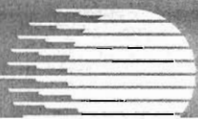


Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development

Wildlife Strategy

Development in Harmony With Our Environment



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Manitoba Round Table

for Sustainable Development



Honourable Gary Doer
Government of Manitoba

On behalf of the members of the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development, I am pleased to present our recommended Sustainable Development Wildlife Strategy for your consideration.

This strategy represents the latest addition to a Land and Water Strategy for the Province of Manitoba, our round table began some years ago. It joins our other Land and Water strategies for water, soils, forests, minerals, natural lands and special places and fish.

The wildlife policies and recommendations for revision of Manitoba's *Wildlife Act* presented here were developed through the most extensive consultation process the Manitoba Round Table has ever undertaken with the citizens of Manitoba. In that regard, our sincere gratitude goes out to all those citizens who participated in the public workshops, made presentations to our wildlife panel, Chaired by Mr. Jack Dubois, and sent in submissions and returned the wildlife policy questionnaire. Their advice and suggestions have been greatly appreciated. To them go our many thanks.

Under *The Sustainable Development Act*, we were required to prepare draft wildlife policies, consult the citizens of Manitoba, publish those results, and provide our policy advice to you. This report, in addition to our "Workbook on Wildlife" and "What You Told Us... Wildlife Strategy" fulfils our obligations under *The Sustainable Development Act*.

This is not however the end of the process. We hope that after you have considered this report, that your government will adopt our advice as provincial wildlife policy. It is our belief these policies when implemented will ensure the sustainability of our most precious wildlife resources for present and future generations. As in the past, our round table will continue to provide advice, monitor the progress of and report on policy implementation.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oscar Lathlin', written in a cursive style.

Oscar Lathlin, Minister
Chairperson, Manitoba Round Table for
Sustainable Development

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INTRODUCTION:

When, in the fall of 1997, the Government of Manitoba asked the Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development to make recommendations on provincial wildlife policies and revision of the province's *Wildlife Act*, the round table was required under section 7(4) of *The Sustainable Development Act*:

1 to "prepare, in consultation with the Interdepartmental Planning Board and departments, and publish draft policies, recommendations and proposed action plans in relations to...component strategies...";

2. to "consult the public on those draft policies, recommendations...";

3. to "publish the results of the public consultations..."; and

4. to "...provide any advice to government..." on the policies and recommendations, the Manitoba Round Table deems appropriate.

To begin, our round table established a subcommittee to oversee development of the wildlife policies. At the same time a provincial interdepartmental working group was established to assist and act as our in-house consultants.

The working group contacted all government departments and asked them to identify all the wildlife issues that should be addressed. This list of issues was reviewed by our round table and we directed the working group to confirm the importance of the issues with the public.

The Angus Reid Group, a polling company, was subsequently hired and they conducted 11 wildlife focus group sessions in Winnipeg, Brandon and Thompson, in May 1998. The purpose being to identify the most important wildlife issues, along with any issue that may have been missed.

Angus Reid reported that the issue list was well received. No issue was deemed to be unimportant

although a few such as urban wildlife issues were considered less critical.

Using the results of focus group sessions, the working group prepared for our consideration and approval draft wildlife policies to address the identified issues. Our suggested policies were subsequently outlined in our "Workbook on Wildlife" which was released for public review in March of 1999.

To ensure as many Manitobans could participate in the review of the policies, we established a comprehensive public consultation plan. This plan included:

- distributing the workbook with a mail-in questionnaire,
- placing the workbook and questionnaire on an internet Web site,
- holding open house sessions,
- conducting public workshops,
- hearing formal presentations and
- receiving mail-in submissions.

We had some 32 advertisements placed in local and provincial newspapers and almost 200 radio spots were bought to announce the holding of 23 wildlife workshops throughout Manitoba.

A Manitoba Round Table Wildlife Panel chaired by Mr. Jack Dubois was established to conduct the workshops and hear formal presentations. These workshops occurred in April through June of 1999.

The results of the public consultations were then published in the Manitoba Round Table's "What You Told Us - Wildlife Strategy" report which was released in early 2000. At the end of the consultation process, over 500 participants had attended the 23 workshops and we received 39 presentations and 177 questionnaires had been returned.

This report now completes our responsibilities under The Sustainable Development Act. It provides to the Manitoba government, our final: wildlife policy recommendations and recommendations on the revision of The Wildlife Act.

HOW WE CAME TO OUR RECOMMENDATIONS:

We directed the working group to evaluate the suggested wildlife policies and identify options for our consideration respecting the confirmation, revision, or deletion of specific policies based upon the systematic review of public comments outlined in the Wildlife “What You Told Us” report.

In reviewing comments on each policy, special attention was paid to those policies and applications for which there was **10 percent or more disagreement or where the approval rate was less than 79 percent**. These levels were chosen because, in general, the policies presented to the public were well received with only a few policies having an approval rating less than 60 percent.

Even where there was very high approval of a policy or application, comments were reviewed to see if they provided suggestions for changes which would help clarify or enhance a policy or application statement. The results of the evaluation were grouped into three categories: major issues, minor issues and editorial changes.

1. Major Issues Raised by the Public

Under this category, six issue areas were identified. They are:

1. Disabled Persons,
2. Allocation Priority List,
3. Commercial Lodge and Outfitting Quality Assurance Program,
4. Multi-year Licences,
5. Eliminating Barriers to Aboriginals,
6. Game Farming.

A brief discussion of these issues and our decision on whether to confirm, revise or delete the affected policies can be found in Appendix I.

2. Minor Issues Raised by the Public

Under this category, eight issues were identified. They are:

1. Guidelines vs. Regulations,
2. Fees for the Use of Wildlife Resources,
3. Non-resident Hunting,
4. Commercial Use of Wildlife,
5. Developments in Wildlife Management Areas,
6. Marketing of Wildlife Management Areas,
7. Ownership of Wild Animals,
8. Amalgamation of Wildlife Acts.

A brief overview of each issue is presented in Appendix 2. In all cases, the decision was to retain the affected policies.

3. Editorial Changes.

Under this category 35 editorial changes to the policies and policy applications were identified, see Appendix 3. These changes are intended to make the policies and applications clearer.

WILDLIFE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are our wildlife policy recommendations. They are presented in the order found in the Workbook on Wildlife.

Policy Area 1: Environmental Enhancement and Protection

Objective:

- 1. To conserve and manage wildlife habitat and maintain and establish connections between habitats so as to maintain biological diversity and protect the ability of the environment to sustain wildlife resources and provide environmental, economic, cultural and social benefits for existing and future generations.

Recommended Policy # 1.1:

Wildlife habitat shall be protected to sustain wild animal and plant resources consistent with a system plan for wildlife.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 1.1a Partner with other organizations and cooperatively develop, enhance and maintain a provincial habitat inventory and monitoring program.
- 1.1b Partner with other organizations and develop and improve wildlife habitat protection and enhancement programs that would include provincial and regional targets for both private and Crown lands.
- 1.1c Partner and work cooperatively with private landowners, the Aboriginal and agricultural communities and non-government organizations and provide mechanisms to encourage and facilitate the protection, maintenance or rehabilitation of natural habitats.
- 1.1d Ensure water quality and quantity objectives protect, maintain and enhance the integrity of natural ecosystems and wetland habitats.
- 1.1e Consistent with the precautionary principle work with the public, industry, local government and stakeholders to develop and implement guidelines to anticipate, prevent or mitigate habitat fragmentation and its adverse effects.
- 1.1f Identify wild animal travel and migration corridors and, in consultation with industry, local government, Aboriginal and agricultural communities and private landowners, develop programs and legal mechanisms such as covenants and caveats to protect, maintain and enhance those corridors.
- 1.1g Partner and work cooperatively with industry, Aboriginal communities, local government, private landowners and the agricultural community to establish guidelines, practices and legislation to anticipate, prevent or mitigate the adverse effects of development on habitat from such activities as wild rice farming, forestry, mining, petroleum, peat and gravel extraction, hydro and urban developments, highways, drainage and agriculture.
- 1.1h Partner with the federal government and other jurisdictions to establish programs, guidelines and, if necessary, legislation to control the planned or accidental introduction of species.

- 1.1i Develop and implement programs, guidelines and, if necessary, legislation to control the transfer and relocation of species within Manitoba.
- 1.1j Develop and implement regulations, standards and guidelines for waste management and pollution control.
- 1.1k Maintain guidelines for the transfer and sale of Crown lands and prohibit the sale of Crown land significant or critical to wild plants and animals.
- 1.1l Make every effort to provide sufficient resources for and eliminate administrative barriers to the efficient and effective enforcement of wildlife legislation.
- 1.1m Establish or expand habitat restoration and habitat corridor acquisition programs.

Recommended Policy # 1.2:

Critical and significant habitats, essential to the sustainability of wildlife species, shall be identified, designated and protected under authority of legislation.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 1.2a Define, identify and designate critical and significant habitats such as migration routes, bogs (habitat of several orchid species) calving areas, denning areas, staging areas, wintering areas, mineral licks, moulting areas, tall-grass prairie (rare plants and insects), foraging areas (e.g., shore bird on tidal estuaries), roosting areas and dancing grounds (e.g., sharp-tailed grouse).
- 1.2b Ensure social, cultural, human health and economic considerations are evaluated and addressed during the evaluation of lands being considered as designated wildlife lands.

- 1.2c Develop and implement a plan for designated wildlife lands, that is, lands identified for wild animal and plant purposes under legislation, which will:
 - a. define protection requirements and appropriate land designations,
 - b. outline a land use zoning process and establish land use zones for designated lands,
 - c. establish land management guidelines,
 - d. provide for habitat monitoring, inventory and analysis.
- 1.2d Control and, where appropriate, restrict or ban development on designated wildlife lands.
- 1.2e Establish and improve programs in partnership with local authorities, non-government organizations, businesses, the agricultural community, industry, the Aboriginal community and individuals for the protection and management of critical and significant wildlife habitat through appropriate mechanisms, i.e., publicizing critical and significant habitat locations for all municipalities to be used in local development plans, incentives to private landowners and farmers or co-management agreements.
- 1.2f Continue to require public and provincial government departmental review of areas proposed for designation and protection under legislation.

Recommended Policy # 1.3:

Endangered ecosystems and habitats essential to the protection of species at risk including endangered and threatened species shall be preserved protected and if required designated under legislation.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 1.3a Identify endangered ecosystems and habitats and prepare management plans and strategies for their designation and protection.
- 1.3b Continue to protect tall-grass and mixed-grass prairie through designation and management.
- 1.3c Partner and work cooperatively with landowners, the Aboriginal and agricultural communities, non-government organizations, industry and local government in the development of programs, incentives, co-management agreements and land use practices to protect:
 - a. the habitat of at risk wild animal and plant species, and
 - b. endangered habitats.
- 1.3d Continue to require public and provincial government departmental review of endangered ecosystems and habitats of species at risk proposed for designation and protection under legislation.

Recommended Policy # 1.4:

Degraded or damaged habitats shall, where practical, be rehabilitated or restored.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 1.4a Establish an inventory of degraded or damaged habitats with significant potential for wild animals and plants and prioritize their need for rehabilitation or restoration.
- 1.4b Require, as part of the approval process, where appropriate, rehabilitation plans to be prepared and implemented upon decommissioning of developments.
- 1.4c Partner and work cooperatively with resource industries, non-government organizations, the agricultural community, individuals, public utilities, the Aboriginal community and local authorities to develop rehabilitation and reclamation plans for degraded or damaged private lands.
- 1.4d Address the adverse effects of habitat fragmentation in the planning of rehabilitation projects.

Recommended Policy # 1.5:

Habitat may be altered to enhance productivity capacity for wild animals and plants or assist in the maintenance of species.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 1.5a Establish criteria and circumstances under which habitat may be altered.
- 1.5b Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of habitat alteration projects.

Policy Area 2: Allocation and Supply

Objective:

1. To manage the supply and allocation of wild animal and plant resources on a sustainable basis while optimizing environmental, social, cultural, educational and economic benefits and opportunities for Manitobans and minimizing resource user conflicts.

Recommended Policy # 2.1:

The sustainability of wild animal and plant populations shall be the first priority in the allocation of wildlife resources.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 2.1a Establish, based on scientific data, traditional knowledge and in consultation with the public, industry, the Aboriginal, agricultural and scientific communities, non-government organizations and stakeholders, wildlife population targets that ensure the sustainability of managed species including species at risk.
- 2.1b Enhance, maintain or reduce wildlife populations to ensure their sustainability in relation to available habitat, carrying capacity and established population targets.
- 2.1c Consistent with the precautionary principle, continue to establish and regulate annual sustainable harvest levels.
- 2.1d Continue through regulation, to minimize the adverse disturbance of wildlife, with particular consideration for species at risk.
- 2.1e Continue to prohibit the harvest of wild animals and plants and control other activities during times, and in locations, critical to the sustainability of species.
- 2.1f Regularly monitor the status of harvested species, indicator species and designated species at risk to identify threats to sustainability, such as increased public access, and take actions to prevent, eliminate or mitigate those threats.
- 2.1g Partner and work cooperatively with other governments and non-government agencies to ensure the sustainability of trans-boundary species by:
 - a. clarifying jurisdictional responsibility respecting the care of migratory species;
 - b. developing and implementing interprovincial, national and international agreements;
 - c. creating and participating in interprovincial, national and international management committees;
 - d. sharing information with agencies and governments outside of Manitoba.
- 2.1h Partner and work cooperatively with local Aboriginal communities, industry, the agricultural community, groups and organizations to maintain agreed upon population targets.
- 2.1i Establish partnerships, undertake and encourage research to improve tools for sustaining populations and establishing harvest levels.
- 2.1j Maintain a process for allocating and distributing parts of dead wild animals that have come into the possession of government through seizure or after accidental death.
- 2.1k Work with the Aboriginal community to develop wildlife management strategies through the use of scientific and traditional ecological knowledge.

Recommended Policy # 2.2:

Aboriginal treaty and constitutional obligations shall be the second priority in the allocation of wildlife resources.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba Government:

- 2.2a Partner and work cooperatively with the Aboriginal community to identify cultural, religious and traditional use requirements.
- 2.2b Manage wildlife resources to meet Aboriginal harvest and use requirements.
- 2.2c Prohibit non-Aboriginal harvest of wildlife where the entire harvest is required to meet Aboriginal treaty and constitutional domestic requirements.
- 2.2d Establish mechanisms such as management agreements with Aboriginal communities to ensure local wildlife resources optimize benefits to the community [e.g., co-management agreements].
- 2.2e Provide for the exchange of information with the Aboriginal community on such topics as:
 - a. rights and obligations of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people,
 - b. sustainability of the wildlife resource,
 - c. harvest rates,
 - d. best management and harvest practices,
 - e. species at risk.

Recommended Policy # 2.3:

Allocation of wildlife resources for hunting and fur trapping by residents shall be the third priority and requests for subsistence harvesting shall be considered on a case by case basis.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 2.3a Establish criteria for subsistence users and assess effects on wildlife populations.
- 2.3b Identify under utilized species or populations for which subsistence allocations can be made.
- 2.3c Issue permits, with conditions, for demonstrated cases of need for subsistence harvest of wildlife.
- 2.3d Establish, continue and enhance hunting and trapping programs which:
 - a. regularly establishes harvest limits,
 - b. identifies demands for hunting and trapping,
 - c. maintains hunting opportunities by controlling harvest [e.g. primitive weapons seasons, one-tag two hunters],
 - d. maintains licensing systems for allocating wild animal resources for hunting and trapping,
 - e. optimizes economic, social and cultural benefits,
 - f. maximizes opportunities while ensuring public safety and minimizing conflicts with other resource users,
 - g. is based on geographic areas, such as game hunting areas and deer zones,
 - h. recognizes the differences in harvesting opportunities afforded by different geographic areas,
 - i. provides for conflict resolution and appeal mechanisms,
 - j. give access and assistance consideration to permanently disabled persons.

Recommended Policy # 2.4:

Allocation of wild animals and plants for commercial uses and harvest shall be the fourth priority.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 2.4a Identify and monitor the demands of the tourism and other wildlife related commercial industries.
- 2.4b Maintain an allocation system that governs and allocates areas of operations and wildlife resources surplus to the needs of higher priority users.
- 2.4c Maintain and improve the process for allocating wildlife resources for commercial, consumptive and non-consumptive use and harvest to ensure it optimizes social and economic benefits and which:
 - is based on geographic areas, such as game hunting areas,
 - recognizes the level and variety of opportunities for use in different geographic areas,
 - recognizes the requirement for tenure in allocation,
 - provides for conflict resolution and appeal mechanisms,
 - structures fees to reflect market value,
 - recognizes market demands for remote and isolated wilderness tourism experiences.

Recommended Policy # 2.5:

Existing commitments and access and tenure rights to wildlife resources shall be protected.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 2.5a Ensure continued access to wildlife resources, recognizing that commercial

access to wild animals does not confer ownership by:

- a. honouring legitimate commercial and tourism access rights, and
- b. providing for the on-going renewal of existing commercial licensed operators in "good standing",

2.5b By regulation:

- a. define tenure and access rights, and "in good standing" as they relate to commercial use of wildlife,
- b. outline the conditions under which a licence or right may be reallocated or revoked,
- c. provide for an appeal mechanism for allocation decisions.

2.5c Define, when and if, compensation may be given to affected individuals, where access to wildlife resources is allocated to some other commercial wildlife use; recognizing no compensation is to be provided in cases of the protection of wildlife population sustainability, meeting treaty and constitutional obligations and resident requirements.

Recommended Policy # 2.6:

Where feasible and desirable, wild plant and animal populations shall be increased.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 2.6a Develop, improve and implement population management plans.
- 2.6b Partner and work cooperatively with the agricultural community, industry, Aboriginal community and stakeholders to establish, monitor and evaluate population enhancement programs.

- 2.6c Develop information and extension programs on the benefits, disadvantages and risks of wildlife introductions and habitat manipulation.
- 2.6d Develop management plans specific to increasing populations of appropriate species at risk.

Recommended Policy # 2.7:

Wildlife allocation systems shall be based on the most accurate population information available and the precautionary principle.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 2.7a Maintain, upgrade or establish data storage, retrieval and management information systems.
- 2.7b Maintain a comprehensive database that may include:
 - population information, including numbers, age, sex, genetic characteristics, and ranges for at least those species at risk, and those hunted, trapped or collected.
 - demand information,
 - harvest information including species taken, numbers and characteristics, location, effort, and revenues,
 - land use information including ownership, designation, land disposition and tenure, current and potential uses, mineral rights, habitat type and quality, and species occurrences.
- 2.7c Establish partnerships, develop and maintain mechanisms for data sharing and management among government departments, other governments, Aboriginal community, non-government organizations, industry, the agricultural community and individuals.

- 2.7d Conduct and facilitate specific studies in wild animal and plant populations, communities and ecosystems.
- 2.7e Maintain the wildlife research evaluation and approval process.
- 2.7f Partner with and continue to participate and cooperate in provincial, national and international wildlife research programs.
- 2.7g Encourage research related to the monitoring and management of wildlife species.
- 2.7h Monitor the status and maintain a comprehensive database specific to species at risk.

Policy Area 3: Development and Use

Objective:

- 1. To promote the use of wild plant and animal resources in an environmentally sound manner which will enhance and support an integrated and diversified sustainable economy.

Recommended Policy # 3.1:

Sustainable economic development and use opportunities for wild animal and plant shall be identified and facilitated.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 3.1a Partner with stakeholders and identify opportunities and develop programs to promote:
 - a. wildlife-based tourism including ecotourism and non-resident hunting,
 - b. fur trapping,
 - c. the hunting service industry,
 - d. other commercial wildlife based industries, e.g., the harvesting or collecting of antlers and plants.

- 3.1b Consult regularly and partner with the wildlife-based businesses, the Aboriginal community and other government organizations respecting:
- a. development of new market niches and market expansion for wildlife-related activities [e.g., tourism] and products [e.g., furs],
 - b. marketing of wild plant and animal opportunities and products to traditional market areas and facilitating increased promotion of wildlife opportunities to visitors,
 - c. increasing efforts to attract non-traditional markets to view Manitoba as a wildlife destination,
 - d. capturing opportunities to market Manitoba internationally,
 - e. preparing and implementing marketing plans,
 - f. responsible use of the resource to ensure long term business viability.

- 3.1c Partner and work with the wildlife-related tourism industry, the Aboriginal community, local governments and non-government organizations to:

- a. develop, maintain and upgrade tourism-related services, infrastructure and facilities;
- b. develop, in partnership with the Manitoba Lodge and Outfitters Association, a mandatory tourist lodge and outfitting quality assurance program,
- c. plan road access to also optimize the economic potential of the tourism industry,
- d. encourage wilderness tourism within appropriately designated lands.

- 3.1d Recognize market demands for remote and isolated wilderness tourism experiences.

- 3.1e Encourage increased participation in and identification of economic development opportunities related to the non-consumptive use of wildlife such as:

- enhancing the bird watching service industry by promoting such activities as bird feeding, bird house placement, and the Christmas bird count,

- wildlife and nature viewing by encouraging development of trails, interpretative centres, conservatories, accredited zoos, arboreturns and botanical gardens.

- 3.1f Increase the participation in and identification of economic development opportunities related to resident hunting.
- 3.1g Ensure maximum opportunities for wildlife use, while limiting harvest, as necessary, such as "one tag, two hunters".
- 3.1h Provide for the issuance of multi-year leases for wildlife-related land use activities, e.g., tundra vehicles for polar bear viewing.
- 3.1i Through legislation provide for fines and penalties to ensure legal wildlife use activities, e.g., hunting, trapping, bird watching are protected from undue interference.
- 3.1j Identify legal, administrative, and structural barriers and develop programs, processes or legislation to minimize the impact of these barriers on environmentally sound wildlife-related development.

Recommended Policy # 3.2:

Compatible environmentally sound and sustainable economic development of appropriate designated wildlife lands shall be promoted.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 3.2a Define its role in the potential development, marketing and use of designated wildlife lands.
- 3.2b Identify and encourage opportunities for development which is sustainable both environmentally and economically and which can be implemented by the private sector or local communities.

3.2c Develop or permit the development of compatible infrastructure on designated wildlife lands, including parking lots, viewing towers, trappers cabins (in remote areas), in order to encourage wildlife viewing, ecotourism, hunting and trapping.

3.2d Market designated wildlife lands as tourist destinations.

3.2e Control land use activities and developments in designated wildlife lands with the objective of reducing, minimizing or eliminating the negative effects of development.

Recommended Policy # 3.3:

Prices for the development and use of wild plant and animal resources shall reflect their environmental, social, cultural, human health and economic values.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

3.3a Develop, in consultation with the public, full cost accounting methodologies for resource pricing that include environmental, economic and social values. These methodologies will be used to establish prices, fees and royalties for use of wild plant and animal resources.

3.3b Set fees, royalties and charges for the use of wildlife, designated wildlife lands and Crown lands and facilities at levels which reflect costs and capture resource rent while considering current economics and competition with other jurisdictions.

3.3c Set licence fees for wildlife use that reflect the cost of administering provincial wildlife use programs.

3.3d To reduce costs and prices, design and implement a multi-year licensing system that will include hunting, trapping, non-resident, and commercial wild animal use licences.

3.3e Identify and implement alternative funding sources for wildlife and habitat management programs.

Recommended Policy # 3.4:

Use of wild animal and plant resources shall be encouraged where it is a viable economic food alternative.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

3.4a In partnership with stakeholders, develop information and education programs promoting the use of wildlife resources as a supplemental and alternative food source in remote northern communities.

Recommended Policy # 3.5:

Labour and management skills for use in wild animal and plant based industries shall be enhanced through training and education.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

3.5a Partner and work with the various wildlife-related industries to identify the management, technical and labour skills required, to enhance employment opportunities and the economic viability of the enterprise.

3.5b Develop partnerships and encourage the development of and promote existing university, community college and school programs, which provide education and training needs for professional wildlife management and wildlife-based industries.

3.5c Continue to encourage and support community and trapping association apprenticeship and on-the-job training opportunities and programs.

- 3.5d Encourage the entrance of Aboriginal persons into training and education programs directed at opportunities in the area of resource management and enforcement.
- 3.5e Enhance the opportunities for the admission of Aboriginal persons to education and training programs and courses in the field of wildlife management and enforcement.
- 3.5f Provide within government departments on-the-job training and placement programs for Aboriginal persons directly and indirectly related to wildlife management and enforcement.

Policy Area 4: Planning and Integrated Management

Objectives:

- 1. To ensure an integrated, ecosystem-based planning and management process is implemented in all sectors of the economy.
- 2. To ensure wildlife land and species management plans are developed and implemented that balance environmental, health, social and economic needs of present and future Manitobans, while balancing the needs of individuals with the greater public good.
- 3. To improve the quality and availability of information used in planning and managing wildlife resources.
- 4. To ensure public participation in the planning and management of wild animal and plant resources.

Recommended Policy # 4.1:

Manitoba shall work towards the establishment of an ecosystem based approach to resource management and planning.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 4.1a Evaluate, provide training for and consider realignment of staffing and financial resources to allow for more effective integrated ecosystem-based management, including:
 - a. integrated water, forest, fish, land and wildlife planning and management,
 - b. data collection and centralized data storage and analysis,
 - c. integrated multi-disciplinary teams for project management,
 - d. training of staff.
- 4.1b Undertake ecosystem-based management pilot projects.
- 4.1c Develop partnerships and facilitate, encourage and undertake research into ecosystem-based management; publish results and disseminate information.
- 4.1d Foster the establishment of and enhance existing integrated planning and management structures and processes between government departments and between the Government of Manitoba and other jurisdictions.

Recommended Policy # 4.2:

Develop, maintain and implement a provincial system plan for wildlife which shall consider, address and integrate wildlife, habitat, social, cultural, economic, health and environmental factors.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 4.2a Prepare a provincial ecosystem-based wildlife system plan which:
- a. establishes system goals, including the protection and enhancement of biological diversity, land requirements, priorities and population targets;
 - b. identifies indicator wildlife species and identifies the uses of wildlife and designated wildlife lands for which a charge or fee shall be instituted;
 - c. provides for public, industry, the agricultural community, non-government organization, stakeholder and Aboriginal community participation in planning and defines their role in development and monitoring of the system plan and various management plans;
 - d. provides for the on-going evaluation of the system plan and required individual management plans and the reporting of the effectiveness of those plans to the public on a regular basis;
 - e. establishes the purposes of designated wildlife lands and establish a land zoning classification system which describes permitted land and resource uses and multiple use;
 - f. requires integrated ecosystem-based management plans for individual designated wildlife lands which recognizes and honours existing property rights and other legal obligations and which considers and addresses such things as:
 - biological diversity,
 - ecosystem processes and protection of species at risk,

- needs, aspirations and concerns of local residents,
- traditional knowledge, traditional uses and use patterns and recreational activities and aesthetics;

- g. requires individual management plans for species, such as those:
- i. at risk,
 - ii. economically important and harvested,
 - iii. indicator species, and
 - iv. those posing a danger to health or property.

These plans should:

- establish population and range targets and link these targets with the requirements for provincial, federal, municipal and private lands,
 - establish appropriate management techniques and actions to be taken,
 - identify monitoring, research and data requirements,
 - reflect local and regional concerns and
 - ensure the areas are managed to minimize adverse effects on other species;
- h. recognizes that, in most cases, designated wildlife lands will be available to fulfil treaty land entitlement and Northern Flood Agreement commitments, if required.

Recommended Policy # 4.3:

All land use and resource plans shall address and integrate relevant issues related to wildlife resources.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 4.3a Review and revise, as required, existing provincial plans by identifying and addressing wildlife resource issues.

- 4.3b Review existing planning processes and ensure wildlife resources are integrated into those processes.
- 4.3c Review and amend, as required, all relevant planning and management legislation to ensure wildlife resources are identified and taken into account.
- 4.3d Review existing project and program planning, approval and licensing processes to ensure wildlife resources are considered and the sustainability of the resource is protected.
- 4.3e Prepare, in partnership and in consultation with industry, the Aboriginal and agricultural communities, stakeholders and the public, wildlife resource guidelines and management practices for use in such activities and projects as road planning and construction, land clearing, forestry operation and subdivision design and construction.
- 4.3f Ensure compliance of wildlife requirements identified in plans and legislation.

Recommended Policy # 4.4:

Resolution mechanisms shall be established to address conflicts over the use of wildlife resources and land.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 4.4a Utilize and establish, when appropriate, advisory boards in areas of ongoing resource conflict to anticipate conflicts and provide direction on how to resolve them.
- 4.4b Establish an independent wildlife appeal board, and define which types of conflicts and appeals the board will:
 - a. have final decision-making authority,
 - b. make recommendations to the minister who will make the final decision.

- 4.4c Continue to resolve departmental conflicts at the district or regional level and refer unresolved departmental conflicts to the Interdepartmental Planning Board for review and referral to the appropriate cabinet committee for a decision.

Recommended Policy # 4.5:

Major wildlife management programs and projects shall be planned and managed in consultation with the public.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 4.5a Provide meaningful opportunities for the Aboriginal community, public, industry, the agricultural community, non-government organizations, disabled persons and user groups to participate in wildlife resource planning processes by:
 - a. giving all participants an equitable opportunity to participate and influence programs and projects,
 - b. ensuring timely and prior notification to those affected,
 - c. providing timely access to relevant information.
- 4.5b Develop mechanisms for ensuring public review of significant wildlife resource management practices that affect the sustainability of the resource.
- 4.5c Continue to require provincial government departmental review of specific wildlife resource plans.
- 4.5d Develop and implement mechanisms and processes for circulating new or revised information concerning existing and proposed programs and projects and changes to them to the Aboriginal community, public, industry, the agricultural community and stakeholders.

Recommended Policy # 4.6:

Research and effective information management systems shall be used to improve the information base and support wildlife resource planning and decision making.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 4.6a Upgrade existing automated information and data management systems.
- 4.6b Pursue cooperative agreements and partnerships with other agencies in the research, development and enhancement of wildlife resource databases and information systems.
- 4.6c Conduct inventories and input data into the information systems and monitor and report on the status of, including but not limited to, biological diversity, wildlife habitats and populations.
- 4.6d Develop partnerships, including those with development proponents, consultants and Crown corporations, and encourage and facilitate research into traditional and local ecological knowledge and integrate that knowledge into databases.
- 4.6e Establish partnerships with conservation groups and other interested stakeholders and develop a model of risk to biological diversity, which would include:
 - measures of pressure including land cover, road access, human population parameters, industrial discharge, mineral extraction, sewage treatment, urbanization, forestry, agriculture, fragmentation, and wildlife harvest;
 - measures of sensitivity including species richness estimates, species at risk, ecosystem richness, climate, and endemic species;
 - remedial measures including protected areas, ecosystem protection, rehabilitation of damaged areas and pollution reduction.

Recommended Policy # 4.7:

Manitoba shall work towards a provincial accounting system that includes and reports on the natural capital, including wildlife resources, of the province.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 4.7a Develop partnerships and encourage research into mechanisms to accurately assess the value of and the improvement or deterioration of provincial natural resources including wildlife resources.
- 4.7b Develop partnerships and encourage and support the efforts of the federal government in the development of national accounting processes and mechanisms to monitor and track the value of Canada's natural resources including wildlife resources.
- 4.7c Establish, adopt and regularly report on sustainability indicators that account for the value of provincial natural resources, including wildlife.

Policy Area 5: Urban Environment

Objectives:

1. To ensure the value of wild animal and plant resources and habitat, including urban forests in urban areas are identified, understood and managed for their long-term health and sustained contribution to the urban environment.
2. To ensure development processes in urban areas consider and account for the value of wild animal and plant resources and habitat, including urban forests.
3. To ensure comprehensive urban management and planning considers the limited wildlife and habitat opportunities that exist in urban areas.

Recommended Policy # 5.1:

Urban wild animal and plant resources and habitats shall be protected, managed and, where practical, degraded and damaged habitats shall be rehabilitated and restored.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 5.1a Partner and work cooperatively with conservation groups, local government and other interested stakeholders to:
 - identify existing and potential urban wild animal and plant resources and habitats, for example, wildlife corridors, including urban forests;
 - protect habitat or mitigate the adverse effects of developments on urban wild animal and plant resources and habitats, including urban forests;
 - develop guidelines for public works planning, construction, and maintenance to ensure the protection of wild animal and plant resources, including urban forests.
- 5.1b Provide protective designations to lands critical to species at risk in urban areas, where feasible.
- 5.1c Facilitate the use and pursue establishment of a variety of methods such as donations, easements, leases, caveats or purchase to encourage private landowners to contribute lands to the protection of wild plants and animals.
- 5.1d Encourage, as required, developers to set aside significant habitat from development, through such mechanisms as density bonuses and cluster development, planned unit developments that set aside important wildlife habitat, performance zoning and fast track development processes for projects that protect wildlife habitat.
- 5.1e Establish programs to promote and provide assistance for the preservation, enhancement and compatible development of habitat.

- 5.1f Provide recognition to those individuals or businesses who donate or protect their lands for wildlife and to volunteers who assist in wildlife programs.
- 5.1g Establish cooperative agreements and partnerships with other governments, non-government organizations, businesses, and landowners to rehabilitate and restore degraded habitat.
- 5.1h Establish restoration and rehabilitation guidelines appropriate to urban habitat.
- 5.1i Review and revise where appropriate provincial legislation such as *The Endangered Species Act*, *The Planning Act*, *The City of Winnipeg Act*, and *The Municipal Act* to encourage changes that enhance and promote conservation of urban wildlife and habitat.
- 5.1j Establish wildlife population targets for specific urban areas and establish programs to achieve them.

Recommended Policy # 5.2:

Urban and suburban development shall be assessed to ensure a balance amongst the protection, conservation, and development of wild plant and animal resources, including habitat and biological diversity.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 5.2a Ensure wild animal, plant and habitat factors, including urban forests are part of the development impact assessments in urban planning and development processes.
- 5.2b Ensure wild animal, plant and habitat, including urban forest protective and mitigative measures are integrated in development review processes.

Recommended Policy # 5.3:

The responsibilities of municipal, provincial, and federal governments in wild animal and plant management, including habitat and biological diversity, within urban areas shall be identified.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 5.3a Clarify with municipal and federal governments and non-government organizations the roles of the various jurisdictions in:
 - a. the management of legislated species,
 - b. the management of species not covered in any legislation.
- 5.3b Negotiate processes for dealing with the management of wildlife species within urban areas, especially where species pose a risk to human health, safety and property.
- 5.3c Inform the public about the roles of the various levels of government in wildlife matters.

Recommended Policy # 5.4:

Wildlife related health, safety and property risks posed to the urban public shall be anticipated, prevented or mitigated.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 5.4a Partner and cooperatively develop effective and flexible management practices with municipal and federal jurisdictions to manage wildlife risks in urban areas.
- 5.4b Partner and cooperatively develop and implement information and education programs outlining safety standards and techniques which can be used by the public,

e.g., information on how to identify poison ivy and control it.

- 5.4c Partner and cooperatively develop and implement contingency plans for rapid response to emergency or dangerous wild animal related events (e.g., bears in town/city).
- 5.4d Partner and cooperatively develop a public information system (e.g., 24-hour hotline, Web site) for dealing with problem urban wildlife inquiries.

Recommended Policy # 5.5:

Information and education programs respecting wildlife values, ecosystems and biological diversity shall be developed and implemented for the urban public.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 5.5a Develop and deliver, in partnership and in cooperation with other agencies and non-government organizations information, interpretative and education programs which address among other things:

- current wild plant and animal issues and management practices,
- impacts of public works and development projects on wildlife and habitat,
- traditional wildlife uses.

- 5.5b Promote environmentally friendly household practices to protect wild animals, plants and habitat.

- 5.5c Partner and encourage the participation of volunteer groups in public education and management of urban wild animal and plant resources and habitat, including urban forests.

Recommended Policy # 5.6:

The creation, maintenance and ongoing development of professionally managed and accredited zoos, aquariums, arboretums, conservatories, interpretative centres and nature museums shall be accommodated.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 5.6a Establish partnerships and work cooperatively with organizations to establish appropriate facilities and implement interpretative and educational programs and commit to the establishment of programs to enhance the quality and viability of these facilities.
- 5.6b Continue to provide existing professionally managed, nationally accredited facilities with species (when available) acquired through serendipity.

Policy Area 6: Public Awareness and Education

Objective:

- 1. To enhance Manitobans' understanding of the relationships among wildlife, the environment, human health, society and the economy.

Recommended Policy # 6.1:

Enhanced public awareness of the social, cultural, economic, health and environmental value of wild plants and animals, ecosystems and biological diversity shall be promoted.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 6.1a Partner and work cooperatively with conservation groups, local government, Aboriginal community and other interested stakeholders to develop and deliver provincial information and interpretative programs which address among other things:
 - current wildlife issues and management practices;
 - the economic, environmental, social and cultural values of wildlife;
 - foster environmental awareness and responsible human action;
 - wildlife identification and natural history.
- 6.1b Promote environmentally friendly household practices to protect wild plants, animals and habitat.
- 6.1c Encourage the participation of non-government organizations and volunteer groups in public education concerning wildlife resources and habitats.
- 6.1d Investigate the feasibility of a wildlife youth outreach program.
- 6.1e Facilitate broad accessibility to programs by the disabled and all ethnic and age groups.

Recommended Policy # 6.2:

Public understanding, involvement and participation in wildlife and ecosystem management and biological diversity maintenance shall be promoted, encouraged and monitored.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba Government:

- 6.2a Establish partnerships and work cooperatively to:
 - a. develop and implement processes for public, industry, Aboriginal and agricultural communities and stakeholder review of and input into major wildlife management programs;

- b. encourage and recognize a strong and active volunteer, senior and youth component in wildlife management;
- c. work with public education groups to educate the public about and encourage participation in the management of wildlife and their habitats;
- d. develop wildlife information programs for local government;
- e. provide support to wildlife related non-government organizations.

6.2b Provide information for the formal education system and for extension programs that explain biology, ecology and environmental economics and management. Information topics may include, but not limited to:

- humane treatment of wild animals,
- hunting and trapping,
- problem wildlife management,
- wild animal damage and safety issues (e.g., red squirrel damage to homes),
- impacts of ecotourism, including the undue harassment of wild animals,
- harassment of wildlife users,
- land designation and access issues,
- firearm use,
- importance of habitat,
- effects of development, pollution, cumulative effects,
- environmental economics,
- environmental impact assessments,
- protection of habitat, wildlife corridors and life cycles.

6.2c Develop programs that assess and monitor use of wild animals and plants and designated wildlife lands by the public.

6.2d At least every five years survey public attitudes towards wildlife issues and participation in wildlife related activities.

6.2e Provide sufficient resources to ensure adequate information is available.

6.2f Provide information in timely and popular formats such as maps, brochures, CD-ROMS, Internet.

Recommended Policy # 6.3:

Education curriculum and education programs shall reflect a balanced approach to wildlife use and issues.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

6.3a Develop general sustainable development wildlife and fish information for listing as foundation materials for use by teachers to meet school curricula outcomes. This material should focus on the values of wildlife including

- traditional Aboriginal uses,
- economic values,
- subsistence and domestic consumption of wildlife,
- recreation, aesthetics,
- animal welfare,
- nutritional value,
- inherent and inheritance values,
- pharmaceutical values,
- sacred, spiritual and cultural values,
- provincial commitments to national and international documents,
- need for protected areas, and
- roles of wild plants and animals in Manitoba's ecosystem.

6.3b Establish partnerships to promote and encourage sponsorships, grants, scholarships, bursaries, work experience and mentorship in wildlife education and training.

Recommended Policy # 6.4:

Understanding and respect of differing economic, cultural and social views, values, traditions and aspirations respecting wildlife use shall be promoted.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 6.4a Ensure general information and extension programs:
 - a. include information on the rights of status Indians regarding their values, traditions and use of wild animals, and
 - b. are designed to explain effects and implications of land and resource use on wildlife and habitat.
- 6.4b Establish partnerships and cooperatively establish programs to exchange information with First Nations, other cultural groups and new Canadians respecting their use of wild plants and animals and habitat.
- 6.4c Ensure its staff undertake the necessary training and gain an appreciation and understanding of the differing economic and social views, values, traditions and aspirations of the Aboriginal community in respect of the use, management and protection of wildlife resources.

Policy Area 7: Human Health and Property Protection

Objectives:

- 1. To protect human life and property from the adverse effects of wildlife and management practices and related activities.
- 2. To protect and enhance human life and well being by maintaining and enhancing biological diversity.

Recommended Policy # 7.1:

Wildlife caused adverse effects to human health and property shall be anticipated and prevented.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 7.1a Clarify responsibilities of individuals, the Aboriginal community and municipal, provincial and federal governments with respect to issues of risk to human health and property associated with wildlife; recognizing that individuals and municipal governments have a primary obligation to take preventative actions to prevent risks to health and safety and property damage.
- 7.1b With stakeholders, the Aboriginal and agricultural communities and other governments, establish partnerships to develop and deliver management programs which will prevent or minimize risks from wild plants and animals; e.g., leafy spurge.
- 7.1c Ensure land use decisions and policies consider and address increased risk of wildlife damage, i.e., new park or cottage developments, agricultural expansion, subdivisions, roads.
- 7.1d Partner and develop education and information programs to inform the public of wildlife related:
 - a. personal safety matters (e.g., bear attacks, rabies, Lyme disease);
 - b. agricultural damage prevention matters; and
 - c. residential damage prevention matters.
- 7.1e Cooperatively develop and implement contingency plans for rapid response to emergency or dangerous events (e.g., bears in town/city).
- 7.1f Develop a public information system (e.g., 24-hour hotline, Web site) for dealing with problem wildlife inquiries, e.g., grackles, crows and racoons.

- 7.1g Encourage the development and implementation of programs to protect wild animals and human health in areas of high mortality, e.g., road accidents, bears in cottage country.

Recommended Policy # 7.2:

Where reasonable preventative actions have been taken, fair compensation for wild animal damage shall be provided.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 7.2a With stakeholders, agricultural community and other governments, develop criteria, procedures and levels of compensation for severe property damage caused by wild animals.
- 7.2b In consultation with the agricultural community, continue to develop criteria, procedures and levels of compensation for agricultural damage caused by wild animals.
- 7.2c Include all commercial agricultural products [i.e., nursery stock, vegetable and fruit production, honey, grains, forage and livestock] in the wild animal compensation program.
- 7.2d Consult with the public, agricultural community, individuals and businesses to define the conditions when compensation for wild animal damage may be denied.
- 7.2e Encourage research and monitoring of actions and activities that help to prevent wild animal damage.

Recommended Policy # 7.3:

Human health and well being shall be enhanced by maintaining natural biological diversity and the integrity of natural areas.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 7.3a Develop public information and education programs about the benefits of maintaining biological diversity. Programs will include information on:
- water management and aquatic ecology,
 - erosion control,
 - biological research,
 - biological controls,
 - agricultural and forest genetics,
 - medical research and drug development, and
 - preservation of gene pools.
- 7.3b Encourage and, where appropriate, provide incentives to landowners that maintain natural biological diversity, e.g., for species at risk.

Recommended Policy # 7.4:

Safe and ethical a) hunting and trapping and b) non consumptive wildlife use practices, e.g., ecotourism and nature photography practices, shall be promoted.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 7.4a Continue to require first time hunters to pass a hunter safety course.
- 7.4b Encourage and promote respect for landowner rights by the hunting community.
- 7.4c Continue to require mandatory training for first time trappers.

- 7.4d Protect the investments of Crown land leaseholders by educating and informing hunters.
- 7.4e Partner and encourage and work cooperatively with stakeholder organizations to establish and promote ethical and sound hunting and trapping practices.
- 7.4f Require hunter or trappers convicted of specified wild animal firearm or safety offences to take a hunter safety course before getting a new licence.
- 7.4g Provide sufficient enforcement to ensure compliance with safety regulations.
- 7.4h Partner and work cooperatively with wildlife industries, organizations and individuals to establish safe and ethical codes of practice for non-consumptive uses of wild animals and plants.

- 8.1b Provide for the independent review of standards and procedures governing the capture, handling, holding and trapping of wild animals.
- 8.1c Establish partnerships and continue to participate in the research and development of humane trapping techniques and equipment.
- 8.1d Maintain legislation to implement approved humane trapping techniques and equipment.
- 8.1e Maintain regulations, procedures, guidelines and standards governing the handling of wild animals in rehabilitation programs.
- 8.1f Educate hunters and trappers in the humane treatment of wild animals.

Policy Area 8: Humane Treatment of Wild Animals

Recommended Policy # 8.2:
The undue harassment, disturbance or interference of wild animals shall be prevented.

Objective:

- 1. To ensure wild animals are treated in a humane manner.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 8.2a Establish regulations that will define and control the harassment of wild animals, including the use of personal watercraft, motor boats and snowmobiles.
- 8.2b Establish guidelines for ecotourism and interpretative programs that will ensure wild animal harassment is prevented or minimized.
- 8.2c Maintain information and interpretative programs to inform the public of the effects of wild animal harassment.
- 8.2d Discourage the taming or feeding of specified wild animals where these practices could result in detrimental consequences for the individual animals, the ecology of the species, human safety or property.

Recommended Policy # 8.1:
Wild animals shall be hunted, trapped, killed, captured and held in a humane manner.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 8.1a Regularly review its regulations and procedures governing how wild animals are to be hunted, trapped, killed, captured and held to ensure animals are treated in a humane manner.

- 8.2e Prohibit, except under permit, the keeping of wild animals for pets.

present and future generations and for their intrinsic value within the ecosystem.

Recommended Policy # 8.3:

Use of wild animals for research purposes shall be conducted in a humane manner.

To meet the intent of this policy, the Manitoba Round Table recommends the Manitoba government:

- 8.3a Continue to maintain regulations and standards for wild animal research that ensures the humane treatment of the animals.
- 8.3b Monitor wild animal research activities.
- 8.3c Continue to ensure research programs and activities involving the capture or handling of live wild animals are reviewed by an independent animal care committee.
- 8.3d Ensure provincial government research and management activities involving the capture and handling of wild animals comply with all regulations, standards and reviews required for private research activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISION OF THE WILDLIFE ACT

The following are our recommendations for the revision of *The Wildlife Act*.

A. Sustainable Development. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

1. *The Wildlife Act embody and make operational, the principles and guidelines of sustainable development.*
2. *The Act state its purpose is to ensure the sustainability of wild animals and plants for*

B. Wildlife Branch and Mandate. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

3. *The Act provide for the establishment of a Wildlife Branch with a mandate which clearly states its responsibility and accountability for implementing sustainable development by:*

- *protecting and maintaining wild animals and plants, their habitat and the natural ecosystems upon which they depend as its primary role;*
- *managing wildlife and designated wildlife lands;*
- *protecting human health and safety, e.g., hunter safety;*
- *facilitating environmentally-sound use and development of wildlife resources;*
- *meeting international and national commitments and obligations;*
- *providing education and interpretation programs,*
- *reporting on population and habitat status at least every five years.*

C. Definition of Wildlife. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

4. *The Act define*

'Wildlife' as any wild species of plant or animal occurring in the province of Manitoba.

'Animal' as all wild multi-cellular organisms, including invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals but not including fish and plants, and 'Plant' as all wild vascular and non-vascular plants including mosses, liverworts, lichens, fungi and algae.

D. Ownership of Wildlife. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

5. *The Act specify that all wild animals are owned by the province and outline the circumstances when ownership passes to a private individual or business.*

E. Provincial Wildlife Plan. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

6. *The Act provide for the establishment of an ecosystem-based provincial system plan for wildlife which will:*
- a. establish a general land capability inventory for wildlife, goals, priorities, land requirements, population targets, and indicator species;*
 - b. require management plans for individually designated wildlife lands to address:*
 - protection of species at risk,*
 - the needs, aspirations and concerns of local residents,*
 - traditional uses and use patterns, recreational activities and aesthetics,*
 - the need, in some cases, for infrastructure and services, e.g., parking lots, washrooms, food services, viewing towers;*
 - c. require individual management plans for:*
 - i) species at risk,*
 - ii) economically important and harvested species,*
 - iii) indicator species, and*
 - iv) those posing a danger to health or property and which:*
 - establishes population and range targets,*
 - links population with requirements for provincial, federal, municipal and private lands,*
 - establishes management guidelines and actions to be taken,*
 - identifies monitoring, research and data requirements and actions to be taken,*
 - reflects local and regional concerns;*
 - d. establish a land zoning process and classification system which describes the types and purposes of designated wildlife lands and permitted land and resource uses and developments within them;*
 - e. provide for public and interdepartmental participation in the preparation and monitoring of plans and the evaluation and public reporting of the effectiveness of the plans.*

7. *The Act establish a process, which includes interdepartmental consultations, and criteria for establishing designated wildlife lands and for removing designated wildlife lands or portions thereof.*
8. *The Act provide for the establishment of wildlife Crown land reserves as a mechanism to:*
 - achieve long term designated wildlife land requirements,*
 - provide a process for evaluating potential Crown lands for wildlife purposes,*
 - provide a process for involving the public and resolving outstanding issues respecting resource use, constitutional rights and local and traditional uses;*
 - ensure all resource, transportation and sustainable economic assessments are completed before designating land for wildlife.*
9. *The Act prohibit the sale of, and make provisions for, the control, including the restriction or banning of development on designated Crown wildlife lands.*

F. Species Management. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

10. *The Act continue to provide for the designation, by regulation, of wild animal and plant species for management purposes such as endangered, threatened, big game, game birds and fur bearers.*
11. *The Act, by regulation, establish sustainable harvest levels, e.g., hunting limits for designated species.*
12. *The Act enhance powers to prohibit the harvest of species and control other activities when their sustainability is threatened and control activities during times and in locations critical to the sustainability of species.*

G. Licensing of Wildlife and Access to Wildlife.

The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

13. *The Act provide for the allocation of wildlife through licensing systems for:*
 - a. *resident, non-resident, domestic or subsistence hunting, trapping and harvesting;*
 - b. *wildlife related tourism, e.g., lodge and outfitting and other commercial purposes;*
 - c. *wild animals in captivity and possession of wild animal parts, e.g., feathers and owl carcasses.*
14. *The Act provides for the issuance of a multi-year licence for resident, non-resident, hunting, trapping and commercial uses of wildlife.*
15. *The Act, by regulation, outline the conditions under which a licence may be reallocated or revoked.*
16. *The Act provides for the protection of commercial tenured access to wildlife resources by operators "in good standing".*
 - *"In good standing" means an individual or corporation up-to-date in fee and royalty payments and who has not been convicted of an offence against the resource (e.g., hunting over limit) in the past five years.*

H. Land Use Permitting of Designated Wildlife

Lands. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

17. *The Act designate the Wildlife Branch as the land use authority for designated wildlife Crown lands and that permission to use those lands be authorized by lease issued by the Wildlife Branch.*
18. *The Act establish a land use leasing process for the use of designated Crown wildlife lands for, among other things:*
 - *resource extraction, e.g., mining, petroleum production, forestry,*
 - *wildlife related commercial purposes, research and education,*
 - *private rights-of-way.*

I. Wildlife Advisory Boards. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

19. *The Act provide for the establishment of wildlife advisory boards to provide advice respecting:*
 - *local long-term wildlife management problems,*
 - *commercial wildlife use.*

J. Treatment of Wild Animals. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

20. *The Act enhance regulations to govern how wild animals may be hunted, trapped, killed, captured and held to ensure animals are treated in a humane manner.*
21. *The Act enhance regulations to govern the handling of wild animals in rehabilitation programs and for research to ensure their humane treatment.*
22. *The Act continue to provide for the independent review of standards and procedures governing the capture, handling, holding and trapping of wild animals.*

K. Wild Animal Damage. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

23. *The Act state that each person has a primary obligation to take preventative actions to prevent risks to their health and safety and property damage posed by wild animals.*
24. *The Act enhance, by regulation, criteria, procedures and levels of compensation:*
 - a. *for severe property damage caused by wild animals,*
 - b. *for all commercial agricultural damage caused by wild animals, including damage to nursery stock, vegetable and fruit production, honey, grains, forage and livestock.*

L. Trade and Transfer of Wildlife. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

L. Trade and Transfer of Wildlife. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

25. *The Act make provisions to control the import, export, trade, planting and relocation of wild plants and animals and parts thereof to:*
- *reduce the risk of damage to species, their habitat or their genetic integrity;*
 - *prevent or control the spread of disease or parasites;*
 - *protect human health and safety;*
 - *prevent the unauthorized harvesting, removal or moving of endangered plant species.*

M. Fees and Royalties. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

26. *The Act, by regulation, prescribe competitive fees and royalties, based on full cost accounting, for the use of, and access to, wildlife resources and lands, including but not limited to:*
- a. *hunting and trapping licences,*
 - b. *commercial tenured access to wild animals for tourism related non-resident and resident hunting,*
 - c. *leases for various land-use activities within designated Crown wildlife lands, including but not limited to forestry operations, mining, petroleum production, private recreational trail development and agricultural activities.*

N. Donations and Financing. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

27. *The Act provide for the acceptance of land donations and their protection as designated wildlife lands and as Crown land, consistent with the terms of the donation.*
28. *The Act provide for the creation of a fund to be used for special wildlife management purposes. The fund could be linked to revenues from such sources as user fees, access fees, surtaxes, resource extraction fees and donations.*

O. Public and User Safety. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

29. *The Act continue to require:*
- a. *first time hunters to pass a hunter safety course,*
 - b. *mandatory training for first time trappers.*

P. Appeals and Compensation. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

30. *The Act establish an independent wildlife appeal board and dispute resolution process for decisions made under the authority of the Act, including but not limited to decisions related to:*
- a. *the allocation or reallocation of wildlife resources to competing commercial operators,*
 - b. *the cancellation of a wildlife licence or land use lease.*

31. *The Act, by regulation, define compensation criteria, conditions and procedures for determining when compensation may be given where access to wildlife resources is allocated to some other commercial wild animal use.*

Q. Cooperative Wildlife Management. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

32. *The Act continue to enable the entry into cooperative arrangements for wildlife management between governments, organizations, etc., e.g., co-management agreements.*

R. Enforcement and Penalties. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

33. *The Act continue to require hunters convicted of wildlife, firearm or safety offences to take and pass a hunter safety course before getting a new licence, over and above any other legal penalties.*
34. *The Act continue to provide for the enforcement of the various regulations and leases required to manage wild plants and animals and establish penalties of sufficient*

magnitude to encourage compliance, ensure sustainability of wildlife resources and reflect its full value.

35. *The Act establish and maintain penalties and/or fines for:*
- a. non-compliance with conditions of a Wildlife Branch issued lease or licence. The penalty should also include the possible rescinding of the lease or licence,*
 - b. harassment of wild animals,*
 - c. illegal hunting, trapping, capture and harvest of wildlife,*
 - d. habitat destruction on designated Crown wildlife lands,*
 - e. undue interference and harassment of legitimate and authorized users of wildlife,*
 - f. unsafe hunting, trapping or wild animal capture activities,*
 - g. the unauthorized release, transfer and relocation of wildlife species.*

S. Amalgamation of Other Acts. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

36. *The Act amalgamate and integrate the provisions of the current The Endangered Species Act and The Ecological Reserves Act.*

T. Effect on the Crown. The Manitoba Round Table recommends that:

37. *The Act be binding on the Crown, in that departments and Crown agencies will be required to comply with specified regulations, standards, permitting procedures and other restrictions.*

APPENDIX I.

MAJOR ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC.

1. Disabled Persons:

It was suggested by some members of the public that the suggested wildlife policies did not adequately address the needs, concerns and barriers faced by disabled persons in their enjoyment and use of wildlife.

We agreed that the policies were inadequate and that statements needed to be added and revised to accommodate and facilitate the enjoyment and use of wildlife by disabled persons.

The following revisions were made:

- A new application "j" was added to 2.3d. It reads:

Establish, continue and enhance hunting and trapping programs which: j. give access and assistance consideration to permanently disabled persons.

- The phrase "disabled persons" was added after "...non-government organizations" in 4.5a. It reads:

Provide meaningful opportunities for the Aboriginal community, public, industry, the agricultural community, non-government organizations, disabled persons and user groups to participate in wildlife resource planning processes by: ...

- A new application "e" was added to 6.1. It reads:

Facilitate broad accessibility to programs by the disabled and all ethnic and age groups."

2. Allocation Priority List:

There was considerable public disagreement with the allocation priority list for wildlife, with the exception of ensuring the sustainability of populations as the first priority that received high approval. The suggested allocation priority list was:

1. Sustainability of wildlife animal and plant populations - policy 2.1 [93 percent approval]
2. Aboriginal treaty and constitutional obligations – policy 2.2 [42 percent approval]
3. Hunting and trapping by residents and subsistence harvesting – policy 2.3 [53 percent approval]
4. Commercial uses and harvest. – policy 2.4 [64 percent approval]

In general, the disagreement with the list was each interest group/stakeholder generally felt they deserved to be higher in the order of priority, that is, number two.

Given that the list is consistent with rulings of the Supreme Court of Canada, we have decided that the allocation priority list should remain as originally stated.

3. Commercial Lodge and Outfitting Quality Assurance Program:

There were objections/concerns [13 percent disapproval - 67 percent approval] to a mandatory quality assurance program for lodge and outfitting operations outlined in 3.1cb.

This program would be similar to the star rating system now being used for hotels. The notion of having such a program is considered to be very important for enhancing and maintaining a sustainable tourism industry. The objections may however be more related to the cost operators would have to bear in the running of such a program.

We agreed that retaining the concept of a quality assurance program was important, however, to make

the program more acceptable we removed the "fee-for-service" aspect and added that the program be developed in partnership with the Manitoba Lodge and Outfitters Association. Policy application 3.1cb now reads:

develop, in partnership with the Manitoba Lodge and Outfitters Association, a mandatory tourist lodge and outfitting quality assurance program,

4. Multi-year Licenses:

There were concerns/objections with the suggested policy application and Wildlife Act provision that proposed:

a. multi-year leases for wildlife related land use activities, that is 3.1h which states: *Provide for the issuance of multi-year leases for wildlife related land use activities, e.g., tundra vehicles for polar bear viewing.* [15 percent disapproval - 61 percent approval] and

b. multi-year licences for resident and non-resident hunting, trapping and commercial uses of wildlife, that is, Wildlife Act suggestion # 14 that states: *The Act provide for the issuance of a multi-year licence for:*

- a. resident hunting,* [23 percent disapproval - 66 percent approval],
- b. non-resident hunting,* [33 percent disapproval - 50 percent approval],
- c. trapping* [21 percent disapproval - 67 percent approval] and
- d. commercial uses of wildlife* [35 percent disapproval - 48 percent approval].

There appeared to be a misunderstanding or an assumption that granting multi-year access implied providing unlimited and unregulated harvesting rights. The two are not linked and harvesting rates would continue to be set each year to which everyone must abide. Also, leases come with conditions and have cancellation clauses that provide further protection for the land and resource. There is also the misunderstanding between the right to hunt and the allowable harvest rate that is set yearly. They also are not linked.

The intent of multi-year leases and licenses is to reduce the yearly administrative costs associated with the issuance of leases and hunting licenses etc. each year. Bag limits would be established each year.

We have agreed that the concept of multi-year leases and licences should be retained.

5. Eliminating Barriers to Aboriginals:

There were concerns / objections to suggested policy applications 3.5e and 3.5f [disapproval rates of 17 percent and 21 percent and approval rates of 64 percent and 62 percent respectively]. These applications state:

3.5e *Identify and eliminate barriers to the admission of Aboriginal persons to education and training programs and courses in the field of wildlife management and enforcement.*

3.5f *Provide within government departments on-the-job training programs for Aboriginal persons directly and indirectly related to wildlife management and enforcement.*

Comments were mostly directed at having these applications apply to all groups in Manitoba and not specifically geared to the Aboriginal community.

The Round Table is of the opinion that the constraints facing Aboriginal persons are real and should be addressed. However, we agreed to amend the wording by changing "Identify and eliminate barriers to" with "Enhance the opportunities for" in 3.5e and adding "and placement" after "training" in 3.5f. They now read:

3.5e *Enhance the opportunities for the admission of Aboriginal persons to education and training programs and courses in the field of wildlife management and enforcement.*

3.5f *Provide within government departments on-the-job training and placement programs for Aboriginal persons directly and indirectly related to wildlife management and enforcement.*

6. Game Farming:

Concerns/objections to game farming, and in particular elk farming, were raised many times during the public consultation process, in response to Policy Area 3 Development and Use and Wildlife Act suggestion 13c which states:

The Act continue to provide for the allocation of wild animals through licensing systems for:...

c. game farming, wild animals in captivity and possession of wildlife parts, e.g., eagle feathers, owl carcasses.

We have agreed to delete the reference to "game farming" in 1.1g and recommendation 13 respecting *The Wildlife Act*.

APPENDIX 3.

EDITORIAL CHANGES

These suggested editorial changes are of a minor nature and in general are intended to make the policy/application clearer.

1. "Consistent with the precautionary principle," has been added to the beginning of 1.1e; to read:

Consistent with the precautionary principle, work with the public, industry, local government and stakeholders to develop and implement guidelines to anticipate, prevent or mitigate habitat fragmentation and its adverse effects.

The "precautionary principle" means: having particular careful regard to decisions 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 and requires that we anticipate and prevent or mitigate any significant adverse effect of those decisions and actions.

2. "peat and gravel extraction" has been added to 1.1g; to read:

*Partner and work cooperatively with industry, Aboriginal communities, local government, private landowners and the agricultural community to establish guidelines, practices and legislation to anticipate, prevent or mitigate the adverse effects of development on habitat from such activities as wild rice farming, game farming, forestry, mining, petroleum, **peat and gravel extraction**, hydro and urban developments, highways, drainage and agriculture.*

3. "human health" has been added to 1.2b; to read:

*Ensure social, cultural, **human health** and economic considerations are evaluated and addressed during the evaluation of lands being considered as designated wildlife lands.*

4. "as part of the approval process" has been added after "Require," in 1.4b; to read:

Require, as part of the approval process, where appropriate, rehabilitation plans to be prepared and implemented upon decommissioning of developments.

5. "non-government organizations" has been added to 1.4c; to read:

*Partner and work cooperatively with resource industries, **non-government organizations**, the agricultural community, individuals, public utilities, the Aboriginal community and local authorities to develop rehabilitation and reclamation plans for degraded or damaged private lands.*

6. "based on scientific data, traditional knowledge and" has been added after "Establish" in 2.1a; to read:

Establish, based on scientific data, traditional knowledge and in consultation with the public, industry, the Aboriginal, agricultural and scientific communities, community round tables and stakeholders, wild animal population targets that ensure the sustainability of managed species including species at risk.

7. "Consistent with the precautionary principle," has been added to the beginning of 2.1c; so as to read:

Consistent with the precautionary principle, continue to establish and regulate annual sustainable harvest levels.

8. Policy application 2.1j [For dead wild animals, which have come into possession of government, maintain a process for allocating and distributing parts for scientific, Aboriginal and educational uses.] has been re-worded; to read:

Maintain a process for allocating and distributing parts of dead wild animals that have come into possession of government through seizure or after accidental death.

APPENDIX 2.

MINOR ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

The following are brief overviews of minor issues raised by some of the public. We have agreed to retain the policy or policy application as originally stated.

1. Guidelines vs. Regulations:

There were re-occurring comments that “guidelines”, do not work, and that regulations / legislation were required. For example, application 1.1 h states: *Partner with the federal government and other jurisdictions to establish programs, guidelines and, if necessary, legislation to control the planned or accidental introduction of species.*

It is our opinion that there is a place for guidelines. Also many of the policy applications recognized that regulations / legislation may be required, if satisfactory results are not obtained through the use of guidelines.

2. Fees for the Use of Wildlife Resources:

There were concerns/objections raised about charging fees for the use of or access to wildlife resources. As an example, there was a 14 percent disagreement level (64 percent approval) to application, 2.4ce; which states: *Maintain and improve the process for allocating wild animal resources for commercial use and harvest to ensure it optimizes social and economic benefits and which: ... e. structures fees to reflect market value,* Similar objections and disapproval levels are found for Policy 3.3 and its applications, i.e., *Prices for the development and use of wild plant and animal resources shall reflect their environmental, social and economic values.*

It is our opinion that these policies and applications and others are consistent with the intent of Sustainable Development Guideline 1 of *The Sustainable Development Act* which states: ‘Efficient Use of Resources... means (a) encouraging and facilitating development and application of systems for proper resource pricing... (b) employing full-cost accounting...’

3. Non-resident Hunting:

There were some concerns/objections to policy application 3.1aa [10 percent disapproval; approval 74 per cent] that states: *Partner with stakeholders and identify opportunities and develop programs to promote: a. wildlife based tourism including ecotourism and non-resident hunting...*. This policy application is in part directed at “promoting non-resident hunting”.

Non-resident hunting is seen as a competition between resident hunters and commercial non-resident hunters for the local wildlife resource. On the other-hand, non-resident commercial hunting associated with lodge and outfitting operations is a significant economic activity often providing local jobs and incomes. We have agreed to retain the policy application as originally stated.

4. Commercial Use of Wildlife:

There were objections / concerns with the general concept of commercial operations which were based on the consumptive use of wildlife. These objections are related to:

a.) those against the commercial harvesting of wildlife in general. For example, policy application 3.1ba, had disapproval rate of 10 percent [approval rate of 71 percent]. It states: *Consult regularly and partner with the wildlife based businesses, the Aboriginal community and other government organizations respecting: a. development of new market niches and market expansion for wildlife related activities [e.g., tourism] and products [e.g., furs], and*

b.) those against non-resident commercial hunting that could result in competition with resident hunting or reduce harvest levels for resident hunters. For example, policy application 3.1g had an 11 percent disapproval rate [73 percent approval] which states: *Ensure maximum opportunities for wild animal use, while limiting harvest, as necessary, such as "one tag, two hunters"*.

We agreed that the commercial use and harvest of wildlife contributes to Manitoba's provincial and regional economies and should be recognized as a legitimate activity provided it is sustainable.

5. Developments in Wildlife Management Areas:

There were objections/concerns to allowing any development or other activity to occur in established wildlife management areas, that is, to suggested policy application 3.2c [13 percent disapproval; 70 percent approval] which states: *Develop or permit the development of compatible infrastructure on designated wildlife lands, including parking lots, viewing towers, trappers cabins (in remote areas)...* and Wildlife Act suggestion 6biv [8 percent disapproval - 67 percent approval] which states: *The Act... require management plans for individually designated wildlife lands to address: ... the need in some cases for infrastructure and services, e.g., parking lots, washrooms, food services, viewing towers;*

We note that wildlife management areas are established for different purposes and reasons. In some cases, the wildlife management area is established to provide wintering habitat for specific species and others to provide for hunting opportunities as well as provide for habitat protection. We therefore recognize that to facilitate and control use within these areas, infrastructure facilities is sometimes required, e.g., the need to control the parking of vehicles and facilitate use of areas by seniors and disabled persons.

6. Marketing of Wildlife Management Areas:

There were objections/concerns with marketing wildlife management areas as tourist destinations, policy application 3.2d [12 percent disapproval - 72 percent approval] that states: *Market designated wildlife lands as tourist destinations.* The objection is in part related those who object to the use of wildlife and areas established for wildlife for commercial purposes, see also point 4 above.

It is our opinion, however, that tourism, both non-consumptive wildlife activities, i.e., polar bear viewing and consumptive wildlife activities are important sources of sustainable economic activities for rural and northern Manitobans.

7. Ownership of Wild Animals:

There were concerns/objections raised in regards to the ownership of wildlife as outlined in suggestion #5 for *The Wildlife Act* [13 percent disapproval; 80 percent approval] which states: *“that all wild*

animals are owned by the Province and outline the circumstances when ownership passes to a private individual or business.”

Objections may have been more related to concerns with private ownership of wild animals while the animal is alive, i.e., game farming etc.

Presently all wild animals are owned by the Crown. Individuals have ownership only when granted by a licence or permit and we continue to support this distinction.

8. Amalgamation of Wildlife Acts:

There were some concerns raised in respect of Wildlife Act suggestion 36 which proposed the amalgamation of three Acts, that is: *The (Wildlife) Act amalgamate and integrate the provisions of the current: a. The Endangered Species Act and b. The Ecological Reserves Act.*

While there was not strong objection to this suggestion, as 78 percent approved and only five percent disapproved of suggestion 36a; and 75 percent approved and only six percent disapproved suggestion 36b; questions were asked as to what would be gained and lost in the process.

We are of the opinion that amalgamation will result in more comprehensive and integrated sustainable development provincial wildlife legislation.

9. The word “alternative” has been deleted and “scientific and” has been added after “...through the use of” in 2.1k; to read:

*Work with the Aboriginal community to develop wildlife management strategies through the use of **scientific and** traditional ecological knowledge.*

10. “, consumptive and non-consumptive” has been added after “resources for commercial” and “, cultural” has been added after “social” in 2.4c; to read:

*Maintain and improve the process for allocating wild animal resources for commercial, **consumptive and non-consumptive** use and harvest to ensure it optimizes social, **cultural** and economic benefits and which...*

11. “and the precautionary principle” has been added to the end of policy 2.7; to read:

*Wildlife allocation systems shall be based on the most accurate population information available **and the precautionary principle.***

12. “based industries” has been deleted from policy 3.1; to read:

Sustainable economic development and use opportunities for wild animals and plants shall be identified and facilitated.

13. “fur industry” has been changed to “fur trapping” in 3.1ab; and “snakes and frogs” has been deleted as examples in 3.1ad; to read:

Partner with stakeholders and identify opportunities and develop programs to promote:

- a. wildlife based tourism including ecotourism and non-resident hunting,*
- b. the **fur trapping**,*
- c. the hunting service industry,*
- d. other commercial wildlife based industries, e.g., the harvesting or collecting of antlers and plants.*

14. “control and regulate” has been changed to “plan” and “also” has been added before “optimize” in 3.1cc; to read:

*Partner and work with the wildlife related tourism industry, the Aboriginal community, local governments and others such as community round tables to: ... c. **plan** road access to **also** optimize the economic potential of the tourism industry, ...*

15. “cultural, human health” has been added to policy 3.3; to read:

*Prices for the development and use of wild plant and animal resources shall reflect their environmental, social, **cultural, human health** and economic values.*

16. “data collection and” has been added at the beginning of 4.1ab and “collection” has been changed to “storage”; to read:

*Evaluate, provide training for and consider realignment of staffing and financial resources to allow for more effective integrated ecosystem-based management, including: ...b. **data collection and centralized data storage** and analysis, ...*

17. “cultural” has been added to policy 4.2; to read:

*Develop, maintain and implement a provincial system plan for wildlife that shall consider, address and integrate wildlife, habitat, social, **cultural**, economic, health and environmental factors.*

18. “traditional knowledge” has been added to 4.2a(f) last bullet; to read:

*Prepare a provincial ecosystem-based wildlife system plan which: ...f. requires integrated ecosystem-based management plans for individual designated wildlife lands which recognizes and honours existing property rights and other legal obligations and which considers and addresses such things as: ... - **traditional knowledge**, traditional uses and use patterns and recreational activities and aesthetics;*

19. The word “acceptable” has been deleted which occurred before “compliance” in 4.3f; to read:

Ensure compliance of wildlife requirements identified in plans and legislation.

20. “including those with development proponents, consultants and Crown corporation” has been added after “Develop partnerships” in 4.6d; to read:

Develop partnerships, including those with development proponents, consultants and Crown corporations, and encourage and facilitate research into traditional and local ecological knowledge and integrate that knowledge into databases.

21. “for example, wildlife corridors,” has been added after “...resources and habitat,” in 5.1a, bullet 1; to read:

Partner and work cooperatively with conservation groups, local government and other interested stakeholders to: - identify existing and potential urban wild animal and plant resources and habitats, for example, wildlife corridors, including urban forests;...

22. “cultural” has been added after “social” in policy 6.1; to read:

Enhanced public awareness of the social, cultural, economic, health and environmental value of wild plants and animals, ecosystems and biological diversity shall be promoted.

23. “but not limited to” has been added after “Information topics may include” and “protection of habitat, wildlife corridors and life-cycles” has been added to 6.2b; so as to read:

Provide information for the formal education system and for extension programs that explain biology, ecology and environmental economics and management. Information topics may include, but not limited to: - humane treatment of wild animals, - hunting and trapping, - problem wildlife management, -wild animal damage and safety issues (e.g., red squirrel damage to homes), - impacts of ecotourism, including the undue harassment of wild animals, -

harassment of wildlife users, - land designation and access issues, - firearm use, - importance of habitat, - effects of development, pollution, cumulative effects, - environmental economics, - environmental impact assessments, - protection of habitat, wildlife corridors and life-cycles.

24. “-inherent and inheritance values, - pharmaceutical values, -sacred, spiritual and cultural values, -provincial commitments to national and international documents, -need for protected areas, and - roles of wild plants and animals in Manitoba’s ecosystem” has been added to the list in 6.3a; to read:

Develop general sustainable development wildlife and fish information for listing as foundation materials for use by teachers to meet school curricula outcomes. This material should focus on the values of wildlife including: - traditional Aboriginal uses, - economic values, - subsistence and domestic consumption of wildlife, - recreation, aesthetics - animal welfare, - nutritional value, -inherent and inheritance values, -pharmaceutical values, - sacred, spiritual and cultural values, - provincial commitments to national and international documents, -need for protected areas, and roles of wild plants and animals in Manitoba’s ecosystem.

25. “where these practices could result in detrimental consequences for the individual animals, the ecology of the species, human safety or property” has been added to 8.2d; to read:

Discourage the taming or feeding of specified wild animals where these practices could result in detrimental consequences for the individual animals, the ecology of the species, human safety or property.

26. The examples of non-government organizations (NGOs) in 1.1c, 1.2e, 1.3c, 2.1a, 2.7c, 3.1c, 4.2ac, 5.5a and 6.1c were deleted and where necessary replace with the term “non-government organization”. The following definition of NGO has been added to the glossary.

Non-government organization means: any organization that is not part of federal, provincial, territorial or municipal government. Includes private voluntary

organizations, corporations, educational institutions and labour unions [from Caring for the Earth]. Example organizations include: Manitoba Naturalist Society, Delta Waterfowl Station, Field And Stream Association For Manitobans With Disabilities, Indigenous Caucus For The Convention on Biological Diversity, Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association, Manitoba Cattle Producers Association, Manitoba Wildlife Federation, Riding Mountain Landowners Association, Winnipeg Humane Society, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, community round tables, chambers of commerce.

27. "and fur bearers" has been added to Wildlife Act Review suggestion #10; to read:

The Act continue to provide for the designation, by regulation, of wild animal and plant species for management purposes such as endangered, threatened, big game, game birds and fur bearers.

28. The phrase "or right" has been deleted after "licence" from Wildlife Act Review suggestion #15; to read:

The Act, by regulation, outline the conditions under which a licence may be reallocated or revoked.

29. The phrase "right of" has been deleted after "commercial tenured" from Wildlife Act Review suggestion #16; to read:

The Act provide for the protection of commercial tenured access to wild animal resources by operators "in good standing".

30. "their" has been added after "risks to" and "and" has been added before "safety" in Wildlife Act Review suggestion #23; to read:

*The Act state that each person has a primary obligation to take preventative actions to prevent risks to **their** health and safety and property damage posed by wild animals.*

31. The phrase "continue to" has been deleted after "Act" from Wildlife Act Review suggestion #25; to read:

The Act make provision to control the import, export, trade and relocation of wild plants and animals and parts thereof to:...

32. The phrase "right of" has been deleted after "commercial tenured" from Wildlife Act Review suggestion #26b; to read:

The Act, by regulation, prescribe competitive fees and royalties, based on full cost accounting, for the use of and access to wildlife resources and lands, including but not limited to: b. commercial tenured access to wild animals for tourism related non-resident and resident hunting,...

33. The word "rights" has been deleted after "where access" from Wildlife Act Review suggestion #31; to read:

The Act, by regulation, define compensation criteria, conditions and procedures for determining when compensation may be given where access to wild animal resources is allocated to some other commercial wild animal use.

34. The phrase "or trappers" has been deleted after "require hunter" from Wildlife Act Review suggestion #33; to read:

The Act continue to require hunters convicted of wildlife, firearm or safety offences to take and pass a hunter safety course before getting a new licence, over and above any other legal penalties.

35. The phrase "wild animal" has been changed to "wildlife" in the following:

- policies and policy applications: 2.1a, 2.1b, 2.1d, 2.2, 2.2b, 2.2c, 2.2d, 2.2e, 2.4b, 2.4c, 2.5, 2.5a, 2.5b, 2.5c, 3.1g, 3.1i, 5.1j, 5.3b, 7.1d; and

- Wildlife Act recommendations: 6a, 13, 16 and 31.

GLOSSARY

Animal (wild): all wild multi-cellular organisms, including invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals but not including fish and plants.

Access Right: the right to enter, use or occupy land for the purpose of utilizing wildlife resources.

Biological Diversity: the variability among living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems, and the ecological complexes of which they are part. This includes diversity within species, between species and ecosystems.

Commercial Tenured Right of Access: the renewal of an authorization to utilize or to have access to wild animals and plants for commercial purposes by licensed "in-good-standing" operators.

Conservation: the use of natural resources in a way that assures their continuing availability to future generations; the wise and intelligent use or protection of natural resources.

Critical Habitat: habitat type crucial to the size, distribution, or stability of a wildlife species in an area; degradation of a component of this type of habitat potentially can cause significant reduction of a wildlife species within a local geographic area.

Designated Wildlife Lands: land set aside for wildlife conservation under authority of legislation, e.g., wildlife management areas.

Ecosystem: a community of organisms functioning and interacting together within their physical environment. It is composed of all living and nonliving parts of the environment in a defined space and time.

Ecosystems based Management: the integrated management of ecological systems (natural landscapes, ecological processes, and physical and biological components) and human activities (policies, programs, actions and evaluations) to maintain or enhance the health and integrity of an ecosystem.

Endangered: a species indigenous to Manitoba threatened with imminent extinction or with

extirpation throughout all or a significant portion of its Manitoba range. Extirpated is a species formerly indigenous to Manitoba no longer exists in the wild in Manitoba but exists elsewhere.

Exotic Species: any species or organism not having originated naturally or not having become naturalized in a particular region or environment.

Fish: fish as well as aquatic invertebrates, shellfish and crustaceans.

Fragmentation: the breaking up of continuous natural habitats into smaller areas surrounded by altered or disturbed land.

Full cost accounting: accounting for the economic, environmental, land use, human health, social and heritage costs and benefits of a particular decision or action to ensure no costs associated with the decision or action, including externalized costs, are left unaccounted for.

Habitat: the arrangement of food, water, shelter or cover and space on which a species depends for its life and propagation.

Critical Habitat: habitat type crucial to the size, distribution, or stability of a wildlife species in an area; degradation of a component of this type of habitat potentially can cause significant reduction of a wildlife species within a local geographic area.

Significant Habitat: habitat important for the maintenance of a wildlife population in a local area.

Harassment: any activity which may worry, exhaust, fatigue, annoy, plague, tease or torment wildlife, but does not include lawful hunting, trapping or capturing of wildlife.

In-Good-Standing: an individual or corporation up-to-date in fee and royalty payments and who has not been convicted of an offense against the resource (e.g., hunting over limit, habitat destruction etc.) in the past five years.

Lease: includes a permit or other legal instrument or approval issued by the province.

Local government: municipal governments as per The Municipal Act, including Northern Affairs communities and the City of Winnipeg.

Native: animal and plant species existing and having originated naturally or having become naturalized in a particular region or environment.

Natural Capital: the resources and services provided by the ecosystem that are indispensable to human economic activity and survival. Natural capital can be either *non-renewable* (e.g., fossil fuels, mineral deposits) or *renewable*. Wildlife resources represent a renewable component of natural capital, generating a flow of goods in the form of an amount of wildlife that can be harvested each year without affecting the sustainability of the stock.

Non-government Organization (NGO): any organization that is not part of federal, provincial, territorial or municipal government. Includes private voluntary organizations, corporations, educational institutions and labour unions [from Caring for the Earth]. Example organizations include: Manitoba Naturalist Society, Delta Waterfowl Station, Field And Stream Association For Manitobans With Disabilities, Indigenous Caucus For The Convention on Biological Diversity, Manitoba Lodges and Outfitters Association, Manitoba Cattle Producers Association, Manitoba Wildlife Federation, Riding Mountain Landowners Association, Winnipeg Humane Society, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, community round tables, chambers of commerce.

Plant: (wild) all wild vascular or non-vascular plants [mosses, liverworts, lichens, fungi and algae].

Precautionary principle: having particular careful regard to decisions 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 and requires that we anticipate and prevent or mitigate any significant adverse effect of those decisions and actions.

Protection/protect: to defend or guard against damage, destruction, disturbance, harassment or extinction.

Riparian: the zone along rivers, creeks, lakes sloughs, potholes and springs.

Significant Habitat: habitat important for the maintenance of a wildlife population in a local area.

Species at Risk: a wild plant or animal species that is extirpated, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable in Manitoba. Vulnerable is a species susceptible to becoming threatened due to naturally low numbers, limited range, or disjunctive or specialized habitat.

Subsistence harvesting: the harvesting of wildlife for subsistence reasons [necessity for life] and includes food harvesting in remote northern areas by non-status persons and the constitutionally protected right of Status Indians to harvest wildlife for food.

Sustainability: the capacity of a thing, action, activity or process to be maintained indefinitely in a manner consistent with the spirit of Manitoba's Principles and Guidelines of sustainable development.

Sustainable development: meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Tenure: the holding or designation of land or a resource, under specified conditions.

Threatened: a species indigenous to Manitoba that is likely to become endangered, or is, because of low or declining numbers in Manitoba, particularly at risk if the factors affecting its vulnerability do not reverse.

Urban: a community with a population of 1,000 or more and a density of at least 400 people per square kilometre.

Urban forest: the trees, woodlands, woody shrubs, ground vegetation and associated green space within the urban environment.

Wetlands: areas that are permanently wet, or intermittently water covered, such as fresh and salt marshes, bogs, fens, swamps, muskegs and potholes. Large open lakes are excluded from this definition.

Wildlife: any wild species of plant or animal occurring in the province of Manitoba.