

Manitoba Conservation
Conservation Manitoba

Annual Report
2010-2011

Rapport annuel
2010-2011



MINISTER OF CONSERVATION

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 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011.

The report details the Department's many significant accomplishments and activities as we fulfill our mandate of protecting the environment while sustaining and conserving the abundant natural resources we enjoy together as Manitobans.

The Department serves Manitobans and its visitors throughout our vast province and within our diverse regions and ecosystems. We work together in many fruitful partnerships with the public to meet both the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development.

The staff of Manitoba Conservation is dedicated to delivering effective services in our parks, communities, and rural and northern areas, and I hope that the information in this report sheds light on the positive results of our programming and the many important related activities that take place on an ongoing basis around our beautiful Province.

Respectfully submitted,

“Original signed by”

Bill Blaikie
Minister of Conservation



The Honourable Bill Blaikie
Minister of Conservation
330 Legislative Building
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report of the Manitoba Department of Conservation for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011.

The Department remains committed to efficiently delivering quality programs and services to protect our environment and sustainably manage natural resources, while considering diverse community interests. The Annual Report provides an overview of the various programs and activities carried out in the 2010/11 fiscal year, highlighting key results and accomplishments that include:

- *The Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park Act* was passed and received royal assent on June 17, 2010.
- *The Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund Act* received royal assent on June 17, 2010 and was proclaimed on October 1st, 2010.
- Working with First Nations on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg on the development of Crown land management plans for traditional areas under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*. The first proposal to be submitted under the Act was the Asatiwisipe Aki Planning Area and Management Plan (Poplar River First Nation). Three other proposals were in development during the reporting period.
- The Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin (WNO) Planning Initiative on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, involving the participation of the Province of Manitoba and First Nation communities of Berens River, Black River, Bloodvein, Bunibonabee, Garden Hill, God's Lake, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Manto Sipi, Pauingassi, Poplar River, Red

Sucker Lake, St Theresa Point and Wasagamack.

- The protected coastline of Kaskatamagan Wildlife Management Area (WMA) has been officially counted in Canada's inventory of Marine Protected Areas. This WMA captures the transition from brackish tidal mudflats exposed at low tide to wetland-dominated inland plains characteristic of the Coastal Hudson Bay Lowlands. Beluga whales, polar bears, and coastal caribou can all be found in this area at the same time for several weeks each year.
- The Department continued to work on the development of a provincial peatlands stewardship strategy with interest groups and organizations. The Department also worked intra-departmentally and with Manitoba Water Stewardship to better understand the carbon values and ecological goods and services of wetlands, boreal forests and peatlands.
- Regulated programs under *The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act* recycled 100,602 tonnes of material in 2010/2011 including 12,972 tonnes of rubber from scrap tires, 72,666 tonnes of packaging and paper through municipal recycling programs and 14,963 tonnes of used oil products. The amount of material collected through these programs increased by 1,814 tonnes from the previous year.

I am pleased to report on our Department's accomplishments in the stewardship of Manitoba's resources for current and future generations. More highlights and details of the Department's operations and results for 2010/11 are contained in the attached report.

Respectfully submitted,

“Original signed by”

Fred Meier
Deputy Minister



Contents

LIST OF TABLES	3
HIGHLIGHTS	6
FAITS SAILLANTS.....	10
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.....	14
Minister’s Salary.....	14
Executive Support.....	14
Human Resource Management.....	15
Corporate Services	16
Financial Services	17
Information Technology Services.....	19
Clean Environment Commission	20
Distribution Centre.....	21
REGIONAL OPERATIONS	22
Northwest Region	29
Northeast Region	32
Central Region	36
Western Region.....	43
Park Operations and Maintenance	48
Fire and Emergency Response Program	48
Environmental Services	57
Environmental Operations	61
PROGRAMS DIVISION.....	64
Divisional Administration.....	64
Wildlife Enhancement Initiative.....	65
Parks & Natural Areas	66
Forestry	75
Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection.....	86
Special Conservation and Endangered Species Fund.....	104
Lands and Geomatics	105
Survey Services.....	112
Pineland Forest Nursery.....	115
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP.....	116
Sustainable Resource and Policy Management	117
Protected Areas Initiative.....	123
Corporate Crown Land Policy	126
Environmental Assessment and Licensing	128
Aboriginal Relations Branch.....	131
Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin.....	133
Pollution Prevention.....	135
Air Quality Management	140
Climate Change.....	142
Green Manitoba	144
International Institute For Sustainable Development	145
Minor Capital Projects	146

PART B – CAPITAL INVESTMENT	147
Sustainable Development Integration	149
Revenue and Expenditure Summaries	160
Performance Reporting Table 2010/11	167
The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act.....	173
Statutory Responsibilities of The Minister of Conservation	174

LIST OF TABLES

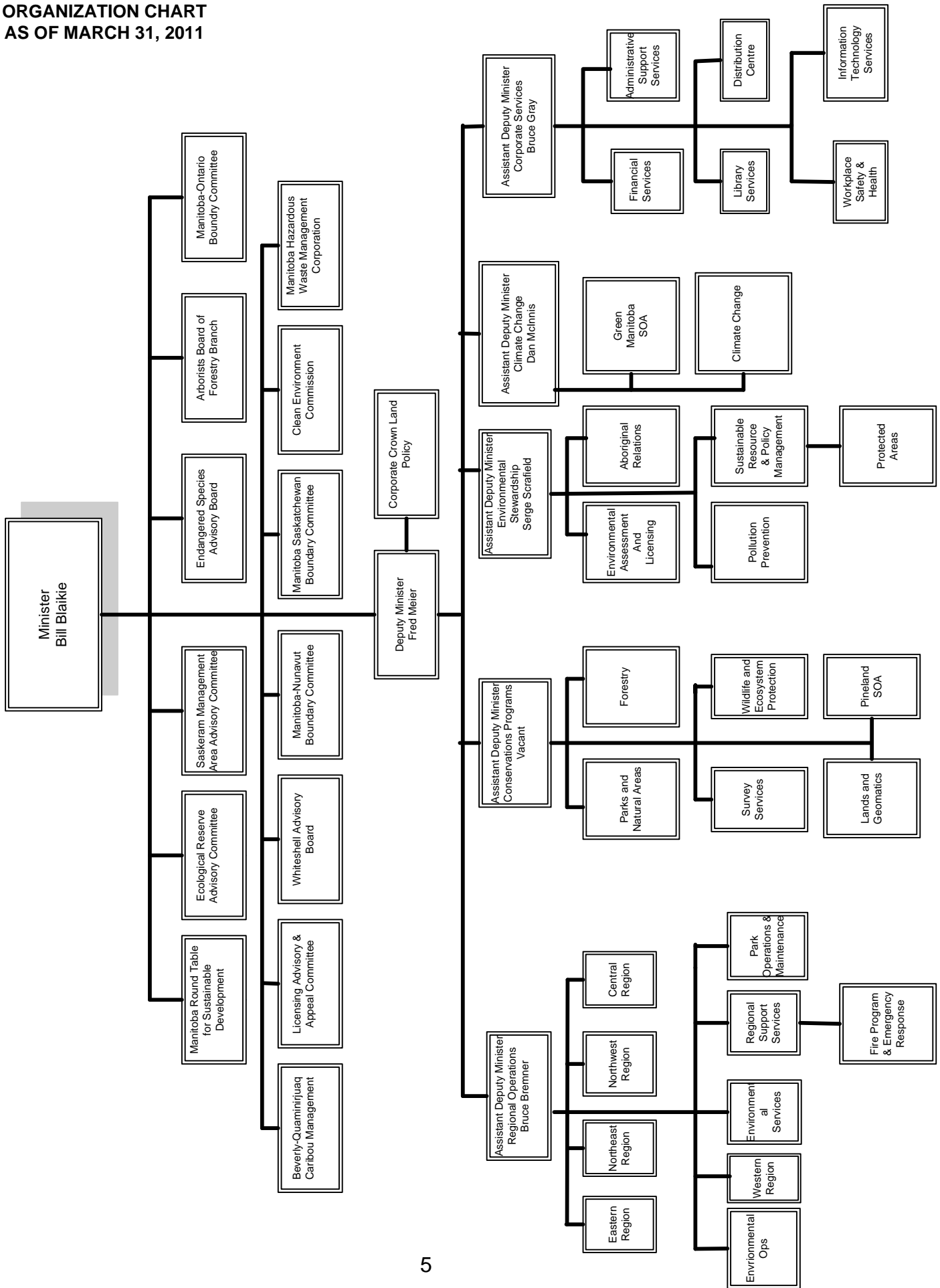
AF.1	Expenditure, Minister's Salary	14	RO.27	Expenditure, Environmental Operations – Regional Services	62
AF.2	Expenditure, Executive Support.....	14	RO.28	Environmental Legislation Enforcement Summary 2010/11	62
AF.3	Expenditure, Corporate Services	16	RO.29	Suspensions or Variations under <i>The Environment Act 2009/10</i>	63
AF.4	Expenditure, Financial Services.....	18	CP.1	Expenditure, Divisional Administration.....	64
AF.5	Expenditure, Information Technology Services	19	WH.1	Expenditure, Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Initiative	65
AF.6	Expenditure, Clean Environment Commission	20	PA.1	Expenditure, Parks & Natural Areas	74
AF.7	Distribution Centre	21	FO.1	Forest Renewal Activities.....	82
RO.1	Common Violations under <i>The Provincial Parks Act</i>	25	FO.2	Expenditure, Forestry Branch	85
RO.2	Common Violations under <i>The Wildlife Act</i>	26	HE.1	Expenditure, Habitat Enhancement Fund.....	86
RO.3	Common Violations under <i>The Fisheries Act (Canada) and The Fisheries Act (Manitoba)</i>	26	WI.1	Wildlife Permits Issued, 2010.....	98
RO.4	Comparison of Wildlife, Fisheries, Parks and Migratory Birds Prosecutions 2001/2002 to 2010/11	26	WI.2	Hunting Licences Sold 2010/11	100
RO.5	Record of Violations Occurring 2010/11	27	WI.3	Wildlife Licence Revenue 2010/11	101
RO.6	Hunter and Firearm Safety Program 2001-2010	27	WI.4	Fur Statistics, Year ending August 31, 2010	102
RO.7	Firearm Accidents 1964-2008, 5-year Averages.....	27	WI.5	Expenditure, Wildlife & Ecosystem Protection Branch.....	103
RO.8	Firearm Accidents 2001-2010.....	28	SC.1	Expenditure, Special Conservation and Endangered Species Fund.....	104
RO.9	Hunter-Killed Livestock Compensation 2001/2002 to 2010/11	28	LA.1	Treaty Land Entitlement Status.....	107
RO.10	Problem Wildlife Occurrences 2010/11	28	LA.2	Expenditure, Lands and Geomatics	111
RO.11	T.I.P. Calls by Region 2010/11	29	SS.1	Expenditure, Survey Services	114
RO.12	T.I.P. Calls by Year, 2002/03 to 2010/11	29	ES.1	Expenditure, Divisional Administration.....	116
RO.13	Expenditure, Regional Support Services	29	SR.1	Expenditure, Sustainable Resource Management	122
RO.14	Expenditure, Northwest Region	32	PR.1	Expenditure, Protected Areas	124
RO.15	Expenditure, Northeast Region	36	CLP.1	Expenditure, Corporate Crown Land Policy Unit	127
RO.16	Expenditure, Central Region.....	39	EA.1	Environmental Assessment and Licensing Activities	129
RO.17	Expenditure, Eastern Region	43	EA.2	Expenditure, Environmental Assessment and Licensing	130
RO.18	Expenditure, Western Region	47	AR.1	Expenditure, Aboriginal Relations.....	132
RO.19	Park Operations and Maintenance	48	WA.1	Expenditure, Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin.....	134
RO.20	Number of Fires and Area Burned by Region and Cause	52			
RO.21	Number of Fires and Area Burned by Priority Zone and Action Status	53			
RO.22	2010 Area Burned by Priority Zone.....	53			
RO.23	Expenditure, Fire and Emergency Response Program	56			
RO.24	Expenditure, Environmental Operations – Environmental Services	59			
RO.25	Livestock Regulation Enforcement 2000/01 to 2010/11	59			
RO.26	Environmental Programs Enforcement...60				

PP.1	Residential Recycling Statistics	136
PP.2	Product from MB Scrap Tires in 2010	137
PP.3	Used Oil Products Recycled/Collected	138
PP.4	Expenditure, Pollution Prevention	139
AQ.1	Air Quality Activities.....	140
AQ.2	Expenditure, Air Quality Management	141
CC.1	Expenditure, Climate Change	143
GM.1	Expenditure, Green Manitoba	144
IISD.1	Expenditure, International Institute for Sustainable Development	145
IM.1	Expenditure, Minor Capital Projects.....	146
RE.1	Reconciliation Statement	160
RE.2	Revenue Summary by Source	161
RE.3	Expenditure Summary.....	162
RE.4	Five-Year Expenditure and Staffing Summary by Appropriation.....	166

LIST OF FIGURES

1.	Organization Chart	5
2.	Fire Priority Zones 2010	54
3.	Number of Fires, 2000-2010	55
4.	Area Burned, 2000-2010	56
5.	Crown Timber Harvested and Provincial Revenue Collected from 1996-2011	83
6.	Manitoba Network of Protected Areas	125

**MANITOBA
CONSERVATION
ORGANIZATION CHART
AS OF MARCH 31, 2011**



HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Services

A covert investigation relating to the illegal sale and transportation of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2008 and 2009 was concluded in the courts by way of guilty pleas and resulted in \$1,800.00 in fines.

An investigation initiated in 2008 relating to the illegal export of wildlife from Manitoba resulted in twenty-six charges against two individuals operating a Manitoba Business. This was a joint investigation involving Manitoba Conservation, Environment Canada, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The case is currently before the courts.

One lightning fire near Cranberry Portage reached 54,000 hectares in size and ran 22 kilometres in one day. The size, intensity, and duration of the fire exceeded the capacity of resources in Manitoba necessitating the acquisition of additional resources from BC, Alberta, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. In addition, the fire also created one of the largest threats to municipal values ever experienced in Manitoba with evacuations to communities, cottage subdivisions, campgrounds, remote cottages, numerous lodges and out camps. At the fires peak there were 425 personnel, 16 helicopters, 12 water bombers, and 13 pieces of heavy equipment working on the fire.

The Polar Bear Alert Program was a success for 2010, handling 35 polar bears with no human/bear conflicts.

Narcisse and Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) continue to be a highly popular wildlife viewing areas in the region. Over 40,000 public visitors visited the snake dens in 2010 while over 200,000 visited Oak Hammock.

On June 27, 2007 a severe windstorm damaged the forest in the northern areas of Whiteshell Provincial Park. The regional salvage program developed in 2007/08 was completed by the spring of 2010. Forest renewal activities including the preparation of approximately 1,200 ha. of forest land for planting and natural regeneration and the planting of approximately 820,000 seedlings was completed.

Parks and Regional Services

Park Entry was free in 2010, which was the second year of a three year program where park vehicle permits and the associated entry fee were not required in recognition of the economic times and the desire to increase recreational opportunities closer to home.

Park visitation exceeded 5.4 million visitors with campsite reservations of close to 63,000, an increase of 6,701 over 2009 and an increase of 25,974 over 2005, the year before the new Parks Reservation Service was implemented.

Enhancements under the Provincial Camping Initiative continued. Most notable was the completion of a 65 unit campground expansion at Wellman Lake campground in Duck Mountain Provincial Park and the construction of a new fully-serviced campground at Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park, expected to open in July 2011.

Forestry Branch

The Forest Act received Royal Assent in 2009 and was proclaimed in March 2011 with accompanying Forest Use and Management regulations. The Act emphasizes: timber administration and pricing; timber tracking and scaling; and enforcement, penalties and offences. This is the first significant amendment to the Forest Act since they were first enacted and the first significant amendment to the Forest Use and Management Regulations since 1988.

Through the Trees for Tomorrow program, the province and its partners committed to plant five million trees in five years. The program, which is part of Manitoba's Beyond Kyoto Climate Change initiative, started in April 2008, and will be completed in 2012. By the end of 2010/2011, 2.45 million trees had been planted.

A \$1.2 million community-based timber volume sampling survey, jointly funded by the province and federal government, was completed within a portion of the Highrock forest section. The program directed funds to The Pas, a community impacted by the economic downturn, to hire displaced forestry workers and First Nation communities to deliver a two-year volume sampling survey as part of the provincial inventory process. The program provided training to participating individuals and enhanced the community's capacity to become engaged in sustainable resource planning and development discussions. In addition, as a component of developing a new forest inventory for the Highrock forest section, a contract was signed with Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (MCCN) to interpret imagery acquired for MCCN Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) and reserve areas. The interpretation of approximately 80,000 ha of Mathias Colomb First Nation TLE selection and reserve area was completed this year. Manitoba and MCCN are now working toward a data sharing agreement centered on this information.

Analyses were undertaken to obtain and improve estimates of forest carbon across the province and to integrate carbon reporting with the provincial wood supply determination process. Information was compiled for a case study area (portion of the Lake Winnipeg East forest section) and prepared for use with the Carbon Budget Model (CBM) developed by the Canadian Forest Service. Modeling analyses were completed to quantify and assess the impacts of various land use strategies, forest management practices, and natural disturbance events on the carbon balance within the study area.

An Invasive Forest Pest Advisory Committee was formed to advise the Minister of Conservation on the management of impending invasive forest pests. This committee is comprised of representatives from several government levels and departments, local forest industry and academia. The first meeting was held in June 2010, and the topic of discussion was the emerald ash borer.

Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch

Manitoba Conservation and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) continued to work closely on a variety of projects and monitoring programs, including the May Breeding Waterfowl and Habitat Survey, scientific permitting, urban goose issues, Giant Canada goose banding, harvest surveys, and hunting regulations. Nearly 1,200 Canada geese were banded in southern Manitoba in 2010.

Manitoba Conservation, with 6 partner organizations, launched the Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas and Survey project in 2010. The Atlas attracted over 400 volunteers who logged more than 4,500 hours of survey effort and contributed over 1,000 source features to the Manitoba CDC. Over 3,700 point counts were conducted which, when combined with the thousands more that will be completed over the last four years of this project, will provide the first comprehensive database on bird distribution and abundance for all of Manitoba. Fifty-four routes were completed in 2010.

The Problem Beaver Management Program was implemented for the ninth consecutive year with the subsidy increased to \$20.00 per beaver in winter. Over 8,300 beaver were removed under this program. Due to the extensive flooding in many areas, a further increase of the subsidy to \$50 per beaver and a beaver dam removal program were announced and will be implemented during the 2011-12 year.

Information on 82 rare and uncommon plant and animal species was documented by the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre (CDC) through field surveys, acquisition of data from partners, and reports submitted to the CDC by other sources. Highlights included the discovery of hundreds of rare plant occurrences including Western silvery aster plants on several properties south of Birds Hill Provincial Park. New occurrences of Smooth goosefoot and Hairy prairie clover were also discovered.

Aboriginal Relations Branch

Aboriginal Relations Branch provides advice and guidance to the Department on the Crown's duty to conduct meaningful Crown Consultation with First Nation and Aboriginal communities when government decisions may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of a Treaty or Aboriginal right.

The Branch met with Aboriginal communities to identify concerns and assisted in developing action plans to resolve community issues.

The Aboriginal Relations Branch created and fostered partnerships with Aboriginal leaders and communities that will build positive relationships in relations to program development, advocacy and capacity building.

The Branch provided direction for the Department and Aboriginal communities in natural resource management programs and issues.

The Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin (WNO) Planning Initiative on the east side of Lake Winnipeg involves the participation of the Province of Manitoba and First Nation communities of Berens River, Black River, Bloodvein, Bunibonibee, Garden Hill, God's Lake, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Manto Sipi, Paungassi, Poplar River, Red Sucker Lake, St Theresa Point and Wasagamack.

Pollution Prevention Branch

Regulated programs under *The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act* recycled 100,602 tonnes of material in 2010/2011 including 12,972 tonnes of rubber from scrap tires, 72,666 tonnes of packaging and paper through municipal recycling programs and 14,963 tonnes of used oil products. The amount of material collected through these programs increased by 1,814 tonnes from the previous year.

The Branch held public consultations to establish new programs to manage household hazardous waste and electronic waste.

Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba, a new industry-led stewardship program was launched on April 1, 2010 and assumed responsibility for funding municipal recycling programs throughout Manitoba.

Environmental Operations

Continued Onsite Wastewater Enhanced Inspection Program Inspections in West St. Paul and Killarney Lake.

Completed year one of a five-year plan to inspect all Municipal Wastewater Management infrastructure in the province.

Developed and implemented a comprehensive business plan to govern inspections and program delivery activities for the branch.

Environmental Services

Canada and Manitoba signed an Environmental Occurrences Notification Agreement in March 2011. This agreement formalizes procedures for the receipt and timely transfer of information between the parties concerning the notification of environmental occurrences. Manitoba Conservation's Emergency Response Line (204-944-4888) is the one-window for reporting environmental incidents in Manitoba.

Sustainable Resource and Policy Branch (SRPM)

The Branch provided secretariat support to the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development, its task groups and committees. Chaired by the Minister of Conservation, the Round Table is an advisory body to the provincial government, which provides advice and support to decision makers. The Round Table presented the 2010 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards to honour Manitobans who embrace the spirit and principles of sustainable development. Along with providing logistical support to the Awards program and the recognition event, the Branch also administered the Sustainable Development Scholarship Program for post-secondary students.

The Branch continued to work with First Nations on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg on the development of Crown land management plans for traditional areas under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*. The East Side Planning Registry was established under section 20 of the Act to make available to the public information concerning planning area and land management plan proposals. The first proposal to be submitted under the Act was the Asatiwisiipe Aki Planning Area and Management Plan (Poplar River First Nation) which was placed on the Registry for review and comment. Three other proposals were in development.

Protected Areas Initiative

As part of the province's commitment of \$7 million to support the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) Natural Areas Conservation Program, NCC has acquired conservation agreements and land purchases totaling over 1,680 hectares in the Riding Mountain Aspen Parkland and Tall Grass Prairie over the past year. These lands will be reviewed for their potential to become protected areas.

The protected coastline of Kaskatamagan Wildlife Management Area (WMA) has been officially counted in Canada's inventory of Marine Protected Areas. This WMA captures the transition from brackish tidal mudflats exposed at low tide to wetland-dominated inland plains characteristic of the Coastal Hudson Bay Lowlands. Beluga whales, polar bears, and coastal caribou can all be found in this area at the same time for a couple of weeks each year.

Crown Lands Policy and Planning

The Branch continued to work with First Nations on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg on the development of Crown land management plans for traditional areas under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*. The East Side Planning Registry was established under section 20 of the Act to make available to the public information concerning planning area and land management plan proposals. The first proposal to be submitted under the Act was the Asatiwisiipe Aki Planning Area and Management Plan (Poplar River First Nation) which was placed on the Registry for review and comment. Three other proposals were in development.

FAITS SAILLANTS

Services régionaux

Une enquête secrète sur la vente et le transport illégaux de poissons dans la région de Winnipeg a été menée en 2008 et 2009 et s'est terminée devant les tribunaux par des plaidoyers de culpabilité et l'imposition d'amendes de 1 800 dollars.

Une enquête commencée en 2008 sur l'exportation illégale d'animaux sauvages du Manitoba s'est soldée par vingt-six accusations portées contre deux individus exerçant des activités commerciales au Manitoba. Il s'agissait d'une enquête conjointe à laquelle ont participé Conservation Manitoba, Environnement Canada et le Fish and Wildlife Service américain. La cause est actuellement devant les tribunaux.

Un incendie causé par la foudre près de Cranberry Portage a dévasté 54 000 hectares et couvert 22 kilomètres en une journée. La taille, l'intensité et la durée de l'incendie ont dépassé les ressources du Manitoba et nécessité l'acquisition de ressources supplémentaires en provenance de la C.-B., de l'Alberta, de l'Ontario, de la Saskatchewan, du Wisconsin et du Minnesota. De plus, l'incendie a gravement menacé les biens de la municipalité, comme cela ne s'est presque jamais vu auparavant au Manitoba, et il a entraîné l'évacuation de localités, de lotissements de chalets, de terrains de camping, de chalets éloignés, de nombreux gîtes et camps. Au plus fort de l'incendie, 425 employés, 16 hélicoptères, 12 bombardiers à eau et 13 gros engins luttèrent contre le feu.

Le programme Alerte aux ours polaires a été un succès en 2010 puisqu'il a permis de maîtriser 35 ours et d'éviter les interférences avec la population.

Les zones de gestion de la faune (ZGF) de Narcisse et du marais Oak Hammock continuent de recevoir un grand nombre de visiteurs puisque plus de 40 000 personnes sont venues voir les nids de couleuvres en 2010 et plus de 200 000 ont visité le marais Oak Hammock.

Le 27 juin 2007, une violente tempête a endommagé la forêt dans les zones nord du parc provincial du Whiteshell. Conçu en 2007-2008, le programme régional de récupération du bois a pris fin au printemps 2010. On a terminé les activités de régénération de la forêt, notamment la préparation d'environ 1 200 hectares de terres forestières en vue de la plantation et de la régénération naturelle, ainsi que la plantation d'environ 820 000 semis d'arbres.

Parcs et services régionaux

L'entrée des parcs était gratuite en 2010, soit la deuxième année d'un programme de trois ans selon lequel les permis d'accès pour véhicule et les droits d'entrée connexes n'étaient pas obligatoires. Ces mesures ont été prises pour tenir compte de la conjoncture économique et pour permettre aux visiteurs d'avoir davantage d'occasions de loisirs plus près de leur domicile.

Les parcs ont accueilli plus de 5,4 millions de visiteurs et enregistré près de 63 000 réservations d'emplacements de camping, soit une augmentation de 6 701 par rapport à 2009 et une augmentation de 25 974 par rapport à 2005, année qui a précédé la mise en place du Service de réservation des parcs.

On a continué les travaux d'amélioration dans le cadre de l'initiative provinciale de développement des emplacements de camping. On a notamment terminé les travaux d'agrandissement du terrain de camping de Wellman Lake (65 emplacements supplémentaires), dans le parc provincial de Duck Mountain, et la construction d'un nouveau terrain de camping entièrement aménagé dans le parc provincial de Winnipeg Beach, qui doit ouvrir au public en juillet 2011.

Direction des forêts

Une étude d'échantillonnage du volume ligneux, financée conjointement par la Province et le gouvernement fédéral, a été menée dans une partie de la section forestière de Highrock. Dans le cadre de ce programme communautaire, on affectait 1,2 million de dollars à la collectivité du Pas, laquelle a subi les contrecoups du ralentissement économique. L'objectif était d'embaucher des travailleurs forestiers déplacés et des membres de collectivités des Premières nations pour effectuer une étude d'échantillonnage du volume d'une durée de deux ans, s'inscrivant dans le cadre du processus d'inventaire de la Province. Le programme assurait la formation des participants et améliorait la capacité de la collectivité à participer à des discussions sur la planification et le développement des ressources durables. De plus, dans le cadre du développement d'un nouvel inventaire forestier dans la section forestière de Highrock, un contrat a été signé avec la Nation crie de Mathias Colomb en vue de l'interprétation d'images de sa réserve et de ses terres visées par les droits fonciers issus des traités. Cette année, on a achevé l'interprétation d'environ 80 000 hectares de cette réserve et de ces terres. Le Manitoba et la Nation crie de Mathias Colomb élaborent maintenant un accord de partage des données basé sur ces renseignements.

Des analyses ont été effectuées pour obtenir et améliorer les estimations de carbone forestier dans toute la province et pour intégrer les rapports de carbone au processus d'estimation de l'approvisionnement provincial en bois. On a compilé des renseignements pour une zone d'étude de cas (une partie de la section forestière de Lac Winnipeg Est) et préparé ces renseignements pour utilisation avec le Modèle du bilan de carbone élaboré par le Service canadien des forêts. On a effectué des études théoriques afin de quantifier et d'évaluer l'impact de diverses stratégies d'utilisation des terres, de pratiques de gestion forestière et d'événements de perturbation naturelle sur le bilan de carbone dans la zone d'étude.

Un comité consultatif en matière de parasites forestiers envahissants a été mis sur pied pour conseiller le ministre de la Conservation sur la gestion des parasites forestiers envahissants dont l'arrivée est imminente. Ce comité est composé de représentants de plusieurs ministères et paliers gouvernementaux, de l'industrie forestière locale et du milieu universitaire. La première rencontre, tenue en juin 2010, portait sur l'agrile du frêne.

Dans le cadre du programme Des arbres pour l'avenir, la Province et ses partenaires se sont engagés à planter cinq millions d'arbres en cinq ans. Ce programme, qui fait partie de l'initiative du Manitoba « Au-delà de Kyoto » relative au changement climatique, a commencé en avril 2008 et se terminera en 2012. À la fin de 2010–2011, 2,45 millions d'arbres avaient été plantés.

La *Loi sur les forêts* a reçu la sanction royale en 2009 et a été promulguée en mars 2011 avec le *Règlement sur les forêts* correspondant. La *Loi* met l'accent sur : l'administration et le prix du bois d'œuvre; le suivi et la mesure du bois d'œuvre; ainsi que sur l'application, les pénalités et les infractions. Il s'agit de la première modification importante de la *Loi sur les forêts* depuis sa première promulgation et de la première modification importante du *Règlement sur les forêts* depuis 1988.

Protection de la faune et des écosystèmes

Conservation Manitoba et le Service canadien de la faune (SCF) ont continué de travailler étroitement sur divers projets et programmes de surveillance, notamment le relevé des couples et de l'habitat de la sauvagine, la délivrance de permis scientifiques, les questions relatives à la présence d'oies en milieu urbain, le baguage des Grandes bernaches du Canada, les enquêtes sur les prises et les règlements sur la chasse. En 2010, près de 1 200 bernaches du Canada ont été baguées dans le sud du Manitoba.

Le programme de gestion des castors nuisibles a été mis en oeuvre pour la neuvième année consécutive et la subvention est passée à 20 \$ par castor en hiver. Plus de 8 300 castors ont été déplacés dans le cadre de ce programme. En raison des inondations massives dans de nombreuses régions, on a annoncé une augmentation supplémentaire de la subvention, qui passera à 50 \$ par castor, ainsi qu'un programme d'enlèvement des digues de castor. Ces mesures seront mises en oeuvre au cours de l'exercice 2011-2012.

En 2010, Conservation Manitoba a entamé avec six organisations partenaires le projet d'atlas et de relevé des oiseaux nicheurs du Manitoba. L'atlas a attiré plus de 400 bénévoles qui ont consacré plus de 4 500 heures à l'effort de recensement et communiqué plus de 1 000 observations au CDC du Manitoba. Plus de 3 700 points d'écoute ont été effectués, ce qui, en plus des milliers supplémentaires qui seront effectués au cours des quatre dernières années de ce projet, constituera la première base de données complète sur la répartition et l'abondance des oiseaux dans l'ensemble du Manitoba. Cinquante-quatre trajectoires ont été observées en 2010.

Des renseignements sur 82 espèces végétales et animales rares et inhabituelles ont été compilés par le Centre de données sur la conservation du Manitoba (CDC) à partir d'enquêtes sur le terrain, de l'acquisition de données auprès d'autres partenaires, et de rapports soumis au CDC par d'autres sources. On a notamment observé des centaines de fois la présence de plantes rares, dont l'aster soyeux, sur plusieurs propriétés au sud du parc provincial de Birds Hill. On a également découvert la présence du chénopode glabre et de la dalée velue.

Direction de la politique et de la gestion durable des ressources

La Direction a offert un service de secrétariat à la Table ronde manitobaine sur le développement durable, à ses groupes de travail et à ses comités. Présidée par le ministre de la Conservation, la Table ronde agit comme organisme de consultation auprès du gouvernement provincial et fournit conseils et soutien aux décideurs. Elle a décerné des prix d'excellence du Manitoba pour la durabilité en 2010 afin de rendre hommage aux Manitobains et Manitobaines qui adhèrent à l'esprit et aux principes du développement durable. En plus de fournir un service de soutien logistique pour le programme de récompenses et la cérémonie de remise des prix, la Direction a administré le programme de bourses d'études de développement durable au niveau postsecondaire.

Initiative des zones protégées

Grâce à la contribution de sept millions de dollars que la province s'est engagée à verser pour soutenir le Programme de conservation des zones naturelles de Conservation de la nature Canada (CNC), le CNC a conclu des ententes de conservation et d'acquisition de terres représentant plus de 1 680 hectares dans la forêt-parc à trembles et la prairie à herbes hautes de Riding Mountain au cours du dernier exercice. Ces terres feront l'objet d'un examen pour déterminer s'il est possible de les transformer en zones protégées.

La zone côtière protégée de la zone de gestion de la faune (ZGF) Kaskatamagan a été officiellement incluse dans l'inventaire canadien des aires marines protégées. Cette ZGF montre la transition entre les vasières d'eau saumâtre laissées à découvert par la marée et les plaines intérieures essentiellement marécageuses caractéristiques des basses terres du littoral de la baie d'Hudson. Chaque année, pendant une quinzaine de jours, on peut y observer en même temps des bélugas, des ours polaires et des caribous de la côte.

Politique et aménagement des terres domaniales

La Direction a continué de collaborer avec les Premières nations du côté est du lac Winnipeg sur l'établissement de plans de gestion des terres domaniales dans les territoires traditionnels visés par la *Loi sur l'aménagement des terres traditionnelles situées du côté est et les zones protégées spéciales*. Le registre concernant l'aménagement du côté est a été établi aux termes de l'article 20 de la Loi pour mettre à la disposition du public l'information relative aux propositions de zones de planification et de plans de gestion des terres. La première proposition soumise en vertu de la Loi a porté sur la zone de planification et le plan de gestion Asatiwisiipe Aki (Poplar River First Nation) et elle a été inscrite dans le registre en vue d'être étudiée et commentée. Trois autres propositions étaient en cours d'élaboration.

Relations avec la communauté autochtone

La Direction des relations avec la communauté autochtone encourage la consultation appropriée et productive de la Couronne avec les Premières nations et les collectivités autochtones dont les droits ancestraux ou issus de traités risquent d'être touchés par des décisions gouvernementales.

Le personnel de la Direction a rencontré les représentants de collectivités autochtones pour connaître les sujets de préoccupation et il a aidé à l'élaboration de plans d'action visant à résoudre les problèmes communautaires.

La Direction a créé et entretenu des partenariats avec des chefs et des collectivités autochtones qui vont permettre d'établir des relations positives en matière de développement de programmes, de défense d'intérêts et de renforcement des capacités.

La Direction a fourni des conseils au ministère et aux collectivités autochtones dans le domaine des programmes et des questions de gestion des ressources naturelles.

Le projet d'aménagement foncier Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin (WNO) sur le côté est du lac Winnipeg fait appel à la participation conjointe de la Province du Manitoba et des collectivités des Premières nations de Berens River, Black River, Bloodvein, Bunibonabee, Garden Hill, God's Lake, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Manto Sipi, Pauingassi, Poplar River, Red Sucker Lake, St Theresa Point et Wasagamack.

Prévention de la pollution

Grâce aux programmes réglementaires prévus dans le cadre de la *Loi sur la réduction du volume et de la production des déchets*, 100 602 tonnes de matériaux ont été recyclées en 2010-2011, notamment 12 972 tonnes de caoutchouc provenant de pneus de rebut, 72 666 tonnes d'emballages et de papier, grâce aux programmes municipaux de recyclage, et 14 963 tonnes de produits connexes aux huiles usagées. La quantité de matériaux recueillis dans le cadre de ces programmes a augmenté de 1 814 tonnes par rapport à l'année précédente.

La Direction a organisé des consultations publiques pour créer de nouveaux programmes de gestion des déchets ménagers dangereux et des déchets électroniques.

Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba, un nouvel organisme de gestion mis sur pied par l'industrie, a été créé en avril 2010 et s'est engagé à financer les programmes municipaux de recyclage partout au Manitoba.

Activités environnementales

On a poursuivi le travail d'inspection à West St. Paul et au lac Killarney dans le cadre du programme amélioré d'inspection des systèmes de gestion autonomes d'eaux résiduaires.

On a achevé la première année d'un plan quinquennal d'inspection de toute l'infrastructure municipale de gestion d'eaux résiduaires dans la province.

On a élaboré et mis en œuvre un plan d'activités complet pour les activités d'inspection et de prestation de programmes de la Direction.

Services environnementaux

En mars 2011, le Canada et le Manitoba ont signé un accord sur les avis d'événements environnementaux. Cet accord officialise les procédures de réception et de transmission, en temps opportun, de renseignements entre les parties en matière d'avis d'événements environnementaux. La ligne d'intervention d'urgence (204-944-4888) de Conservation Manitoba est le point de contact central pour signaler tous les événements environnementaux au Manitoba.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The Administration and Finance Division provides executive management of programs and management services, including financial, human resource, information technology, and administrative support.

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 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
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.

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 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	628	10.00	694	(66)	
Other Expenditures	129		179	(50)	
Total 12.1(b)	757	10.00	873	(116)	

Human Resource Management

Effective March 1, 2010 the Government of Manitoba realigned responsibility for the delivery of human resource services and the associated staff to the Civil Service Commission, with the goal to improve service delivery to all departments and employees. For additional information on this realignment, see the **Civil Service Commission's 2010/11 Annual Report**.

Corporate Services

Corporate Services Division provides shared services for the departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship, including: administrative; financial; safety, health and risk management; equipment warehousing; library and public information services; and information technology services. Human Resource services are also provided through a service shared with other departments.

Administrative services includes fleet vehicle coordination, office accommodation and parking administration, environmental impact file searches, records management, coordination of departmental French language services, and compliance with *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

The Safety, Health and Risk Management section provides leadership, direction and support to departmental staff and senior management on compliance with recognized standards in these areas through policies, monitoring and training.

The Conservation and Environment Library supports access to print and electronic specialized information resources for Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Water Stewardship, Environment Canada in Winnipeg, the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, and the public. Interlibrary loans are coordinated with other Libraries and Educational Institutions. Current information related to the mandates of each partner organization is made available to staff and to the public.

The departmental warehouse 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 2010 calendar year, 134 requests for information were processed under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

In the 2010/11 year, the library responded to over 4,000 requests for information both from staff and the public, and over 400 items were added to the physical collection.

The Department continues to look for opportunities to implement the French Language Services (FLS) policy in keeping with the *Chartier Report* on French Language Services. A significant portion of the translation allocation was utilized in 2010/11 for the translation of web content. The Department also continued its participation in the Bilingual Service Centres.

Table AF.3
12.1(c) Corporate Services

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	906	16.00	1,007	(101)	
Other Expenditures	1,152		970	182	
Total 12.1(c)	2,058	16.00	1,977	81	

Financial Services

The Financial Services Branch develops, communicates, monitors and evaluates departmental financial policies, systems, processes 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.

Key Results Achieved:

The Branch provided financial support and leadership to all branches, regions, and business units of the departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship, including:

- timely completion of estimates information, detailed budget, forecast and other financial reports;
- adherence to departmental and Government policy and procedures related to financial operations;
- provision of quality financial information to departmental managers to enable proper management of programs;
- prompt and accurate payment of accounts payable;
- collection and deposit of all revenues and receipts to which the Department was entitled;
- capital asset financial planning and management;
- advice, guidance and administration related to contracts and grants;
- overall comptrollership support; and
- timely and convenient sale of angling and hunting licences to the public.

The Licensing Section managed a province-wide network of 778 private and 139 departmental licence vendors through which convenient access was provided to the public for angling, hunting, migratory waterfowl, trapping, fur dealer, park vehicle entry, camping, arborist and various other licences, permits and related information (e.g., Anglers' Guide, Hunting Guide, Trapper's Guide). For the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011, the Licensing Section recorded 592,813 transactions with net revenue of \$8,582,777.03. Vendor activity for the same period included 44 new appointments, 54 discontinuances, 12 suspensions, and 23 reinstatements. A total of 720 private vendors are located in rural areas.

The Public Information section provided information to the public regarding the numerous programs delivered by the Departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship. This service was provided in person, by telephone, Internet and mail, including the following responses to requests for information and assistance in 2010/11:

- 33,318 direct telephone requests to the Information Officers;
- 33,309 calls were received by the automated Public Information Line, of which 9,597 were handled directly by the line;
- 74,298 in person requests;
- 878 requests through the Internet; and
- 4,529 information packages were mailed.

The Revenue Management section managed the collection, security, deposit and reporting of revenue for over 50 revenue streams for the Departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship. The section provided assistance with the delivery of various programs including the Seasonal Camping Draw and the Parks Reservation Service. The section's Winnipeg Cashier's Office handled 5,963 direct sales totaling \$2,496,520 and processed over 13,200 mailed remittances from customers and departmental field offices totaling \$34,232,635. Credit cards were accepted at 45 locations, of which 39 also accepted debit cards.

Table AF.4
12.1(d) Financial Services

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,495	27.83	1,555	(60)	
Other Expenditures	490		398	92	
Total 12.1(d)	1,985	27.83	1,953	32	

Information Technology Services

The Information Technology (IT) Branch designs, implements and manages internal information technology services and provides expertise, including technology and business consulting, systems analysis, design, implementation, corporate database management, and development and management of a yearly department-wide information technology systems plan. Related services include business process redesign, new systems analysis, business case development, strategic and operational planning, management of contractors, and management of desktop deployment and refresh. The Branch develops and maintains the Manitoba Land Initiative (MLI) spatial data warehouse that provides all of government's geospatial mapping data over the internet to the general public and government agencies.

Key Results Achieved:

- The IT Branch continued its support and development enhancements to several business applications including custom web site development for the cottage lot draw program, the Environment Management System, the Vendor Accounting System, the Headquarters Enforcement System, the Big Game Management System, the License Advisory Committee System, the Canada Map Sales web site, and several other departmental business applications.
- Business requirements and analysis work was completed along with the development of project charters for the new Licence Management System.
- The Branch provided logistical and project management support for the departments desktop technology refresh project and assisted with the transition to new versions of the governments standard office desktop support software.
- The Branch assisted in the development of enhancements to the new Parks Reservation System to expand its operational capabilities, deployed computers in 7 additional campground offices. Significant application load testing and several software enhancements were also completed to improve customer service.
- The Branch continued development of additional Web pages to meet the needs of the public while enhancing the departmental site and applying government-wide standards and templates.

Table AF.5
12.1(e) Information Technology Services

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,225	11.00	1,258	(33)	
Other Expenditures	107		141	(34)	
Total 12.1(e)	1,332	11.00	1,399	(67)	

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 14

www.cecmanitoba.ca

Table AF.6
12.1(f) Clean Environment Commission

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	321	3.00	310	11	
Other Expenditures	128		337	(209)	
Total 12.1(f)	449	3.00	647	(198)	

Distribution Centre

The Distribution Centre serves the public and government agencies with mapping and aerial photo products sold across Canada. The market for these products is primarily the public and outdoor recreational users throughout North America. Product lines are continually being improved and expanded to meet the needs of Map Sales clientele.

Key Results Achieved:

The Centre provided fast and efficient services to clients, printing, on demand, topographic maps for locations across Canada, including waterproof versions.

Lake depth maps for lakes in Manitoba and Ontario are continually being updated to include the Universal Transverse Mercator grids and coordinates. This information is required for our many clients who are now using hand held Global Positioning System (GPS) units. All lake depth maps are available on paper or waterproof paper.

In 2010/11 20,601 maps were sold directly or through the 150 dealers in Manitoba, Ontario and the north central United States. The Distribution Centre maintained its ranking of third largest distributor of Topographic maps in Canada.

In 2010/11, 3,597 air photo products are produced and sold to the general public and government agencies. The Air Photo Library houses the only historic pictures of Manitoba's landscape dating back to the 1920s and holds approximately 1,000,000 such photos. These photos are purchased by resource planners, environmental agencies, land developers and mining companies. All photos are produced through scanning and printing of aerial photographs, technology that provides high quality products for all clients and are available in standard 10" x 10" and enlargements up to 40" x 40".

The Canadamapsales.com website generated \$34,300.00 in its first full year of operation. 595 orders were processed from across North America and internationally from Great Britain and Germany.

Table AF.7
12.1(g) Distribution Centre

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	496	9.00	484	12	
Other Expenditures	305		339	(34)	
Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations	(33)		(50)	17	
Total 12.1(g)	768	9.00	773	(5)	

REGIONAL OPERATIONS

Regional Support Services 2010/11 Objectives and Key Results Achieved

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

- Firearm qualification for 132 seasonal and full-time Resource Officers was completed by Regional Training Officers and departmental peer Firearms Instructors. Re-certification in defensive tactics was also achieved for all Natural Resource Officers (NROs).
- Six new Natural Resource Officer Recruits attended the Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy (WCLEA), jointly delivered by Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Manitoba in Victoria, BC. This was an effective and economical co-operative training event to prepare new officers across western Canada for a successful career in the field of conservation law enforcement. The 11 week academy curriculum included training in firearms, emergency driving, defensive tactics, boating, investigations, and problem wildlife.
- Twenty-seven seasonal Park Patrol Officers were trained at the Gimli Training Centre to achieve enforcement certification for summer duty.
- Boat operator training (MED A3/SVOP) was delivered to 34 NROs by a Transport Canada approved contractor.
- Emergency Vehicle Operations refresher training was delivered to 21 NROs.
- Advanced training in taking statements for investigations in resource violations was given to 24 NROs.
- Training Officers and NROs attended 3 major high school zone career fairs to promote Manitoba Natural Resource Officers as a rewarding career choice.
- Natural Resource Officers were issued new sidearms, SIG SAUER P226, in 9mm to replace the Glock pistols which were exhibiting cracked and stretched plastic frames. The transition to the new pistols for 105 NROs went very well.

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 and has also 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 and transportation of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2008 and 2009 was concluded in the courts by way of guilty pleas and resulted in \$1,800.00 in fines.

- A covert investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2009 and 2010 was concluded in the courts by way of a guilty plea and resulted in \$425.00 in fines.
- An investigation initiated in 2008 relating to the illegal export of wildlife from Manitoba resulted in twenty-six charges against two individuals operating a Manitoba Business. This was a joint investigation involving Manitoba Conservation, Environment Canada, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The case is currently before the courts.
- A covert investigation relating to the illegal sale of fish in the Winnipeg area conducted during 2010 and 2011 resulted in two charges against one individual. The case is currently before the courts.
- A covert investigation initiated in 2009 relating to the illegal sale of fish and wildlife resulted in three charges against an individual. The case is currently before the courts.
- An investigation initiated in 2010 relating to the illegal sale and transportation of fish and sale of wildlife resulted in eleven charges against two individuals. The case is currently before the courts.
- A covert investigation initiated in 2010 relating to illegal guiding and outfitting for migratory game birds resulted in 46 provincial charges and 22 federal charges against 2 Manitoba residents and 4 United States residents. This was a joint investigation involving Manitoba Conservation, Environment Canada, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The case is currently before the courts.
- There were 184 human-caused wildfires investigated resulting in 5 prosecutions, 1 warning and evidence gathered to support 13 fire suppression cost recovery charge-backs. There were 65 fires determined to have been intentionally caused of which 42 were suspected to have been arson.
- The Manitoba Conservation Canine Teams were used extensively throughout the province. The two service dogs, Jake and Rebel worked on a variety of compliance checks and investigations of illegal fishing and hunting activities. Activities included, 6 roadside check stations, 4 decoy operations, 27 occurrences of searching for evidence in non-confined areas, 16 occurrences of searching vehicles, 3 occurrences of searching for suspects and providing assistance on the execution of 1 Manitoba Conservation search warrant.
- The Canine Team handler provided training to the new Canine Team as they worked toward certification in August. Subsequent to this certification, the new Canine Team handler and service dog Rebel attended the provincial legislative grounds with Minister Blaikie where Rebel was officially handed over to Manitoba Conservation from the Manitoba Natural Resource Officers Association.
- The canines and officer handlers conducted twenty-three public education programs in schools and at public meetings throughout the Province.
- During November service dog Jake began showing signs of an illness that later proved to be an internal disorder that was not treatable other than for symptoms. His health was up and down throughout the winter months and eventually the decision was made to retire him and seek a replacement dog. The Department worked in concert with the Manitoba Natural Resource Officers Association and arranged for the transfer of Fauna, a young female German Shepherd service dog, from the MNROA to Manitoba Conservation. Jake's health continued to deteriorate and in February he had to be euthanized.

- The decision to expand the Canine Unit to include two service dogs and handlers during the previous fiscal year has proven very successful and allows for more support and capacity for field officers conducting compliance checks and investigations throughout the province, as well as greatly increasing the educational component to the public.

The public has access to well-advertised 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 317 calls, resulting in 20 prosecutions and 6 warnings. In addition, the toll free line received 104 calls reporting forest fires.
- See Tables RO.11 and RO.12.

Recruitment and staffing of Resource Officers is conducted in such a way as to maintain high professional standards and meet the needs of the Department and the expectation of the public.

- Six NROs were transferred to new locations to meet operational needs and to facilitate career development.
- Seven NROs were successful in competitive processes for vacant positions within the Division.
- Six new NRO Recruits were hired to fill vacancies.
- Thirty-six new Park Patrol Officers were hired from a Canada-wide competition to provide safety and security services in provincial parks for the summer months. Several positions remained vacant due to a lack of qualified applicants.
- Twelve former Park Patrol Officers were promoted to seasonal Park Patrol Captains.

Field staff, managers and executive have access to accurate and timely inspection, compliance and occurrence data to enable decision-making and informed analysis of the effectiveness of legislation and program delivery.

- See Tables RO.1 to RO.12.
- A replacement data management program for compliance and occurrence data is under development with the assistance of government information technology 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.
- Continued to work with the Fisheries Branch of Manitoba Water Stewardship on compliance issues relating to commercial fish quota management, conservation closures and monitoring of fish sales.
- Worked regularly with the Wildlife Enforcement Division of Environment Canada on issues relating to wildlife export, migratory birds, guiding and Aboriginal harvesting.

- Participated in Provincial Law Enforcement Consultation as a member of the Manitoba Association of Chiefs of Police and national consultation as a member of the Canadian Natural Resource Law Enforcement Chiefs Association.
- Participated in regular Criminal Intelligence Services Manitoba (CISM) meetings with other enforcement agencies in Manitoba.
- Continued to work with the Wildlife Enforcement Division of Environment Canada and the United States Fish & Wildlife Service on cross border investigations.
- Worked with Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) to obtain official agency designation for access to CPIC by Resource Officers.
- Worked extensively with the western Canadian resource agencies in the ongoing development and delivery of the Western Canadian Law Enforcement Academy (WCLEA).

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 NROs and occasionally by the RCMP. There were no qualifying claims this year. Program activity for the past ten years is illustrated in Table RO.9.

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

- New policies and directives were issued relating to Resource Officer grooming, electronic and district surveillance procedures, uniform dress for Resource Officers, Resource Officer personal issue kits and the wearing of soft body armour.
- Working groups have been established to address issues related to the recruitment and retention of seasonal officers and for the development of a provincial enforcement strategy.

Table RO.1				
Common Violations under <i>The Provincial Parks Act</i>				
Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences	Evictions
Cause Disturbance	53	74	127	829
Parking Violations	171	19	190	0
Disobey Officer/Sign/Permit	66	54	120	22
Camp w/o Permit/Prohibited	26	11	37	3
Unlawful Vehicle Operation	25	35	60	1
Possess Fireworks	25	8	33	0
Have Liquor Where Prohibited	41	6	47	156
Fail to Control Pet / On Beach	10	21	31	0
Fire w/o Permit/Unattended Fire	4	7	11	0
Fail to Maintain Campsite	11	5	16	2
Damage Pollute Park Property	8	6	14	0
Other	15	8	23	0
Total	455	254	709	1013

Table RO.2 Common Violations under The <i>Wildlife Act</i>			
Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Hunt/Trap/Guide W/O Licence / Licence Infractions	39	21	60
Hunt From or Have Loaded Firearm in Vehicle	73	8	81
Tagging / Transportation Infractions	33	29	62
Hunt Prohibited Area/Private Land W/O Permission	43	9	52
Hunt or Discharge Firearm From Road	15	4	19
Equipment Infractions	18	13	31
Hunt for Remuneration / Illegal Sale of Wildlife	5	2	7
Night Hunting / Dangerous Hunting	27	0	27
Abandon/Waste Game	12	3	15
Bait Infractions	11	1	12
Possess Illegally Taken / Prohibited Wildlife	15	6	21
Hunt Out of Season	5	2	7
Other	10	1	11
Total	306	99	405

Table RO.3 Common Violations under The <i>Fisheries Act (Canada)</i>, and The <i>Fisheries Act (Manitoba)</i>			
Offence	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Equipment Infractions	386	41	427
Licence Infractions	163	145	308
Exceed Limits	110	18	128
Transportation Infractions	25	58	83
Illegal Sale / Possession of Fish	17	5	22
Wastage of Fish	8	9	17
Fish During Closed Time / Closed Area	7	31	38
Live Bait Infractions	3	2	5
Other	3	3	6
Total	722	312	1,034

Table RO.4 Comparison of Wildlife, Fisheries, Parks and Migratory Birds Prosecutions 2001/02 to 2010/11				
Fiscal Year	Wildlife	Fisheries	Parks	Migratory Birds
2001-02	379	674	227	8
2002-03	213	537	195	9
2003-04	321	654	1,523*	15
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

*Includes Parking and No Park Vehicle Pass violations not reported before 2003/04

** Years where no Park Vehicle Passes were required

Table RO.5 Record of Violations Occurring 2010/11			
Acts	Prosecutions	Warnings	Total Offences
Criminal Code of Canada	5	0	5
Crown Lands	21	22	43
Environment Act	13	7	20
Forest	12	16	28
Fisheries (Canada)	550	152	702
Fisheries (Manitoba)	172	160	332
Highway Traffic	28	23	51
Liquor Control	442	24	466
Migratory Birds	11	9	20
Off Road Vehicle	19	10	29
Provincial Parks	455*	254	709
Resource Tourism Operators	2	2	4
Wildfires	11	15	26
Wildlife	306	99	405
Total	2,047	793	2,840

* No Park Vehicle Passes were required
Total Fines: \$399,949 for 2010/11

Table RO.6 Hunter and Firearm Safety Program 2001-2010			
Year	Students	Total to Date	Instructors Certified
2001	1,976	136,349	4
2002	2,191	138,540	7
2003	2,059	140,599	14
2004	2,336	142,935	24
2005	2,611	145,546	14
2006	3,032	148,578	14
2007	2,936	151,514	13
2008	3,130	154,644	13
2009	3,217	157,861	9
2010	3,172	161,033	7

Table RO.7 Firearm Accidents, 1964-2008, 5-Year Averages	
1964-68	44
1969-73	56
1974-78	54
1979-83	43
1984-88	26
1989-93	20
1994-98	9
1999-03	6
2004-08	4

**Table RO.8
Firearm Accidents 2001-2010**

Year	Accidents			Fatalities		
	Hunting	Non-Hunting	Total	Hunting	Non-Hunting	Total
2001	6	0	6	3	0	3
2002	2	0	2	1	0	1
2003	4	0	4	1	0	1
2004	5	1	6	1	0	1
2005	2	3	5	1	0	1
2006	3	0	3	0	0	0
2007	2	0	2	0	0	0
2008	4	0	4	3	0	3
2009	5	3	8	0	0	0
2010	4	1	5	1	0	1

**Table RO.9
Hunter-Killed Livestock Compensation 2001/02 to 2010/11**

Year Paid	Claims	Claims Paid	Total Paid	Average Paid
2001-02	6	5	\$5,034	\$1,007
2002-03	9	5	\$5,716	\$1,143
2003-04	3	3	\$2,358	\$ 786
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

**Table RO.10
Problem Wildlife Occurrences 2010/11**

Species	Region					Total	% of Total
	NE	NW	E	C	W		
Beaver	6	9	55	134	19	223	5%
Black Bear	99	113	425	421	316	1,374	32%
Polar Bear	244	0	0	0	0	244	6%
Big Game	0	1	22	75	178	276	6%
Wolf	11	6	46	31	77	171	4%
Migratory Birds	0	0	14	103	123	240	6%
Other*	4	36	161	889	686	1776	41%
Total	364	165	723	1,653	1,399	4,304	100%

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

Table RO.11 T.I.P. Calls by Region 2010/11									
Region	Number of Calls					Number of Prosecutions			
	Fish	Wildlife	Other	Fire	Total	Fish	Wildlife	Other	Total
Central	34	97	9	5	145	5	0	0	18
Western	11	66	5	8	90	3	5	1	2
Eastern	7	64	5	39	116	4	2	0	3
Northwest	2	5	5	14	26	0	0	0	0
Northeast	0	3	2	39	44	0	0	0	0
Total	54	236	27	104	421	12	7	1	20

Table RO.12 T.I.P. Calls by Year 2002/03 to 2010/11 (excluding Fire)									
	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11
Total	485	406	358	330	364	312	300	319	317
Information	31	19	21	10	11	6	6	25	32
Actioned	218	235	226	217	261	192	153	156	129
Prosecutions	30	37	21	37	28	18	22	23	20
Warnings	8	2	5	8	15	1	5	6	6

Table RO.13 12.2(a) Regional Support Services					
Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,093	38.50	2,277	816	
Other Expenditures	2,202		1,416	786	
Total 12.2(a)	5,295	38.50	3,693	1,602	

1. Over-expenditure due to increase in worker's compensation expenditures and grant assistance to Pimachiowin Aki Corporation in support of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Nomination.

Northwest Region

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

Mineral extraction, processing, and exploration work increased significantly with two major finds within the region resulting in an increase in permits and inspections. Commercial timber harvesting and processing (lumber limited and pulp and paper), agriculture (Manitoba's most northerly farming community), resource-based tourism (lodges and outfitting), and commercial fishing are the main industries providing economic and employment benefits in the Region. The harvesting of wild rice and trapping also provide for some local employment. Domestic and recreational use of the Region's wildlife, fish, and forest resources by the residents of the Region is also significant. The region is home to world class angling,

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.

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. The region experienced very little precipitation during the start of the season which resulted in extreme fire conditions. With a combination of dry conditions, heavy winds, and continuous fuels, one lightning fire near Cranberry Portage reached 54,000 hectares in size and ran 22 kilometres in one day. The size, intensity, and duration of the fire exceeded the capacity of resources in Manitoba necessitating the acquisition of additional resources from BC, Alberta, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. In addition, the fire also created one of the largest threats to municipal values ever experienced in Manitoba with evacuations to communities, cottage subdivisions, campgrounds, remote cottages, numerous lodges and out camps. At the fires peak there were 425 personnel, 16 helicopters, 12 water bombers, and 13 pieces of heavy equipment working on the fire.

At the same time the Region delivers services, programs, and security in the Clearwater Lake, Bakers Narrows, Grass River, and Wekusko Provincial Parks. The management and allocation of Crown land and resources to different, often competing, users, and compliance monitoring and enforcement of Crown land and resource legislation is a year round activity in the Region. Participation on co-management boards and problem wildlife, mostly black bears are also important program activities in the 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.

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

- The Northwest Region experienced an above average fire season for the first part of the spring and early summer with a total of 77 fires, of which 63 were lightning and 13 were man caused. Total amount of burnt forest in the region was 56,396 hectares with the majority being fire 24.
- Increased training to Initial Attack crews within the region occurred and will continue to be a priority in the region because of the number of new hires in the positions. Two new Helitac Officers hired in Wekusko Falls, one new Helitac Officer Position created in The Pas to assist with initial attack and reduce time to initial attack fires.
- District Park Supervisors in place for the season and working within the parks in the Region assists with the professionalism and increased services to the public in a cost effective manner.

Angler and hunter compliance.

- Resource Officers checked 1,239 anglers, which is down considerably due to the busy fire season and noticed an increase in moose hunting activity in the Region with 429 hunters for compliance.

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

- Resource Officers checked 46 commercial fishers and 128 commercial fisher's nets for compliance. There were 3 roadside check stations, and several special dealer and restaurant compliance checks conducted within the Region.
- Resource Officers conducted 3 decoy operations and one Chronic Wasting Disease check stop at the Saskatchewan Border.

- Public education and school presentations is a continued effort in the Region to educate potential resource users, and active resource users on the importance of sustainability of all our natural resources.

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

- Park Patrol Officers were realigned in the Region to provide for better coverage in the Grass River and Wekusko campgrounds.
- Campsite enhancement and enlargement was completed in Bay 1 of Wekusko Falls campground.
- The two suspension bridges at Wekusko Falls were officially opened during Canada Parks Day celebrations with over 170 visitors in attendance.
- Construction began on an additional cell at the Cuprus Sewage Lagoon serving the Bakers Narrows area.
- Clearwater Lake - completed construction of a family picnic shelter at Pioneer Bay and gravelled all roads within the park.

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

- Regional and District staff participated as provincial representatives on the Cedar Lake, Cormorant, and Moose Lake Resource Management Boards.
- The Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN) / Manitoba Conservation Joint Management of Resources Board continued its cooperative management mandate, and have completed a draft of a new 20 year agreement.
- 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.

Development of short and long range regional resource management plans.

- Woodland caribou research and monitoring continued throughout the Northwest Region to aid in the assessment of industrial impacts associated with the forestry, mining, and Manitoba Hydro developments. The Northwest Region Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee has forged collaborative partnerships with industry that assisted in continued work on genetic based assessments of regional herds, detailed inventory, and monitoring of the Wuskwatim Transmission line, and commencement of baseline population inventories. Development of an Action Plan for the Naosap woodland caribou range is occurring with monitoring of herd movements in the fire 24 area.
- The Summerberry Research Project in the Lower Saskatchewan River Delta continued with investigation into the impacts of water level manipulation on water quality, vegetation, water birds, and muskrats.
- Update of the Business Continuity Plan for the Northwest Region is under development and will include long and short term goals, new initiatives, and will guide employees on resource management objectives in the Region.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated.

- The Northwest Regional IRMT reviewed and provided consolidated comments on 17 sale, 6 lease, 27 general permit, 22 assignment, and 3 lease renewal applications.
- Numerous work permits were issued and several Work Permit Inspections were carried out in the region with a notable increase in mining activity with Snow Lake issuing 69 work permits for the various exploration companies in the Snow Lake district. Wuskwatim Transmission Line project near completion in the region.
- Mining exploration activity in the region remains high with approximately 20 various exploration companies involved in diamond drilling, soil sampling, line cutting, mapping, and geological reconnaissance.
- Regional staff assisted with coordinating the planting of 123,155 trees on 450 hectares throughout the Region in areas for which the department was responsible.
- Jack Pine cones, (10.1 hectolitres), were collected for seed, 479 Hectares of plantations were assessed for tree survival, and 411.5 Hectares of plantations were surveyed for regeneration assessment.
- The Tolko 12 month Annual Operating Plan (AOP) was reviewed and approved. Forestry staff participated in the consultation process with First Nation and Aboriginal communities in the Region on the AOP and other forestry related activities.

Table RO.14
12.2(b) Northwest Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,367	38.65	2,408	(41)	
Other Expenditures	874		845	29	
Total 12.2(b)	3,241	38.65	3,253	(12)	

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.

The Northeast Region is the most sparsely populated area. 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.

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. Due to the values-at-risk associated with towns and communities and with 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. 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 located at Churchill, Gillam, Thompson, Wabowden, Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, Norway House, Island Lake, and Gods Lake Narrows, and sub-District Offices located at Split Lake, Nelson House, Pukatawagan, South Indian Lake, Cross Lake, and Oxford House.

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

- The 2010 fire season was a very busy and successful one for the Northeast Region. There were a total of 377 fires, with the first fire starting on April 15th at Island Lake and the last one at Norway House on August 12th. A total of 106,702 hectares were burned, mostly in the observation zone. Of the 377 fires, 273 were lightning caused and 104 were human caused. 284 fires were actioned and extinguished, 27 fires received limited action, and 66 fires were not actioned. July was the busiest month with 10 days in which 10 or more starts occurred. 94 fires occurred from July 21st to July 25th.
- After the busy fire season, a fall fire meeting was held in Thompson with all Northeast staff to review the fire season. A list of ideas and improvements was compiled and worked on over the winter. One idea was a fire suppression course for our new recruits and refresher for existing staff. The course was held in Thompson in late winter and covered topics such as pre-suppression, suppression, heavy equipment, aircraft use, man up, and mop up. Instructors from around the Province were brought in to give presentations.
- The Northeast Region completed the new hose drying building and contracted work for new hose drying racks. New windows were purchased and installed in the bunkhouses at Paint Lake Helitac Base.
- Northeast Region staff teamed up with the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation (Nelson House) and the RCMP for a Fire Prevention Day in the community of Nelson House. Smokey the Bear made an appearance as did Spot the Fire Dog. There was a barbeque and activities for the kids. The event was a great success with over 400 people attending.

Fires By District:

Island Lake - 19
God's Narrows - 41
Gillam - 65
Leaf Rapids - 27
Lynn Lake - 88
Norway House - 49
Wabowden - 15
Thompson - 72
Churchill - 1

Angler and hunter compliance.

- Natural Resource Officers checked 1,516 anglers and 635 hunters for compliance.
- Natural Resource Officers checked 66 commercial fishermen for compliance.

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 the Nelson House, Split Lake, York Factory, Norway House and Fox Lake Resource Management Boards, the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, the Wapisi Caribou Committee, the Northeast Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee and the Wapusk National Park Management Board.
- Regional staff participated on an inter-departmental team headed by Aboriginal and Northern Affairs that is meeting with representatives of the Manitoba Denesuline (Sayisi Dene and Northlands Dene First Nations), Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Kivalliq Inuit Association, and Canada on the Inuit's land and wildlife harvesting claims in northern Manitoba.
- Regional staff consulted with First Nations and Aboriginal communities on Tolko's 2010/11 Forest Harvest and Renewal Plan; the Keeyask Hydropower Limited Partnership's Crown Land, Environment Act Licence and Water Rights Licence applications for the Keeyask Infrastructure Project; Manitoba Hydro's Work Permit applications for investigative activities related to the Keeyask and Conawapa projects and Laurie River Transmission Line; Victory Nickels Minago Project; and on Licensing Advisory Committee applications.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- Staff conducted problem wildlife prevention presentations at Wuskwatim and several communities in the region.
- The Polar Bear Alert Program was a success for 2010, handling 35 polar bears with no human/bear conflicts.

Development of short and long range regional resource management plans.

- A total of three polar bear surveys were completed in 2010. One survey when the ice was first out, one survey in the fall and a last survey prior to the polar bears going on to the ice. All three surveys had a significantly higher number of polar bears recorded compared to previous years. The polar bears came off the Hudson Bay ice earlier than in normal years for the 2010 season. Most appeared to be in good shape, however they did have an extended period of time on land until early December.
- A March Polar Bear Denning Survey was completed within the Kaskatamagan Wildlife Management Area. Preliminary results indicate concentrated denning activity within some areas of the Wildlife Management Area (WMA).
- Samples of dead seals killed by polar bears were collected along the Hudson Bay Coast and were sent for genetic analysis, coming back as 4 harbour seals, and one ringed seal. There is mounting evidence that polar bears successfully hunt seals while on land contrary to previous beliefs.
- Moose Management Presentations were made in three communities in the Northeast Region.
- There were 13 additional collars deployed on the Pen Island Caribou herd. This brings the total number of collared animals up to 20. Monitoring of both the Cape Churchill herd and the Pen Island herd continued into its second year of a three-year genetics and distribution study being conducted by Northeast Regional staff.

- Regional staff continued to assist Manitoba Hydro in the deployment of iridium collars and trail cameras for predevelopment environmental assessment studies of the Bi-pole III transmission line corridor and the Keeyask Generating Station.
- Regional Staff continue participation on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, and have an active role in the planning actions for this board.
- Hair and scat samples of wolves throughout the region were collected for stable isotope analysis to identify diet composition.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated.

- The Region reviewed and provided comments on 44 Crown Land applications, 28 Crown Land assignments, 3 Crown Land Lease renewals, 65 Casual Quarry Permit applications, 1 Environment Licence pre-screening application, 3 Environment Act Licence applications, 52 Work Permit applications (mostly for mineral exploration), 4 Licence Advisory Committee (LAC) applications, 7 LAC Renewal applications and 3 LAC Transfer of Operating authority applications.
- 158 Timber Permits, 76 Work Permits, and 118 Burning Permits were issued through District Offices and Regional Office.

Other Notable Highlights

- The Thompson Fur Table was attended by 122 trappers from throughout the region for a total of \$160,000.00 in fur sales for the 2010 season.
- Non-resident hunting opportunities were successful with very high harvest rates for black bear, moose, and barren-ground caribou.
- Barren-ground caribou still remains are very significant Big Game animal, with all licenses sold out for the 2010 season.
- Regional staff assisted with long term re-vegetation efforts at decommissioned mine sites at Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, and Soab South.
- At Paint Lake Provincial Park the roads were properly ditched and a major lift of gravel applied. The main road through the marina to the campground was paved by Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation.
- A new washroom was installed at Pisew Falls Provincial Park.
- At Paint Lake Provincial Campground many young trees were planted throughout Bay 3 to replace trees removed by spruce budworm kill. The spruce budworm killed tree removal program was continued in Bay 2.

**Table RO.15
12.2(c) Northeast Region**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,606	43.38	2,581	25	
Other Expenditures	1,285		1,213	72	
Total 12.2(c)	3,891	43.38	3,794	97	

Central Region

The Central Region delivers programs and services in the following program areas: wildlife, forestry, Crown lands, provincial parks, environmental protection, and wildfire protection. 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, and Manitou, Portage la Prairie, Riverton, Selkirk, and Winnipeg.

Resource Programs

Compliance levels in excess of 95% for Public Related Complaints.

- Regional staff responded to 3,254 district occurrence reports from the public related to parks operation and safety, 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 and other resource concerns and issues.
- Central Region staff undertook 1,165 enforcement actions resulting in 657 charges, 244 warnings, and 264 evictions from provincial parks. These actions were primarily in response to public complaints on regulatory resource issues as well as maintaining park safety and security for the public.

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

- In response to the 2010/11 Central Region Enforcement Strategy, enforcement efforts were deployed to the priorities of park safety and security, wildfire investigations and commercial and illegal use of fish and wildlife resources.

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

- Park rowdyism, public safety, and security remain priority issues requiring the primary attention of the region's resources. Reallocation of additional staff from out of district and out of region is required to provide adequate enforcement staff to control situations and respond to public complaints.

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 staff met with Peguis First Nation regarding wildlife management issues in their traditional area. Staff also conducted a number of presentations to various stakeholder groups regarding problem wildlife issues.
- Regional Crown Land staff continue to work with the Fisher River First Nation in a positive respectful partnership for the development of a joint cottage lot development. Significant work has been completed on the project with lots to be made available June 2011.
- Regional Crown Lands staff participate with Peguis First Nation on Treaty Land Entitlement activities.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- The number of problem wildlife complaints from the public (1,653) was just slightly down from occurrence reports in the region from the previous year. Nuisance small animal complaints especially raccoon, skunk, coyotes and others continue to increase and cause the highest number of complaints. Over half of all problem wildlife complaints originate from urban areas.
- Public education and waste handling initiatives continue in the Grand Beach District and throughout the region to prevent black bear/human interactions. Black bear complaints dropped slightly from the previous year to 421 in the region. The high number of complaints is a direct result of continual urbanization and development accompanied by a high black bear population.

Development of short and long range regional resource management plans.

- Interdepartmental 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.
- Integrated Resource Management Team subcommittee developed a decommissioning protocol for a Ducks Unlimited project to ensure post project land use is consistent with the Wildlife Management Area land and resource objectives.

Regional concerns are considered before land is allocated.

- Operational land use codes are reviewed to ensure potential allocations and land use activities are consistent with the long term land use objectives.
- A First Nation Assessment is completed on all applications for Crown Land dispositions within the Region.

Other Notable Highlights

Lands

- Completed installation of hydro service for Mill Creek Beaches and Pebblestone Crown cottage subdivisions.
- Completed decommissioning and removal of flooded cottages at Breezy Point and End of Main.

- Completed participation in regional public consultation for the proposed Fisher Bay Provincial Park.
- Began participation on Bipole III Consultation process for identified First Nations in the Region.

Wildlife

- Narcisse and Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) continue to be a highly popular wildlife viewing areas in the region. Over 40,000 public visitors visited the snake dens in 2010 while over 200,000 visited Oak Hammock. A number of infrastructure initiatives were undertaken at Oak Hammock in 2010, including the reconstruction of the Main Mound area, replacement of the Cell 2 outlet structure and development of a bird watching blind.
- An aerial survey to determine the moose population in Game Hunting Area (GHA) 21A was conducted in February 2011. A total of 133 moose were observed in 36 sample units resulting in an estimated population of 308 moose for the entire GHA. This population estimate is approximately 44 % lower than the previous survey of this GHA, conducted in 2002. Adjustments to the present licensed hunting seasons are being considered as a result of the significant decline in moose population size in GHA 21A.
- Manitoba Conservation continues to work with Skownan First Nation on the development of a management plan for the wild wood bison herd in the Chitek Lake area. This herd is part of the national recovery strategy for wood bison.
- Central Region staff are working with a University of Manitoba graduate student who is using Geographical Positioning System (GPS) based telemetry to monitor the movements of white-tailed deer within the limits of the City of Winnipeg. A total of 12 white-tailed deer were captured and fitted with telemetry receivers. This study will provide value insights into movement habits of deer that live in Winnipeg and assist in the development of strategies to reduce deer- vehicle collisions on city streets.

Forestry

- On Crown lands in the Central Region 406,500 trees were planted mainly in the Dancing Point Operating Area.
- Regional staff have been doing on-going depletion mapping, planning and consultations of timber harvest locations for the 2010 to 2015 quota period. Regeneration and free-to-grow surveys and the development of the Annual Operating Plan were also performed by the Regional Staff.
- The main harvest areas in 2010/11 occurred at Moose Lake (9,000 m³) and in the vicinity of Rosenberg (4,000 m³) of softwood timber.

Parks

- As part of the Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Program and in cooperation with the Town of Winnipeg Beach, the construction of a 120 full service campground at Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park is nearing completion.
- As part of Manitoba Conservation's green plan and to enhance public services, construction was completed on the west beach washroom at Grand Beach Provincial Park.
- In an effort to provide high quality services and employing green technology, construction was completed on a new shower building at Birds Hill Provincial Park to complement the existing campground.

- As part of a comprehensive revitalization strategy for heritage structures, re-pointing and stabilization of the stone work was undertaken and completed at Trappist Monastery Provincial Heritage Park. Work continues with landscaping and security lighting.
- As part of the Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Program construction started on the modern services at Watchorn and Hnaua Provincial Parks. Improvements include new safe water supply and distribution systems and the construction of modern washrooms and shower facilities.
- In an effort to ensure the highest standard of waste water treatment a new sewage lagoon was constructed near the Grindstone Point cottage development in Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park.
- The major earth work has been completed for the new Duff Roblin Provincial Park. This project is being done in cooperation with the Winnipeg Floodway Authority.
- A major windstorm hit central Manitoba in October of 2010. This resulted in extensive damage to all Provincial Parks on Lake Winnipeg and to St. Ambrose on Lake Manitoba. Repair and reconstruction has started on many projects. The most notable was the complete destruction of the Board Walk at Grand Beach Provincial Park. Reconstruction of this important landmark has been started.

Table RO.16
12.2(d) Central Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,884	69.33	4,100	(216)	
Other Expenditures	1,565		1,634	(69)	
Total 12.2(d)	5,449	69.33	5,734	(285)	

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 like forestry and from diverse recreational opportunities. Major programs administered by the region include Parks Operations, Maintenance, Safety and Security, Forest Planning and Management, Wildlife Research and Seasonal Regulations, Crown Lands, Resource Compliance/Enforcement and Wild Fire Protection 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 the sub-regional office in Steinbach, District offices in Lac du Bonnet, Lake Winnipeg East, Pine Falls, Rennie, Seven Sisters, Sprague, Falcon Lake, Hadashville, 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 7 ecological reserves.

2010/11 Annual Report Key Results Achieved

Forestry

- On June 27, 2007 a severe windstorm damaged the forest in the northern areas of Whiteshell Provincial Park. The regional salvage program developed in 2007/08 was completed by the spring of 2010. Forest renewal activities including the preparation of approximately 1,200 ha. of forest land for planting and natural regeneration and the planting of approximately 820,000 seedlings was completed.
- The Eastern Region saw an increase in harvest levels, even with the closure of the Tembec Mill in Pine Falls. The annual volume assigned to the South East Quota Holders is approximately 269,000 m³. The volume harvested during the 2010/11 year increased from 2009/10 with a delivered volume of 285,600 m³. The reason for the actual volume delivered exceeding the forecast volume is a result of the salvage harvest of timber from the Vassar and Woodridge fires as well as salvage operations in tamarack stands affected by the Eastern Larch Beetle. Quota holders have found replacement markets outside of the Province for a majority of the harvested timber volume. A limited amount of the timber harvested is being used by small local sawmills combined with a domestic firewood market.
- In the 2010/11 operating period there were 51 operating permits issued to quota holders of the Eastern Region. There were 38 operators harvesting timber under these permits.
- Approximately 800 ha of land were treated for planting and scarification for natural renewal across the region during the 2010/11 year. A majority of the site preparation work occurred in the Woodridge Fire Salvage and the Whiteshell Blow-down Salvage areas.
- The Eastern Region administered three tree planting contracts during the 2010/11 year. The South-east contract resulted in approximately 800,000 trees planted in the Vassar Fire and surrounding area. The Eastern contracts were awarded to two contractors. The open contract resulted in 815,000 trees planted in the Whiteshell blow down. The First Nations contract was for 125,000 trees in the same area.
- Eastern Regional staff continued with their involvement in various aspects of the Manitoba Model Forest Program.

Lands

- Construction started on the new Black River subdivision which will provide cottage lots in the Eastern Region. Initial road construction is underway.
- A review of major subdivisions and associated waterfront structures was initiated. Following storms on Lake Winnipeg the Crown subdivision at Traverse Woods was at great risk to lose cabins. A major shoreline erosion protection project was initiated and completed.

Parks

- Multi-year upgrade to services in the West Hawk Lake Campground continued this year with the addition of upgrades to electrical and water infrastructure and fully serviced campsites.
- A new shower building incorporating green technology was constructed at Nutimik Lake Campground.
- Work began on a North Whiteshell wastewater management strategy including preliminary investigations for design of a new truck haul disposal site and new wastewater facility for White Lake.

- A major initiative was started during the winter of 2010 to introduce green technology water saving devices in all campgrounds in the North Whiteshell.
- Construction continued on the multi-year lagoon reconstruction at West Hawk Lake. The revitalization and upgrades to the West Hawk Lake sewer system was completed.
- The Trans Canada Trail suspension bridge across the Whiteshell River near Nutimik Lake was constructed by Borders to Beaches Trail Committee.

Fire Management

- There were a total of 78 wildfires burning 23,623 hectares with all but three of these fires human caused. The largest fire near Berens River was 17,683 hectares.

Wildlife

Boreal Woodland Caribou Program

- Manitoba Conservation continues to be committed to woodland caribou conservation. The Regional Caribou Biologist chairs the Eastern Manitoba Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee which is a multi-stakeholder group that is comprised of 11 partners representing government, the Manitoba Model Forest, industry, wildlife associations, academics, communities and others.
- Research and monitoring is continuing on the Owl-Flintstone caribou range, with approximately 23 caribou equipped with radio-collars. Projects include monitoring of calf recruitment/adult survival rates, calving/nursery habitat modeling, and monitoring of caribou movements and habitat use with respect to an experimental forest harvest.
- More intensive monitoring of the Atikaki-Berens caribou range was initiated as a requirement of the Environment Act Licence issued for the east side all-weather road development. Additionally, a graduate student project was initiated within an undisturbed area in the eastern portion of the range. Sixty (60) radio-collars were placed on caribou in association with these new projects, bringing the total number of collared caribou to 75 in this range.
- Range Action Plans were drafted for the Owl-Flintstone and Atikaki-Berens ranges, both of which are identified as being at High Risk in Manitoba's Conservation and Recovery Strategy for Boreal Woodland Caribou. This major achievement follows through on Manitoba's commitment to prepare plans for conserving high risk groups of woodland caribou.
- Manitoba hosted the 13th North American Caribou Workshop (NACW), held in Winnipeg in October 2010. This event attracted more than 450 delegates from across (primarily) North America, as well as Europe, and included significant aboriginal topics, participation, and involvement. Regional staff participated in the planning, coordination and delivery of the event.

Big Game Program

- Two aerial population surveys occurred:
 - A survey of the Game Hunting Area (GHA) 17A moose population, which indicated a stable population;
 - A survey of the elk population in the Vita area, which exhibits seasonal movements between Manitoba and Minnesota. The survey was conducted jointly with Minnesota DNR, to provide first-ever concurrent counts of elk numbers on both sides of the Canada-US border.

- A variety of actions were initiated in response to a February 2010 survey, which had indicated a significant decline in the GHA 26 moose population:
 - A formal consultation process was initiated with all First Nation and Aboriginal communities known to harvest moose in Game Hunting Area (GHA) 26. Additionally, numerous information sessions were held with local First Nations, trapper associations, wildlife associations, and stakeholder groups to provide information and seek involvement on moose conservation actions, planning and recovery strategies.
 - A new Resource Management Assistant (RMA) position was created through discussions with a local First Nation, who participated in the recruitment and selection of a candidate from their community. The purpose of the new position is community relations, liaison, and information sharing, with focus on moose conservation.
 - Hunting regulations were amended to suspend licensed moose hunting, and to increase the harvest of species (wolves and white-tailed deer) which negatively impact moose. A trapper workshop was held to educate trappers on effective and humane methods for harvesting wolves.
 - A Short-Term Road Decommissioning Plan was developed and implemented in partnership with local First Nations, resulting in access impediment or removal on nine (9) resource roads within GHAs 26 and 17A.
- The Committee for Cooperative Moose Management (CCMM), a multi-stakeholder committee chaired by the regional wildlife manager and comprised of local First Nations, wildlife associations, trappers, industry, and the Manitoba Model Forest, met five (5) times through this period. Partnerships contributions from CCMM organizations enabled an aerial survey of wolf numbers in portions of GHAs 26 and 17A, as well as, the collection of samples from trappers for a study of wolf diets, both of which will assist in assessing the impacts wolves are having on the moose population.

Compliance Levels

- Regional staff responded to district occurrence reports related to park operations, safety, and security, problem wildlife and resource related complaints.
- Park safety and security remained a priority with a focus on continuing to curb instances of rowdyism within our campgrounds.
- There were 1,407 compliance checks for big game, 2,943 for anglers, 55 for domestic fishing, 646 timber permits issued, 2 for commercial fishermen, 6 nets seized, 345 upland game birds, 171 migratory birds, 77 work permit inspections, 339 work permits issued, 81 new fires actioned, 494 park evictions, 47 forestry inspections, 300 seasonal site inspections, 689 burning permits, 436 cottage inspections, 1,090 Snopass inspections and 2,413 District Occurrence Reports.

Land Use Planning as part of the World Heritage Site Nomination Project

- Regional staff were involved with land use planning activities with the four communities involved with the World Heritage Site nomination process: Poplar River, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi and Bloodvein First Nations.
- Staff began working with Berens River on the first stage of their land use plan.

- Poplar River First Nation completed their final draft land use plan and regulation. A Public Open House was held in Winnipeg as part of the 60 day public review period for approval of the regulation and management plan. Once the comments have been compiled and reviewed, government may approve the plan and regulation.
- Staff continued to work with Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, and Bloodvein First Nations to complete their land use plans and zoning maps for their traditional territories as part of their involvement in the World Heritage Site process.
- Bloodvein First Nation will be completing their final draft plan and regulation for public review in the early summer.

**Table RO.17
12.2(e) Eastern Region**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,175	72.30	4,124	51	
Other Expenditures	1,601		1,076	525	
Total 12.2(e)	5,776	72.30	5,200	576	

Western Region

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

The region contains 58% of the Rural Municipalities in the province and is the second most populated area of the province. Agricultural land use predominates the region while the northern portion supports a significant portion of the province's forestry industry. As a result of this agricultural land use there are significant problem wildlife issues (beaver, coyote, and elk depredation). It is also home to 6 of the 7 known elk populations in the Province and attracts significant numbers of resident and aboriginal (First Nation and Métis) hunters. The region contains well known natural topographic features in the form of the Spruce Woods sand dunes, Turtle, Riding Duck and Porcupine mountains as well as Lake Winnipegosis. In addition, Lake of the Prairies is one of the premier walleye fishing areas in the province. Recreational and Commercial use of natural resources within the area 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 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. It 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.

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

- Over \$282,381.92 in timber revenue was collected directly in the Regional Forestry Office in Swan River.
- Forestry staff completed a biomass utilization / measurement trial with Riehl Lumber and Logging of Durban Area. This trial involves utilization of hardwood logging waste which is often left in bush following harvest. Riehls are marketing this biomass as hog fuel and color landscape mulch. A final report will identify recommendations for conditions for going forward operationally.
- Forestry staff completed drafting a final report with Manitoba Agriculture, Food, and Rural Initiatives for the Garland Grazing Trial established in 1997.
- Forestry staff participated with the Protected Areas Initiative in the planning and technical review for the establishment of the Red Deer Lake Protected Area.
- Several NROs were deployed to other Regions to assist with wildfire operations including wildfire investigations.

Angler and hunter compliance.

- Regional staff continued enhanced enforcement efforts on Lake Dauphin and its respective tributaries during the spring walleye spawn ensuring compliance of the tributary closures.
- Concerted effort by Natural Resource Officers (NROs) to ensure compliance of commercial fisheries on Lake Dauphin and Lake Winnipegosis.
- Regional Staff continued to assist in the field delivery of the Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) implementation plan developed by the TB Task Group. This program continued with the baiting surveillance and sample compliance program.
- Natural Resource Officers conducted roadside check stations during the summer months when anglers are transporting sport fish from northern regions and also from local lakes including Lake of the Prairies.
- Swan River Natural Resource Officers conducted several roadside check stations to identify and ensure compliance with Big Game disease import concerns.

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

- A yearlong investigation, including NROs and Special Investigations Unit staff; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and several State and Provincial agencies, resulted in the successful prosecution of several individuals involved in black bear poaching.
- Regional staff with assistance from the Special Investigations Unit staff initiated restaurant inspections throughout the Region in efforts to address any illegal fish sales to vendors.
- NROs conducted several inspections regarding the illegal sale of fish to the general public in larger communities.
- Significant effort to combat illegal night hunting resulted in NROs seizing 3 vehicles.

- Regional staff increased efforts to ensure compliance with SnoPass requirements on specific trails on Crown Land.
- Regional staff continue to deliver an increased enforcement effort to ensure hunters comply with the TB/Chronic Wasting Disease biological submission requirements.

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

- May Long Weekend Liquor Free Camping Program was delivered resulting in high level of visitor satisfaction throughout all campgrounds in the Region.
- Completion of new washroom facilities occurred at Wellman and Childs Lakes.
- Completion of campground expansion at Wellman Lake as well as a major upgrade to the Water Treatment Plant.
- Installation of new playground equipment occurred at Rivers, Adam Lake, Childs Lake, and Asessippi Park.

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

- Regional Forestry staff completed Crown consultation process involving contact with 23 aboriginal communities regarding 2010/11 Annual Operating Plans produced by LP Canada and Mountain Quota holders Association in the Mountain Forest Section, including Manitoba Conservation forest renewal plans.
- Regional Forestry staff began Crown consultation process involving contact with aboriginal communities that may be affected by the 2011/12 Annual Operating Plans produced by LP Canada and Mountain Quota holders Association in the Mountain Forest Section, including Manitoba Conservation forest renewal plans.
- Participated with Forestry Branch staff in Crown Consultation on three Special Allocation timber sales.
- Forestry assisted with delivery of natural science, and an education field trip for elementary school students in Duck Mountain Provincial Park.
- Forestry staff conducted planting projects with School groups and Girl Guides groups around the Swan River area and Whitefish Lake campground.
- Completed planting 150,075 seedlings on 87.3 hectares with Ojibway Reforestation tree planting contractor from Pine Falls, Manitoba.
- Issued 133 timber permits under the Aboriginal and Treaty Right timber permit policy for a total of 907.5m³ of hardwood and 1352.5m³ of softwood volume.
- Regional Natural Resource Officers (NROs) and Wildlife Staff continued extensive moose management consultation and presentations on declining moose population with local user groups and First Nations and Métis around Duck Mountain Provincial Park, Porcupine Provincial Forest and Swan-Pelican. In addition, they worked with Pine Creek, Valley River, Sapotawayek and Wuskwi Sipiik First Nations as well as the Manitoba Métis Federation and the West Region

Tribal Council to help recover local moose populations and to get wildlife allocations assigned to those communities for non-resident deer and bear outfitting.

- Swan River NROs spent a significant amount of time monitoring hunting and associated camps in the Duck Mountains in order to assess the impact on the declining moose populations.
- NROs attended youth hunts, Emergency Preparedness displays, gave school talks, 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.

Minimize the number of complaints related to problem wildlife.

- The "Bears and Bees" project in the Ethelbert area continued but this will be its last year as it has demonstrated that electric fencing is an effective deterrent to bear depredation on beehives.
- Coyote populations remained high with a significant number of complaints received. A Problem Predator Control Program has been extended in co-operation with Manitoba Agricultural and Food Services Corporation and the Manitoba Trappers Association to assist cattle producers with depredation issues.
- Staff continued to meet with the town council of Killarney to address deer damage complaints in the community. A special deer management season was conducted around Killarney in January 2011 to help reduce deer densities. A total of 140 hunters participated and 97 deer were harvested.
- Due to a long and extremely cold winter with record snowpack, a high number of deer and elk depredation complaints were actioned by NROs.
- One aerial moose survey was flown in the Western Region in 2010. The Swan Pelican survey showed a significant decline of moose populations from 453 moose in 2002 to 148 moose in 2011.

Other Key Results Achieved

- Western Region Integrated Resource Management Team completed pre-plan mitigation of LP Canada and Mountain Quota Holders 2011/12 Annual Operating Plans and mitigation of Steeprock Forest Road Development plan with Spruce Products Ltd.
- Forestry assisted Wildlife staff in prioritizing and conducting road rehabilitation to support Moose Management strategies including mitigation with industry for enhanced access rehabilitation on planned access use and development associated with timber harvest.
- Promoted the accelerated utilization and forwarding of on-hand chipper wood by industry to support Moose Management strategies.
- Participated in Crown Land Classification through Block Planning Committee #2 and #3 for code review in the RM of Mountain.
- Participated in Manitoba Silviculture Technical Committee regarding changes to forest renewal survey procedures and standards including the establishment of aerial survey trails.
- Implemented changes to the issuance of operating permits for timber sales with industry.

- Forestry staff conducted timber tracking and verification activities on more than 320,000m³ of hardwood volume and more than 195,000m³ of softwood volume for Quota and Forest Management License timber harvest.
- Regional Forestry Staff completed 363 cull, defect, and undersize plots, measuring 12,804 timber samples at LP Canada, Spruce Products Ltd. and various timber operations and mills as part of provincial scaling program for utilization factors.
- Measured 80 hardwood and 657 softwood log length samples as part of a log length audit.
- Measured 1,497 chipper wood samples (tree length and 5.1 m log length) for chipper wood factor determination/comparison.
- Implemented a Timber Inspection database system to support compliance tracking by Natural Resource Officers.
- Regional Forestry Staff with support from Initial Attacks crews in Swan River and Forestry Branch staff completed 17.1 hectares of back pack chemical stand tending and site preparation for planting in 2011 in the Porcupine Provincial Forest.
- Peregrine falcons, a nationally endangered raptor, once again nested and raised young at the former McKenzie Seeds building in Brandon for the 16th consecutive year.
- Working with user groups and Crown Lands staff, NROs were successful in monitoring several ATV derbies and ensuring compliance and environmental restrictions were adhered to.

Table RO.18
12.2(f) Western Region

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,046	70.01	3,932	114	
Other Expenditures	1,375		1,389	(14)	
Total 12.2(f)	5,421	70.01	5,321	100	

Park Operations and Maintenance

Details regarding Park Operations and Maintenance are included within each of the regions that deliver this program.

Table RO.19
12.2(g) Park Operations and Maintenance

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	13,439	216.32	13,521	(82)	
Other Expenditures	6,932		6,375	557	
Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(472)		(472)	0	
Total 12.2(g)	19,899	216.32	19,424	475	

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 fire season of 2010 was above average with a total of 583 fires burning a total of 187,484 hectares. Cooler temperatures and precipitation brought relief to these areas by mid August.
- The largest project fire occurred near the community of Berens River. The second largest fire occurred near the community of Cranberry Portage. These fires had significant impacts to the communities, surrounding infrastructure and resources.
- Manitoba was able to obtain assistance in suppressing these large fires through the Canadian Inter-Agency Forest Fire Center (CIFFC) Mutual Aid Agreement as well as the Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact (GLFFC) in the forms of aircraft, equipment, and personnel from neighbouring wildfire agencies. Manitoba was also able to assist two other Canadian agencies with exports of aircraft and personnel.

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:

- 184 human-caused wildfires investigated resulting in 5 prosecutions, 1 warning, and evidence gathered to support 13 fire suppression cost recovery charge-backs. There were 65 fires determined to have been intentionally caused of which 42 were suspected to have been arson.

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 2010 fire season was very busy for Manitoba aviation resources. Manitoba's CL-215 fleet and bird dog aircraft flew 1,968.8 hrs (693 hrs in 2009). Out of province water bombers and bird dog aircraft from Ontario, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Minnesota were used at various times to supplement Manitoba's fleet for a total 514.6 flight hours (0 hrs in 2009). Single Engine Air Tanker aircraft provided by Manitoba's agricultural aviation industry flew 212 hrs (0 hrs in 2009). These aircraft were used to supplement Manitoba's CL-215 fleet for community protection, new fire starts, and sustained fire action.

Manitoba helicopter operations were also very busy. The long-term helicopter contracts were supplemented by casual hire helicopters as required. This year Manitoba had 6 helicopters on long term contracts. The estimated total for all aircraft expenditures was approximately \$27.0 million compared to \$3.6 million in 2009. This represents 9,991.2 flight hours (1,963.0 hrs in 2009) with minimal reported incidents.

Science and Technology

Manitoba continues with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) mapping initiatives that incorporate fire line mapping done by firefighters with Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) satellite hotspot data. The Fire Program is publishing these updated fire boundaries on the public web page on a daily basis in both Google Earth and ESRI shapefile formats. These comprehensive fire maps are linked with tabular fire information already found on the public website. Landsat and MODIS satellite imagery is also being used on a post-season basis to derive more accurate fire boundaries for no action fires in the observation zone.

Manitoba continues to implement Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) transmitters on its weather stations, having 6 in place and several additional units to be installed in 2011.

The Science & Technology section sent staff to fire NW024 (Cranberry Portage) to provide information technology, weather and GIS support for project fire operations. A cooperative effort also took place between the Fire Program and the Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization (MEMO), establishing joint GIS services operating from the MEMO mobile command unit.

Forecast automation using the Canadian Global Environmental Multiscale (GEM) numerical weather model has proven reliable and has been fully incorporated into daily fire operations, as well as being used by other branches and departments. The production of automated forecast products using the North American Mesoscale (NAM) model has also been completed, providing an alternative source of forecast data. Additional numerical and graphical forecast products are under development.

The province's fire management software was tested for use in Windows 7, with the required modifications made to make it operational for the 2011 fire season.

To prevent forest fires through public education.

Fire prevention advertising began in mid April in the south and progressed north with the fire season. Advertising consisted of newspaper and radio ads as well as ad placement within publications such as the Manitoba Angling Guide and other select publications. Radio ads also aired on radio stations throughout the province including Native Communications Radio Network and some northern radio stations. Additional radio spots were aired as a result of the high fire hazard in the north, late June and July. Some advertising geared to the fall resource users was placed in the outdoor features of select

newspapers. Target specific advertising involving fire safety geared towards all terrain vehicle users was placed in community newspapers along with radio ads. In response to high fire danger levels, travel restrictions were instituted in select northern areas.

FireSmart continues to receive growing attention in the province in the form of material distribution and joint proposals with the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) and Manitoba Conservation. Some of the ongoing work with the OFC includes Community Wildfire Protection Planning. Which consists of hazard analysis and risk assessments of major Parks, fire proofing strategies and initiatives with cottage owners and municipalities, and the ongoing development of a FireSmart public education program. Smokey Bear fire prevention materials were ordered through the USDA national symbols cache and distributed throughout the Manitoba fire regions. The prevention program was supplemented with handouts including of various types.

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

Fire line training in the past year included:

- 38 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.
- 32 individuals were trained and certified to the Type I Crew Leader level.
- 11 new Type II Emergency Fire Fighter Crew Leaders were trained and certified.
- 56 new Type II Emergency Fire Fighters were trained to Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) exchange standards.
- 284 new Type III Emergency Fire Fighters were trained and certified.
- 2 individuals attended and successfully passed the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) National Ignition Specialist course (S-434) in Hinton, Alberta.
- 3 individuals attended and successfully completed the Fire Safety Officer course in Hinton, Alberta in February 2011.
- 2 individuals attended and successfully completed the FI-310 Wildfire Investigation Case Development course in Hinton, Alberta in February 2011.
- One individual attended and successfully completed the National Wildland Fire Fighter Exchange Standard Fitness Test (WFX-FIT) Train the Trainer course in Sudbury, Ontario.
- Numerous First Aid/CPR courses, Transportation of Dangerous Goods, WHMIS, and Chainsaw training courses were held as well.
- A new Sector/Task Leader Course is being developed with anticipated delivery in the New Year. Approximately 30 individuals will be attending.
- Approximately 9-12 individuals will be trained as Regional Fitness Appraisers (Testers) responsible for conducting the new National Fitness Standard Test (WFX-FIT) for all provincial Type 1 firefighters.

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.

The Provincial Fire Equipment Working Group continues in research and development of fire suppression equipment.

Plans and proposals completed in 2010/11:

- Development of a Subdivision Values Protection Trailer
- Development of Pump & Hose Trailer (1,000 hose/30 pump)
- Development of tender package for provincial fire equipment (3 year contracts)
- Development of workshop for equipment and resource tracking

A large component of the 2010 fire season involved the importing of aircraft, manpower, and equipment to the Weldon Bay fire near The Pas. Two exports also occurred.

Seventeen imports through CIFFC and 7 through the Great Lakes Compact occurred during the season.

Imports:

British Columbia

- 10/3p IA and AREP – June 24, 2010
- 10/3p IA and AREP – June 25, 2010
- Convair 580 group – June 26, 2010

Ontario

- CL-415 group – June 19, 2010
- 40p Type 1 and AREP – June 19, 2010
- Dispatcher – June 24, 2010
- Values Protection Unit – June 25, 2010
- 10/4p Type 1 and AREP, FBAN and 2 DIVSUP's – June 29, 2010
- 19p Type 1 IA and ARAEP – July 25, 2010
- CL-415 group – July 25, 2010

Alberta

- AAON – June 25, 2010

Saskatchewan

Seven quick strike deployments

- 3 CL-215
- 4 Convair 580

Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact

Minnesota

- CL-215 group – June 22, 2010
- 20p Type 2 IA – June 23, 2010
- Fire boss 802 – June 24, 2010
- 19p Type 2 IA – June 25, 2010

Wisconsin

- 20p Type 2 IA – June 28, 2010

Exports:

Quebec

- CL-215 group – May 27, 2010

British Columbia

- 19p Type 1 SA & AREP &
- 20p Type 1 SA & AREP – August 16, 2010

**Table R0.20
2010 - Number of Fires and Area Burned by Region and Cause**

CAUSE	# 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	19	88.7	5	1.7	1	259.0			8	17,779.9	33	18,129.3
settlement	51	318.3	3	2.7			12	197.4	10	107.1	76	625.5
woods operations	5	17.1	12	434.5					4	2.3	21	453.9
other industry	3	22.0	1	0.1					14	2.8	18	24.9
railroads	1	2.3	2	1.3							3	3.6
public projects	8	68.4					1	0.1	8	1.7	17	70.2
incendiary	17	27.3	1	17.2	2	39.6	23	341.4	26	83.0	69	508.5
miscellaneous	17	15.7					12	574.0	2	5.3	31	595.0
agricultural							2	135.5	3	2,306.3	5	2,441.8
lightning	246	112,276.2	53	55,938.3					3	3,334.3	302	171,548.8
all causes	367	112,836.0	77	56,395.8	3	298.6	50	1,248.4	78	23,622.7	575	194,401.5

Table R0.21
2010 - Number of Fires and Area Burned by Priority Zone and Action Status

2010	Actioned Fires				No Action Fires				Limited Action Fires				All Fires			
	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned	# fires	% fires	area burned (hectares)	% of area burned
RED	309	65.61%	77,818.3	92.60%	2	2.99%	0.6	0.00%	6	16.22%	476.7	1.02%	317	55.13%	78,295.6	40.28%
YELLOW	11	2.34%	10.4	0.01%									11	1.91%	10.4	0.01%
GREEN	94	19.96%	1,261.9	1.50%	8	11.94%	8.7	0.01%	11	29.73%	18,732.2	40.24%	113	19.65%	20,002.8	10.29%
WHITE	57	12.10%	4,950.2	5.89%	57	85.07%	63,798.0	99.99%	20	54.05%	27,344.5	58.74%	134	23.30%	96,092.7	49.43%
ALL ZONES	471	100.0%	84,040.8	100.0%	67	100.0%	63,807.3	100.0%	37	100.0%	46,553.4	100.0%	575	100.0%	194,401.5	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 R0.22
2010 - Area burned by Priority Zone

2010	Zone Area (ha.)	Hectares Burned	% of zone burned
Red	11,415,633.5	20,002.8	0.175%
Yellow	685,691.0	10.4	0.002%
Green	9,770,018.8	78,295.6	0.801%
White	23,081,244.9	96,092.7	0.416%
All Zones	44,952,588.2	194,401.5	0.432%

Figure 2

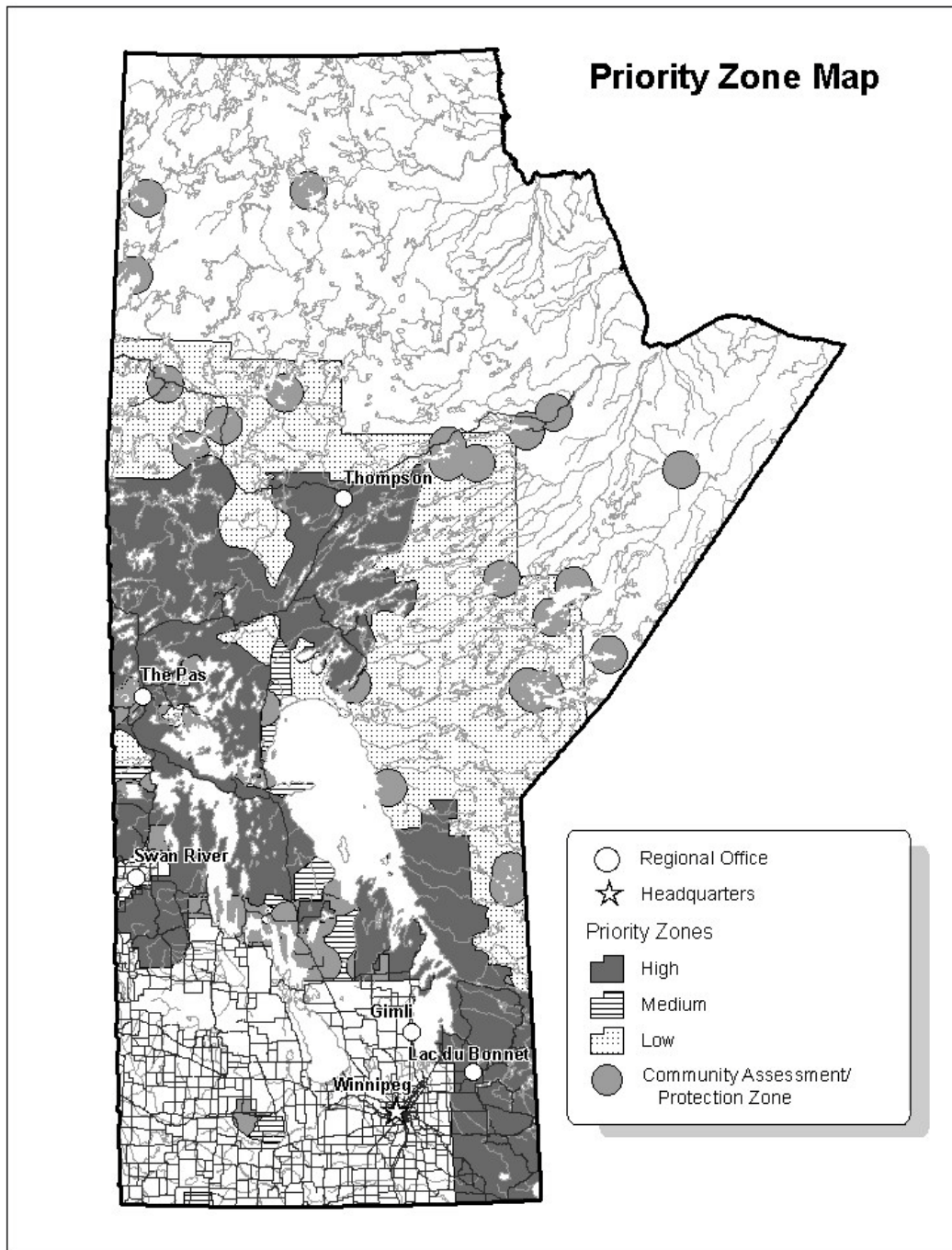


Figure 3

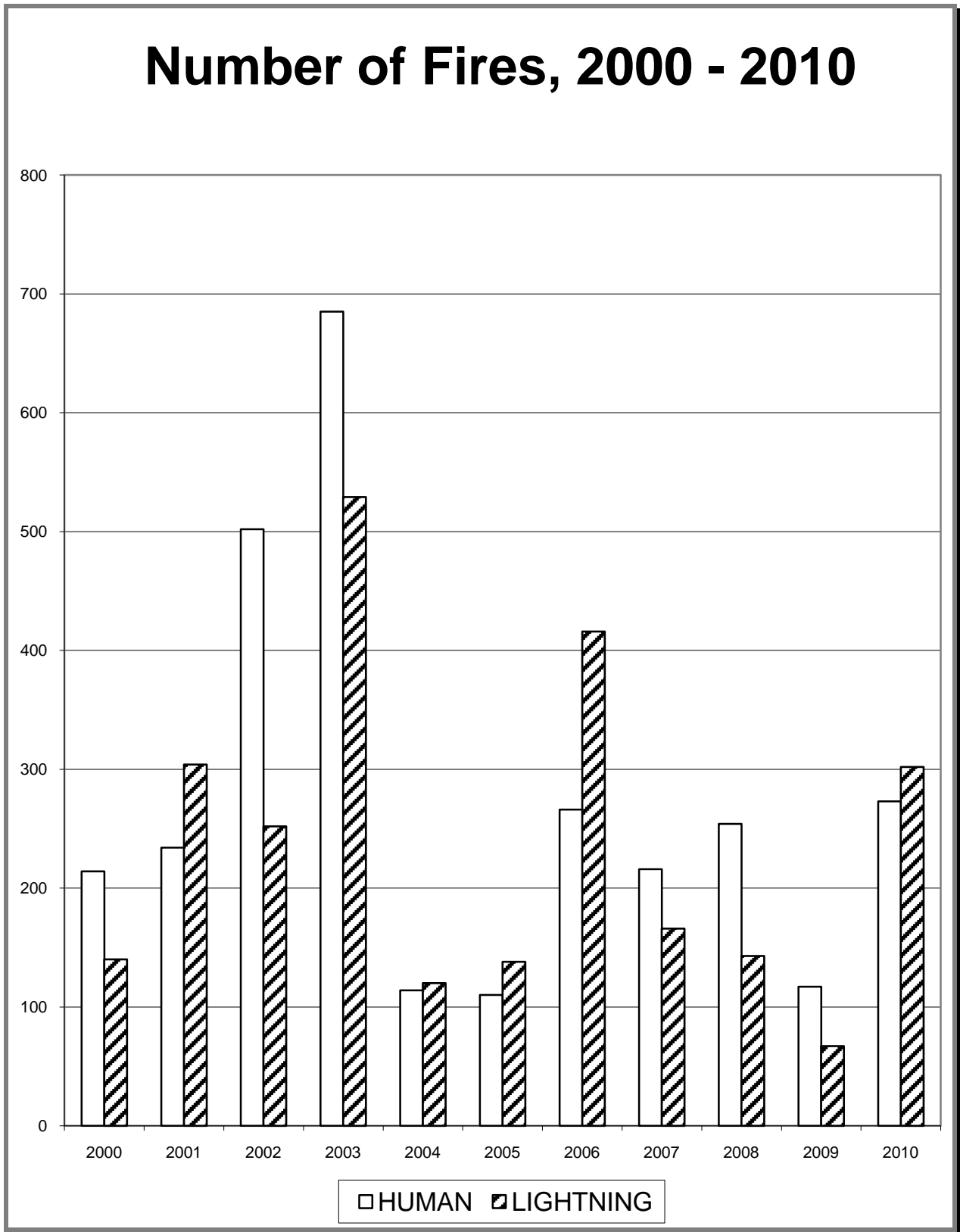


Figure 4

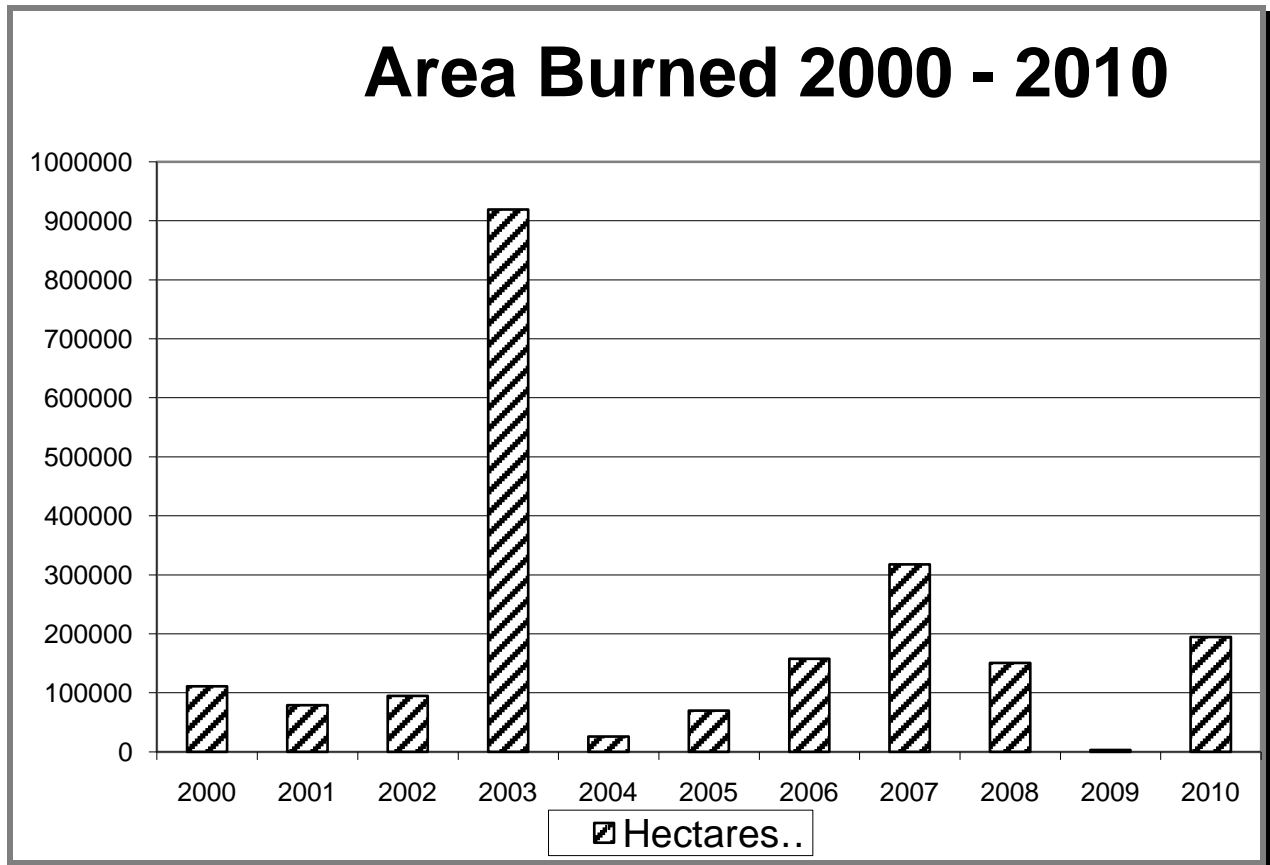


Table RO.23

12.2(h) Fire and Emergency Response Program

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	6,213	69.98	6,699	(486)	
Other Expenditures	9,680		9,929	(249)	
Less: Recoverable from Emergency Expenditures	(468)		(500)	32	
Total 12.2(h)	15,425	69.98	16,128	(703)	

Environmental Services

Environmental Services develops, coordinates, and/or administers environmental programs associated with *The Environment Act*, *The Contaminated Sites Remediation Act*, *The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act*, *The Ozone Depleting Substances Act*, and associated regulations. This includes environmental programs that address the management of:

- contaminated sites;
- crop residue burning;
- environmental liabilities;
- hazardous waste;
- livestock manure and mortalities;
- municipal wastewater;
- onsite wastewater;
- petroleum storage;
- solid waste; and
- other related environmental issues.

Environmental Services also:

- coordinates and provides emergency response to incidents and accidents that place the environment or human health at risk;
- provides technical expertise and engineering support for the development and implementation of environmental programs;
- develops and/or updates legislation, guidelines, procedures, and communication materials to support the administration and enforcement of environmental programs;
- provides operational and administrative support, recommends continuous improvement, and facilitates user optimization of the departments' Environmental Management System (EMS) database; and
- represents the Department on national technical committees pertaining to the Division's environmental programs.

2010/11 Key Program Outputs:

Environment

- Existing program specific information on the Department's website was revised and updated.
- For more information, visit <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envprograms/index.html>.
- Staff responded to 633 requests for file searches for program specific information.
- The *Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation* was amended to ensure increased protection of human health and the environment.
- The *Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation* was amended to update references in the Regulation to requirements of the 2003 Environmental Code of Practice for Aboveground and Underground Storage Tank Systems Containing Petroleum and Allied Products published by CCME.
- The *Notice and Reporting Regulation* under *The Environment Act* was registered August 31, 2010.
- The Environmental Remediation Program continues to address the assessment and remediation of priority sites. Remedial works were initiated in 2009/10 in the community of West Hawk Lake

and at the former Manfor site and continued through 2010/11. In 2010/11 work included an indoor air quality assessment in the community of Eriksdale; assessment work was undertaken in Bird's Hill; an assessment cost sharing agreement and remediation cost sharing agreement were entered into for two sites within the City of Winnipeg.

Livestock

- Projects involving construction, expansion or modification of manure storage facilities are subject to a Manitoba Conservation permit. 54 permits for construction, modification and repair of manure storage facilities were issued.
- Registration of manure storage facilities that were constructed prior to the regulatory requirements for permits is mandatory. The registration process provides a process to have the environmental performance of these older facilities inspected and assessed regularly. Applications for registration of approximately 650 manure storage facilities have been received to date.
- Operations with 300 animal units or greater are required to submit annual source water analysis reports to Manitoba Conservation. The department received 450 source water monitoring submissions in 2010.
- 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 that is agronomically appropriate and environmentally sound. 482 MMPs were processed and registered for 2010 crop year. The department conducted audits on 6% of the plans.
- Reportable spills include spills that exceed 10,000 litres; occur during transport; involve manure escaping the boundary of the agricultural operation; or result in manure entering a surface water feature or groundwater. Producers are required to contact Manitoba Conservation when reportable manure spills occur.
- Staff responded to approximately 12 manure reportable and not-reportable spills. Most spills were relatively minor and many involved failures in couplings, cleanout blockage or sections of manure pipelines during pumping.
- Staff met on numerous occasions during the year with livestock producers, most producer organizations, environmental advocacy groups, municipal governments, other government agencies and the general public to communicate regulatory requirements.
- Most commonly committed offences that warranted action continue to involve improper disposal or storage of mortalities and spillage, escape or improper storage of manure.
- Tables RO.25 and RO.26 summarize enforcement of the livestock regulations since 2000 and Environmental Programs Enforcement FY 2010/2011.

Emergency Response

- The emergency response program received over 2500 calls to the emergency response 24-hour line. Of these approximately 500 were handled directly by the Department's Emergency Response Team and/or Regional personnel. The remainders of the calls were not within the Department's mandate and were directed to the appropriate outside agency for action.
- The Emergency Response Team assisted Police forces in Manitoba with identification, removal, and disposal of chemicals found in clandestine drug operations / marijuana grow operations, and helped evaluate the extent of contamination at the site for remediation purposes.

- The Emergency Response Team is also an active participant in Manitoba's capability to respond to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives (CBRNE) threats.
- Canada and Manitoba signed an Environmental Occurrences Notification Agreement in March 2011. This agreement formalizes procedures for the receipt and timely transfer of information between the parties concerning the notification of environmental occurrences. Manitoba Conservation's Emergency Response Line (204-944-4888) is the one-window for reporting environmental incidents in Manitoba.

Table RO.24
12.2(i)1 Environmental Services

Expenditures by Total Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,910	31.00	2,116	(206)	
Other Expenditures	1,501		2,147	(646)	
Total 12.2(i)1	3,411	31.00	4,263	(852)	1.

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

Enforcement

Tables RO.25 and RO.26 summarize enforcement actions undertaken by the department's Environment Officers.

Table RO.25
Livestock Regulation Enforcement 2000-01 to 2010-11

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	2881
2009-10	1	41	45	300
2010-11	4	120	0	4,426
Total	103	577	339	\$117,942

**Table RO.26
Environmental Programs Enforcement**

Legislation	Prosecutions	Warnings	Orders	Fines(\$)
<i>The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act</i>	41	12	3	24,363
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dangerous Goods Handling & Transportation Regulation - Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation 				
<i>The Environment Act</i>	27	201	2	18,437
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Litter Regulation - Burning of Crop Residue and Non-Crop Herbage Regulation - Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation - Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation - Waste Disposal Grounds Regulation 				
Total	68	213	5	\$42,800

Environmental Operations

The mandate of Environmental Operations is to deliver environmental programs at a regional level, and to ensure compliance with the various environmental legislation administered by Manitoba Conservation: *The Environment Act, The Contaminated Sites Remediation Act, The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation 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;
- environmental liabilities;
- hazardous waste;
- livestock manure and mortalities;
- municipal wastewater;
- onsite wastewater;
- petroleum storage;
- solid waste; and
- other related environmental issues.

Environmental Operations also:

- Ensures the maintenance of a healthy natural environment for the use and well-being of present and future generations of Manitobans.
- Ensures industry and public compliance with environmental-based legislation through information, education, inspection and enforcement.
- Administers onsite wastewater management registrations and waste disposal ground permits.
- Maintains effective relationships and consults with local governments, industry and commercial interests, user groups, and the general public respecting operational activities within the regions.
- Assists in the development of legislation, procedures, protocols and operational guidelines for administration and delivery of the environmental programs.

2010/11 Key Program Outputs:

Environment

- Successfully administered the remediation of a lead impacted site in Point Douglas, through in-situ risk management and encapsulation strategy, was developed into a daycare and seniors centre.
- Continued Onsite Wastewater Enhanced Inspection Program Inspections in West St. Paul and Killarney Lake.
- Completed year one of a five-year plan to inspect all Municipal Wastewater Management infrastructure in the province.
- Developed and implemented a comprehensive business plan to govern inspections and program delivery activities for the branch.

Table RO.27
12.2(i)2 Regional Services

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,830	62.00	3,696	(866)	
Other Expenditures	668		1,030	(362)	
Total 12.2(i)2	3,498	62.00	4,726	(1,228)	1.

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

Table RO.28
Environmental Legislation Enforcement Summary 2010/11

Legislation	Prosecutions	Warnings	Orders	Fines(\$)
<i>The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act</i>			2	
- Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Regulation (Highways)	30			17,399.15
- Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation	11	12	1	6,963.60
<i>The Environment Act</i>	2	6	1	1,155.65
- Litter Regulation	14	10		3,248.20
- Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation	7	53	1	9,606.40
- Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation	4	120		4,426.30
- Waste Disposal Grounds Regulation		12		
Total	68	213	5	42,799.30

Table RO.29
Suspensions or Variations under *The Environment Act* 2009/2010

Date	Location	Purpose
May 10, 2010	Town of Minitonas	Lack of Hydraulic storage capacity.
May 19, 2010	Town of Russell	Lack of Hydraulic storage capacity.
June 4, 2010	RM of Lac du Bonnet	Lack of Hydraulic storage capacity, normal irrigation discharge not possible due to wet conditions.
July 12, 2010	RM of Lac du Bonnet	Lack of Hydraulic storage capacity, normal irrigation discharge not possible due to wet conditions.
July 29, 2010	City of Dauphin	Lack of Hydraulic storage capacity due to heavy rains
August 16, 2010	Town of Beausejour	Lack of Hydraulic storage capacity. Variance pertains to discharge period.

PROGRAMS DIVISION

Divisional Administration

Divisional administration provides strategic management of Manitoba's natural resources and environment (parks, lands, forests and wildlife) in keeping with principles of sustainable development.

Table CP.1
12.3(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	118	2.00	137	(19)	
Other Expenditures	235		272	(37)	
Total 12.3(a)	353	2.00	409	(56)	

Wildlife Enhancement Initiative

The Initiative continued to support wildlife and habitat management projects with funds from a special impost on hunting licences. Hunter-funded projects included:

The operation and maintenance of Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs); the production and installation of WMA signs; and weed control.

A hunting heritage program that supported organizations and events that promote and encourage hunting, i.e., the annual Provincial Hunting Day.

Support for mentored hunting events that provide an educational experience to encourage hunting among Manitoba's youth, women, and other interested individuals. The purpose is to introduce people to the concepts of ethical utilization and stewardship of natural resources, which ultimately contributes to the long-term conservation and management of Manitoba's wildlife mosaic. Mentored hunting events included workshops, seminars, mentor appreciation days, and mentored hunts for waterfowl and deer. Interest and participation is increasing annually and the program is adapting to meet newly identified demands. The contributions of partner agencies and dedication of volunteers throughout the province has resulted in a program that serves as a model to other provinces. The program saw further expansion in 2010, with more hunt locations and increased opportunities, especially for adults. Incentives to youth remain important to participation, as evidenced by the 3,500 youths that purchased the youth hunting license package in 2010/11.

The Department's Alice Chambers-Hyacinth Colomb student assistantship program provides project funding and guidance for undergraduate or graduate students undertaking academic research that will assist the Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch manage wildlife, including species at risk. The Department annually provides financial assistance and guidance to university students under this program for specific projects. Information from these projects is used by the Wildlife and Ecosystem Branch in a variety of ways including identifying new occurrences of species in Manitoba and in habitat and species management activities.

Aerial surveys were conducted for moose in GHAs 14, 17A and 21A.

Support was also provided to the Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre for diagnostic services for wildlife diseases as part of the Big Game Health Program.

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Other Expenditures	230	0.00	219	11	
Total 12.3(b)	230	0.00	219	11	

Parks & Natural Areas

Parks and Natural Areas Branch are responsible for managing Provincial Parks, Ecological Reserves, and Canadian Heritage Rivers for the long-term benefit of Manitobans and the environment. These lands protect unique, representative, or outstanding natural, cultural, and heritage features and resources, conserve ecosystems, and provide recreational and educational opportunities to approximately 5 million visitors each year.

Key Results Achieved

Park visitation exceeded 5.4 million visitors with campsite reservations of close to 63,000, an increase of 6,701 over 2009 and an increase of 25,974 over 2005, the year before the new Parks Reservation Service was implemented.

There was a continued focus on environmental infrastructure including water and wastewater systems and the “greening” of park facilities.

Enhancements under the Provincial Camping Initiative continued. Most notable was the completion of a 65 unit campground expansion at Wellman Lake campground in Duck Mountain Provincial Park which opened to the public in 2010. Work continued on the construction of a new fully-serviced campground at Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park, expected to open in July 2011.

The planning process and public consultations were completed to achieve the designations of Birch Island, Nueltin Lake, and Colvin Lake Provincial Parks, helping to achieve the provincial “Green and Growing” strategy objective of creating five new major protected areas.

The Beach Safety program made over 12,000 contacts with beach visitors at three provincial parks during the summer of 2010. Nearly half of these contacts related to public education of parental supervision responsibilities. Public inquiries and injury prevention activities comprised a majority of the remaining contacts. 14 water rescues were performed.

Administration Section

The Administration Section is responsible for establishing strategic direction and guidelines, ensuring conformity to Department policies and government goals, and assessing the effectiveness of programs and services offered to the public. This section provides many functions including administrative and human resources support, capital budget coordination, and the management of fees collected from Park users, commercial concessions, and 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 FortWhyte Alive), Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters (water safety public education and programming) and 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 the branch’s current and capital spending estimates.
- Generated \$10.2 million in revenue by persons using the parks for personal enjoyment, commercial and general use.
- Conducted the activities of Parks and Natural Areas in a manner consistent with policy, the departmental mission, and government priorities.

- Provided grants to organizations who implemented activities in accordance with branch policy, departmental mission, and government priorities.

Planning and Development Section

The Planning and Development Section provides design and project management capacity, prepares land-use plans, development plans, policies, and regulations to guide establishment, management, and development of the Park System, to:

- Conserve ecosystems and maintain biodiversity;
- Preserve unique and representative natural, cultural and heritage resources; and
- Provide outdoor recreational and educational opportunities and experiences in a natural setting.

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

Over the 2010/11 year, staff from the section participated in additional programs both internal to the branch and with other agencies. Examples include:

- Support to the Protected Areas Initiative;
- Participation on the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Technical Planning Committee;
- Support to the Ecological Reserves Advisory Committee;
- Support and advice in the development of facilities and infrastructure across the park system;
- Review of *Environment Act* License 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);
- Co-ordination 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

This program is responsible for the strategic direction of the Manitoba Provincial Park System, as well as for establishing both new and revised park boundaries, classifications, primary park goals and objectives, and Land Use Categories. 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 of ecological reserves.

Key Results Achieved

- Public consultations were completed on Birch Island Park Reserve leading to the area being designated as a provincial park.
- Public consultations were conducted considering the proposed development of a Tim Horton Children's Foundation - Youth Leadership Camp at Sylvia Lake within Whiteshell Provincial Park.
- Consultations continued with Mosakahiken Cree Nation and the Moose Lake Resource Management Board on Little Limestone Lake Park Reserve, working towards a permanent provincial park designation for this protected area.
- Proposed development activities within and adjacent to provincial parks were reviewed to determine if they were appropriate, and advice was offered on how to mitigate impacts.

- 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, and impacts on parks were reduced.
- Consultations with First Nations and stakeholders were conducted to review the Fisher Bay Park Reserve and the Fisher River Cree Nation and Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) proposed boundary expansion area. Fisher Bay Park Reserve was renewed for a further five years providing timeframe to consider the park reserve as a final park proposal with First Nations and stakeholders.
- The section contributed to a park planning process as part of the “Green and Growing” strategy objective of creating five new major protected areas. Led by Manitoba’s Protected Areas Initiative, the process worked to designate Nueltin Lake and Colvin Lake Provincial Parks. These designations, along with the Birch Island Provincial Park designation, achieved the “Green and Growing” objective.
- The section contributed to The Saskatchewan River Delta (SRD) Protected Area planning process in working to achieve new provincial park designations in the SRD region of west central Manitoba.

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

- Proposed development activities adjacent to ecological reserves were reviewed to determine if they were appropriate and advice was offered on how to mitigate impacts.
- 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 and that impacts on ecological reserves were reduced.
- Contributed to the Saskatchewan River Delta (SRD) Protected Area planning process in working to achieve new ecological reserve designations in the SRD region of west central Manitoba.
- The Ecological Reserves Advisory Committee undertook an intensive review of proposed ecological reserves in southeast Manitoba and various other locations throughout the province that are deemed to be priority sites for designation.
- Entry signs were erected for Whitemouth Bog Ecological Reserve.

Management Planning

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

Key Results Achieved

- The management planning process for Birds Hill Provincial Park was initiated with public consultations held in the park in early 2010. A report on public comments was subsequently provided to participants in early 2011 and a draft plan was prepared.
- An initial public consultation was conducted for a management plan for the proposed Little Limestone Lake Provincial Park. This was done in conjunction with consultations on the proposal to designate the area as a provincial park.
- The Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas Branch Directives Manual continued to be reviewed and updated. This included work on directives regarding commercial signage in parks, off-road vehicle use, canoe routes, fish stocking and bait fishing.
- Continued implementation of previously approved management plans including those for Duck Mountain, Grand Beach and Atikaki provincial parks.

- Development continued on the ATV Trails Plan for Duck Mountain Provincial Park in consultation with local stakeholders and the ATV Trail Planning Committee.
- Prairie management plans for Spruce Woods and Beaudry Provincial Parks continued to be implemented to ensure the sustainability of the native and restored grasslands in these parks.
- Work on a proposed Lowlands National Park in the northern Interlake region continued with Parks Canada and Misipawistik Cree Nation. A process for engaging community residents in the decision making on a proposed park was planned and implemented.

Canadian Heritage Rivers System

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

Key Results Achieved

- Implementation of the Hayes River management plan continued with refinements to a GIS inventory mapping project for natural and cultural features and recreational sites and features along the river.
- Implementation of the management plan for the Bloodvein River continued with a program of communicating access restrictions on the river which will enhance its role as Manitoba's premier wilderness canoeing route.
- Manitoba Conservation continued to support and work with Rivers West on projects to raise awareness of the natural and cultural values of the Red River.
- Work continued on a series of posters featuring each of the four Canadian Heritage Rivers in Manitoba
- The section played a key role in revising the *Principles, Procedures, and Operating Guidelines* for the CHRS and advancing the CHRS Strategic Plan 2008-2018.

Design and Development

This Section provides development direction, site planning, and public facility design and mapping. Staff participated on the Watchable Wildlife Working Group with Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch and Manitoba Tourism Secretariat. 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 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 of shower buildings at Birds Hill Campground and Nutimik Lake Campground in Whiteshell Provincial Park were completed. Both buildings include conservation technologies such as solar water heating, waterless urinals, low-flush fixtures, and coin-operated showers.
- Landscape and site improvements associated with the Birds Hill Washroom/Shower Building and the Nutimik Lake Washroom/Shower Building; including improved pathway connections, were completed.
- Design and construction of a 32 stall washroom building at Grand Beach was completed. The new washroom features a reinforced rammed earth wall, the first of its kind in Manitoba. This ancient building technique uses local limestone and beach sand mixed with water and concrete which is then mechanically compacted to create a strong, durable, and beautiful wall that is also structural, helping to hold up the washroom's green roof.
- Phase 1 of the redevelopment of the Grand Beach Boardwalk, destroyed by extreme weather in October 2010, was initiated. The work includes a new sheet pile wall with timber façade, extensive decorative paving, a new railing, and a new accessible ramp to beach level.

- At Duck Mountain Provincial Park, a 65 site expansion of Wellman Lake Campground and new green washroom/shower buildings at Wellman Lake and Childs Lake Campgrounds were completed.
- Construction of a new fully-serviced 110 site campground at Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park continued. This development includes three washroom/shower buildings and a new campground office. The campground was designed with energy conservation measures in mind and includes solar heating for hot water, low-flush fixtures, and coin-operated showers. The campground will be open to the public in July 2011.
- Design work was initiated on the redevelopment of the West Hawk Lake Town-site Road. Proposed improvements include a new road surface, a pedestrian amenity zone, and clearly organized parking.
- Otter Falls shoreline stabilization was completed to retain threatened campsites, interpretation, and landscape improvements.
- Upgrading work at the Birds Hill Riding Stables, in order to improve manure management, was completed.
- An upgrade to the Grindstone Lagoon was completed. Design and construction of Grindstone Waste Transfer Station was initiated.
- Three new Yurts were constructed at Spruce Woods Provincial Park.
- Design and construction of the East Campground sewage lift station upgrade at Birds Hill Provincial Park was initiated.
- Assessment and planning for wastewater facility upgrades at Grand Beach Provincial Park and Spruce Woods Provincial Park were initiated. Design of a new wastewater truck haul lagoon at Dorothy Lake was initiated.
- New water treatment plant upgrades at Watchorn Provincial Park, Hnaua Provincial Park, and Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park were completed.
- Site improvements to Trappist Monastery Provincial Heritage Park, including parking improvements, landscaping and pathway connections, were completed. Improvements to lighting and drainage at this site were initiated.
- A new wastewater treatment facility upgrade at White Lake in Whiteshell 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 for providing 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 the recreation programming in Manitoba's provincial parks including camping; cabins and yurts; group use; Parks Reservation Service; and Campground Host.
- Reservations were made available through a call centre, on-line and through 27 campground offices in 2010. Improvements to the system included the streamlining of processes that would improve customer services as well as reduce administrative efforts.

- New and enhanced campground facilities continued to be developed under the Provincial Camping Initiative. The new campsites at Wellman and Childs Lakes, constructed in 2009/10, opened to the public in 2010/11.
- Promoted park programs and initiatives through newspaper advertisements, news releases, and handouts. Information included opening and closing dates, Free Park Entry, May long-weekend liquor-free camping, an anti-rowdyism campaign, and the Parks Reservation Service. Also included was the distribution of promotional items to community events, non-profit organizations, and youth groups.
- Camping fees increased by \$1.00 per night for basic un-serviced sites and \$2.00 per night for all electrically serviced sites. A 5% increase was also introduced for cabins and yurts.
- Park Entry was free in 2010, which was the second year of a two year program where park vehicle permits and the associated entry fee were not required in recognition of the economic times and the desire to increase recreational opportunities closer to home.

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). Officers provide onsite water safety education and emergency response as required. Provincial parks offer beach opportunities at 82 other non-staffed locations.

Key Results Achieved

- The Beach Safety program made over 12,000 contacts with beach visitors at three provincial parks during the summer of 2010. Nearly half of these contacts related to public education of parental supervision responsibilities. Public inquiries and injury prevention activities comprised a majority of remaining contacts. 14 water rescues were performed.
- The 2007-10 contracts for staffed Beach Safety programming ended at the close of the 2010 beach season. New contracts for 2011-13 services at the three staffed beaches were prepared and tendered by a Canada-wide Request for Proposals in September 2010. The contracts were subsequently awarded to Emergency Rescue Response Services for Grand Beach and Winnipeg Beach, and to Criti Care EMS Inc. for Birds Hill.
- Co-ordinated the purchase and production of Beach Safety signage and buoy lines.
- Manitoba Conservation continued to work with the MCSW and provided an annual \$5.0 grant for public education initiatives, currently focusing on water safety for new Canadians. The Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters (MCSW) is an interagency group that co-ordinates water and ice safety activities in the province.
- Under *The Emergency Measures Act*, Manitoba Provincial Parks are required to prepare and adopt an emergency preparedness program and emergency plans that meet the mandated requirements set out by the Emergency Measures Organization. A draft emergency plan template was developed in spring 2010, which is currently being implemented at the field level.

Parks and Protected Areas Research Forum

Represented Manitoba Parks as the co-chair of the Parks and Protected Areas Research Forum of Manitoba. Co-ordinated event planning and communications.

Interpretation

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

- Delivery of the field program included two full-time interpreters at Birds Hill and Whiteshell provincial parks, and 19 seasonal interpreters. Programs were presented at Birds Hill, Grand Beach, Hecla/Grindstone, Paint Lake, River Road, St. Malo, St. Norbert, Spruce Woods, Turtle Mountain, and Whiteshell Provincial Parks. In addition, Green Team members provided assistance at these parks. Interpreters contacted about 90,000 visitors at interpreter-led events and in interpretive centres and museums.
- Expansion of the personal interpretive program to Stephenfield Provincial Park continued. The senior campground attendant continued this expanded role and was assisted by a Green Team summer student assigned to the interpretive program.
- To celebrate 50 years of Manitoba Provincial Parks facilitated events in 54 locations across the province.
- Revamped school programs in all ten locations and ensured that they correlate to the Manitoba School Curriculum. Introduced several new programs aimed at high school students at three key locations. Provided 300 school programs to approximately 10,000 Manitoba students.
- Hosted five workshops for science teachers as part of October in-service and development days, focusing on getting students in elementary and junior high school into provincial parks.
- The children's activity books continued to be a success with over 1,100 booklets being redeemed under the program. Booklets were available for distribution in every campground and at every interpretive event.
- The Park Passport program continued in popularity with two new parks added to the booklet. 50 passports were returned by families with over 500 park visits prompted by the program.
- Developed interpretive signage that highlights the Green Building initiative in provincial parks. Updated signage for Glad Lake Hiking Trail in the Duck Mountains, and the Hogsback Trail in Spruce Woods.
- Updated self-guiding trail publications for four locations. Inventoried hiking trails in Birds Hill and Whiteshell Provincial Parks.
- Redesigned the Amisk Trail to highlight the benefits of parks and also the achievements of Walter Danyluk, the first Director of Parks.
- Launched two virtual hikes in partnership with the Robert Bateman Get to Know program at Beaudry and Birds Hill Provincial Parks.

- The Heritage Properties program was coordinated in Manitoba's Provincial Parks including building assessment and restoration work at Hecla/Grindstone, Camp Morton, Captain Kennedy House, and St. Norbert.

Key Program Outputs

Outdoor Recreation Programming	Amount
Number of visitors	5.4 million
Total Number of campsites	6,146
Transient Campsites	4,544 (3,944 available for reservation or 86.8%)
Transient Camping Nights	199,199
Seasonal Campsites (# does not include Permanent Trailer Village or Concessionaire campsites)	1,523
Seasonal Camping Nights	56,297
Campgrounds offering reservation	42
Group Use Sites	101
Family Vacation Cabins	33 (at 2 locations)
Yurts	50 (at 7 locations)
Reservations	62,745
Reservation Rate, compared to 2008/09	6,701 more reservations or 12% increase
Reservations made through Web	69%
Reservations made opening day April 6, 2009	13,641

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 continued 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.).
- Additional data was collected from owners and occupiers relative to both capacity (i.e. bedrooms) and period of use of their properties to better apportion "shares", and as such the burden of cost. The system also considers that all Manitoba Conservation facilities will be assigned representative shares.
- The first extensive revisions to *The Cottager's Handbook* in a decade have been prepared for review by department staff prior to planned consultation with cottage associations throughout the province.

Vacation Home Lot Development Program

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

Key Results Achieved

- 366 permits were issued for cottage construction or structural modification.
- 130 leasehold inspections were carried out.
- \$4.9 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 134 commercial operations provide such services as restaurants, stores, accommodation, golf courses, marinas, and beach concessions throughout Manitoba's provincial parks.
- There are 43 Special Consideration Organizations offering various educational, religious, and outdoor recreation programs.

Table PA.1
12.3(c) Parks and Natural Areas

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,802	30.42	1,801	1	
Other Expenditures	1,379		1,350	29	
Grant Assistance	477		472	5	
Total 12.3(c)	3,658	30.42	3,623	35	

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 harvest and renewal activities are implemented in a manner that conserves ecosystem diversity. The Forestry Branch reviews Forest Management License plans, and advises regional managers and enforcement personnel on forestry policies and procedures. The branch encourages diversification and growth of the forest industry along with the efficient use of Manitoba's forest resources.

To limit widespread tree mortality and timber losses, levels of protection are provided commensurate with social, economic and environmental values at risk. The branch advises and assists the public and industry with forest health issues on Crown land, private woodlots and urban forests. Standards for reforestation conducted by the province and companies have been established, and the success of forest renewal is monitored by Forestry Branch.

Administration

Branch administration establishes guidelines and ensures practices conform to department policies and government goals. It provides administrative support and personnel duties, prepares annual estimates, ensures expenditures conform to estimates and department policy, controls funds, monitors efficiency and effectiveness of expenditures and coordinates development of the annual work plan.

Key Results Achieved

- The Manitoba Model Forest was supported by in-kind contributions, including two representatives who sit as directors. The department continued to participate in the Canadian Forest Service's First Nations Forestry Program. A team comprised of First Nation's organizations, industry and government (federal and provincial) delivers this program, which is funded by the federal government.
- The branch managed and administered a grant of \$200,000 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 also provided a grant of \$23,400 and staff involvement to support educational programs delivered by the Manitoba Forestry Association, including an environmental education competition, Envirothon.

Forest Inventory and Resource Analysis

The Forest Inventory Program

The Forest Inventory Program is responsible for creating and maintaining a comprehensive, accurate and ecologically-based database of Manitoba's forests.

Objectives

- establishing standards for data collection by the private sector
- monitoring data collection processes
- aerial photography acquisition, photo-interpretation and database maintenance (geographic information system)
- developing and maintaining a database and digital Geographic Information System for the distribution of digital and hard copy forest inventory information to industry, government departments and the public and for monitoring and reporting on sustainability

Key Results Achieved

- A tendered imagery interpretation contract to capture a Forest Lands Inventory for a portion of the Highrock Forest Section, approximately 1.5 million hectares of forested area neared completion with approximately 131 tiles completed. A contract was signed with Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (MCCN) to interpret imagery acquired for MCCN Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) and reserve areas. The interpretation of an approximately 80,000 ha of Mathias Colomb First Nation TLE selection and reserve area was completed this year. Manitoba and MCCN are now working toward a data sharing agreement centered on this information.
- As part of the multi-year Highrock Forest Lands Inventory project, approximately 790,000 ha were interpreted across 156 tiles and delivered by QSP consulting and audited by branch staff. The contract to interpret and digitally capture the forest attributes is spread across a three-year time frame.
- The Forestry Branch has been working closely with the Canadian Forest Service to re-measure National Forest Inventory plots, established in 2007, that make up the “Manitoba Ecosystem Monitoring Network” in Manitoba. A total of 137 photo plots were acquired with 168 photo plots being interpreted and submitted. The additional plots were acquired from a crown corporation and used under a Memorandum of Understanding that had been developed. Only seven ground plots were re-measured due to access costs and reductions in funds for ground plot re-measurement. All data acquired was delivered to the National Forest Inventory project office for national compilation.
- Improvements and modernization of the provincial forest inventory Geographic Information System (GIS) are ongoing. Spatial datasets have been migrated from a legacy Unix based system to the Windows environment where the latest ArcGIS desktop software is used. Inventory workflows have been modernized that utilize new GIS software tools and older forest inventories and associated datasets reviewed to improve data quality.
- Several historical paper-based inventories (FMUs 35, 43, 46, and 47) that were in place prior to the implementation of the branch’s GIS, were digitized and added to the provincial database. The spatial comparison and evaluation of successive forest inventories on the same geographical land base will provide important information to measure forest succession changes through time.
- Forest Inventory staff also provided technical and mapping support for a variety of requests and played important roles in committees and activities beyond program objectives (e.g., mentoring GIS students in the GIS Diploma program at Red River College, co-chairing interdepartmental GeoManitoba committees tasked with improving the management and delivery of provincial spatial services, etc.).

The Forest Productivity Program

The Forest Productivity Program is responsible for establishing, managing, and processing databases using statistical/modelling techniques to predict growth, decay, yield and quality of Manitoba’s forests. The program provides the base information to assist in timber supply sustained yield projections, assessments of forest carbon storage and dynamics, development of provincial forest management plans and evaluation of silviculture activities.

Objectives

- establishing and maintaining permanent sample plots to measure growth rates and the long-term response to silvicultural treatments
- evaluating and quantifying the productivity of forests and forest lands
- quantifying the risks and losses in forest stands due to decay

- developing, evaluating and recommending forest growth projection systems that simulate the growth, yield and quality of commercial tree species in Manitoba
- developing cooperative systems of data collection, analysis and transfer with industry and other jurisdictions and the development of related standards

Key Results Achieved

- A \$1.2 million community-based timber volume sampling survey, jointly funded by the province and federal government, was completed within a portion of the Highrock forest section. The program directed funds to The Pas, a community impacted by the economic downturn, to hire displaced forestry workers and First Nation communities to deliver a two-year volume sampling survey as part of the provincial inventory process. The program provided training to participating individuals and enhanced the community's capacity to become engaged in sustainable resource planning and development discussions. The field survey and sampling commenced in March 2010 and was completed in November 2010. A total of 2,625 plots were established in 875 forest stands across the sampled area.
- Analyses were undertaken to obtain and improve estimates of forest carbon across the province and to integrate carbon reporting with the provincial wood supply determination process. Information was compiled for a case study area (portion of the Lake Winnipeg East forest section) and prepared for use with the Carbon Budget Model (CBM) developed by the Canadian Forest Service. Modeling analyses were completed to quantify and assess the impacts of various land use strategies, forest management practices, and natural disturbance events on the carbon balance within the study area. Carbon modelling analyses were also conducted to provide estimates of enhanced carbon sequestration resulting from a number of afforestation and tree improvement programs implemented within the province. Analyses were completed using CBM and estimates were provided to support provincial greenhouse gas reporting.
- A preliminary assessment of carbon storage within peatland ecosystems across the province was completed with collaboration and assistance from the Canadian Forest Service. The analysis provides standardized baseline information regarding Manitoba peatland ecosystems for consideration in climate change research and management planning. Further efforts are expected to continue to explore other mapping information and analysis techniques to improve peatland carbon estimates.
- The stem analysis database was expanded as an additional 37 trees were sampled. Information collected through the stem analysis surveys is used to construct models that describe stem form and tree growth.
- The Permanent Sample Plot (PSP) program re-measured 49 existing plots and established one new plot. The PSP program is a long term monitoring survey of established plots across the province. Information collected through this program will support the development of growth and yield models for the province.
- Yield curves were constructed using a variety of utilization standards for Forest Management Units (FMUs) 11 and 12 within the Mountain forest section. These curves will be used to support the calculation of sustainable harvest levels within these areas.
- Regionalized site index models were developed for major commercial tree species in Manitoba. The site index models will improve provincial estimates of site productivity and will enhance forest growth projections.

The Resource Analysis Program

The Resource Analysis Program is responsible for managing a forest resources information database and for establishing sustainable Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) levels.

Objectives

- leading the Forestry Branch in producing a timely, reliable, and informative timber supply analysis that reflects current integrated resource management strategies
- developing methods and models for timber supply analysis
- establishing provincial AAC levels
- evaluating and validating wood supply analysis prepared by industry
- Maintain a level of expertise to ensure awareness of the current knowledge and scientific techniques available

Key Results Achieved

- Supplemental wood supply analyses were completed within Forest Management License #1 to account for landbase changes as a result of the removal of harvesting within provincial parks. An addendum to the existing wood supply report was completed and is expected to be released in 2011/12.
- Additional wood supply analyses were completed to reflect the latest provincial utilization standard within the Pineland Forest Section. The wood supply report was prepared and is expected to be released in 2011/12 after an internal review has been completed.
- The provincial Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) table, which identifies regional sustainable harvest levels, was updated to reflect new utilization standards and changes in available landbase due to initiatives such as the exclusion of logging in provincial parks.
- In support of moose population management discussions within the Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch, wildlife habitat analyses were conducted using a forest management planning model for portions of the Mountain Forest Section and the Lake Winnipeg East Forest Section.
- Wood supply analyses continued within the Saskatchewan River forest section. In consultation with the Technical Advisory Committee, numerous scenarios were explored to support the development of a Base Case scenario.
- Preliminary work was completed within Forest Management Units 11 and 12 to process the Forest Lands Inventory within these areas to develop a planning inventory in anticipation of the upcoming wood supply analysis.
- Technical assessments were conducted to evaluate forest resources impacted by proposed developments and potential landbase withdrawals.

Forest Health and Renewal

The Forest Health and Renewal Section protects forests from damage by insects, disease and other factors, assists wildfire management and ensures all harvested Crown forest lands are renewed to maintain ecosystem integrity and biodiversity. The public and industry receive information and assistance on forest health and renewal issues from the section.

Surveys, efficacy tests and research on significant insects and diseases are conducted by the section. Significant pests and diseases monitored include spruce budworm, Dutch elm disease, jack pine budworm, elm bark beetles, Gypsy moth, dwarf mistletoe, western gall rust, Armillaria root rot, spruce beetle, eastern larch beetle and pine root collar weevil. Forest health data is collected in regeneration,

free-to-grow and pre-harvest surveys to develop management prescriptions and track substantially infected stands.

The Dutch elm disease (DED) management program seeks to reduce the impact of DED on urban elm populations by limiting the annual elm tree mortality to two per cent or less. The program manages DED in 31 communities in Manitoba and conducts surveys in a large buffer zone area surrounding the city of Winnipeg. The program is managed through annual cost share agreements between the province and participating communities. Under these agreements, the community and the province are each responsible for the implementation of a specific set of DED control measures. Major participating urban centres are Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Morden, Winkler, Dauphin, Steinbach, Selkirk and Swan River.

The Forest Renewal Program (delivered by Regional forestry staff) is administered and co-ordinated by this section. The section maintains the pool of site-preparation equipment and co-ordinates its use with Regional forestry staff. Renewal technology transfer to region staff is provided through field trials and promoting innovation. Regional renewal programs are also supported through administration and co-ordination of silviculture contracts and by assisting in the planning and delivery of vegetation management projects. The Manitoba Silviculture Technical Committee, comprised of government and industry foresters and technicians, encourages the exchange ideas and solutions and provides technology transfer.

The Trees for Tomorrow program, which started in 2008, is delivered by this section in partnership with The Manitoba Forestry Association. The goal of this program is to plant five million trees in five years. Trees are provided free for planting to private property owners, conservation districts, municipalities, First Nations, schools and non-government groups.

The objectives of the Tree Improvement Program are to provide a genetically improved seed source for reforestation and to ensure the conservation of the forest genetic resource. The program consists of eight government/industry co-operatives, along with Tolko Manitoba, Mountain Forest Section Renewal Company and Tembec. In addition, there are six separate provincial programs. Tree Improvement staff manage and provide technical direction for all programs and provide maintenance and assessment of family tests and management of seed orchards.

Key Results Achieved

The Spruce Budworm Program

Spruce budworm continued to infest certain areas of the province in 2010. In southwestern Manitoba, a single application of the biosynthetic insecticide, Mimic® 240 LV (tebufenozide) was applied aerially to a land base of 6,275 ha in Spruce Woods Provincial Park. The aerial application resulted in good budworm population suppression and foliage protection.

The Dutch Elm Disease (DED) Program

There were 7,130 elms marked for removal in 31 cost-share communities and in the buffer zones around Winnipeg and Brandon in 2010. High levels of DED persist along rivers, especially the Red, Assiniboine, and Souris Rivers. As of March 31, 2011, 6,281 elms were removed under the program. Removals should be completed by the end of spring.

The Rapid Removal DED Research Project conducted by the Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba completed its fifth season in 2010. The objectives of this project are to investigate the potential benefits of early removal of diseased elms to DED management and to find an environmentally friendlier alternative for the pesticide currently used to control native elm bark beetles. This project is a collaboration between the City of Winnipeg, Trees Winnipeg (Coalition to Save the Elms), Manitoba Conservation and the University of Manitoba (project lead).

Invasive Forest Pests Programs

The Forest Health Protection Act was proclaimed on April 23, 2009. The purpose of this legislation is to protect Manitoba's urban, rural and commercial forests from invasive pests by giving the province the ability to prevent the importation of invasive forest pests into Manitoba and to control or eradicate existing infestations. The new Act includes two regulations. The *Arborists Regulation (86/2009)* is a revised regulation for the licensing of Manitoba tree care workers. The *Forest Health Protection Regulation (87/2009)* includes general provisions on the movement and treatment of host tree material to prevent the spread of invasive pests, and it contains provisions to manage Dutch elm disease.

An Invasive Forest Pest Advisory Committee was formed to advise the Minister of Conservation on the management of impending invasive forest pests. This committee is comprised of representatives from several government levels and departments, local forest industry and academia. The first meeting was held in June 2010, and the topic of discussion was the emerald ash borer.

The Forest Health and Renewal Section had conducted in June 2009, a publicly supported aerial pesticide application program to eradicate Gypsy moth, an invasive forest pest, from two areas immediately south of the City of Winnipeg. Monitoring for Gypsy moth life stages continued in 2010. No life stages were found confirming the effectiveness of this eradication program. This pest had threatened the viability of the many nurseries in the area.

The expanded monitoring program for the banded elm bark beetle, another invasive forest pest, had no adults captured in the provincial traps in 2010. Monitoring for this pest continues.

For invasive forest pest prevention, Forest Health and Renewal established two more firewood collection bins along the Saskatchewan border, one at Highway 5 and the other at Highway 16. These bins, along with informative highway signs, warn the public that by transporting firewood they may be spreading invasive alien forest pests. Over 1000 pieces of wood were collected from the bins along the Trans-Canada Highway.

The Forest Renewal Program

The Manitoba Silviculture Technical Committee (MbSTC), comprised of government and industry foresters and technicians, continued its work of exchanging ideas and solutions and providing technology transfer. The MbSTC developed a guideline for procedures to identify blocks that would be exempt from meeting regeneration and free-to-grow standards. The MbSTC also recommended a change to the hardwood renewal survey procedures for the Mountain Forest Section, which was approved by the director of the Forestry Branch. MbSTC is presently reviewing hardwood renewal standards and preparing protocols for conducting aerial regeneration surveys of hardwood and softwood renewal blocks.

The Forest Health and Renewal Section tested Forestry Branch, contract and company surveyors, and Regeneration Surveyor Licenses were issued to qualified individuals. A successful re-certification program was continued for surveyors who were licensed the preceding year. An audit of surveys and check surveys that had been done by Tembec and Louisiana Pacific was completed. Louisiana Pacific and Tembec were issued a Certificate of Reforestation for successful forest renewal.

Regeneration surveys to determine the success of forest renewal were performed on 7677.41 ha. The Forestry Branch surveyed 4220.21 ha, licensed regeneration surveyors from the Mountain Forest Section Renewal Company surveyed 1162.8 ha, Tembec surveyed 298.3 ha and LP surveyed 1996.1 ha. Free to Grow (FTG) surveys were performed on a total of 3306.34 ha of softwood-dominated forest stands to determine if they are developing appropriately (i.e. surpassing competing tree species in height within 14-20 years of age). Two techniques were used, intensive and extensive. The Forestry Branch used the intensive survey technique on 1294.9 ha and the extensive technique on 636.4 ha for a total of 1931.3 ha. Tembec used the intensive survey technique on 975.06 ha and the extensive technique on 345.98 ha for a total of 1321.04 ha. The Mountain Forest Section Renewal Company did FTG surveys on 54.0 ha.

The Forestry Branch and industry carried out forest renewal treatments on 7,794.2 ha, including re-treatments. Most of the area was planted with approximately 10.3 million trees that were delivered through regular tendered contracts. Scarification was used to promote natural regeneration on 1,168 ha.

Approximately 6,301 ha of softwoods were harvested in 2009/10. In 2010/11, 7,656.6 ha were treated for reforestation. The rest was left to regenerate naturally, or will be planted or otherwise treated in the future. The majority of hardwood areas harvested were left to regenerate naturally because poplar regenerates readily from root suckering. An additional 137.6 ha of harvested area that had not been restocked sufficiently were re-treated by planting.

The Trees for Tomorrow Program

Through the Trees for Tomorrow program, the province and its partners committed to plant five million trees in five years. The program, which is part of Manitoba's Beyond Kyoto Climate Change initiative, started in April 2008, and will be completed in 2012. By the end of 2009/10, 1.06 million trees – mostly conifers and hybrid poplars, had been planted, and by the end of 2010/11, another 1.39 million trees had been planted. Another 1.75 million trees are scheduled to be planted in 2011/12.

The intent of the program is to involve the public and all levels of government in a co-ordinated program of public and private tree planting throughout Manitoba. School groups, municipal and First Nations governments and large and small scale landowners will be involved. In addition to distributing free trees, the program seeks to provide forestry conservation education and learning opportunities, as well as assistance to non-government groups, Conservation Districts, youth groups and schools. Manitoba Conservation and its delivery partner, the Manitoba Forestry Association, will deliver much of the planting effort through contracts with First Nations and other tree planting contractors.

The Tree Improvement Program

There are currently 14 seed orchards (62.9 hectares - over 60,000 trees) and 27 family tests (83.3 hectares – over 191,000 trees) across the province. Improved jack pine seed is available for the Eastern, Interlake and Northern jack pine breeding zones. Improved white spruce seed is available for the Mountain and Saskatchewan River breeding zones. Also, better quality white spruce seed is available from a seed production area in the Southeast breeding zone. Improved black spruce seed is available for the Lake Winnipeg East, Interlake, Saskatchewan River and Nelson River breeding zones. Better quality black spruce seed is available from a seed production area in the Southeast breeding zone. Genetically improved jack pine and black spruce will be available from other breeding zones in the future.

Cone crops were collected from the Hillside jack pine seed orchard – 13.5 hectoliters (Eastern Breeding Zone) and the Root Lake/Cranberry jack pine seed orchards - 10.125 hectoliters (Northern Breeding Zone) that will provide improved seed for reforestation for several years in these zones. Management continued on seed orchards and family tests were maintained as required. General seed collections were also conducted for red pine in the Southeast seed zone – 8.25 hectolitres.

**Table FO.1
Forest Renewal Activities**

	Manitoba Conservation	Tembec	Tolko Manitoba	MFSRC *	Total
Area Treated (hectares)	1850	919.6	3,513	1,374	7656.6
Area Retreated (hectares)	112.6		25	0	137.6
Total Treated Areas	1962.6	919.6	3,513	1,374	7794.2
Total Trees Planted (1000s)	3,551	1,104	4,101	1,551	10,307
Total Area Site Prepared for Renewal Treatment (hectares)	751.1		50	113.6	914.7
Total Area Tended (hectares)	0		0	487.3	487.3
General Cone Collections	8.3		0	0	
Seed Orchard Co-op Collections	23.6		0	0	31.9

* Mountain Forest Section Renewal Company

Forest Management and Development

The Forest Management and Development Section provides direction in five areas to regional forestry staff and forestry companies in Manitoba, with the vision of sustainably managing Manitoba's forest resource in the best interest of the forest and the people of Manitoba.

Timber Administration

- Administer timber management effectively and efficiently
- Provide cutting authority, monitor harvest volumes and collect timber sale revenue
- Establish, communicate and collect timber dues along with other fees and charges

Forest Management Planning and Forest Practices

- Ensure forest management planning is comprehensive and appropriate
- Develop guidelines for forest management planning
- Promote environmentally sustainable and economical forestry practices
- Monitor forestry operations with regional Conservation counterparts
- Maintain existing, and develop new, Forest Management Licence Agreements

Wood Measurement

- Ensure Manitoba scaling methods are consistent with national standards
- Ensure that all Crown timber harvested in Manitoba is accurately measured and tracked
- Provide training, licensing and monitoring of industry wood measurement programs
- Track the movement of Crown timber from forests to mill destinations

Legislation and Policy

- Ensure that forestry activities are properly authorized
- Maintain *The Forest Act*, Regulations and forestry policies

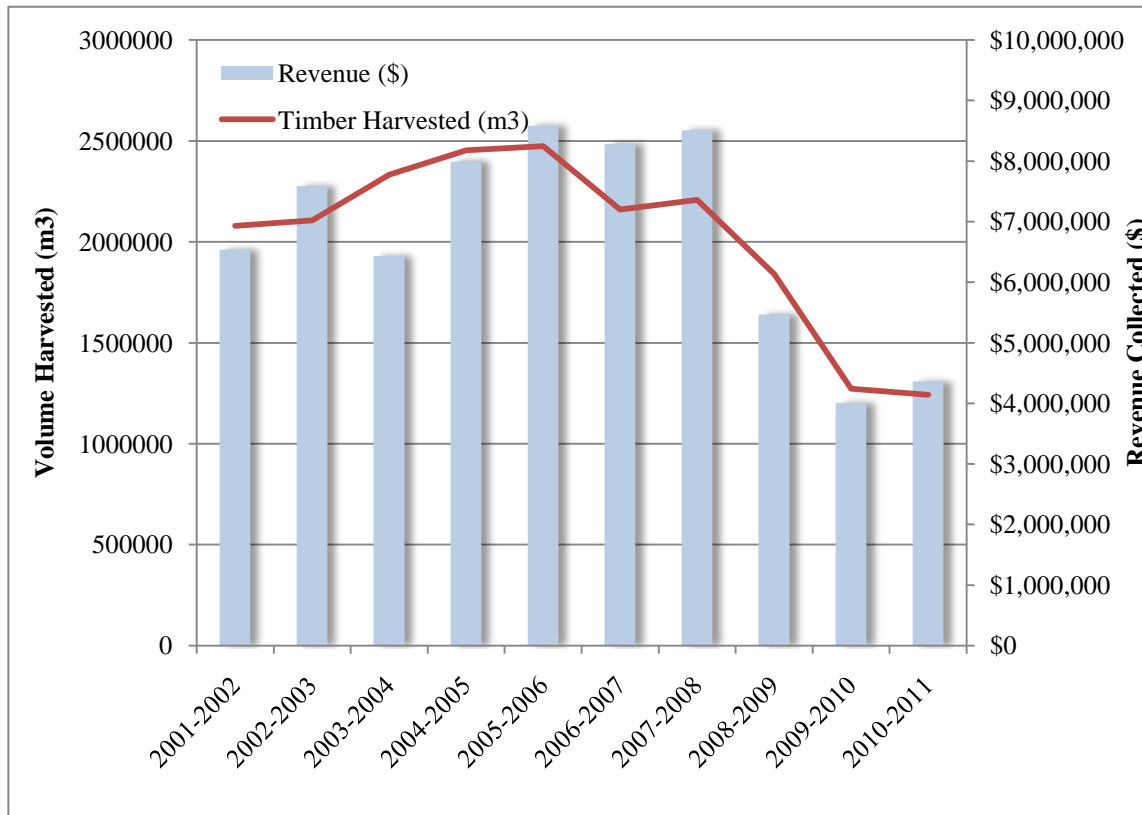
Key Results Achieved:

Timber Administration

The U.S. recession and reduced global demand for forest products continued in 2010/11. This resulted in generally weak commodity prices, and therefore, less Manitoba Crown timber was harvested in 2010/11 than was harvested annually prior to 2008. Manitoba's monthly commodity based timber pricing system, implemented on April 1, 2008, was reviewed again in 2010 and remained unchanged 2010/11. The system continued to respond quickly to forest product commodities with timber dues rising and falling with the market.

In total 1,242,098 m³ of Crown timber was harvested and/or delivered in Manitoba and \$4,355,621 in revenue was collected from timber dues, charges and fees in 2010/11. Both the volume of timber harvested and revenue collected has been severely affected by the depressed markets as well as the closure of Tembec's newsprint mill in Pine Falls on September 1, 2009.

Figure 5



In spite of the market down turn, the Section issued, administered, tracked and monitored:

- 2,617 licences and permits related to the harvest of Crown timber or the authorization of operations in Manitoba's Provincial Forests. This includes: Timber Dealer and Sawmill licences, Timber, Grazing, Operating and General Permits as well as Timber Sale Agreements and Miscellaneous Leases.
- 45,000 load slips (distributed to track each truck load of timber shipped).

As of April 1, 2010 the Forestry Branch implemented the 2010-15 Timber Quota Policy. The Manitoba Timber Quota System was introduced in June 1965 in order to provide the forest sector greater security of tenure, to promote increased investment and ensure benefits of forest based employment and production. Persons or companies with timber allocations prior to 1965 were granted annual Quota volumes to harvest on Crown land. The previous quota period and Timber Quota Policy ran from April 1st, 2005 to March 31st 2010. In 2010/11 there were 164 Quota holders who were allocated a total of 631,259 m³ of Crown Timber. The most significant amendment to the policy was providing quota holders greater flexibility in timing the harvest of their quota volume during the five year period.

Forest Management Planning and Forest Practices

Tolko, Louisiana Pacific and the Mountain Quota Holders Association all submitted annual operating plans for 2010/11, which were approved by Manitoba Conservation. Annual meetings were held with each licensee, and Annual Reports were reviewed.

The Forest Practices Committee, comprised of representatives from other branches and departments of the Government of Manitoba and the forest industry, continued to develop guidelines for forestry practices. Conservation published the *Forest Management Guidelines for Terrestrial Buffers* and, *Manitoba's Submission guideline for Forest Management Annual Reports* which can be found on the internet at:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/forestry/practices/guidelines.html>.

The committee continues to work on the *Forest Health Guidebook*, *Manitoba's Submission Guidelines for Forest Management Operating Plans*, and the *Protection of Understory Guidebook*,

Wood Measurement

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 scaler's license training course was held in Swan River in May, 2010. Thirteen candidates completed the course.

Licensed scalers are also required to complete a mandatory license refresher course every five years. One three-day refresher course was held in Swan River in May, 2010, with three candidates attending the course.

Following the results of the 2010 course there were 98 licenced scalers in Manitoba.

A new Scaling Manual was developed in 2010. The new manual was used during the 2010 scaling course and the final version is planned to be released in 2011.

To support the new timber administration system, Manitoba Conservation continued the measurement program initiated in 2007 to determine acceptable deductions for cull, defect and undersize material for timber received at Manitoba mills or exported out of province. In 2010/11 Forestry Branch regional staff measured approximately 20,000 "pieces" of timber.

Legislation and Policy

The Forest Act received Royal Assent in 2009 and was proclaimed in March 2011 with accompanying Forest Use and Management regulations. The Act emphasizes: timber administration and pricing; timber tracking and scaling; and enforcement, penalties and offences. This is the first significant amendment to

the Forest Act since it were first enacted and the first significant amendment to the Forest Use and Management Regulations since 1988.

Under the 2006 Canada – United States Softwood Lumber Agreement, Manitoba Forestry Branch participates in discussions with the federal government and other provinces and continues to provide notifications to Canada and the U.S. as required under the Agreement.

Sustainable Forestry Unit

The Sustainable Forestry Unit (SFU) promoted economic development through the forest industry. The SFU operated through the first half of 2010/11 providing support and advice to regional staff and other departments on Crown consultation. In addition, a multi-year “Manitoba Forest Industry Transportation Study” involving Central Tire Inflation technology was completed by FERIC in 2010/11. Working in partnership with Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, this study will lead to transportation insights and could lead to increased efficiencies for the trucking industry.

Table FO.2

12.3(d) Forestry

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	5,014	55.56	4,659	355	
Other Expenditures	5,375		6,102	(727)	
Grant Assistance	3		3	0	
Forest Regeneration Stock	990		901	89	
Less: Recoverable from Urban and Rural Initiatives	(808)		(978)	170	
Pineland Forest Nursery	0		0	0	
Total 12.3(d)	10,574	55.56	10,687	(113)	

Habitat Enhancement Fund

The Fund provided a grant to Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation in support of the co-operative Critical Wildlife Habitat Program. The grant funds stewardship initiatives targeted at habitat conservation activities, including mixed-grass prairie inventories, mixed-grass prairie grazing management, tall-grass prairie monitoring and management, other land-management activities on program lands, and extension initiatives. It is used to provide some of the provincial match required for Federal Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk allocations for Manitoba projects.

Table HE.1

12.3(e) Habitat Enhancement Fund

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Other Expenditures	50	0.00	50	0	
Total 12.3(e)	50	0.00	50	0	

Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection

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

Key activities include:

Administration

Grants were made to the:

- Churchill Northern Studies Centre (local research on wildlife and resource management)
- Manitoba Trappers Association (trapper education and involvement in fur management)
- Fur Institute of Canada (humane trap development and public information)
- Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (North American Waterfowl Management Plan and Critical Wildlife Habitat Program)
- Wildlife Habitat Canada
- Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre (educating Manitobans on benefits of wetlands)
- Manitoba Wildlife Federation (Hunter Education Program)
- Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre

The branch participates in various local, national, and international wildlife initiatives: Canadian Wildlife Directors' Committee, Arctic Goose Joint Venture, Canadian Polar Bear Administrative Committee, Mississippi Flyway Council, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre, Watchable Wildlife Program, Wildlife Habitat Canada and Prairie Habitat Joint Venture, and a variety of national committees on species at risk, such as the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.

Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch Website

The branch website (www.manitoba.ca/conservation/wildlife) continues to be an important tool to provide Manitobans with wildlife and habitat-related information and resources. Through the web, the branch is able to provide an overview of the mandate of the branch, information about branch programs, contact information, and information on current issues, such as dealing with problem wildlife. For further details on many of the branches activities please visit the website.

General Extension

During 2010/11, displays at Provincial Hunting Day, Manitoba Grazing School, Manitoba Conservation Districts Annual Meeting, the 13th North American Caribou Workshop, Ag Days and the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair were supported by Manitoba Conservation staff.

Staff continued to contribute to the Manitoba Envirothon, an environmental education program for high school students (Grades 9-12).

Provincial Hunting Day

A celebration was held on September 25, 2010 at Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area to recognize the contributions of hunting to Manitoba. Over 500 people attended the event.

Legislation

The *Polar Bear Protection Amendment Act* received royal assent on December 9, 2010. This Act will establish in law the International Polar Bear Conservation Centre to be constructed at the Assiniboine Park Zoo. The Act also designates an advisory committee to make recommendations on the operation of the Centre as well as strengthen and create new regulation making powers respecting the care of polar

bear cubs in zoos. Provisions in the Act also ensure that Manitoba polar bears placed in captivity remain the property of Manitoba throughout their lifetime.

Thirteen amending regulations were registered to adjust eight regulations under *The Wildlife Act*. The majority of amendments were required to facilitate regular annual updates to hunting and trapping season opening and closing dates. However, some of the highlights included the new Killarney deer management hunting season and the ability of permanent residents of Canada to now apply to become a hunting guide in Manitoba. (See website for details)

Wildlife Permits

The Branch administers permits and licences required under *The Wildlife Act* and *The Endangered Species Act*. Permits issued are various including (but not limited to) import and export permits, scientific research permits, possession permits and wildlife management area use permits. In total 1,403 permits were issued as well as 1,262 hunting guide licences (see website for detailed listing of permits issued by category).

As of 2012, a person must present a valid hunter education certificate in order to purchase a hunting licence. Therefore, a dramatic increase in the issuance of hunter education certificates has resulted (1,060 for 2010) and will continue over the next few years as people become more aware of this requirement.

Game, Fur and Problem Wildlife Management

Hunting is an important part of Manitoba's rich natural heritage. Manitoba Conservation is committed to: providing hunting opportunities for all Manitobans, ensuring that hunting has a positive future in the province, and exploring new and expanded hunting opportunities for Manitoba hunters and the non-resident hunting industry.

Conservation is the first priority of wildlife management and the second priority is to protect or ensure Aboriginal rights of harvest. When additional hunting opportunities are sustainable, and stakeholder consultation has occurred, seasons may be introduced as part of the department's annual process of reviewing hunting regulations. (See website for a detailed list of changes to seasons and limits).

Key activities include:

Waterfowl Management

The branch continues to be actively involved in the continental management of waterfowl, through cooperative delivery of programs, and formation of partnerships with other government departments and wildlife organizations. Waterfowl populations in Manitoba continue to be extremely healthy, providing extensive opportunity for viewing and hunting. There were a number of highlights.

- The branch makes annual recommendations to Environment Canada to amend migratory bird hunting regulations. Changes to the hunting of Sandhill Cranes were made as a result.
- Branch staff continued monitoring the Eastern Prairie Population (EPP) of Canada geese, which nest in the lowlands of Hudson Bay, with the states of the Mississippi Flyway, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Canadian Wildlife Service.
- Manitoba Conservation and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) continued to work closely on a variety of projects and monitoring programs, including the May Breeding Waterfowl and Habitat Survey, scientific permitting, urban goose issues, Giant Canada Goose banding, harvest surveys, and hunting regulations. Nearly 1,200 Canada Geese were banded in southern Manitoba in 2010. The branch is an active member of the Manitoba Mentored Hunt Partnership. The partnership and its volunteers ran numerous seminars, workshops, mentored hunts, and appreciation days for mentors and beginner hunters during the past year. In 2010, 13 events took place across the province introducing hundreds of people to safe and ethical hunting practices for waterfowl and

deer. Branch staff chair the Manitoba Game Bird Partnership to discuss regulation changes, new proposals, regulations and balance between resident and non-resident opportunity.

- In 2010, branch staff gave 10 lectures about game birds.

Non-migratory Game Bird Management

Manitoba Conservation continued to work with other agencies to preserve grassland habitat and advance sustainable agriculture practices (e.g., winter cereals, zero-tillage, delayed haying) critical to the long-term status of upland game bird populations in Manitoba, especially Sharp-tailed Grouse and Gray Partridge. Relatively low numbers of upland game hunters in Manitoba and the strong compensatory relationship between hunting and upland game populations precludes the need for direct, intensive harvest management of upland game birds in Manitoba. Although few structured surveys are conducted for upland game birds in Manitoba, evidence suggests the distribution of grouse remains widespread across the province. Maintenance of large tracts of habitat (provincial WMAs, provincial forests, Community Pastures, NCC land, DUC land) is extremely beneficial to upland game bird populations.

Wild turkeys continue to be abundant in southern Manitoba, although inclement weather during the nesting and brood-rearing period in 2009 and 2010 may have temporarily depressed the population. A report on the 2010 Wild Turkey hunter survey is near completion. Manitoba Conservation continues to work closely with partners and volunteers to monitor populations and to establish new flocks of wild turkeys in areas of appropriate habitat.

White-tailed Deer

- Province-wide, the white-tailed deer population has declined. However, in some areas deer numbers remain high, generally in areas where supplemental feeding occurs and hunting is not allowed. This past winter, most areas of the white-tailed deer range experienced below normal snowfall, while the Duck Mountain and portions of eastern Manitoba had normal amounts. Accumulations of snow did not occur until later in January and an early snowmelt in March resulted in below average deer winter mortality.
- In 2010/11, a total of 48,463 resident licences were sold for archery, muzzleloader, shotgun/muzzleloader, general rifle, second and third. A total of 793 non-resident licences were sold for archery, muzzleloader and general rifle seasons. A total of 719 foreign resident licences were sold in 2010/11. A second deer-only licence, and in some areas a third such licence, was offered in those areas where there is a concern that a fatal parasite is being transferred from deer to moose.
- A late-January, two-week, deer season was initiated in the Killarney area to reduce deer numbers. 200 licences were made available on a first-come first-served basis to resident hunters. The season was viewed as a success by area residents and town people with about 97 deer being harvested.

Black Bear

- The black bear population in Manitoba is considered to be stable in most areas to growing in agro-forest fringe areas at between 25,000 and 35,000 animals. Current harvest levels (6 to 8% of the total population) are sustainable (3,237 hunters, 1,750 bears). Total licence sales have been steadily declining since 2005, about 12% overall. For the second year in a row, the trend of resident hunters outnumbering foreign-resident hunters continues.

Moose

- Moose populations remain low in the Turtle Mountain, Interlake (GHA 21), Whiteshell (GHA 36), Duck Mountain (GHAs 18-18C), Swan-Pelican (GHAs 14-14A) and Eastside (GHA 26) areas, due, in part, to the slow recovery of these populations from losses to winter tick infestations in the west and

brainworm and liver flukes in the east, as well as increased access created by expanding forest extraction activities, the creation of resource roads and trails, and wolf predation. All seasons for licensed moose hunters were closed in Duck Mountain and Eastside areas. Discussions commenced with various communities towards closing those same critical areas to moose hunting by rights-based hunters. The moose population in Riding Mountain continues to increase. Moose populations in other areas of the province seem stable, although below carrying capacity. Licence sales have been declining sharply since 2006/2007, about 28% overall.

Elk

- Province-wide, the elk population is stable and estimated at 6,500 animals. The Duck Mountain herd remains stable at approximately 1,700 animals and the Porcupine Mountain herd remains stable at approximately 300 animals. The Spruce Woods population remains at approximately 600 animals. The South Interlake elk population is approximately 1,000 animals. The Riding Mountain area population is estimated at approximately 1,800 animals, below the target of 2,500. The Vita elk population in the southeast was surveyed and 97 elk were counted.
- In 2010/11, a total of 2,694 elk licences were sold for resident rifle, archery, and landowner seasons.

Caribou

- In GHA 1, the Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou population is estimated at approximately 345,000 ($\pm 46,000$ animals), a decrease from 1994 when 495,000 animals were estimated. This caribou population is hunted by Inuit and First Nations in Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Manitoba, and licensed resident, non-resident and foreign resident hunters in the three jurisdictions. The Beverly & Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board remains very active and provides significant contributions to the management of the Qamanirjuaq herd. In Manitoba, resident caribou licences are available for GHAs 1, 2 and 3. In 2010/11, a total of 881 resident licences and 200 special allocation non-resident/foreign resident licences were sold. Multiple GPS radio-collars are currently deployed on females in the Qamanirjuaq, Cape Churchill, and Pen Island herds to monitor and track seasonal migration and local movement.

Gray Wolf

- Wolves are common throughout forested and tundra habitats and are becoming increasingly common along the fringes of agricultural areas. Modelling suggests wolves are hindering the recovery of moose populations in areas where they are depressed. As a result, the bag limit was increased to two wolves in the Duck Mountain and Eastside areas. Most wolf harvest is incidental while hunters are hunting for other big game species. It is estimated that fewer than 100 wolves are killed annually by hunters.

Diseases in Wildlife

- Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Parks Canada Agency (PCA), and Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the main program partners, prepare an annual Implementation Plan for Bovine TB Management in Manitoba, detailing surveillance, scientific studies to understand disease dynamics, disease containment, and eradication. Collectively, the agencies form the Bovine TB Task Group and review past work and plan for future endeavours.
- Over 12,500 elk and deer samples have been examined in the Riding and Duck Mountain areas, GHAs 18B, 18C, 23 and 23A, between 1997 and 2010. In these areas, all elk and deer hunters are required to submit biological samples for disease testing, and PCA conducts annual live-capture and blood testing of elk and deer within Riding Mountain National Park (RMNP). In 2010, three elk tested through PCA's live-capture and blood testing program were confirmed positive for bovine TB.

- Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease affecting the deer family (cervids), including elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer and moose. This disease has been found in captive and wild deer and elk in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and several states. Despite management and containment efforts, the disease is expanding in Saskatchewan and Alberta. The department remains vigilant in efforts to prevent the disease from spreading into the province and continues to monitor and consult with jurisdictions that have the disease, regarding research, management activities and control practices.
- A total-count, 100% coverage, aerial survey was conducted of that part of GHA 22 west of PTH 83. The survey was designed to determine populations and to create density maps of all cervids, elk, deer, and moose, and to locate and identify potential disease-transmission risk sites. The survey conducted with rotary aircraft and helicopter, found 2,876 deer, 42 elk, 159 moose, and identified 39 risk sites.
- A joint aerial survey with PCA was conducted of the bovine TB Core Area to facilitate PCA's live-capture and blood testing. A 100% helicopter survey of the Core Area inside RMNP counted 198 deer, 275 elk, and 675 moose.
- All hunter-harvested deer and elk in GHAs 5, 6, 6A, 11, 12, 13, 13A, 18, 18A, and part of 22 (west of PTH 83) must be submitted to Manitoba Conservation for CWD testing. A number of local businesses agreed to support this program by accepting biological samples from hunters. To date, CWD has not been detected in Manitoba's wild or captive cervids. Containment efforts in Saskatchewan and Alberta were monitored.
- In an effort to increase sample submission and recognize hunters' contributions in wildlife disease monitoring, a prize draw was held at the Big Game Trophy Night in Winnipeg.

Foreign Resident Hunting Licence Allocation Program

- In 2010 some 1,500 bear licences, 700 foreign resident deer licences, 200 non-resident/foreign resident caribou licences, and 125 moose licences were purchased by foreign resident hunters.

Hunting Licences Sold

- In 2010/11, a total of 79,933 hunting licences were sold resulting in revenue of \$3,331,867 (see the web site for a detail listing of licences sold by category).

Big Game Monitoring

The dynamics of some big game populations are evaluated annually to provide input to decisions on hunting seasons and other management tasks. There are three main categories of information, gathered through the following activities:

- Winter aerial surveys of some populations to estimate abundance, sex and age composition, recruitment and distribution.
- Hunter questionnaires to estimate harvests, hunter effort and hunter distribution.
- Some biological specimen collection to assess age and reproductive status.

All data are entered into computer simulations (models) to estimate the consequences of alternative management options.

- **Aerial Surveys** – In 2010/11, the aerial survey program focused on population estimates for the following big game species and areas: moose in GHA 14; moose in GHA 17A; moose in GHA 21A; white-tailed deer in GHA 22 (west of PTH 22); and, elk in GHA 35A (Vita area).
- **Biological Specimen Collection** – Hunters were required to submit teeth and reproductive tracts from harvested female black bears. These samples provide information on the reproductive status

and potential orphaning rate of harvested females. Typically, samples are obtained from about 65% of the annual estimated female bears harvested. Analysis of the 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 samples is ongoing.

- **Hunter Questionnaires, Big Game Seasons** – In 2010/11, the Big Game Hunter Questionnaire Program contacted 14,740 big game hunters to obtain information about big game harvest and hunting effort in Manitoba. Draw licence holders (3,308) received a personalized questionnaire in the mail. Non-draw licence holders (11,432) received a postcard in the mail requesting that they complete the questionnaire online (www.manitoba.ca/huntsurvey).

Problem Wildlife

A broader “Be Wildlife Smart” education and outreach campaign is being developed to mirror the Bear Smart Initiative where education is the key to effect a change in human behaviour and thereby conserve wildlife as fewer numbers of bears, coyotes, wolves and foxes would have to be removed.

Manitoba Conservation received 1,504 black bear occurrence reports in 2010/11. Of these 971 were investigated by staff. Of those investigated, 20 percent were from recreational areas, 23% from rural agriculture areas, 53% from rural residential areas and 4% from urban areas. Of the occurrences investigated staff found that 38 of these involved people deliberately feeding bears.

Three workshops, with the theme of “Thinking Like a Wolf”, were organized for trappers and livestock producers to build capacity at the community level for people to address wolf predation conflicts.

The Problem Beaver Management Program was implemented for the ninth consecutive year with the subsidy increased to \$20. per beaver in winter. Over 8,300 beaver were removed under this program. Due to the extensive flooding in many areas, a further increase of the subsidy to \$50 per beaver and a beaver dam removal program were announced and will be implemented during the 2011/12 year.

A Problem Predator Removal Services Program was provided to Manitoba agriculture producers and other property owners through an agreement with the Manitoba Trappers Association (MTA) and Manitoba Agriculture Services Corporation (MASC). A total of 57 MASC claims were dealt with in 2010/11 and lesser and 20 wolves, 273 coyotes and 10 foxes were removed.

The Wildlife Crop Damage Compensation Program, administered by MASC, under Wildlife Regulation reimburses producers 80% of the assessed value for wildlife damages to beehives and produce, for deer, elk and bear damage to crops and property, and for livestock loss or injuries from predators such as coyotes and wolves. In 2010/11, MASC paid for damages caused by 68 deer claims and 109 elk claims to standing crops and stored hay that amounted to \$231,894 - much lower than the previous year. A total of 115 black bear claims accounted for an additional \$204,077 in damage claim - much higher than the previous year. The waterfowl crop damage compensation claims decreased from \$1,166,196 (305 claims) the year previous to 228 claims totalling \$616,855 in 2010/11. Damage by black bears to leafcutter bee operations increased to \$128,496 (24 claims) while damage to honey operations increased to \$128,496 (98 claims).

The compensation claims under the Predator/Livestock Damage Compensation Program also administered by MASC increased to \$610,127.

Manitoba entered into a three-year federal-provincial cost-shared agreement with Environment Canada to administer and deliver the Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention Program. This agreement ensures a continuance of the program to prevent damages by waterfowl (ducks, geese and Sandhill Cranes) to cereal grains.

Manitoba Conservation implemented the “Be Bear Smart” initiative with the goal to teach people how to reduce conflicts with black bears thereby increasing human safety and protecting private property. Throughout 2010/11, branch staff held “Be Bear Smart” workshops for 200 people and informational

displays several thousand more. Support was also provided to provincial park interpreters for their Bear Smart programs, where over 5,000 people attended 67 separate events in 2010/11. "Bear Kits" were developed for use when travelling in bear country.

Grand Beach Provincial Park continued to be the main focus of the Bear Smart initiative. Traditional waste collection bins were replaced with 25 bear-proof semi-automated containments and collection system, with more to be installed in future years.

Furbearer Management

The program helps to sustain populations of furbearers and promotes optimum harvests and economic, social, and cultural returns to trappers and their families. Both furbearer production and the number of each species sold by trappers are monitored. The program encourages humane trapping and promotes education and public understanding of furbearer management and the fur industry.

- Trapping licence/permit sales reached 7,579 in 2009/10, up from 7,183 from the previous year. See website for detailed fur statistics.
- Marten are the most valuable furbearing species taken by trappers in Manitoba. The harvest in 2009/10 decreased to 16,160 animals from 20,839. This drop was expected as the population entered the trough of the four-year cycle.
- Lynx cycles continue to recover from the very low numbers in the 1980s, although his last reporting year of 2009/10 saw a decrease to 517 animals. Coyote harvests were down to 5,528 animals, from 6,854 the previous year. The number of animals abundant and sustainable in Manitoba, but likely dropping. Harvest peaks over the last few decades appear to be based on higher pelt prices, compared to the cyclical 10-year peaks seen in the first half of the 20th Century.
- Red fox harvest was down to 1,399 this past year, compared to 1,908 in 2008/09. Harvest is partly influenced by trapper effort and the presence of other wild canids, which can displace fox.
- A decrease occurred in the otter harvest, to 877 this year, as compared to 1,045 last year. The harvest levels have been depressed for several years due to reduced market demand for this species.
- The arctic fox harvest dropped drastically to only three animals reported, as compared to 78 animals last year. This species depends heavily upon small mammals for food, and are thus influenced by those population numbers.
- A lower average price for beaver pelts (\$14.01 in 2009/10) caused the harvest to drop to 10,499 animals. At the same time, populations remained relatively high in the agricultural areas.
- Wolverine populations are still believed to be stable-to-increasing. The harvest in 2009/10 was 39 animals, down from 52 of previous year.
- The bobcat harvest varies considerably, with 22 taken in 2009/10.
- Staff worked with the Fur Institute of Canada's Trap Research and Development Committee on humane trapping devices and manufacturing standards which are listed in the Manitoba Trapping Guide.
- Considerable effort was put into education services in 2010/11 fiscal year, leading to 234 students completing the Mandatory Trapper Education exam.

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 three main program areas co-ordinated in part by a standardized spatial computer database maintained by the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre: Inventory and Monitoring, Conservation Status Assessment, and Recovery or Management. Other key section activities include Policy and Procedures development and Education, Research and Outreach.

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 (WMAs), wildlife refuges and special conservation areas.

The Habitat Stewardship Unit is responsible for development and management of provincial projects including Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP) for Species at Risk and management of the Agro-Manitoba Critical Wildlife Habitat Program (CWHP), a cooperative initiative with the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (MHHC). The CWHP goal is to identify, preserve and manage remaining critical habitats, especially native grasslands.

Habitat Stewardship

Program activities include development of species and landscape priorities for Manitoba, development and review of proposals, recommendations for funding, and project implementation. In 2010/11 \$793,600 in federal funding was received for HSP projects in Manitoba with \$713,600 of that going to joint Manitoba Conservation - MHHC projects. Matching funds and in-kind contributions (minimum of 1:1 match) were provided by the province, and project partners. CWHP funds provide a portion of the provincial cash match.

Tall Grass Prairie Preserve

The Department chaired the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve Management Committee which included MHHC, Nature Manitoba, Environment Canada and the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC). The committee produced an annual work plan for the Preserve. The Department funded some of the project delivery costs. Some highlights included:

- Year 12 of the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship Program. Eighty-six birds were banded and 25 birds recaptured. Eighteen bird species were recorded during surveys.
- Four Endangered plants including Western Prairie Fringed-orchids were found on five new NCC properties and one conservation agreement (800 acres in total).
- Three grazing agreements on 7 quarter sections of Preserve land totaling 1,120 acres were issued. Vegetation monitoring was conducted to determine the benefits of grazing on the tall grass prairie ecosystem.
- Permits for 4 new university research projects were issued. Presentations/field trips delivered to over 300 students from seven schools. Over 90 people attended the 2010 Prairie Day held at the Preserve.

Mixed-grass Prairie Projects

The Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project promotes agricultural activities that incorporate wise land stewardship and biodiversity conservation. As part of a strategic approach to mixed-grass prairie, this project raises landowner awareness of the value of native grasslands and guides future management and stewardship activities by providing inventory information to focus conservation efforts. Sustainable prairie management techniques such as burning or brush mowing are implemented on project lands. Habitat changes as a result of management practices are evaluated as well as the effects of management on diversity and density of grassland birds.

- Mixed-grass Prairie Inventory: The goal of this component is to determine the extent and quality of mixed-grass prairie habitat remaining in Manitoba. A total of 25 sites, totalling 2998

ha (7408 acres) on 56 quarter sections were inventoried. Of the prairie inventoried to date (77,590 ha or 191,722 acres), 60% has been graded as “C” or better, which means it is in good condition. Interviews with 89 land owners of high quality prairie have been conducted to document management practices and to increase their awareness of conservation initiatives and species at risk.

- **Mixed-grass Prairie Grazing:** This component works with cow/calf operators who graze native pastures by entering into 5-year agreements to implement twice-over rotational grazing on sites containing suitable habitat for species at risk. Nine such agreements were signed to protect 1,300 ha of native grasslands. Extension activities included a tour where 22 participating landowners were informed of how the twice-over system can be used as a tool to enhance native grasslands for wildlife and livestock producers. Cattle were weighed before/after grazing to collect data on rate of gain and pasture performance to document the financial benefits of this grazing system.

Other activities included:

- Mowing to control shrubs on approximately 360 acres for seven landowners.
- A prescribed burn on 30 acres under a grazing agreement and creation of fire guards for two other properties (200 acres), including one site containing the Endangered hairy-prairie clover.
- Participation in Manitoba Grazing School, Manitoba Conservation Districts Annual Convention and the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association Annual Meeting.

Wildlife Lands Unit

The Wildlife Lands Unit delivers the Heritage Marsh Program, an initiative to celebrate and better manage Manitoba's large wetland complexes. This includes land acquisition, habitat restoration, enhancement, vegetation and wildlife surveys, support for research, and the development of wildlife viewing and interpretation facilities. The Section also cooperates with the Tourism Secretariat of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism in the provision of wildlife-viewing facilities associated with the Watchable Wildlife Program. Key activities include:

- **Wildlife Management Area Program** - Standard boundary signs were produced for WMAs and refuges.
- **Heritage Marsh Program:** A multi-agency working group continued to develop a strategy to restore Delta Marsh.
- **Land Management and Use:** Over 500 land-use proposals were reviewed to assess impacts to wildlife habitat. These included applications for general permits and leases, sales, and exchanges of Crown land, Treaty Land Entitlement and municipal development plans and zoning by-laws and amendments. Policy proposals were reviewed to evaluate impacts on wildlife, habitat, land management, and use.

Manitoba Conservation Data Centre

The Manitoba Conservation Data Centre (CDC) enables the province to participate in International, National and Provincial programs. The CDC program is used in Protected Areas Planning, Resource Management, and Environmental Impact Assessment in keeping with provincial principles of sustainable ecological development. The CDC is a member of NatureServe International (www.natureserve.org), a network of over 80 similar centres monitoring biodiversity throughout the Western Hemisphere, and also a member of NatureServe Canada. The CDC completes an annual exchange of data integrating Manitoba's data with the entire network. Information from the Canadian CDC databases is recognized by Canadian Wildlife Service and Parks Canada as being a key component of their efforts to monitor and conserve species at risk. Key results included:

- Production of updated maps and identification guides for plant species at risk in southeast Manitoba enabling the maintenance of road allowances while avoiding areas where species at risk.
- Partnerships with Nature Conservancy Canada and others, whereby CDC staff provide information and expertise to assist with field surveys of species at risk undertaken by these organizations.
- The CDC answered 219 information requests from governments, consultants and researchers using the rare species Biotics database. The CDC also answered requests on environmental impact assessment development proposals under *The Environment Act*. Managing and responding to these requests took 168 hours with an average response time of 6 days.
- **Biotics Database Summary** – An informational summary of Manitoba Conservation Data Centre's Biotics Database can be viewed on our website.

Inventory and Monitoring Program

- **Rare Plant and Animal Inventory and Monitoring** – Information on 82 rare and uncommon plant and animal species was documented by the CDC through field surveys, acquisition of data from partners, and reports submitted to the CDC by other sources. Fifty-nine properties (approximately 9440 acres) were surveyed, including 28 privately owned locations, and many right-of-ways. Data collected updated 20 previously known occurrences and documented 4 new occurrences. Highlights included the discovery of hundreds of rare plant occurrences including Western silvery aster plants on several properties south of Birds Hill Provincial Park. New occurrences of Smooth goosefoot and Hairy prairie clover were also discovered.
- **Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas and Surveys** – Manitoba Conservation, with 6 partner organizations, launched this pioneering project in 2010. The Atlas attracted over 400 volunteers who logged more than 4,500 hours of survey effort and contributed over 1,000 source features to the Manitoba CDC. Two species were confirmed breeding in the province for the first time and range extensions were documented for many others (*Blue Jay* 68: 114 - 123). Over 3,700 point counts were conducted which, when combined with the thousands more that will be completed over the last four years of this project, will provide the first comprehensive database on bird distribution and abundance for all of Manitoba. For more information on the Atlas project, go to <http://birdatlas.mb.ca/>. Manitoba Conservation also coordinates the longer term provincial Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) - <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/>. Fifty-four routes were completed in 2010.
- **Threatened Grassland Bird Monitoring** – Only 5 nesting pairs of Burrowing Owls were located and nesting success was hampered by an extremely wet summer in southwestern Manitoba. In contrast, breeding Ferruginous Hawks increased to 41 pairs due to the provision of nesting platforms in southwestern Manitoba. This species was absent from Manitoba from the early 1920s through 1984. Loggerhead Shrike declined noticeably in Manitoba and elsewhere in its range. Only 46 nests were located, much reduced from the 327 pairs present in 1993. Recent declines are attributed to higher mortality on migration, and while breeding due to cool, wet summers. Sprague's Pipit, Baird's Sparrow, and Chestnut-collared Longspur declined throughout their Canadian prairie range. Recent occurrence data on these species is used by Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation and the Nature Conservancy of Canada to protect their critical habitat and to increase public awareness of the plight of many grassland wildlife species.
- **Owl Monitoring** – The Manitoba Volunteer Nocturnal Owl Survey completed its 20th year with 94 volunteers surveying 94 routes covering 1,514 km. Surveyors detected 254 owls. The two most abundant species detected were the Northern Saw-whet Owl and the Great Horned Owl. The detection rates (number per kilometre) for most owl species increased from 2009. The survey contributed to a national owl monitoring program and the Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas. Other owl monitoring programs included the completion of a 25-year study of Manitoba's provincial bird, the Great Gray Owl, and its prey. All Great Gray Owl nests were successful which coincided with an

increase in Meadow Voles, their main prey. One Short-eared Owl was banded satellite marked at Oak Hammock Marsh as part of a North American migration study.

Conservation Status Assessment Programs

Participation on international and federal-provincial working groups and committees ensures that Manitoba's efforts to assess and conserve biological diversity are co-ordinated with those of other countries and Canadian jurisdictions. Implementing programs for species at risk and biodiversity demonstrates Manitoba's commitment to the Accord and the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy. These include the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada and the Manitoba Endangered Species Advisory Committee.

- **Canadian Biodiversity: Ecosystem Status and Trends 2010** – The branch coordinated the department's contribution to this report (www.biodivcanada.ca) which assessed the "Healthy and Diverse Ecosystems" component of the Biodiversity Outcomes Framework. It provides an ecosystem perspective on biodiversity and reports key findings in terms of four themes: biomes; human/ecosystem interactions; habitat, wildlife and ecosystem processes; and science/policy interface. Case studies are profiled representing all jurisdictions and ecosystems.
- **Wild Species 2010: The General Status of Species in Canada** – A total of 11,950 Manitoba species were assessed included the reassessment of 8 taxonomic groups and new assessments for 11 other groups. The branch coordinated Manitoba's contribution to this report (<http://www.wildspecies.ca/>).

Recovery and Management Program

Recovery efforts were supported for many endangered species in Manitoba. Highlights of some of these efforts are presented below.

- **Butterfly Species at Risk Recovery** – Research and monitoring with the University of Winnipeg expanded to include Dakota Skippers as well as the Poweshiek Skippers to guide survey efforts and improve management strategies. Graduate students examined known sites for Dakota Skipper in the Interlake and southwestern Manitoba and Poweshiek Skippers at the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve. Collaboration continued with the National Recovery Teams for Ottoe Skipper, Poweshiek Skipper and White Flower Moth.
- **Piping Plover Recovery Program** – Nesting populations in Manitoba have declined from 130 birds in 1990 to eight nesting birds (four pairs) in 2010 due to habitat loss caused by persistent high nesting lake water levels and vegetation encroachment on nesting beaches (Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg). A Plover Guardian program at popular sites like Grand Beach has educated the public and protected nests. Recovery activities included habitat restoration at several key nesting sites, protective fencing and signage to minimize disturbance and predation, and intensive surveillance of nests and young by guardian volunteers to maximize plover productivity. Productivity of nesting pairs has more than doubled in recent years.
- **Manitoba Grassland Birds at Risk Recovery Initiatives** – Recovery efforts for Burrowing Owls included experimental releases carried out in conjunction with the University of Winnipeg, Assiniboine Zoo and Fort Whyte Alive. Three Conservation Districts assisted with public awareness programs and the installation of artificial nesting burrows. Over 400 Ferruginous Hawk nest structures have been installed in large trees. Most of Manitoba's nesting Ferruginous pairs have used artificial nests, resulting in enhanced productivity and survival. Recent Loggerhead Shrike recovery efforts have focussed on studying what limits breeding success, survival and migration by banding young in monitored nests and actively searching for returning young. Protective nest covers have reduced predation of eggs or young in some areas.

- **Boreal Woodland Caribou Recovery** – Manitoba Conservation chaired 3 regional management advisory committees (Eastern Region, Northwest Region and the Northeast Region) that included representatives of First Nations, industry and stakeholder groups. Manitoba was also represented on the National Boreal Woodland Caribou Technical Committee and on a scientific review committee tasked with identifying critical habitat. Work continued on a National Recovery Strategy consultation process in Manitoba and section staff participated in a number of planning meetings to review informational materials and consultation strategies.

Research Permits

Twenty-seven requests for scientific non-game wildlife research permits were reviewed and approved from researchers within and outside of Manitoba investigating the biology and ecology of species ranging from endangered butterflies to frogs, snakes, small mammals, raptors and polar bears.

Endangered Species and Biodiversity Fund

The Endangered Species and Biodiversity Fund (ESBF) provided funding for projects that inventory and monitor endangered plants and animals or wildlife species of conservation concern that are delivered by government or non-profit nongovernment organization. All projects must meet provincial and federal regulatory requirements. The Fund granted the entire \$125,000 to 7 applicants.

Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention Agreement

Less than ideal fall harvest conditions in south-central Manitoba contributed to delayed harvest in several locations. These conditions resulted in increased compensations claims from the previous year due to damage caused by ducks, geese and Sandhill Cranes. The program operated two feeding stations and nine Crown land lure crops in damage-prone areas. Of these lure crops eight could not be salvaged due to excessive moisture conditions. The program provides farmers with cracker shells, lends scarecrows and propane scare cannons to protect crops. A total of 23 scare-cannon depots were set up to provide farmers ready access to equipment.

The program operated within the context of a Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention Agreement.

**Table WI.1
Wildlife Permits Issued, 2010**

Provincial Permits/Licences	
Amphibian and Reptiles Picking Permit	1
Dead Wild Animal Possession Permit (educational)	6
Dead Wild Animal Possession Permit (personal)	77
Disabled Hunter Permit (permanent)	20
Disabled Hunter Permit (discharge firearm)	4
Crossbow Permit	8
Dog Trainer's Licence (non-resident)	2
Dog Training Club Licence	3
Exotic Animal Import Permit	0
Field Trial Permit	0
Live Exotic Animal Possession Permit	0

**Table WI.1
Wildlife Permits Issued, 2010**

Provincial Permits/Licences	
Live Wild Animal Possession Permit	10
Power Boat in Marsh Permit	1
Serve Meat of Wild Animal Permit	4
Species At Risk Permit	5
Use Vehicle Off Designated Route Permit	0
Wild Animal Capture Permit	3
Wild Animal Export Permit	974
Wild Animal Import Permit	17
Wild Animal Kill Permit	1
Wild Animal Part Dealer Permit	37
Wildlife Farm Licence	5
Wildlife Management Area Use Permit	35
Wildlife Scientific Permit	20
Game Bird Farm Licence	6
Taxidermist Licence	62
Tanner's Licence	8
Fur Dealer's Licence	55
Travelling Fur Dealer Licence	11
Total (Provincial Permits/Licences):	1,375
OTHER:	
Hunting Guide Licence	1,262
Hunter Education Certificate Declaration approvals	1,060

Table WI.2
Hunting Licences Sold 2010/2011

Type of Licence	Fee \$	Number Sold	Revenue \$
Game Bird			
Resident	20.95	11,354	227,098
Non-resident	79.05	673	52,615
Foreign resident	147.62	3,996	586,643
Wild Turkey			
Resident	21.90	971	20,396
Resident – Youth	4.76	74	289
Moose			
Resident	49.52	3,500	170,766
Resident – Conservation	79.05	115	8,911
Non-resident	284.76	14	3,985
Foreign resident	342.86	124	42,391
Elk			
Resident	49.52	2,694	133,407
Caribou			
Resident	44.76	547	24,484
Resident – Second	98.10	334	32,765
Foreign resident / Non-resident	342.86	200	68,372
Black Bear			
Resident	29.52	1,650	47,193
Non-resident	98.10	74	7,231
Foreign resident	206.67	1,499	308,312
Deer			
Resident	34.29	42,075	1,401,812
Resident – Second	20.00	5,582	106,221
Resident – Third	20.00	218	4,155
Non-resident	147.62	781	114,733
Foreign resident	206.67	703	144,586
Youth Hunting Licence Package			
Resident	9.52	3,436	29,376
Total Licence Sales			
Resident		72,550	2,206,873
Non-resident		1,542	178,564
Foreign Resident		6,522	1,150,305
Replacement	10.00	114	1,140
Grand Total		80,614	\$3,536,882

Notes:

1. Statistics are as reported by March 31, 2011.
2. Revenue figures are net (less vendor's commission) and may include accounting adjustments.
3. Non-resident Caribou licences, valid for both Canadian and non-Canadian hunters, are included with the foreign resident totals.
4. Resident Conservation Moose licences are issued as a 2 Licence/1 tag package (115 packages = 230 licences/115 tags).
5. A Youth Turkey hunting licence for residents of Manitoba was introduced in 2003/04.
6. A Third Deer hunting licence for Residents of Manitoba was introduced in 2003/04.

**Table WI.3
Wildlife Licence Revenue 2010/11**

Type of Licence	Revenue \$
Hunting Licences	
Game Bird Licences	866,356
Wild Turkey Licences	20,685
Moose Licences	226,053
Elk Licences	133,407
Caribou Licences	125,621
Black Bear Licences	362,736
Deer Licences	1,771,507
Youth Hunting Licence Package	29,376
Replacement Licences	1,140
Total – Hunting	\$3,536,882
Commercial Licences	
Trapper Licences *	38,584
Fur Dealer Licences *	4,570
Amphibian Picker Licences	100
Total – Commercial	\$43,254
Total Revenue	\$3,580,131

* Reflects revenue for the 2009/10 Fur Year ending August 31, 2010 as reported by March 31, 2011.
Other revenue is for the 2010/11 Licensing Year as reported by March 31, 2011.

**Table WI.4
Fur Statistics, Year Ending August 31, 2010**

		Average	Production	% of Total	Royalty Per	Royalty \$
Species	Quantity	Price \$	Value \$	Value	Pelt \$	
Badger	91	37.56	3,418	0.3%	0.50	46
Bear*	39	63.74	2,486	0.2%	1.00	39
Beaver	10,499	14.01	147,091	10.8%	0.50	5,250
Bobcat	22	79.16	1,742	0.1%	1.00	22
Coyote	5,528	20.58	113,766	8.4%	1.00	5,528
Ermine	2,628	3.48	9,145	0.7%	0.05	131
Fisher	1,326	43.57	57,774	4.2%	1.00	1,326
Fox, Blue	1	21.4	21	0.0%	0.50	1
Fox, Cross	79	29.29	2,314	0.2%	0.50	40
Fox, Red	1,307	16.24	21,226	1.6%	0.50	654
Fox, Silver	13	21.68	282	0.0%	0.50	7
Fox, White	2	21.4	43	0.0%	0.50	1
Lynx	517	76.99	39,804	2.9%	1.00	517
Marten	16,160	45.77	739,643	54.4%	1.00	16,160
Mink	2,023	13.78	27,877	2.0%	0.50	1,012
Muskrat	23,386	4.5	105,237	7.7%	0.05	1,169
Otter	877	40.81	35,790	2.6%	0.75	658
Raccoon	2,006	6.48	12,999	1.0%	0.50	1,003
Squirrel	2,676	1.19	3,184	0.2%	0.05	134
Wolf, Timber	307	93.72	28,772	2.1%	1.00	307
Wolverine*	39	202.07	7,881	0.6%	2.50	98
Total			\$1,360,495			\$34,099

Notes:

1. The Department's Fur Year runs from September 1 - August 31. Starting with the 1995/96 *Annual Report*, statistics that relate to the Fur Year are based on the most recent complete Fur Year. This 20010/11 Annual Report is based on information for the 2009/10 Fur Year ending August 31, 2010.

*For black bear, figures are for only trapper-taken animals

Table WI.5
12-3(f) Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,391	32.29	2,278	113	
Other Expenditures	1,072		1,087	(15)	
Grant Assistance	959		959	0	
Canada Manitoba Waterfowl Damage Prevention	317		354	(37)	
Less: Recoverable from Sustainable Development	(314)		(314)	0	
Total 12.3(f)	4,425	32.29	4,364	61	

Special Conservation and Endangered Species Fund

The Fund is administered by the Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch. This Fund provides support to non-profit community-based organizations to undertake projects that will enhance the natural resources of the province. It also encourages organizations to develop local projects that foster better understanding of natural resources issues and the environment. All projects must meet provincial and federal regulatory requirements. The Fund received \$125,000.

Table SC.1

12.3(g) Special Conservation and Endangered Species Fund

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Grant Assistance	125	0.00	125	0	
Total 12.3(g)	125	0.00	125	0	

Lands and Geomatics

Comprised of Crown Lands Operations (Crown Land and Treaty Land Entitlement Programs) and Remote Sensing and Land Mapping Services (Geomatics), the Branch is responsible for the management and control of provincial Crown lands that are governed under *The Crown Lands Act* and *The Wild Rice Act*, and the provision of mapping services throughout the province including the development of a provincial integrated geo-spatial infrastructure.

Functions also include policy development, the delivery of the Cottage Lot Initiative and overseeing Crown land transactions administered through the Crown Land and Property SOA on behalf of the Department.

Crown Lands Operations

Cottage Lot Program

- New cottage lot development enhances the quality of life for Manitobans by providing opportunities to enjoy Manitoba's natural beauty and cottage life, and provides economic benefits to communities and municipalities. Benefits are derived from the initial construction of the infrastructure, as well as from cottage construction and ongoing local spending and tax contributions.
- Subdivision proposals go through extensive planning, review and approval processes to determine suitability of the sites before development begins. These processes ensure high standards are followed with respect to environmental, natural resource, sewage and waste disposal, servicing and other interests.
- The Cottage Lot Program Information is available on the Conservation web site at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/cottaging>

Key Results Achieved:

- The construction of the 88 lot Bay River subdivision continued through a joint cottage lot development agreement between Conservation and Fisher River Cree Nation.
- Engineering, design and planning processes continued for a joint cottage lot development with Black River First Nation.
- The branch continued to identify sites and assess their potential for cottage lot development.
- The First Come, First Served Cottage Lot Program has resulted in the sale or lease as applicable of approximately 100 lots not previously selected in a cottage lot draw.

Crown Land and Treaty Land Entitlement Programs

Crown Land Programs

- The section is responsible for Crown land planning, policy and program development with respect to non-agricultural Crown lands and wild rice. Programs include Crown land sales, exchanges, leases, permits, licences of occupation and easements to accommodate a wide range of land uses.
- Other key functions of the section include programs involving Crown land transactions with the federal government such as transfer of water lots and uplands for public wharves and harbours,

leasing or transfer of lands for navigational beacon sites, environmental monitoring sites, and other federal public works.

- The section leads or participates in Crown consultation with First Nations and other Aboriginal communities regarding proposed Crown land uses or dispositions.
- The section provides instructions to the Crown Lands and Property Agency with respect to approval, conditional approval, or disapproval of Crown land applications processed by the Agency on behalf of Conservation.
- The section is responsible for policy recommendations or decisions regarding various Crown land issues impacted by other legislation or public interests.
- The section is also responsible for administering the grants-in-lieu of taxes program, through which municipalities are provided grants by the department for Crown land located within their municipalities that are not otherwise exempt from taxation.

Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) and Other Aboriginal Land Programs

- The Crown Land and Treaty Land Entitlement Programs area is 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 the respective settlement agreement.
- The section is responsible for administration of Crown Land programs and settlement agreements involving First Nations and Aboriginal communities and plays a key role in the negotiation and implementation of various agreements and programs involving Crown land. To ensure all issues are addressed in accordance with the various settlement agreements, provincial departments and agencies are required to comment on the selections. The section then formulates a provincial position on each site in accordance with the appropriate agreement provisions and participates in discussions with Canada and the First Nations to resolve the conditions under which the lands would be available for transfer.
- Crown Land related technical support and advisory services are provided to other branches and departments that are responsible for negotiation and delivery of agreements, claims and programs involving First Nations. Services include research, mapping, record keeping, technical advice and services related to the administrative land transfer requirements, agreements and any interests, encumbrances or legislative limitations that may affect availability of selected Crown lands.

Key results achieved:

- The Crown Land and Treaty Land Entitlement Programs area continued to be actively involved in strategic planning sessions involving Manitoba, Canada and the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee. The development of a strategic plan will assist the parties in focusing on priority items to improve the length of time required to transfer land to Canada under the various Treaty Land Entitlement agreements.
- The Treaty Land Entitlement System (TRELES), maintained by the section was confirmed as the source of core data for tracking charts that will be utilized by Canada to report on progress to the First Nations.
- The section carried out a detailed analysis utilizing site inspection data obtained by the Regional Land Managers on TLE Selections containing portages. This information was deemed valuable

by the parties and the Implementation Monitoring Committee and has led to an increase in the number of parcels that can be advanced in the land transfer process.

- Manitoba has continued to fulfill its goal of expediting the transfer of lands under TLE agreements immediately upon receipt of a request from Canada to do so. The ability for Manitoba to meet this goal is directly tied to the number of acres that have been surveyed by Canada and approved for transfer by the parties.
- 160 acres of residual Crown interests (such as mines and minerals) were transferred by Manitoba to Canada between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011. The transfers relates to properties that were acquired by First Nations that have the ability to purchase other land for TLE purposes under their respective agreements. The total residual Crown interest transferred up to March 31, 2011 is approximately 17,812 acres.
- 77,119 acres of Crown land were transferred by Manitoba to Canada between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011.
- Table LA.1 provides a summary of Crown land amounts that have been selected and are pending survey or have been transferred to Canada by Manitoba for Treaty Land Entitlement purposes up to March 31, 2011.

**Table LA.1
Treaty Land Entitlement – Crown Land Amounts**

First Nations with Treaty Entitlement Agreements*	Crown Land Entitlement Acres	Total Selected Acres	Available for Transfer Pending Survey	Transferred to Canada by Manitoba
Barren Lands	66,420	28,252	96	
Brokenhead	4,344	4,276		672
Buffalo Point	3,432	2,628		2,370
Bunibonibee	35,434	35,210	1,367	31,342
Garden Hill	45,339	53,263		43,576
God's Lake	42,600	41,077	15,406	16,301
Manto Sipi	8,725	9,965	1,212	4,284
Mathias Colomb	217,364	183,049	5,245	172,538
Nisichawayasihk	61,761	72,736	2,473	33,816
Northlands	94,084	56,602	34,385	4,134
Norway House	104,784	106,036	15,036	45,641
Opaskwayak	47,658	46,906	7,494	24,374
Peguis	55,038	21,092		
Red Sucker Lake	9,487	9,585		9,585
Rolling River	2,356	2,351		2,351
Sapotaweyak	108,134	112,782		99,702
St. Theresa Point	34,908	35,310		35,310
War Lake	7,156	5,452	2,715	480
Wassagamach	13,610	13,642		13,642
Wuskwi Sipi	44,168	44,347	8,267	25,190
	1,006,802	884,561	93,696	565,309

* The following Entitlement First Nations have not signed individual Treaty Entitlement Agreements: Fox Lake, Marcel Colomb, O-Pipon-Na-Piwin, Sayisi Dene, Shamattawa and York Factory.

Remote Sensing and Land Mapping Services (Geomatics)

The geomatics area is comprised of four distinct sections; Remote Sensing Program, Cadastral Mapping Program, Topographical Mapping Program and the Geographical Names Program. All areas are heavily involved in GIS applications and geo-spatial analysis. The mandate is to develop and implement a provincial integrated geo-spatial infrastructure by co-operating with all public sector agencies, avoid duplication of data and promote data sharing within these agencies.

Remote Sensing

- The Remote Sensing section provides earth observation services and related geo-spatial information from a range of air-craft and space-craft platforms to derive insight, evaluation and assessment of the natural and physical resources of Manitoba.
- This information helps to support natural resource management and environmental monitoring activities within the Department and other Government of Manitoba agencies.
- The section assists potential users of satellite imagery to see various types of satellites and their potential usages including the ordering of satellite imagery for various users and storage of the original data sets in a climatic and fire proof vault. The section is the contact and the liaison with the Canadian Space Agency for all Radarsat imagery ordering within Manitoba.

Key results achieved:

- Usage of the NOAA/AVHRR satellite data between April first and Oct 30 for the Canadian World Crop monitoring program.
- The GeoComp satellite image processing system produces daily and weekly composites detecting change “happenings” for the Global Climate change program and the Parks Canada program.
- Work is continuing in partnership with the Canadian Space Agency and the Canadian Forest Service to extract land cover information from Landsat 7 imagery. This is part of the Earth Observation for the Sustainable Development of the forest project, over 30 land cover classifications are being determined from the imagery. As part of the Kyoto Protocol, Pacific Forest Service and MRSC have agreed to evaluate the deforestation that has taken place between 1975 and 2007 using Landsat Tm and Mss Imagery and other ancillary data.
- The section maps the Red River Valley annually using Radarsat 1&2 data and has just completed a land use land cover map of the proposed World Heritage Site on the east of Lake Winnipeg also included is the Bloodvein traditional area.
- Remote Sensing is also continually providing land use land cover mapping (17 cover type classes) for agro- Manitoba using Landsat 5 TM circa 2005.

The Cadastral Mapping Section

- The Cadastral Mapping Section is responsible for the development and maintenance of a province wide digital cadastral (property) parcel infrastructure based on land parcels shown on registered plans of survey. The topologically structured data is used extensively throughout government, by provincial utilities and by the general Manitoba GIS community at large to meet land referencing, planning and decision making needs. All parcel data is downloadable for free from the government's spatial data warehouse (Manitoba Land Initiative (MLI) <https://mli2.gov.mb.ca/index.html>).

Key results achieved:

- As a result of its 2010 work 10,515 land parcels have been computed bringing the total number of land parcels in the system to about 608,000 province wide. Parcel mapping of 10 townships in their entirety was completed. Over 196 separate MLI digital mapping datasets were updated under the section's annual maintenance program to ensure timeliness of the parcel data to end users.
- The section created conceptual cottage lot subdivision designs for 5 potential new sites for the Manitoba Cottage Lot Program on behalf of Crown Lands. The new sites were province wide. Approved designs out of this group will form an integral part of future public draws for provincial cottage lots. Opportunities for cottage lot and economic development projects with First Nations groups are making significant progress under separate Memorandum of Understanding agreements. One such initiative is the Bay River Cottage Lot and Economic Development proposal being a joint project between Mb. Conservation and Fisher River Cree First Nation.
- The section was pleased to have active support by two energetic and enthusiastic GIS specialist summer students in converting its digital cadastral map datasets and reference grid products to .kmz format for use in Google Earth web technology. This is a great boon to the GIS Community of practice and provides a new tool for accessing and viewing our geo-spatial parcel map data products.

Topographic Mapping

- The Topographic Mapping Section is responsible for topographic information and is designed to help support, evaluate and manage Manitoba's resources.

Key results achieved:

- The topographic mapping section continued to be responsible for the compilation and production of contour data and base maps for Treaty Land Entitlement parcels necessary for the determination of hydro easement lines. Digital and hard copies maps were created as required.
- The compilation of data for Cross Lake First Nation's existing 19D and 19E Reserve land was completed and provided to Aboriginal and Northern Affairs to will allow for easement line determinations and accurate calculations of compensation lands under the Northern Flood Agreement.
- Work continued on geo-referencing base map features for the Forestry branch. Data collected included designated areas, buildings, structures, roads, railways, utilities, hydrography and some land cover. The data was collected two-dimensionally using digital ortho-photography.
- The provincial ortho-photography refresh program continued. This program was initiated by the need for high quality resource photography and is funded by seven departments and two private partners. The photography was flown at a scale of 1:40,000 and the ortho-photographs are supplied in five kilometre tile in both black and white and colour, and with both 0.5m and 1m pixel resolution. This was the fourth year of the five year program. The imagery will be available on the Manitoba Land Initiative website for all departments.

Manitoba Geographical Names Program

- The Manitoba Geographical Names Program (on behalf of the Minister of Conservation) provides a provincial geographic name authority for the enhancement, maintenance and protection of Manitoba's nomenclature. This is accomplished through the development and implementation of policies and procedures, the establishment and monitoring of toponymic quality control in

government documents, the research for and processing of decisions on new and established names and ongoing liaison with the Geographical Names Board of Canada.

- The service relates to the dissemination of geographical name information to all Manitobans (including internal government departments and agencies) regarding the correct spelling, usage, and origin of names, and provides a proactive and vital toponymic quality control service for provincial maps, signs, and other documentation within Manitoba.
- The stewardship of Manitoba's geographical names ensures these names are not just words on maps and signs, but are vital communication tools that not only provide directions to a physical location but also reflect patterns of Manitoba's settlement, exploration, migration, and heritage that may otherwise be overlooked by residents, visitors, and future generations.

Key results achieved:

- To ensure a shared responsibility and understanding of Manitoba's geographical names while enhancing the social well-being of Manitobans, an expanded consultative process has been developed to ensure that better partnerships are developed with any and all stakeholders who may be affected by a proposed new, or changed, geographical name.
- Actively represented Manitoba's toponymic interests ensuring their identification, evaluation, and consideration in current regional, national and international affairs via liaison with the Geographical Names Board of Canada.
- Manitoba continued in a leadership role at a national level through membership in the Geographic Names Board of Canada's Advisory Committee's as well as involvement in a number of sub-committee's including: Chair, Aboriginal Names Working Group.
- Enhanced stakeholders' (including Manitoba Conservation) awareness and utilization of Manitoba toponyms through active collaboration including the provision of digital toponymic data via multiple formats, including maintenance and dissemination of the Manitoba Geographical Names Data Base
- Provision of a Provincial Topographic Information and Base Mapping Program to support the management of provincial natural and related resources.
- Maintained an ongoing liaison with Aboriginal people to ensure Aboriginal history and heritage is respected and recorded in Manitoba toponyms.
- Maintained and enhanced the commemorative names project through various media events and presentations such as the Premier's presentation of Commemorative Name Certificates to families of Manitoba's Afghanistan Fatal Casualties. New displays were co-developed and maintained with organizations such as the Manitoba Museum, Transcona Historical Museum, and the Royal Canadian Artillery Museum.
- Continued an active liaison with Manitoba's French language community through various applications including Manitoba's Bilingual Glossary.
- Enhanced the program archives through the continued development and coordination of existing records and the digital archival of the thousands of existing paper-only records.

Table LA.2
12.3(h) Lands and Geomatics

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)	\$(000)	
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,595	25.00	1,622	(27)	
Other Expenditures	4,182		4,183	(1)	
Recoveries from Other Appropriations	0		(24)	24	
Total 12.3(h)	5,777	25.00	5,781	(4)	

Survey Services

The Branch administers and enforces *The Surveys Act* (Part II) and The Survey of Mining Claims Regulation, approves Plans of Survey for disposition of land under *The Crown Lands Act*, *The Gas Pipe Line Act* and The Mineral Disposition and Mineral Lease Regulation (*The Mines and Minerals Act*). The Branch represents Manitoba on matters related to provincial boundaries, provides survey services to other departments, and maintains the Manitoba Spatial Reference Network and Land Survey System. Public benefits include a secure process for conveyance and reservation of Crown land and rights therein, an expeditious survey service for acquisition and disposition of land, a survey system for determining property boundaries, and a geodetic survey network for spatial referencing of land-related information.

Land Survey System Program

The program restores survey monuments of the Provincial Land Survey system, an infrastructure for land ownership, to ensure a strong cadastral (property parcel) framework for land conveyance and economic activities. It restores survey monuments and maintains survey documents concerning provincial boundaries. The program provides instructions to Manitoba Land Surveyors on the survey of Crown lands, examines their survey returns, approves their plans of survey, and operates a Survey Information Centre. The Survey Information Centre maintains cadastral and geodetic survey information dating back to 1870 and provides such information to industry, government departments and agencies, and the general public.

Key Results Achieved:

Monuments restored in township and parish survey systems	34
Survey instructions issued	7
Plans of survey examined	35
Plans of survey tentatively approved	32
Plans of survey approved for Treaty Land Entitlements	5
Plans of survey approved for other than Treaty Land Entitlements	40
Plans filed in the survey information centre	33
Request for survey information responded	88
Marker posts provided at no charge to land surveyors for identification and protection of survey monuments of the township system of survey	180

Manitoba Spatial Reference Network Program

The program maintains a network of survey monuments whose positions (latitude, longitude and elevation) have been determined. Disciplines such as civil and geotechnical engineering, resource management, and legal surveying use this network to determine horizontal position and vertical elevation of natural and man-made features and related information. This network is essential to ensure compatibility of all surveying, mapping, navigation, and other spatial information and to permit seamless and economic exchange and merge of such information. The Manitoba Spatial Reference Network, which includes 257 primary and approximately 10,000 secondary control-survey stations, is integral to the Canadian Spatial Reference System (CSRS), contributing to a reliable national infrastructure for referencing spatial information.

Key Results Achieved:

- The Branch continued participation on the Canadian Geodetic Reference System Committee (CGRSC) of the Canadian Council on Geomatics (CCOG). CGRSC is a federal-provincial working committee that is mandated to plan and coordinate the maintenance and improvement of the geodetic

spatial reference system in Canada. The committee, amongst other activities, continued work on Modernization of the Canadian Height Reference System and integration of private Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) real-time kinematic (RTK) networks with the CSRS.

- Modernization of the Canadian Height Reference System is a long-term initiative that will establish a new geoid-based datum to eventually replace the Mean Sea Level datum for vertical referencing. The new datum, scheduled for implementation by 2013, will offer numerous advantages over the current reference datum. It will be compatible with international standards, enable cost-savings through the use of GNSS technologies such as GPS, be accessible at any point in Canada, and will not be hindered by the deterioration of current benchmarks. For more information, visit the Canadian Spatial Reference System website at http://www.geod.nrcan.gc.ca/hm/index_e.php
- CCOG has expressed concerns about lineage and accuracy of the private RTK networks that are proliferating across Canada and has instructed the CGRSC to develop a plan to describe, validate, and provide certification of commercial private providers to ensure their compatibility with CSRS. Three such networks exist in Manitoba.
- Survey Services provides presentations to the Association of Manitoba Land Surveyors and the Manitoba GIS Users Group on Modernization of the Canadian Height Reference System.

Survey Services Program

The program provides legal and control surveys, topographic and engineering surveys, and cadastral (property parcel) mapping under cost recovery to provincial government departments and agencies for the acquisition and disposition of land, construction and maintenance of public works, and spatial referencing of land-related features and information. Clients include:

- Conservation (Regional Operations, Lands & Geomatics Branch, Parks & Natural Areas Branch, and Wildlife & Ecosystem Protection Branch);
- Infrastructure and Transportation (Regional Operations, Manitoba Floodway Authority, Crown Land and Property Agency, Northern Airports and Marine Branch, Water Control and Structures Branch, and Highway Engineering Branch);
- Water Stewardship (Water Control Systems Management Branch);
- Aboriginal and Northern Affairs (Agreements Management Branch and Local Government Development Division);
- Innovation, Energy and Mines (Mines Branch and Petroleum Branch); and
- Intergovernmental Affairs (Community Planning Services Branch).

Products and services include:

- Legal surveys of public roads, water control works and utility easements;
- Legal surveys of land parcels and subdivisions (including the cottaging initiative);
- Retracement and restoration surveys of prior legal survey;
- Bathymetric and topographic surveys and terrain elevation models;
- Control surveys for topographic mapping and civil engineering projects;
- Control surveys for property parcel mapping (cadastral integration surveys);
- Cadastral (property parcel) mapping;
- Property parcel dimensions, acreages and coordinates;
- Administrative boundary plans;
- Legal descriptions for disposition of Crown lands and interests therein;
- Structure location surveys and certificates; and
- Land transaction/conveyance documents.

Key Results Achieved:

- Cost-recovery objective;
- Topographic and easement surveys for cottage subdivisions at various locations;
- Public road and water control work surveys at numerous locations;
- Parcel surveys for additions to Indian Reserves at many sites;
- Land descriptions for Crown land dispositions and Ministerial orders; and
- Administrative boundary plans for protected areas, community boundaries, wildlife management areas and provincial parks.

The Branch initiated, continued or completed 566 projects in 2010/11 as follows:

Legal surveys	126
Control surveys	3
Administrative boundary plans	20
Cadastral integration surveys	1
Topographic surveys	1
Legal descriptions and area computations	415

Table SS.1

12.3(i) Survey Services

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,313	26.00	1,593	(280)	
Other Expenditures	524		533	(9)	
Less: Recoverable from Other Appropriations	(1,419)		(1,571)	152	
Total 12.3(i)	418	26.00	555	(137)	

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 ROE 0X0. The General Manager can be contacted at 204-426-5235 or toll free or by fax at 204-426-2106. The Pineland Forest Nursery's web site is www.pinelandforestnursery.com .

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

The Division's administration manages and facilitates development by the branches of legislation, policies, plans, licenses and programs to sustainably manage natural resources and the environment.

Administration responsibilities include:

- Providing leadership to the Directors in the Division;
- Ensuring that Division responsibilities are executed in an effective, efficient manner;
- Recruiting Directors when necessary;
- Representing the division on the Department's executive;
- Representing the Department on boards and commissions;
- Ensuring effective budgetary management; and
- Communicating executive policy direction to the Division.

Table ES.1
12.4(a) Divisional Administration

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	252	3.00	256	(4)	
Other Expenditures	53		55	(2)	
Total 12.4(a)	305	3.00	311	(6)	

Sustainable Resource and Policy Management

The Branch coordinates and integrates departmental policy, natural resource allocation, Crown land use planning, and legislative development and interpretation, in accordance with the provincial Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development. The Branch is responsible for the administration of *The Sustainable Development Act*, *The Resource Tourism Operators Act*, and *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*. The Branch assists in the development of effective departmental policies and programming, establishes departmental positions with respect to Crown land dispositions, proposed planning areas and land management plans and various development proposals, provides planning and policy assistance to local planning authorities, and First Nations, administers licensing of resource-based tourism facilities, coordinates and develops departmental legislation. The Branch also represents the department on issues related to internal and international environment and trade agreements, as well as representing Manitoba on national forums for inter-governmental cooperation.

Key Results Achieved:

- The Branch provided a strategic and systematic approach for the Department to cooperate with other governments on environment and natural resource issues, and contributed to a strong role and voice in national discussions on environmental protection in Canada.
- The Branch provided secretariat support to the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development, its task groups and committees. Chaired by the Minister of Conservation, the Round Table is an advisory body to the provincial government, which provides advice and support to decision makers. The Round Table presented the 2010 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards to honour Manitobans who embrace the spirit and principles of sustainable development. Along with providing logistical support to the Awards program and the recognition event, the Branch also administered the Sustainable Development Scholarship Program for post-secondary students.
- The Branch provided planning and policy analysis support to the Crown Lands Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee. The Branch, in conjunction with regional Bloc Planning Committees, maintained and administered a system of operational land use coding on Crown land, and prepared Crown Land Plans for Southern Manitoba. The Branch also administered the Committee's system for the review of Crown land disposition denial decisions and maintained the committee's policy and procedures manual.
- The Branch coordinates and continues to respond to concerns regarding Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) management in the Province and has worked with interest groups and organizations, with the intention of developing an ORV Strategy for Manitoba.
- The Branch continued to work on the development of a provincial peatlands stewardship strategy with interest groups and organizations. The branch also worked intra-departmentally and with Manitoba Water Stewardship to better understand the carbon values and ecological goods and services of boreal forests, and wetlands, including peatlands.
- The Branch continues to work with First Nations on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg on the development of Crown land management plans for traditional areas under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*.

- The Branch chaired a Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) national committee responsible for developing possible approaches to reduce packaging on store shelves in Canada.
- The Branch coordinated the review and established departmental positions with respect to all proposed Crown land dispositions, Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation highway projects and aggregate exploration programs, Manitoba Innovation, Energy and Mines oil and gas lease programs, oil battery development, Manitoba Water Stewardship integrated watershed management plans and various other dispositions, projects and technical requests.
- The Branch assisted municipalities and Planning Districts in the preparation of development plans and zoning by-laws by coordinating preparation of departmental advice and information on planning, management and use of natural resources, and by responding to requests for studies, maps, and statistical compilations required to properly allocate resources.
- The Branch provided secretariat support to the Licensing Advisory Committee (LAC) under *The Resource Tourism Operators Act*. The Committee, comprising Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism, Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and Manitoba Water Stewardship, makes recommendations to the Administrator of Resource Tourism on the licensing of outfitters and the permitting of their associated facilities for the purposes of hunting, fishing and ecotourism activities. The required annual lodge and outfitter licenses and/or permits were then issued. The Branch also served as secretariat to the Resource Tourism Appeals Committee, which provides an appeal mechanism for operators wishing to appeal a decision of the Administrator of Resource Tourism.

Key Program Outputs:

Legislation

Manitoba Conservation has administrative responsibility for 29 statutes and 88 regulations.

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

- ***The Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park Act*** was passed and received royal assent on June 17, 2010.
- ***The Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage Fund Act*** received royal assent on June 17, 2010 and was proclaimed on October 1st, 2010.
- ***The Polar Bear Protection Amendment Act*** received royal assent on December 9, 2010 and amended ***The Polar Bear Protection Act***.
- ***The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Regulation*** (149/2010) was registered on October 25, 2010.
- ***The Notice and Reporting Regulation*** (126/2010) under ***The Environment Act*** was registered on August 31, 2010.

Twenty two amending regulations were registered during the reporting period, amending fifteen existing regulations including:

- An amendment to the Provincial Snowmobile Trail Regulation (138/2010) under **The Crown Lands Act**.
- An amendment to the *Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation* (19/2011) under **The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act**.
- An amendment to the Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation (60/2010), and amendment to the Environment Act Fees Regulation (61/2010), under **The Environment Act**.
- An amendment to the Forest Use and Management Regulation (18/2011) under **The Forest Act**.
- An amendment to the *Park Reserves Designation* (150/2010) and three amendments to the *Provincial Parks Designation Regulation* (151/2010, 153/2010, 3/2011) under **The Provincial Parks Act**.
- An amendment to the *Vehicle Use in Hunting Regulation* (90/2010), the *Trapping of Wild Animals Regulation* (144/2010), two amendments to the *General Hunting Regulation* (93/2010, 182/2010), an amendment to the *Allocation of Hunting Licences Regulation* (184/2010), an amendment to the *Wildlife Protection Regulation* (62/2010), an amendment to the *Hunting Guides Regulation* (88/2010), an amendment to the *Exotic Wildlife Regulation* (94/2010), and five amendments to the *Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits Regulation* (45/2010, 68/2010, 89/2010, 114/2010 and 183/2010) under **The Wildlife 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.

Strategic Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs

- Support was provided 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, including chairing an ad hoc committee to develop approaches for reducing the amount of packaging on store shelves and helping with Manitoba's implementation of the national municipal wastewater strategy.
- Support was provided to the Conservation Minister as a member of the Governmental Committee for Canada's representation on the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation.
- The Branch participated as Manitoba's representative on the following intergovernmental committees:
 - North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (Canada Implementation Working Committee and Canada Implementation Senior Officials Committee), and
 - CCME committees, including the Environmental Protection and Planning Committee and as chair of the Ad Hoc Committee for Packaging Reduction.
- The Branch represented the department in trade matters related to the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT), including representing the department in development and implementation of the AIT Environment and Processing of Natural Resources chapters.

The Branch monitored trade developments in environment and natural resource issues and liaised with other departments and jurisdictions on trade matters involving NAFTA, the GATT/WTO agreements and the recent and ongoing Canada-European Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) negotiations.

- The Branch led, on behalf of the department and government, the development of an annual work plan with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and a renewed long-term agreement.
- The Branch provided support and liaison on the government's climate change, water stewardship and Green Manitoba activities.
- The Branch continues in its role of coordinating the Department's participation in the Association of Manitoba Municipalities' Annual Convention.
- The Branch coordinated efforts to meet Speech from the Throne commitments for Beluga Whale research and education, working with the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and other partners to develop plans for research on the Western Hudson Bay population of Beluga Whales.
- The Branch participated in an inter-jurisdictional committee related to the planning of the Arctic Summit held at the University of Winnipeg. The Summit brought together public, private and non-governmental stakeholders to collaboratively explore emerging opportunities in and sustainability of the Arctic.
- The Branch continued its participation in the planning for the Hudson Bay Summit, scheduled for spring 2012. The summit is designed to focus greater public, political and scientific attention on the Hudson Bay Inland Sea ecosystem, the coastal Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples who rely on it, and the economic activities that are becoming increasingly evident in the region.
- The Branch continued research around key and emerging environmental issues including: deposit return, green taxes, community-based monitoring, navigable waters and a cross jurisdictional scan on habitat protection and no net habitat loss policies across North America.

Sustainable Development Implementation

- The Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development met three times during the year, as required under *The Sustainable Development Act*. The Branch, as Secretariat, organized meetings of the Round Table, its task groups and committees and also coordinated the preparation of the 2009/10 Manitoba Round Table annual report.
- The Manitoba Round Table awarded Sustainable Development Scholarships to two students in Manitoba – one for a keen interest in ecosystem conservation and involvement in environmental outreach and education. Another was presented for incorporating the concepts of sustainable development into daily life and a commitment to passing along knowledge of sustainable development onto the next generation in their future career as a teacher.
- The Manitoba Round Table awarded the 2010 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards. Among the 5 winners was Fresh Option Organic Delivery (FOOD), a successful organic retail and delivery business, receiving the Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability Award for their commitment to working with local producers to strengthen Manitoba's organic market and increase the sustainability of our food system.

- The Manitoba Round Table established a Pesticides Committee which was tasked with developing a report and recommendations on pesticide use in Manitoba. The committee researched the issue and worked to prepare the report for completion by April 2011.
- The Branch continued to be the point of contact for facilitating the implementation of Sustainable Development across government and demonstrating leadership in greening government practices.

Crown Lands Policy and Planning

- The Branch prepared 24 Crown land sale, lease, and permit review reports for the consideration of the Crown Lands Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee. The 2009 *Interdepartmental Operational Crown Land Plans* report was published and distributed. Approximately 981 recommended Crown land use classification code changes to Crown land plans were tabled with the Committee for the 2011 report. Submissions for the establishment of the Nuelin Lake, Colvin Lake, Birch Island and Little Limestone Provincial Parks were also presented to the Committee and were subsequently recommended for approval.
- The Branch coordinated the review and developed departmental positions with respect to 308 proposed Crown land dispositions, i.e., purchase, lease permit, license of occupation, reservation, easement and assignment applications.
- The Branch also coordinated the interdepartmental review of four provincial park proposals.
- Continued advice and support were provided to the Protected Areas Initiative and related activities, including discussions and development of draft agreements with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives with respect to agriculturally coded Crown lands, and with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada regarding Crown lands in community pastures.
- A departmental review of the issues, policy and legislation with respect to All Terrain Vehicle use on Crown land was continued by the Branch.
- The Branch continued to update, maintain and enhance the electronic Crown Land Use Classification GIS database for southern Manitoba. The database is being accessed and incorporated into many departmental and public sector analyses. An enhancement to the map layout component was completed and implemented in the 2011 publication.
- The digital conversion of the Crown land site plans has been completed and is currently being developed and tested for compatibility with the GIS database, as well as, for electronic download and sharing from the Manitoba Land Information website.
- The Operation manual that identifies the protocols required to manage, maintain and administer the Crown land use classification GIS database / Site Plan Index has been completed.
- The interdepartmental review of the proposed Asatiwisipe Aki Management Plan (Poplar River First Nation Crown land plan) was coordinated by the Branch and completed. The Plan was posted to the East Side Planning Registry and the public was provided with an opportunity to review and comment on the Plan.

- The Little Grand Rapids First Nation requested a planning area designation under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act*, bringing the total number of planning area proposals submitted to four: Poplar River, Pauingassi, Little Grand Rapids and Bloodvein.

Municipal Land Planning and Other Department Projects

- The Branch coordinated the review and prepared departmental positions for :
 - 255 proposed land subdivisions (Red River Region only);
 - 109 proposed municipal zoning by-laws and amendments;
 - 71 proposed development plans and amendments, and
 - 23 other proposed municipal land related issues.
- The latest revision of the Provincial Land Use Policies for which Manitoba Conservation is the lead department was coordinated by the Branch.
- The Branch coordinated the review and prepared departmental positions for:
 - 18 highway developments and aggregate exploration programs
 - 4 oil and gas sale tenders
 - 14 oil battery developments permits
 - 2 integrated watershed management plans
- The Branch responded to 47 *Environment Act* proposals.

Licensing Advisory Committee

- The Licensing Advisory Committee held six regularly scheduled and two additional meetings. A total of 170 applications were reviewed and recommendations developed for consideration of the Administrator of Resource Tourism.
- Approximately 1,400 annual licenses and/or permits were issued to lodge operators and outfitters.
- Two appeal hearings were conducted by the Resource Tourism Appeals Committee.
- Client services on a direct basis were continued, providing advice and information on the application process and outfitter requirements.
- Policy advice and support was provided to the Advisory Committee and the Resource Tourism Appeals Committee on a number of non-compliance and enforcement issues.

Table SR.1

12.4(b) Sustainable Resource and Policy Management

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,004	15.00	1,051	(47)	
Other Expenditures	306		203	103	
Grant Assistance	138		145	(7)	
Total 12.4(b)	1,448	15.00	1,399	49	

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 across the province. Manitoba was the first jurisdiction in Canada to commit to protecting examples of all of its diverse landscapes. 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. Protected areas can include national parks, ecological reserves, provincial parks and park reserves, wildlife management areas, provincial forests, special protected areas, and privately owned conservation lands that meet the protected areas standard (no logging, no mining, no hydro-electric development).

Protected areas provide a natural legacy for future generations and promote human physical, mental and spiritual well-being. Protected areas help conserve land 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, carbon storage and oxygen release.

The PAI is working to establish an adequate and representative sample of all of Manitoba's diverse landscapes for each of its 18 natural regions and sub-regions. A landscape planning process involving scientific and technical experts from various government departments, local and regional knowledge-holders and agencies outside of government is used to identify and evaluate areas that could contribute to the network.

Key Results Achieved:

- Manitoba designated two new wilderness provincial parks in northern Manitoba. Nueltin Lake Provincial Park captures 447,190 hectares of the transition zone between the boreal and tundra ecosystems, and provides important winter habitat for the Qamanirijuaq barren-ground caribou herd. Colvin Lake Provincial Park covers 163,070 hectares in northwest Manitoba. Its vast wilderness made up of stunted trees with brief summers is known as the "Land of Little Sticks."
- The Birch Island Park Reserve was permanently designated as Birch Island Provincial Park, an 80,066 hectare protected area on Lake Winnipegosis. This natural park includes Birch Island and a number of small islands, reefs and shoals, all of which have been designated with a Backcountry land use category. The small islands and reefs provide nesting habitat for many colonial nesting birds.
- The protected coastline of Kaskatamagan Wildlife Management Area (WMA) has been officially counted in Canada's inventory of Marine Protected Areas. This WMA captures the transition from brackish tidal mudflats exposed at low tide to wetland-dominated inland plains characteristic of the Coastal Hudson Bay Lowlands. Beluga whales, polar bears, and coastal caribou can all be found in this area at the same time for a couple of weeks each year.
- Fisher Bay Park Reserve was renewed until October 31, 2015. The renewal of the park reserve status will allow time to conduct further First Nations and stakeholder reviews on the current park reserve boundary in order to confirm a final park proposal for the site.
- A two-phase PAI planning process is currently underway in the Saskatchewan River Delta (SRD). The PAI is currently reviewing three proposed protected areas in Phase 1 of the SRD planning area. The Saskatchewan River Delta is recognized as a globally significant Important Bird Area, the largest freshwater inland delta in North America, and one of only two active deltas in the Boreal Plains Ecozone of the western boreal forest. Comments received

through the Phase 1 review will be used to finalize the proposed protected area boundaries. The coming Phase 2 review will cover the core of the SRD, which extends north from the junction of Highways 10 and 60 to Clearwater Lake Provincial Park.

- As part of the province's commitment of \$7 million to support the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) Natural Areas Conservation Program, NCC has acquired conservation agreements and land purchases totaling over 1,680 hectares in the Riding Mountain Aspen Parkland and Tall Grass Prairie over the past year. These lands will be reviewed for their potential to become protected areas.

Key Program Outputs:

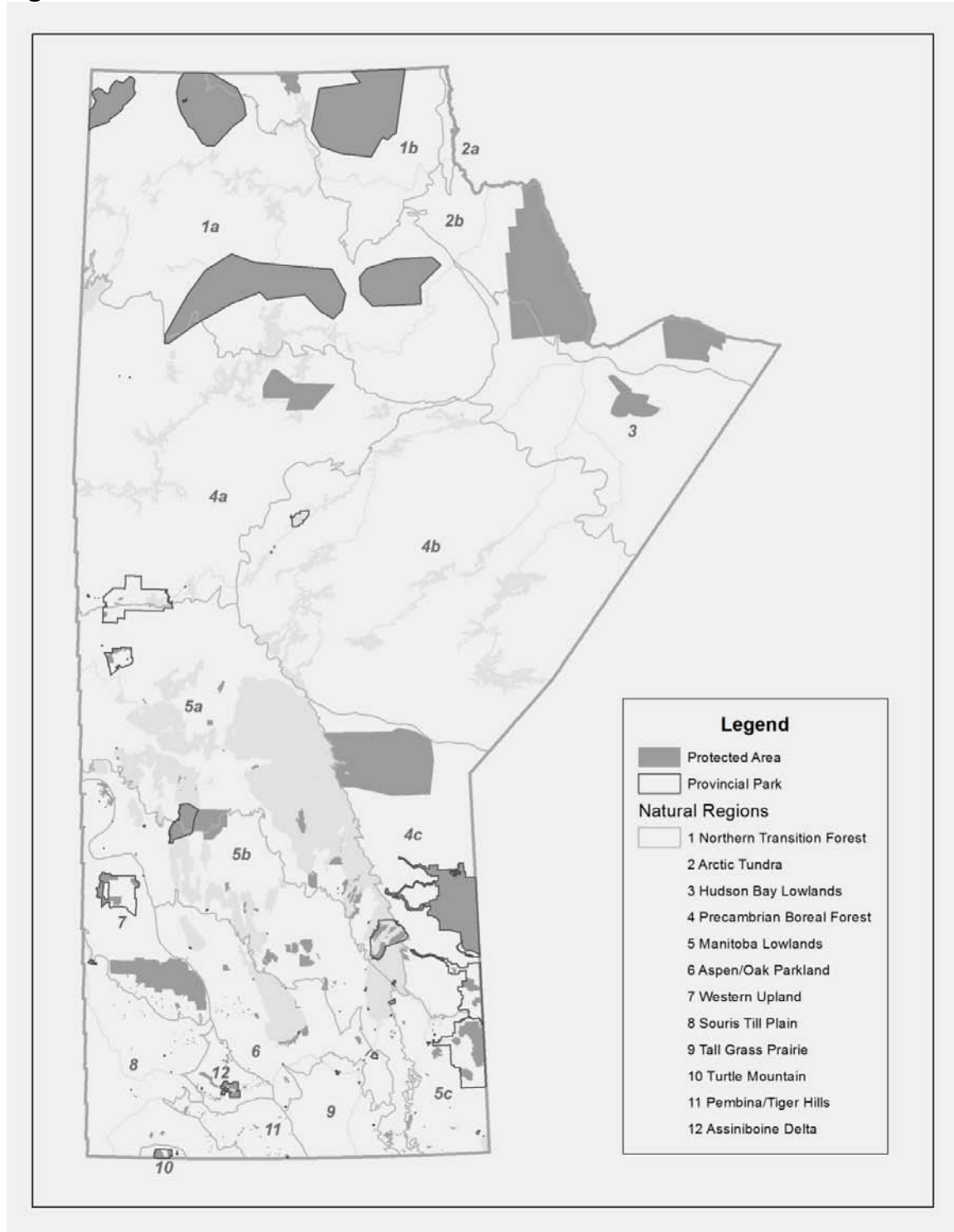
New Protected Areas	Area (hectares)	Protected Under
Nuelin Lake Provincial Park	447,190	The Provincial Parks Act
Colvin Lake Provincial Park	163,070	The Provincial Parks Act
Birch Island Provincial Park	80,066	The Provincial Parks Act

Currently, 6.4 million hectares (or 9.9% per cent of Manitoba) are protected. This includes 2 national parks, 22 ecological reserves, all or parts of 45 provincial parks and interim protected park reserves, all or parts of 50 wildlife management areas, parts of 2 provincial forests, and private lands owned by Ducks Unlimited of Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada, and Nature Manitoba (formerly Manitoba Naturalists Society).

**Table PR.1
12.4(g) Protected Areas**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	537	6.00	444	93	
Other Expenditures	362		372	(10)	
Grant Assistance	340		340	0	
Total 12.4(g)	1,239	6.00	1,156	83	

Figure 6: Manitoba's Network of Protected Areas



Corporate Crown Land Policy

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

Key Results Achieved

In consultation with various departments, a review of Crown land related legislation began to assess the need for updated legislation given recent organizational changes in responsibilities for *The Crown Lands Act* and enforcement issues.

Government's Decommissioning of North Breezy Point Crown Land Subdivision was concluded to restore the land to its natural state. Policy matters concerning the re-sale of flooded properties were reviewed to address any potential health and safety concerns.

Secretariat support and policy services were provided to the Lands Committee of Deputy Ministers. The Committee scrutinizes proposed Crown land transactions and makes recommendations to Cabinet and Ministers regarding Crown land dispositions and related matters. Eight departments with an interest in Crown land are represented on this Committee.

The Crown Lands Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee, chaired by Corporate Crown Land Policy, considered written requests by applicants to review departmental decisions relating to denial of applications for Crown land dispositions. It also reviewed the suitability of proposed designation of Crown land by Orders-in-Council and endorsed Interdepartmental Operational Crown Land Plans and reviewed various recommendations from Bloc Planning committees respecting land use matters.

Following organizational changes between Manitoba Water Stewardship and Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, policies and protocols were amended to clarify responsibilities of the respective departments concerning the disposition of surplus land administered under *The Water Resources Administration Act*.

Corporate Crown Land Policy also coordinated the development of policies and procedures for land transfers to incorporated Northern Affairs communities for the promotion of economic development within these communities.

The interface between policies governing the circulation of proposed Crown land dispositions to First Nations and the Crown's interim Aboriginal consultation policy was reviewed with affected Departments to clarify roles and responsibilities and conformance with legislation.

Work continued with legal counsel regarding information disclosure and privacy protection policies and practises when circulating Crown land applications among departments and government entities.

Corporate Crown Land Policy participated in several inter-departmental committees and working groups to represent Government Crown land policy interests.

Key Program Outputs

Review and analysis of 67 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 28 requests for review of denied applications for Crown land and reviewed 4 proposed designated areas of Crown land.

**Table CLP.1
12.4(c) Corporate Crown Land Policy**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	149	3.00	224	(75)	
Other Expenditures	20		21	(1)	
Total 12.4(c)	169	3.00	245	(76)	

Environmental Assessment and Licensing

Description

The Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch (the Branch) is responsible for administering the environmental assessment process under the *Manitoba Environment Act* (the Act). Specifically the Branch is responsible to ensure that potential adverse environmental and public health effects of new and existing developments are regulated through appropriate licence and permit conditions. The Branch administers:

- the environmental assessment and licensing process for developments under *The Environment Act* and *The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act*;
- the review of applications for Certificates of Approval for wastewater collection systems under *The Public Health Act*;
- the certification process for operators under the *Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Regulation*; and
- the permitting of pesticide use under *The Pesticides Regulation*.

Key Results Achieved

- Development in Manitoba was successfully regulated to ensure environmental sustainability for present and future Manitobans.
- The Environmental Assessment and Licensing process remains effective, transparent, and continues to meet all legislative and regulatory requirements, including the opportunity for public involvement and participation. Innovative approaches to environmental protection have resulted in timely reviews and approvals for new developments. Manitoba's environmental assessment process compares favourably to other Canadian jurisdictions.
- Information regarding the environmental assessment process including proposals in progress, pesticide requirements, major and minor Notices of Alteration, the Certificates of Approval application process and operator certification was made available to the public through an expanded and improved branch web site. There will be an ongoing effort to ensure that members of the public have access to the information required to comply with programs regulated by the branch. Increased availability of files electronically has been achieved and will continue to be a direction in the future.
- Land use, municipal, industrial, and hazardous waste sources of pollutants were managed through appropriate licence specifications, limits, terms and conditions. Conditions ensured protection at all project stages (construction through to decommissioning). Compliance inspections and monitoring ensured that conditions were adhered to by licencees.
- Adverse effects on the environment and public health from pesticide use were minimized through appropriate permit specifications, limits, terms and conditions. Complaints were followed up through compliance inspections and field visits. Liaison with the federal Pest Management Regulatory Agency ensured that only approved products were permitted and used in Manitoba.
- The branch assisted members of the public with interpretation of *the Environmental Act*, *the Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act*, and supporting regulations.
- The branch provided recommendations and advice to the Minister of Conservation on a wide variety of environmental and public health matters.

Key Program Outputs

- Reviewed and approved over 100 development applications and/or Notices of Alteration under *The Environment Act*, and *The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act*, as well as 237 permits under The Pesticide Regulation and 10 applications for Certificates of Approval under The Public Health Act. The Branch led the environmental assessment process for these developments, including the direction of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) within the provincial and federal governments. The Branch ensured that all new developments were processed in accordance with *the Environment Act* and assured that the public had opportunity to participate and provide input to the proposals.
- Conducted approximately 150 on-site inspections to ensure license conditions were being followed during construction. Liaison with regional field personnel ensured a smooth transition from the assessment process to the compliance process following licence transfer.
- Responded to enquiries regarding the need for environmental assessment and licensing for specific projects, and regarding the interpretation and implementation of licence and permit conditions.
- The branch reviewed and approved numerous reports required under licenses, such as Environment Protection Plans for Construction, monitoring, and other environmental programs.
- The branch participated in several public meetings as required in support of applications or local issues and/or concerns.

Table EA.1

Environmental Assessment and Licensing Activities

(ELU - Environmental Land Use; P - Pesticide; MIHW - Municipal, Industrial, and Hazardous Waste)

Activities	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09
<i>The Environment Act</i>			
Project proposals received	54	42	63
Licences issued	44	44	66
Project proposals refused	1	1	0
Minor alterations requests received	43	51	32
Minor alterations requests processed	45	51	28
Revision requests to <i>Licences</i> approved	6	11	11
Pre-Licensing activities processed	21	42	53
Highways pre-planning reviews	10	3	4
Infrastructure project reviews-Can/Man	17	17	15
Hydro Low Voltage reviews	3	3	0
Other Reviews. Licence not required	68	48	41
Site inspections, monitoring and enforcement	150	191	214
Pesticide Use Permits Issued	237	223	241
Post Seasonal Reports received/compiled	225	223	241
Public complaints investigated	17	32	28
Public meetings attended	22	4	4

Activities	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09
Public Hearings attended	0	0	0
Incinerator Registrations processed	3		
<i>The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act</i>			
Project proposals received	5	7	5
Licences issued	7	5	4
Minor alterations requests received	5	6	6
Minor alterations requests processed	5	6	5
Pre-Licensing activities	10	14	14
Site inspections, monitoring and enforcement	8	6	3
Public meetings attended	0	0	0
<i>The Public Health Act</i>			
Fumigation Permits issued	1	1	2
Applications for Certificates of Approval processed	10	-	-
Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Regulation			
Certification Examination	896	559	559
Plant Classifications Issued	109	154	97
Operators Certificates Issued	444	383	292

Table EA.2
12.4(d) Environmental Assessment and Licensing

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,358	19.00	1,452	(94)	
Other Expenditures	223		287	(64)	
Total 12.4(d)	1,581	19.00	1,739	(158)	

Aboriginal Relations Branch

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

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

The Branch continues to play an instrumental role in developing and implementing the Crown's Consultation policy when dealing with First Nation/Métis/Aboriginal peoples. The foremost principle of consultation is to reconcile the relationship between the Crown and First Nations people/Métis/Aboriginal people. This can only be achieved by engaging in dialogue. The branch continues to provide advice to other areas of the Department for this to occur and that dialogue amongst the parties should be considered beyond all non consultation based matters.

Key Undertakings:

- Advocates that appropriate and meaningful Crown Consultation is undertaken with First Nation and Aboriginal communities when any government decision may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of a Treaty or Aboriginal right.
- Met with Aboriginal communities to identify respective concerns and issues, and assisted in developing action plans to resolve Aboriginal community issues.
- Created and fostered partnerships with Aboriginal leaders and communities that will build positive relationships in relations to program development, advocacy and capacity building.
- Provided direction for the Department and Aboriginal communities in natural resource management programs and issues.
- Provided educational information through varied media to the Department, Aboriginal, and non-Aboriginal communities.
- Participated in discussions to develop formal agreements for managing natural resources.
- Attended meetings and gatherings in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and with the various users of natural resources.
- Responded to inquiries from the Department, resource users, public and educational institutions.
- Implemented, monitored and assisted when requested on the various Memorandum of Understanding agreements that are signed by the minister.
- 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.

As a requirement of the *The Sustainable Development Act*, the Aboriginal Relations Branch has undertaken strategic initiatives incorporating sustainable development into its activities. The section below provides just a few examples of the many activities the Branch has undertaken to apply the Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development into operations and activities.

Towards principles # 1, 2, 3, 5 & 9, the Aboriginal Relations Branch advocates for the engagement of the Aboriginal community in all aspects of Manitoba Conservations programs and services. The Branch promotes 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 the natural law with special consideration to harmony and balance and the seven teachings for seven generations.

More specifically, the Aboriginal Relations Branch advocates that appropriate and meaningful Crown Consultation is undertaken with First Nation and Aboriginal communities when government decisions may infringe upon or adversely affect the exercise of a Treaty or Aboriginal right.

The Branch also engages with Aboriginal communities to identify concerns and assisted in developing action plans to resolve community issues. The Aboriginal Relations Branch created and fostered partnerships with Aboriginal leaders and communities that build positive relationships in relations to program development, advocacy and capacity building. The Branch provided direction for the Department and Aboriginal communities in natural resource management programs and services.

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 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 and Wasagamack.

Ten Community Traditional Area Land Use Plan (TALUP) Coordinators were trained to document and map First Nation traditional knowledge (TK) at the community level, through interviews with elders, trappers and other community land users. As well, a Traditional Area Land Use Planning Workshop was held for Community TALUP Coordinators at which Coordinators were provided with laptop computers to store information and prepare reports and presentations, global positioning system (GPS) units to accurately locate features on the landscape, and audio and video recorders to document interviews.

The Aboriginal Relations Branch continued research & development in relevant trends and practices with the ongoing intent of hosting additional Speaker's Bureau sessions for the Department of Conservation.

Table AR.1
12.4(e) Aboriginal Relations

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	427	6.00	540	(113)	
Other Expenditures	193		250	(57)	
Total 12.4(e)	620	6.00	790	(170)	

Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin

The Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin (WNO) Planning Initiative on the east side of Lake Winnipeg involves the participation of the Province of Manitoba and 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 and Wasagamack.

On April 3rd, 2007, the *Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin Council of Chiefs Accord* was signed to confirm a government-to-government relationship between the WNO First Nation governments and the Government of Manitoba, reinforce the foundation for traditional area land use planning, and assist in the establishment of Regional Resource Management Boards. It was also agreed that the Province contribute \$500,000.00 annually (2.5 million over a 5 year period), but not limited to, to support this activity in addition to continued resources for technical and secretariat support. The 5 year agreement has now expired and the Province has agreed to a funding extension of 1 year to continue the TALUP process for 2011/12.

Key Results Achieved:

The WNO Secretariat:

- provides administrative, planning and research support to its principal bodies, the WNO Council and the WNO Council of Chiefs;
- provide comments and recommendations on community traditional area land use planning activity reports to the WNO Council of Chiefs Incorporated (WNO Inc.), who lead and manage the development of traditional area land use plans and administer and disperse its funds;
- prepared funding proposals for land use planning on behalf of the WNO Inc., over and above the provincial contribution; and
- facilitated work towards establishing several regional resource management boards (RRMBs) on the east side.

Key Program Outputs:

- The WNO Council of Chiefs Inc. allocated nearly 1.9 million to First Nations for traditional area land use planning and to-date.
- A funding proposal was approved by Environment Canada's Aboriginal Funds for Species at Risk (ASFAR) program to provide the WNO Inc. with funds and equipment was purchased for WNO Community TALUP Coordinators to assist them in their land planning work.

A Contribution Agreement, to a maximum amount of \$75,000, was signed between **HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF CANADA** and the **Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin Council of Chiefs Inc.** to enable the WNO Inc. to purchase the land planning equipment.

- A Traditional Area Land Use Planning Workshop was held for Community TALUP Coordinators at which Coordinators were provided with laptop computers to store information and prepare reports and presentations, global positioning system (GPS) units to accurately locate features on the landscape, and audio and video recorders to document interviews.
- A one week course was held for 10 community coordinators on the Introduction to GIS. This training was funded through the Species at Risk application from Government of Canada

Coordinators were also introduced to Environment Canada's Boreal Woodland Caribou National Recovery Strategy and their roles in its process were discussed.

- A second funding proposal was submitted to Environment Canada's ASFAR program to provide 2 additional weeks of advanced training in the application of GPS instruments and GIS application to WNO Community TALUP Coordinators.
- A funding proposal was prepared under Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's First Nations Infrastructure Fund (FNIF) program to provide longer term training and support in GIS applications for WNO Community TALUP Coordinators through ESRI Canada. WNO Inc. is still waiting for a response from INAC.
- Progress continued on negotiations to establish new RRMBs on the east side. Draft agreements have undergone legal reviews by the Province and the Kee-Ootinetan Kitaskiinaan RRMB (Bunibonibee, God's Lake and Manto Sipi Cree Nations), the Paskonasheeng RRMB (Garden Hill, Red Sucker Lake, St. Theresa Point and Wasagamack First Nations). The Wahbanong Nopemeing RRMB (Bloodvein, Little Grand Rapids and Pauingassi First Nations) initially had also worked to set up a RRMB for their area. They have since completed drafts of their Traditional Area Land Use Plans and informed the Province that the RRMB was no longer needed. The Province contributed \$27,500 to assist First Nations in their legal reviews.
- The WNO website (<http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/wno/index.html>) is updated on an on-going basis.

Table WA.1

12.4(f) Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Other Expenditures	679	0.00	826	(147)	
Total 12.4(f)	679	0.00	826	(147)	

Pollution Prevention

Working with local governments, non-government organizations, business and industry associations and other agencies, the Branch promotes initiatives to foster efficient use of resources and best practices that avoids or minimizes pollution and waste, and supports these and other provincial initiatives through the management and administration of grant funding programs. The Branch develops policy, strategies, legislation and regulations, and programs to reduce waste, prevent pollution and protect the stratospheric ozone layer.

The *Waste Reduction and Prevention (WRAP) Act* and the *Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) Act* are administered by the Branch. The Branch manages the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF) established under Part 7 of the *Sustainable Development Act* and three of its broad allocation funding initiatives, namely the, SDIF Open Category, Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund and the Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF).

Key Results:

Waste Reduction and Prevention

The Branch continues to focus on programs that aim to:

- promote producer responsibility for post-consumer product management;
- encourage strategic public private sector partnerships to address environmental issues;
- reduce volume of waste generated and disposed, and
- improve waste management facility operations.

Regulated programs under *The WRAP Act* recycled 100,602 tonnes of material in 2010/11 including 12,972 tonnes of rubber from scrap tires, 72,666 tonnes of packaging and paper through municipal recycling programs and 14,963 tonnes of used oil products. The amount of material collected through these programs increased by 1,814 tonnes from the previous year.

The beginning of the fiscal year marked the end to the Government's regulated two-cent WRAP levy on sealed beverage containers and ultimately for the Manitoba Product Stewardship Corporation. Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM) assumed responsibility for funding recycling programs throughout Manitoba on April 1, 2010.

The beverage industry also launched a new program on April 1, 2010. The Canadian Beverage Container Recycling Association (CBCRA) stepped up to address away-from-home recycling of beverage containers and to assist MMSM in meeting a 75% recovery target for beverage containers. CBCRA began charging a two-cent container recycling fee on beverage containers at the same time the government levy was repealed. The dairy industry also opted to participate in the program and planned to charge a separate fee on milk. The proposed fee was stopped temporarily through a regulation under *The Milk Prices Review Act*. Amendments were proposed to the *Packaging and Printed Paper Stewardship Regulation* and Guideline to address issues related to separate fees and the funding of residential recycling programs, including prohibiting separate fees on larger milk containers.

The Branch continued to work with Green Manitoba and a number of industry groups to establish new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs under the *Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship Regulation* and the *Electrical and Electronic Equipment Stewardship Regulation*. The stewardship guidelines under those Regulations were approved and the branch conducted a public consultation on eight proposed stewardship plans in September 2010. Those plans were then brought forward for approval, with a launch date of April 1, 2011.

The branch continued its information and outreach activities with presentations to many citizen and industry groups. Staff continued to participate with the Municipal Advisory Committee on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), the Tire Stewardship Manitoba Advisory Committee and the Canadian

Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) EPR Task Group. These groups meet on a regular basis to discuss issues and develop strategies to divert waste from landfill.

The Branch also advertised and requested public comments on an increase in the levy on oil containers, which was approved for January 2011.

Multi-Material Recycling

The beginning of the year saw the successful transition of residential recycling from MPSC to MMSM. Funding to support recycling in Manitoba communities is now shared by all stewards of packaging and printed paper. Information on MMSM is available at: www.stewardshipmanitoba.ca.

One of the goals of MMSM is to reduce plastic bag use in Manitoba. The industry believes they have achieved a 24% reduction in the number of plastic bags distributed in Manitoba since April 2010.

MMSM paid out \$6,833,781 in Recycling Support Payments to municipal recycling programs during the nine months the program was in operation—from April 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010. Through the multi-material recycling program, 72,666.5 tonnes of material was recycled, equivalent to 68 kgs per person. The amount of material recycled has increased by 1,660 tonnes from the previous year. Table P2.1—Residential Recycling Statistics—contains data for the 2010 calendar year, while previous year's reports were on a fiscal year basis.

**Table PP.1
Residential Recycling Statistics**

Material Description	Total Kilograms (KGS) - 2010
Aluminum Cans	1,133,705
Aseptic Containers (e.g. juice boxes)	289,296
Boxboard (e.g. cereal boxes)	6,269,678
Gable Top Cartons (e.g. milk cartons)	1,019,890
Glass Containers	6,079,552
#4, 5 and 7 Plastics	2,187,480
Magazines	3,342,027
Newsprint and Flyers	34,683,471
Plastic Bottles ¹	2,639,975
Rigid Plastic Containers ²	1,848,202
Steel Cans	3,065,320
Telephone Directories	429,337
Sub-total	62,987,934
Old Corrugated Cardboard ³	9,678,617
Total	72,666,551

¹ Rigid plastics (#2, #4, #5 and #7) are sometimes marketed together, making it challenging to determine precise weights of different materials.

² Recovery numbers include only those materials recycled through registered local recycling programs in participating municipalities. Manitoba also has several charity-based organizations and individuals that collect recyclable materials for sale directly to brokers.

³ The OCC shown in the table represents OCC collected and reported by participating municipal recycling programs.

Tire Recycling

Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM) is a not-for-profit industry association formed as a stewardship agency to represent the tire retailers of Manitoba who manage a province-wide scrap tire recycling program. TSM operates under the authority of the *Tire Stewardship Regulation, 2008* and a letter of approval from the Minister of Conservation. More information on TSM is available at: www.tirestewardshipmb.ca.

In 2010, a total of 12,972 tonnes of scrap tires were processed from 12,143 tonnes of new tires sold, for a diversion rate of 106%. The program helped lower inventories at tire recyclers. This represents 10.42 kilograms of scrap tires diverted for every Manitoban.

Table PP.2
Products from Scrap Tires (2010)

Product Breakdown

Product	Tonnes	Percentage
Molded	330	3%
Crumb	48	0%
Sidewalls	1,627	12%
Tire Derived Aggregate (TDA)	9,699	75%
Blast/Temporary Mats	745	6%
Tire Derived Fuel (TDF)	522	4%
	<hr/>	
	12,972	100%

Used Oil Recycling

The Manitoba Association for Resource Recovery Corp. (MARRC) is a non-profit corporation established by manufacturers and marketers of lubricating products in Manitoba to operate a province-wide stewardship program for used oil, used oil filters and used oil containers. MARRC operates under the authority of the *Used Oil, Oil Filters and Containers Stewardship Regulation* and a letter of approval from the Minister of Conservation.

MARRC has 162 members, and as part of their membership agreement, vendors pay Environmental Handling Charges based on product sales. In total, 53 Eco-Centres have been established in partnership with municipal governments and 26 privately operated depots collect used oil, filters and containers.

Oil recovery increased to 13.2 million litres or 75% of the estimated amount recoverable, while filter recovery decreased slightly to 1.47 million filters, or 69% of sales. A total of 248,000 kgs of oil containers were recovered, for a 29% recovery rate. Further information on MARRC is available at: www.usedoilrecycling.com.

In January, following approval for an increase in the fee on oil containers, MARRC increased its payouts to collectors in order to encourage a higher recovery rate for empty oil containers.

**Table PP.3
Used Oil Products Recycled/Collected, 2010**

Material	Quantity	% Recovered
Oil	13.2 million liters	75%
Oil Filters	1.68 million	69%
Oil Containers	235,000 kilograms	29%

Pollution Prevention

Branch staff represented Manitoba on the planning committee of the Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention Roundtable and continued to support the event. The branch maintains memberships with the Building Energy Management Manitoba (BEMM), the Composting Council of Canada, and the Manitoba Environmental Industries Association. Staff regularly attends presentations, shares information and supports initiatives put forward by these organizations.

The Branch continued to provide support to Grand Beach Provincial Park with its recycling, waste management and minimization efforts with the installation of bear proof waste containers, waste transfer station enhancements, and creation of a metal recycling, wood chipping and composting area.

Ozone Depleting Substances

Staff continued to participate on the Federal-Provincial Working Group (FPWG) on Ozone Depleting Substances and Halocarbon Alternatives and met to consult on provincial and federal harmonization approaches for the continued implementation of the 2001 National *Action Plan (NAP) for the Environmental Control of Ozone Depleting Substances and Their Halocarbon Alternatives*. The FPWG is responsible for developing and implementing Canada's National Action Plan which outlines how ODS and other halocarbons will be controlled, reduced and eliminated in Canada. The NAP was created to meet national and international commitments under the Montreal Protocol. The latest NAP was approved by the CCME in 2001 and requires federal and provincial jurisdictions to implement measures to eliminate the release of ODS and alternatives into the environment.

Support continued for Refrigerant Management Canada (RMC), a national voluntary industry stewardship organization and its comprehensive halocarbon stewardship program for the proper management, collection and disposal of obsolete and surplus ODS. As of March 31, 2011 RMC accepted and processed 2,299,558 kgs of high and low pressure refrigerants and destroyed 2,125,847 kgs of refrigerant waste.

The branch continued to administer an Annual Appointment Agreement between Manitoba Conservation and the Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association (MOPIA). The Agreement allows MOPIA to undertake administrative tasks under the *Manitoba Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbon Regulation* (103/94) and continue its role as a service provider in providing environmental awareness training, issuing permit and collecting annual records and fees.

In 2010, work continued on the orderly transition from CFCs and halons to alternative substances and technologies. The majority of all halon fire suppressant systems being decommissioned from use, with two irreplaceable equipment permits for Class 1 Halon fixed fire extinguishing equipment issued. During 2010, MOPIA issued 5,126 trained service technicians' certificates, and 376 secondary distributor permits. MOPIA held a series of industry information sessions throughout Manitoba and provided environmental awareness training sessions for Manitoba service technicians. Further information on MOPIA is available at www.mopia.ca.

The Heating and Refrigeration Air Conditioning Institute (HRAI) tracks the number of chillers in Canada that continue to operate on CFC refrigerants and the annual rate of conversions and replacements.

In 2010, an estimated 253 chillers were converted or replaced in Canada, representing a 3.0% decrease compared to 2009. In total, 3,388 chillers have been converted or replaced, bringing the rate of conversion/replacement from 71.5% (2009) to 77.2%.

Funding Programs

The Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF), administered by the Branch, supports innovative solutions to environmental issues. In addition to administering the overall Fund, the Branch managed the following targeted funding allocations:

- SDIF Open Category
- Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund
- Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF)

Branch staff continued its membership with the Canadian Environmental Grantmakers' Network (CEGN). The CEGN is a broad network of organizations that make environmental grants in Canada and provides a national format for information-sharing, collaboration and contributing towards expanding the scope and effectiveness of environmental grant-making in Canada.

Staff represented the department on the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative Management Committee. The initiative brings together several departments including Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Health, and Conservation and is intended to promote healthy food choices and support the development of local food sources in northern Manitoba.

In response to the Provincial Auditor General's report and recommendations on the SDIF, work continued to develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Sustainable Development Innovation Fund (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.

**Table PP.4
12.4(h) Pollution Prevention**

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	408	5.00	347	61	
Other Expenditures	98		97	1	
Total 12.4(h)	506	5.00	444	62	

Air Quality Management

Air Quality Management's mandate is to monitor and safeguard the quality of Manitoba's air for the benefit of citizens today as well as for future generations. To achieve its mandate, the Section:

- Develops and reviews objectives and guidelines for air pollutants of concern;
- Monitors ambient (outdoor) air quality in urban areas and near selected industrial sources to measure adherence to objectives, guidelines and standards;
- Undertakes special air quality projects;
- Provides scientific and technical support to the Department, other agencies and the public;
- Assists in the review and assessment of developments and provides comments for environmental licensing;
- Participates in the development and implementation of national strategies.

**Table AQ.1
Air Quality Activities**

Activity	Number
National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) – number of urban stations operated	2
Monitoring industries with air emissions – number of stations operated	2 ¹
Participation in regional/national air issues and strategies	4
Support to major Department activities	3
Proposals/Licences under <i>The Environment Act and The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act; The Oil and Gas Act - Oil Well Battery Operating Permit</i> Applications Reviewed	70
Comments provided	28
Requests for detailed technical air quality information (data, criteria, technical information, etc.) and presentations	as required

Key Results Achieved:

- The Section continued to successfully monitor outdoor ambient air quality at the established provincial sites, audited the air quality monitoring activities of others as required under regulatory provisions, and, when required, made recommendations for improvements. Air quality data statistics for 2009 were released publicly.
- Fulfilled provincial obligations as required by the existing federal/provincial Memorandum of Understanding for operation of the National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) program. New/replacement instrumentation and peripherals were installed and placed into operation.
- Completed implementation of the new centrally-hosted air quality data system for the handling and management of air quality data readings with commissioning on January 1, 2011.

¹ One site operated with assistance from Regional Operations.

- Commenced development of the new air quality public web site for display of near real-time and historical air quality levels from provincial air quality monitors.
- Played a key role in overseeing the completion of the company-led Flin Flon area human health risk assessment for exposure to metals in soils, jointly with the Government of Saskatchewan. Final assessment report issued by the company in June 2010 along with a risk management plan which is near completion.
- Successful delivery and completion of the third and final phase of soil improvements at selected parks and playgrounds in Flin Flon, as a precautionary measure to protect young children using the parks, from potential exposure to metals in soils as well as for continued greening of the community. Field work was overseen through an arrangement with the City of Flin Flon.
- Provided technical and policy support to a number of Departmental activities. These included:
 - Assisted with providing input into the development of the national comprehensive air management system (CAMS);
 - Management of releases from base metal smelters in Manitoba to protect local air quality;
 - On-going scientific and related monitoring activities to assess eco-system vulnerability to acidic deposition;
 - Review of air quality matters related to *Environment Act* proposals for Licencing and other related reviews
 - Continued participation on the Department's core environmental Emergency Response Team to assist in response to releases or potential releases, of contaminants that may be detrimental to the environment or public health.
- More information on air quality management in Manitoba is available at: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/pollutionprevention/airquality/index.html>.

Table AQ.2
12.4(i) Air Quality Management

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	330	4.00	304	26	
Other Expenditures	65		69	(4)	
Total 12.4(i)	395	4.00	373	22	

Climate Change

Objectives

- To coordinate the government-wide implementation of the Beyond Kyoto Climate Change Plan and the Climate Change Emissions Reduction Act in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 6% below 1990 levels by 2012.
- To ensure Manitoba's interests are taken into account in the development of regional, national and international climate change programs.
- To develop longer term emission reduction targets and program, such as cap and trade, which will reduce Manitoba's emissions post 2012.
- To coordinate Manitoba's response to climate change by reviewing regional climate models, undertaking vulnerability assessments, and developing appropriate strategies for adaptation.

Key Results Achieved

- Conducted coordination meetings with the various Departments responsible for climate change projects and programs.
- Analyzed Environment Canada's annual greenhouse gas emission inventory for Manitoba and tracks expected reductions from programs being implemented in the province.
- Provided regular reports to Cabinet on Manitoba's progress towards meeting its climate change goals, and reports progress publicly as required in *The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act*.
- Conducted a public consultation program in 2010 regarding potential implementation of cap and trade legislation.
- Assessed economic costs and benefits associated with implementing various climate change mitigation options in Manitoba.
- Participated in the development of the Western Climate Initiative and the Three Regions discussions on linking regional climate programs.
- Liaised with the federal government on the advancement of the national greenhouse gas mitigation and climate change adaptation programs.
- Worked with Canada's international climate change team to prepare for ongoing negotiations related to a global climate change strategy.
- Partnered with the other Prairie Provinces to study the impacts of climate change on water resources and develop a strategy to manage these impacts.
- Works with the United Nations Development Programme to implement climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in a developing country.
- In concert with other Departments, develops a Manitoba action plan for adaptation.

- Implements Manitoba's Emissions Tax on Coal and works with partner departments to ensure that coal users have appropriate supports enabling a switch to biomass fuels.
- Implements the Manitoba Climate Investment Program to help Manitoba companies and non-government organizations measure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions .

EXPECTED RESULTS

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

Table CC.1
12.4(j) Climate Change Initiatives

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	676	9.00	735	(59)	
Other Expenditures	407		480	(73)	
Grant Assistance	14		14	0	
Total 12.4(j)	1,097	9.00	1,229	(132)	

Green Manitoba

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 & Mines and Conservation. In its fourth year of operations, the SOA was moved to the Department of Conservation from the Department of Science, Technology, Energy and Mines. Since its inception, Green Manitoba has served as a 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 achieves more than if each had acted alone. Green Manitoba serves as the access point for customers to acquire information about provincial sustainability issues. The Special Operating Agency delivers programs and services related to increasing energy efficiency, conserving water, reducing waste, reducing green house gas (GHG) emissions through climate change action, encouraging sustainable transportation practices and Education for Sustainability.

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

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

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Other Expenditures & Grant Assistance	2,304		2,079	225	
Total 12.4(k)	2,304		2,079	225	

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

12.4(I) International Institute for Sustainable Development

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Estimate 2010/11		Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
	\$(000)	FTE	\$(000)		
Other Expenditures	1,176		1,126	50	
Total 12.4(I)	1,176		1,126	50	

Minor Capital Projects

Critical Heritage Marshes

The Heritage Marsh Program incorporates marshes known to be of extraordinary importance to the well being of wildlife and people. Eight Heritage Marshes are formally recognized (Saskeram, Summerberry, Delta, Oak Hammock, Rat River, Grants Lake, Proven Lake, and Lidcliff), and an additional 19 have been identified as candidate marshes.

Research on the ecological health of Delta Marsh, recognized internationally as an important prairie wetland, documented that the marsh ecosystem has undergone significant changes. A technical committee was formed to address management challenges including the exclusion of alien invasive adult carp from the marsh.

Research in the Summerberry Marsh in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Delta Marsh Research Station (University of Manitoba) will improve management and productivity of the wetlands. Improvements to public viewing facilities continued at Oak Hammock Marsh with additional trail redevelopment undertaken in cooperation with the Watchable Wildlife Program.

Park Facilities

Parks and Natural Areas branch endeavours to extend the life and capacity of provincial park infrastructure and enhance recreational opportunities through upgrading, improvement and development of park facilities. Environmental protection in provincial parks is enhanced through the installation and construction of appropriate facilities for the treatment and management of water and sewage, and the disposal of garbage. Campgrounds and other park areas are enhanced to meet park users' needs and promote attraction to users. Park facilities are upgraded through this program in conjunction with Part B Capital Assets and the camping budgets. Specific details are provided throughout the Parks & Natural Areas general write up.

Camping Initiatives

The Provincial Camping Initiative is funded through the Department's Minor Capital Budget and is targeted at the development and upgrade of 1,000 camping sites. The intent of this program is to plan and upgrade existing campgrounds and associated facilities.

Expansions and upgrades have included new campsites, campsite enlargement and electrification, road upgrades, cabin and yurt enhancements, and campground office improvements.

Table IM.1
12.5 Minor Capital Projects

Expenditures by Sub-appropriation	Actual 2010/11 \$(000)	FTE	Estimate 2010/11 \$(000)	Variance Over/(Under) \$(000)	Expl. No.
Other Expenditures	2,051		2,111	(60)	
Total 12.5	2,051		2,111	(60)	

PART B – CAPITAL INVESTMENT

General Assets

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

Machinery and equipment purchases included 3 heavy trucks, 5 industrial mowers, 1 Motor Grader, two snowmobiles, 2 tractors/front end loaders 1 winter ski trail groomer, 2 backhoe tractor/excavators, 1 walk-in freezer unit, 2 outboard motors, 1 programmable highway sign, and 1 tandem industrial trailer.

Facility refurbishments and upgrades include a significant investment in the Polar Bear Holding compound in Churchill, Manitoba.

As well, a significant investment was made by the department in cooperation with the Assiniboine Park Conservancy, for the development of the International Polar Bear Conservation Centre at Winnipeg's Assiniboine Park Zoo.

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 of shower buildings at Birds Hill Campground and at Nutimik Lake Campground in Whiteshell Provincial Park were completed. Both buildings include conservation-minded technologies such as solar water heating, waterless urinals, low-flush fixtures and coin-operated showers.
- Landscape and site improvements associated with the Birds Hill Washroom/Shower Building and the Nutimik Lake Washroom/Shower Building, including improved pathway connections were completed.
- Design and construction of a 32 stall washroom building at Grand Beach was completed. The new washroom features a reinforced rammed earth wall, the first of its kind in Manitoba. This ancient building technique uses local limestone and beach sand mixed with water and concrete which is then mechanically compacted to create a strong, durable and beautiful wall that is also structural, helping to hold up the washroom's green roof.
- Phase 1 of the redevelopment of the Grand Beach Boardwalk, destroyed by extreme weather in October 2010, was initiated. The work includes a new sheet pile wall with timber façade, extensive decorative paving, a new railing and a new accessible ramp to beach level.
- Design work was initiated on the redevelopment of the West Hawk Lake Town-site Road. Proposed improvements include a new road surface, a pedestrian amenity zone and clearly organized parking.
- Otter Falls shoreline stabilization was completed to retain threatened campsites, interpretation and landscape improvements.
- Upgrading work at the Birds Hill Riding Stables in order to improve manure management was completed.
- An upgrade to the Grindstone Lagoon was completed. Design and construction of Grindstone Waste Transfer Station was initiated.
- Design and construction of the East Campground sewage lift station upgrade at Birds Hill Provincial Park was initiated.
- Assessment and planning for wastewater facility upgrades at Grand Beach Provincial Park and Spruce Woods Provincial Park were initiated. Design of a new wastewater truck haul lagoon at Dorothy Lake was initiated.

- New water treatment plant upgrades at Watchorn Provincial Park, Hnaua Provincial Park, and Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park were completed.
- Site improvements to Trappist Monastery Provincial Heritage Park, including parking improvements, landscaping and pathway connections, were completed. Improvements to lighting and drainage at this site were initiated.
- A new wastewater treatment facility upgrade at White Lake in Whiteshell Provincial Park was completed.

Camping Initiatives

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

Key Results Achieved

- At Duck Mountain Provincial Park, a 65 site expansion of Wellman Lake Campground and new green washroom/shower buildings at Wellman Lake and Childs Lake Campgrounds were completed.
- Construction of a new fully-serviced 110 site campground at Winnipeg Beach Provincial Park continued. This development includes three washroom/shower buildings and a new campground office. The campground was designed with energy conservation measures in mind and includes solar heating for hot water, low-flush fixtures and coin-operated showers. The campground will be open to the public in July 2011.
- Three new Yurts were constructed at Spruce Woods Provincial Park.

Sustainable Development Integration

Under *The Sustainable Development Act*, each department is required to integrate into its annual reporting process information about progress made in incorporating sustainable development into its activities. The section below provides just a few examples of the many activities the Department has undertaken to incorporate or apply the Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development into its everyday operations and activities. Please note that a particular example may exemplify more than one principle and/or guideline.

Principles of Sustainable Development

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

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

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

Examples:

- The Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch continued its participation in the planning for the Hudson Bay Summit, scheduled for spring 2012. The summit is designed to focus greater public, political and scientific attention on the Hudson Bay Inland Sea ecosystem, the coastal Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples who rely on it, and the economic activities that are becoming increasingly evident in the region.
- Climate Change Branch Analyzes Environment Canada's annual greenhouse gas emission inventory for Manitoba, tracks expected reductions from programs being implemented in the province and partners with the other Prairie Provinces to study the impacts of climate change on water resources and develop a strategy to manage impacts.
- Parks and Natural Areas Branch reviewed proposed development activities within and adjacent to provincial parks to determine if they were appropriate and advice was offered on how to mitigate impacts.
- The Mixed-grass Prairie Habitat Stewardship Project promotes agricultural activities that incorporate wise land stewardship and biodiversity conservation. This project raises landowner awareness of the value of native grasslands and guides future management and stewardship activities by providing inventory information to focus conservation efforts. Sustainable prairie management techniques such as burning or brush mowing are implemented on project lands and habitat changes as a result of management practices are evaluated.

2. Stewardship

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

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

Examples:

- Pollution Prevention Branch continued to work with Green Manitoba and a number of industry groups to establish new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs under the *Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship Regulation* and the *Electrical and Electronic Equipment Stewardship Regulation*. The stewardship guidelines under those

Regulations were approved and the branch conducted a public consultation on eight proposed stewardship plans in September 2010. Those plans were then brought forward for approval, with a launch date of April 1, 2011.

- Green Manitoba managed the expanded province-wide E-waste Roundup program to collect and properly recycle end-of-life electronic equipment, including televisions, computers, microwaves and cell phones.
- Green Manitoba coordinated Manitoba's Lower Income Residential Energy Efficiency Program (LIREP) in support of the Building Urban Industry Through Local Development (BUILD) and Brandon Energy Efficiency (BEEP) programs to support energy and water conservation for lower income housing in Winnipeg and Brandon and administered federal ecoENERGY rebate funding.
- The Department led the environmental assessment process for multiple developments over the past year. The environmental assessment process is done in accordance with the Environment Act and considers sustainability in all of these reviews.

3. Shared Responsibility and Understanding

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

- 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:

- Planning area designations and management plans submitted to the Department under *The East Side Traditional Lands Planning and Special Protected Areas Act* provide for enhanced management of Crown land through legal recognition of land management objectives, zoning systems, policy provisions and decision making processes in partnership with First Nations.
- Public consultations were carried out for all applications regulated by the Environment Act. Improvements to the Environmental Assessment and Licensing web site facilitated a greater amount of project information made readily available to members of the public.
- The Aboriginal Relations Branch advocates for the engagement of the Aboriginal community in all aspects of Manitoba Conservation programs and services. The Branch promotes 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 its unique world-view and holistic approach with respect to natural laws, with special consideration to harmony and balance and the seven teachings for seven generations.
- The renewal of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation Joint Management Agreement provides the opportunity for a key relationship that allows the department to work with the Aboriginal community to harmonize plans, policies and decisions with activities that reflect human and social health, and recognise the effects and the consequences of decisions within the Opaskwayak Cree Nation Traditional Territory.

- 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 First Nation communities of Berens River, Black River, Bloodvein, Bunibonabee, Garden Hill, God's Lake, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Manto Sipi, Pauingassi, Poplar River, Red Sucker Lake, St Theresa Point and Wasagamack.
- As part of the province's commitment to support the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) Natural Areas Conservation Program, NCC has acquired conservation agreements and land purchases totalling over 1,680 hectares in the Riding Mountain Aspen Parkland and Tall Grass Prairie over the past year. These lands will be reviewed for their potential to become protected areas.
- A contract was signed with Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (MCCN) to interpret imagery acquired for MCCN Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) and reserve areas. The interpretation of an approximately 80,000 ha of Mathias Colomb First Nation TLE selection and reserve area was completed this year. Manitoba and MCCN are now working toward a data sharing agreement centered on this information.
- A \$1.2 million community-based timber volume sampling survey, jointly funded by the province and federal government, was completed within a portion of the Highrock forest section. The program directed funds to The Pas, a community impacted by the economic downturn, to hire displaced forestry workers and First Nation communities to deliver a two-year volume sampling survey as part of the provincial inventory process. The program provided training to participating individuals and enhanced the community's capacity to become engaged in sustainable resource planning and development discussions.

4. Prevention

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

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

Examples:

- The *Polar Bear Protection Amendment Act* received royal assent on December 9, 2010. This Act will establish in law the International Polar Bear Conservation Centre to be constructed at the Assiniboine Park Zoo. The Act also designates an advisory committee to make recommendations on the operation of the Centre as well as strengthen & create new regulation making powers respecting the care of polar bear cubs in zoos.
- Manitoba Conservation Canine Teams were used extensively throughout the province. The two service dogs, Jake and Rebel worked on a variety of compliance checks and investigations of illegal fishing and hunting activities. Including, six roadside check stations, four decoy operations, twenty-seven occurrences of searching for evidence in non-confined areas, sixteen occurrences of searching vehicles, three occurrences of searching for suspects.
- As part of the ongoing review of environmental legislation, the *Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation* was amended to ensure increased protection of human health and the environment.
- The *Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation* was amended to update references in the Regulation to requirements of the code of practice published by Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, and the *Notice and Reporting Regulation* was registered to reflect new requirements under *The Environment Act*.

- Adverse effects on the environment and public health from pesticide use were minimized through appropriate permit specifications, limits, terms and conditions. Complaints were followed up through compliance inspections and field visits. Liaison with the federal Pest Management Regulatory Agency ensured that only approved products were permitted and used in Manitoba.
- The Problem Beaver Management Program was implemented for the ninth consecutive year with the subsidy increased to \$20.00 per beaver in winter. Over 8,300 beaver were removed under this program. Due to the extensive flooding in many areas, a further increase of the subsidy to \$50 per beaver and a beaver dam removal program were announced and will be implemented during the 2011-12 year.

5. Conservation and Enhancement

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

- 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:

- The Protected Areas Initiative (PAI) contributes to long-term sustainable development by assembling a network of core protected areas designed to conserve ecosystems and maintain biodiversity across Manitoba. Protected areas consist of land, freshwater, or marine areas that are free from oil, petroleum, natural gas or hydroelectric development, logging, mining, and other activities that may significantly and adversely affect habitat. The goal of the PAI is to establish, for each of the 18 natural regions and sub-regions of the province, a network of protected areas containing an adequate and representative sample of the region's diverse landscapes.
- Supplemental wood supply analyses were completed within Forest Management License #1 to account for landbase changes as a result of the removal of harvesting within provincial parks. An addendum to the existing wood supply report was completed and is expected to be released in 2011/12.
- In support of moose population management discussions within the Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch, wildlife habitat analyses were conducted using a forest management planning model for portions of the Mountain Forest Section and the Lake Winnipeg East Forest Section.
- As of April 1, 2010 the Forestry Branch implemented the 2010-15 Timber Quota Policy. *The Manitoba Timber Quota System* was originally introduced in June 1965 in order to provide the forest sector greater security of tenure, to promote increased investment and ensure benefits of forest based employment and production. The previous quota period and Timber Quota Policy ran from April 1st, 2005 to March 31st, 2010. In 2010/11 there were 164 Quota holders who were allocated a total of 631,259 m³ of Crown Timber.
- Lands and Geomatics through the conditions of use associated with the disposition of Crown land under the Crown Lands Act ensures the land is tended to in accordance with principles of sustainability and protection of the environment.
- The Wildlife Lands Unit delivers the Heritage Marsh Program, an initiative to celebrate and better manage Manitoba's large wetland complexes. This includes land acquisition, habitat restoration, enhancement, vegetation and wildlife surveys, support for research, and the development of wildlife viewing and interpretation facilities. The Section also cooperates with the Tourism

Secretariat of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism in the provision of wildlife-viewing facilities associated with the Watchable Wildlife Program.

- The Mixed-grass Prairie Inventory determines the extent and quality of mixed-grass prairie habitat remaining in Manitoba. A total of 25 sites, totalling 2998 ha (7408 acres) on 56 quarter sections were inventoried. Of the prairie inventoried to date (77,590 ha or 191,722 acres), 60% has been graded as “C” or better, which means it is in good condition. Interviews with 89 land owners of high quality prairie have been conducted to document management practices and to increase their awareness of conservation initiatives and species at risk.

6. Rehabilitation and Reclamation

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

- a) it actively endeavors 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:

- The Environmental Services Branch continues to address the assessment and remediation of environmental liabilities for which the Department is or. Remedial works initiated in 2009/10 in the community of West Hawk Lake and at the former Manfor site continued through 2010/11. New work in 2010/11 included an indoor air quality assessment in the community of Eriksdale, assessment work undertaken in the community of Bird’s Hill, and cost sharing agreements for assessment and remediation work for two sites in the City of Winnipeg.
- Environmental Operations Branch successfully administered the remediation of a lead impacted site in Point Douglas, through in-situ risk management and encapsulation strategy, which was developed into a daycare and seniors centre.
- The Forest Health and Renewal Section protects forests from damage by insects, disease and other factors, assists wildfire management and ensures all harvested Crown forest lands are renewed to maintain ecosystem integrity and biodiversity. The public and industry receive information and assistance on forest health and renewal issues from the section.

7. Global Responsibility

To meet the intent of Principle # 7, the Department ensures:

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

Examples:

- The Branch represented the department in trade matters related to the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT), including representing the department in development and implementation of the AIT Environment and Processing of Natural Resources chapters. The Branch monitored trade developments in environment and natural resource issues and liaised with other departments and jurisdictions on trade matters involving NAFTA, the GATT/WTO agreements and the recent and ongoing Canada Europe Trade Agreement (CETA) negotiations.
- The Department continues to provide support for the Winnipeg based International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). 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.

- Lands and Geomatics, Manitoba Remote Sensing Centre as part of the Kyoto Protocol and the Pacific Forest Service have agreed to evaluate the deforestation that has taken place between 1975 and 2007 using satellite imagery and other ancillary data. Work is continuing in partnership with the Canadian Space Agency and the Canadian Forest Service to extract land cover information from Landsat 7 imagery as part of the Earth Observation for the Sustainable Development of the forest project.

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:

- The IT Branch continued its support and development enhancements to several business applications including custom web site development for the cottage lot draw program, the Environment Management System, the Vendor Accounting System, the Headquarters Enforcement System, the Big Game Management System, the License Advisory Committee System, the Canada Map Sales web site, and several other departmental business applications.
- The Forest Practices Committee, comprised of representatives from other branches and departments of the Government of Manitoba and the forest industry, continued to develop guidelines for forestry practices. Conservation published the *Forest Management Guidelines for Terrestrial Buffers* and, *Manitoba's Submission guideline for Forest Management Annual Reports*. The committee continues to work on the *Forest Health Guidebook*, *Manitoba's Submission Guidelines for Forest Management Operating Plans*, and the *Protection of Understorey Guidebook*.
- Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch conducts big game monitoring by which the dynamics of some big game populations are evaluated annually to provide input to decisions on hunting seasons and other management tasks. All data are entered into computer simulations (models) to estimate the consequences of alternative management options. There are three main categories of information, gathered through the following activities:
 - Winter aerial surveys of some populations to estimate abundance, sex and age composition, recruitment and distribution.
 - Hunter questionnaires to estimate harvests, hunter effort and hunter distribution.
 - Biological specimen collection to assess age and reproductive status.
- The Furbearer Management Program helps to sustain populations of furbearers and promotes optimum harvests and economic, social, and cultural returns to trappers and their families. Both furbearer production and the number of each species sold by trappers are monitored. The program encourages humane trapping and promotes education and public understanding of furbearer management and the fur industry.

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:

- The Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development met three times during the year, as required under *The Sustainable Development Act*. The Round Table awarded Sustainable Development Scholarships to two students in Manitoba and also awarded the 2010 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards. Among the winners was Fresh Option Organic Delivery (FOOD), a successful organic retail and delivery business,, which received the Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability Award for their commitment to working with local producers to strengthen Manitoba's organic market and increase the sustainability of our food system.
- Consultations with First Nations and stakeholders were conducted to review the Fisher Bay Park Reserve and the Fisher River Cree Nation and Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) proposed boundary expansion area. Fisher Bay Park Reserve was renewed for a further five years providing timeframe to consider the park reserve as a final park proposal with First Nations and stakeholders.
- 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.

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:

- Delivery of the interpretive field program included two full-time interpreters at Birds Hill and Whiteshell provincial parks, and 19 seasonal interpreters. Programs were presented at Birds Hill, Grand Beach, Hecla/Grindstone, Paint Lake, River Road, St. Malo, St. Norbert, Spruce Woods, Turtle Mountain, and Whiteshell Provincial Parks. In addition, Green Team members provided assistance at these parks. Interpreters contacted about 90,000 visitors at interpreter-led events and in interpretive centres and museums.
- The Public Information section provided information to the public regarding the numerous programs delivered by the Departments of Conservation and Water Stewardship. This service was provided in person, by telephone, Internet and mail, including the following responses to requests for information and assistance in 2010/11:
 - 33,318 direct telephone requests to the Information Officers;
 - 33,309 calls were received by the automated Public Information Line, of which 9,597 were handled directly by the line;
 - 74,298 in person requests;
 - 878 requests through the Internet; and
 - 4,529 information packages were mailed.
- Green Manitoba promotes sustainability practices by bringing together all partners (governments, business and other stakeholder organizations) and in doing so achieves more than if each had

acted alone. Green Manitoba serves as the access point for customers to acquire information about provincial sustainability issues. The Special Operating Agency delivers programs and services related to increasing energy efficiency, conserving water, reducing waste, reducing green house gas (GHG) emissions through climate change action, encouraging sustainable transportation practices and Education for Sustainability.

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:

- The interface between policies governing the circulation of proposed Crown land dispositions to First Nations and the Crown's interim Aboriginal consultation policy was reviewed with affected Departments to clarify roles and responsibilities and conformance with legislation. Corporate Crown Land Policy also coordinated the development of policies and procedures for land transfers to incorporated Northern Affairs communities for the promotion of economic development within these communities.
- Through the Trees for Tomorrow program, the province and its partners committed to plant five million trees in five years. The program, which is part of Manitoba's Beyond Kyoto Climate Change initiative, started in April 2008, and will be completed in 2012. By the end of 2009/10, 1.06 million trees – mostly conifers and hybrid poplars, had been planted, and by the end of 2010/2011, another 1.39 million trees had been planted. Another 1.75 million trees are scheduled to be planted in 2011/2012.
- Air Quality Management fulfilled federal/provincial obligations for operation of the National Air Pollution Surveillance (NAPS) program. New and replacement instrumentation and peripherals were installed and placed into operation. Implementation of the new centrally-hosted air quality data system for the handling and management of air quality data readings was commissioned on January 1, 2011.

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:

- Regulated programs under *The Waste Reduction and Prevention Act* recycled 100,602 tonnes of material in 2010/2011 including 12,972 tonnes of rubber from scrap tires, 72,666 tonnes of packaging and paper through municipal recycling programs and 14,963 tonnes of used oil products. The amount of material collected through these programs increased by 1,814 tonnes from the previous year.
- The Branch held public consultations to establish new programs to manage household hazardous waste and electronic waste.

- Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba, a new industry-led stewardship program was launched on April 1, 2010 and assumed responsibility for funding municipal recycling programs throughout Manitoba.
- Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM), a not-for-profit industry association formed as a stewardship agency to represent the tire retailers of Manitoba who manage a province-wide scrap tire recycling program, operates under the authority of the *Tire Stewardship Regulation, 2008* and a letter of approval from the Minister of Conservation. In 2010, a total of 12,972 tonnes of scrap tires were processed from 12,143 tonnes of new tires sold, for a diversion rate of 106%. This represents 10.42 kilograms of scrap tires diverted for every Manitoban.
- Green Manitoba (GM) administered the Waste Reduction and Recycling Support (WRARS) Levy. The WRARS Program and implementation of a new levy on waste disposed in Manitoba landfills began July 2009. GM developed and distributed the WRARS Program Guide to Manitoba municipalities and landfill operators and commenced landfill and municipal recycling registration processes.

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:

- Lands and Geomatics, through the sharing of knowledge of the development and data maintained in the Treaty Land Entitlement System (TRELES), continues to contribute to the advancement of the transfer of land to First Nations at an expedited rate, furthering economic and social opportunities for Aboriginal peoples.
- Sustainable Resource and Policy Branch continued to work on the development of a provincial peatlands stewardship strategy with interest groups and organizations. The branch also worked intra-departmentally and with Manitoba Water Stewardship to better understand the carbon values and ecological goods and services of boreal forests, and wetlands, including peatlands.
- Analyses were undertaken to obtain and improve estimates of forest carbon across the province and to integrate carbon reporting with the provincial wood supply determination process. Information was compiled for a case study area (portion of the Lake Winnipeg East forest section) and prepared for use with the Carbon Budget Model (CBM) developed by the Canadian Forest Service. Carbon modelling analyses were also conducted to provide estimates of enhanced carbon sequestration resulting from a number of afforestation and tree improvement programs implemented within the province.
- Remote Sensing section in Geomatics is continuing a partnership with the Canadian Space Agency and the Canadian Forest Service to extract land cover information from Landsat 7 imagery. This is part of the Earth Observation for the Sustainable Development of the forest project, over 30 land cover classifications are being determined from the imagery. As part of the Kyoto Protocol, Pacific Forest Service and MRSC have agreed to evaluate the deforestation that has taken place between 1975 and 2007 using Landsat Tm and Mss Imagery and other data.
- Multiple GPS radio-collars are currently deployed on female caribou in the Qamanirjuaq, Cape Churchill, and Pen Island herds to monitor and track seasonal migration and local movement. The Beverly & Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board remains very active and provides significant contributions to the management of the Qamanirjuaq herd.

Sustainable Development Procurement Goals

1. Education, Training, and Awareness

To meet the intent of Goal #1, the department ensures 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.

Example:

- Continued support of the development of a “green procurement” website designed for the use of Manitoba public sector organizations. The website, “Manitoba Going Green – Encouraging Green and Sustainable Procurement within the Manitoba Public Sector”, has been developed by Procurement Services Branch in MIT and several Crowns to provide information to public sector purchasers to encourage green procurement. The information available on the website is a compilation of green procurement and sustainable development initiatives currently promoted by procurement professionals working in such areas as government, crown corporations, hospitals and municipalities. These government policies and initiatives include: the Lake Friendly Initiative, the Manitoba Organic Directory, the Manitoba Green Buildings Policy, the Aboriginal Procurement Initiative and the Purchase of Clothing from Responsible Manufacturers Policy.

2. Pollution Prevention and Human Health Protection

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

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

Examples:

- The Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Branch chaired a Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) national committee responsible for developing possible approaches to reduce packaging on store shelves in Canada.
- Construction of shower buildings at Birds Hill Campground and Nutimik Lake Campground in Whiteshell Provincial Park were completed. Both buildings include conservation-minded technologies such as solar water heating, waterless urinals, low-flush fixtures, and coin-operated showers. At Duck Mountain Provincial Park, a 65 site expansion of Wellman Lake Campground and new green washroom/shower buildings at Wellman Lake and Childs Lake Campgrounds were completed.

3. Reduction of Fossil Fuel Emissions

To meet the intent of Goal #3, a department needs 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.

Example:

- The Sustainable Forestry Unit (SFU) promoted economic development through the forest industry. A multi-year “Manitoba Forest Industry Transportation Study” involving Central Tire

Inflation technology was completed by FERIC in 2010/11. Working in partnership with Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation, this study will lead to transportation insights and could lead to increased efficiencies for the trucking industry.

4. Resource Conservation

To meet the intent of Goal #4, a department needs 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:

- Ongoing audits of Conservation owned buildings to develop realistic minimum requirements to undertake retrofits. Standard clauses for sustainable development procurement on all purchase requisitions are reflected in the Department's Contract Manual.
- Design and construction of a 32 stall washroom building at Grand Beach was completed. The new washroom features a reinforced rammed earth wall, the first of its kind in Manitoba. This ancient building technique uses local limestone and beach sand mixed with water and concrete which is then mechanically compacted to create a strong, durable, and beautiful wall that is also structural, helping to hold up the washroom's green roof.

5. Community Economic Development

To meet the intent of Goal #5, a department would 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:

- Sustainable Resource and Policy Management Secretariat continued to provide the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable development with meals from local businesses that use local and organic ingredients.
- The Lands and Geomatics through the First Nation Joint Cottage Lot Development Program is providing economic development opportunities and knowledge transfer through partnerships with Aboriginal communities. Opportunities range from road building and contract management to real property sales and other numerous benefits associated within the development and ongoing servicing of a cottage lot subdivision.
- Regional Crown Land staff continues to work with the Fisher River First Nation in a positive respectful partnership for the development of a joint cottage lot development. Significant work has been completed on the project with lots anticipated to be made available in summer 2011.

Revenue and Expenditure Summaries

Table RE.1

Reconciliation Statement

\$(000s)

DETAILS	2010-11 ESTIMATES
2010-11 MAIN ESTIMATES Main Estimates Authority Transferred From: Enabling Appropriation	 \$123,237 2,021
2010-11 ESTIMATE	\$125,258

Table RE.2
Revenue Summary by Source

For the year ended March 31, 2011 with comparative figures for the previous year

Actual		Increase	Source	Actual	Estimate	Variance	Expl. No.
2009-10	2010-11	(Decrease)		2010-11	2010-11		
OTHER REVENUE:							
2,628	1,911	(717)	Cottaging Initiative	1,911	3,837	(1,926)	1.
371	461	90	Environment Fees and Sundry	461	339	122	2.
3,941	4,356	415	Forestry Fees and Sundry	4,356	4,335	21	
1,502	1,903	401	Land Information Sales and Fees	1,903	1,795	108	
10,278	10220	(58)	Parks Fees	10220	9,924	296	
10,833	5,871	(4,962)	Regional Operations Fees and Cost Recovery	5,871	4,942	929	3.
4,156	3,941	(215)	Wildlife Sundry	3,941	4,646	(705)	4.
371	225	(146)	Sundry	225	326	(101)	
34,080	28,888	(5,192)	Subtotal	28,888	30,144	(1,256)	
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA:							
151	151	0	(a) Waterfowl Crop Damage Prevention	151	151	0	
64	0	(64)	(b) Softwood Lumber Agreement	0	0	0	
73	0	(73)	(c) Ash Inventory and Emerald Ash Borer Risks Assessment	0	0	0	
227	753	526	(d) Community Based Timber Volume Sampling-Highrock Forest Section	753	569	184	5.
515	904	389	Subtotal	904	720	184	
34,595	29,792	(4,803)	Total	29,792	30,864	(1,072)	
62	93	31	Sale of Government Assets	93	0	0	

Explanation

Number:

1. Lower Cottaging Initiative revenue was due to deferral of revenue, as fewer lots were completed to lock up stage.
2. Increase in Environment Fees and Sundry revenue was due to increased revenue from certification fees for operators of wastewater certificates as a result of increased operator certificate upgrades and facility classification renewals.
3. Increase in Regional Operations Fees and Cost Recovery was due to fire suppression cost recovery for out of province fire fighting activity.
4. Lower Wildlife Sundry revenue was due to fewer non-resident hunting licences sold and reduced hunting areas for moose.
5. Increase in Government of Canada -Continuity Adjustment Fund (CAF)-Community Based Volume Sampling revenue was due to increased recoveries in 2010/11 because of delayed project start in 2009/10. The two year cost sharing agreement between the Government of Canada and Province of Manitoba ended in 2010/11.

Table RE.3
Expenditure Summary

For fiscal year ended March 31, 2011 with comparative figures for the previous year.

Estimate 2010/11	Appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2009/10	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
12-1 Administration and Finance					
37	(a) Minister's Salary	37	46	(9)	
	(b) Executive Support				
694	Salaries and Employee Benefits	628	875	(247)	
179	Other Expenditures	129	142	(13)	
	(c) Corporate Services				
1,007	Salaries and Employee Benefits	906	983	(77)	
970	Other Expenditures	1,152	1,326	(174)	
	(d) Financial Services				
1,555	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,495	1,483	12	
398	Other Expenditures	490	417	73	
	(e) Information Technology Services				
1,258	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,225	1,298	(73)	
141	Other Expenditures	107	181	(74)	
	(f) Clean Environment Commission				
310	Salaries and Employee Benefits	321	353	(32)	
337	Other Expenditures	128	235	(107)	
	(g) Distribution Centre				
484	Salaries and Employee Benefits	496	504	(8)	
339	Other Expenditures	305	252	53	
(50)	Less: Recoverable from other appropriations	(33)	(31)	(2)	
7,659	Total 12-1	7,386	8,064	(678)	
12-2 Regional Operations					
	(a) Regional Support Services				
2,277	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,093	2,982	111	
1,416	Other Expenditures	2,202	1,824	378	
	(b) Northwest Region				
2,408	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,367	2,274	93	
845	Other Expenditures	874	1,147	(273)	
	(c) Northeast Region				
2,581	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,606	2,792	(186)	
1,213	Other Expenditures	1,285	1,205	80	
	(d) Central Region				
4,100	Salaries and Employee Benefits	3,884	3,956	(72)	
1634	Other Expenditures	1,565	1,538	27	
	(e) Eastern Region				
4,124	Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,175	4,209	(34)	
1,076	Other Expenditures	1,601	1,132	469	
	(f) Western Region				
3,932	Salaries and Employee Benefits	4,046	4,083	(37)	
1,389	Other Expenditures	1,375	1,378	(3)	
	(g) Park Operations and Maintenance				
13,521	Salaries and Employee Benefits	13,439	13,729	(290)	
6,375	Other Expenditures	6,932	7,324	(392)	
(472)	Less: Recoverable from Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(472)	(472)	0	
	(h) Fire and Emergency Response Program				
6,699	Salaries and Employee Benefits	6,213	6,606	(393)	

Estimate 2010/11	Appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2009/10	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
9,929	Other Expenditures	9,680	10,392	(712)	1.
(500)	Less: Recoverable from Emergency Expenditures	(468)	(490)	22	
	(i) Environmental Operations				
	(1) Environmental Services				
2,116	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,910	1,916	(6)	
2,147	Other Expenditures	1,501	1,155	346	
	(2) Regional Services				
3,696	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,830	2,886	(56)	
1,030	Other Expenditures	668	678	(10)	
71,536	Total 12-2	71,306	72,244	(938)	
	12-3 Conservation Programs				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
137	Salaries and Employee Benefits	118	184	(66)	
272	Other Expenditures	235	282	(47)	
	(b) Wildlife Enhancement Initiative				
219	Other Expenditures	230	219	11	
	(c) Parks and Natural Areas				
1,801	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,802	2,044	(242)	
1,350	Other Expenditures	1,379	1,528	(149)	
472	Grant Assistance	477	476	1	
	(d) Forestry				
4,659	Salaries and Employee Benefits	5,014	5,225	(211)	
6,102	Other Expenditures	5,375	8,834	(3,459)	2.
3	Grant Assistance	3	23	(20)	
901	Forest Regeneration Stock	990	963	27	
(978)	Less: Recoverable from Urban and Rural Economic Development Initiatives	(808)	(1,160)	352	3.
50	(e) Habitat Enhancement Fund	50	60	(10)	
	(f) Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection				
2,278	Salaries and Employee Benefits	2,391	2,399	(8)	
1,087	Other Expenditures	1,072	1,090	(18)	
959	Grant Assistance	959	1,035	(76)	
354	Canada-Manitoba Waterfowl Damage Prevention Agreement	317	315	2	
(314)	Less: Recoverable from Sustainable Development Initiatives Fund	(314)	0	(314)	
125	(g) Special Conservation and Endangered Species Fund	125	111	14	
	(h) Lands and Geomatics				
1,622	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,595	1,649	(54)	
4,183	Other Expenditures	4,182	3,684	498	
(24)	Less: Recoverable from other appropriations	0	0	0	
	(i) Survey Services				
1,593	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,313	1,461	(148)	
533	Other Expenditures	524	488	36	
(1,571)	Less: Recoveries from other appropriations	(1,419)	(1,351)	(68)	
25,813	Total 12-3	25,610	29,559	(3,949)	
	12-4 Environmental Stewardship				
	(a) Divisional Administration				
256	Salaries and Employee Benefits	252	234	18	

Estimate 2010/11	Appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2009/10	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
55	Other Expenditures	53	38	15	
	(b) Sustainable Resource and Policy Management				
1,051	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,004	1,053	(49)	
203	Other Expenditures	306	194	112	
145	Grant Assistance	138	138	0	
	(c) Corporate Crown Land Policy				
224	Salaries and Employee Benefits	149	140	9	
21	Other Expenditures	20	12	8	
	(d) Environmental Assessment and Licensing				
1,452	Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,358	1,370	(12)	
287	Other Expenditures	223	269	(46)	
	(e) Aboriginal Relations				
540	Salaries and Employee Benefits	427	480	(53)	
250	Other Expenditures	193	135	58	
826	(f) Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin	679	903	(224)	
	(g) Protected Areas				
444	Salaries and Employee Benefits	537	476	61	
372	Other Expenditures	362	335	27	
340	Grant Assistance	340	905	(565)	4.
	(h) Pollution Prevention				
347	Salaries and Employee Benefits	408	404	4	
97	Other Expenditures	98	601	(503)	5.
	(i) Air Quality Management				
304	Salaries and Employee Benefits	330	327	3	
69	Other Expenditures	65	62	3	
	(j) Climate Change Initiatives				
735	Salaries and Employee Benefits	676	733	(57)	
480	Other Expenditures	407	509	(102)	
14	Grant Assistance	14	14	0	
	(k) Green Manitoba Eco Solutions				
2,079	Grant Assistance	2,304	5009	(2,705)	6.
1,126	(l) International Institute for Sustainable Development	1,176	1,196	(20)	
(1,186)	(m) Less: Recoverable from Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	(1,186)	0	(1,186)	7.
10,531	Total 12-4	10,333	15,537	(5,204)	
2,111	12-5 Minor Capital Projects	2,051	2,289	(238)	
	Total 12-5				
	12-6 Costs Related to Capital Assets				
	(a) General Assets				
1,355	(1) Amortization Expense	1,409	1,356	53	
417	(2) Interest Expense	505	431	74	
	(b) Infrastructure Assets				
2,926	(1) Amortization Expense	2,554	2,315	239	
2,910	(2) Interest Expense	3,069	2,625	444	
7,608	Total 12-6	7,537	6,727	810	
125,258	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	124,223	134,420	(10,197)	
	B.12 Capital Investment				
2,240	(a) General Assets	4,318	749	3,569	8.

Estimate 2010/11	Appropriation	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2009/10	Increase (Decrease)	Expl. No.
	(b) Infrastructure Assets				
8,372	(1) Parks Infrastructure Projects	6,445	9,198	(2,753)	9.
7,385	(2) Camping Improvements	7,124	4,647	2,477	10.
1,000	(3) Cottage Lots Development	150	660	(510)	11.
16,757		13,719	14,505	(786)	
18,997	TOTAL B.12 CAPITAL INVESTMENT	18,037	15,254	2,783	

Explanations:

1. The decrease of \$(712) in 2010/11 operating expenditures was primarily due to lower helicopter availability contract costs.
2. The decrease of \$(3,459) in 2010/11 operating expenditures was due to liability provision for removal of land from Forest Management Licence areas #2 in 2009/10.
3. The decrease of \$352 in 2010/11 recoverable for Rural and Urban Economic Development Initiatives was due to lower Spruce Budworm/Dutch Elm Disease program costs.
4. The decrease of \$(565) in 2010/11 grant assistance was due to approval received to pay UNESCO World Heritage project grant assistance from Regional Operations, Regional Support Services in 2010/11.
5. The decrease of (\$503) in 2010/11 operating expenditures was mainly due to 2009/10 Flin Flon Soil Project Phase II costs.
6. The decrease of \$(2,705) in 2010/11 grant assistance expenditures was due to Budgeting for Outcomes projects funded in 2009/10(\$2,078) and reduction in grant assistance funding for various programs \$(627) in 2010/11.
7. The decrease of \$(1,186) in 2010/11 was due to Recovery from the Sustainable Development Initiatives Fund approved in the 2010/11 Estimates.
8. The increase of \$3,569 in 2010/11 was due construction costs for the Assiniboine Park Conservancy Arctic Exhibit and Research Centre buildings and additional machinery purchases.
9. The decrease of \$(2,753) in 2010/11 was due to construction costs in 2009/10 for lagoon upgrades and washroom/shower construction in provincial parks.
10. The increase of \$2,477 in 2010/11 was due to Winnipeg Beach redevelopment construction costs.
11. The decrease of \$(510) in 2010/11 was due to construction delays because of first nation consultations.

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

For year ending March 31, 2007 – March 31, 2011*

	2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009		2009/2010		2010/2011	
	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)	FTEs	\$(000)
Administration and Finance	80.33	8,331	78.83	8,459	79.83	8,224	77.83	8,064	77.83	7,386
Regional Operations	685.57	63,618	697.47	65,038	700.47	70,232	711.47	72,244	711.47	71,306
Conservation Programs	167.35	23,299	166.89	24,697	186.27	29,560	171.27	29,559	171.27	25,610
Environmental Stewardship	63.00	9,044	67.00	10,531	68.00	17,310	70.00	15,537	70.00	10,333
Minor Capital Projects		3,556		3,227		3,336		2,289		2,051
Costs Related to Capital Assets		5,974		6,564		6,319		6,727		7,537
Total Appropriations	996.25	113,822	1,010.19	118,516	1,034.57	134,981	1,030.57	134,420	1,030.57	124,223

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

Performance Reporting Table 2010/11

The following section provides information on key performance measures for the department for the 2010/11 reporting year. This is the fifth 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 09/10 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 (Note: Actual 09/10 percentage TBC).	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.,	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	The baseline year is 2004/05 – 225 improved campsites were made available to Manitobans that year.	In 2010/11, construction began on Winnipeg Beach Campground which offers 120 Full Service sites, and 18 electrical sites were upgraded to full service at West Hawk. The average campsite occupancy was 33.8%	From 2004/05 through 2010/11, a total of 902 camping improvements were implemented. Campsite occupancy has held fairly steady over the past six years,	The Province has made significant commitments with respect to increasing camping and cottaging opportunities for Manitobans. For further information on

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 09/10 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
washrooms, showers). - Yearly occupation rates of all campsites.	Manitoba and it is important to know if the camping program is meeting the needs of Manitobans.		which is down .1% from 2009/10..	with an average of 33.3%, and high of 34.2% in 2007/2008 and a low of 31.4% in 2005/2006.	recreational opportunities for Manitobans, please see the relevant section of the report.
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 - 152 new cottage lots were made available to Manitobans that year as well as 350 lots in existing inventory that were reviewed, upgraded as necessary and made available as part of the provincial commitment to create 1,000 new cottage lots for Manitobans.	1,353 cottage lots had been made available to Manitobans by the end of 2009/10 through the Cottage Lot Draw and First Come First Served Cottage Lot programs. 1,003 lots were newly developed lots, 942 of which were on Crown land available for sale only, and 61 lots that were located within provincial parks and available for lease only. 280 or 85% of the 2004/05 existing inventory lots had been sold or leased by the end of 2009/10. 742 or 74% of the newly developed lots had been sold or leased by the end of 2009/10. From 2007 to 2009/10 Manitoba entered into Memorandums of	The number of Manitobans applying for cottage lots through the Cottage Lot Draws and First Come First Served Cottage Lot programs remained consistently high since inception of the program. The strong demand generally exceeded available supply, particularly for water front lots. In 2007 government announced an additional 1,000 new cottage lots would be created under the Cottage Lot Program. The focus of the cottage lot program since 2007 has been on	Conservation and Fisher River Cree Nation have completed the joint development of the 88 lot Bay River subdivision. Conservation and Black River First Nation have entered into a joint cottage lot development agreement and begun construction of the Black River Cottage lot development. The province is committed to continuing to work with other First Nations and municipalities on additional new cottage lot developments. There is concern

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 09/10 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
			Understanding with two First Nations to work towards joint cottage lot development agreements.	joint cottage lot developments with First Nations as a means to create economic opportunities for those communities. Several First Nations expressed interest in pursuing joint development opportunities.	that the unprecedented high water levels, flood disasters and significant shoreline erosion issues on Manitoba's major lakes in 2011 may affect demand in future cottage lot offerings. Appropriate geotechnical and hydrological assessments are undertaken to ensure these concerns are addressed.
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 \$103 million as of March 31, 2010.	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. Remediation of priority sites is ongoing.
Hectares of protected land in Manitoba.	Protected areas help ensure conservation of biodiversity, maintain natural cycles, provide	The baseline year is 1990 - 350,000 hectares were designated as	Currently 6.4 million hectares or 9.9% of Manitoba is protected – a significant increase since 1990. This	Since 1990, the area of protected lands has increased from 350,000 hectares to	

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 09/10 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
	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.	protected when the Protected Areas Initiative began.	includes two national parks, 22 ecological reserves, all or parts of 45 provincial parks and park reserves, all or parts of 50 wildlife management areas, two areas designated under the Forest Act, and various parcels of conservation agency-owned private land.	6,480,000 hectares, as of March 31, 2011.	
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.	Provides an indication of the level of economic development opportunities in the forest sector for Aboriginal communities.	The baseline year is 2008/09.	<p>A total of ten timber allocations of 24,200 m³ of softwood and hardwood to First Nations or Community Councils were provided as Community Awards (7).</p> <p>A total of 5 tree planting contracts valued at \$299.2 awarded to First Nations contractors to plant 1.18 million trees.</p> <p>Forestry Branch in Partnership with Mathias Colomb Cree Nation, INAC, Federal</p>	<p>Due to the downturn in the forest economy requests for timber allocations are down in 2010.</p> <p>Increasing involvement in all area of forest renewal.</p> <p>Imagery obtained in 2009 will be interpreted producing a new Forest Lands Inventory for IR areas as part of government's</p>	Forestry Branch continues to explore opportunities to engage First Nation involvement within the provincial forest inventory program.

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 09/10 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
			<p>First Nations Forestry Program, acquired digital early imagery for the community's Indian Reserve (IR) areas, (78,000 ha).</p> <p>Community members from the Mathias Colomb and the Opaskwayak Cree Nations are participating in a \$1.6 million community based timber volume sampling program in the Highrock Forest Section.</p> <p>A funding partnership between Forestry Branch, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), and the community of Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (MCCN) will provide opportunities for community members to participate in the fall 2011 implementation of the volume sampling program within the</p>	<p>contract (2010-11). Potential for additional partnerships in volume sampling and forest modeling.</p> <p>Timber volume sampling within the Highrock forest section will continue into 2011/12.</p>	

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 09/10 result or most recent available data? (D)	What is the trend over time? (E)	Comments/recent actions/report links (F)
			Highrock forest section, which will include field sampling of the community's Treaty Land Entitlement selection areas.		
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 2010/11, 0.686% of the highest priority forest protection zone (Red Zone) was burned.	This shows an increase from 2000/01 data, due to Fire #24. There is no clear directional trend for this measure because risk of forest fire varies widely from year to year, primarily due to weather conditions.	

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 Pineland Forest Nursery for fiscal year 2010/11.

Information Required Annually (per Section 18 of The Act)	Fiscal Year 2010/11.
The number of disclosures received and the number acted on and not acted <i>Subsection 18(2)(a)</i>	NIL
The number of investigations commenced as a result of a disclosure. <i>Subsection 18(2)(b)</i>	NIL
In the case of an investigation that results in a finding of wrongdoing, a description of the wrongdoing and any recommendations or corrective actions taken in relation to the wrongdoing, or the reasons why no corrective action was taken. <i>Subsection 18(2)(c)</i>	NIL

Statutory Responsibilities of The Minister of Conservation

The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act, C.C.S.M. chapter C135

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 and 5.1, clause 7(1)(c), 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 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 Act, C.C.S.M. chapter E 111

The Environment Act, C.C.S.M. chapter E 125

The Forest Act, C.C.S.M. chapter F 150

The Forest Health Protection Act, C.C.S.M. chapter F 151

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

[except as it relates to water and fisheries]

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 Plants Pests and Diseases Act, C.C.S.M. chapter P 90

[that portion of clause 16(c) that pertains to arborists and clause 16(i)]

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 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)]

As per Schedule "D", Order in Council No. 288/2010

The Manitoba Natural Resources Development Act, C.C.S.M. chapter N 33

As per Schedule "T", Order in Council No. 350/2009