0	

Office of Drinking Water

In fiscal year 2014/15, the Office of Drinking Water focused on further expansion of the semi-public water system program; continued implementation of compliance planning processes to address the microbiological, chemical and physical standards that came into effect in 2012; and on implementation of enforcement strategies to address bacteria and disinfection standards and reduce the number of long term boil water advisories in the province. In addition, the Office is continuing to monitor construction and operation of licensed public and semi-public water systems and to provide educational materials and technical support to private water system owners, as required. In fulfilment of these responsibilities, the Office of Drinking Water:

- Reviewed design plans and specifications for 105 public water system projects and 13 semi-public water system projects; issued 74 *Drinking Water Safety Act* permits for construction or alteration of water systems; and conducted 28 post-commissioning inspections of newly constructed or upgraded water treatment plants.
- Issued 17 new public water system operating licences, 80 public water system operating licence renewals and 71 public water system operating licence amendments. Municipal amalgamations affected 63 public water systems, which helped to reduce the total number of licensed public water systems to 384 by the end of the fiscal year.
- Issued 55 new semi-public water system licences bringing the total number of licensed semi-public water systems to 245.
- Monitored water quality (raw and treated) for 440 public water systems and 468 semi-public water systems, including review of laboratory analytical results for bacteriological, chemical and physical parameters.
- Undertook 227 routine and unscheduled on-site inspections of public water systems to verify their safety and reliability for producing and distributing safe water, and 71 inspections of semi-public water systems to verify their safety and reliability and to initiate the semi-public water system licensing process.
- Prepared 427 public water system report cards (annual audits) assessing the performance of 440 public water systems with regard to meeting the conditions outlined in their operating licences. These annual audits are distributed to public water system owners, and are available to the general public on request.
- Modified the annual audit process to allow for auto-generated reports and focus on non-compliance issues rather than average performance. This sets a higher standard for public water system owners; reduces staff time; and improves the reliability of information generated for statistical purposes.
- Reviewed 77 public water system and seven semi-public water system Assessments of Water System Infrastructure and Water Supply Sources intended to support owners and operators in identifying and prioritizing water system improvement needs.
- Continued to work with Manitoba Health on the issuance of drinking water quality advisories as needed to mitigate the impacts of non-compliance; and with water system owners to address non-compliance.
- Continued to work the City of Winnipeg; Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors; and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to develop a protocol for the implementation of a boil water advisory in the City of Winnipeg.

- Took enforcement action to address the most critical non-compliance issues associated with bacteria and disinfection standards, including issuance of three common offence notices (tickets), 14 warnings and nine letters of direction. Implemented a new process to investigate non-compliance with bacteria standards. Continued implementation of the compliance planning process to address lower risk chemical, physical and microbiological standards, including review of four public water system compliance plans and approval of three statements of compliance.
- Provided ongoing technical support to 65 water treatment plant operators in need of such service; and responded to six on-site emergency service requests to assist operators with treatment process adjustments that avoided the need to issue boil water advisories.
- Successfully completed an Arsenic Pilot Study, which spanned 2 years, with the Town of Virden. The results of this study have been incorporated into the Town's compliance plan.
- Answered more than 761 telephone inquiries from private well owners; and developed new educational materials for private well owners, including fact sheets related to Trichloroethylene (TCE) in the Rockwood Sensitive Area, and Arsenic in the Oak Lake and Assiniboine Delta Aquifers.
- Reviewed and commented on 119 *Environment Act* submissions and three drinking water plans as part of the on-going Technical Advisory Committee work.
- Reviewed and commented on 183 subdivision proposals and planning documents.
- Continued to provide support to the provincial Water and Wastewater Certification program, and to provide lectures for the provincial water and wastewater operator four year training program through Red River Community College.

Table ODW.1
12.5(f) Office of Drinking Water

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,985	28.00	2,043	(58)	
Other Expenditures	605		697	(92)	
Total 12.5(f)	2,590	28.00	2,740	(150)	1.

1. Under-expenditures due to vacancies resulting in operating efficiencies.

Drainage and Water Control Licensing

This Branch ensures that private and municipal drainage, dams and other water control works are constructed, established, operated and maintained in accordance with *The Water Rights Act*.

Key Results Achieved:

- Licensing – Drainage and Water Control Works Licensing Branch received 1,244 new applications and issued 989 licenses. More than 2,000 subdivisions and 1,000 Crown land development proposals were reviewed by Branch staff. Branch staff responded to approximately 2,800 formal drainage complaints
- Enforcement – A total of 135 charges under The Water Rights Act were issued last year. Of those files, completed 35 fines were issued. The fines ranged from \$500 to \$6,500. Sixteen “long-form” charges were laid and twenty Orders were issued. Fines, charges and orders are issued to ensure compliance with *The Water Rights Act*.
- Branch staff assisted in the flood fighting efforts of the province after the July long weekend record rainstorm that fell on the western portion of the province. Duties included river flow monitoring, staffing flood liason offices, and regional emergency flood response duties.
- Consultation on the “Towards Sustainable Drainage” document ended in December of 2014. The branch received over 80 responses to the document which outlines a proposed new regulatory framework that reduces red tape on routine drainage works, applies greater scrutiny and officer inspection powers to significant project proposals and increases fines for illegal drainage. The branch continues to develop draft regulations in this regard, and is continuing consultation with the stakeholder committee established for this project as regulation development evolves. The regulations will also require legislative changes through a lake friendly bill that was announced in the Fall 2014 Speech from the Throne.
- A new policy regarding the “no net loss of wetland benefits” was introduced to various stakeholder groups as part of the proposed drainage regulations. This policy and program is intended to help mitigate the loss of wetlands on the Manitoba landscape. Branch staff are working with MHHC on developing a formal process which will allow a mechanism for landowners to engage in that will help mitigate the impacts of drainage of certain types of wetlands

Table DW.1

12.5(g) Drainage and Water Control Licensing

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,620	23.00	1,440	180	
Other Expenditures	375		407	(32)	
Total 12.5(g)	1,995	23.00	1,847	148	

Water Use Licensing

Water Use Licensing consists of two distinct program areas: the licensing of water abstraction projects as required under the provisions of *The Water Rights Act* and the licensing of water power (hydroelectric) projects under *The Water Power Act*. The common theme of both programs is the allocation of a valuable provincial Crown resource for a beneficial purpose while ensuring the protection of the interests of all Manitobans and potentially directly affected third parties. The academic backgrounds of the staff include engineers, hydrogeologists, environmental scientists, engineering technologists, resource planners, and a database management specialist.

Water Rights Licensing Program

Working under the authority of *The Water Rights Act*, the Water Rights Licensing program processed applications requesting the allocation of surface water or groundwater for municipal, agricultural (i.e. livestock), industrial, irrigation and other purposes. Most new projects require the issuance of either a Development Authorization for surface water projects or a Groundwater Exploration Permit for groundwater sourced projects in advance of such projects proceeding to construction. Water rights licences are issued to the applicants subsequent to the satisfactory completion of their project. In addition to these instruments, water rights licensing staff also respond to requests to divert water for short term purposes, for example, for the hydrostatic testing of petroleum products pipelines, for dust suppression purposes on road construction projects, wetting soil base for road compaction projects, etc. In such cases, a letter of authorization is normally issued rather than a formal licence.

Key Result Achieved:

- Good progress was made again this year in processing new and existing applications for water rights use licenses.

Water Power Regulation and Crown Land Development Review

The Water Power Licensing program is responsible for two important sub-program areas, the most high profile of which is the licensing (or re-licensing) of new and existing water power generating stations and associated water power diversion and/or storage projects. Currently, there are 19 water power projects that have been licensed, some of which were first licensed over 50 years ago. The primary tasks of this program area include: (1) the issuance of water power licences; (2) monitoring of licensing terms and conditions; (3) reviewing of *The Water Power Act and Regulation*; (4) conducting of Crown-Aboriginal consultations in accordance with Section 35 of the *Constitution Act* (1982); and, (5) the ongoing development of new compliance and reporting tools.

The other sub-program is concerned with the assessment and transfer of lands to Canada to fulfill obligations under the Treaty Land Entitlement program and the disposition of applications to develop Crown land parcels located within the Water Power Licence areas and/or Water Power Reserve areas. Although these projects have a short time frame compared to the licensing of water power projects, they are of great importance to the applicant and there is often short time lines associated with such requests.

Key Result Achieved:

- As part of government's responsibility to consult in a meaningful way with First Nations, Métis, and other Aboriginal communities about government decisions that might affect the exercise of Treaty or Aboriginal rights, various Crown-Aboriginal consultations have been conducted with a number of communities for a number of Manitoba Hydro projects. The hydro projects that are currently the subject of a Section 35 Crown/Aboriginal consultation process include: the Churchill River Diversion; the Lake Winnipeg Regulation; and, the Jenpeg Generating Station for Water Power Final Licences. An Interim Water Power Licence was issued to Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership in July 2014 to begin the construction of a 695-megawatt hydroelectric generation project at Gull Rapids on the lower Nelson River. The project is currently under construction.

- Documents that may be of interest to the general public continue to be added to the Water Power Licensing component of the government website as they become available.

**Table WU.1
12.5(h) Water Use Licensing**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,262	20.00	1,396	(134)	
Other Expenditures	153		219	(66)	
Total 12.5(h)	1,415	20.00	1,615	(200)	1.

1. Under expenditures in Salaries and other operating due to vacancies.

Water Stewardship Initiatives

Water Stewardship Initiatives provides funding for scientific research, innovative policy development, incentives, and projects or activities that improve management or protection of Manitoba's water quality, aquatic ecosystem health, fisheries and includes development and implementation of watershed management and source water protection plans, and protection of riparian areas and wetlands.

The following initiatives were supported in 2014/15:

- **Water Quality Science Protection Initiatives and Innovative Water Management Projects**

Support was provided for operation of the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium's ship the *MV Namao*, to undertake water quality and fisheries science on Lake Winnipeg, to protect Manitoba from transboundary activities that may unacceptably impact Manitoba's water, to support work of the South Basin Lake Winnipeg Mayors and Reeves in its Lake Friendly Campaign, to protect and restore wetlands including continuing an inventory of wetlands, to monitor for pharmaceuticals in surface waters, and to support the University of Manitoba in a research project to better understand potential in-lake remediation options for mitigating algal blooms in Killarney Lake. Engineering support was also provided to Conservation Districts to design and build water retention structures to mitigate flooding and drought and to improve water quality.

- **Fisheries Science Initiatives**

Support was provided to efforts to eco-certify the Province's fisheries, to support the fisheries resource management board on Lake Winnipeg, and to support co-management initiatives with Buffalo Point First Nation and with Treaty Two on Dauphin Lake.

- **Boards and Committees to Support Citizen Engagement Initiatives**

Support was provided to the Department's boards and committees including advisory bodies such as the Manitoba Eco-Network's water caucus plus the Prairie Provinces Water Board and others such as the Red River Basin Commission, the Assiniboine River Basin Initiative and the Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin who are assisting in the engagement of local citizens in water governance.

Project	Amount
Boards and Committee to Support Citizen Engagement Initiatives	\$413.0
Water Quality Science Protection Initiatives	\$417.0
Fisheries Science Initiatives	\$132.0
Total	\$962.0

Table WSI.1
12.5(i) Water Stewardship Initiatives

Expenditures by Sub- appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	1,259		1,131	128	
Total 12.5(i)	1,259		1,131	128	1.

1. Over-expenditure in Water Stewardship Initiatives projects due to Aboriginal Consultations and Eco-certification of Manitoba Fisheries.

Watershed and Land Use Planning

The Watersheds Branch is comprised of the Strategic Initiatives section and the Watershed Planning and Programs section. The Branch:

- Coordinates the development of planning initiatives and programs to manage and ensure the sustainability of Manitoba's resources and environment.
- Provides advisory and planning services to the Conservation Districts Program as per the *Conservation Districts Act*.
- Implements Integrated Watershed Management Planning as per the provisions of *The Water Protection Act*.
- Develops and implements a new integrated Surface Water Management Strategy involving all stakeholders.
- Contributes significant climate change adaptation through management and protection of watersheds for ecosystem resilience.
- Builds capacity in water stakeholder groups to improve their participation in water management and decision making.
- Coordinates the development of a Wetland Inventory for Manitoba with Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation and other stakeholders.
- Maintains effective relationships with other governments, non-government organizations, producer organizations and Aboriginal organizations.

Healthy, well-managed watersheds, holistic water strategies, and the network of local watershed organizations provide a natural legacy for future generations and promote human physical, mental and spiritual well-being. They help conserve land and water where Aboriginal people can continue traditional activities such as trapping, hunting, fishing and medicinal plant collection. They also provide a range of ecological services which have economic benefits to communities and businesses including natural regulation of water flow, water quality improvement, carbon storage and biodiversity conservation.

Key Results Achieved:

- Continued coordination of implementation of a new integrated Surface Water Management Strategy, which includes input from all levels of government, Aboriginal groups, non-governmental environmental organizations, agricultural, industry, and academia.
- Provided professional planning support and leadership to 18 Conservation District Boards and staff including assistance with land and water based program delivery, watershed management planning, provincial grant administration, policy development and board governance.
- Celebrated the completion of the Swan Lake Watershed, Westlake, East Duck Sagemace Bay, and Central Assiniboine Lower Souris River Integrated Watershed Management Plans.
- Continued work with 11 water planning authorities to develop integrated watershed management plans with consideration to land and water management, conservation, drinking water quality and aquatic ecosystem protection.
- Oversaw the development of the protocol for aligning Manitoba's Wetland Inventory with the Canadian Wetland Inventory standard and the completion of a significant portion of the peatland inventory.

**Table WL.1
12.5(j) Watershed and Land Use Planning**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	941	15.00	1,074	(133)	
Other Expenditures	172		174	(2)	
Total 12.5(j)	1,113	15.00	1,248	(135)	1.

1. Under expenditures in Salaries and Other operating, due to vacancies.

COSTS RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS

Table ACA.1
12.6 Costs Related to Capital Assets

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2014/15 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2014/15 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
(a) General Assets					
(1) Amortization Expense	31,902		2,536	29,366	1.
(2) Interest Expense	2,443		2,461	(18)	
(b) Infrastructure Assets					
(1) Amortization Expense	4,036		4,391	(355)	2.
(2) Interest Expense	5,226		5,322	(96)	
Total 12.6	43,607		14,710	28,897	

1. Over expenditure in General Assets, Amortization Expense, related to the Asset write-off to correct the Schedule of Unadjusted items, accounting treatment for International Polar Bear Conservatory, as recommended by the Office of Auditor General, removing the asset from the Province's tangible capital assets and treating it as an operating expense.
2. Lower general and infrastructure asset amortization expense partly offset by lower interest expense due to project deferrals as a result of weather, adjustments to project scope, and reprioritization of projects.

Part B – Capital Investment

General Assets

General Assets provides for the refurbishment and upgrade of facilities and the acquisition of machinery and equipment.

Machinery and equipment purchases included all-terrain vehicles, boats with outboard motor, Dodge Ram truck, gators, industrial mower, air compressor, snowmobiles, tractors with Loader\Mower, gravel box, dump box, survey equipments, utility vehicles, wheel loader, track loader, tanker truck, bi-directional tractor, and trail groomer.

Two bunkhouses in Bisset and a Fire Warehouse in Norway House which is to be completed in the next fiscal year.

Infrastructure Assets

Infrastructure provides for the refurbishment and upgrade of facilities and the acquisition of machinery and equipment, which are utilized by the general public in their enjoyment of Manitoba's outdoors.

Key Results Achieved:

- Construction was completed on the Beach expansion project at Birds Hill Provincial Park, which includes an expanded lake and beach area, pathway improvements, a new playground, new beach volleyball courts, and new site furnishings.
- Construction was completed on a new natural playground at Grand Beach Provincial Park.
- Construction was completed on a wastewater lagoon upgrade project at Stephenfield Provincial Park.
- Construction of a new lagoon in Spruce Woods Provincial Park was completed and work is now underway on a new force main and lift station improvements at this site .
- Repairs and improvements continue at Spruce Woods Provincial Park as a result of the significant damage from the 2011 and 2014 flood events. Construction is now underway on a new access road outside the flood-prone zone as well as internal road system improvements. Construction will be scheduled this winter for further shoreline erosion protection and a new maintenance yard.
- New washroom shower buildings were completed at Stephenfield Provincial Park and St. Malo Provincial Park. Construction has begun on new washroom shower buildings at Betula and Falcon Lakes in Whiteshell Provincial Park.
- Construction was completed of a new wastewater treatment system and disposal field at Brereton Lake in Whiteshell Provincial Park. Construction of a new yurt development at Tulabi Falls in Nopiming Provincial Park is underway and new yurts are under construction at Paint Lake Provincial Park and Clearwater Provincial Park.
- Construction was completed on improvements to Asessippi Road in Asessippi Provincial Park.
- Design is underway for water treatment plant improvements at Brereton, Opapiskaw and West Hawk lakes in Whiteshell Provincial Park, and also at Birds Hill and Camp Morton Provincial Parks.
- Construction of a new campground office at Watchorn Provincial Park was completed and plans are being developed for flood protection improvements at this site.

- Construction has been initiated on roof upgrades at the Grand Beach service building.
- Construction has been initiated on improvements to the West Gate entrance at Birds Hill Provincial Park.
- Design work has begun for wastewater lagoon upgrades at Grand Beach, Rivers and Adam Lake Provincial Parks.
- Campsite improvements are underway at St. Malo, Grand Beach and Duck Mountain Provincial Parks.
- Water Treatment Plant upgrades have been completed at William Lake and Rainbow Beach Provincial Parks.

MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

Park Infrastructure

As part of the minor capital program, improvements and infrastructure upgrades were made to physical assets throughout the Province.

Key Results Achieved:

- Reroofed the historic village hall building in Hecla Village at Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park.
- Projects such as Hecla Road minor repairs, Lundar Beach washroom upgrade, St. Malo washroom upgrades, , replacement of the picnic shelter at Max Lake, re-alignment of the wagon trail through the Spirit Sands at Spruce Woods, Asessippi dock replacement, etc were initiated.

Camping Initiatives

As part of the Provincial Camping Initiative, improvements and infrastructure upgrades were made to various campgrounds throughout the Province.

Key Results Achieved:

- Construction of one new yurt at Spruce Woods Provincial Park was initiated.
- Electrical upgrades are underway in Birds Hill Provincial Park campground.
- Electric upgrades (22 sites) were completed at Manipogo Provincial Park.

Sustainable Development Integration

Under *The Sustainable Development Act*, each department is required to integrate into its annual reporting process information about progress made in incorporating sustainable development into its activities. The section below provides examples of some of the activities the Department has undertaken to incorporate or apply the Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development into its everyday operations and activities.

Principles of Sustainable Development

1. Integration of Environmental, Social, Health and Economic Decisions

To meet the intent of Principle # 1, the Department would need to ensure:

- a) its economic decisions and activities adequately reflect environmental, human health and social effects; and
- b) its environmental and health decisions, activities and initiatives adequately take into account economic, human health and social consequences.

Examples:

- Manitoba released the second edition of *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan* in June 2014, following feedback on the initial version released in 2012. *TomorrowNow* is the government's eight-year strategic plan for protecting the environment while ensuring a prosperous and environmentally conscious economy.
- The Pimachiowin Aki Corporation, representing the Government of Manitoba, the Government of Ontario, and five First Nations, is leading the nomination for inscription of a 33,400 km² World Heritage site in eastern Manitoba and northern Ontario. The nomination builds on priorities for boreal forest protection, eco-cultural tourism development, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and conservation of woodland caribou habitat, and stand as proud examples of collaboration between First Nations and the Government of Manitoba.
- Manitoba commenced development of a comprehensive, cross-government Boreal Strategy based on the commitment made in *TomorrowNow*. The Department hosted a Boreal Summit in The Pas in February 2015 bringing together 88 representatives from Aboriginal communities, industry, municipalities, academia, non-governmental organizations, and all levels of government.

2. Stewardship

To meet the intent of Principle # 2, the Department would need to ensure:

- a) its plans, policies and decisions ensure the economy, the environment, human health and social well being are managed for the equal benefit of present and future generations; and
- b) its decisions are balanced with tomorrow's effects.

Examples:

- The Department announced the [Peatlands Stewardship Strategy](#), a priority under *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*. The strategy highlights completed work and outlines 22 more planned initiatives.
- *The Peatlands Stewardship and Related Amendments Act* was introduced. The new act establishes a framework to protect and conserve Crown peatland while providing for sustainably-managed commercial development.

3. Shared Responsibility and Understanding

To meet the intent of Principle # 3, the Department would need to ensure:

- a) it takes responsibility for sustaining the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being and be accountable for its decisions and actions in a spirit of partnership and open co-operation with all Manitobans;
- b) its decisions and activities reflect Manitoba's shared common economic, physical and social environment;
- c) it understands and respects differing economic and social views, values, traditions and aspirations in its decision making and activities; and
- d) it considers and reflects in its decisions and activities the aspirations, needs and views of the people of the various geographical and ethnic groups in Manitoba, including aboriginal peoples, to facilitate equitable management of Manitoba's common resources.

Examples:

- Manitoba worked with three First Nations to explore options for improving participation on resource management issues of interest to the communities, starting with moose management.
- The Department consults with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and the Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association on hunting regulation changes, and collaborates with organizations to deliver various wildlife related programs.
- The new Indigenous Traditional Use park classification and the new Indigenous Heritage land use category were created under *The Provincial Parks Act*. Chitek Lake Park Reserve was permanently designated as Chitek Lake Provincial Park, the first park to be designated under the Indigenous Traditional Use park classification.

4. Prevention

To meet the intent of Principle # 4, the Department would need to ensure:

- a) its activities and decisions and legislation anticipate, and prevent or mitigate, significant adverse economic, environmental, human health and social effects, and
- b) have particular careful regard to its decisions and actions whose impacts are not entirely certain but which, on reasonable and well-informed grounds, appear to pose serious threats to the economy, the environment, human health and social well being.

Examples:

- The emerald ash borer monitoring program continued, with 34 green sticky traps placed at high-risk locations across the province. No borers were found in Manitoba.
- Monitoring for the invasive European gypsy moth continued throughout Manitoba. Low numbers were observed for the majority of sampled areas; however, an expanding population was detected in the RM of Lac du Bonnet. An eradication program is planned to control this emerging population, and monitoring will continue.
- The Department reviewed design plans and specifications for 105 public water system projects and 13 semi-public water system projects; issued 74 *Drinking Water Safety Act* permits for construction or alteration of water systems; and conducted 28 post-commissioning inspections of newly constructed or upgraded water treatment plants.
- The Aquatic Invasive Species program greatly expanded its Watercraft Inspection program. During the 2014 open water season, more than 2,800 watercraft were inspected and of those 136 were decontaminated.

- Monitoring of water-based infrastructure including navigational buoys and docks, for zebra mussels was conducted in the south basin and channel of Lake Winnipeg. The Zebra Mussel Science Advisory Committee recommended Manitoba consider treatment options in an attempt to apply downward pressure on the zebra mussel population and reduce the spread of zebra mussels from these harbours. As a result, four harbours in the South Basin of Lake Winnipeg were treated with potash.

5. Conservation and Enhancement

To meet the intent of Principle # 5, the Department would need to ensure:

- a) its activities and decisions maintain the ecological processes, biological diversity and life-support systems of the environment;
- b) that renewable natural resources are harvested on a sustainable yield basis;
- c) that those persons who have been allocated provincial resources make wise and efficient use of them; and
- d) its programs and activities enhance the long-term productive capability, quality and capacity of natural ecosystems.

Examples:

- Manitoba's protected areas network was expanded by permanently protecting more than 125,000 hectares through designation of a new ecological reserve, two provincial parks, and the expansion and land use category boundary amendment in one existing provincial park.
- Winnipeg Beach was re-certified for the second time under the Blue Flag program, as well as West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park. The Blue Flag is a highly respected and recognized international eco-label that symbolizes clean and well-managed beaches and marinas.
- Manitoba provided support to the Lake Friendly Stewards Alliance including facilitating information sharing; enhancing collaboration and coordination; improving reporting and accountability; increasing efficiencies and technology transfer; and enhancing stewardship and economic opportunities. Alliance membership grew to 64 different agencies by the end of 2014/15.
- The Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project secured 492 hectares of native grassland on privately owned lands under two 5-year grazing management agreements.

6. Rehabilitation and Reclamation

To meet the intent of Principle # 6, the Department would need to ensure:

- a) it actively endeavours to repair or have repaired damage to, or degradation of, the environment; and
- b) that the Department builds into its future allocations of and plans for the use of resources the requirement to rehabilitate and reclaim areas and resources that may be damaged.

Examples:

- Routine monitoring of physical, chemical and biological conditions on Lake Winnipeg from the *MV Namao* continued in cooperation with the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium and others. Three scientific cruises on Lake Winnipeg were completed in 2014.
- As committed in *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*, the Department established The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund which facilitates projects that help Manitoba's fish and wildlife populations or associated habitat. The new fund will help ensure healthy fish and wildlife populations, maintenance of associated habitats, and the successful rehabilitation, maintenance and operation of the provincial fish hatchery system.

7. Global Responsibility

To meet the intent of Principle # 7, the Department would need to ensure:

- a) it thinks globally when acting locally, recognizing there is economic, ecological and social interdependence among provinces and nation; and
- b) it works co-operatively, within Canada and internationally, to integrate economic, environmental, human health and social factors in decision making while developing comprehensive and equitable solutions to problems.

Examples:

- The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is Canada's national river conservation program. It promotes, protects and enhances Canada's river heritage, and ensures that Canada's leading rivers are managed in a sustainable manner. Manitoba played a key role in advancing the CHRS Strategic Plan 2008-2018 as well as functioning on the CHRS Technical Planning Committee.
- The 2006 Canada/United States Softwood Lumber Agreement (2006 SLA) is a bilateral trade agreement which provides certainty and security to Canadian Softwood lumber producers who export into the United States. Manitoba participates regularly in discussions with both federal and provincial representatives on matters relating to the agreement and its pending expiry, and also provides the necessary notifications and certifications as required.
- Manitoba partnered with Environment Canada and several US jurisdictions on waterfowl population and harvest management programs, with a particular emphasis on sub-arctic nesting Canada Geese. Over 5,500 Canada geese were leg banded to estimate harvest and survival rates, and monitor the effect of international regulation changes.

Sustainable Development Guidelines

1. Efficient Uses of Resources

To meet the intent of Guidelines # 1, the Department ensures that:

- a) it encourages and facilitates development and application and use of systems for proper resource pricing, demand management and resource allocation together with incentives to encourage efficient use of resources; and
- b) it employs full-cost accounting to provide better information for decision-makers.

Examples:

- Tire Stewardship Manitoba raised \$6,494,020 through environmental handling fees on new tires and spent \$5,431,349 on administration and recycling costs.
- Manitoba supported the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Natural Areas Conservation Program through a Grant Funding Agreement, and a \$500.0 installment towards conservation programming. The agreement helps to deliver on objectives to conserve and protect important habitats and areas of ecological significance.

2. Public Participation

To meet the intent of Guideline # 2, the Department ensures that:

- a) it uses and establishes forums which encourage and provide opportunity for consultation and meaningful participation in departmental decision making processes by Manitobans;
- b) it provides due process, prior notification and appropriate and timely redress for those adversely affected by departmental decisions and actions; and
- c) it strives to achieve consensus amongst citizens and the Department with regard to decisions affecting them.

Examples:

- A discussion paper on recycling and waste reduction was released for public consultation in December 2014. Staff consulted with stakeholder groups on proposed actions for implementation under seven key priority areas with the aim of cutting Manitoba's per capita waste in half from 840 kg in 2013 to 420 kg by 2020.
- Manitoba undertook a series of targeted climate change and green economy consultation sessions.

3. Access to Information

To meet the intent of Guideline # 3, the Department ensures that it will:

- a) improve and refine economic, environmental, human health and social information related to natural resources and the environment; and
- b) provide and promote the opportunity for equal and timely access to its information by all Manitobans.

Examples:

- In the 2014 calendar year, 157 requests for information were received and 124 past and current year requests were completed under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
- The Department oversees the Big Game Draw program through a multi-level draw system to ensure a transparent program providing equal opportunity to all Manitoba hunters to hunt elk and moose where these animals are limited in numbers. For the 2014 draw, 4,572 individuals applied and 2,538 applicants were drawn for the available 52 hunting season choices.

- Manitoba enhanced the Manitoba Beaches web pages to include a mapping tool that better shares out reported algae, E. coli levels, and advisory information for each beach monitored by the Department.
- The Department created an interactive water routes mapping tool for canoeists visiting Nopiming Provincial Park that shows GPS coordinates for campsites, portages and staging areas as well as campsite descriptions and pictures.

4. Integrated Decision Making and Planning

To meet the intent of Guideline # 4, the Department ensures that it will:

- a) encourage, facilitate, establish and ensure its decision making and planning processes are efficient, timely, accountable and cross-sectoral; and
- b) incorporate into its decision making and planning an inter-generational perspective of future needs and consequences.

Examples:

- Work continued to reduce nutrient contributions to Lake Winnipeg and its watershed within Manitoba including implementing the *Canada-Manitoba Memorandum of Understanding Respecting Lake Winnipeg and the Lake Winnipeg Basin* to facilitate a cooperative and coordinated approach to understand and protect the water quality and ecological health of Lake Winnipeg and the Lake Winnipeg Basin.
- The Department and Manitoba Hydro initiated a regional cumulative effects assessment of hydroelectric development in the Nelson, Burntwood and Churchill River systems, in response to earlier recommendations from the Clean Environment Commission. A Phase 1 report consisting of a compilation of available data for the assessment was completed in 2014. The assessment of the data is expected to be completed in 2015.
- Watersheds Branch promotes the sustainable use and management of land, water and related resources through a watershed-based partnership with municipalities to: support 18 local conservation districts, develop 24 integrated watershed management plans; implement voluntary, incentive based programs and projects that address risks to water resources and aquatic ecosystems; and ensure that the ecological integrity and overall health of each watershed is protected. Local conservation district boards are empowered to make decisions that will have positive benefits for present and future generations.

5. Waste Minimization and Substitution

To meet the intent of Guideline # 5, the Department ensures that it will:

- a) encourage and promote, within and outside of the Department, the development and use of substitutes for scarce resources where such substitutes are both environmentally sound and economically viable; and
- b) reduce, reuse, recycle and recover the products the Department uses in its daily operations and encourage, promote and facilitate the 4 R's in society generally.

Examples:

- Multi Material Stewardship Manitoba raised \$11,438,878 from packaging and printed paper stewards, and reported a 63% diversion rate for 2014, an increase of 11% over the past five years.
- The Manitoba Association for Resource Recovery Corp. operates a province-wide stewardship program for used oil, used oil filters and used oil containers; and automotive antifreeze and

containers. In total, 53 municipal Eco-Centres and 27 privately operated depots collect used oil, filters and containers and antifreeze.

- Electronic Products Recycling Association Manitoba has 481 program stewards and manages 59 collection sites. Six new drop-off locations were added, expanding the collection network to cover up to 90% of the province. EPRA recycled 3,099 tonnes of end-of-life electronics, including microwaves diverting approximately 480,000 devices from Manitoba landfills.

6. Research and Innovation

To meet the intent of Guideline # 6, the Department ensures that it will:

- a) encourage and assist in the research, development, application and sharing of knowledge and technologies which further economic, environmental, human health and social well-being.

Examples:

- The Manitoba Conservation Data Centre received over 18,000 observations for inclusion in its species at risk data base. Organizations contributing data included the Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas, Manitoba Herp Atlas, and the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve.
- The Department worked at the Delta Marsh Wildlife Management Area with the University of Manitoba, Ducks Unlimited Canada and others to support research related to marsh water quality, vegetation changes and the effect of Common Carp on wetland habitat.

Sustainable Development Procurement Goals

1. Education, Training, and Awareness

To meet the intent of Goal #1, the Department would need to ensure a culture that supports sustainable procurement practices exists within the Department by:

- (a) increasing awareness about the benefits of Sustainable Development Procurement among departments, employees and vendors; and
- (b) expanding the knowledge and skills of procurement practitioners and end users.

Examples:

- An external Sustainable Procurement working group, with representatives from Manitoba, has created a website to support sustainable procurement. Information on the site was shared with departmental staff.
- A green procurement subcommittee has been formed and has begun discussions about possible standard wording for contracts to address green procurement, and development of green procurement policies.
- The Reducing Ecological Footprint Working Group designed a new role for interested staff who would like to play a greater role in encouraging green actions in their immediate work area. REF Ambassadors lead by example within the Department.

2. Pollution Prevention and Human Health Protection

To meet the intent of Goal #2, the Department would need to protect the health and environment of Manitobans from possible adverse effects of their operations and activities, and provide a safe and healthy working environment by:

- (a) reducing their purchase and use of toxic substances; and
- (b) reducing solid waste sent to landfill from Government of Manitoba owned or leased facilities occupied by the Department.

Examples:

- The Environment Act Amendment (Reducing Pesticide Exposure) and The Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulation (MR 286/2014) came into force in January 2015. The regulation prohibits the use of prescribed pesticides on lawns and on the grounds of schools, hospitals and child care centres, except in specific circumstances.

3. Reduction of Fossil Fuel Emissions

To meet the intent of Goal #3, the Department would need to reduce fossil fuel emissions of their operations and activities by:

- (a) reducing both consumption and emissions of vehicle fuels; and
- (b) as a substitute for regular fuels, increase their use of ethanol-blended fuels and alternative energy sources.

Examples:

- The Department coordinated the government-wide implementation of *The Climate Change Emissions Reduction Act* in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the province.

- The Department implemented Manitoba's Emissions Tax on Coal and worked with partner departments to ensure that coal users have appropriate supports enabling a switch to biomass and other forms of green heat.

4. Resource Conservation

To meet the intent of Goal #4, the Department would need to reduce their use and consumption of resources in a sustainable and environmentally preferable manner by:

- (a) reduce the total annual consumption of utilities including natural gas, electricity, propane, fuel oil and water in all leased or owned Government of Manitoba buildings and premises occupied by the Department; and
- (b) within the context of reduced resource use, increase the proportion of environmentally preferable products and environmentally preferable services used by the Department.

Examples:

- In working towards greening Manitoba Parks, five electric golf carts were purchased for St. Malo Provincial Park maintenance.
- A Print Reduction Initiative was launched by implementing a configuration change to how print jobs are released at the printer. This initiative provides government with the opportunity to reduce printed paper consumption and printing costs.
- The Department replaced 5-gallon bottled water coolers with tap water filtration systems.

5. Community Economic Development

To meet the intent of Goal #5, the Department would need to ensure that their procurement practices foster and sustain community economic development by:

- (a) increasing the participation of Aboriginal peoples and suppliers in providing for the Department's goods and services needs;
- (b) assisting in the development and growth of local environmental industries and markets for environmentally preferable products and services; and
- (c) increasing the participation of small businesses, community based businesses and co-operatives in the Department's procurement opportunities.

Examples:

- Manitoba's Forest Renewal Program contracted the planting of 2,472,000 trees on approximately 1,200 ha of Crown land. This was accomplished through 6 tendered contracts, of which 1 was awarded to a First Nation company through aboriginal tree planting initiatives.

Revenue and Expenditure Summaries

**Table RE.1
Reconciliation Statement**

\$(000s)	
DETAILS	2014-15 ESTIMATES
2014-15 MAIN ESTIMATES	\$144,236
MAIN ESTIMATES AUTHORITY TRANSFERRED FROM:	
Enabling Appropriation	
• Internal Service Adjustments	1,450
2014-15 ESTIMATE	\$145,686

Table RE.2

Revenue Summary by Source

For the year ended March 31, 2015 with comparative figures for the previous year

Actual 2013-14	Actual 2014-15	Increase (Decrease)	Source	Actual 2014-15	Estimate 2014-15	Variance	Expl. No.
OTHER REVENUE:							
1,129	583	(546)	Clean Environment Commission Cost Recovery	583	755	(172)	1.
672	338	(334)	Cottaging Initiative	338	732	(394)	2.
650	818	168	Environment Fees and Sundry	818	691	127	3.
4,366	3,832	(534)	Forestry Fees and Sundry	3,832	4,114	(282)	4.
284	309	25	GeoManitoba Fees and Sundry	309	321	(12)	5.
1,756	2,311	555	Land Information Sales and Fees	2,311	1,655	656	6.
15,789	16,953	1,164	Parks Fees	16,953	17,590	(637)	7.
5,991	6,412	421	Regional Operations Fees and Cost Recovery	6,412	5,020	1,392	8.
3,308	3,148	(160)	Wildlife Sundry	3,148	3,312	(164)	9.
875	353	(522)	Sundry	353	431	(78)	10.
3,470	2,230	(1,240)	Fisheries Fees and Sundry	2,230	1,937	293	11.
119,107	116,913	(2,194)	Water Power Rentals	116,913	125,000	(8,087)	12.
123	122	(1)	Water Resources Sundry	122	119	3	
157,520	154,322	(3,198)	Subtotal	154,322	161,677	(7,355)	
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA:							
99	85	(14)	1. Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention	85	89	(4)	
30	30	0	2. Ecosystem Monitoring Network	30	30	0	
17	0	(17)	3. Softwood Lumber Agreement	0	0	0	
146	115	(31)	Subtotal	115	119	(4)	
157,666	154,437	(3,229)	Total	154,437	161,796	(7,359)	
66	31	(35)	Sale of Government Assets	31	0	31	

Explanation Number:

1. Lower Clean Environment Commission revenue, due to cost recovery for Lake Winnipeg Regulation hearings, which commenced late in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year.
2. Lower Cottaging revenues, due to fewer cottages sold due to construction delays.
3. Higher Environmental Fees and Sundry revenues, due to increase in Pesticide Approval Fees applications; Certification Fees – Operator of Water and Wastewater facilities fees; higher on-site wastewater hauler applications and more septic fields and holding tank installations and installers being certified.
4. Lower Forestry Fees and Sundry revenues due to decrease in revenue from forest renewal charges due to large volume of winter storm damage salvage wood delivery from the Eastern Region with rates reduced by 50-75%.
5. Lower GeoManitoba Fees and Sundry revenue, due to lower cost for topographic mapping products and changes in business model and increase in free product on internet.
6. Higher lands sales revenue was due to completion of more surveys resulting in increased rate of property sales and a one time initial payment for the sale of lands to the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership for the Keeyask Generating Project, as part of the land transfer agreement entered into by the parties in July, 2014.
7. Lower Parks Fees revenue was due to lower camping and vehicle permit revenue because of

- unfavorable camping weather and delayed campground and sites openings, due to flooding.
8. Higher Regional Operations Fees and Cost Recovery variance was due to higher cost recovery for out of Province, forest fire suppression activity in B.C.
 9. Lower Wildlife sundry revenue, due to fewer Game Bird Licenses sold, to the foreign resident sales, combined effect of the fluctuating Canadian dollar and US hunting regulations and timing of migration of waterfowls.
 10. Lower Water Power Rentals revenue was due to cooler than normal summer and mild fall temperatures, resulting in a lower demand for electricity.
 11. Higher Fisheries Fees and Sundry revenues, due to higher sales of Angling Licences in 2014/15.
 12. Lower Sundry revenue was due to approvals base fee adjustment for Tourism Operators Licences, approved in 2013/14 Estimates, deferred until further notice, offset by minor increase in other miscellaneous revenues.

Table RE.3
Expenditure Summary

For fiscal year ended March 31, 2015 with comparative figures for the previous year.

Estimate 2014/15	Appropriation	Actual 2014/15	Actual 2013/14	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
12-1 Administration and Finance					
37	(a) Minister's Salary	37	37	0	
	(b) Executive Support				
765	Salaries and Employee Benefits	804	741	63	
182	Other Expenditures	116	129	(13)	
	(c) Administration & Financial Services				
3,958	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,954	4,089	(135)	
1,254	Other Expenditures	1,365	1,361	4	
	(d) Corporate Crown Land Policy				
252	Salaries and Employee Benefits	264	252	22	
16	Other Expenditures	26	24	2	
	(e) Clean Environment Commission				
338	Salaries and Employee Benefits	420	465	(45)	1.
394	Other Expenditures	656	973	(317)	
	(f) GeoManitoba				
3,273	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,335	2,625	(290)	2.
	Other Expenditures	903	1,568	(665)	
1,244	Less: Recoveries from other appropriations	(874)	(1,658)	784	
(1,621)					
10,092	Total 12-1	10,006	10,596	(590)	
12-2 Parks and Regional Services					
	(a) Regional Support Services				
2,734	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,130	2,985	145	
1,004	Other Expenditures	1,464	1,047	417	3.
	(b) Northwest Region				
2,033	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,962	1,950	12	
626	Other Expenditures	638	643	(5)	
	(c) Northeast Region				
2,536	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,548	2,485	63	
963	Other Expenditures	1,127	1,017	110	4.
	(d) Central Region				
3,896	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,510	3,814	(304)	5.
1,096	Other Expenditures	1,068	1,106	(38)	
	(e) Eastern Region				
3,777	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,711	3,695	16	
763	Other Expenditures	762	800	(38)	
	(f) Western Region				
3,694	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,678	3,646	32	
1,055	Other Expenditures	1,051	1,077	(26)	
	(g) Parks and Protected Spaces				
16,044	Salaries and Employee Benefits	16,109	15,963	146	
9,757	Other Expenditures	10,270	10,104	166	6.
461	Grant Assistance	460	466	(6)	
(472)	Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(472)	(472)	0	
	(h) Fire and Emergency Response Program				
6,694	Salaries and Employee Benefits	11,386	6,626	4,760	
10,596	Other Expenditures	4,929	11,061	(6,132)	7.

Estimate 2014/15	Appropriation	Actual 2014/15	Actual 2013/14	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
(500)	Less: Recoverable from Emergency Expenditures	(499)	(496)	(3)	
66,757	Total 12-2	66,832	67,517	(685)	
	12-3 Biodiversity and Land Use				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
191	Salaries and Employee Benefits	228	212	18	
244	Other Expenditures	257	288	(31)	
	(b) Forestry and Peatlands Management				
5,563	Salaries and Employee Benefits	5,727	5,733	(6)	
3,903	Other Expenditures	3,311	3,146	165	8.
41	Grant Assistance	23	23	0	
545	Forest Regeneration Stock	916	545	371	9.
(1,608)	Less: Recoverable from Urban and Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(1,607)	(1,549)	(58)	
	(c) Wildlife				
3,602	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,635	3,533	102	
1,766	Other Expenditures	1,833	1,775	58	
874	Grant Assistance	874	874	0	
178	Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Damage Prevention Agreement	171	279	(108)	
45	(d) Habitat Enhancement Fund	45	45	0	
0	(e) Pineland Forest Nursery	0	0	0	
	(f) Lands				
1,632	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,610	1,621	(11)	
4,358	Other Expenditures	3,975	4,888	(913)	10.
234	Grant Assistance	234	234	0	
1,013	(g) International Institute for Sustainable Development	1,013	1,013	0	
	(h) Aboriginal Relations				
417	Salaries and Employee Benefits	341	398	(57)	
169	Other Expenditures	311	121	190	11.
335	(i) Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin	49	291	(242)	
(2,410)	(j) Less: Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	(2,410)	(2,410)	0	
21,112	Total 12-3	20,536	21,060	(524)	
	12-4 Environmental Stewardship				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
337	Salaries and Employee Benefits	295	345	(60)	
50	Other Expenditures	55	36	19	
	(b) Environment Programs and Strategies				
1,609	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,800	1,712	88	
524	Other Expenditures	485	1,558	(1,073)	12.
	(c) Environmental Compliance and Enforcement				
3,589	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,049	3,005	44	
1,094	Other Expenditures	1,269	925	344	13.
	(d) Environmental Approvals				
1,899	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,764	1,718	46	
191	Other Expenditures	304	383	(59)	
	(e) Climate Change Initiatives				
481	Salaries and Employee Benefits	584	567	17	

Estimate 2014/15	Appropriation	Actual 2014/15	Actual 2013/14	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
222	Other Expenditures	216	138	78	
1,852	(f) Strategic Policy and Co-ordination Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,875	1,782	93	
257	Other Expenditures	293	595	(302)	14.
96	Grant Assistance	97	97	0	
12,201	Total 12-4	12,076	12,841	(765)	
	12-5 Water Stewardship				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
757	Salaries and Employee Benefits	376	439	(63)	
452	Other Expenditures	905	514	391	15.
	(b) Water Science and Management				
2,727	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,632	2,594	38	
863	Other Expenditures	835	908	(73)	
	(c) Fisheries Branch				
2,564	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,365	2,215	150	
463	Other Expenditures	971	418	553	16.
410	Northern Fisherman's Freight Assistance	410	410	0	
0	(d) Fisheries Enhancement Fund	0	1,705	(1,705)	17.
	(e) Conservation District and Watershed Assistance				
5,162	Conservation District and Watershed Assistance	5,162	5,162	0	
(1,165)	Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(1,165)	(1,165)	0	
	(f) Office of Drinking Water				
2,043	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,985	2,061	(76)	
697	Other Expenditures	605	594	11	
	(g) Drainage and Water Control Licensing				
1,440	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,620	1,537	83	
407	Other Expenditures	375	427	(52)	
	(h) Water Use Licensing				
1,396	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,262	1,154	108	
219	Other Expenditures	153	1,773	(1,620)	18.
1,131	(i) Water Stewardship Initiatives	1,259	1,239	20	
	(j) Watershed and Land Use Planning				
1,074	Salaries and Employee Benefits	941	1,178	(237)	19.
174	Other Expenditures	172	157	15	
20,814	Total 12-5	20,863	23,320	(2,457)	
	12-6 Costs Related to Capital Assets				
	(a) General Assets				
2,536	(1) Amortization Expense	31,902	1,713	30,189	20.
2,461	(2) Interest Expense	2,443	1,843	600	21.
	(b) Infrastructure Assets				
4,391	(1) Amortization Expense	4,036	3,590	446	22.
5,322	(2) Interest Expense	5,226	4,659	567	23.
14,710	Total 12-6	43,607	11,805	31,802	
145,686	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	173,920	147,139	26,781	

Estimate 2014/15	Appropriation	Actual 2014/15	Actual 2013/14	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
B.12 Capital Investment					
(a) General Assets					
300	(1) Information Technology Projects	167	0	167	24.
11,616	(2) Other Equipment and Buildings	11,918	14,054	(2,136)	25.
(b) Infrastructure Assets					
16,113	(1) Parks Infrastructure Projects	16,001	11,047	4,954	26.
2,500	(2) Crown Land and Cottage Lot Development	0	0	0	
30,529	TOTAL B.12 CAPITAL INVESTMENT	28,086	25,101	2,985	

Explanations:

1. The decrease of \$(317) in 2014/15 operating expenditures was primarily due to completion of BiPole III consultations and smaller hearing groups related to Lake Winnipeg Regulation hearings.
2. The decrease of \$(655) in 2014/15 operating expenditures is due to vacancies resulting in lesser survey work done outside of Winnipeg.
3. The increase of \$417 in 2014/15 operating expenditures was due to payment of MPIC Snoman contract and training cost for Natural Resource Officers in the region.
4. The increase of \$110 in 2014/15 operating expenditures was due to monitoring and interception of high risk polar bears, reconnaissance of endearing features of proposed Polar Bear Park and care and rescue of polar bears in the Northeast Region.
5. The decrease of \$(304) in 2014/15 operating expenditures was due to vacancies in the Central Region.
6. The increase of \$166 in 2014/15 operating expenditures was due to Hecla Golf Course and Red River Clean up costs and general Parks operations and maintenance costs.
7. The decrease of \$(1,372) in 2014/15 net operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.
8. The increase of \$165 in 2014/15 operating expenditures was primarily due to delays in tendering the Nelson River Forestry Inventory interpretation contract in 2013/14.
9. The increase of \$371 in 2014/15 operating expenditures for Forest Regeneration Stock, is due to transitioning to move away from a three year contract for seeding to a one-year contract.
10. The decrease of \$(913) in 2014/15 operating expenditures was primarily due to delayed grant payment to World Heritage Site, due to unmet reporting requirements, a reduction in demand for cottage lots and a reduction in CLPA fees negotiated for current year.
11. The increase of \$190 in 2014/15 is due to payment of grant assistance to Treaty 2 and Opaskwayak Cree Nation, not paid in 2013/14.
12. The decrease of \$(1,073) in 2014/15, is due to payment of non-recurring support to landfill gas facilities mitigation in Winnipeg and Brandon in 2013/14.
13. The increase of \$344 in 2014/15 operating expenditures was primarily due to grants paid to Pimachiowin Aki, World Heritage Site.
14. The decrease of \$(302) in 2014/15 in Salaries and Employee Benefits, is due to vacancies and retirements.
15. The increase of \$391 in 2014/15 operating expenditures is primarily due to funding transferred to the Fisheries and Wildlife Enhancement Fund, for the Zebra Mussel program.
16. The increase of \$553 in 2014/15 is primarily due to the Zebra Mussel clean-up costs, paid for by the department.
17. The decrease of \$(1,705) in 2014/15 in operating expenditures, is due to the establishment of a new trust account for Fisheries and Wildlife Enhancement Fund (FWEF), to fund projects previously funded from Fisheries Enhancement Fund.
18. The decrease of \$(1,620) in 2014/15 operating expenditures, is due to Wuskwatim water power rental payments in 2013/14.
19. The decrease of \$(237) in 2014/15 Salaries and Employee Benefits, is due to vacancies.
20. The increase of \$30,189 in 2014/15 in General Assets expense, related to the Asset write-off to correct the Schedule of Unadjusted items, accounting treatment for International Polar Bear Conservatory, as recommended by the Office of Auditor General, removing the asset from the Province's tangible capital assets and treating it as an operating expense, for the fiscal year.

Estimate 2014/15	Appropriation	Actual 2014/15	Actual 2013/14	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
21.	The increase of \$600 in 2014/15 in General Asset- interest expense is related to the Assiniboine Park Conservancy Arctic Exhibit Building.				
22.	The increase of \$446 in 2014/15 in Infrastructure Assets, Amortization Expense is related to Assiniboine Park Conservancy Arctic Exhibit Building and updating/expansion of various Manitoba's Parks Infrastructure.				
23.	The increase of \$567 in 2014/15 in Infrastructure Assets, Interest expense, is related to various old and new on-going Park Infrastructure projects, for campgrounds in Manitoba Parks, such as West Hawk Townsite Road repairs and Winnipeg Beach Campground Expansion.				
24.	The increase of \$167 in 2014/15 Capital Investment - General Assets, is mainly due to delays in various Information Technology Projects due to planning and design challenges in 2013/14.				
25.	The decrease of \$(2,136) in 2014/15 is due to the year or year difference in timing of construction of Assiniboine Park Conservancy Arctic Exhibit Building, Lac Du Bonnet Initial Attack Base Project and GIS ICT Projects.				
26.	The increase of \$4,954 in 2014/15 in Parks Infrastructure Projects is due to year over year difference in various Parks Infrastructure projects, such as Birds Hill Beach Expansion, New Spruce Woods Wastewater Lagoon, Brereton Lake Waste Treatment System upgrade, Stephenfield Wastewater Lagoon upgrade and Aseissippi Road upgrade.				

Table RE.4
Five Year Expenditure and Staffing Summary by Appropriation

For year ending March 31, 2011 – March 31, 2015*

	2010/2011		2011/2012		2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015	
	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)
Administration and Finance	135.58	11,838	135.58	13,391	136.58	13,917	129.79	10,596	126.75	10,006
Parks and Regional Services	616.58	66,394	619.58	68,632	618.58	69,768	598.40	67,517	598.10	66,832
Biodiversity and Land Use	191.85	29,224	193.85	31,458	188.29	29,714	135.04	21,060	135.05	20,536
Environmental Stewardship	130.00	10,651	130.00	12,432	129.00	12,646	136.00	12,841	133.00	12,076
Water Stewardship	159.31	24,052	163.31	20,961	166.31	22,745	177.31	23,320	171.30	20,863
Costs Related to Capital Assets		7,832		8,972		10,516		11,805		43,607
Total Appropriations	1,233.32	149,991	1,242.32	155,846	1,238.76	159,306	1,176.54	147,139	1,164.20	173,920

*Adjusted figures reflect historical data on a comparable basis in those appropriations affected by re-organization, during the years under review.

Performance Reporting Table 2014/15

The following section provides information on key performance measures for the department for the 2014/15 reporting year. This is the sixth year in which all Government of Manitoba departments have included a Performance Measurement section, in a standardized format, in their Annual Reports.

Performance indicators in departmental Annual Reports are intended to complement financial results and provide Manitobans with meaningful and useful information about government activities, and their impact on the province and its citizens.

For more information on performance reporting and the Manitoba government, visit www.manitoba.ca/performance.

Your comments on performance measures are valuable to us. You can send comments or questions to mbperformance@gov.mb.ca.

What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (baseline data and year) (C)	What is the 2014/2015 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
<p>The availability of high quality outdoor recreation opportunities and experiences for Manitobans; measured by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of improved campsites made available (e.g., washrooms, showers). - Yearly occupation rates of all campsites. 	<p>It is important to measure the expansion of available recreational campsites because the ability to enjoy outdoor recreation experiences is very important to Manitobans. Camping is a growing activity in Manitoba and it is important to know if the camping program is meeting the needs of Manitobans.</p>	<p>The baseline year is 2004/05 – 225 improved campsites were made available to Manitobans that year.</p>	<p>Four new washroom/shower buildings were completed for Kiche Manitou campground</p> <p>1 new cabin was added at Hecla. 12 sites at Rivers were upgraded to electrical/water service, and six new walk-in tenting sites were added at Tulabi Falls. The average campsite occupancy was 31.5%, which is down 2.8% from 2013/14.</p>	<p>From 2004/05 through 2013/14, a total of 953 camping improvements were implemented.</p> <p>Campsite occupancy saw its first significant dip since 2005, and was consistent with other jurisdictions in the country. Cool, wet weather was a significant factor in Manitoba.</p>	<p>The province has made significant commitments with respect to increasing camping and cottaging opportunities for Manitobans.</p> <p>In 2014/15, two of the seven parks damaged by the 2011 flood remained closed. Kiche Manitou opened briefly and closed for most of the season due to overland flooding. St. Ambrose Beach remained closed but was open for day use.</p>

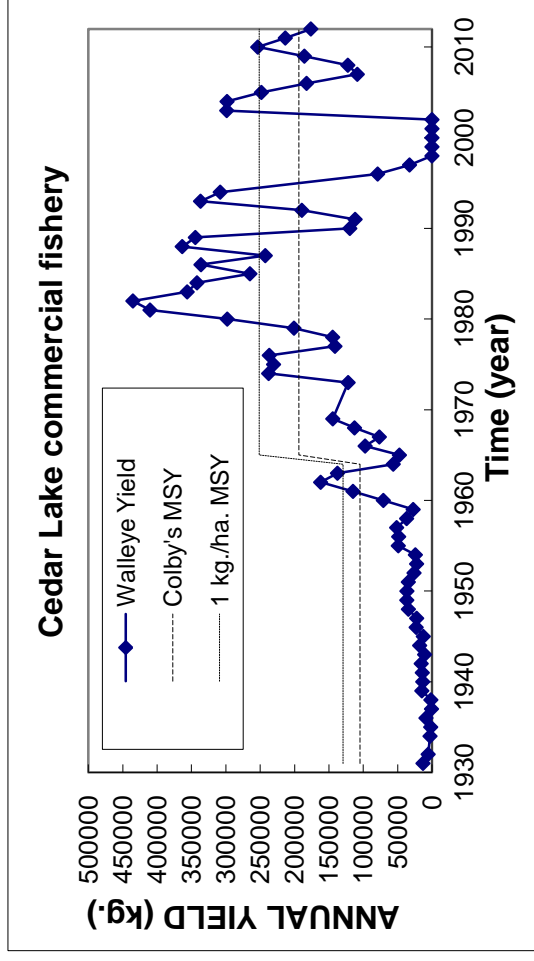
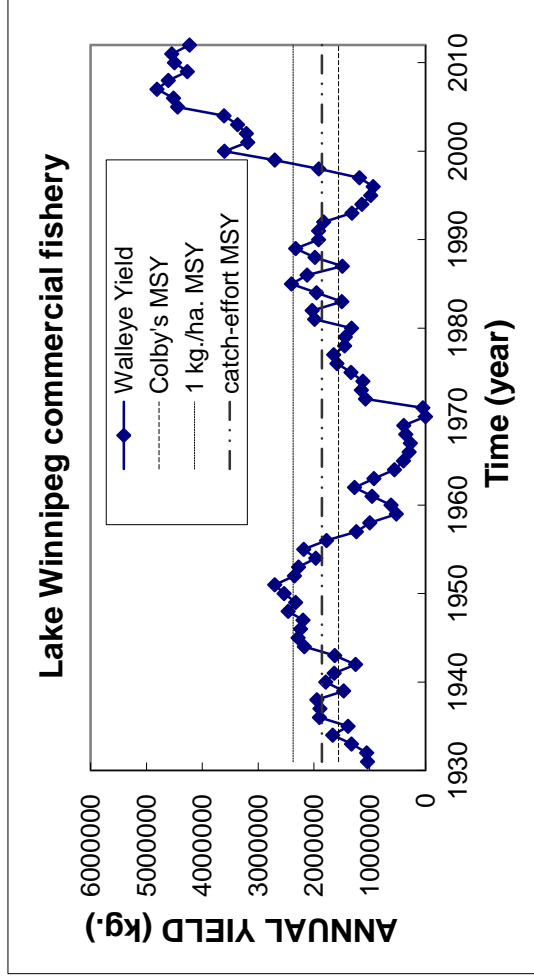
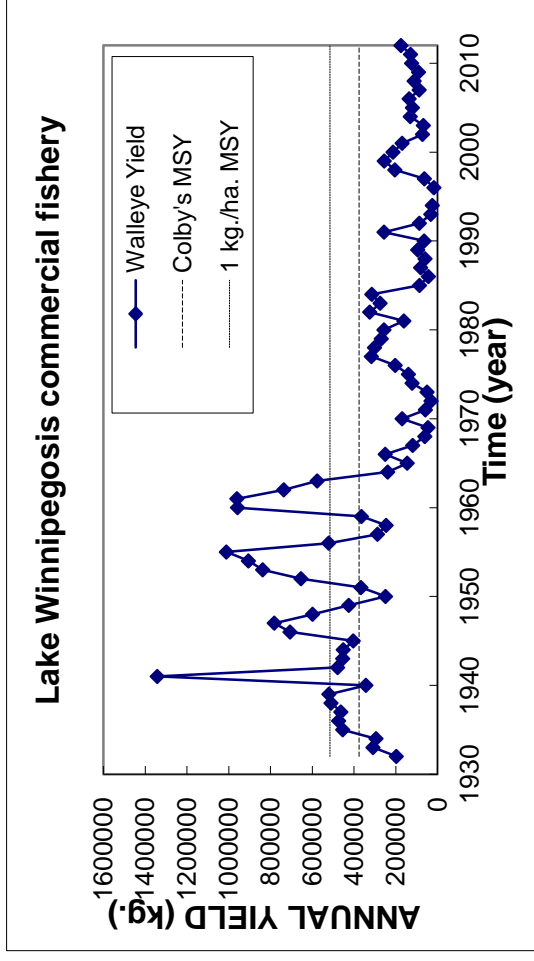
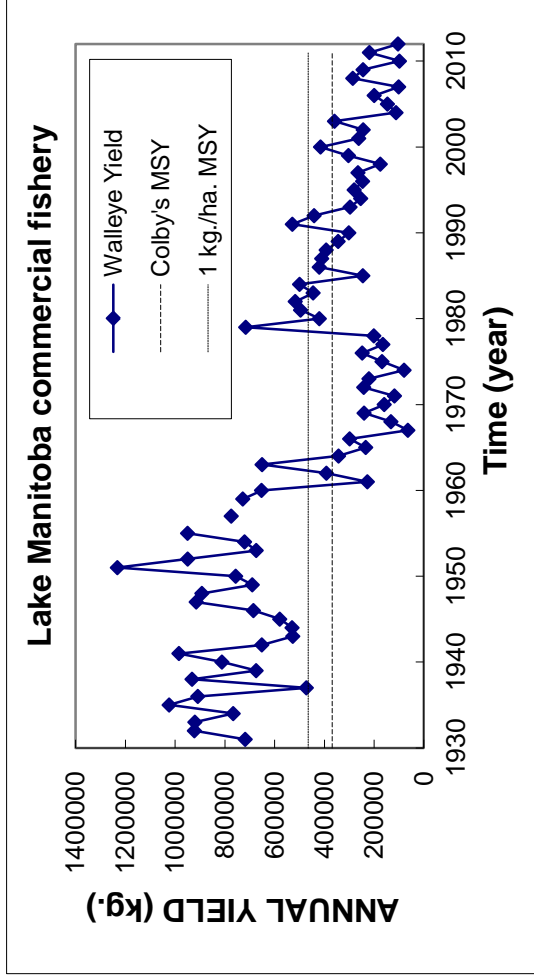
What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (baseline data and year) (C)	What is the 2014/2015 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
<p>Number of cottage lots made available to Manitobans.</p> <p>Reduction in environmental liabilities for which the Department is responsible.</p> <p>Starting this year, Environmental Approvals will be phasing out reporting on Environmental</p> <p>Liabilities as a performance measure. Information regarding the value of environmental liabilities can be found in the Environmental Approvals section of the Annual Report.</p>	<p>Providing cottaging opportunities is important to government and Manitobans. Relative affordability of cottage properties is a major reason why Manitoba remains attractive as a place to live.</p> <p>Contaminated and impacted sites may be harmful to human health and/or the environment. They need to be tracked to ensure public safety and health and environmental protection.</p>	<p>The baseline year is 2004/05 when the Cottage Lot Program began. The commitment at that time was to create 1,000 new cottage lots. In 2007 government announced another 1,000 new cottage lots would be created under the program. The focus of the Program since 2007 has been on joint cottage lot development with First Nations as a means to create economic opportunities.</p> <p>The baseline year is 2005/06. Recorded value of environmental liabilities was \$39 million as of March 31, 2006.</p>	<p>An estimated 1402 lots have been made available in the form of newly created lots since 2004 and from pre-2004 cottage lot inventory. Approximately 1056 lots have been sold or leased through Cottage Lot Draws and the First Come First Served Program.</p> <p>From 2007 to 2009/10 Manitoba entered into Memorandums of Understanding with two First Nations. Manitoba continues to work with these First Nations towards joint cottage lot agreements.</p> <p>Recorded value of environmental liabilities for the Department was \$97.5 million as of March 31, 2015.</p>	<p>The number of Manitobans applying/expressing interest for cottage lots through the Cottage Lot Draws and First Come First Served Cottage Lot programs remains consistently high since inception of the program.</p> <p>Recorded value of environmental liabilities should decrease as sites are remediated, and environmental quality should increase as a result.</p>	<p>Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship and the Black River First Nation have entered into a joint cottage lot development agreement. Construction of the Black River Cottage lot development continues.</p> <p>Recent high water levels, flood events and significant shoreline erosion issues on Manitoba's major lakes in 2011 may affect demand in future cottage lot offerings. Appropriate assessments are undertaken to ensure these concerns are addressed in the future.</p> <p>Initial identification and assessment phase is complete. Assessment and remediation of priority sites is ongoing.</p>

What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (baseline data and year) (C)	What is the 2014/2015 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
<p>Hectares of protected land in Manitoba.</p>	<p>Protected areas help ensure conservation of biodiversity, maintain natural cycles, provide pristine areas and preserve land for Aboriginal people to maintain their traditional activities. Measuring the growth in protected areas will tell us how well we are meeting our goal for protected lands that represent the biodiversity in each of Manitoba's natural regions.</p>	<p>The baseline year is 1990 - 350,000 hectares were designated as Protected Areas Initiative began.</p>	<p>Currently 7.0 million hectares or 10.8% of Manitoba is protected – a significant increase since 1990. This includes two national parks, 24 ecological reserves, all or parts of 44 provincial parks and park reserves, all or parts of 50 wildlife management areas, two areas designated under <i>The Forest Act</i>, four traditional use planning areas designated under <i>The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act</i>, and various parcels of conservation agency-owned private land.</p>	<p>Since 1990, the area of protected lands has increased from 350,000 hectares to 7,080,000 hectares, as of March 31, 2015</p>	
<p>The number and type of forestry co-management agreements in place, projects or developments undertaken by Aboriginal communities or number of contacts with communities or companies.</p>	<p>Provides an indication of the level of economic development opportunities in the forest sector for Aboriginal communities.</p>	<p>The baseline year is 2008/09.</p>	<p>A total of 3 tree planting contracts valued at \$189,712 awarded to First Nation contractors to plant 799,110 trees.</p> <p>Working with several FN communities regarding community awards for timber harvesting.</p> <p>Commercial Community awards (3):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Buffalo Point FN 1,000 m³ hardwood 2. Shoal Lake #40 2,000 m³ hardwood and 1000 m³ softwood 3. Opaskwayak CN 19,500 m³ hardwood and 500 m³ softwood 	<p>Increasing involvement in all area of forest renewal.</p>	<p>Forestry Branch continues to explore opportunities to engage First Nation involvement within the provincial forest inventory program.</p>

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			<p>Non-commercial community award (1) 1. Manitoba Métis Federation 1,250 m³ hardwood and 1,250 m³ softwood</p> <p>Timber sales from 2012/13 was extended to March 31, 2014</p> <p>Forestry Crown Aboriginal consultation continues. In 2013/14 meetings were held in many communities and more meetings are scheduled for 2014/15.</p>		
<p>Percentage of provincial Crown land co-managed with First Nations.</p> <p>This measure is being phased out and replaced with the following measure, which reflect the performance measure of the department.</p>	<p>The amount of co-managed land provides an indication of government's efforts to establish good relationships with First Nations.</p>	<p>2000/01 MOUs on co-management were signed.</p>	<p>42.3% co-managed or under negotiation to be co-managed.</p>	<p>Percentage of Crown land under co-management is increasing.</p>	
<p>Hectares of forest burned in the "Red Zone" (priority forested areas) as a percentage of total hectares burned in the province.</p> <p>Starting this year, the Fire Program will be phasing out reporting on hectares burned in the "Red Zone" as this measurement is subject to the variability of natural conditions.</p>	<p>Protection of people and property and the surrounding forested areas helps contribute to viable communities in these areas that are primarily in the north.</p>	<p>The baseline year is 2000/01. 0.23% of the highest priority forest protection zone (Red Zone) was burned.</p>	<p>In 2014/15, 0.0% of the highest priority forest protection zone (Red Zone) was burned.</p>	<p>The small percentage of area burned in the red zone was due to a very slow fire season. There is no clear directional trend for this measure because risk of forest fire varies widely from year to year, primarily due to weather conditions.</p>	

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<p>The status of fish stocks is being measured by comparing the commercial production of the most economically valuable fish species against Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY). These comparisons are made for four large commercial fisheries: Lake Winnipeg, Lake Manitoba, Lake Winnipegosis and Cedar lake.</p>	<p>It is important to measure the status of these fish stocks because they are an indicator of both aquatic ecosystem health and economic opportunity for fishers.</p>	<p>The baseline used for management purposes is MSY and historic annual catch.</p>	<p>See walleye production & MSY graphs, below.</p> <p>Current walleye and mixed species quotas are:</p> <p>Lake Winnipegosis – no fixed quota</p> <p>Lake Manitoba – 907,200 kg (walleye, sauger)</p> <p>Cedar Lake – 496,600 kg (walleye, sauger, goldeye, whitefish) – tolerance: not more than 300,000 can be walleye</p> <p>Lake Winnipeg – 6,600,000 kg (walleye, sauger, whitefish)</p>	<p>Lake Winnipegosis – production has experienced long term decline.</p> <p>Lake Manitoba – production has experienced long term decline.</p> <p>Cedar Lake – recent increases in production reflect five-year closure due to decreased fishery.</p> <p>Lake Winnipeg – Recent decline in walleye production from record levels. High nutrients and invasive species leaves concerns for stability.</p>	<p>Lake Winnipegosis – The Department continued to implement rehabilitation strategies as part of overall stock recovery efforts.</p> <p>Lake Manitoba – The Department is undertaking community discussions in the development of a fisheries management plan.</p> <p>Cedar Lake – Recovery of fish stocks is not complete. Fishery continues to be adjusted, in accordance with the management plan.</p> <p>Lake Winnipeg – Monitoring efforts on Lake Winnipeg will continue. A <i>Lake Winnipeg Fishery Resource Co-Management Board</i> was established to enhance fisher participation in the decision-making process.</p>

Commercial production and maximum sustainable yield (MSY) on four large Manitoba fisheries.



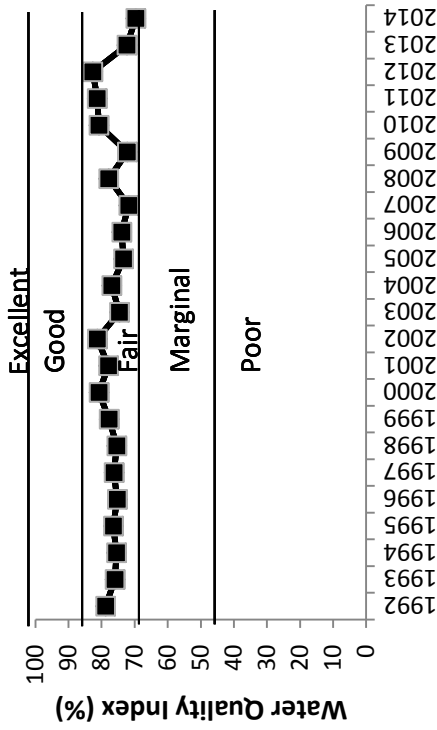
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<p>Waste diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organics tonnage diverted away from landfills for composting 	<p>Reducing the amount of organic waste going to landfills reduces waste disposal costs, saves landfill space and generates environmental, social and economic benefits.</p>	<p>The Manitoba Composts program launched in June 2014 commits up to \$1 million in annual funding to provide incentive payments to compost facilities.</p>	<p>In 2014-2015, nine compost facilities have registered with the Manitoba Composts program are reporting over 40,000 tonnes of material diverted.</p>	<p>The amount of diversion of organic materials is expected to increase over the years. The longer term goal is to increase diversion of organic waste to 100,000 tonnes annually by 2020.</p>	<p>This is a new performance measure for the department and coincides with Department Plan.</p> <p>Manitoba is developing an aggressive recycling and waste reduction strategy. http://greenmanitoba.ca/manitoba-recycles/</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycling tonnages reported to the WRARS Program based on quantity of materials diverted from waste disposal facilities. 	<p>Reducing the amount of waste going to landfills reduces waste disposal costs and generates environmental and social benefits, including business opportunities.</p>	<p>In 2012, Manitoba's regulated recycling programs diverted 109,000 tonnes of material from disposal. WRARS Program support for residential recycling started in 2009. The data on waste diversion by municipalities varies from year to year based on the number of municipalities reporting to the program.</p>	<p>In 2013, Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) diverted approximately 120,600 tonnes of materials from landfill sites. Manitoba municipalities diverted approximately 77,290 tonnes of materials in 2014 compared to 69,000 tonnes in 2013.</p>	<p>The amount of materials being recycled is increasing. Diversion by municipalities is also increasing.</p>	<p>http://www.eprcanada.ca/ (Manitoba's section begins on page 6)</p> <p>http://www.ccme.ca/files/Resources/waste/extended/CAP-EPR%20Progress%20Report.pdf (page 7 for a comparative table)</p> <p>Green Manitoba Annual Reports: http://greenmanitoba.ca/annual-report/</p> <p>Manitoba Waste and Recycling Reports (2011-2012, 2013-draft)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantity disposed off at waste disposal sites and the resulting per capita waste tonnage. 	<p>Manitoba has high per capita waste generation rate and a low diversion rate when compared to other jurisdictions. Tracking the</p>	<p>Effective January 1, 2011, all landfills in Manitoba are required to remit a \$10 per tonne WRARS Levy. Levy remittances are</p>	<p>Waste disposed of in 2014 was 981,043 tonnes compared to 960,710 tonnes in 2013. Per capita waste has declined from 0.841 tonnes in</p>	<p>There has been a slight (2%) increase in the total waste disposed but a slight decrease on the same on a per capita basis.</p>	

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	<p>numbers will help measure waste diversion performance and indicate where more waste reduction recycling initiatives are needed.</p>	<p>made two times per year (January to June and July to December).</p>	<p>2013 to 0.836 tonnes in 2014.</p>		
Production of educational materials for public consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform the public about various options available for recycling of household waste materials 	<p>Base-line: 2011-12 Ads placed in newspaper and magazines – 7 Article - 1</p>	<p>In 2014-15: Ads placed in newspaper and magazines - 7 Article - 5</p>	<p>About the same. See the comments (F)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some of the interventions are fixed or recurrent such as websites and directories. The contents are updated.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To inform the public about various sustainability initiatives undertaken in Manitoba so that they can participate To encourage sharing of ideas and best practices To showcase the province's leadership in promoting sustainable practices 	<p>EcoCalendar – 1 (100,000 copies) Display/exhibits – 10 Presentations – 24 Promotional materials (e.g., info cards, leaflets, magnets, memory sticks) – 4 Web based resources – 4 (websites or online directories) Smart phone apps - 0</p>	<p>EcoCalendar – 1 (50,000 copies) Display/exhibits – 7 Presentations – 28 Promotional materials (e.g., info cards, leaflets, magnets, memory sticks) – 6 Web based resources – 4 (websites or online directories) Smart phone apps – 2 (for iPhone and android devices) New ads for products and programs - 2</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Others are produced on need basis so the actual number may vary from year to year. The eco-depot locator apps introduced in 2013 remain popular and in line with the increased use of smart devices by the public.

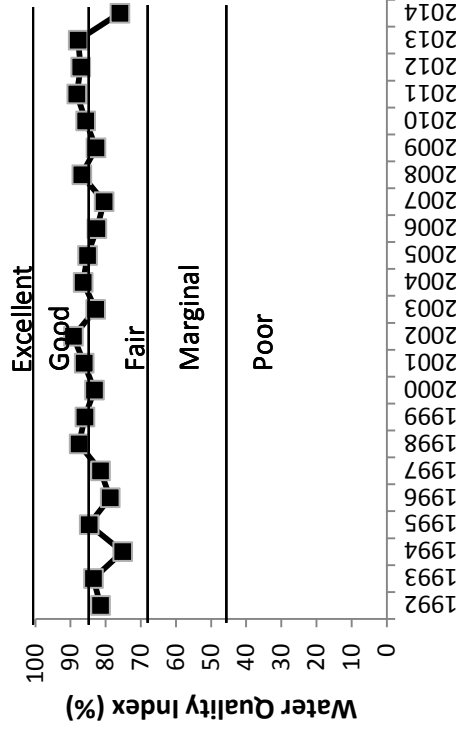
<p>What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)</p> <p>Water quality in Manitoba, by assessing water quality data using the CCME Water Quality Index.</p>	<p>Why is it important to measure this? (B)</p> <p>It is important to measure water quality because we want to protect drinking water, fish and other aquatic life, recreation, and other important water uses.</p>	<p>What is the starting point? (baseline data and year) (C)</p> <p>Water quality has been tested at many rivers, streams and lakes since the early 1970s. The Water Quality Index has been calculated for 36 stations since 1992.</p>	<p>What is the 2014/2015 result or most recent available data? (D)</p> <p>The latest data available is for 2014. Within the Prairie Ecozone, the CCME Water Quality Index Value was 70 or of "fair" quality. Within the Boreal Plains, the CCME Water Quality Index Value was 76 or of "fair" quality. Within the Boreal Shield Ecozone, the CCME Water Quality Index Value was 98 or of "excellent" quality.</p>	<p>What is the trend over time for this indicator? (E)</p> <p>The Water Quality Index in Manitoba has generally been stable since 1992 (see graphs below). There has been a small but significant improvement in Water Quality Index score for the Boreal Shield Ecozone over the 1992-2014 period. There is no trend in the Water Quality Index scores for the Prairie and Boreal Plains Ecozones from 1992-2014.</p>	<p>Comments/recent actions/report links (F)</p> <p>Work is underway to protect, maintain and improve water quality in Manitoba including measures to reduce nutrient loading to waterways. For example, the department is encouraging innovative water and wastewater technologies to improve water quality; has proposed a new regulation for drainage and water retention to improve water quality; and is promoting the reduction of nutrient loading via personal action.</p>
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CCME Water Quality Index for Manitoba

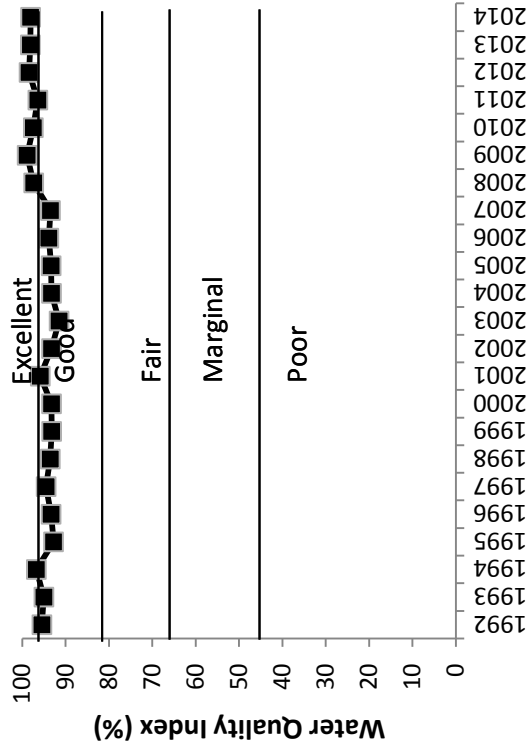
Prairie Water Body Average
CCME Water Quality Index



Boreal Plains Water Body Average
CCME Water Quality Index



Boreal Shield Water Body Average
CCME Water Quality Index



The Water Quality Index compares a number of important water quality parameters against established standards, objectives, or guidelines. When compared over time, it provides a useful indicator of how water quality may be changing. Annual data from 36 consistently monitored sites are used in the WQI.

The Water Quality Index yields a number between 0 and 100 that is indicative of the overall water quality.

Excellent: (CCME WQI Value 95-100) - water quality is protected with a virtual absence of threat or impairment; conditions very close to natural or pristine levels. These index values can only be obtained if all measurements are within objectives virtually all of the time.

Good: (CCME WQI Value 80-94) - water quality is protected with only a minor degree of threat or impairment; conditions rarely depart from natural or desirable levels.

Fair: (CCME WQI Value 65-79) - water quality is usually protected but occasionally threatened or impaired; conditions sometimes depart from natural or desirable levels.

Marginal: (CCME WQI Value 45-64) - water quality is frequently threatened or impaired; conditions often depart from natural or desirable levels.

Poor: (CCME WQI Value 0-44) - water quality is almost always threatened or impaired; conditions usually depart from natural or desirable levels.

What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (baseline data and year) (C)	What is the 2014/15 most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Is target a commitment? (Y?N) Indicate source.	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
<p>Approximately 440 public water supply systems in Manitoba serve over 85% of residents. The remainder are serviced by semi-public or private water systems or fall within federal jurisdiction, e.g. First Nations.</p> <p>The Office of Drinking Water began performance reporting in 2003 with a health-based compliance index that captured average public water system compliance with the most critical public health monitoring requirements: bacteriological testing schedules, bacteriological water quality standards, chlorine residual testing schedules, and chlorine residual standards.</p> <p>In 2011, the Office began reporting on the percentage of public water systems that achieved full compliance with all of the chemical standards that were to take effect the following year.</p> <p>Starting this year, the Office will be phasing out the health-based compliance index, and will begin reporting on: the percentage of public water systems that achieve full compliance with all of their disinfection monitoring requirements; and the percentage of public water systems that achieve full compliance with all of their bacteriological monitoring requirements.</p>	<p>The health-based compliance index captured critical acute public health risks associated with disease-causing microbiological organisms. The index captured average public water system compliance with all requirements.</p> <p>The new performance reporting measures (percentage of public water systems that achieve full compliance with all of the disinfection and bacteriological monitoring requirements) holds water systems to a much higher standard – requiring them to achieve 100% compliance with all monitoring requirements to be counted.</p> <p>Chemical standards typically address lower-level public health risks associated with lifetime exposure.</p>	<p>The Office of Drinking Water's health-based compliance monitoring program started in 2003. The baseline for Manitoba's public water systems at that time was 72%.</p> <p>The baselines being established this year for the percentage of public water systems achieving full compliance with all of the disinfection and bacteriological monitoring requirements are 67% and 60% respectively.</p> <p>The baseline for percent public water system compliance with all chemical standards established in 2011, was 66%.</p>	<p>The 2014 health-based compliance index for Manitoba public water systems is 87%. This is the last year that the Office of Drinking Water will be reporting on this indicator.</p> <p>The baselines established in 2014 for the percentage of public water systems achieving full compliance with disinfection and bacteriological monitoring requirements are 67% and 60% respectively.</p> <p>The percentage of public water system complying with all chemical standards in 2014 is 69%.</p>	<p>The health-based compliance index has shown gradual improvement over time, with occasional dips as the Office expands its surveillance of previously unregulated systems. Initial data suggest the same will be true for the newer indicators.</p> <p>From a population perspective, more than 85% of the population served by a public water system receives water that is in compliance with all standards.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p><i>Drinking Water Safety Act.</i></p>	<p>For more information, see the Office of Drinking Water website at: http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/drinking_water/index.html</p> <p>Drinking water safety is protected through the use of construction permits and operating licences, scheduled and unscheduled inspections, water quality monitoring and education of water system owners, operators and the general public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitting helps ensure that minimum engineering and construction standards are met or exceeded. Licensing, inspections and water quality monitoring help ensure that minimum operational performance and water quality standards are met. <p>Activities focus on public health protection, maintenance of water quality and public confidence.</p> <p>Rural and northern systems face significant challenges in trying to meet the monitoring requirements due to sample shipping constraints (transportation time limits and maximum/minimum temperature limits).</p>

The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act

The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act came into effect in April 2007. This law gives employees a clear process for disclosing concerns about significant and serious matters (wrongdoing) in the Manitoba public service, and strengthens protection from reprisal. The Act builds on protections already in place under other statutes, as well as collective bargaining rights, policies, practices and processes in the Manitoba public service.

Wrongdoing under the Act may be: contravention of federal or provincial legislation; an act of omission that endangers public safety, public health or the environment; gross mismanagement; or, knowingly directing or counseling a person to commit a wrongdoing. The Act is not intended to deal with routine operational or administrative matters.

A disclosure made by an employee in good faith, in accordance with the Act, and with a reasonable belief that wrongdoing has been or is about to be committed is considered to be a disclosure under the Act, whether or not the subject matter constitutes wrongdoing. All disclosures receive careful and thorough review to determine if action is required under the Act, and must be reported in a department's annual report in accordance with Section 18 of the Act.

The following is a summary of disclosures received by Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Pineland Forest Nursery and Green Manitoba Eco Solutions for fiscal year 2014/15.

Information Required Annually (per Section 18 of The Act)	Fiscal Year 2014/15
The number of disclosures received and the number acted on and not acted <i>Subsection 18(2)(a)</i>	Nil
The number of investigations commenced as a result of a disclosure. <i>Subsection 18(2)(b)</i>	Nil
In the case of an investigation that results in a finding of wrongdoing, a description of the wrongdoing and any recommendations or corrective actions taken in relation to the wrongdoing, or the reasons why no corrective action was taken. <i>Subsection 18(2)(c)</i>	N/A

STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MINISTER OF CONSERVATION AND WATER STEWARDSHIP

- The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter C 135
- The Conservation Agreements Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter C 173
- The Conservation Districts Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter C 175
- The Contaminated Sites Remediation Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter C 205
- The Crown Lands Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter C 340
[sections 1, 5 and 5.1, clause 7(1)(c), section 7.1.1, subsection 7.2(1), section 8, subsections 12(2), 13(1) and (2), 13.1(1), sections 19, 22 and 27 to 29; sections 4, 6 and 6.1, clauses 7(1)(a), (b), (d) and (e), subsections 7(2) to (6), sections 7.1, 10, 14, 16 to 18, 21, subsection 23(3), section 24, subsections 25(1) and (2) and sections 26 and 30 to 35 insofar as they relate to the administration of Crown lands not designated as agricultural Crown lands, including setting fees and rents and issuing work permits but excluding other dispositions]
- The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter D 12
- The Drinking Water Safety Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter D 101
- The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act***,
C.C.S.M. chapter E 3
- The Ecological Reserves Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter E 5
- The Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter E 111
- The Environment Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter E 125
- The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Act***, C.C.S.M., chapter F87
- The Fisheries Act*** [except Part III], C.C.S.M. chapter F 90
- The Fishermen's Assistance and Polluters' Liability Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter F 100
- The Forest Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter F 150
- The Forest Health Protection Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter F 151
- The Ground Water and Water Well Act*** [except as it relates to the planning, construction or operation of provincial water control works], C.C.S.M. chapter G110
- The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter H3
- The Manitoba Hazardous Waste Management Corporation Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter H 15
- The International Peace Garden Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter I 70
- The Manitoba Natural Resources Transfer Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter N 30
- The Natural Resources Agreement Act, 1938***, C.C.S.M. chapter N 40
- An Act to Ratify a Certain Agreement Between the Government of the
Dominion of Canada and the Government of the Province of Manitoba***, C.C.S.M. chapter N 50
- The Manitoba Natural Resources Transfer Act Amendment Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter N 60
- The Manitoba Natural Resources Transfer Act Amendment Act, 1963***, C.C.S.M. chapter N 70
- The Ozone Depleting Substances Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter O 80
- The Provincial Parks Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter P 20
[except section 22 and clause 33(u) and the Debt Certificate Regulation M.R. 140/96]
- The Peatland Stewardship Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter P31
[except Part 7]
- The Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter P 70
- The Polar Bear Protection Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter P 94
- The High-Level Radioactive Waste Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter R 10
- The Resource Tourism Operators Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter R 119.5
- The Surveys Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter S 240 [Part II]
- The Sustainable Development Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter S 270
- The Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter U 80
- The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter W 40
- The Water Power Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter W60 [except as it relates to the planning, construction or operation of provincial water control works],
- The Water Protection Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter W65
- The Water Resources Conservation Act***, C.C.S.M. chapter W72

The Water Rights Act, C.C.S.M. chapter W80

[except as it relates to the planning, construction or operation of provincial water control works]

The Wildfires Act, C.C.S.M. chapter W 128

The Wildlife Act, C.C.S.M. chapter W 130

[except that portion of clause 89(e) that applies to compensation for damage to crops caused by wildlife as it pertains to big game and migratory waterfowl]

The Wild Rice Act, C.C.S.M. chapter W 140

[except subsections 10(1) and 11(1)]

and:

Manitoba Fishery Regulations, 1987 made under section 43 of the *Fisheries Act* (Canada)

As per Schedule "D", Order in Council No. 148/2015