

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship

Conservation et Gestion des ressources hydriques Manitoba

**Annual Report
2013-2014**

**Rapport annuel
2013-2014**

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**MINISTER OF
CONSERVATION AND WATER STEWARDSHIP**

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

The Honourable Philip S. Lee, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba
Government House
Winnipeg MB R3C 1S4

Your Honour:

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, 2014.

The annual report details the Department's many activities and accomplishments as we fulfill our mandate of protecting the environment while sustaining and conserving Manitoba's diverse ecosystems and abundant natural resources.

The Department serves Manitobans and our visitors throughout the province as we strive to work in partnership with the public to meet the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development in our parks, communities, and rural and northern areas.

I hope that the information in this report sheds light on the positive results of our programming and the many important and ongoing activities that take place around our beautiful province.

Respectfully submitted,

"Original signed by"

Gord Mackintosh
Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship





Conservation and Water Stewardship

Deputy Minister

Room 332 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0V8

The Honourable Gord Mackintosh
Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship
330 Legislative Building
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report for Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. The Department remains committed to delivering quality programs and services to protect our environment and sustainably manage our natural resources, while balancing diverse community interests. The Annual Report provides an overview of some of the programs and activities carried out in the 2013/14. Key results include:

- Releasing a revised draft of TomorrowNow – Manitoba’s Green Plan, an eight year strategic action plan that included over 100 action items to protect and conserve Manitoba’s environment. The Department received more than 200 written submissions on the green plan from individuals, industry associations, municipalities, environmental and other non-government organizations, and academics. In addition, over 300 people attended a series of presentations made to industry associations, university groups, municipal leaders and others.
- Becoming the first jurisdiction in Canada to enact a regulation banning coal and petroleum coke for use as space heating fuels. Revenue from Manitoba’s Emissions Tax on Coal and Petroleum Coke are being re-directed to help coal users convert to carbon neutral biomass heating energy, and support continued research and development. These activities support climate change and green economy objectives, promote local economic development, and encourage green energy innovation.
- Introducing the Lake Friendly Accord with the goal of improving water quality by reducing nutrients through the engagement of all stakeholders. The Lake Friendly Stewards Alliance was established under the Accord to provide one of the key forums needed to facilitate information sharing; enhance collaboration and coordination; improve reporting and accountability; increase efficiencies and technology transfer; and enhance stewardship and economic opportunities.
- Commencing consultations on new climate change and green economy plans for Manitoba. These new plans will address the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy efficiency, measure the economic costs and benefits of a low carbon economy, and assess future climate risks.
- Establishing a new Fish and Wildlife Fund that will facilitate projects that will help fish and wildlife populations. The new fund, supported by an impost on fishing, 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.
- Re-certifying West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park for the second time under the “Blue Flag” program, 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.

- Producing renewable energy from residual biomass that otherwise would need to be burned or removed in some other manner. In 2013/14 Tolko Industries Ltd (Tolko) utilized close to 74,000 m³ of residual fibre from sawmills, residual biomass from debris piles and hardwood from harvest operations to replace the use of Bunker C oil in their Kraft mill. The replacement of fossil fuels with renewable resources reduces Manitoba's ecological footprint.
- Continuing to provide advice and logistical support to the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation throughout the nomination evaluation and subsequent upstream process which included the recommended advisory mission on October 14-19, 2013. Preparation of a new nomination continued throughout the reporting year, incorporating advice received from IUCN and ICOMOS. Within the exigencies of the World Heritage system, a new bid submitted in 2014 will be evaluated by IUCN and ICOMOS in 2015 and examined by the WHC in 2016.
- A high level of effort was undertaken to move the organic waste program development forward in 2013/14. Organic waste program guidelines were developed and consultations held with stakeholders throughout Manitoba. The Organics Technical Working Group was established to provide advice on organic waste activities and program considerations. The Compost Facility Operators Training course was hosted in Brandon and the Compost Matters forum hosted in Winnipeg. In addition, a successful organic waste management webinar series was launched.
- Co-leading the development of a Risk Analysis Framework with a focus on preventive measures for emerald ash borer as part of the National Pest Strategy initiated by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers to develop a collaborative, integrated and national approach for optimizing forest pest expertise and resources. In 2013, no emerald ash borers were detected in Manitoba.
- Working to engage First Nations, Métis and other stakeholders in developing regional moose recovery plans for the western and eastern regions. These plans will inform the development of a provincial moose management strategy.

I am pleased to provide this report on the Department's stewardship of Manitoba's natural resources for the benefit of current and future generations. The Department is fortunate to have talented and committed staff carrying out its mission. It is to their collective credit that Conservation and Water Stewardship provides the quality programs and services highlighted in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

"Original signed by"

Grant Doak
Deputy Minister



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HIGHLIGHTS

Sustainable Resource and Policy Management

Worked to continue developing TomorrowNow – Manitoba’s Green Plan, an eight-year strategic action plan that includes over 130 action items led by numerous Manitoba government departments to ensure coordinated action to protect Manitoba’s environment. The Branch coordinated public consultations on the plan and the revision of TomorrowNow based on the feedback received from Manitobans.

Advanced work towards the development of a provincial peatlands stewardship strategy including new legislation and regulation, and continued to engage industry, academe, and organizations.

Participated in the final year of activities for the Council of the Federation (COF) Water Stewardship Council, a provincial and territorial group that addresses water-related priorities identified by Premiers. Since 2011, the COF Water Stewardship Council conducted work on the following initiatives: Canada Water Week/UN Water Day, the Excellence in Water Stewardship Award; the Information Sharing Initiative; Drinking Water for Small and Rural Communities scoping document and guidance materials; the Value of Water discussion paper; and the Wastewater strategic paper on the federal financing of wastewater infrastructure.

Aboriginal Relations

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.

Negotiated development of a Treaty-based Senior Officials Forum with Treaty 2 communities.

Regional Services and Parks

Manitoba partnered with the Winnipeg Folk Festival to undertake improvements to Group Use 2 (Festival Campground) in Birds Hill Provincial Park that included new picnic shelters, water taps and tree planting.

West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park was re-certified for the second time under the “Blue Flag” program, 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.

Three covert investigations initiated between 2012 and 2014 related to illegal fish sales concluded in 2013-14 with one of the investigations ending in a guilty plea and \$4,000 in fines. The remaining investigations are currently before the Courts.

There were 360 fires in the northeast region, with five communities threatened by wildfire. Split Lake and Tadoule Lake were put on notice for evacuation, but did not occur. The communities of Ilford and York Landing were evacuated; and the community of Gillam did a voluntary evacuation. No structural values were lost in any of the communities threatened by these wildfires

Park visitation exceeded five million visitors and 66,124 campsite reservations.

Wildlife

During the fiscal year, the Injured and Orphaned Wildlife Policy and Procedures and the Black Bear Policy and Procedures were completed.

The Wildlife Branch completed the Boreal Woodland Caribou Strategy for public review as part of the *Tomorrow Now – Manitoba's Green Plan*.

The Wildlife Branch worked with Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch to engage First Nations, Métis and stakeholders in developing regional moose recovery plans for the western and eastern regions.

The Delta Marsh Common Carp Exclusion Project became operational in spring 2013. Water quality showed encouraging signs of improvement and submerged aquatic vegetation re-appeared in portions of the marsh. Erosion caused by Common Carp in the vicinity of the structures had to be repaired during the winter of 2013-2014.

The Manitoba Conservation Data Centre maintains information on 6,073 wild plant and animal species including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, mussels, crayfish, ferns, flowering plants, lichens, mosses, liverworts and mushrooms. Of these, 988 species are endangered or of conservation concern. The database contains 60,054 observations and over 35,000 mapped features based on species.

There was a significant increase in the survey of big game species in 2013-14, including surveys of moose, elk and deer.

Forestry

In 2013, Forestry Branch became the Forestry and Peatland Management Branch. Mineral Resources will transition responsibilities for managing peatlands to the Branch when the Peatlands Stewardship and Related Amendments Act is proclaimed. Work on this new Act occurred throughout 2013 in co-operation with Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch to facilitate its introduction in the spring of 2014. The [Peatlands Stewardship Strategy](#) has been identified as a priority under TomorrowNow - Manitoba's Green Plan.

An amendment to *The Forest Health Protection Act* was approved in 2013 establishing a Provincial Heritage Tree Program. The program, developed in partnership with the Manitoba Forestry Association and Trees Winnipeg, will be launched in summer 2014. The program is intended to recognize and raise public awareness of trees with exceptional environmental, cultural, social, economic or historic significance to Manitobans and provide opportunities for their increased protection.

The Saskatchewan River Forest Section and portions of the Highrock Forest Section (FMU 67 & 68) wood supply were analyzed and draft reports developed. Second "total volume" scenarios were also completed for both sections and addendum reports created.

Residual biomass from harvest debris piles provides a renewable energy source from woody material that otherwise would need to be burned or removed in some other manner. In 2013/14 Tolko Industries Ltd (Tolko) utilized close to 74,000 m³ of residual fibre from sawmills, residual biomass from debris piles and hardwood from harvest operations to replace the use of Bunker C oil in their kraft mill. The replacement of fossil fuels with renewable resources is environmentally beneficial.

The 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.

European gypsy moths continue to be found in Manitoba in very low numbers. In 2013, there were seven new single moth detections. Monitoring will continue in 2014 with trap delineation deployed by the Canadian Food and Inspection Agency.

In 2013, Manitoba co-lead the development of a Risk Analysis Framework with a focus on preventive measures for emerald ash borer as part of the National Pest Strategy initiated by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers to develop a collaborative, integrated and national approach for optimizing forest pest expertise and resources. In 2013, no emerald ash borers were detected in Manitoba.

Environmental Programs and Strategies

The number of single use plastic bags distributed in Manitoba has dropped from 209 per capita in 2007 to 108 in 2012, a reduction of 48.3%.

Manitobans recycled 11.7% more tonnes of “blue box” materials and 8% more beverage containers in 2013.

Collection of household batteries in Manitoba has grown by 244% since 2011.

Recovery of pharmaceutical waste increased by 22% in 2013.

There are now six full service household hazardous waste depots in the province.

Fisheries

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.

Entered into a full eco-certification process of the Waterhen Lake walleye and northern pike commercial gill net fishery using the Marine Stewardship Council’s criteria. Continued efforts towards seeking full eco-certification of Manitoba’s other commercial freshwater fisheries.

Confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Lake Winnipeg. A Rapid Response Protocol was implemented and a Science Advisory Committee was established resulting in successful treatment at the four impacted harbours. Enhanced awareness, monitoring and strengthen regulation and enforcement to curtail further infestation is underway.

Produced and distributed over 13 million walleye fry and 274,000 salmonids for fisheries enhancement activities.

Received 64 Fisheries Enhancement Fund project applications of which 37 projects were funded. The annual Fisheries Enhancement Stamp Competition was held in October 2013 and the winning artwork “The Rainbow After the Storm” painted by Nick Laferriere was unveiled at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory.

POINTS SAILLANTS

Direction de la politique et de la gestion durable des ressources

La Direction a continué de développer le *Plan écologique du Manitoba – Vert l'avenir*, un plan d'action stratégique de huit ans comptant plus de 130 mesures, lesquelles sont menées de façon coordonnée par de nombreux ministères provinciaux dans le but de protéger l'environnement du Manitoba. Elle a organisé des consultations publiques au sujet du plan et l'a modifié en fonction des suggestions de la population du Manitoba.

Elle a poursuivi ses travaux visant l'élaboration d'une stratégie provinciale de gestion des tourbières, y compris de nouvelles dispositions législatives, et elle a continué de faire appel à des intervenants de l'industrie, à des universitaires et à des organisations.

Elle a participé à la dernière année d'activités du Conseil de gestion de l'eau du Conseil de la fédération (CDF). Le Conseil de gestion de l'eau est un groupe provincial et territorial qui s'attaque aux priorités définies par les premiers ministres en matière d'eau. Depuis 2011, le Conseil de gestion de l'eau du CDF a travaillé sur les initiatives suivantes : Semaine canadienne de l'eau et Journée mondiale de l'eau; Prix d'excellence en gestion de l'eau; Initiative de partage d'informations; documents d'information et d'orientation sur l'initiative d'eau potable pour les communautés rurales et de petite taille; document de travail sur la valeur de l'eau; document stratégique sur les eaux usées qui porte sur le financement de l'infrastructure d'eaux usées par le gouvernement fédéral.

Relations avec la communauté autochtone

La Direction a planifié, pour juin 2014, des séances animées par le bureau de conférenciers et destinées à mieux faire comprendre et respecter l'importance et la nécessité de collaborer avec les communautés autochtones.

Elle a négocié la création d'un forum des hauts responsables avec les communautés visées par le traité n° 2.

Services régionaux et Parcs

La Province s'est associée aux responsables du Winnipeg Folk Festival pour apporter des améliorations au terrain de camping du Festival (emplacement pour groupe n° 2) dans le parc provincial de Birds Hill, notamment en prévoyant la création de nouveaux abris de pique-nique, l'installation de robinets et la plantation d'arbres.

Dans le parc provincial de Grand Beach, la plage ouest s'est vue attribuer un « pavillon bleu » pour la deuxième fois dans le cadre du programme du même nom (en anglais *Blue Flag*), un label écologique reconnu à l'échelle internationale qui symbolise la propreté et la bonne gestion des plages et des ports de plaisance. La labellisation 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, de la sécurité et des services.

Sur les trois enquêtes secrètes sur la vente illégale de poisson lancées entre 2012 et 2014, une a donné lieu à un plaidoyer de culpabilité devant les tribunaux et à des amendes de 4 000 \$ en 2013-2014. Les autres enquêtes sont en cours d'instruction.

On a dénombré 360 incendies dans la région du Nord-Est et cinq collectivités ont été menacées de feux irréprimés. Les localités de Split Lake et Tadoule Lake ont reçu des avis d'évacuation, qui ont finalement été levés. Celles d'Illford et York Landing ont été évacuées et, à Gillam, l'évacuation a été volontaire. Aucune valeur structurelle n'a été perdue dans ces localités menacées par les feux irréprimés.

Les parcs ont reçu plus de cinq millions de visiteurs et enregistré 66 124 réservations d'emplacements de camping.

Faune

Au cours de l'année, on a mis la dernière main aux politiques et aux procédures concernant les animaux sauvages orphelins ou blessés, d'une part, et l'ours noir, d'autre part.

La Direction a terminé l'élaboration de la stratégie concernant le caribou boréal pour la soumettre à l'examen du public dans le cadre du *Plan écologique du Manitoba – Vert l'avenir*.

Elle a également collaboré avec la Direction de la politique et de la gestion durable des ressources pour faire participer les Premières Nations, les Métis et les parties intéressées à la conception de plans régionaux de rétablissement des populations d'originaux pour les régions de l'Ouest et de l'Est. Ces plans contribueront à la création d'une stratégie provinciale de gestion des originaux.

Les structures d'exclusion de la carpe commune du marais delta sont devenues opérationnelles au printemps 2013. La qualité de l'eau a montré des signes encourageants d'amélioration et la végétation aquatique submergée est réapparue dans certaines parties du marais. Au cours de l'hiver 2013-2014, il a fallu réparer les dégâts d'érosion causés par la carpe commune près des structures.

Le Centre de données sur la conservation du Manitoba dispose de renseignements sur 6 073 plantes sauvages et espèces animales, notamment les mammifères, les oiseaux, les reptiles, les amphibiens, les poissons, les insectes, les moules, les écrevisses, les fougères, les plantes à fleurs, les lichens, les mousses, les hépatiques et les champignons. Parmi elles, 988 espèces sont en voie de disparition ou préoccupantes quant à leur conservation. La base de données contient 60 054 observations qui ont permis d'établir plus de 35 000 caractéristiques d'espèces.

Les activités de recensement du gros gibier ont considérablement augmenté en 2013-2014, notamment pour l'original, le wapiti et le chevreuil.

Direction des forêts

En 2013, la Direction des forêts a changé de nom et s'appelle désormais la Direction des forêts et de la gestion des tourbières. La responsabilité de la gestion des tourbières passera du ministère des Ressources minières à la Direction lorsque la *Loi sur la protection des tourbières et modifications connexes* sera adoptée. Les travaux concernant le nouveau projet de loi ont été menés tout au long de l'année 2013 en collaboration avec la Direction des politiques et de la gestion durable des ressources en vue de sa présentation au printemps 2014. Dans le cadre du Plan écologique du Manitoba – Vert l'avenir, la stratégie de protection des tourbières ([Peatlands Stewardship Strategy](#) – en anglais) est considérée comme une priorité.

En 2013, une modification apportée à la *Loi sur la protection de la santé des forêts* a permis d'établir un programme provincial de mise en valeur d'arbres remarquables. Élaboré en collaboration avec la Manitoba Forestry Association et l'organisation Trees Winnipeg, ce programme sera lancé en été 2014. Il vise à sensibiliser le public au rôle des arbres revêtant une grande importance pour la population manitobaine sur le plan écologique, culturel, social, économique et historique, et à renforcer leur protection.

On a analysé l'approvisionnement en bois de la section forestière de la rivière Saskatchewan et de certaines portions de la section forestière de Highrock (UAF 67 et 68), et rédigé des rapports préliminaires. Pour les deux sections, on a également effectué une deuxième étude en tenant compte du « volume total » et on a établi des *addenda* aux rapports.

La biomasse issue de débris de bois après la récolte permet d'utiliser les produits ligneux comme source d'énergie renouvelable plutôt que les brûler ou de les éliminer autrement. En 2013-2014, au lieu d'utiliser le mazout brut dans son usine de pâte chimique, l'entreprise Tolko Industries Ltd (Tolko) s'est ainsi servie

de près de 74 000 m³ de matière ligneuse résiduelle récupérée dans des scieries, de la biomasse résiduelle issue de débris de bois ainsi que de bois de feuillus provenant des activités de récolte. Remplacer le combustible fossile par une ressource renouvelable est bénéfique pour l'environnement.

La Direction siège toujours au comité consultatif de la Frontiers Foundation Inc. (division du Manitoba), un organisme de bienfaisance autochtone enregistré dont l'objectif principal est de répondre aux besoins des collectivités autochtones du Nord en matière de logement. Les communautés autochtones et des Premières Nations ont bénéficié d'allocations pour la construction de maisons en rondins et pour la collecte de bois de chauffage. Le personnel régional les a aidés à obtenir les permis de coupe et les permis de travail nécessaires.

La présence de la spongieuse européenne continue d'être très faible au Manitoba. En 2013, sept nouveaux individus ont été détectés. Les activités de surveillance vont se poursuivre en 2014 et l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments se chargera de l'installation des pièges.

En 2013, le Manitoba a codirigé l'élaboration d'un cadre d'analyse de risques mettant l'accent sur la prévention de l'infestation de l'agrile du frêne dans le cadre de la stratégie nationale sur les ravageurs lancée à l'initiative du Conseil canadien des ministres des forêts. Cette stratégie vise l'adoption d'une approche nationale intégrée et fondée sur la collaboration pour optimiser les compétences et les ressources en gestion des ravageurs forestiers. En 2013, aucun agrile du frêne n'a été détecté au Manitoba.

Stratégies et programmes environnementaux

Le nombre de sacs de plastique non réutilisables distribués au Manitoba est passé de 209 par personne en 2007 à 108 en 2012, soit une réduction de 48,3 %.

Les Manitobains et Manitobaines ont recyclé 11,7 % de tonnes supplémentaires de matières récupérées dans les « boîtes bleues » et 8 % de contenants à boisson supplémentaires en 2013.

Depuis 2011, la récupération des piles à usage domestique a augmenté de 244 % dans la province.

La récupération des déchets pharmaceutiques a augmenté de 22 % en 2013.

Il existe à présent six dépôts de déchets ménagers dangereux dans la province qui offrent un service de gestion complet.

Pêche

La Direction a lancé une initiative sur le Web pour inviter le public à désigner le poisson-emblème du Manitoba. C'est ainsi que le doré jaune a été choisi pour représenter la province.

La Direction a commencé un processus d'écocertification de la pêche commerciale au filet maillant du doré jaune et du grand brochet du lac Waterhen, en se basant sur les critères du Marine Stewardship Council. Elle a également poursuivi ses efforts en vue d'obtenir la pleine écocertification de la pêche commerciale en eau douce du Manitoba.

Elle a confirmé la présence de moules zébrées dans le lac Winnipeg. Un protocole d'intervention rapide et un comité consultatif scientifique ont été établis et les opérations de traitement ont été efficaces dans les quatre ports touchés. Elle procède actuellement au renforcement des activités de sensibilisation, de surveillance, de réglementation et d'application de la loi pour enrayer toute nouvelle infestation.

La Direction a produit et distribué plus de 13 millions d'alevins de dorés jaunes et 274 000 salmonidés dans le cadre d'activités de mise en valeur de la pêche.

Elle a reçu 64 demandes de financement de projets dans le cadre du Fonds de mise en valeur de la pêche, dont 37 ont été acceptées. Le concours annuel de création de timbre pour la mise en valeur de la

pêche au Manitoba s'est déroulé en octobre 2013. La création gagnante, intitulée *The Rainbow After the Storm* et peinte par Nick Laferriere, a été dévoilée au conservatoire du parc Assiniboine.

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 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(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 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	741	10.00	752	(11)	
Other Expenditures	129		182	(53)	
Total 12.1(b)	870	10.00	934	(64)	

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 2013 calendar year, 89 requests for information were received and 92 past and current year requests were completed under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Of the requests received in 2013, four were carried forward to 2014. 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
- A province-wide network of 704 private and 142 departmental licence vendors providing convenient access to the public for angling, hunting, migratory waterfowl, trapping, fur dealer, camping, arborist and various other licences, permits and related information (eg., Anglers' Guide, Hunting Guide, Trapper's Guide) was managed by the Licencing section. A total of 640 private vendors are located in rural areas.
- 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 2013 draw, 4,406 individuals applied and 2,741 applicants were drawn for the available 54 hunting season choices. An online PDF application was successfully introduced.
- Improved coordination of information on the Department's Internet site including a re-work of the Public Registry pages was completed. The Registry is now better organized to provide information on proposals that are open for comment, ones that are in process, or projects that have been completed; and can be searched by several proposal/project criteria. Users can also subscribe to a Rich Site Summary (RSS) feed for notification on updates to the Registry.

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,089	62.79	4,102	(13)	
Other Expenditures	1,361		1,287	74	
Total 12.1(c)	5,450	62.79	5,389	61	

Sustainable Resource and Policy Management

The Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch develops, interprets, coordinates and integrates departmental policy, and legislation, in accordance with the vision, mission and principles of Conservation and Water Stewardship. The Branch manages Ministerial correspondence and annually coordinates the departmental plan. The Branch leads environmental concerns that are department or government strategic priorities and assists other areas of the department in the development of effective legislation, policies and programming. The Branch provides planning and policy assistance to other government departments, local planning authorities, First Nations and other Aboriginal communities. The Branch administers licensing of resource-based tourism facilities under *The Resource Tourism Operators Act*. The Branch represents Manitoba on national forums for inter-governmental cooperation and on issues related to national and international environment and trade agreements. The Branch is also responsible for the administration of *The Sustainable Development Act* and provides secretariat support for the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development, created under the Act. The Branch further provides secretariat and advisory services support to the Manitoba Water Council, a statutory body under *The Water Protection Act*. The Branch is made up of three units; Sustainable Economy, Sustainable Ecosystems, and Strategic Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Key Results Achieved:

- Provided 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 including, but not limited to wetlands, water conservation and efficiency, water security and sustainability, and conservation agreements.
- Worked to continue developing *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*, an eight-year strategic action plan that includes over 130 action items led by numerous Manitoba government departments to ensure coordinated action to protect Manitoba's environment. The Branch coordinated public consultations on the plan and the revision of TomorrowNow based on the feedback received from Manitobans.
- 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.
- Advanced work towards the development of a provincial peatlands stewardship strategy, including new legislation and regulation, and continued to engage industry, academe, and organizations.
- Coordinated matters relating to the regulation and licensing of Manitoba's resource-based tourism industry (lodges and outfitters) and provided secretariat support to the Licensing Advisory Committee (LAC), the Administrator of Resource Tourism and the Resource Tourism Appeals Committee under *The Resource Tourism Operators Act*. The LAC 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.
- Provided secretariat and advisory services to the Manitoba Water Council, a statutory body under *The Water Protection Act* that provides advice to the Minister on water policies, programs, plans, and legislation needed to achieve the Department's vision, mission and priorities. The Water Council assisted the Department with the development of the Surface Water Management Strategy. The Water Council also put forward advice to the Minister on transboundary water planning issues, the integration of watershed planning into local community awareness and planning and improving communication and outreach of water initiatives.

- Participated in the final year of activities for the Council of the Federation (COF) Water Stewardship Council, a provincial and territorial group that addresses water-related priorities identified by Premiers. Since 2011, the COF Water Stewardship Council conducted work on the following initiatives: Canada Water Week/UN Water Day, Excellence in Water Stewardship Award; the Information Sharing Initiative; Drinking Water for Small and Rural Communities scoping document and guidance materials; the Value of Water discussion paper; and the Wastewater strategic paper on the federal financing of wastewater infrastructure.
- Responded to concerns regarding Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) management in the Province and has worked interdepartmentally and with interest groups and organizations, in the development of an ORV strategy and a public consultation process for Manitoba.

Key Program Outputs

- Supported the WaterSmart initiative through continued partnerships with Green Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro and the International Institute for Sustainable Development. Activities included continued education and public outreach about water conservation. Manitoba is a promotional partner with the United States Environmental Protection Agency in the WaterSense program. The WaterSense label identifies water efficient fixtures such as faucets, showerheads, and toilets that use 20 per cent less water. Partnership allows access to water efficiency information on best management practices, scientific research, technological advancement and programming across North America.
- 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. CCME's activities in 2013-2014 focused on developing a new collective vision for waste management in Canada, completing a set of standard definitions on cumulative effects that may be applied across Canada. Branch staff led the cumulative effects scoping group.
- On behalf of the department and government, the Branch led the development of the annual workplan with the IISD.
- 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.

Legislation

The Branch coordinates legislative and regulatory activities across Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, which has administrative responsibility for 43 statutes and 132 regulations.

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

- ***The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund Act*** was assented to on December 5, 2013 and proclaimed on March 1, 2014.
- ***The Waste Reduction and Prevention Amendment and Environment Amendment Act*** was assented to and proclaimed on December 5, 2013.
- ***The Endangered Species Amendment Act*** was assented to and proclaimed on December 5, 2013.

- ***The Forest Health Protection Amendment Act*** (Heritage Trees) was assented to and proclaimed on December 5, 2013.
- The Peat Moratorium Regulation (93/2013) under ***The Environment Act***.
- The Coal and Petroleum Coke Ban for Space Heating Regulation (183/2013) under ***The Environment Act***.
- The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund Regulation (57/2014) under ***The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund Act***.

Twenty-nine amending regulations were registered during the reporting period, amending 23 existing regulations including:

- An amendment to the Fishing Licence Fee Regulation (50/2013) under ***The Fisheries Act***.
- Two amendments to the Burning Permit Areas Regulation (52/2013 and 70/2014) under ***The Wildfires Act***.
- An amendment to Campgrounds Regulation (60/2013) under ***The Environment Act***.
- Two amendments to Provincial Parks Designation Regulation (61/2013 and 69/2013) and one amendment to the Parks Activity Regulation (102/2013) under ***The Provincial Parks Act***.
- One amendment to Use of Vehicles in Spruce Woods Provincial Park Regulation (111/2013), two amendments to Provincial Parks Designation Regulation (117/2013 and 101.2014) and one amendment to Park Fees Regulation (53/2014) under ***The Provincial Parks Act***.
- One amendment to Forest Use and Management Regulation (116/2013) under ***The Forest Act***.
- One amendment to Provincial Arborist Regulation (110/2013) under ***The Forest Health Protection Act***.
- Two amendments to Ecological Reserves Designation Regulation (122/2013 and 123/2013) under ***The Ecological Reserves Act***.
- One amendment to Polar Bear Protection Regulation (141/2013) under ***The Polar Bear Protection Act***.
- One amendment to Water Rights Regulation (167/2013) under ***The Water Rights Act***.
- One amendment to Trapping of Wild Animals Regulation (170/2013), an amendment to Designation of Wildlife Lands Regulation (125/013), an amendment to Vehicle Use in Hunting Regulation (98/2013), an amendment to Miscellaneous Licenses and Permits Regulation (99/2013), two amendments to General Hunting Regulation (100/2013 and 172/2013), two amendments to Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits Regulation (101/2013 and 198/2013), an amendment to Use of Wildlife Lands Regulation (216/2013), and an amendment to Wildlife Fees and Royalties Regulation (56/2014) under ***The Wildlife Act***.
- One amendment to Environment Act Fees Regulation (7/2014) and one amendment to Pesticides Regulation (8/2014) under ***The Environment Act***.
- One amendment to Contaminated Sites Remediation Regulation (94/2014) under ***The Contaminated Sites Remediation 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.

Licensing Advisory Committee

- The Licensing Advisory Committee held six regularly-scheduled and two additional meetings. A total of 165 applications were reviewed and recommendations developed for consideration of the Administrator of Resource Tourism.
- Approximately 1,250 annual licenses and/or permits were issued to lodge operators and outfitters.
- The Branch served as secretariat to the Resource Tourism Appeal Committee, which provides an appeal mechanism for operators wishing to appeal a decision of the Administrator of Resource Tourism. One appeal hearing was conducted by the Resource Tourism Appeal Committee.
- Client services continued to provide advice and information on the application process and outfitter requirements.
- Policy advice and support was provided to the Licensing Advisory Committee and the Resource Tourism Appeal Committee on a number of non-compliance and enforcement issues.

Table AF.4
12.1(d) Sustainable Resource and Policy Management

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,782	26.00	2,008	(226)	
Other Expenditures	578		478	100	
Grant Assistance	97		94	3	
Total 12.1(d)	2,457	26.00	2,580	(123)	

Watersheds and Protected Areas

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 significantly to 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:

- Final development 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. Input into the final draft of the strategy was sought from all other departments of government with an interest in or responsibilities for the implementation of the strategy. Final input was sought from senior decision-makers of government and representatives from all stakeholder groups.
- 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 West Souris River Integrated Watershed Management Plan in partnership with the West Souris River Conservation District.

- 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.

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, 23 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, petroleum, natural gas or hydroelectric development, 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 4,400 hectares through designation of a new ecological reserve, the expansion of another and land use category boundary amendments in two existing provincial parks.
- Contributed to national reports on the expansion of Manitoba's protected areas network.
- Participated on the Canadian Council of Ecological Areas Board of Directors.
- Initiated public review for the proposed Langford Biodiversity Conservation Area protected areas planning process.
- Lead protected area planning work in priority areas across the province including southern Manitoba (agro-Manitoba), the Manitoba Lowlands in southeast Manitoba (Natural Region 5c), the Saskatchewan River Delta (Natural Region 5a), and the Arctic Tundra (Natural Region 2a).
- 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.

Table AF.5
12.1(e) Watersheds and Protected Areas

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,493	18.00	1,394	99	
Other Expenditures	179		209	(30)	
Total 12.1(e)	1,672	18.00	1,603	69	

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 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.
- 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 Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship and Aboriginal communities.
- Participated in the development and review of legislation, regulations, policies and programs and actions involving Aboriginal communities.

Table AF.6
12.1(f) Aboriginal Relations

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	398	5.00	465	(67)	
Other Expenditures	121		179	(58)	
Total 12.1(f)	519	5.00	644	(125)	1.

1. Under expenditure in Salaries and Employee Benefits and Other Expenditures is due to vacancy and expenditure management.

Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin

Table AF.7
12.1(g) Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	291		335	(44)	
Total 12.1(g)	291		335	(44)	

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 to ensure effective horizontal governance.

Key Results Achieved

A Corporate Crown Lands Policy internal website was established to promote integrated Crown land use planning and resource management across government by creating a centralized location for Crown land policies and procedures that apply across departments.

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.

Secretariat and advisory services were provided 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.

Corporate Crown Lands Policy continued work on the coordinated internal review of Crown land related policies and legislation with various departments as mandated by the Lands Committee of Deputy Ministers and the Crown Lands Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee. Corporate Crown Lands Policy participated in several inter-departmental committees and working groups to represent Government Crown land policy interests.

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

Key Program Outputs

Review and analysis of 86 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 39 requests for review of denied applications for Crown land, reviewed one proposed designated areas of Crown land and directed the classification process for Crown land acquired through the Shoal Lakes Voluntary Buy-out Program.

Table CLP.1
12.1(h) Corporate Crown Lands Policy

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	242	3.00	257	(15)	
Other Expenditures	24		16	8	
Total 12.1(h)	266	3.00	273	(7)	

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(i) Clean Environment Commission

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	465	3.00	337	128	
Other Expenditures	973		303	670	
Total 12.1(i)	1,438	3.00	640	798	1.

1. Over expenditure in Salaries and Employee Benefits and Other Expenditures is due to Bipole III and Keyask generating station hearing costs.

REGIONAL SERVICES AND PARKS

Regional Support Services

2013/14 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 Officer (NRO) and Park Patrol Officers (PPOs).
- Four new NRO Recruits attended the Atlantic Police Academy for the Conservation Enforcement program in Prince Edward Island. The 16-week Conservation Law Enforcement Academy included training in firearms, emergency driving, defensive tactics, and investigations.
- Training for 43 new hire seasonal Park Patrol Officers (PPOs) was contracted to the North West Law Enforcement Academy. This provided the PPOs with certification for park enforcement, safety and security duty.
- A Transport Canada approved contractor delivered boat operator training (MED A3/SVOP) to 19 NROs.
- All Terrain Vehicle certification training was delivered to eight NROs.
- 24 NROs received Training in Ice Rescue Survival at Gimli during March 2013.
- Amended and updated several Operational Directives and Safe Work Procedures to reflect changes and new NRO standards related to enforcement of the Off Road Vehicle Act, Ice Rider Flotation Suits, RCMP radio speed dial equipment, NRO uniforms, NRO personal issues kits, and Department Firearm Standards.
- 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.
- Developed a Wildlife Handling Course that was delivered to 25 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.
- 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.
- Cooperated 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 24 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 Branch on developing a Restitution Bill to assess penalties against convicted wildlife violators.
- Continued work 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.
- Created a new directive for euthanasia of wildlife & handling problem/orphan wildlife.
- Changed urban problem wildlife procedures as a result of a review of current program. The Department will now be directing public inquiries related to nuisance raccoons to private pest control companies.
- Installed computer tablets in 32 NRO trucks to enable more efficient program delivery in the field. Implemented a Satellite GPS Messenger system (SPOT) to provide the ability for NROs to signal an emergency when working alone or in remote areas. Done in conjunction with Garry Base Center of MIT.
- Honoured four Conservation Officers killed in the line of duty through naming of new lakes and islands under the Geographical Names program. A ceremony with Officers family and friends was held at the legislature where the Minister unveiled the new geographical names and locations.

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 covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2010 and 2011 was concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea and resulted in \$600.00 in fines and an order of \$300 restitution.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Brandon area conducted during 2011 and 2012 was concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea and resulted in \$500.00 in fines.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2012 and 2013 was concluded in the courts by way of guilty plea and resulted in \$4,000.00 in fines.
- A covert Investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2012 and 2013 concluded with the execution of a search warrant being conducted on a Winnipeg business. As a result, four charges were laid 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 2012 and 2013 resulted in two 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 2013 and 2014 concluded with the execution of a search warrant being conducted on a Winnipeg residence. As a result, five charges were laid against one individual. The case is currently before the courts.
- The two Canine teams were used throughout the province on a variety of compliance checks and investigations of illegal fishing and hunting activities including eight roadside check stations, nine decoy operations, 32 night hunting patrols, 12 occurrences of searching for evidence in non-confined area, 20 occurrences of searching vehicles, three occurrences of searching for suspects, and eight occurrences providing assistance on the execution of search warrants.
- The Canine Teams conducted 16 public education programs in schools and at public meetings throughout the province.
- The Canine handlers are trained Wildfire Investigators and the teams responded to one investigation of human caused wildfire.
- District Officers utilized the services of a Forensic Laboratory for Firearm analyses within two investigations of Wildlife offences to corroborate evidence obtained.
- District Officers utilized the services of a Forensic Laboratory for DNA analyses within three 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 310 calls, resulting in 20 prosecutions and three warnings. In addition, the toll free line received 108 calls reporting forest fires.
- See Tables RO.1 and RO.2.

Region	Number of Calls					Number of Prosecutions			
	Fish	Wildlife	Other	Fire	Total	Fish	Wildlife	Other	Total
Central	43	100	5	6	154	2	3	1	6
Western	18	55	4	9	86	1	3	0	4
Eastern	8	60	10	41	119	0	6	3	9
Northwest	1	2	0	14	17	0	1	0	1
Northeast	3	1	0	38	42	0	0	0	0
Total	73	218	19	108	418	3	13	4	20

	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
Total Calls	358	330	364	312	300	319	317	311	358	310
Information*	132	113	103	120	147	163	188	150	111	164
Actioned	226	217	261	192	153	156	129	161	247	146
Prosecutions	21	37	28	18	22	23	20	14	31	20
Warnings	5	8	15	1	5	6	6	9	8	3

*Calls not requiring immediate action.

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 there were no claims submitted for this program. Program activity for the past ten years is illustrated in Table RO.8.

**Table RO.3
Common Violations under *The Provincial Parks Act***

Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences	Evictions
No Park Vehicle Entry Permit	978	3	981	1
Cause Disturbance	42	86	128	570
Parking Violations	151	26	177	1
Disobey Officer/Sign/Permit	51	74	125	10
Camp w/o Permit/Prohibited	15	34	49	0
Unlawful Vehicle Operation	21	45	66	4
Possess Fireworks	7	5	12	0
Have Liquor Where Prohibited	45	4	49	60
Fail to Control Pet / On Beach	22	20	42	0
Fire w/o Permit/Unattended Fire	7	10	17	0
Fail to Maintain Campsite	17	8	25	0
Damage Pollute Park Property	8	15	23	2
Hunting/Firearm Violations	6	1	7	0
Other	1	0	1	0
Total	1,371	331	1,702	648

**Table RO.4
Common Violations under *The Wildlife Act***

Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Hunt/Trap/Guide W/O Licence / Licence Infractions	55	38	93
Hunt From or Have Loaded Firearm in Vehicle	50	6	56
Tagging/Transport/Import/Export Infractions	41	17	58
Hunt Prohibited Area/Private Land W/O Permission	47	15	62
Hunt or Discharge Firearm From Road	29	0	29
Equipment Infractions	14	30	44
Hunt for Remuneration / Illegal Sale of Wildlife	4	4	8
Night Hunting / Dangerous Hunting	19	2	21
Abandon/Waste Game	3	1	4
Bait Infractions	10	1	11
Possess Illegally Taken / Prohibited Wildlife	31	2	33
Hunt Out of Season	7	1	8
Other	6	11	17
Total	316	128	444

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

Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Equipment Infractions	416	35	451
Licence Infractions	167	115	282
Exceed Limits	131	15	146
Transportation Infractions	32	24	56
Illegal Sale / Possession of Fish	22	14	36
Wastage of Fish	15	2	17
Fish During Closed Time / Closed Area	8	23	31
Live Bait Infractions	6	0	6
Other	3	4	7
Total	800	232	1,032

**Table RO.6
Comparison of Wildlife, Fisheries, Parks and Migratory Birds
Prosecutions 2004/05 to 2013/14**

Fiscal Year	Wildlife	Fisheries	Parks	Migratory Birds
2004-05	287	660	1,219	9
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

* Years where no Park Vehicle Passes were required

**Table RO.7
Record of Violations Occurring 2013/14**

Acts	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Crown Lands Act	26	21	47
Endangered Species Act	1	2	3
Environment Act	12	5	17
Forest Act	5	19	24
Fisheries Act (Canada)	602	95	697
Fisheries Act (Manitoba)	198	137	335
Liquor and Gaming Control Act	303	22	325
Migratory Birds Convention Act	26	8	34
Off Road Vehicle Act	77	32	109
Provincial Parks Act	1,670	254	1,924
Resource Tourism Operators Act	4	1	5
Wild Animal & Plant Protection Act	4	2	6
Wildfires Act	12	21	33
Wildlife Act	316	128	444
Total	3,256	747	4,003

Total Fines: \$398,311 for 2013/14

**Table RO.8
Hunter-Killed Livestock Compensation 2004/05 to 2013/14**

Year Paid	Claims	Claims Paid	Total Paid	Average Paid
2004-05	4	1	\$600	\$600
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

Table RO.9 Problem Wildlife Occurrences 2013/14							
Species	Region						% of Total
	NE	NW	E	C	W	Total	
Beaver	1	5	31	33	8	78	2%
Black Bear	174	145	175	226	303	1,023	31%
Polar Bear	244	0	0	0	0	244	8%
Big Game	2	3	38	69	91	203	6%
Wolf	14	16	66	52	58	206	6%
Migratory Birds	0	5	15	63	103	186	6%
Other*	23	44	141	511	635	1,354	41%
Total	458	218	466	954	1,198	3,294	100%

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

**Table RO.10
12.2(a) Regional Support Services**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,949	34.96	2,646	303	
Other Expenditures	1,047		1,140	(93)	
Total 12.2(a)	3,996	34.96	3,786	210	

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. The Northwest Region encompasses a diverse landscape that includes parts of the Manitoba Lowlands and Canadian Shield natural regions Boreal forest, lakes, and rivers, largely in a natural state, dominate the Region.

Mineral extraction, commercial timber harvesting and processing, agriculture, resource-based tourism and commercial fishing are the main industries providing economic and employment benefits in the region. The harvesting of wild rice and trapping also contribute to the local economy. 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, and attracts many visitors from North America pursuing several species including lake trout, stocked trout, northern pike, and walleye with many master anglers produced annually.

Park Management Plans are in place for all parks. The region delivers services, programs, and security in the Clearwater Lake, Bakers Narrows, Grass River, and Wekusko Provincial Parks. This includes the campgrounds of Bakers Narrows, Gyles, Iskwatum, 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.

- The Northwest Region experienced an average fire season with a total of 42 fires, of which 27 were lightning caused and 15 were human caused. Because of the location of two fires near Grand Rapids in relation to water sources, the total amount of burnt forest in the region increased this season to 4,005 hectares burnt.
- An increase of 1 (one) 5 man Initial Attack Crew from 4 to 5 crews stationed out of Wekusko Falls Helitac Base increased the chances of initial attack success, which is the most cost effective measure of fire suppression.
- In response to an internal survey conducted with all fire staff in the 2013 season, the Department is focussing on providing training related to initial attack success as well cost-effective delivery of the program.

Angler and hunter compliance.

- Resource Officers checked approximately 2,329 anglers, 426 hunters, and 87 commercial fishers for compliance. The increase in compliance checks was a direct result of a full complement of Natural Resource Officer staff within the region, which resulted in an increase of required enforcement actions over the past two years with totals of 149 and 147 actions respectfully.
- As a result of Game Hunting Area closures in other areas of the province, an increase in licensed moose hunting activity within the region was reported by officers. Large numbers of guests from across North America continue to recreationally fish in the many lakes and rivers in the region.

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

- Resource Officers were more active on the landscape and water throughout the region. This resulted in increased interaction with resource users and assisted with the decrease of illegal fish and wildlife activities.
- Resource Officers conducted moose operations where complaints occurred. The overall number of hunting complaints from provincial highways was down.
- More aggressive and dedicated enforcement work focusing on possible illegal trafficking in fish was introduced this season with officers conducting several business, special dealer and commercial fisher compliance checks.

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

- Increase of activities and locations during Parks Day resulted in excellent attendance resulting in many compliments to staff and an increase in visitor satisfaction. In working cooperatively with the fire program, one of the events well received included a static display set up at Clearwater Provincial Park for the public to see the response capabilities of the department to wildfire occurrences.
- Staff assisted with the Clearwater Lake Marathon and had 150 participants this season. The proceeds of the marathon were spent on a new basketball court at Clearwater Provincial Park.
- Improvements were made to park infrastructure in three different parks to help beautify the northern parks. In addition, major trail improvements were completed on the hiking trails within

the northern parks, including the installation of multiple trailheads. The public have provided multiple positive comments in regards to the signage.

- Park rowdiness and complaints were controlled. The NROs worked during busier times, assisted the public when requested and, 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.
- Staff continues to hold annual Cottage Association meetings, attend Chief and Council meetings when requested in the First Nation communities, and attend all meetings requested by the sportsmen's groups to provide assistance and information.
- District continue to hold presentations in the local schools on fire suppression, resource management, bear smart program, career days and special requests made by the local schools.
- Staff participates 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 including 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 comments on sales, leases, general permits, assignments and lease renewal applications. IRMT reviews and comments on all regional Licence Advisory Committee requests. In addition, IRMT reviews any new mines, road development, quarry applications, or other land or water related activities prior to approval.
- There are approximately 20 various exploration companies involved in claim staking, diamond drilling, soil sampling, line cutting, mapping and geological reconnaissance. Two new mines, Lalor and Reed, have started mining and will be in operation for many years to come.

Other Notable Highlights

- Construction of Bipole III north of The Pas to the regional boundary near Ponton commenced this winter. District and Regional staff developed and issued work permits to Manitoba Hydro for construction camps, access roads, and surveying of the transmission line location. During construction, officers provided many compliance inspection reports to Manitoba Hydro and their contractors identifying areas along the transmission Right of Way (ROW), identifying any areas that required additional work and ensured that the conditions of the Environment Act Licence and Manitoba Hydro's Environmental protection Plan were followed.
- Unusually high water levels on Clearwater Lake resulted in staff assisting cottagers with sand bag efforts to reduce property damage along the lakeshore. The mutual effort resulted in limited property damage and built strong relations between cottagers and the Department.
- Increased efforts and education to the communities, cottage owners and the public by officers regarding problem black bears occurred within the region in an attempt to reduce problem wildlife complaints.

Table RO.11
12.2(b) Northwest Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,920	30.10	2,004	(84)	
Other Expenditures	643		643	0	
Total 12.2(b)	2,563	30.10	2,647	(84)	

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 Region has a Regional office 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 2013 fire season saw an above average number of fires and area burned within the region. Community protection zone fires were higher than normal. There were a total 360 fires, with the first starting on May 8 in the Wabowden District and the last one on September 21, in the Lynn Lake district. Of the 360 fires, 241 were caused by lightning and 119 were human caused. 211 fires were actioned and extinguished, 30 fires received limited action and 119 received no action. There were five communities threatened by wildfire. Split Lake and Tadoule Lake were put on notice for evacuation, but evacuation did not occur. The communities of Ilford and York Landing were evacuated. Also, the community of Gillam

completed a voluntary evacuation. No values were lost in any of the communities threatened by these wildfires. Premier Greg Selinger visited the community of Ilford and met with the Chief and council.

Fires by District	
Island Lake	38
Gods Lake	53
Gillam	68
Leaf Rapids	9
Lynn Lake	67
Norway House	25
Wabowden	19
Thompson	60
Churchill	21

Angler and hunter compliance

- Natural Resource Officers checked 298 anglers, 666 hunters, and 45 commercial fishermen for compliance. Angler checks were down as compared to previous years mainly because NRO staff were heavily involved in wildfire activity throughout the region from early June to mid August.

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. In addition, staff also participated on the Wapisiu Caribou Committee, the Northeast Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee, the Churchill Northern Studies Centre Board and the Inuit Land Claim committee along the Hudson Bay Coast.
- Fire staff were asked to join in the Oxford House Treaty Indian Days where staff participated with holding a BBQ, including cooking hotdogs and burgers and serving soft drinks. Staff also promoted Wild Fire Prevention which was well received in the community.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- There were a total of 229 polar bear occurrence reports (bear complaints/sightings) received. The first bear report was received on May 2nd, with regular sightings starting the last week of June. Reports of bears near town continued until late November. November was our busiest month with 81 calls received. The Polar Bear Alert Program handled 38 bears during the 2013 year. The highest number of bears handled in one season to date was 176 in 2003, the fewest was 18 bears in 1991. The average number of polar bears handled since the garbage landfill was closed in 2005 is 45. All bears were released by November 20th after sufficient ice formed on Hudson Bay.
- Black Bear safety talks were carried out by staff at the Keeyask Hydro camp, as well as Paint Lake Park for its visitors.
- There were two incidents involving polar bears attacking people within the town of Churchill. Both incidents occurred in the early morning and involved people walking home. A Town Advisory Committee has been formed to review and provide input to the operational procedures of the Polar Bear Alert Program and how we do business.

- There were three polar bears transferred to the International Polar Bear Conservation Center at the Assiniboine Park Zoo.
- Polar Bear Alert staff conducted 25 media interviews and public education events during 2013.
- There were four dead polar bear occurrences in the Polar Bear Alert control area. One was a dead COY killed by dogs near the L5 transfer station. There were two bears killed as a result of the second mauling incident on November 1. The fourth was a bear shot in self-defence at the Camp Nanuk cottage subdivision.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated

- The Region reviewed and provided comments on 81 Crown Land applications, 119 Casual Quarry Permits applications and 14 Environmental Licence reviews/applications. In addition, 131 Work Permits were issued (21 mineral exploration, 37 Manitoba Hydro, 11 Forestry and 62 others).
- 125 Timber permits were issued. Approximately 125,000 cubic metres of softwood and hardwood was harvested for Tolko Manitoba. 297 burning permits were issued through the District and the Regional Office of which 216 originated out of Norway House district.
- Manitoba Hydro's BiPole 3 right of way clearing began during the winter of 2013. The Northeast Integrated Regional Management Team (IRMT) as well as the district supervisors met for pre-construction meetings to ensure all environmental, forestry, fishery and wildlife concerns were addressed. Inspections were carried out by NRO's on a regular basis. Thompson and Wabowden were the key start up work project areas.

Other Notable Highlights

- Regional and District staff assisted the Manitoba Trappers Association at the annual Thompson Fur Table in 2013. There were 4 fur buyers in attendance to purchase fur from the 219 trappers for a total of \$618,852.00 in fur sales. Marten production was strong again this year, but the prices were not as high as years previous. Minister Gordon Mackintosh attended the fur table and presented the Oswald Hudson award to the top trapper.
- A big game moose and wolf aerial survey was carried out in the winter. This covered Game Hunting Area 9A. It took in the resource use areas of Norway House, Cross Lake, Wabowden and south of Thompson. Results of the survey are being analyzed by wildlife staff.
- Barren-ground caribou remains an important big game animal, with all resident licenses sold out for the 2013 season. The Qamanirjuaq herd did not travel as far south during the winter months resulting in hunter success being considerably lower.
- The Paint Lake waste disposal grounds was decommissioned in 2013. A new waste transfer station became operational. Waste is now transferred out of the park to the Thompson disposal grounds rather than being buried.
- Parks joined in the "Kids Don't Float" Program, offering free life jackets for use at Paint Lake in conjunction with the MB Coalition for Safer Waters.
- Installed new trail head signs at Coffee Cove in Paint Lake Provincial Park and Pisew Falls boardwalk at Pisew Provincial Heritage Park.

- The 22-kilometer round trip hiking trail from Pisew Falls to Kwasitchewan Falls had to be closed because of a large wind storm that occurred in August of 2013. This resulted in a very large blow down making the trail impassible for the remainder of the year.
- Norway House completed the construction of a new shop/warehouse.
- The Initial Attack Fire Base at Paint Lake replaced the Helitac office with a brand new office building.

Table RO.12
12.2(c) Northeast Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,485	36.92	2,481	4	
Other Expenditures	1,017		984	33	
Total 12.2(c)	3,502	36.92	3,465	37	

Central Region

The Central Region delivers programs and services associated with the Regional Services and Parks Division of Conservation and Water Stewardship, including field activities for 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 and the operations and maintenance of provincial parks. 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 down 10% from previous the year. Reduction can be attributed to successful enforcement efforts to curb rowdy behavior in parks, and continual attention given to the transportation of fish within the Region.

- Regional staff responded to 2260 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 1,095 enforcement actions resulting in 640 charges, 194 warnings and 261 evictions from provincial parks. These actions were primarily in response to public complaints on regulatory resource issues and park safety and security concerns.

Natural Resource Officers continued inspections of commercial operations for illegal sales of fish.

- In response to the Central Region Enforcement Strategy, enforcement efforts were directed to the priorities of park safety and security, wildfire investigations and commercial and illegal use of fish and wildlife resources. Commercial businesses in Winnipeg continue to be inspected as new locations are identified. Extensive investigations have been conducted with additional prosecutions pending in the new fiscal year.
- Natural Resource Officers continue to track overproduction of quota by commercial fishers and proceed with appropriate enforcement action on those found in violation.

Liquor Free Camping at Birds Hill and Grand Beach Provincial Parks proves successful in reducing rowdy behavior. Fewer public complaints result in 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 resources. The addition of liquor free camping and the continued efforts to prohibit liquor on the May long weekend has greatly reduced complaints of unacceptable behavior in our park campgrounds.
- Provincial Parks Act and Regulation prosecutions were 30% fewer as compared to the previous year. Evictions in the provincial parks within the Region were also down 30% from the previous year. A significant portion of this reduction can be attributed to the added measures taken to control the consumption of liquor within the campground.

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 Wildlife and Gypsumville District staff continued working with representatives of Skownan First Nation to initiate planning process focused on the development of a Management Plan for the Chitek Lake Wild Bison Herd.
- Regional Park staff continued work with Parks Branch staff regarding First Nations concerns on Park Reserves and Parks.
- Senior Regional staff initiated discussions with A Rocha, a Christian Conservation organization, and the Region is working towards an agreement for day-to-day maintenance of Pembina Valley Provincial Park.
- Regional, District and Branch Park staff initiated discussions with the City of Portage la Prairie and the local Dog Park Committee regarding the establishment of a pet friendly area at Yellow Quill Provincial Park.

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

- The number of wildlife related complaints (1506) in the Region was slightly lower than the previous year. Winnipeg continues to receive the highest number of complaints. Even though the Winnipeg District staff no longer responds 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 to be the most effective way to co-exist with wildlife.

- The number of black bear complaints in the Region decreased by approximately 15% (226) from the previous year. Near normal conditions allowed bears to rely less on human produced food sources resulting in fewer human-black bear conflicts. Grand Beach, Riverton and Hodgson Districts accounted for almost 75% 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 Region's Integrated Resource Management Team (IRMT) identified a number of complex resource management issues in the review of an Environment Act Application Proposal for a proposed peat quarrying operation in the central part of the Region. IRMT members continued to participate in consultations with affected First Nations and in ongoing Provincial reviews of peat developments in the region. IRMT issued a Crown Land Work Permit to two peat operations for site development.
- 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.
- BPC7 completed the land use code review of the Shoal Lakes Crown Lands as well as the purchase of flooded lands.
- Crown Lands completed the sale of the former Emerson KOA campground and the new operator began site improvements.
- 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 three additional 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.
- The West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park received Blue Flag Designation in 2013. Blue Flag is an internationally recognized eco-label symbolizing clean and well-managed beaches and marinas worldwide. Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park submitted an application to be recognized as a Blue Flag Provincial Park.
- Regional and District Park Supervisors continued working with Branch staff to initiate or complete many Minor and Part B Capital infrastructure improvements, as well as flood remediation.
- At Birds Hill, a design plan and Request for Quotes for Birds Hill Beach Expansion and Lake-bottom dredging was completed. It is ready for 2014 tender and award. The retrofit of the West Beach restroom was completed and expansion of the maintenance shop was started.

- The Marie Rose Sisters 2.5 acre property adjacent to Camp Morton was acquired and on March 26th, 2014, an order-in-council designated this property as Provincial Parkland. The shower facility at Camp Morton was retrofitted and converted to coin operation.
- At Grand Beach, the Doctor's Office, a designated historical building, was lifted and a new foundation installed. The West Beach Boardwalk redevelopment continued with an area to mimic the old rail bed that existed in the early 1900's and reinstallation of the sundial. Upgrades to west side pump house in cottage sub-division were completed and the old Surf Club was demolished preparing the area for a natural children's play structure. Staff assisted the Branch with the construction of the Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive trail.
- At Hecla Park, District staff built a new premium vacation cabin and a Pro-shop at the golf course. Repairs to the Black Wolf hiking trail were also completed. The Hecla Resort was re-opened by the Lakeview Hotel chain and is operating all year round.
- Flood remediation work continued at St. Ambrose and the day use area was re-opened for public use immediately after the July long-weekend. In addition, a maintenance compound was constructed.
- Watchorn Provincial Park was rebuilt. Lower campsites were refurbished and the beach ridge sites were realigned to permit both small camper and walk in only tenting opportunities. Other improvements include new picnic shelter, pit privies, modern restroom/shower building, maintenance shop, and children's play structure.
- Stephenfield installed a life jacket loaner kiosk.

Table RO.13
12.2(d) Central Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,786	56.03	3,857	(71)	
Other Expenditures	1,106		1,117	(11)	
Total 12.2(d)	4,892	56.03	4,974	(82)	

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.

Hunter and Angler Compliance Levels

- Natural Resource Officers conducted 1,099 big game, 256 upland game bird, 119 migratory bird, 5,622 angler, 376 Snopass, and 63 work permit inspections in the region. In addition, there were seven decoy wildlife operations, 109 park evictions, and 599 cottage inspections conducted within parks.

Fire Management

- A total of 70 wildfires burnt 1,707.4 hectares within the region. 33 of the fires were deemed to be human caused while the remaining were started by lightning.

Park Operations

- The multi-year reconstruction of the West Hawk Lake sewage lagoon was completed.
- West Hawk Lake road redesign and streetscape development was completed.
- The Nutimik campground shoreline stabilization project was completed.
- Mantario hiking trail clean up of October 2012 wind/snow damage was completed.
- Boat Launch improvements at Dorothy Lake, Caribou Landing, Star Lake, and McDougall's Landing were completed.
- Big Island and McDougall's remote cottaging dock replacement and upgrading was completed on West Hawk Lake.
- New campground offices were completed at St. Malo and Tulabi Lake in Nopiming Provincial Park.
- Redesign and upgrades of the St. Malo Provincial Park road and trailer dump have been completed.
- Black Lake Campground clean-up of the 2012 wind and snowstorm damage was completed.
- Moose Lake Campground Office upgrade completed.
- Nutimik Campground Office mold rehabilitation completed.
- White Lake modern washroom upgrade started in the fall and will continue in the spring of 2014.
- Nutimik West Beach washroom replacement started and will continue in the spring of 2014.
- Big Whiteshell water line relocation completed.
- Tulabi Campground electrification project started in Bay 1 and will continue in the spring of 2014.
- Tulabi Campground pit privy replacement completed.
- South Whiteshell picnic shelter replacement started and will continue in the spring of 2014.
- South Whiteshell picnic area washroom started and will continue in the spring of 2014.

- Working towards greening Manitoba Parks, five (5) electric golf carts were purchased for St. Malo Provincial Park maintenance.
- The new water treatment plant for Brereton Lake Campground was tendered for design.
- Moose Lake Modern Washroom/Shower building and water treatment plant, design, and construction started.

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

- NROs from within the Eastern region continued to support Pine Falls and Lac du Bonnet districts with dedicated ground patrols throughout GHA 26 to ensure compliance with the moose conservation closure. Officers were successful in apprehending one individual found to have taken a moose within the closed portion of GHA 26. The meat from the moose was distributed to local first nation people. Over all, efforts continue to be well received by the public and stakeholders.
- To meet the provinces commitment to reduce costs and modernize services the Hadashville District Office closed in 2013 and the two NROs positions were redeployed to neighboring districts. Seasonal fire staff continue to work out of the Hadashville yard and the district boundaries of neighbouring districts have been adjusted to ensure adequate coverage.
- The region advertised and awarded a design build contract to develop a new District Initial Attack Base and Regional Fire Center in Lac Du Bonnet. 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, and Atikaki Provincial Parks, which include many homes and cottages.

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.
 - Meetings with Sagkeeng First Nation Chief and Council to discuss resource concerns.
 - 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.
- Regional staff continued to participate in aboriginal consultation with Wildlife Branch staff regarding management of the moose population in GHA 26.
- Throughout the region staff continued to meet regularly with the Manitoba Trappers Association locals, Manitoba Wildlife Association and other user and special interest groups.
- NROs coordinated trapper education courses in remote First Nations communities

- Regional and District staff regularly met 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 & maintenance and park safety and security issues.
- Regional and District staff held spring meetings with local fire departments, FN Communities, RM councils, and railway companies to pre-plan for forest fire prevention and suppression operations.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- In an effort to reduce the number of complaints received, staff continues to educate the public in regards to Bear Smart practices and other practices for dealing with 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 EVOG (Emergency Vehicle Operation Certification) and firearm training at the Western Canadian Law Enforcement Academy (WLCEA) in Hinton Alberta.

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,655	58.67	3,720	(65)	
Other Expenditures	800		775	25	
Total 12.2(e)	4,455	58.67	4,495	(40)	

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, the South West Region and the Western Region. 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 six of the seven 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.

2013/14 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.
- As part of the 2013/14 budgeting process, a Fire program warehouse in Garland was closed in an effort to increase cost-effectiveness of service delivery in the region. Seasonal Fire program staff were relocated to Winnipegosis or redeployed to parks positions within Duck Mountain Provincial Park.

Angler and hunter compliance.

- NROs conducted 1610 big game, 36 upland game bird, 160 migratory bird, 5051 angler, 129 Snopass, 167 domestic fishing compliance checks and 185 timber operation inspections in the region. As a result of these compliance checks, there were 273 charges laid and 116 warnings issued.
- The spring Dauphin Lake and tributary walleye closure occurred in May of 2013, due to a late spring and high water levels. 303 First Nation fishers and 97 Métis fishers were checked while engaged in fishing during the closure. NROs spent 320 man-hours patrolling for compliance which resulted in one charge laid for snaring fish and 11 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 95% compliance rate noted.
- First Nation and Métis hunters and fishers continue to be very active in the Western Region. 491 FN fishers and 305 FN hunters were checked and Natural Resource Officers checked 275 Métis fishers and 171 Métis hunters.
- Many of the rights based hunters were checked in conjunction with the Moose Conservation closure which continues in many of the GHA's in the Swan Pelican area. Compliance with the closure was good with most rights based hunters expressing their agreement with the closure which is in place to allow moose populations to recover to a sustainable level. Only two confirmed unlawful moose kills within the closure area were found and are not attributed to any one person or particular group. Investigations into those kills has not resulted in any charges to date. Approximately 2000 man-hours were spent by NROs patrolling the moose closure areas from April 01, 2013 to March 31, 2014.
- NROs continue to conduct decoy and night operations to ensure compliance with Wildlife legislation. One truck was seized as a result of a night operation in the Birch River area. The truck has since been forfeited under the Criminal Property Forfeiture Act. Numerous decoy and night-time operations were conducted along the north side of the Duck Mountains near Grandview in an attempt to stem an ever increasing number of indiscriminate deer killings. The patrols and associated investigations into those deer kills will continue. Neepawa District staff responded to

night hunting complaints and, in October 2013, seized a truck and laid several charges as a result. Subsequent convictions lead to forfeiture of the truck.

Control of park rowdiness 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.
- One new washroom building was added to Blue Lakes campground in Duck Mountain Provincial Park
- One new playground was constructed in William Lake campground in Turtle Mountain Provincial Park
- Construction began on a new water treatment plant in William Lake campground.

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 Metis 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 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.
- NROs attended youth hunts, Emergency Preparedness displays, attended 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 is slated to begin during the 2014 camping season.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- There were 1,124 occurrence reports regarding problem wildlife in the region. 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 due to problem wildlife.
- Staff also educated the public with regard to Bear Smart practices.

Other Key Results Achieved

- Flooding occurred in seven Provincial Parks in 2011. Efforts were made in the fall of 2011 to start the restoration process. Six out of the seven campgrounds were open for the 2012 season. Restoration of Spruce Woods Provincial Park lower campground has been ongoing since then. Through the combined efforts of district, regional and branch staff, it is scheduled for re-opening in 2014. Restoration is nearing completion in Manipogo, Rainbow Beach, Asessippi and Blue Lake's campgrounds. For Spruce Woods Provincial Park, full restoration and redevelopment will occur in four stages with the final stage to occur in 2020. 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 Assessippi 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.
- 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 2013/14, all restaurants inspected were in compliance and no charges were laid.
- In an effort to ensure the highest standard of solid waste management, a new solid waste transfer station was being 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 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,621	56.01	3,583	38	
Other Expenditures	1,077		1,077	44	
Total 12.2(f)	4,698	56.01	4,616	82	

Parks and Natural Areas

The Parks and Natural Areas Branch is responsible for managing provincial parks, ecological reserves, 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 and 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 \$15.8 million in revenue by persons using the parks for personal enjoyment, commercial and general use.
- Park visitation exceeded five million visitors with campsite reservations of 66,124, a decrease of 1,423 reservations over 2012.
- There was a continued focus on environmental infrastructure including water and wastewater systems and the “greening” of park facilities.
- Planning processes and stakeholder consultations were initiated and/or continued for five sites proposed for designation as provincial parks or ecological reserves. In addition, two provincial parks were proposed for expansion and a proposed land use category boundary was changes in two parks. In August 2013, Pocock Lake Ecological Reserve was expanded and Holmgren Pines Ecological Reserve was designated. In May 2013, the LUC boundaries of Spruce Woods Provincial Park were amended as were the LUC boundaries of Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park in August 2013, In March 2014 Camp Morton Provincial Park was also expanded.
- More than 4,400 hectares were added to Manitoba’s protected areas network through designation of a new ecological reserve, the expansion of another and land use category boundary amendments in two existing provincial parks.

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, 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), Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters (water safety public education and programming) the Canadian Parks Council (for the promotion and management of parks).

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

Over the 2013/14 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;
- Participation on the Canadian Parks Council's Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Working Group;
- 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);
- Coordination of provincial input to national park establishment initiatives; 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:

- Continued consultations with Skownan Cree Nation towards the permanent designation of Chitek Lake Park Reserve as a provincial park.
- Continued consultations with Tataskweyak, Nisichawayasihk and O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nations towards the permanent designation of Amisk Park Reserve as a provincial park.
- Initiated planning and consultation processes for the designation of Polar Bear Park.
- Completed consultations to amend the LUC boundaries and expand the Whiteshell Provincial Park to connect protected areas within the park to other protected areas at Whitemouth Bog.

- Amended the the LUC boundaries of Spruce Woods Provincial Park in May 2013. In addition, the LUC boundaries of Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park were amended in August 2013.
- Expanded, Camp Morton Provincial Park in March 2014. Annual Operating Plans for all major logging companies and quota holder associations were reviewed to ensure that harvesting and renewal operations were consistent with regulations and licensing. As a result impacts on parks were reduced.
- Reviewed 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.
- Introduced interim restrictions for licensed trapping within provincial parks until a review of trapping activities in relation to public safety could be finalized.
- Established an emerald ash borer monitoring program in Grand Beach, Birds Hill, Spruce Woods, and Turtle Mountain provincial parks.
- A planning process was initiated to investigate options for reactivating the Spirit Sands in Spruce Woods Provincial Park.

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:

- Reviewed all proposed and candidate ecological reserves to determine priorities and which sites should not be pursued as they are not compatible with the ecological reserves program.
- Initiated work on developing a regulation that clarifies existing permitted uses and activities within ecological reserves.
- Expanded Pocock Lake Ecological Reserve in August 2013 and also designated Holmgren Pines Ecological Reserve.
- Continued consultation with Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation toward the considered protection of Partridge Crop Hill as reserve protected area.
- Completed consultations for the permanent designation of Walter Cook Caves Park Reserve as an ecological reserve. Also, proposed development activities adjacent to ecological reserves were reviewed to determine if they were appropriate and advice was offered on how to mitigate impacts.
- Reviewed Annual Operating Plans for all major logging companies and quota holder associations 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 to 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:

- The program to accelerate the preparation of management plans for all provincial parks continued. Management plans were completed for Beaver Creek, Elk Island, Hnaua Beach, Hyland, Kettle Stones, Lake St. Andrew, Lake St. George, Lockport, Lundar Beach, Memorial, Norris Lake, Patricia Beach, Portage Spillway, River Road, St. Norbert, Stephenfield, Trappist Monastery, Watchorn and Winnipeg Beach provincial parks.
- A management planning process for parks in the Western and Northeast Regions was initiated in 2013 with work beginning on the preparation of draft management plans.
- A management plan was prepared for Camp Morton Provincial Park in conjunction with the park boundary amendment process.
- New Manitoba Parks and Protected Spaces Branch directives were completed regarding the park permit, commercial boat caches and portable camps and work continued on directives regarding off-road vehicle use, commercial signs and discharge of firearms.
- Work on a proposed national park in the Manitoba Lowlands natural region continued with Parks Canada and Misipawistik Cree Nation.

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, to ensure 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.
- Work was initiated on the preparation of a ten-year monitoring report for the Seal River.

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 engineering, 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:

- Construction was completed for Phase 2 of the redevelopment of the Grand Beach Boardwalk, which includes an entry plaza to provide full accessibility from the parking lot to the beach.
- The Beach expansion project at Birds Hill Provincial Park got underway with pathway improvements.
- Manitoba partnered with the Winnipeg Folk Festival to undertake improvements to Group Use 2 (Festival Campground) in Birds Hill Provincial Park that included new picnic shelters, water taps and tree planting.
- The Grand Beach Surf Club and hotel buildings were demolished. Planning and design of a new playground plaza in the same location began.
- Construction of a maintenance shop at St Ambroise Beach Provincial Park was completed.
- An engineering analysis and design of a Stephenfield wastewater lagoon upgrade project was completed.
- Manitoba partnered with the Friends of Upper Fort Garry to support the park development of Upper Fort Garry Provincial Heritage Park.
- Construction was completed on the redevelopment of the West Hawk Lake Town-site Road. Improvements include a new road surface, a pedestrian amenity zone, clearly organized parking and a new boat launch.
- Construction of a new lagoon in Spruce Woods Provincial Park started. .
- Construction of a water treatment and washroom building in Moose Lake Provincial Park were completed.
- Repairs and improvements continue at Spruce Woods Provincial Park as a result of the significant damage from the 2011 flood event. Shoreline erosion protection and four new washroom shower buildings completed.
- New washroom shower buildings were completed at Blue Lake in Duck Mountain, Watchorn, Manipogo and Rainbow Beach provincial parks. Design of new washroom shower buildings at Stephenfield and St. Malo provincial parks were also initiated.
- Beaudry Provincial Park tall grass prairie drainage improvements were completed. Seeding will continue in order to establish grasses in newly drained areas.
- Construction of the boardwalk at Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail was completed. The Trail will open in 2015. Construction of a new wastewater treatment system and disposal field at Brereton Lake in Whiteshell Provincial Park was also initiated. Design of a water treatment system at Brereton Lake is underway.
- Construction was completed on a new access road to the future Tim Horton Children's Foundation Leadership Camp in Whiteshell Provincial Park.
- Work on a new waste transfer station at Shilladay Lake in Duck Mountain Provincial Park was completed.
- Work on a new waste transfer station and the water treatment plant in Paint Lake Provincial Park was completed.

- Paint Lake yurts project was initiated and Cuprus lagoon project was completed.
- In-house design and tender for the Asessippi road was completed.
- Improvements were made to the Mossberry Trail in Duck Mountain Provincial Park.
- New playground equipment was installed at Blue Lake in Duck Mountain Provincial Park, Manipogo Provincial Park, William Lake Provincial Park, Max Lake in Turtle Mountain Provincial Park, Grand Beach Provincial Park and Watchorn Provincial Park.
- Construction of yurts at Childs Lake in Duck Mountain Provincial Park was completed.

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 and 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 is a major component of Recreation Programming.

Key Results Achieved:

- Delivery of 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 30 campground offices in 2013. Cabin, Yurt and Group-Use area reservations opened at the end of March for the end of fiscal 2012/13 after the launch of the Parks Strategy. This was repeated at the end of March 2013/14 for the 2014/15 camping season. Birds Hill campsites reservations were also moved up to this date in order to reduce the opening day load on the reservation system in April.
- Six new yurts opened in Childs Lake, bringing the provincial total to 59 yurts across eight provincial parks.
- The Park Strategy was promoted through a bus board campaign. 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.
- The four camping bays that were selected to be Liquor-free bays for the entire season in 2012, increased to five in 2013; two in Birds Hill (Grackle and Oriole Bays) and three in Grand Beach (Bays 6, 9 & 10); in order to provide liquor free camping opportunities for those who are seeking a more family-oriented camping experience. The initiative is receiving mixed reviews from the public.
- The Park Vehicle entry Permit remained in effect in 2013.

- Wireless Internet was introduced at Falcon Lakeshore and Birds Hill Campgrounds, through the use of hotspots.
- St. Ambrose and Watchorn remained closed due to flooding in 2011. The lower Kitchie Manitou campground in Spruce Woods re-opened to campers in July; however with temporary washroom facilities. Construction on the new washroom shower buildings began in fall. Due to the limited camping opportunities along Lake Manitoba, seasonal campsites were not available at Lundar in 2013 and these sites were sold through the nightly camping program.

Beach Safety

The Beach Safety program in Manitoba Parks is primarily focused on public relations and water safety education, and is provided under contract at three provincial park beaches (Birds Hill, Grand Beach, and Winnipeg Beach). Beach Safety Officers provide on-site water safety education and emergency response as required. Provincial parks offer beach opportunities at 80 other non-staffed locations.

Key Results Achieved:

- Beach Safety Officers (BSO) made approximately 28,500 visitor contacts at three provincial park beaches during summer 2013. About half of 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. Three water rescues were performed. 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.
- West Beach, at Grand Beach Provincial Park was re-certified for the second time under the “Blue Flag” program, 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, safety and services.
- 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, providing an annual \$5.0 grant for public education initiatives, currently focusing on water safety for new Canadians. The department and MCSW expanded the “Lifejacket Loan Program” at St. Malo, Moose Lake, Paint Lake and Iskwasum (Grass River) in summer 2013.

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 provided by the department. Live field programs complemented by publications, outdoor exhibits and audio-visual materials bring visitors in direct contact with park resources and management. This 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 funding for three year-round and six seasonal interpreters at Birds Hill (52 weeks), Spruce Woods (48 weeks) and Whiteshell (51 weeks) provincial parks. 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 34,000 visitors at interpretive centres, museums and interpreter-led events.

- School programs were conducted in all six locations in June and over the fall, winter and spring at Birds Hill, Spruce Woods and Whiteshell provincial parks. Programs ensured that they correlate to the Manitoba Education School Curriculum. In total, 200 school programs were provided to approximately 6,500 Manitoba students.
- Hosted three 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.
- 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 16 trails in six parks.
- Updated self-guiding trail publications for five locations. A new trail brochure was also created for Epinette, Seton and Yellow Quill Trails at Spruce Woods Provincial Park.
- The Heritage Properties program was coordinated in Manitoba's Provincial Parks including building assessment and restoration work at Hecla/Grindstone, Grand Beach, Whiteshell, River Road - Captain Kennedy House, and St. Norbert.
- The children's activity booklet program saw a major reduction in the 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 the number of redemptions, as not as many booklets were distributed and not as many stamps were available due to the loss of interpretive programs across the province. Only 25 passports were redeemed this year, compared to the previous annual average of 50. To date, over 1,300 park visitors have been prompted by the program since its inception in 2009. The Passport publication was revised for the second printing, adding six parks to the program for park visitors to collect stamps and be rewarded for visiting up to 28 parks. Passport booklets were available for distribution in every campground and at every interpretive event.
- Winter public programming continued to be popular at Birds Hill, Spruce Woods and Whiteshell provincial parks with interpretive programs being offered on winter recreation trails. 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.

Key Program Outputs:

Outdoor Recreation Programming	Amount
Number of visitors	5.5 million
Total Number of campsites*	6,151
Transient Campsites*	4,573 (4,023 available for reservation or 88%)
Transient Camping Nights	205,299
Seasonal Campsites (# does not include Permanent Trailer Village or Concessionaire campsites)*	1,513
Seasonal Camping Nights	54,888
Campgrounds offering reservation	42**

Group Use Sites*	89
Family Vacation Cabins	33 (at 2 locations)
Yurts	59 (at 8 locations)
Reservations	66,124 (85% of camping stays in computerized locations reserve ahead)
Reservation Rate, compared to 2012/13	1,423 fewer reservations or 2% decrease
Reservations made through Web	81%
Reservations made opening day April 1, 2013	18,497

* campsites closed due to flooding not included

** 2 campgrounds offering reservations were closed due to flooding in 2013

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. Permits were also issued for commercial fish camps, wild rice cultivation, trapline cabin construction, hay and grazing, scientific research, and mineral claim-staking and exploration.

Key Results Achieved:

- Work concluded on a project to revise the methodology for charging park district service fees respecting the provision of municipal type services (roads, garbage, sewer, water, etc.).
- The first extensive revisions to *The Cottager's Handbook* in a decade have been prepared for review by department staff prior to planned consultations 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:

- 307 permits were issued for cottage construction or structural modification.
- 192 leasehold inspections were carried out.
- \$5.9 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 Natural Areas

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	15,688	253.43	15,854	(166)	
Other Expenditures	10,082		9,823	259	
Grant Assistance	466		434	32	
Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(472)		(472)	0	
Total 12.2(g)	25,764	253.43	25,639	125	

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 2013 fire season was below average in terms of the number of fires reported at 494, but far above average for the total of hectares burned at 1,115,414. Of the total area burned, 1,000,000 hectares fell within no action required areas of the province. Much of the area burned was comprised of areas of no identified values requiring no suppression actions to be taken or only requiring limited suppression actions to protect any values at risk.
- A delayed spring and cooler temperatures resulted in a below average fire season in the south. The north however, experienced extreme fire weather indices with little precipitation beginning in May and continuing through August, where efforts were mainly concentrated on community protection on the border of the Primary Protection Zone and Observation Zone. An Incident Management Team was deployed to a fire near Gillam and several out of province resources were requested to assist on northern fires.
- Fire activity slowed during the last week of August and the fall fire season was negligible. Assistance was provided to the Office of the Fire Commissioner on municipal fires near threatened communities.

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:

- Of the reported 166 Human Caused Wildfires, 142 were investigated. 59 of the fires were determined to have been intentionally started and 76 determined to be caused by negligence. Evidence collected supported a cost recovery for 78 fires, including five prosecutions and four warnings.

Human Caused Wildfires by Region		Investigated
Central	14	6
Western	5	4
Eastern	15	15
Northwest	15	12
Northeast	117	105
Total	166	142

Cause Determined	
Intentional	50
Accidental	33
Negligence	76
Unknown	7
Total	166

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 2013 fire season was extremely busy for Manitoba's aviation resources. Manitoba's CL-215/CL-415 water bomber fleet and bird dog aircraft flew 1445.4 hrs (1281.1 hrs in 2012). Out-of-province water bombers and bird dog aircraft from Ontario and Saskatchewan were used at various times to supplement Manitoba's water bomber fleet for a total 211.3 flight hours (189.4hrs in 2012). Single Engine Air Tanker aircraft provided by Manitoba's agricultural aviation industry flew 363.8 hrs (330.7 hrs in 2012). These aircraft were used to supplement Manitoba's CL-215/CL-415 water bomber fleet for community protection, new fire starts, and sustained fire action.

Manitoba helicopter operations were also extremely busy. Casual hire helicopters supplemented the long-term helicopter contracts. Manitoba has six helicopters on long-term contracts. The estimated total for all aircraft expenditures was approximately \$35.3 million compared to \$16.4 million in 2012. This represents 9483.3 flight hours (5743.6 hrs in 2012) with minimal reported incidents.

Science and Technology

- Aircraft tracking was implemented for all casual hire helicopters in 2013. All air tankers and bird dogs in the Saskatchewan Government fire fleet were also tracked with plans to include Ontario Government tankers and bird-dog aircraft in 2014.
- The Pukatawagan weather station was converted to transmit data over the GOES satellite, eliminating data radio noise.
- Work continues to install dual temperature/humidity sensors at remote stations to ensure data is not interrupted when sensor failures occur.
- All fires are now being mapped and verified using Landsat in the post season, as well as having more accurate daily growth sizes derived from MODIS thermal hotspots

- Winter snow surveys continue to determine over winter precipitation amounts.
- Weather station data from Environment Canada is now being obtained from the Datamart through an automated data collection process called Surface Weather Observation Markup Language (SWOB-ML). In addition, Manitoba continues to have the Anik Meteorological Information System (AMIS) data feed push as a backup ensuring redundant and independent data collection methods during failures.
- Fire Maps are now available on the public website in both Google Earth and ESRI shapefile formats.

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

- FireSmart meetings continue 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.
- Continued with the development of the Eastern Region's Provincial Park's Wildfire Protection and Mitigation Plans. Response Plans and sprinkler deployment plans have been completed for the Whiteshell area while Nutimik and Grand Beach are in progress.
- Work has continued with Forestry staff in meetings with Rural Municipalities an effort to introduce FireSmart concepts into the 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 Manitoba Hydro, local government, and the Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre by supporting or promoting their efforts in areas of hazard mitigation, public education and community protection. The Fire Program encourages local adoption and championing of FireSmart and Prevention initiatives as part of its efforts to expand the programs.

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

Fire line training in the past year included:

- 57 Type II Emergency Fire Fighters were trained and certified
- 15 new Type II Emergency Fire Fighter Crew Leaders were trained and certified
- 189 Type III Emergency Fire Fighters were trained and certified
- 18 Type III Emergency Fire Fighter Crew Leaders were trained and certified
- 36 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
- 39 individuals were trained and certified to the Type I Crew Leader level
- 22 individuals were trained as Sector Leaders

- 7 Incident Management Team members attended the Type 2 Incident Command Team course (Command and General Staff) in Cadillac, MI
- 5 Incident Management Team members attended the Type 1 Incident Command Team course (Complex Incident Management) in Madison, WI
- Numerous First Aid/CPR courses, Transportation of Dangerous Goods, WHMIS, and Chainsaw training courses were held

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 2013/14:

- Developed and deployed a second pump and hose trailer (30 pumps, 1,000 ft. hose).
- A mobile values protection trailer was developed and a Values Protection Unit (VPU) team trained to be deployed with the unit. The VPU and team were deployed to various fire incidents in the Northeast Region during the 2013 fire season. A second unit is being developed and is near completion for the 2014 fire season with a second team being trained to deploy with the second unit. These units provide more immediate access to specific and specialized equipment necessary in the protection of up to 30 structures.
- Improvements to fire equipment including conversion of 2 ½" hose to quick connect couplings and modification to fire pumps to increase efficiency occurred in 2013.

Imports and Exports:

- A total of four imports were requested through the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) during the 2013 fire season.
- Manitoba assisted Saskatchewan with CL-215 Quick Strike action on two occasions as well as another with helicopter and initial attack crew on a border fire. A Saskatchewan CL-215 group was imported into the province to provide additional support to suppression efforts on northern fires. Ontario and Saskatchewan provided Quick Strike assistance with CL-215 and CL-415 tanker groups on 15 separate occasions.
- Ontario provided assistance with two Type 1 Initial Attack personnel deployments in July. Alberta also assisted and provided a 20-person Type 1 Sustained Action crew and a 24-person Initial Attack crew personnel deployment.
- The Office of the Fire Commissioner requested air tanker support on three urban interface incidents.

Table R0.17
2013 - Number of Fires and Area Burned by Region and Cause

2013 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	27	126.8	4	2.3					12	6.7	43	135.8
settlement	50	22.7	1	9.5			2	41.0	9	169.5	62	242.7
woods operations	5	2.5	5	50.7							10	53.2
other industry	3	3.2	3	2.7	1	0.2			3	2.2	10	8.3
railroads									1	0.6	1	0.6
public projects	2	3.2	1	0.2			1	3.7			4	7.1
incendiary	30	25.5			2	83.8	11	61.5	3	3.9	46	174.7
miscellaneous	5	64.3	1	0.1	2	2.3	1	204.7	7	1.8	16	273.2
agricultural												
lightning	238	1,095,333.6	27	17,662.7			1	0.1	36	1,522.8	302	1,114,519.2
all causes	360	1,095,581.8	42	17,728.2	5	86.3	16	311.0	71	1,707.5	494	1,115,414.8

Table R0.18
2013- Number of Fires and Area Burned by Priority Zone and Action Status

2013	Actioned Fires		area burned (hectares)	No Action Fires			area burned (hectares)	Limited Action Fires			area burned (hectares)	All Fires		area burned (hectares)	% of area burned	
	# fires	% fires		% of area burned	# fires	% fires		% of area burned	# fires	% fires		% of area burned	# fires			% fires
RED	184	54.44%	18,433.4	16.88%	1	1.02%	2.0	0.00%	3	5.17%	3.2	0.00%	188	38.06%	18,438.6	1.65%
YELLOW	13	3.85%	2,528.6	2.32%									13	2.63%	2,528.6	0.23%
GREEN	86	25.44%	572.0	0.52%	19	19.39%	5,624.6	1.23%	7	12.07%	4,909.8	0.89%	112	22.67%	11,106.4	1.00%
WHITE	55	16.27%	87,654.3	80.28%	78	79.59%	451,247.9	98.77%	48	82.76%	544,439.0	99.11%	181	36.64%	1,083,341.2	97.12%
ALL ZONES	338	100.0%	109,188.3	100.0%	98	100.0%	456,874.5	100.0%	58	100.0%	549,352.0	100.0%	494	100.0%	1,115,414.8	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
2013 - Area burned by Priority Zone

2013	Zone Area (ha.)	Hectares Burned	% of zone burned
Red	11,415,633.5	18,438.6	0.162%
Yellow	685,691.0	2,528.6	0.369%
Green	9,770,018.8	11,106.4	0.114%
White	23,081,244.9	1,083,341.2	4.694%
All Zones	44,952,588.2	1,115,414.8	2.481%

Figure 2

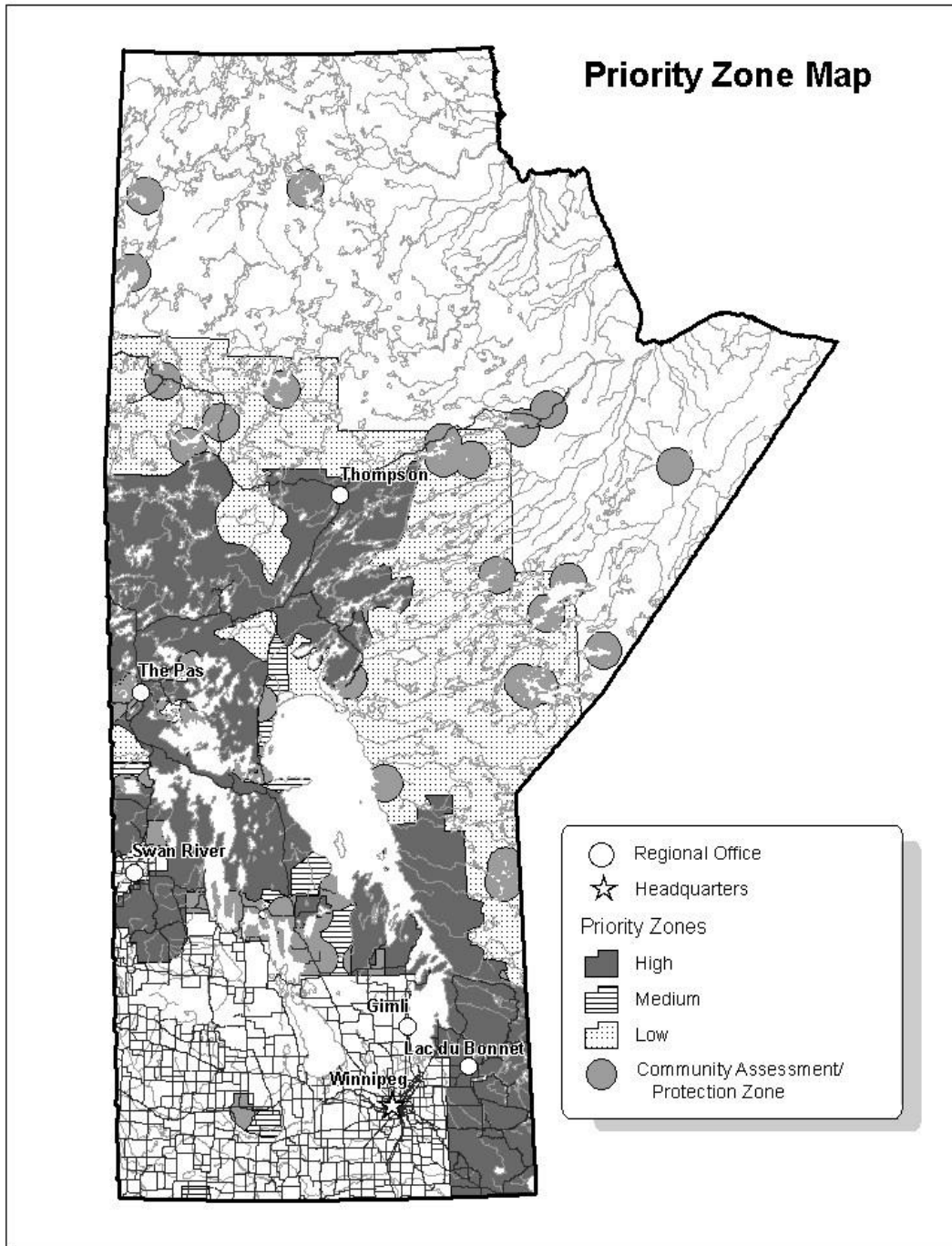


Figure 3

Number of Fires, 2001 - 2013

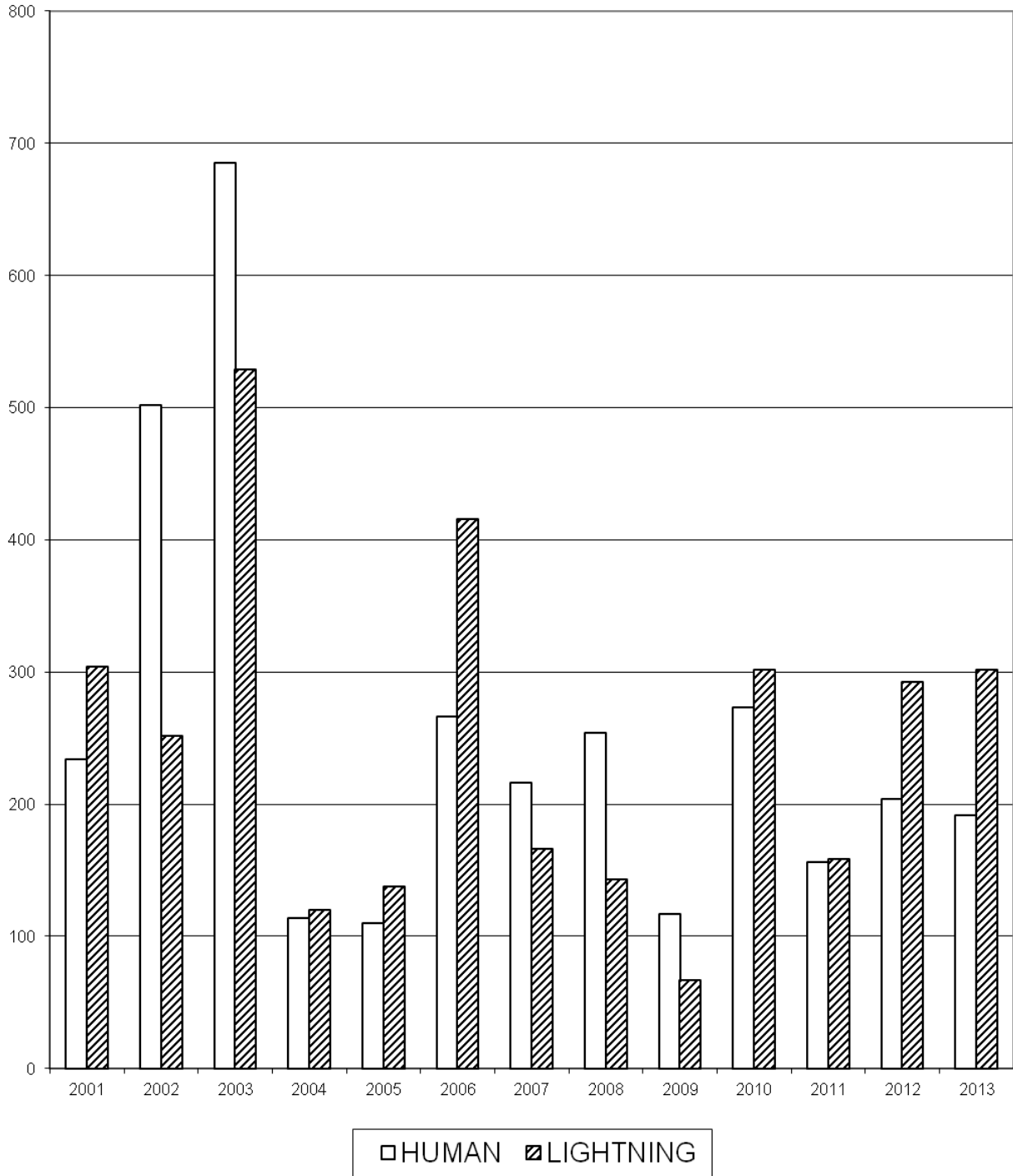


Figure 4

Area Burned 2001 - 2013

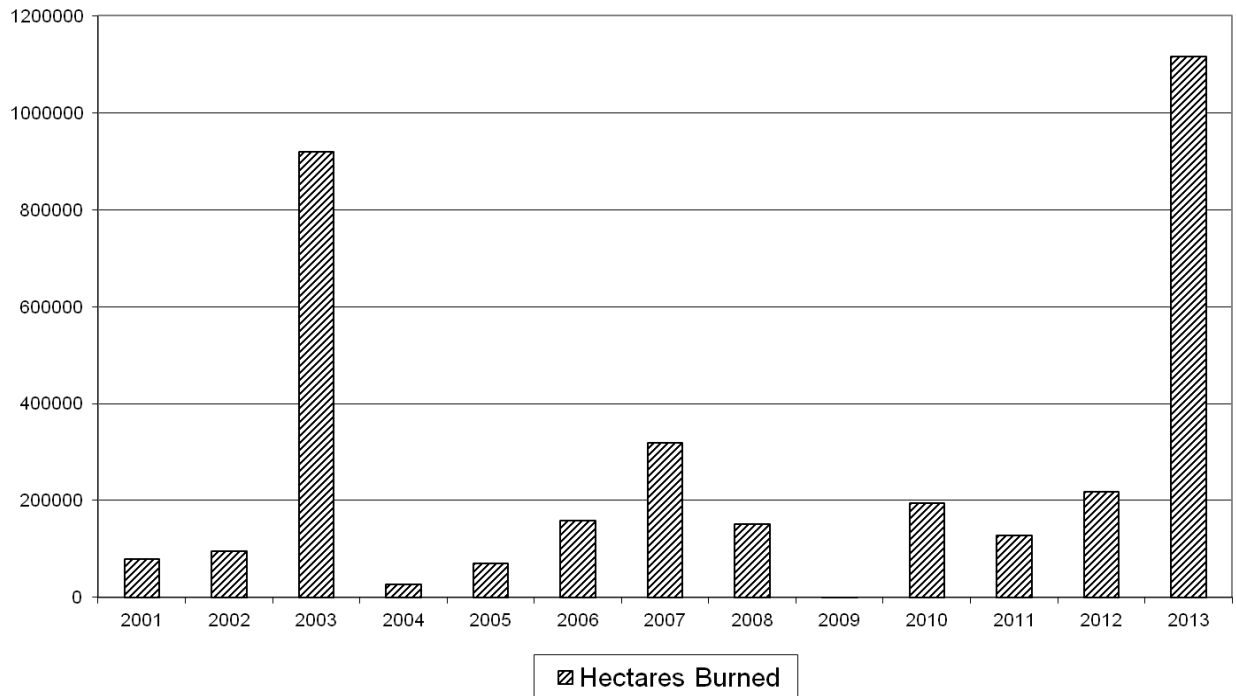


Table RO.20
12.2(h) Fire and Emergency Response Program

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	6,626	68.28	6,792	(166)	
Other Expenditures	11,061		11,179	(118)	
Less: Recoverable from Emergency Expenditures	(496)		(500)	4	
Total 12.2(h)	17,191	68.28	17,471	(280)	

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Divisional Administration

Divisional administration provides strategic and sustainable management of Manitoba's crown lands, forests, nursery services, and wildlife geographical information.

Table CP.1

12.3(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	212	2.00	163	49	
Other Expenditures	288		303	(15)	
Total 12.3(a)	500	2.00	466	34	

Forestry

The Forestry Branch plans, manages and allocates forest 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.

To achieve these results, the Branch, supported by a skilled Admin team, is organized into three key sections:

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

The Branch works from one central and several regional offices, and is comprised of approximately 60 professional, technical and support staff. The central office in Winnipeg sets the policy and planning framework for forest management, develops and administers timber management, forest health, forest renewal, growth and yield and forest inventory programs on a provincial basis. Throughout the forest zone, regional forestry staff implement forest management programs on behalf of the department. Regional forestry offices are located in Lac du Bonnet, Gimli, Swan River, The Pas and Thompson.

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

Peatlands

In 2013, Forestry Branch became the Forestry and Peatland Management Branch. Mineral Resources will transition responsibilities for managing peatlands to the Branch when the Peatlands Stewardship and Related Amendments Act is proclaimed. Work on this new Act occurred throughout 2013 in cooperation with the Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch to facilitate its introduction in the spring of 2014. The [Peatlands Stewardship Strategy](#) has been identified as a priority under *TomorrowNow - Manitoba's Green Plan*.

Administration

Key Results Achieved

- The Branch managed and administered a grant of \$170,000 to the Manitoba Forestry Association's woodlot program, which is provided through the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund. This program includes the development of woodlot management plans and technology transfer in the south-eastern, Interlake and western portions of the province.
- The Branch provided a grant of \$23,400 and staff involvement to support educational programs delivered by the Manitoba Forestry Association, as well as a \$4,000 contribution towards an environmental education competition ([Envirothon](#)) for Manitoba high school students.

Forest Inventory and Resource Analysis (FIRA)

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

The Forest Inventory Program

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

Key Results Achieved

- Imagery acquisition was completed for the Forest Management License 2 (FML-2) area of the Nelson River Forest Section. A request for proposals for the photo interpretation of the new imagery was tendered and awarded in 2013.
- Working with the National Forest Inventory (NFI) Section of the Canadian Forest Service, staff re-measured 43 NFI photo plots and completed 10 NFI ground plots. Data collected will be used to monitor forest change.

The 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

- Six new Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) were added to the existing 57 PSPs. The PSP program is a long term monitoring survey of plots across the province to support the development of growth and yield models for the province.
- Further model validation was done on Manitoba-variant growth and yield prediction system (MGYPSY) using additional PSP data supplied by Tolko Industries Ltd (Tolko), LP Canada (LP) and Saskatchewan. Majority sub-models of MGYPSY, including site index curve, were updated as a result of acquisition of the additional PSP data. The development of MGYPSY is aimed at providing a predictive tool for forecasting yields of Manitoba's forests.

The 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 leads climate change initiatives for the Branch such as vulnerability assessments and mainstreaming adaptation options for forest management planning. Other projects and responsibilities include calculation of forest carbon sequestration, biomass estimation, integrate new principles of forest ecology and landscape design, and incorporate natural disturbance, forest succession and wildlife habitat forecasting into forest ecosystem modeling.

Key Results Achieved

- The Saskatchewan River Forest Section and portions of the Highrock Forest Section (FMU 67 & 68) wood supply analyses were completed and draft reports developed. Second "total volume" scenarios were also completed for both sections and addendum reports created.
- FIRA staff calculated the impacts of small and large development proposals/projects (e.g. Manitoba Hydro's Bi-Pole III, Keyask generating station, protected areas, Crown land sales) on Manitoba's forest resources.
- FIRA collaborated with Canada Forest Service, the Climate Change Task Force, and the Saskatchewan Research Council to conduct a case study on the vulnerability assessment of the Pineland Forest Section to climate change.

- FIRA staff worked with the Wildlife Branch to develop methods for modeling caribou habitat and incorporate it into forest management planning.

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. FMD provides direction in six program areas: Timber Administration, Forest Management Planning and Forest Practices, Wood Measurement, Legislation and Policy, Forest Development and Consultation, and Regional Operations.

Timber Administration Program

The Timber program administers timber harvesting, provides cutting authorities, monitors harvest volumes and inspects timber operations. They establish commodity [timber prices](#) and collect timber dues along with other fees and charges. The program also tracks the movement of Crown timber from forests to mill destinations.

Key Results Achieved

- Commodity pricing and timber dues rates for Kraft rose steadily throughout the year rising to \$4.28/m³ by the end of the year, the highest it has been since the start of the new timber pricing system. OSB timber dues soared to \$6.36/m³ in April 2013, a new high, but then fell back to base rate by July and remained there for the rest of the year. Timber dues for softwood lumber rose above base rate for the first time in April 2013, fell back to base rate throughout the summer and slightly increased to \$2.26/m³ by March 2014.
- In total, 1,270,947 m³ of Crown timber was harvested in Manitoba and \$3,129,191 in revenue was collected from Timber Dues and charges in 2013/14. Harvested volume has recovered from the low in 2011/12 (up about 20%) but revenues are lower because of reduced timber dues and charges on salvage wood from the Western Region blowdown and the Eastern Region winter storm damage. In the Western Region there was over 61,000 m³ of blowdown salvage delivered with a total reduction of timber dues and forest protection charge of over \$100,000. In the Eastern Region there was over 59,000 m³ of storm damaged salvage delivered with a reduction in timber dues and charges of over \$371,000. In addition to these harvested volumes, a damage appraisal was issued to Manitoba Hydro for timber to be cleared for BiPole III transmission line. The estimated total volume along the line was 198,540 m³ and the total Dues and Charges paid by Hydro was \$1,066,911.

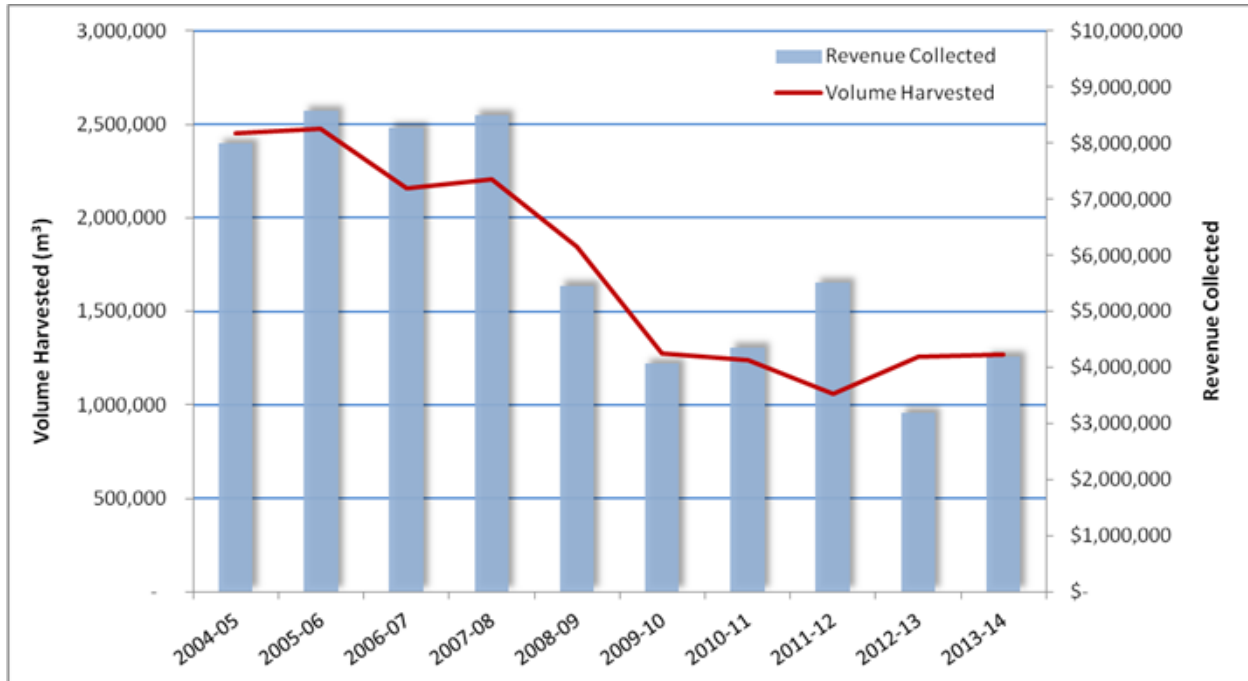


Figure 5 Crown Timber Harvested and Provincial Revenue Collected from 2003-2013

- Residual biomass from harvest debris piles provides a renewable energy source from woody material that otherwise would need to be burned or removed in some other manner. In 2013/14 Tolko Industries Ltd (Tolko) utilized close to 74,000 m³ of residual fibre from sawmills, residual biomass from debris piles and hardwood from harvest operations to replace the use of Bunker C oil in their kraft mill. The replacement of fossil fuels with renewable resources is environmentally beneficial.
- The processing of harvest debris piles for biomass products continued in 2013/14, particularly in the Western region. In January 2013, this residual biomass became a commodity for which timber dues and forest protection charge (total of \$0.97/m³) were applied. Just over 14,800 m³ of residual biomass was delivered to Tolko in 2013/14, most of which was delivered as salvage from blow down damaged blocks.

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 one year Operating Plans for 2013, which were approved by the Department. Tolko Industries Ltd (Tolko) submitted a two year Operating Plan in 2013 which was also approved. Annual meetings were held with each licensee, and Annual Reports were reviewed using a new Annual Report guideline.

Wood Measurement Program

This program ensures that Manitoba's scaling methods are consistent with national standards, provides training, licensing and monitors industry wood measurement programs. All Crown timber harvested in Manitoba is accurately measured and movement of Crown timber 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. A five-day scalers course was offered in September 2013.

Legislation and Policy Program

All forestry activities must be properly authorized. This program maintains *The Forest Act*, *The Forest Health Protection Act*, associated regulations and forestry policies.

Key Results Achieved

- [*The Forest Act*](#) and [*The Forest Health Protection Act*](#) are two main authorities which govern and shape forestry activities and programs in Manitoba. *The Forest Act* (1965) was last amended in 2011 and *The Forest Health Protection Act* was proclaimed in 2009.
- 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 (U.S.). Under the 2006 SLA, Manitoba forestry staff participates in discussions with the federal government and other provinces and provides notifications to Canada and the U.S. as required. The 2006 SLA was scheduled to expire in October 2013 and in 2011 the agreement was extended by two years to October 2015. The extension secures Canadian Softwood timber producers access to the US market.
- During 2013/14 the prevailing monthly price of softwood lumber exceeded \$355 US meaning that Canada did not apply export measures (volume constraints or export taxes) to Softwood Lumber Products exported from Manitoba to the United States except during the months of August through September 2013.

Forest Development and Consultation

Key Results Achieved

- The Branch continues to participate in numerous discussions and workshops to assess biomass opportunities throughout the province. Several Special Allocations and Auctions for biomass and other products were issued to create and increase economic development opportunities.
- 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.
- 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 Central and Western Region.

Operational Highlights

Eastern Region

- A snowstorm combined with high winds in October 2012 created an impact to jack pine stands across the southern part of the Region. Regional forestry staff worked with quota holders to salvage harvest the most severely impacted timber in close proximity to communities. The cumulative impact from this recent damage combined with recent fires and wind storms has 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 Region continues to actively participate with First Nation communities. Highlights include initiating a consultation process for the road decommissioning plans for the Tembec FML and ongoing discussions and participation with economic development opportunities with Shoal Lake # 40 First Nation. Regional staff co-chair and participate on the Pimitotah (Bloodvein First Nation) Resource Advisory Board.
- Site preparation and renewal activities continue in the region to regenerate forests harvested by regular and salvage harvest operations. Approximately 2,000,000 trees were planted and 750 ha of land was site prepped for planting and assist in natural regeneration.
- Working with the FIRA Section in Winnipeg, the region is developing an enhanced five year timber sale plan. There are approximately 75 quota holders in the region and 2013/14 harvest volumes were approximately 74,000 m³ of softwood and 52,000 m³ of hardwood.

Central Region

- Central region forestry staff, with support from Branch headquarters, conducted a Crown Aboriginal consultation process regarding the forestry 2013/14 Operating Plan with 14 First Nation communities, 11 Aboriginal and Northern Affairs communities and the Manitoba Métis Federation. Five communities requested additional meetings to review and discuss the Operating Plans within their communities. A formal Consultation Plan was also initiated by one community.
- The regional silviculture program completed the following activities:
 - scarified 15 ha of harvested area in the Rosenberg area to promote natural regeneration
 - surveyed 426.9 ha for regeneration status (100% achieved Regeneration Standard)
 - surveyed 118 ha for Free to Grow (FTG) Status (67% achieved FTG standard)
- A total of 102.9 ha of forested area was harvested in the Central Region in FMU 46 (13%), FMU 43 (52%) and FMU 40 (35%).

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 10,000 jack pine. Local youth planted 2,500 white spruce in a special Churchill project.
- Tolko Industries Ltd (Tolko) harvested in the Northeast Region for the first time since March 2009. Tolko harvested approximately 80,000 m³ of softwood off the North Joey Lake Road. Mistik Hauling

harvested and marketed to Tolko hardwood for biomass and softwood for pulp, reporting 39,848 m³ of hardwood and incidental softwood.

Northwest Region

- Regional forestry staff continues to work with Tolko, quota holders and the Wildlife Branch to integrate caribou recovery strategies into logging plans near or at Kississing Lake West, Wheadon and the south Bog herd.
- Consultations on Tolko's 2012 and 2013 plans that were previously completed by the region continue to be operated on by Tolko. Notices and consultations were offered to 29 communities regarding small projects not covered by Tolko's annual plans. Thirty work permits were issued and supervised by Northwest Regional forestry staff for logging, road construction and silviculture operations. Environmental issues and operating conditions were monitored.
- The region planted 385,000 trees with two contracts in the spring of 2013. Approximately 190 hectares was treated with aerial herbicide under a sub contract to Tolko.

Western Region

- Regional Forestry Staff reviewed and approved LP Canada Ltd (LP) and the MQHA's 2013/14 Operating Plans. 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.
- Regional staff continues to promote and plan for the salvage of damaged forests resulting from a June 2012 severe wind storm that affected the Duck Mountain Provincial Forests and surrounding area. It was estimated that 57,000 m³ of hardwood blow down was harvested in 2013/14. In response, LP is planning a third year of salvage.
- Regional forestry staff also provided education assistance in natural resources for elementary school students and the Regional Envirothon Competition. More than 7,000 trees were planted with students and Boy Scouts in the Duck Mountains and at Spruce Woods Provincial Park.

Forest Health and Renewal (FHR)

This Section ensures successful renewal of harvested crown forest 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 maintains tree improvement seed orchards.

Key Results Achieved

- In 2013, the provincial program planted 3,481,000 trees on approximately 1,800 ha of Crown land. This was accomplished through seven tendered contracts, of which three were awarded to First Nation companies through aboriginal tree planting initiatives.
- Regeneration surveys were conducted on 3,090 ha of renewal blocks. Of those areas surveyed, 2,765 ha achieved the provincial regeneration standards. Free to Grow (FTG) surveys were performed on 640 ha of softwood-dominated forest stands. The surveys indicated a total of 339 ha achieved the provincial FTG standard for softwood leading renewal blocks.
- Forest renewal staff participated on the Manitoba Silviculture Technical Committee (MbSTC) with industry staff. Presently, the committee is implementing new FTG surveys protocols, a new silviculture activity tracking program and initiated award of Forest Renewal Certificated based on the results of the FTG survey.
- A total of 45.47 hectoliters of cones was collected in 2013 for future renewal efforts across the province. Forestry Branch maintains a seed bank with a forecasted 5 year supply of seed. Of the 33.4 hectoliters of jack pine seed collected, 11.4 hectoliters was collected from jack tree improvement seed orchards, and the remainder was collected from natural/wild stands. 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 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 conducted to attain the following objectives:

Key Results Achieved

- Dutch Elm Disease (DED) detection surveys marked 6,731 infected elm trees within 33 cost sharing agreement communities and municipalities within the Winnipeg buffer zone. DED removal operations disposed of 4,113 infected trees and 85 elm firewood piles.
- Monitoring continues throughout the province for spruce and jack pine budworm. Ground plots were established for monitoring spruce budworm (33) and jack pine budworm (26). Pheromone traps monitor moth counts and branch samples are obtained to obtain egg mass information. Aerial surveys are also conducted to determine the extent of defoliation. This data is used to assess budworm population levels and determine a control spray program. Low population levels were detected in 2013.
- Four firewood collection bins along three major highways into the province 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.
- Monitoring for emerald ash borer continued in 2013 with 30 green sticky traps placed though the province in high-risk locations. No emerald ash borers were detected. In 2013, Manitoba co-lead the development of a Risk Analysis Framework with a focus on preventive measures for emerald ash borer as part of the National Pest Strategy initiated by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers to develop a collaborative, integrated and national approach for optimizing forest pest expertise and resources.

- European gypsy moths continue to be found in Manitoba in very low numbers. In 2013, there were seven new single moth detections. Monitoring will continue in 2014 with trap delineation deployed by the CFIA.

Urban Forestry Program

The role of the Urban Forestry program is to engage Manitoba communities in managing and protecting their urban forest resources from Dutch elm disease (DED). Additionally, the program is developing policies and procedures for enforcing 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 program manages DED in 39 communities in Manitoba. In 33 of these communities, DED is managed through an annual cost sharing agreement between the participating community and the Province. The remaining six communities are located in the Winnipeg buffer zone area, protecting the large elm population within the City of Winnipeg.
- 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 will be launched in 2014. The program is intended to recognize and raise public awareness of trees with exceptional environmental, cultural, social, economic or historic significance to Manitobans and provide opportunities for their increased protection.

Table FO.1
12.3(b) Forestry

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	5,733	60.00	5,490	243	
Other Expenditures	3,146		3,762	(616)	
Grant Assistance	23		21	2	
Forest Regeneration Stock	545		751	(206)	
Less: Recoverable from Urban and Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(1,549)		(1,608)	59	
Total 12.3(b)	7,898	60.00	8,416	(518)	

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 Injured and Orphaned Wildlife Policy and Procedures and the Black Bear Policy and Procedures were completed.
- The Wildlife Branch completed the Boreal Woodland Caribou Strategy for public review as part of *Tomorrow Now – Manitoba's Green Plan*.

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 (e.g., Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, Mentored Hunt Partnership, Nature Conservancy Canada, Wild Turkey Relocation Program, NatureServe Canada and NatureServe).

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 by the unit include the Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention Program, the Problem Predator Management Program, the Problem Beaver Management Program, Urban Wildlife Conflict Management 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.

- Travel Manitoba reported that hunting and fishing expenditures in Manitoba were \$126.0 million in 2012. A total of 63,580 hunting licences were sold resulting in revenue of \$2.9 million. Manitoba's 8,088 licenced trappers harvested an estimated \$4.34 million in raw fur (2011/12 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 336,600 Big Game hunter days and 127,500 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 worked with the Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch to engage First Nations, Métis and other stakeholders in developing regional moose recovery plans for the western and eastern regions. These plans will inform the development of a provincial moose management strategy.
- Annual program implementation plans were prepared for the Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) programs. The Big Game Health Program has analyzed over 1,200 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 Wildlife Branch collected a fifth year of information on harvest rates of wild turkeys that will be used in the creation of a provincial management strategy. Manitoba partnered with federal and state agencies on aerial surveys and banding activities of geese which are used for estimating population size and harvest rates of sub-arctic nesting Canada Geese, an important shared international resource.
- 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 2,371 of the 5,098 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 Beaver Management Program began in November 2012 and resulted in the removal of approximately 1,600 problem beaver in the first year.
- Funding agreements were also developed with 31 rural municipalities which were considered to be chronic conflict areas. The agreements provide funds for these RMs to address both problem beaver and problem beaver dams.
- The Problem Predator Removal Program was delivered under an agreement with the Manitoba Trappers Association. In 2013, trappers responded to 45 requests and removed 8 foxes, 166 coyotes and 41 wolves. The problem predator working group was established with Manitoba Beef Producers, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation, Manitoba Sheep Association, Manitoba Trappers Association and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. The purpose of the Livestock Predation Working Group is to develop a Livestock Predation Protection Strategy for Conservation and Water Stewardship. Six workshops were delivered in chronic predator-livestock conflict areas.
- The Urban Goose Working Group is comprised of Environment Canada, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Airport Authority. Its objective is to reduce 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 and human safety. Twenty-eight vehicle collisions with Canada geese were reported in 2013; down from fifty-seven the previous year.
- A partnership was developed between the National Wild Turkey Federation, Wild Gobblers Unlimited and the Wildlife Branch to continue dealing with nuisance turkeys using intercept feeding or relocation.
- The 5th Annual Provincial Hunting Day was celebrated at Oak Hammock Marsh on September 21, 2013. Several Hunting Skills Day events and numerous formal mentored hunts for waterfowl and white-tailed deer were held in partnership with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation. These programs continue to significantly contribute to the recruitment and retention of hunters.
- Over 430 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.
- Input from the public and stakeholders assisted in the continued development of a new furbearer and trapping area management policy and procedures. 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 bear complaints in 2006, the numbers of complaints (occurrences) has dropped by 21 per cent to an average 1,383 per year, and have become less variable between years.

- The cost-shared Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention Program supports the goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in accordance with the prospectus of the Prairie Joint Venture. Manitoba's contribution to this program is an impost on each hunting licence sold. It maintains lure crops and engaged landowner advisory committees in two chronic conflict areas; Grants Lake Game Bird Refuge and Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area. 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. The two feeding stations at Saskeram Wildlife Management Area and Lidcliff Marsh were decommissioned in 2013.
- The Human-Black Bear Conflict Management Policy and Procedures was revised to provide consistent direction to staff respecting the management of human-black bear conflicts. The Wildlife Branch and Operations 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 bear which has attacked 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 180 waterfowl crop damage complaints in 2013. Compensation claims from Manitoba Agriculture Services Corporation by producers can exceed \$1.0 million per year; every \$1.00 spent in prevention results in an estimated \$3.00 saving 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 1,271 hectares (3,141 acres) of species-at-risk habitat through land purchases and Conservation Agreements.
- The Wildlife Lands Unit participated in the southwest critical wildlife habitat on Crown Land review, to identify candidate protected areas and provincially significant wetlands to better protect them from threats. The Unit also reviewed numerous Crown land sale requests, subdivision application circulars, and Crown land general permit applications as well as development plans and integrated watershed management plans. In addition, over 500 parcels were reviewed for mineral dispositions, including oil and gas lease sales, casual quarry permits and quarry leases.
- Construction of the Delta Marsh Common Carp Exclusion Project was completed in spring 2013. Manitoba contributed \$500,000 towards the total project costs of \$3.5 million, with the balance of the funds provided by Ducks Unlimited Canada and Wildlife Habitat Canada.
- 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 at Delta Marsh.
- 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 co-operation with Ducks Unlimited Canada and the City of Winnipeg.
- The Wildlife lands Unit completed numerous smaller projects designed to improve public satisfaction, facilities and knowledge of Manitoba's wetlands in Wildlife Management Areas across the province.
- The Habitat Stewardship Unit delivered the Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project that secured 347 hectares (857 acres) of native grassland on privately owned lands under three 5-year twice-over grazing management agreements. An additional 315 hectares (778 acres) of shrubs were mowed on project lands and 59 hectares (147 acres) were managed through prescribed burning.
- The Tall Grass Prairie Communities and Species at Risk Project resulted in the removal of nine hectares (22 acres) of invasive species (leafy spurge and St. John's wort) and three hectares (7.4 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 (Lake Manitoba and Mars Hill 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 which 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), which advises the federal government on the listing of species under Canada's national *Species at Risk Act*. Staff reviewed 52 status assessment reports covering 58 species or subspecies, seven of which are found in Manitoba. The Biodiversity Unit, in cooperation with Environment Canada, hosted the May COSEWIC species assessment meeting in Winnipeg and delivered tours of The International Polar Bear Conservation Centre, Oak Hammock Marsh and Fort Whyte Alive to COSEWIC members.
- The Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project delivered a prairie management tour and 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 works to improve the remaining native prairie, increase producer income and lead to the long-term retention of native prairie grasslands in southwest Manitoba. A presentation titled "Effects of Reducing Woody Cover on Conservation of Mixed-grass Prairie Songbirds in southwestern Manitoba" was presented at the Society of Canadian Ornithologists conference in August 2013.
- One school tour of the preserve and one classroom presentation were given as part of the Tall Grass Prairie Communities and Species at Risk Project. The annual Tall Grass Prairie Day event was hosted at the Preserve with 95 people attending and two editions of "Prairie Ponders" were produced and distributed to local communities. A presentation "Shifting Population Dynamics of the Grassland Bird Community on the Manitoba Tall Grass Prairie Preserve as a Result of Habitat Changes" was given at the America's Grassland Conference in Manhattan, Kansas in August 2013.

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 12,000 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 1,624 hectares (4,012 acres) bringing the total included in the Mixed-grass Prairie Inventory to 79,499 hectares (196,446 acres). A reassessment of un-surveyed mixed-grass prairie lands was completed in 2013 to focus future surveys in the Rural Municipalities of Wallace, Miniota and Woodworth. Western spiderwort was monitored on one property and buffalograss was monitored on another property to assess the impacts of management on these species. A 4-year study on the impacts of shrub mowing on mixed-grass prairie pastures on grassland birds was completed in 2013.
- 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 six properties, totalling 356 hectares (880 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, raptors and polar bears. They collaborated on research activities with the University of Winnipeg, the Nature Conservancy Canada

and the Minnesota Zoo into the ecology and biology of Poweshiek Skipperling and Dakota Skipper butterflies and on inventories of Lepidoptera in Sandilands Provincial Forest.

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 477 requests for information from our rare species database. Over half of the requests came from industry (260), with other requests coming from provincial (190) and federal government departments (seven) members of the public (three), environmental organizations (five), universities (seven), and other organizations (five). Approximately 143 hours of staff time went into responding to these requests with an average turnaround time of 4.6 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 6,073 wild plant and animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, mussels, crayfish, ferns, flowering plants, lichens, mosses, liverworts and mushrooms. Of these, 988 species are endangered or of conservation concern. The database contains 60,054 observations and over 35,000 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 lands 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. A particular focus

includes 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

- Researched and monitored 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.

Engagement with Specific Issues & Interest Groups

- Participated in National Boreal Caribou Technical Committee, and Canadian Boreal Agreement – Manitoba Regional Working Group.
- Provided input on the development of licence and monitoring plans for Bipole III and Manitoba Floodway & 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.

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,533	46.04	3,741	(208)	
Other Expenditures	1,368		1,389	(21)	
Grant Assistance	874		862	12	
Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Damage Prevention Agreement	279		354	(75)	
Total 12.3(c)	6,054	46.04	6,346	(292)	

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 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Grant Assistance	45		45	0	
Total 12.3(d)	45		45	0	

Wildlife Enhancement Initiative

This 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 collected from a special impost on hunting licences.

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 big game aerial survey program for 2013-14 was significantly increased and included population estimates for moose in Game Hunting Area (GHA) 9A and elk in GHA 18, 18A, 18B, 18C and 35A. Deer populations were surveyed around Riding Mountain National Park and The Branch worked with Manitoba Hydro to survey moose in game hunting area 19a.

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 3,417 students this past year.

Resident hunter numbers stable.

Resident hunting licence sales and youth licence sales have stabilized in recent years. A survey on recruitment of individuals attending mentored hunts confirmed the effectiveness of the mentored hunt programs.

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 deer.

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. Hunting regulations were simplified to encourage participation and recruitment.

Enhanced ability to evaluate land use and development proposals and their impact on ecosystems. Enhanced ability to ensure all wildlife, including Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) listed species, such as the boreal woodland caribou, are managed in an appropriate and sustainable manner. Wildlife management areas (WMAs) and refuges that contain signage are publicized and maintained to enhance biodiversity, reduce weeds and ensure public access, which includes standard signs for designated wildlife lands.

- See Biodiversity, Habitat and Endangered Species Section.
- Standard signs were produced for selected WMAs and weed control was undertaken at a number of locations.

**Table WH.1
12.3(e) Wildlife Enhancement Initiative**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	407		409	(2)	
Total 12.3(e)	407		409	(2)	

Lands Branch

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, provincial and federal government departments and 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, while also acting as an 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 sometimes partnerships with First Nations and municipalities.
- 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	4,567	672
Brokenhead (Other)	10,137	485	7
Buffalo Point	3,432	2,609	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	5,592	1,911
Manto Sipi	8,725	9,910	4,284
Marcel Colomb	17,007	0	0

First Nation	Crown and Other Land Entitlement Acres +/-	Total Selected or Acquired Acres +/-	Reserve Land Designated
Mathias Colomb	217,364	183,045	172,538
Nisichawayasihk	61,761	72,736	33,816
Northlands	94,084	66,832	4,134
Norway House	104,784	106,083	42,045
Opaskwayak	47,658	46,222	24,375
Opaskwayak (Other)	8,410	185	0
O-Pipon-Na-Piwin	17,674	40,536	0
Peguis	55,038	31,918	0
Peguis (Other)	111,756	2,641	0
Red Sucker Lake	9,487	9,585	8,943
Rolling River	2,356	2,351	2,351
Rolling River (Other)	44,756	6,151	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
Sayisi Dene	22,372	9,360	0
Shamattawa	24,912	19,350	0
Swan Lake (Other)	13,035	8,773	8,773
War Lake	7,156	5,586	480
Wasagamach	13,610	13,642	13,642
Wuskwi Sipihk	44,168	40,934	25,190
Wuskwi Sipihk (Other)	14,722	2,131	0
York Factory	29,173	12,917	0
TLE Grand Total	1,426,454	11,020,338	574,955

(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 80 lots have been allocated either through a Cottage Lot Draw or the First Come, First Served Cottage Lot Program.
- Fulfilment of Manitoba's commitment to enhance the quality of life for Manitobans through the availability of Crown land recreational cottage lots.

Traditional Land Planning and World Heritage Site Nomination

- This section of the Lands Branch administers planning area designations and 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*.
- The section coordinates the interdepartmental review of proposed planning area designations and plan approvals, participates in the department's review of applications for Crown land 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 is leading development of a nomination for inscription of 33,400 km² (3.3 million ha) in eastern Manitoba and northern Ontario on the *World Heritage List*. The nomination area consists of Atikaki Provincial Park in Manitoba, Woodland Caribou Provincial Park and Eagle Snowshoe Conservation Reserve in Ontario, Asatiwisipe Aki Planning Area (Poplar River First Nation), Pimitotah Planning Area (Bloodvein First Nation), and portions of the Little Grand Rapids First Nation and Pauingassi First Nation planning areas in Manitoba and Ontario as well as protected areas in the Whitefeather forest in Ontario (Pikangikum First Nation).
- 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 also builds on priorities for enhancing the province's visitor economy and mitigating climate change, and stands as a proud example of collaboration between First Nations and the Government of Manitoba.
- The Pimachiowin Aki nomination was submitted to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization) in 2012 and was evaluated by UNESCO's advisors – the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) - until June 2013 when it was presented to the World Heritage Committee (WHC). The WHC deferred examination of the nomination, recognizing challenges in defining mixed site nominations such as Pimachiowin Aki where natural and cultural values are interrelated, and in reconciling the different perspectives of IUCN and ICOMOS in their evaluations. The WHC also recommended a joint IUCN-ICOMOS mission under an innovative upstream process to address the issues raised in the evaluations and the WHC decision.

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 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. The Staff of Lands Branch, Aboriginal Relations Branch, Wildlife Branch, Parks Branch and Regional Support Services represents the Government of Manitoba on these Boards.
- The section provided advice and logistical support to the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation throughout the nomination evaluation and subsequent upstream process which included the recommended advisory mission on October 14-19, 2013. Preparation of a new nomination continued throughout the reporting year, incorporating advice received from IUCN and ICOMOS. Within the exigencies of the World Heritage system, a new bid submitted in 2014 would be evaluated by IUCN and ICOMOS in 2015 and examined by the WHC in 2016.

- The section also participated in preparations for a workshop on thematic guidance for large landscape nominations to be held at the IUCN World Parks Congress in November 2014 and contributed information and ideas to a project being undertaken by IUCN and ICOMOS on evaluation procedures for mixed site nominations to be completed by June 2015.

Manitoba Geographical Names Program

- The Manitoba Geographical Names Program (MGNP) provides a provincial geographical name authority that supports the Lands Branch and Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship department through the development and implementation of policies and procedures, research and processing of decisions on new and established toponyms, provision of a toponymic quality control service and membership, and liaison with the Geographical Names Board of Canada.

Key Results Achieved:

- Maintained and disseminated the Manitoba Geographical Names Data Base to enhance the awareness and utilization of Manitoba toponyms, providing digital toponymic data via multiple formats.
- Supported the World Heritage Site nomination and Manitoba's Aboriginal people through the Aboriginal Names Project which will develop 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 Aboriginal Names and Cultural Generic Working Groups.
- Provided high quality client service to Manitobans as Manitoba's provincial names authority. This year, the MGNP completed 23 New Geographical Name Decisions.

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,621	22.00	1,692	(71)	
Other Expenditures	4,888		4,521	367	
Grant Assistance	234		218	16	
Total 12.3(f)	6,743	22.00	6,431	312	

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:

- Initiated, continued or completed 46 survey projects – 42 legal surveys and four control surveys. Major legal survey work included public road surveys at or near St. Norbert, interchanges the Winnipeg perimeter, Hadashville, Woodlands, Birtle and Ashville; a public drain survey near Rosenfeld; and a land parcel survey of airstrip at Pukatawagan. The majority of control surveys were for integration/coordination of the township system of survey to enable cadastral parcel mapping.
- 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 Lagford Biodiversity Conservation Area, Amisk provincial Park, Cross Lake Land Exchange, Ritchot Urban Wildlife Zone and Camp Morton Provincial Park.
- Continued to provide marker posts to Manitoba land surveyors free of charge for protection of survey monuments of the Township Survey System.
- Responded to requests for land and control survey information.
- 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.
- Mapped over 4200 property parcels bringing the total number in the Provincial Land Parcel Mapping System close to 634,000 parcels. This year's primary focus area was in the Brandon.
- 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 Manitoba. This product is essential for meeting public sector requirements for a general purpose land grid that supports GIS applications. Began the compilation of base map features of the Nelson River Forest Section for the Forestry Branch. Features are being collected in 3D using digital photogrammetric workstations.

- Conducted a topographic data needs survey within the GIS community, with the intent to use the information to move forward with the provincial topographic mapping strategy.
- Created daily and weekly composites of changes in the Canadian landscape for the Global Climate Change Program. This activity uses the Earth Observation Data Management (EODM) system, a satellite image processing system. The product was provided to the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) This data is also used for many other research projects which pertain to global climate change and monitoring.
- Together with the Canadian Space Agency, provided CWS with radarsat imagery of flooded areas in Manitoba.
- Currently investigating Woodland Caribou habitat mapping in Manitoba.
- Provided Manitoba Hydro with a preliminary turbidity classification utilizing Landsat 8 satellite imagery of Playgreen Lake.
- 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 5 satellite imagery. Data is also provided to the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation.
- 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 122 new lake depth maps this year and also provided customized mapping for The Boy Scouts of America and other government agencies including Education and Conservation and maintained and updated the base maps of Manitoba.
- The Distribution Centre maintained its ranking of third largest distributor of Topographic maps in Canada, selling 18,600 maps directly or through the 150 dealers in Manitoba, Ontario and the north central United States.
- The Canadamapsales.com website received 665 map orders from across North America and internationally from Denmark and Switzerland..
- A Vexcell photogrammetric scanner was purchased to scan the air photo negatives and move the Air Photo Library into a digital format. This will preserve this historic resource for future generations. In 2013/14, 1,899 air photo products are produced and sold to the general public and government agencies.
- GIS analysis and project work included: Emergency Measures Organization regional boundaries, Wildlife Management Areas mapping, park management maps, TLE mapping, School Division Boundary mapping, Conservation Districts updates, preparing Protected Areas Initiative data for Director of Survey plans, mapping flooding in Spruce Woods Provincial Park, Civil Service Commission staff location maps, Waste Management mapping, FireSmart program web mapping, Ecological Reserve Boundaries, National Hydrography Network, Game hunting area maps, Whitemud River Watershed cross-sections and centrepoints, Lake Winnipeg Watershed Map, 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 data sets. This site has 17,967 registered users accessing land based data information.

**Table GE.1
12.3(g) GeoManitoba**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,625	50.00	3,334	(709)	1.
Other Expenditures	1,568		1,276	292	
Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations	(1,658)		(1,621)	(37)	
Total 12.3(g)	2,535	50.00	2,989	(454)	

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

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(h) International Institute for Sustainable Development

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Grant Assistance	1,013		1,013	0	
Total 12.3h	1,013		1,013	0	

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
12.3(i) Green Manitoba Eco Solutions

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Grant Assistance	0		0	0	
Total 12.3i	0		0	0	

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 .

Table SD.1

12.3(k) Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Less: Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	(2,410)		(2,410)	0	
Total 12.3K)	(2,410)		(2,410)	0	

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Divisional Administration

Develops and coordinates the implementation of government-wide climate change programs and ensures that environmental impacts of developments are evaluated. Delivers emergency response programming related to environmental emergencies.

Table ES.1
12.4(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	411	5.00	411	0	
Other Expenditures	36		53	(17)	
Total 12.4(a)	447	5.00	464	(17)	

Environmental Programs and Strategies

In April, the Pollution Prevention Branch merged with the Environmental Programs and Strategies Branch. The Branch develops policies, strategies, standards, guidelines and legislation to protect human health and the environment, and delivers provincial programs and services to address and 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), and 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.

The province announced a four-part strategy to restrict the use of synthetic chemical pesticides for weed control on lawns. The Branch began consultations with stakeholder groups to ensure they are aware of the upcoming restrictions.

Staff also began work on a waste reduction and recycling strategy, to build on current activities and propose new ways to improve Manitoba's waste diversion efforts. The strategy is expected to be released for public consultation in fall 2014.

Staff continued to participate on several Task Groups under the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME), as well as various internal and external committees and advisory groups.

Key Results Areas:

- Regulating and monitoring Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) responsible for management of designated products at end of life.
- 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.

The Branch has four sections:

- Air Quality Management
- Environment
- Livestock
- Policies and Strategies

Air Quality Management Section

The Section carried out the following activities:

- Monitored ambient (outdoor) air quality at the established provincial sites, reviewed or audited air quality monitoring activities of others as required under regulatory provisions, and when required, provided recommendations for improvements.
- Releases air quality data statistics for 2012.
- 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. New/replacement instrumentation and peripherals were installed and placed into operation.
- Continued upgrading the system software of the air quality data system for retrieving, handling, managing and reporting air quality data.
- 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.
- Provided technical and policy support to a number of departmental activities, including:
 - Management of releases from base metal smelters in Manitoba to protect local air quality
 - On-going monitoring activities to assess acidic deposition
 - Review of air quality matters related to license applications or license requirements.

Environment Section

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. A Contaminated Sites Specialist and a Contaminated Sites Coordinator were hired.
- Guidelines, policies and procedures are currently being updated to reflect the new changes. Staff continue to work with stakeholders to address new processes in place as a result of the amendments to the Act and regulation.
- Staff responded to 718 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:
 - Soil remediation was initiated at the former Dominion Bridge site in Winnipeg through an agreement with the City of Winnipeg.

- Demolition works and an environmental site assessment were initiated 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.
- A Request for Proposals for Environmental Assessment Services was issued for a priority government-owned site in northern Manitoba.
- An inter-departmental group was established to discuss the groundwater contamination issue within the Community of Bird's Hill; this group is also working with the local RM to come to a resolution on this issue.

Solid Waste Program

- The Waste Disposal Grounds Regulation is under review; drafting is almost complete. Consultations on the revised regulation are anticipated to begin in fall 2014, and the regulation implemented in 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. Staff delivered program training to all regional Environment Officers to ensure consistent program delivery in the province.

Livestock Section

- Operations with 300 animal units or greater are required to submit annual source water analysis reports to the department. The department received 415 source water monitoring submissions.
- Manure Management Plans are an effective tool for ensuring the sustainability of livestock production by requiring prior-to-spreading calculation of the rate of manure application.
- A total of 486 MMPs were processed and registered. The department conducted audits on 8% of the plans.
- Staff met with livestock producers, most producer organizations, environmental advocacy groups, municipal governments, other government agencies and the general public to communicate regulatory requirements.
- 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 2013/14.

**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
Total	132	720	348	\$156,917

Policies and Strategies Section

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 46.7% reduction in the use of plastic bags in Manitoba. The number of single use plastic bags issued in Manitoba has dropped from 209 per capita in 2007 to 108 in 2012, a reduction of 48.3%
- In total, 739,892 kgs of materials were recovered from Post Secondary Education Institutions (PSEIs) down from 975,779 last year. The decrease is attributed to better waste reduction awareness and better measurement. Recovery results are based on the 2012/13 school year rather than on the calendar year.
- MMSM raised \$14,550,027 from packaging and printed paper stewards and spent \$12,197,856. A total of \$9,652,960 was paid to municipalities to support their recycling programs. MMSM calculates that Manitobans recycled over 75 kgs of packaging and printed paper per capita in 2013, an increase of 11.7%.

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 2013 CBCRA distributed 12,539 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 8% more containers in 2013, for a recovery rate of 61%.

- CBCRA raised \$8,059,606 through a two cent environmental handling fee on beverage containers and spent \$12,004,264, using retained funds from previous years.

Agricultural pesticide containers

- Clean FARMS, a national non-profit industry stewardship organization, collected 249,000 kegs of empty pesticide containers and expanded its program to include fertilizer containers at 109 municipal collection sites in Manitoba. 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 74,502 kgs of obsolete pesticides and 340 kgs of obsolete food animal health medications at 20 agricultural retail facilities. This was the first time food animal health medications were included as part of the program in western Canada.

Tires

- Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM) achieved an 89% diversion rate on tires in Manitoba. In total, 14,713 tonnes of discarded tires and tubes were recycled from 1,460 collection sites throughout Manitoba, an increase of 14% from last year.
- TSM raised \$5,590,795 through environmental handling fees on new tires and spent \$5,100,113 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 recently expanded its operations to collect automotive antifreeze and containers.
- In total, 53 municipal Eco-Centres and 27 privately operated depots collect used oil, filters containers and antifreeze. MARRC also supports collection from larger generators.
- Oil recovery declined from 13.9 million litres to 13.6 million litres or 74% of the estimated amount recoverable, while filter recovery decreased slightly from 1.60 million filters to 1.57 million filters, or 73% of sales. A total of 260,000 Kgs of oil and antifreeze containers were recovered, for a 37% recovery rate.
- Automotive antifreeze results include 323,700 litres of antifreeze fluid (15%).
- MARRC raised \$3,771,390 through environmental handling fees and spent \$3,771,390 for the lubricating products and antifreeze stewardship programs.

End of life electronics

- In its first full year of operation in Manitoba, Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA) has 453 registered stewards and 57 collection sites. Sixteen retailers are acting as depots.
- EPRA collected over 3,026 tonnes of end of life electronics, including microwaves. In November, a voluntary Return to Retail incentive was introduced.

- EPRA raised \$6,781,847 through environmental handling fees and spent \$2,430,887.

Household hazardous waste

- Product Care operates the Manitoba Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program and supports 21 permanent, year round municipal and private collection sites and 60 return to retail collection sites for paint and fluorescent lights. There are now six full service HHW collection sites in the province.
- 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
HHW Recovery**

Material	Quantity Sold	Quantity Recovered	Recovery Rate
Paint (Aerosol)	873,053 litres	28,525 units	3%
Physically Hazardous	94,870 litres	3,672 units	4%
Paint (non-aerosol)	6,584,133 litres	260,912 litres	11%
Flammable Liquids (Incl. Gasoline)	1,237,252 litres	18,178 litres	2%
Toxics (incl. Pesticides)	284,932 litres	2,424 litres	1%
Corrosives	459,841 litres	2,290 litres	1%
Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)	836,522 units	13,030 units	16%
Tubes	298,735 units	35,495 units	80%

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.

Household batteries

- Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation of Canada (RBRCC) operates Call2Recycle, a free, return to retail program to collect and manage all batteries (single use and rechargeable) weighing less than five kg. Cell phones are also collected.
- The organization now has 395 collection sites in Manitoba where consumers can leave spent batteries, up from 294 sites in 2012.
- Collection of all batteries increased from 43,493 kg in 2012 to 59,174 kg in 2013. Since 2011, battery collection has grown by 244%.
- Consumers also recycled 3,060 cell phones in 2013, almost triple the number collected in 2011 (1,037). 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 9,870 tonnes of Lead Acid batteries were sold in Manitoba in 2013. The recovery rate for LABs is close to 100%.
- Interstate Batteries of Manitoba is the primary collection facility for the province.

- A total of 28 dealers established collection sites to accept scrap sealed lead acid (SLA) batteries on behalf of Interstate Batteries. In total 1,214,874 lbs (552,215 kgs) were recycled.
- 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 20,587 devices. The network of collection sites expanded to 134 retail outlets from 113 in 2012.

Mercury thermostats

- The 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, 496 thermostats were collected from 48 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 295 pharmacies representing 81% of all licensed pharmacies in Manitoba. The program collected and managed 16,885 kg of medications in 2013, up from 13,832 kg in 2012, a 22% increase.
- HPSA received contributions of \$124,824 and reported expenses of \$122,810, in 2013.

More information on these 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 revise 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 5,095 trained service technicians' certificates and 469 secondary distributor permits. MOPIA hosted industry information sessions and held 10 one-day environmental awareness training sessions for Manitoba refrigeration and air conditioning service technicians. Further information on MOPIA is available at www.mopia.ca.
- HRAI tracks the number of chillers in Canada that continue to operate on chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerants and the annual rate of conversions and replacements. An estimated 83 chillers were

converted or replaced in Canada, representing a decrease in the number of conversions/replacements completed in 2012 (148). More than 50% of CFC chillers In Manitoba have been converted, replaced or decommissioned.

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,733	24.00	1,675	58	
Other Expenditures	1,618		832	786	1.
Total 12.4(b)	3,351	24.00	2,507	844	

1. Over expenditure in Other Expenditures is due to Landfill Gas Facilities project costs.

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:

1. 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.
2. Enforced environmental legislation by ensuring compliance via: education, negotiation, investigation, warnings, orders, and offense notices. The legislation includes The Environment Act, the Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act, The Contamination Sites Remediation Act, 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;
3. Responded to environmental accidents and complaints in a prompt and effective manner to prevent or minimize impacts of pollutants and contaminants to the environment.

2013-2014 Key Program Outputs:

Environmental Compliance

- Began intensive program of inspection of operations licensed via the Environment Act.
- Completed year four of a five-year plan to inspect all Municipal Wastewater Management infrastructure in the province.
- Completed transition of Contaminated Sites program to Programs and Strategies Branch.

Emergency Response

- The environmental emergency response program received over 1800 calls to the emergency response 24-hour line, 50 were not relevant to the program and were redirected to the appropriate outside agency for action.
- The emergency response coordinator received approximately 200 additional non-emergency phone enquiries related to dangerous goods and emergency response.
- The Emergency Response Team commenced 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.
- Major incidents responded to a large natural gas pipeline explosion, a major motor vehicle accident involving fertilizer which contaminated a nearby wetland, a propane truck accident, a chemical spill at the Health Sciences Center and numerous sewage releases in western Manitoba due to heavy rains in June 2013.

**Table EO.1
Environmental Legislation Enforcement Summary 2013/14**

Legislation	Prosecutions	Warnings	Orders	Fines(\$)
<i>Contaminated Sites Remediation Act</i>			2	
<i>The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act</i>	46	1	3	23,539.00
- Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Regulation	1			250.00
- Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation	4	31	1	5,470.95
- Environmental Accident Reporting Regulation		2		
<i>The Environment Act</i>	2	20	23	673.65
- Litter Regulation	5	3		3,354.85
- Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation	23	62	5	15,254.55
- Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation	19	101	6	32,907.15
- Waste Disposal Grounds Regulation	1	17		500.00
- Burning of Crop Residue and Non-Crop Herbage Regulation	1			2,543.65
- Incinerators Regulation		1		
- Notice and Reporting Regulation		1		
Total	102	239	40	84,493.80

Table EO.2
Suspensions or Variations under *The Environment Act* 2013/2014

Date	Licensee	Purpose
August 12, 2013	City of Dauphin	Request lagoon discharge outside of normal discharge time window
November 14, 2012	Solid Waste Area Management Project	Variation to Environment Act License for Waste Disposal Ground

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,005	55.00	3,602	(597)	
Other Expenditures	925		1,109	(184)	
Total 12.4(c)	3,930	55.00	4,711	(781)	1.

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

Environmental Approvals

The Environmental Approvals Branch is responsible for assessing development proposals and issuing 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 the availability of information about environmental assessment, permits, and licences through website and registry upgrades. An upgraded online public registry was inaugurated in June, 2013. The new system contains more complete information and greatly improved search capabilities.
- The environmental assessment process continued for several major resource developments. Manitoba Hydro's Bipole III project received an Environment Act Licence, and the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership's Keeyask Generation Project was the subject of a Clean Environment Commission hearing in the fall and winter of 2013/14. An Environment Act Licence was issued for Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting's Lalor Mine, and the environmental assessment and licensing process continued for several other mining projects. Many proposals continued to be received for provincial and municipal infrastructure renewal and upgrading projects.
- The Branch began its second year of responsibility for livestock manure storage facilities, Class 2 and Class 3 waste disposal grounds, permitting under the Petroleum Storage program, and permitting of hazardous waste generation and transportation under the Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act. Approval processes for some of these programs were integrated more closely with related approvals under The Environment Act.

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	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12
<i>The Environment Act</i>			
Project proposals received	65	57	61
Licences issued	64	35	45
Project proposals refused	0	0	0
Minor alterations requests processed	54	48	47
Revision requests to Licences approved	17	15	15
Other reviews – licence not required	41	32	54

Activities	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12
<i>The Environment Act</i>			
Site inspections, monitoring	147	133	167
Pesticide Use Permits Issued	205	233	232
Post Seasonal Reports received/compiled	194	230	232
Public complaints investigated	13	18	22
Incinerator Registrations processed	5	2	1
Manure Storage Permits Issued	39	35	35
Manure Storage Repair Authorizations	20	22	25
Manure Storage Facilities Registered	29	36	62
<i>The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act</i>			
Project proposals received	18	18	6
Licences issued	14	12	5
Minor alterations requests processed	2	5	5
Pre-Licensing activities	11	1	9
Site inspections, monitoring	16	5	10
<i>The Public Health Act</i>			
Applications for Certificates of Approval processed	53	50	45
Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Regulation			
Certification Examination	511	499	701
Plant Classifications Issued	146	432	359
Operators Certificates Issued	280	383	308

Table EA.2
12.4(d) Environmental Approvals

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,697	20.00	1,782	(85)	
Other Expenditures	303		131	172	1.
Total 12.4(d)	2,000	20.00	1,913	87	

1. Over expenditure in Other Expenditures is due to higher program costs.

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:

- a. Coordinating the government-wide implementation of the Climate Change Emissions Reduction Act in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the province.
- b. Reporting on Manitoba's progress toward implementing its climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives.
- c. Developing regulations required under *The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act*, and *The Environment Act* including *The Coal and Petroleum Coke Heating Ban Regulation*.
- d. 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:

- a. Participating in regional discussions on climate change policy including the development of a carbon offsets program, and discussions on linking regional climate programs
- b. Liaising with the federal government on the advancement of the national sector-by-sector greenhouse gas mitigation regulations and climate change adaptation programs, ensuring that Manitoba's interests are taken into account in the development of future regulations and programs.
- c. 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:

- a. Reviewing options for longer term emission reduction targets, policies and programs to reduce Manitoba's emissions over the medium and long-term.
- b. 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.
- c. Collaborating with other departments toward the development of a Manitoba action plan for mitigation and adaptation.
- d. Collaborating with The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to ensure that IISD-led climate change and green economy sessions are undertaken in accordance with government direction.
- e. Partnering with Natural Resources Canada and the other 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:

- a. Assessing the economic costs and benefits associated with implementing various climate change mitigation and adaptation options in 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:

- a. Analyzing Environment Canada's annual greenhouse gas emission inventory for Manitoba and tracking expected reductions from programs being implemented in the province.
- b. 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 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	567	7.00	560	7	
Other Expenditures	138		279	(141)	1.
Total 12.4(e)	705	7.00	839	(134)	

1. Under expenditure in Other Expenditures is due to lower program costs.

WATER STEWARDSHIP

Administration

Staff provide the necessary direction and program coordination for the Water Stewardship Division to ensure sustainable development, 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 expenditures.

Table WS.1
12.5(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	439	6.00	552	(113)	
Other Expenditures	514		496	18	
Total 12.5(a)	953	6.00	1,048	(95)	

Water Science and Management

Administration

The Water Science and Management Branch consists of over 35 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

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.

Water Science and Management – 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. Contributions were made to the Fisher River, Cooks-Devil's Creek and the Carrot-Saskatchewan River integrated watershed management plans. The groundwater contribution consisted of written reports, and maps describing information of importance to each watershed such as the geology, aquifers, flowing wells and significant aspects of groundwater chemistry. Staff from the Section continued their participation in the implementation of groundwater management plans for the Oak Lake, Assiniboine Delta and Winkler aquifers.
- The Section continued work on a groundwater resource re-evaluation of the Assiniboine Delta Aquifer. Considerable new data has been collected since the last groundwater capacity study in the late 1980s, including additional information on drill reports, groundwater levels and water quality. Stratigraphic information was compiled to complete geological cross-sections through the aquifer which will be used to create a three dimensional digital model. Over 100 long-term water levels from provincial observation wells were used to estimate recharge at each monitoring location. The preliminary results have been presented to Assiniboine Delta Aquifer Management Advisory Board.
- Field work including groundwater and stream flow monitoring continued in south eastern Manitoba to improve our understanding of local groundwater conditions, interaction of shallow groundwater and surface water and how wetlands respond to wet and dry weather cycles and changing groundwater levels. Monitoring efforts are situated in the general vicinity of the Pocock Lake Ecological Reserve and the Sandilands Provincial Forest.

- The Section completed a three dimensional geological model of the Winkler Aquifer. This work provides the hydrogeological framework needed to create a digital groundwater flow model that will be used to support licensing functions and long term sustainable management of the aquifer.
- Work started on information compilation, aquifer mapping and the 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.
- The Section continues to lead the development of supporting regulation for the new Groundwater and Water Well Act. Consultation took place with various stakeholders to ensure that the Department develops appropriate regulations including certification programs.
- The Department promoted 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 (www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/groundwater/well_aware.html). Hardcopies of the booklets were distributed through the Groundwater Management Section, the Office of Drinking Water, and Conservation Districts. Well drillers were also provided copies and were requested to give a copy to owners of new water wells. Almost 3,000 booklets were distributed. The Well Aware booklet is part of Manitoba's eight point strategy to protect groundwater.
- As part of the eight point groundwater strategy, the Section with technical support from Business Transformation, Shared Services and Technology is developing a computerized geospatial based map for accessing its provincial observation well information. The map will be available online to allow both internal and external users access to publically available data including provincial monitoring well locations and well reports.
- The Section in collaboration with the Office of Drinking Water, and Manitoba Health provided technical support in the development of several “Well Water and Your Health” fact sheets, including Arsenic in Assiniboine Delta Aquifer Groundwater, Arsenic in Oak Lake Aquifer Groundwater, TCE (Trichloroethylene) in Rockwood Sensitive Area groundwater and Benzene in the community of Birds Hill groundwater. The fact sheets are an education/awareness undertaking to address local health concerns associated with naturally occurring trace elements and anthropogenic contamination in groundwater.

Key Program Outputs:

- Twenty-seven 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 and government. The officer also investigated a number of complaints including flowing wells and otherwise nuisance wells. In addition, the officer provided support to other Branches in their investigations.
- The Section operated a groundwater monitoring network consisting of approximately 800 monitoring sites located on major and minor aquifers of which 587 sites are equipped with water level recorders capable of continuous water level recording. The monitoring well network was expanded through the establishment of nine groundwater monitoring stations in pre-existing privately owned wells in the Lake St. Martin area. Groundwater quality representative of aquifer conditions was sampled at 66 select monitoring wells throughout the province.
- Almost 3,200 well reports were reviewed and examined and then updated or added to the GWDrill database including approximately 1,400 newly drilled wells. Approximately 194 groundwater chemistry analyses were also entered into the database and 374 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 30 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.

Water Science and Management – 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:

- Developed precipitation, streamflow and groundwater indicators to monitor drought conditions in Manitoba.
- Produced regular water availability and droughts conditions reports for Manitoba through analysis of precipitation, streamflow, groundwater, lake levels, water supply reservoir and on-farm water supply conditions.
- Conducted research to develop tools for optimal water supply analysis, hydrological design and design standards of agricultural drains.
- Ensured that consistent hydrological standards were developed, maintained and applied across Manitoba.
- 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. Among its activities, the Section:
 - 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 a inter-jurisdictional drought preparedness, water conservation and communication strategy for the Red River Basin; and
 - Participated on a Souris River Basin Task Force to develop a plan of study to review the operating plan contained in Annex A of the 1989 International Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America.
- 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 2013 flood including GIS mapping and expert advice on the operation of Red River Floodway, Portage Diversion and Shellmouth Dam.
- Provided information to the North American Drought Monitor, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for updating the monthly Regional Drought Map.

- Participated in the Prairie Regional Adaptation Collaboration with Saskatchewan and Alberta to develop a communication framework for cooperation and sharing of drought and climate change information.
- Developed a hydrologic model of the Boyne River Watershed to be used for water supply and drought planning, reservoir management, and climate change studies.
- Participated in hydrometric program planning activities.
- Maintained databases containing historical streamflow and water level information.

Key Program Outputs:

- Produced six Water Availability and Drought Conditions reports in 2013/14 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 .
- 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 65 sites. Completed low flow analysis for evaluating waste water minimum flows for three 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 five assessments in 2013/14.
- 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. Five 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 29 conservation district projects.

Water Science and Management – 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:

- Announced the Lake Friendly Accord with the goal of improving water quality by reducing nutrients through the engagement of all. Established the Lake Friendly Stewards Alliance under the Accord to provide one of the key forums needed to facilitate information sharing; enhance collaboration and coordination; improve reporting and accountability; increase efficiencies and technology transfer; and enhance stewardship and economic opportunities. The Alliance includes representation from key stakeholders such as federal, provincial, municipal, First Nations and Métis governments, conservation districts, agriculture, business and industry, cottage associations, and environmental non-governmental organizations.

- Collaborated with upstream jurisdictions to develop and implement nutrient management strategies to reduce nutrient loading to the one million square kilometer Lake Winnipeg watershed.
- 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 are 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 Namao* continued in cooperation with the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium and others. Three scientific cruises on Lake Winnipeg were completed in 2013.
- Ongoing, high quality laboratory analytical services were acquired for Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Manitoba Health and Healthy Living, and Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives including ensuring on-going communication and collaboration with contracted analytical laboratories.
- The Section worked with wastewater treatment facility owners to implement new 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.
- The Section 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 and regulates the application to land of substances containing nitrogen and restricting 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 and scientific support to a variety of audiences, including other government agencies, the public and other stakeholders, and recommended activities to alleviate or abate specific water quality concerns.

Key Program Outputs:

- Water quality was monitored at 75 long-term stations across Manitoba during 2013/14. 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. Benthic invertebrates were monitored at 2 sites across Manitoba.

- Approximately 60 Manitoba beaches were monitored during the summer of 2013. Approximately 80 water samples were collected for analysis of algal toxins and the enumeration of cyanobacteria densities to assess the risk to bather health.
- Eighty 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 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,634	36.00	2,766	(132)	
Other Expenditures	908		1,054	(146)	
Total 12.5(b)	3,542	36.00	3,820	(278)	

Fisheries

Administration

The 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 Aboriginal consultation, and eco-certification.
- Integrated planning continued by involving user groups through the work of the Fisheries Enhancement Fund Project Review Committee 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.
- Manitoba 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 Section

The Section supports efforts to 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 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:

- Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Watercraft Inspections continued at the Emerson Border for the thirteenth year. 176 watercraft were inspected, no decontamination was required.
- Funding was secured to implement a Rusty Crayfish eradication program in the Birch River near Prawda and hire a consultant to carry on with bi-annual monitoring and a reduction program in Falcon Lake.
- Participated on an AIS subcommittee of the Lake of the Woods/Rainy River International Multi Agency Working Group.
- Spiny Waterflea samples were collected from the *MV Namao* to monitor the spread and establishment of this species.
- Monthly water samples were collected from the Red River (Emerson) to check for Zebra Mussel veligers. No veligers were found.
- Following identification of zebra mussels in Lake Winnipeg, a Rapid Response Protocol was implemented, which included the establishment of a Science Advisory Committee. The Science Advisory Committee recommended Manitoba consider treatment options to apply downward pressure on the zebra mussel population and reduce the spread of zebra mussels from these harbours.
- Initiated a project to assess variation in walleye populations in Manitoba, including abundance and age structure, which can be influenced by climate and fishing pressure.
- In support of the implementation eutrophication indicators for Lake Winnipeg, fish indicators were developed to assess status and trends in ecosystem health and in relation to nutrient enrichment.
- 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*.
- Updated walleye stock assessment information for Dauphin Lake and Lake of the Prairies.
- Over 7,400 fish were aged to support regional fisheries programs - 5,600 samples from the Lake Winnipeg index netting and over 2,100 samples as part of the Coordinated Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP).
- Participated in discussions regarding the new Federal Fisheries Protection Program (FPP) – on a local and national level through the Inland Fisheries Committee. To support the new FPP, contributed to new Fisheries Management Objectives for priority areas.
- Co-chaired the Canada-Manitoba Fisheries Advisory Committee AIS Task Group and participated on the National AIS Committee that focussed on drafting the federal Aquatic Invasive Species Regulatory Intent Document.

- Participated on the National Introductions and Transfers program committee tasked to renew the National Code on Introductions and Transfers of Aquatic Organisms which was finalized and endorsed by the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers. The Committee is now working on the Transition Plan to implement the 2013 Code.
- 64 scientific collection, 35 live fish handling and two salmonid interprovincial fish movement permits were issued.
- Continued to the tri-partite agreement on the conservation of lake sturgeon in Manitoba with Fisheries and Oceans and Manitoba Hydro.
- Produced and distributed over 13 million walleye fry and 274,000 salmonids for fisheries enhancement activities.
- Continued the Falcon Creek walleye tagging/monitoring study, OTC marking of walleye fry, and stocking walleye fingerlings (from rearing ponds) into two Whiteshell lakes.

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 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 Resource Co-Management Board* that provides fishers with an opportunity for greater participation and input into fisheries management decisions. 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 efforts towards seeking full eco-certification of Manitoba's commercial freshwater fisheries including a full assessment process of the Waterhen Lake walleye and northern pike commercial gill net fishery.
- Completed fisheries summary reports for Lake St. Martin and Waterhen Lake and implemented a fisheries management plan for Waterhen Lake.
- Continued to coordinate Winnipeg's Urban Angling Partnership which offers residents and visitors recreational angling opportunities through structured angling programs. Programs included: 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 \$392,221 to 239 fishers for the 2013 summer season. Payments to 49 fishers for the winter season were approximately \$7,779.

Fisheries Enhancement Fund

The Fisheries Enhancement Fund was introduced in 2007 with significant improvements to the previous enhancement program with new categories, including fisheries research, fish stock assessment and monitoring, fisheries development through capital investment and stocking, fisheries habitat rehabilitation and enhancement, as well as education and outreach initiatives pertaining to fisheries. The project review committee included broader representation from a number of Associations and stakeholders with an interest in enhancing Manitoba's fisheries.

The objective of the Fisheries Enhancement Fund is to ensure that adequate fish stocks exist for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations of Manitobans, to promote local involvement of fisheries resource stakeholders, and to increase public understanding of the importance and value of fish and fish habitat.

In 2014/15, the Fisheries Enhancement Fund will transition to a new Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund that will be enhanced through fees dedicated to wildlife programming while at the same time continuing to dedicate a portion of recreational angling revenue to fisheries enhancement. The new stand alone fund will provide funds to support projects that enhance fish and wildlife populations.

Key Results Achieved:

- Staff received 64 project applications of which 37 projects were funded.
- The annual Fisheries Enhancement Stamp Competition was held in October 2013. The winning artwork "The Rainbow After the Storm", painted by Nick Laferriere, was unveiled at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory.

**Table FI.1
Licensed Fishers Employed in Manitoba Commercial Fishery, 2012/13**

	Northern Lakes	Lake Winnipeg	Lake Manitoba	Lake Wpgosis	Other Lakes	Overall*
Summer						
Licence Holders	442	749	9	36	44	1,290
Winter						
Licence Holders	243	116	310	150	170	884
Annual						
Licence Holders	446	776	310	157	171	1,860

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 2013/14 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 2012/13**

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	1,739,212	6,038,876	14,805,048	923,278	1,705,089
2012-13	1,826,954	2,398,209	5,858,812	14,614,713	539,974	728,712

Year	Lake Winnipegosis		Other Lakes		Manitoba Total		No. of Licences*
	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	2,228
2001-02	2,577,000	1,846,600	702,400	917,200	14,821,200	32,283,100	2,156
2002-03	2,681,150	1,416,400	661,250	827,800	15,093,750	31,766,250	2,204
2003-04	2,221,550	1,111,300	1,171,200	1,832,850	14,956,950	26,849,900	2,354
2004-05	1,079,350	842,000	1,113,800	1,826,650	12,749,800	24,739,850	2,404
2005-06	1,343,600	854,000	1,016,600	1,852,500	12,063,300	23,779,600	2,310
2006-07	1,228,900	916,500	1,110,450	1,879,400	12,201,250	25,979,300	2,206
2007-08	1,143,477	799,159	722,618	821,282	11,143,795	23,693,155	2,167
2008-09	1,451,871	1,285,677	1,039,638	1,428,048	12,130,177	26,737,934	2,048
2009-10	1,299,150	983,968	1,088,249	1,686,030	11,799,093	25,170,351	1,979
2010-11	794,838	814,564	1,009,939	1,494,951	10,324,096	21,140,584	1,956
2011-12	1,165,329	1,021,981	945,848	1,401,387	10,442,467	20,672,718	1,845
2012-13	994,314	1,056,504	1,002,454	1,477,075	10,222,508	20,275,214	1,860

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 2013/14 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
Carp	0.00	0.00	155.48	0.00	0.00	248.66	0.00	18,765.96
Carp Roe	0.00	0.00	27.00	0.00	0.00	8.50	0.00	2,587.80
Cisco	91,608.06	3,780.12	12,282.16	4,920.81	0.00	152.64	0.00	0.00
Cisco Roe	3,571.85	0.00	307.50	167.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goldeye	1,412.95	20.35	6,571.51	1,803.34	0.00	6.49	0.00	0.99
Lake Whitefish	320,397.01	21,026.73	674,388.21	481,605.12	0.00	17,480.47	14,613.21	24,094.62
Lake Whitefish Roe	4,972.20	0.00	10,420.55	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Northern Pike	464,843.25	135,765.12	103,302.72	17,902.63	0.00	245,739.43	69,301.20	329,478.95
Northern Pike Roe	0.00	6,639.00	0.00	264.60	0.00	1,358.40	0.00	8,454.30
Sauger	4,373.84	34.45	116,452.89	104,574.89	0.00	1,514.00	1.26	2.24
Sucker	257,249.85	41,904.45	61,346.55	2,724.60	0.00	129,160.80	137,586.90	214,478.70
Sucker Roe	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	114.20	0.00	0.00
Trout	59,822.35	98.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Walleye	401,026.41	8,047.12	3,853,127.29	375,391.76	0.00	103,428.95	126,915.98	47,653.01
Walleye Roe	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
White Bass	0.00	0.00	6,513.36	3,471.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Yellow Perch	296.10	64.10	12,163.15	8,859.90	0.00	40,761.40	130.60	248.10
Total	1,609,573.87	217,380.14	4,857,058.37	1,001,753.85	0.00	539,973.94	348,549.15	645,764.67

	NORTHERN LAKES		WINNIPEG LAKE		MANITOBA LAKE		WINNIPEGOSIS LAKE	
SPECIES	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER	SUMMER	WINTER
Carp	0.00	2,027.05	155.48	21,041.67	21,197.15	0.00	5,738.84	5,738.84
Carp Roe	0.00	264.30	27.00	2,860.60	2,887.60	52.16	5,450.93	5,503.09
Cisco	19.68	34.68	103,909.90	8,888.25	112,798.15	108,638.60	6,598.08	115,236.68
Cisco Roe	0.00	0.00	3,879.35	167.50	4,046.85	38,371.90	1,663.62	40,035.52
Goldeye	1.54	0.00	7,986.00	1,831.17	9,817.17	21,965.89	5,560.57	27,526.46
Lake Whitefish	12,994.67	110,109.88	1,022,393.10	654,316.82	1,676,709.92	1,514,684.84	1,328,180.12	2,842,864.96
Lake Whitefish Roe	517.30	50.00	15,910.05	52.70	15,962.75	87,255.62	294.47	87,550.09
Northern Pike	138,135.15	265,947.60	775,582.32	994,833.73	1,770,416.05	544,597.73	703,051.66	1,247,649.39
Northern Pike Roe	0.00	7,603.80	0.00	24,320.10	24,320.10	0.00	118,923.39	118,923.39
Sauger	134.15	86.96	120,962.14	106,212.54	227,174.68	330,061.25	287,097.36	617,158.61
Sucker	43,807.50	123,402.75	499,990.80	511,671.30	1,011,662.10	225,638.68	238,216.19	463,854.87
Sucker Roe	0.00	480.70	0.00	594.90	594.90	0.00	2,923.96	2,923.96
Trout	0.00	0.00	59,822.35	98.70	59,921.05	38,046.84	76.42	38,123.26
Walleye	152,445.11	101,185.25	4,533,514.79	635,706.09	5,169,220.88	12,317,435.50	2,004,673.01	14,322,108.51
Walleye Roe	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	65.00	0.00	333.80	333.80
White Bass	0.00	0.00	6,513.36	3,471.00	9,984.36	3,290.15	1,978.71	5,268.86
Yellow Perch	1,028.10	42,178.05	13,617.95	92,111.55	105,729.50	25,688.29	308,728.61	334,416.90
TOTAL	349,083.20	653,371.02	7,164,264.59	3,058,243.62	10,222,508.21	15,255,727.45	5,019,489.74	20,275,217.19

Table FI.4**Angling Licence Sales and Revenue 1997/98 to 2012/13**

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)

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

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

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
2006/07	3,694	51.40	186,241.60	21,353	28.04	577,719.12	25,047	763,960.72

Year	Non-Resident of Canada – Regular			Non-Resident of Canada- Conservation			Total: Non-Resident of Canada	
	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Fee \$	Revenue \$	Number	Revenue \$
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

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

Note: Revenue figures 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 2013/2014 annual report will be based on the most recent complete season (i.e. the 2012/2013 season).

* The issuance of separate licences for Manitoba and non-Manitoba Canadian residents began in 2014.

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

	Year				
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
No. of licensed bait fish Fishers (frozen & live)	61	64	63	63	66
No. licensed for collection of live bait fish	33	32	33	33	30
No. of leech harvesters	22	21	22	22	22
No. of live bait dealers	47	46	43	43	48
No. of kgs of Frozen Bait Fish Produced	103,300	102,710	79,200	99,170	78,716
No. of live bait fish Produced (dozen)	78,720	105,900	114,880	118,220	110,489
No. of kgs of Leeches Produced	1,080	1,180	1,120	1,260	805
Estimated Gross sales					
Live bait fish	\$143,990	\$198,690	\$209,620	\$227,280	\$217,316
Frozen bait fish	\$805,650	\$834,630	\$814,180	\$1,080,970	\$801,581
Leeches	\$59,200	\$66,450	\$65,800	\$63,450	\$48,454
Total	\$1,008,840	\$1,099,770	\$1,089,600	\$1,371,700	\$1,067,351

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

		Year				
		2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
No. of Licensed Operators		29	27	27	26	25
	Species					
No. of Eggs Imported	Rainbow Trout	179,000	0	110,000	200,000	200,000
	Arctic Char	0	10,000	0	0	10,000
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Fingerlings Imported	Rainbow Trout	109,500	189,810	93,000	106,000	100,000
	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	0	4000	0	0
	Arctic Char	140,000	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	13,000	5,600	5,000	1,865	4,520
	Arctic Char	41,580	73,900	2,000	0	0
	Brook Trout	0	1,000	500	500	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Fingerlings Sold	Rainbow Trout	169,200	86,000	141,800	170,320	78,800
	Arctic Char	68,370	60,000	2,000	0	0
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	100,000	0	0
No. of Kgs of Fish Sold	Rainbow Trout	7,060	92,200	9,560	53,280	49,397
	Arctic Char	52,110	8,180	20,710	16,060	17,630
	Brook Trout	0	0	0	0	14
	Other	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Fingerling Customers		845	328	305	460	470

Fisheries Branch - 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 the Branch on the Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship/Manitoba Hydro Working Group which oversees CAMP (now in its sixth year). Provided input into reporting on the three year pilot phase of the program that is available to the public through a web site (www.campmb.com). The 2008-2010 summary report is in preparation for publication in 2014. In addition, a pilot sediment and erosion monitoring project designed to provide information to develop a full scale program was conducted on Playgreen Lake. Participated in the review of the Keeyask Generation Project Environmental Impact Statement and review and development of the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program and ongoing regulatory oversight process.
- Participated in the Southern Indian Lake Environmental Monitoring Committee. Efforts focused on possible causes of the significant decline of the Southern Indian Lake commercial fishery. Production has declined almost 90% in the past two decades. Historically the fishery was dependent on lake whitefish production from the north basin however fishers have decided not to fish this basin to support stock recovery. Represented the Branch on the Norway House Resource Management Board and provided input to four other Resource Management Boards. This provides the forum to fulfil obligations of specific agreements and develop meaningful relationships with Aboriginal communities and resource users. The Board delivered a cooperative project with Manitoba Hydro's Lake Sturgeon Stewardship and Enhancement Program further assessing the relative success of yearling and young of the year stockings of lake sturgeon. This study confirmed previous findings that yearling stockings appear to have been much more successful than young of the year stocking.
- Participated on the Nelson River Sturgeon Board and managed its field program. Tagging continues to show a steady increase in the number of lake sturgeon (dominated by smaller fish) in their main fishing area. The Board worked with Manitoba Hydro's lake sturgeon Stewardship and Enhancement Program, to assess juvenile recruitment arising from natural reproduction in the Nelson River between Sipiwesk Lake and the Kelsey Generating Station. The outlook for this population is improving as it is increasing due to natural reproduction. The Board also operates an ongoing program to raise lake sturgeon fingerlings for school aquarium programs and release into the Nelson River between Norway House and Cross Lake.

Eastern Region

- Completed non-lethal sampling surveys (spring and fall) on Crowduck and Wallace lakes. A total of 17 lakes have been surveyed since implementation of the program in 2010. The data generated supports fisheries management in the region. Additional lakes are being considered for inclusion in the program.

- Continued monitoring the Falcon Creek walleye spawn taking program. Female walleye are concurrently recruited into the walleye PIT tagging program. This program is essential in determining the capacity of Falcon and Hamilton creeks to supply walleye eggs for the Whiteshell Fish Hatchery. The program also provides an index of the walleye spawning stock biomass in Falcon Lake.
- Continued to increase the efficiency of walleye stocking in the region with support from the Fisheries Enhancement Fund and the University of Manitoba. Walleye fry are marked with oxytetracycline to distinguish naturally produced walleye from stocked walleye. Jessica, Brereton, and Caddy lakes were completed in 2013 bringing the total to nine lakes in the region that have been assessed. Stocking strategies have been modified based on the results of this program. In addition, Eastern Region staff assisted the Western Region in similar assessments of Steeprock, Bell, Glad and Wellman lakes.
- Completed a lake sturgeon tagging program for the Lac du Bonnet reach of the Winnipeg River in conjunction with Sagkeeng First Nation.
- Initiated a pilot program to assess potential mortality from catch and release angling for lake sturgeon downstream of Pointe du Bois on the Winnipeg River. This study was funded through the Fisheries Enhancement Fund and was conducted in conjunction with the Lac du Bonnet Game and Fish Association.
- Completed the annual CAMP program on Lac du Bonnet.

Western Region

- Stocked 4,700,000 walleye fry, 1,500 adult walleye, 2,700 yellow perch, 875 northern pike, 15,000 lake sturgeon and 298,000 salmonids in approximately 70 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 spring/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 assessment work on Beaver Creek and Vermillion Reservoir to determine fish stock status and stocking activities.
- 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 the Lake of the Prairies water levels to minimize impacts on fish stocks.

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 that included a mark and recapture program.
- Reviewed and provided input to Crown Lands on applications for wild rice seeding and harvest.

Central Region

- Monitored Lake Winnipeg spring spawn (walleye) with graded mesh gillnets to determine the season opening date.
- Managed the processing and record keeping involved with the issuance of thousands of commercial licence sales and quota transfers.
- Extended the Lake Winnipeg index program. Five years of data are now available under the new expanded gear conformation. Walleye mortality rates were greatly improved over previous years showing a positive trend in the fishery.
- Contributed to work on the Lake Winnipeg collaborative CAMP program with Manitoba Hydro.
- Index-netted Waterhen Lake for the fifth year.
- Completed the Lake Manitoba monitoring program for the fifth year in its present conformation. The netting confirmed the depressed status of walleye and collapsed status of sauger stocks in the lake.
- Partnered with the University of Nebraska to study the Red River catfish fishery, which continues to benefit Manitobans. In addition, Fisheries and University of Nebraska staff continued work on a movement study to help protect and improve the value of the fishery to Manitoba.

Table FI.7
12.5(c) Fisheries Branch

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,258	48.31	2,819	(561)	
Other Expenditures	418		412	6	
Northern Fisherman's Freight Assistance	410		410	0	
Total 12.5(c)	3,086	48.31	3,641	(555)	

The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund

As contained in *Tomorrow Now—Manitoba's Green Plan*, the government is committed to establishing a new Fish and Wildlife Fund that will facilitate projects that will help Manitoba's fish and wildlife populations or associated habitat. Legislation to create the fund was proclaimed in early March 2014. The new fund, supported by an impost on fishing, 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 will be reviewed by two subcommittees, one of which will include representation from a number of wildlife and trapping organizations.

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

Expenditures by Sub- appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	1,705		1,700	5	
Total 12.5(d)	1,705		1,700	5	

Conservation District and Watershed Assistance

The Conservation Districts Program is a partnership between the Province and the 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 grants to support the Conservation Districts Program in areas such as water protection, water management, soil conservation, water storage, wildlife habitat, historic resources and recreation, public education, administration and a variety of other programs that promote sustainable resource management.

In 2013/14 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	\$ 180,000.00
West Souris	\$ 202,900.00
Whitemud Watershed	\$ 669,600.00
Total:	\$ 5,162,400.00

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 ten people having a direct relationship with the program (six departmental deputy ministers, one representative from the Manitoba Conservation Districts Association, one representative from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, and two private citizens). Watershed Planning and Program staff provides assistance to the Conservation Districts in developing sustainable, integrated watershed management plans, administering provincial grant funding, implementing policy for and monitoring the activities of the Conservation District Program.

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

Expenditures by Sub- appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(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 2013/14, the Office of Drinking Water focused on further expanding the regulation of public and semi-public water systems; continued implementation of policies and compliance planning processes to address newer microbiological, chemical and physical standards; and implementation of a compliance and enforcement strategy to address bacteria and disinfection standards and hence improve drinking water safety in the province. In addition, the Office is involved in the ongoing monitoring of construction and operation of licensed water systems and providing of education materials and technical support to private water system owners, as required. In that regard, the Office of Drinking Water:

- Issued eight new public water system operating licences, 77 public water system operating licence renewals and 10 public water system operating licence amendments, bringing the total number of licensed public water systems to 452.
- Issued 75 new semi-public water system licences bringing the total number of licensed semi-public water systems to 210.
- Monitored water quality (raw and treated) for 452 public water systems and 418 semi-public water systems, including review of laboratory analytical results for bacteriological, chemical and physical parameters.
- Undertook 259 routine and unscheduled on-site inspections of public water systems to verify their safety and reliability for producing and distributing safe water, and 136 inspections of semi-public water systems to verify their safety and reliability and to initiate the semi-public water system licensing process.
- Prepared 346 public water system report cards (annual audits) assessing the performance of all 452 public water systems with regard to meeting the conditions outlined in their operating licences. These annual audits are distributed to public water system owners, are available to the general public on request, and form the basis of the annual reports that large public water systems make available to their customers.
- Reviewed design plans and specifications for approximately 115 public water system projects and 15 semi-public water system projects, and issued 80 *Drinking Water Safety Act* permits for construction or alteration of water systems.
- Conducted 19 post-commissioning inspections of newly constructed or upgraded water treatment plants.
- Reviewed 52 public water system compliance plans outlining steps that public water system owners intend to take to bring their water system into compliance with the new microbiological, chemical and physical standards.
- Issued 14 warnings and one common offence notice (ticket) to ensure compliance and enforcement. Reviewed 40 public water system Assessments of Water System Infrastructure and Water Supply Sources (engineering assessments) intended to support owners and operators in identifying and prioritizing water system improvement needs.
- Answered between 400 and 500 inquires from private well owners.
- Reviewed and commented on 135 *Environment Act* submissions and one drinking water plan as part of the on-going Technical Advisory Committee work. Worked with Manitoba Municipal Government to finalize the terms of reference for drinking water plans intended to support long-term infrastructure planning and development.

- Reviewed and commented on 115 subdivision proposals and planning documents, and worked with Manitoba Municipal Government to update sections of the subdivision application form related to drinking water.
- Continued to work with Manitoba Health on the issuance of boil water advisories related to more critical and immediate public health priorities and water quality advisories relating to low-level, long-term health risks associated with chemical standards.
- 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.
- Continued to provide ongoing technical support to water treatment plant operators in need of such service, and to emergency response services for environmental accidents involving drinking water.

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,061	28.00	2,080	(19)	
Other Expenditures	594		734	(140)	
Total 12.5(f)	2,655	28.00	2,814	(159)	

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 2,200 new applications and issued 3,600 licenses. More than 700 subdivisions and 300 crown land sales were reviewed by Branch staff.
- Enforcement – A total of 27 fines were issued, 13 “long-form” charges were laid and 22 Orders were issued. Fines, charges and orders are issued to ensure compliance with *The Water Rights Act*.
- In June the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship announced the release of “Towards Sustainable Drainage” consultation document. This document and consultation process is the Department’s attempt to develop and establish regulations that will help to govern drainage activity. The document release is the kick off stage to a six month consultation process where the Department is meeting with stakeholder groups across Manitoba that have a keen interest in drainage.
- Policy Review – A new policy on authorization of municipal minor works was announced in 2011 and was implemented in the spring of 2012. This process remains in place and is being utilized across the province. This year we have received over 120 minor works applications. The process has proved valuable in addressing low-impact works typically constructed by municipalities, and allowing for quicker approval of proposed minor works. This policy has been adopted and is being implemented across the province. Many municipalities are taking advantage of the new policy which has resulted in a streamlined licensing process for minor works.

Table DW.1

12.5(g) Drainage and Water Control Licensing

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,565	24.00	1,511	54	
Other Expenditures	427		429	(2)	
Total 12.5(g)	1,992	24.00	1,940	52	

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 13.5 FTE's of the Water Rights Licensing program, process 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 consists of 7.5 FTE's who are 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 18 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 are currently the subject of a consultation process that includes the Churchill River Diversion for a Water Power Final Licence and the Keeyask Generation Project for an Interim Licence.

- 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 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,154	21.00	1,536	(382)	1
Other Expenditures	1,773		389	1,384	2
Total 12.5(h)	2,927	21.00	1,925	1,002	

1. Under expenditure in Salaries and Employee Benefits is due to vacant positions.
2. Over expenditure in Other Expenditures is due to Wuskwatim water rental payments to Nisichiwayasihk Cree Nation.

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 2013/14:

- **Development and Implementation of Legislation, Regulations, and Innovative Policies**

Support was provided to protect and restore wetlands including initiating an inventory of wetlands and a peat harvesting cumulative impact study. Support was also provided to develop an innovative clean water technology strategy for Manitoba. Finally, the development of a surface water management strategy was initiated and two summits were held to ensure input from Manitoba stakeholders.

- **Water Quality Science Protection Initiatives**

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 including research into *Escherichia coli* at Lake Winnipeg beaches, 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 Product Campaign, plus other similar initiatives, and to undertake analysis to assist in setting long-term water quality objectives for phosphorus and nitrogen for Manitoba's water systems including Lake Winnipeg.

- **Fisheries Science Initiatives**

Support was provided to undertake the necessary assessments to be in position to eco-certify the Province's fisheries, to establish a new fisheries resource management board on Lake Winnipeg, to support co-management initiatives with Buffalo Point First Nation, and to support fish culture activities.

Project	Amount
Development and Implementation of Legislation, Regulations, and Innovative Policies	\$880,311.87
Water Quality Science Protection Initiatives	\$249,657.80
Fisheries Science Initiatives	\$125,888.89
Total	\$1,255,858.56

Table WSI.1
12.5(i) Water Stewardship Initiatives

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	1,256		1,224	32	
Total 12.5(i)	1,256		1,224	32	

Costs Related to Capital Assets

Table ACA.1
12.6 Costs Related to Capital Assets

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2013/14 \$(000)	FTE's	Estimate 2013/14 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
(a) General Assets					
(1) Amortization Expense	2,082		2,554	(462)	
(2) Interest Expense	1,843		1,585	258	
(b) Infrastructure Assets					
(1) Amortization Expense	3,590		4,096	(506)	
(2) Interest Expense	4,659		4,518	141	
Total 12.6	12,184		12,753	(569)	1.

1. 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.

The in-year cost of acquiring capital assets or assets under construction is provided through Part B - Capital Investment for which amortization and interest expense is reflected as a departmental operating expense. Part B - Capital Investment is highlighted in the following section.

Part B - Capital Investment

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 for Phase 2 of the redevelopment of the Grand Beach Boardwalk, which includes an entry plaza to provide full accessibility from the parking lot to the beach.
- The Beach expansion project at Birds Hill Provincial Park got underway with pathway improvements.
- Manitoba partnered with the Winnipeg Folk Festival to undertake improvements to Group Use 2 (Festival Campground) in Birds Hill Provincial Park that included new picnic shelters, water taps and tree planting.
- The Grand Beach Surf Club and hotel buildings were demolished. Planning and design of a new playground plaza in the same location began.
- Construction of a maintenance shop at St Ambroise Beach Provincial Park completed.
- An engineering analysis and design of a Stephenfield wastewater lagoon upgrade project completed.
- Manitoba partnered with the Friends of Upper Fort Garry to support the park development of Upper Fort Garry Provincial Heritage Park.
- Construction was completed on the redevelopment of the West Hawk Lake Town-site Road. Improvements include a new road surface, a pedestrian amenity zone, clearly organized parking, and a new boat launch.
- Construction of a new lagoon in Spruce Woods Provincial Park started. .
- Construction of a water treatment and washroom building in Moose Lake Provincial Park were completed.
- Repairs and improvements continue at Spruce Woods Provincial Park as a result of the significant damage from the 2011 flood event. Shoreline erosion protection and four new washroom shower buildings completed.
- New washroom shower buildings were completed at Blue Lake in Duck Mountain, Watchorn, Manipogo, Rainbow Beach provincial parks. Design of new washroom shower buildings at Stephenfield and St. Malo provincial parks were initiated.
- Beaudry Provincial Park tall grass prairie drainage improvements were completed. Seeding will continue in order to establish grasses in newly drained areas.
- Construction of the boardwalk at Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail was completed. The Trail will open in 2015. Construction of a new wastewater treatment system and disposal field at Brereton Lake in Whiteshell Provincial Park initiated. Design of a water treatment system at Brereton Lake is underway.

- Construction was completed on a new access road to the future Tim Horton Children's Foundation Leadership Camp in Whiteshell Provincial Park.
- Work on a new waste transfer station at Shilladay Lake in Duck Mountain Provincial Park was completed.
- Work on a new waste transfer station and the water treatment plant in Paint Lake Provincial Park was completed.
- Paint Lake yurts project was initiated and Cuprus lagoon project was completed.
- In-house design and tender for the Asessippi road was completed.
- Improvements were made to the Mossberry Trail in Duck Mountain Provincial Park.
- New playground equipment was installed at Blue Lake in Duck Mountain Provincial Park, Manipogo Provincial Park, William Lake Provincial Park, Max Lake in Turtle Mountain Provincial Park, Grand Beach Provincial Park, and Watchorn Provincial Park.
- Construction of yurts at Childs Lake in Duck Mountain Provincial Park was completed.

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:

- Lifted and poured new foundation at Dr. Office (historic building) in Grand Beach Provincial Park
- Projects such as parking lot expansion at Winnipeg Beach Marina, White Lake modern washroom upgrade, Nutimik campground office rehabilitation, St. Malo Sunset Shore Bay 10 washroom upgrade, Paint Lake marina dock replacement, etc were complete.
- New boat launches were complete at Star Lake, McDougal's Landing, Dorothy Lake, etc.

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 a premium cabin at Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park was initiated.
- Electrification of Bay 1 at Tulabi Campground in Nopiming Provincial Park was initiated.
- Electric upgrades (9 sites) were completed at Asessippi Provincial Park.
- Older part of Wellman campground in Duck Mountain Provincial Park was upgraded.

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.
 - A revised draft of *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*, an eight-year strategic action plan that includes over 130 action items led by numerous Manitoba government departments to ensure coordinated action to protect Manitoba's environment and promote sustainable development was completed, incorporating feedback from numerous stakeholders.
 - The Wildlife Branch worked with the Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch to engage First Nations, Métis and other stakeholders in developing regional moose recovery plans for the western and eastern regions. These plans will inform the development of a provincial moose management strategy.

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.
 - Manitoba committed to establishing a new Fish and Wildlife Fund that will facilitate projects that will help Manitoba's fish and wildlife populations or associated habitat. The new fund, supported by an impost on fishing, 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.

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:

- The department advocates for the engagement of the Aboriginal community in all aspects of Manitoba Conservations 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 on the east side of Lake Winnipeg is an example of which involves the participation of the Province of Manitoba and the First Nation communities of Berens River, Black River, Bloodvein, Bunibonibee, Garden Hill, God's Lake, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Manto Sipi, Pauingassi, Poplar River, Red Sucker Lake, St Theresa Point, Shamattawa and Wasagamack.
- Ten Community Traditional Area Land Use Plan (TALUP) Coordinators completed their training with Environmental Systems Research Institute Canada. The training took three years to complete and the individuals who have completed the course are now GIS certified. This certification will allow the coordinators to transfer the skills and knowledge they have gained as community coordinators. This training will complement the previous training that was provided to assist with documenting and mapping First Nation traditional knowledge (TK) at the community level, through interviews with elders, trappers and other community land users.

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:

- Monitoring for emerald ash borer continued in 2013 with 30 green sticky traps placed though the province in high-risk locations. No emerald ash borers were detected. In 2013, Manitoba co-lead the development of a Risk Analysis Framework with a focus on preventive measures for emerald ash borer as part of the National Pest Strategy initiated by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers to develop a collaborative, integrated and national approach for optimizing forest pest expertise and resources.
- The Office of Water Drinking undertook 259 routine and unscheduled on-site inspections of public water systems to verify their safety and reliability for producing and distributing safe water, and 136 inspections of semi-public water systems to verify their safety and reliability and to initiate the semi-public water system licensing process.
- In reaction to the discovery of Zebra Mussels in Lake Winnipeg a Rapid Response Protocol was implemented, which included the establishment of a Science Advisory Committee. The Science Advisory Committee recommended Manitoba consider treatment options to apply downward pressure on the zebra mussel population and reduce the spread of zebra mussels from these harbours. Of the options considered, Manitoba decided that the application of potash

(potassium chloride) was the most effective and environmentally benign option. Potash treatment was applied in the infested harbours of Winnipeg Beach, Gimli, Silver Harbour and Balsam Bay in May and June 2014 and was successful in these areas.

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:

- Added more than 4,400 hectares to Manitoba's protected areas network through designation of a new ecological reserve, the expansion of another and land use category boundary amendments in two existing provincial parks
- The West Beach at Grand Beach Provincial Park received Blue Flag Designation in 2013. Blue Flag is an internationally recognized eco-label symbolizing clean and well-managed beaches and marinas worldwide. Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park submitted an application to be recognized as a Blue Flag Provincial Park.
- Introduced the Lake Friendly Accord with the goal of improving water quality by reducing nutrients through the engagement of all stakeholders. The Lake Friendly Stewards Alliance was established under the Accord to provide one of the key forums needed to facilitate information sharing; enhance collaboration and coordination; improve reporting and accountability; increase efficiencies and technology transfer; and enhance stewardship and economic opportunities. The Alliance includes representation from key stakeholders such as federal, provincial, municipal, First Nations and Métis governments, conservation districts, agriculture, business and industry, cottage associations, and environmental non-governmental organizations.

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:

- Manitoba committed funding to implement an Rusty Crayfish eradication program in the Birch River near Prawda. Rusty Crayfish are an invasive species that harms the lake ecosystem. Manitoba also committed funds to hire a consultant to carry on with bi-annual monitoring and a reduction program for Falcon Lake.
- Manitoba is researching and monitoring Boreal Woodland Caribou populations and currently developing a provincial recovery strategy and range specific action plans.
- 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 including research into *Escherichia coli* at Lake Winnipeg beaches, 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 Product Campaign, plus other similar initiatives, and to undertake analysis to assist in setting long-term water quality objectives for phosphorus and nitrogen for Manitoba's water systems including Lake Winnipeg.

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:

- Manitoba co-lead the development of a Risk Analysis Framework with a focus on preventive measures for emerald ash borer as part of the National Pest Strategy initiated by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers to develop a collaborative, integrated and national approach for optimizing forest pest expertise and resources. In 2013, no emerald ash borers were detected in Manitoba.
- Manitoba 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 Lands Branch section provided advice and logistical support to the Pimachiowin Aki Corporation throughout the nomination evaluation and subsequent upstream process which included the recommended advisory mission on October 14-19, 2013. Preparation of a new nomination continued throughout the reporting year, incorporating advice received from IUCN and ICOMOS. Within the exigencies of the World Heritage system, a new bid submitted in 2014 would be evaluated by IUCN and ICOMOS in 2015 and examined by the WHC in 2016.

Sustainable Development Guidelines

1. Efficient Uses of Resources

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

- a) encourage and facilitate 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) employ full-cost accounting to provide better information for decision-makers.

Examples:

- Tire Stewardship Manitoba raised \$5,590,795 through environmental handling fees on new tires and spent \$5,100,113 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.
- The Forestry Branch managed and administered a grant of \$170,000 to the Manitoba Forestry Association's woodlot program, which is provided through the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund. This program includes the development of woodlot management plans and technology transfer in the south-eastern, Interlake and western portions of the province.

2. Public Participation

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

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

Examples:

- Consultations on Tolko's logging plans in 2012 and 2013 were previously completed and Notices and Consultations were offered to 29 communities regarding small projects not covered by Tolko's annual plans. Thirty work permits were issued and supervised by Northwest Regional forestry staff for logging, road construction and silviculture operations. Environmental issues and operating conditions were monitored.
- Completed consultations for the permanent designation of Walter Cook Caves Park Reserve as an ecological reserve. Also, proposed development activities adjacent to ecological reserves were reviewed to determine if they were appropriate and advice was offered on how to mitigate impacts.

3. Access to Information

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

- 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 2013 calendar year, 89 requests for information were received and 92 past and current year requests were completed under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Of the requests received in 2013, four were carried forward to 2014.
- A province-wide network of 704 private and 142 departmental licence vendors providing convenient access to the public for angling, hunting, migratory waterfowl, trapping, fur dealer, camping, arborist and various other licences, permits and related information (eg., Anglers' Guide, Hunting Guide, Trapper's Guide) was managed by the Licencing section. A total of 640 private vendors are located in rural areas.
- 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 2013 draw, 4,406 individuals applied and 2,741 applicants were drawn for the available 54 hunting season choices. An online PDF application was successfully introduced.
- Improved coordination of information on the Department's Internet site including a re-work of the Public Registry pages was completed. The Registry is now better organized to provide information on proposals that are open for comment, ones that are in process, or projects that have been completed; and can be searched by several proposal/project criteria. Users can also subscribe to a Rich Site Summary (RSS) feed for notification on updates to the Registry.

4. Integrated Decision Making and Planning

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

- 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:

- 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 23 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.
- The department completed released a revised draft of *TomorrowNow – Manitoba's Green Plan*, an eight year strategic action plan that included over 100 action items contributed by numerous Manitoba government departments to ensure coordinated action to protect Manitoba's environment.
- Manitoba supported the WaterSmart initiative through continued partnerships with Green Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro and the International Institute for Sustainable Development. Activities included continued education and public outreach about water conservation. Manitoba is a promotional partner with the United States Environmental Protection Agency in the WaterSense program. The WaterSense label identifies water efficient fixtures such as faucets, showerheads and toilets that use 20 per cent less water. The partnership allows access to water efficiency

information on best management practices, scientific research, technological advancement and programming across North America.

5. Waste Minimization and Substitution

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

- 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:

- 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 recently expanded its operations to collect automotive antifreeze and containers. In total, 53 municipal Eco-Centres and 27 privately operated depots collect used oil, filters, containers and antifreeze. MARRC also supports collection from larger generators.
- In its first full year of operation in Manitoba, Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA) has 453 registered stewards and 57 collection sites. Sixteen retailers are acting as depots. EPRA collected over 3,026 tonnes of end of life electronics, including microwaves. In November, a voluntary Return to Retail incentive was introduced.

6. Research and Innovation

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

- 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:

- Developed and oversaw an annual work plan agreement with the International Institute for Sustainable Development that followed department and government research priorities.

Sustainable Development Procurement Goals

1. Education, Training, and Awareness

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

- Conservation and Water Stewardship hosted an interdepartmental working group session on the proposed Green Prosperity Act where procurement and sustainability was discussed and promoted among government staff.

2. Pollution Prevention and Human Health Protection

To meet the intent of Goal #2, a 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:

- In an effort to ensure the highest standard of solid waste management, a new solid waste transfer station was being built in the Western Region in the Duck Mountain Provincial Park to serve cottagers, commercial operators, and campgrounds. District and Regional Park staff continues to work with the Child's Lake Cottage Association, Singush Cottage Association, and Wellman Lake Cottage Association in waste management and recycling.
- A new aggressive Manitoba Waste Reduction and Prevention Strategy is being developed that will report on provincial waste reduction and prevention efforts and outline specific goals to enhance the province's performance. The strategy will focus on reducing the volume of waste generated and disposed, separating hazardous from non-hazardous waste and improving waste management practices.

3. Reduction of Fossil Fuel Emissions

To meet the intent of Goal #3, a 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:

- In support of *Tomorrow Now – Manitoba's Green Plan* and Building The Parks Province: Manitoba's Parks Strategy, the Region acquired three additional 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.

- The Department is developing regulations required under *The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act*, and *The Environment Act* including *The Coal and Petroleum Coke Heating Ban Regulation*. In addition, the Department is 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.

4. Resource Conservation

To meet the intent of Goal #4, a 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:

- Manitoba has developed the Greening Government Initiative to demonstrate that government can model sustainability practices. The initiative aims to develop green practices throughout government including capital investments combined with small low cost / no cost initiatives and enhanced staff awareness and action. This will ensure that Manitoba can contribute significantly to reducing operational costs and reducing the Manitoba's environmental footprint.

5. Community Economic Development

To meet the intent of Goal #5, a 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-ops in the department's procurement opportunities.

Examples:

- 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.

Revenue and Expenditure Summaries

**Table RE.1
Reconciliation Statement**

	\$(000s)
DETAILS	2013-14 ESTIMATES
2013-14 MAIN ESTIMATES	\$146,391
MAIN ESTIMATES AUTHORITY TRANSFERRED FROM:	
Enabling Appropriation	
• Internal Service Adjustments	2,138
2013-14 ESTIMATE	\$148,529

Table RE.2

Revenue Summary by Source

For the year ended March 31, 2014 with comparative figures for the previous year

Actual 2012-13	Actual 2013-14	Increase (Decrease)	Source	Actual 2013-14	Estimate 2013-14	Variance	Expl. No.
OTHER REVENUE:							
588	1,129	541	Clean Environment Commission Cost Recovery	1,129	100	1,029	1.
1,110	672	(438)	Cottaging Initiative	672	732	(60)	
561	650	89	Environment Fees and Sundry	650	691	(41)	
3,429	4,366	937	Forestry Fees and Sundry	4,366	4,348	18	
337	284	(53)	GeoManitoba Fees and Sundry	284	306	(22)	
1,834	1,756	(78)	Land Information Sales and Fees	1,756	1,483	273	2.
13,269	15,789	2,520	Parks Fees	15,789	16,943	(1,154)	3.
6,461	5,991	(470)	Regional Operations Fees and Cost Recovery	5,991	5,020	971	4.
4,324	3,308	(1,016)	Wildlife Sundry	3,308	3,514	(206)	
332	875	543	Sundry	875	431	444	5.
2,919	3,470	551	Fisheries Fees and Sundry	3,470	3,637	(167)	
111,656	119,107	7,451	Water Power Rentals	119,107	107,700	11,407	6.
124	123	(1)	Water Resources Sundry	123	129	(6)	
146,944	157,520	10,576	Subtotal	157,520	145,034	12,486	
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA:							
108	99	(9)	1. Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention	99	0	99	7.
10	30	20	2. Ecosystem Monitoring Network	30	30	0	
0	17	17	3. Softwood Lumber Agreement	17	0	17	8.
118	146	28	Subtotal	146	30	116	
147,062	157,666	10,604	Total	157,666	145,064	12,602	
59	66	7	Sale of Government Assets	66	0	66	

Explanation Number:

- Higher Clean Environment Commission revenue was due to cost recovery for BiPole III and Keeyask generating station hearings.
- Higher lands sales revenue was due to completion of more surveys resulting in increased rate of property sales.
- Lower Parks Fees revenue was due to lower camping and vehicle permit revenue because of unfavorable camping weather and delayed campground openings.
- Higher Regional Operations Fees and Cost Recovery variance was due to higher cost recovery for forest fire suppression activity.
- Higher Sundry revenue was due to recognition of donated capital asset for Assiniboine Park Conservancy – International Polar Bear Conservation Centre.
- Higher Water Power Rentals revenue was due to cooler than normal spring, a relatively warm summer, and a cold winter resulting in a greater demand for electricity.
- Higher Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention revenue was due to increase in Federal Government contribution.
- Higher Softwood Lumber Agreement revenue was due to increase in Federal Government contribution.

Table RE.3
Expenditure Summary

For fiscal year ended March 31, 2014 with comparative figures for the previous year.

Estimate 2013/14	Appropriation	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2012/13	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
12-1 Administration and Finance					
37	(a) Minister's Salary	37	36	1	
	(b) Executive Support				
752	Salaries and Employee Benefits	741	704	37	
182	Other Expenditures	129	125	4	
	(c) Administration & Financial Services				
4,102	Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,089	4,017	72	
1,287	Other Expenditures	1,361	1,505	(144)	
	(d) Sustainable Resource and Policy Management				
2,008	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,782	1,864	(82)	
478	Other Expenditures	578	1,249	(671)	1.
94	Grant Assistance	97	97	0	
	(e) Watersheds and Protected Areas				
1,394	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,493	1,426	67	
209	Other Expenditures	179	258	(79)	
	(f) Aboriginal Relations				
465	Salaries and Employee Benefits	398	650	(252)	2.
179	Other Expenditures	121	212	(91)	3.
335	(g) Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin	291	145	146	
	(h) Corporate Crown Land Policy				
257	Salaries and Employee Benefits	242	241	1	
16	Other Expenditures	24	18	6	
	(i) Clean Environment Commission				
337	Salaries and Employee Benefits	465	431	34	
303	Other Expenditures	973	939	34	
12,435	Total 12-1	13,000	13,917	(917)	
12-2 Regional Services and Parks					
	(a) Regional Support Services				
2,646	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,949	2,998	(49)	
1,140	Other Expenditures	1,047	1,480	(433)	4.
	(b) Northwest Region				
2,004	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,920	1,971	(51)	
643	Other Expenditures	643	763	(120)	
	(c) Northeast Region				
2,481	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,485	2,594	(109)	
984	Other Expenditures	1,017	1,296	(279)	5.
	(d) Central Region				
3,857	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,786	3,574	212	
1,117	Other Expenditures	1,106	1,331	(225)	6.
	(e) Eastern Region				
3,720	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,655	3,652	3	
775	Other Expenditures	800	960	(160)	
	(f) Western Region				
3,583	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,621	3,642	(21)	
1,033	Other Expenditures	1,077	1,256	(179)	7.
	(g) Parks and Natural Areas				
15,854	Salaries and Employee Benefits	15,688	16,490	(802)	

Estimate 2013/14	Appropriation	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2012/13	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
9,823	Other Expenditures	10,082	11,394	(1,312)	8.
434	Grant Assistance	466	467	(1)	
(472)	Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(472)	(472)	0	
	(h) Fire and Emergency Response Program				
6,792	Salaries and Employee Benefits	6,626	6,445	181	
11,179	Other Expenditures	11,061	10,418	643	
(500)	Less: Recoverable from Emergency Expenditures	(496)	(491)	(5)	
67,093	Total 12-2	67,061	69,768	(2,707)	
	12-3 Conservation Programs				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
163	Salaries and Employee Benefits	212	240	(28)	
303	Other Expenditures	288	268	20	
	(b) Forestry				
5,490	Salaries and Employee Benefits	5,733	5,744	(11)	
3,762	Other Expenditures	3,146	4,231	(1,085)	9.
21	Grant Assistance	23	23	0	
751	Forest Regeneration Stock	545	1,242	(697)	10.
(1,608)	Less: Recoverable from Urban and Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(1,549)	(263)	(1,286)	11.
	(c) Wildlife				
3,741	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,533	3,518	15	
1,389	Other Expenditures	1,368	1,775	(407)	12.
862	Grant Assistance	874	1,084	(210)	13.
354	Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Damage Prevention Agreement	279	215	64	14.
45	(d) Habitat Enhancement Fund	45	50	(5)	
409	(e) Wildlife Enhancement Initiative Other Expenditures	407	409	(2)	
	(f) Lands				
1,692	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,621	1,536	85	
4,521	Other Expenditures	4,888	6,696	(1,808)	15.
218	Grant Assistance	234	164	70	16.
	(g) GeoManitoba				
3,334	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,625	2,691	(66)	
1,276	Other Expenditures	1,568	1,130	438	17.
(1,621)	Less: Recoveries from other appropriations	(1,658)	(1,152)	(506)	18.
1,013	(h) International Institute for Sustainable Development	1,013	1,126	(113)	
0	(i) Green Manitoba Eco Solutions	0	572	(572)	19.
0	(j) Pineland Nursery	0	0	0	
(2,410)	(k) Less: Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	(2,410)	(1,585)	(825)	20.
23,705	Total 12-3	22,785	29,714	(6,929)	
	12-4 Climate Change and Environmental Protection				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
411	Salaries and Employee Benefits	411	465	(54)	
53	Other Expenditures	36	547	(511)	21.

Estimate 2013/14	Appropriation	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2012/13	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
	(b) Environment Programs and Strategies				
1,675	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,733	1,613	120	
832	Other Expenditures	1,618	2,285	(667)	22.
	(c) Environmental Compliance and Enforcement				
3,602	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,005	3,378	(373)	
1,109	Other Expenditures	925	1,080	(155)	
	(d) Environmental Approvals				
1,782	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,697	2,145	(448)	23.
131	Other Expenditures	303	371	(68)	
	(e) Climate Change Initiatives				
560	Salaries and Employee Benefits	567	557	10	
279	Other Expenditures	138	205	(67)	
10,434	Total 12-4	10,433	12,646	(2,213)	
	12-5 Water Stewardship				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
552	Salaries and Employee Benefits	439	501	(62)	
496	Other Expenditures	514	568	(54)	
	(b) Water Science and Management				
2,766	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,634	2,661	(27)	
1,054	Other Expenditures	908	1,266	(358)	24.
	(c) Fisheries Branch				
2,819	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,258	2,291	(33)	
412	Other Expenditures	418	518	(100)	25.
410	Northern Fisherman's Freight Assistance	410	410	0	
	(d) Fisheries Enhancement Fund				
1,700		1,705	1,472	233	26.
	(e) Conservation District and Watershed Assistance				
5,162	Conservation District and Watershed Assistance	5,162	5,736	(574)	
(1,165)	Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(1,165)	(1,165)	0	
	(f) Office of Drinking Water				
2,080	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,061	1,845	216	
734	Other Expenditures	594	711	(117)	27.
	(g) Drainage and Water Control Licensing				
1,511	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,565	1,544	21	
429	Other Expenditures	427	456	(29)	
	(h) Water Use Licensing				
1,536	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,154	1,184	(30)	
389	Other Expenditures	1,773	1,056	717	28.
1,224	(i) Water Stewardship Initiatives	1,256	1,691	(435)	29.
22,109	Total 12-5	22,113	22,745	(632)	
	12-6 Costs Related to Capital Assets				
	(a) General Assets				
2,554	(1) Amortization Expense	2,092	2,022	70	
1,585	(2) Interest Expense	1,843	1,227	616	30.
	(b) Infrastructure Assets				
4,096	(1) Amortization Expense	3,590	3,135	455	

Estimate 2013/14	Appropriation		Actual 2013/14	Actual 2012/13	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
4,518	(2)	Interest Expense	4,659	4,132	527	
12,753	Total 12-6		12,184	10,516	1,668	
148,529	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		147,576	159,306	(11,730)	
B.12 Capital Investment						
(a) General Assets						
0	(1)	Information Technology Projects	0	271	(271)	
9,288	(2)	Other Equipment and Buildings	14,054	14,059	(5)	
(b) Infrastructure Assets						
14,839	(1)	Parks Infrastructure Projects	11,047	18,476	(7,429)	
1,000	(2)	Crown Land and Cottage Lot Development	0	21	(21)	
25,127	TOTAL B.12 CAPITAL INVESTMENT		25,101	32,827	(7,726)	

Explanations:

1. The decrease of \$(671) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to completion of BiPole III consultations.
2. The decrease of \$(252) in 2013/14 salary and employee benefits was due to position reductions. Employees were redeployed to other positions within the Department.
3. The decrease of \$(91) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to expenditure management.
4. The decrease of \$(433) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to 2013/14 expenditure reductions and lower natural resource officer relocation costs.
5. The decrease of \$(279) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.
6. The decrease of \$(225) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.
7. The decrease of \$(179) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.
8. The decrease of \$(1,312) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.
9. The decrease of \$(1,085) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to ending of the Trees for Tomorrow Program in 2012/13.
10. The decrease of \$(697) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.
11. The increase of \$(1,286) in 2013/14 recoveries from Urban and Rural Economic Development Initiatives was due to the reinstatement of Dutch Elm Disease recoveries and Zebra Mussels Program recoveries.
12. The decrease of \$(407) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to expenditure reductions.
13. The decrease of \$(210) in 2013/14 grant assistance was due to expenditure reductions.
14. The increase of \$64 in 2013/14 Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Damage Prevention Agreement was due to 2013/14 Delta Marsh project costs.
15. The decrease of \$(1,808) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to the 2012/13 grants paid to Nature Conservancy of Canada.
16. The increase of \$70 in 2013/14 grant assistance was due to increase in grants paid for the UNESCO World Heritage Site.
17. The increase of \$438 in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to the 2013/14 grant paid to Nature Conservancy of Canada.
18. The increase of \$(506) in 2013/14 recoveries from other appropriations was primarily due to the 2013/14 recovery from Rural Economic Development Initiatives for the Nature Conservancy of Canada grant.
19. The decrease of \$(572) in 2013/14 Green Manitoba Eco Solutions was due to expenditure management.
20. The increase of \$(825) in 2013/14 recoveries from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund was due to increase in recoveries for Conservation Programs.
21. The decrease of \$(511) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to 2012/13 expenditure1s for removal of peat leases in provincial parks.
22. The decrease of \$(667) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to completion of Landfill Gas Facilities projects and expenditure reductions.

Estimate 2013/14	Appropriation	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2012/13	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
23.	The decrease of \$(448) in 2013/14 salary and employee benefits was due to position reductions. Employees were redeployed to other positions within the Department.				
24.	The decrease of \$(358) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to expenditure reductions.				
25.	The decrease of \$(100) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.				
26.	The increase of \$233 in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due increase in Fisheries Enhancement Fund grants approved and paid.				
27.	The decrease of \$(117) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions.				
28.	The increase of \$717 in 2013/14 operating expenditures was primarily due to payment of Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation's share of water power rentals revenue generated from Wuskwatim Generating Station.				
29.	The decrease of \$(435) in 2013/14 operating expenditures was due to expenditure reductions in projects and programs funded by Water Stewardship Initiatives.				
30.	The increase of \$616 in 2013/14 General Assets interest expense was primarily due to construction of the Assiniboine Park Conservancy Arctic Exhibit Building.				

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

For year ending March 31, 2010 – March 31, 2014*

	2009/2010		2010/2011		2011/2012		2012/2013		2013/2014	
	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)
Administration and Finance	135.58	12,961	135.58	11,838	135.58	13,391	136.58	13,917	128.79	13,000
Regional Services and Parks	607.89	65,662	616.58	66,394	619.58	68,632	618.58	69,768	594.40	67,061
Conservation Programs	191.85	37,784	191.85	29,224	193.85	31,458	188.29	29,714	180.04	22,785
Climate Change and Environmental Protection	128.00	12,960	130.00	10,651	130.00	12,432	129.00	12,646	111.00	10,433
Water Stewardship	156.31	23,653	159.31	24,052	163.31	20,961	166.31	22,745	163.31	22,113
Costs Related to Capital Assets		7,266		7,832		8,972		10,516		12,184
Total Appropriations	1,219.63	160,286	1,233.32	149,991	1,242.32	155,846	1,238.76	159,306	1,177.54	147,576

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

Performance Reporting Table 2013/14

The following section provides information on key performance measures for the department for the 2013/14 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? (base-line data and year) (C)	What is the 2013/2014 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
Percentage of provincial Crown land co-managed with First Nations.	The amount of co-managed land provides an indication of government's efforts to establish good relationships with First Nations.	The baseline year is 2000/01 - MOUs on co-management were signed.	42.3% co-managed or under negotiation to be co-managed.	Percentage of Crown land under co-management is increasing.	
The availability of high quality outdoor recreation opportunities and experiences for Manitobans; measured by: - Number of improved campsites made available (e.g., washrooms, showers).	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	The baseline year is 2004/05 – 225 improved campsites were made available to Manitobans that year.	New washroom/shower buildings were completed for Rainbow Beach, Manipogo and Watchorn. . Six new yurts were added at Childs Lake campground and 17 electrically serviced sites were added at Tulabi Falls. The average campsite occupancy was 34% which is down 1% from	From 2004/05 through 2013/14, a total of 934 camping improvements were implemented. Campsite occupancy has held fairly steady over the past seven years, with an average of 34%, a low of 32.7% in	The province has made significant commitments with respect to increasing camping and cottaging opportunities for Manitobans. In 2013/14, only one of the seven parks damaged by the 2011 flood remained closed. With the

What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (base-line data and year) (C)	What is the 2013/2014 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
- Yearly occupation rates of all campsites.	is meeting the needs of Manitobans.		2012/13.	2008/2009.	help of temporary washroom facilities, Kiche Manitou campground in Spruce Woods was able to welcome back campers. St. Ambroise Beach re-opened for day use only.
Number of cottage lots made available to Manitobans.	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.	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	An estimate of 1,392 lots that have been made available from pre-2004 cottage lot inventory, plus the cottage lot draws between 2004-2007 and the Bay River Cottage Lot Draw in 2011. To date, 377 lots have been made available through the First – Come, First- Served Cottage Program with 140 of these lots sold or leased. 140 lots were made available through a Draw and Lot Selection Meeting held January 27, 2014 (these lots were made available in previous draws, but	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.	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. 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.

What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (base-line data and year) (C)	What is the 2013/2014 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
		with First Nations as a means to create economic opportunities.	people had subsequently returned these lots back to the department). On November 27, 2013, 42 of 50 lots that were put on hold since the 2007 Cottage Lot Draw in the Eastern Region were made available to those holding lot selection numbers. 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.		Appropriate assessments are undertaken to ensure these concerns are addressed in the future.
Reduction in environmental liabilities for which the Department is responsible.	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.	The baseline year is 2005/06. Recorded value of environmental liabilities was \$39 million as of March 31, 2006.	Recorded value of environmental liabilities for the Department was \$97.9 million as of March 31, 2014.	Recorded value of environmental liabilities should decrease as sites are remediated, and environmental quality should increase as a result.	Initial identification and assessment phase is complete. Assessment and remediation of priority sites is ongoing.
Hectares of protected land in Manitoba.	Protected areas help ensure conservation	The baseline year is 1990 -	Currently 7.0 million hectares or 10.8% of	Since 1990, the area of protected	

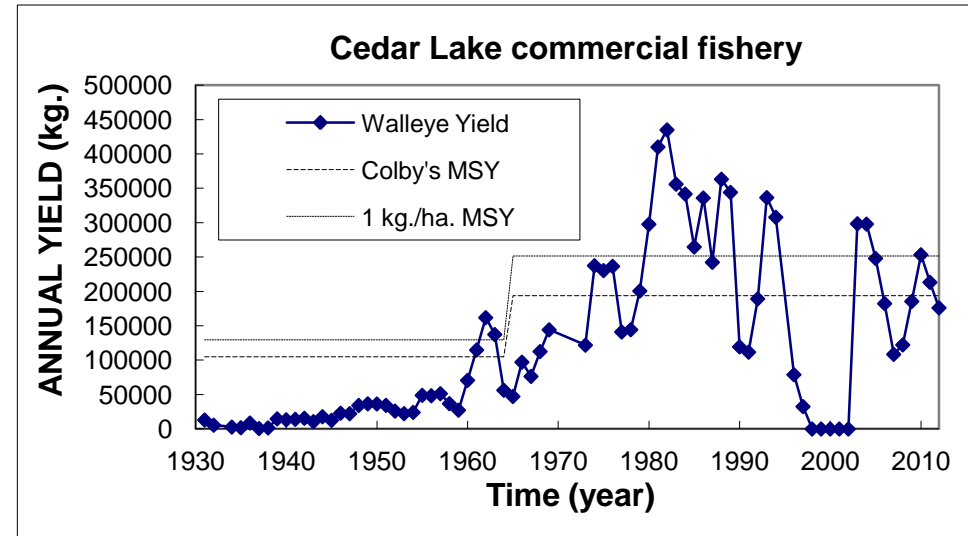
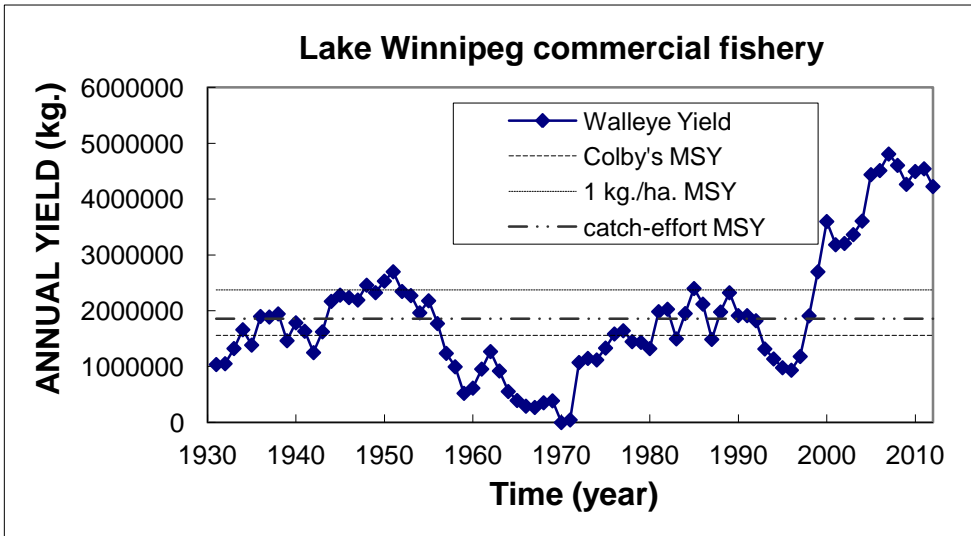
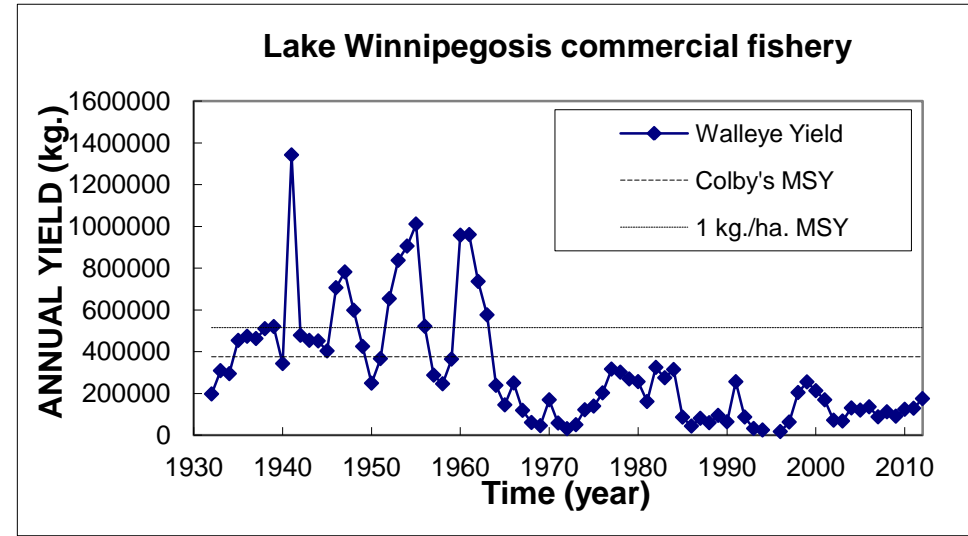
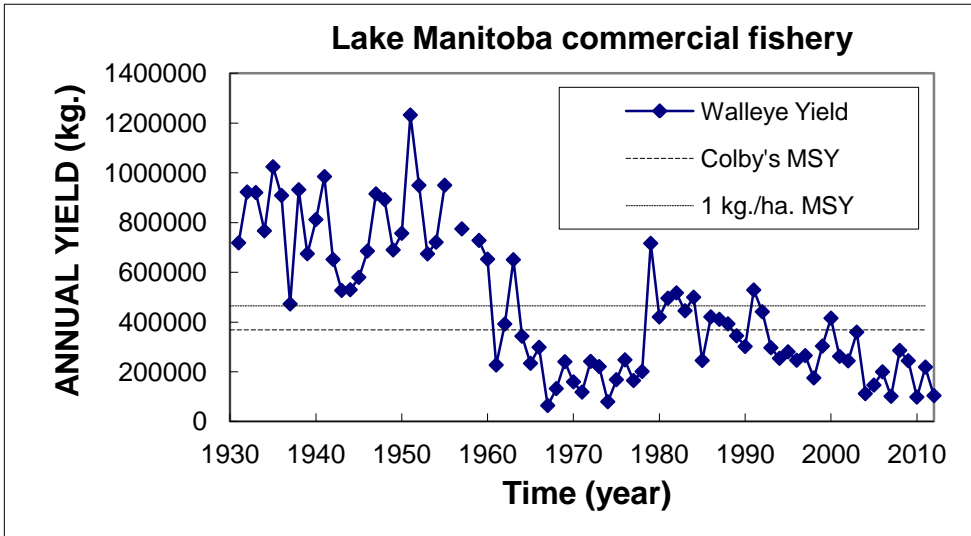
What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (base-line data and year) (C)	What is the 2013/2014 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
	<p>of biodiversity, 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>350,000 hectares were designated as protected when the Protected Areas Initiative began.</p>	<p>Manitoba is protected – a significant increase since 1990. This includes two national parks, 23 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, and various parcels of conservation agency-owned private land.</p>	<p>lands has increased from 350,000 hectares to 7,060,000 hectares, as of March 31, 2014</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): 1. Buffalo Point FN</p>	<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>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> <p>Non-commercial community award (1) 1. Manitoba Metis 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>		
Hectares of forest burned in the “Red Zone” (priority forested areas) as a percentage of total hectares burned in the province.	Protection of people and property and the surrounding forested areas helps contribute to viable communities in these areas that are primarily in the north.	The baseline year is 2000/01. 0.23% of the highest priority forest protection zone (Red Zone) was burned.	In 2013/14, 0.162% of the highest priority forest protection zone (Red Zone) was burned.	This shows an slight decrease from 2000/01 data. There is no clear directional trend for this measure because risk of forest fire varies widely from year to year, primarily due	

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 2013/2014 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
				to weather conditions.	
<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>It is important to track production (i.e. annual species catch – see graphs, below) against lake-specific MSY, because harvest of consistently valuable species is reflective of stock abundance.</p> <p>MSY and annual production contribute to the establishment of quotas for each lake.</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 – 263,320 kg (walleye)</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 – production at record levels but 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 and with annual stock</p>

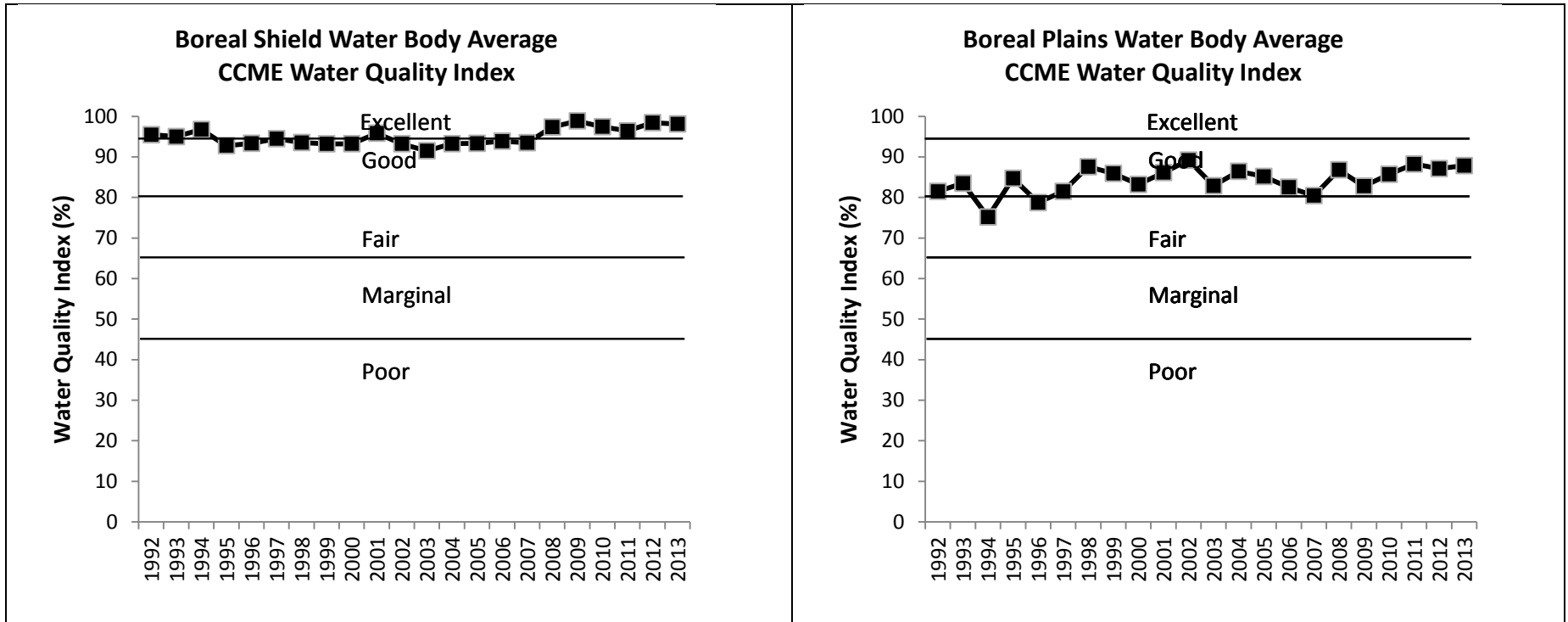
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					monitoring activities. <i>A Lake Winnipeg Fishery Resource Co-Management Board</i> was established to enhance fisher participation in the decision-making process and support biological reviews.

Commercial production and maximum sustainable yield (MSY) on four large Manitoba fisheries.

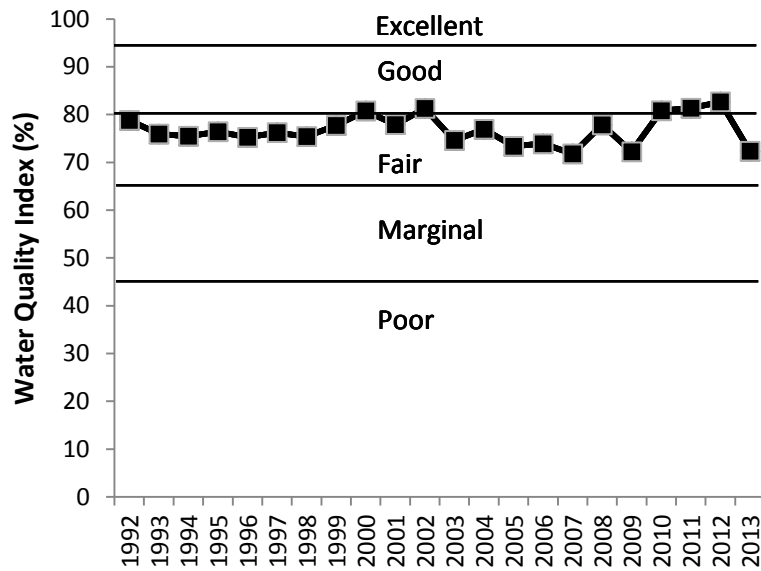


What is being measured and using what indicator? (A)	Why is it important to measure this? (B)	What is the starting point? (baseline data and year) (C)	What is the 2013/2014 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
<p>Water quality in Manitoba, by assessing water quality data using the CCME Water Quality Index</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>Water quality has been tested at many rivers, streams and lakes since the early 1970s. The Water Quality Index has been calculated for 40 to 50 sites since 1992.</p>	<p>The latest data available is for 2013.</p> <p>In 2013, within the Prairie Ecozone, the CCME Water Quality Index Value was 72 or of "fair" quality.</p> <p>Within the Boreal Plains, the CCME Water Quality Index Value was 88 or of "good" quality.</p> <p>Within the Boreal Shield Ecozone, the CCME Water Quality Index Value was 98 or of "excellent" quality.</p>	<p>The Water Quality Index in Manitoba has generally been stable since 1992 and Water Quality Index values for 2013 remain within the range of values observed between 1992 to 2012 (see graphs below).</p> <p>There has been a small but significant improvement in Water Quality Index scores for the Boreal Shield and Boreal Plains Ecozones over the 1992-2013 period.</p> <p>Water Quality Index values declined in the Prairie Ecozone in 2013 but remained within the range of values observed between 1992 to 2012.</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; is proposing a new regulation for drainage and water retention to improve water quality; and is promoting the reduction of nutrient loading via personal action.</p>

CCME Water Quality Index for Manitoba



**Prairie 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 40 to 50 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.

<p>What is being measured and using what indicator?</p> <p>(A)</p>	<p>Why is it important to measure this? (B)</p>	<p>What is the starting point? (baseline data and year)</p> <p>(C)</p>	<p>What is the 2013/2014 result or most recent available data?</p> <p>(D)</p>	<p>What is the trend over time?</p> <p>(E)</p>	<p>Is target a commitment? (Y?N) Indicate source.</p>	<p>Comments/recent actions/report links (F)</p>
<p>Approximately 450 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 health-based compliance index captures 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>The chemical compliance index captures public water system compliance with lower risk chemical standards.</p>	<p>It is important to measure compliance with health-based requirements and chemical standards to confirm that acute and chronic risks to public health from drinking water are being addressed.</p> <p>The health-based compliance index captures critical acute public health risks associated with disease-causing microbiological organisms.</p> <p>The chemical compliance index captures low-level public health risks, typically associated with lifetime exposure to chemical parameters.</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 baseline chemical compliance index for Manitoba's public water systems, established in 2011, was 66%.</p>	<p>The 2013 health-based compliance index result for Manitoba public water systems, excluding those systems on long-term boil water advisory, was 84%.</p> <p>The 2013 chemical compliance index result for Manitoba's public water systems was 69%.</p>	<p>The health-based compliance index has shown gradual improvements over time. Initial data suggest the same is true for the chemical compliance index.</p> <p>From a population perspective, >85% of the population is served by a public water system that is in compliance with the 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/conservation/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 2013/14.

Information Required Annually (per Section 18 of The Act)	Fiscal Year 2013/14
The number of disclosures received and the number acted on and not acted on <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 F 87

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 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. 388/2013

As per Schedule "D", Order in Council No. 142/2014