



Ministry of Environment

SMA Environmental Forum 2021

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Saskatchewan! 



Forest Service



Cumulative Impacts and Science



Climate Change



Environmental Assessment
and Stewardship



Fish, Wildlife and Lands



Environmental Protection

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Offset Program

- Saskatchewan is primarily establishing the program as a compliance option for the province's regulated industries to account for their annual emission reduction targets
- Program aligns with provincial, federal and international standards to ensure a wide and competitive market for credits
- Provides carbon offset credits to project developers who use approved protocols to voluntarily reduce or remove GHG emissions
- Program set to launch with four protocols – recognizing landfill gas management, aerobic composting, farming and ranching
- The Ministry will continue engagement with stakeholders in fall 2021

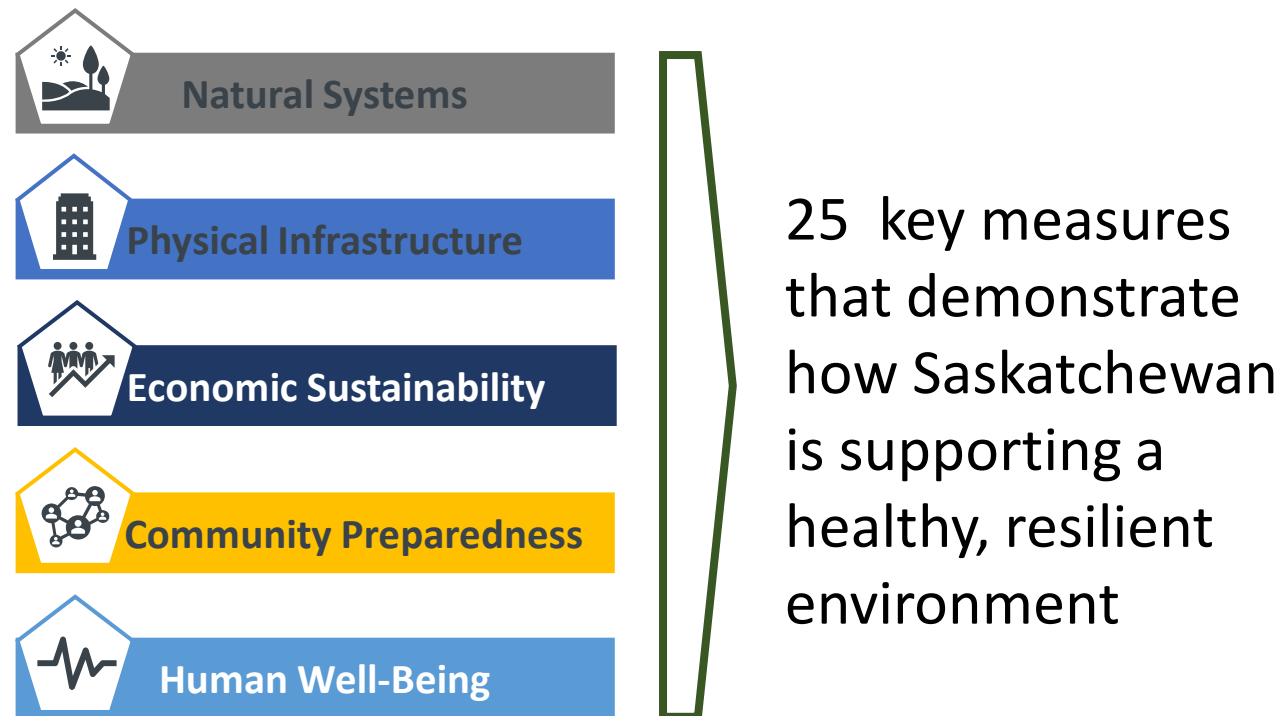
Cumulative Effects Analysis

Some Current Projects, Cumulative Effects Analyses

- Quantifying provincial ecosystem carbon sinks and sources
- Modeling carbon emissions and sequestration of natural ecosystems in changing environments (e.g., peat)
- Comparison of natural systems sequestration potential to carbon capture technology
- Carbon lifecycle analyses (e.g., canola oil and biofuel, timber) and methods for carbon monetization
- Climate change and land management implications for GHG emissions and sequestration

Resilience Measurement Framework

The **Climate Resilience Measurement Framework** is a government-wide approach to measuring progress on building climate resilience in Saskatchewan.

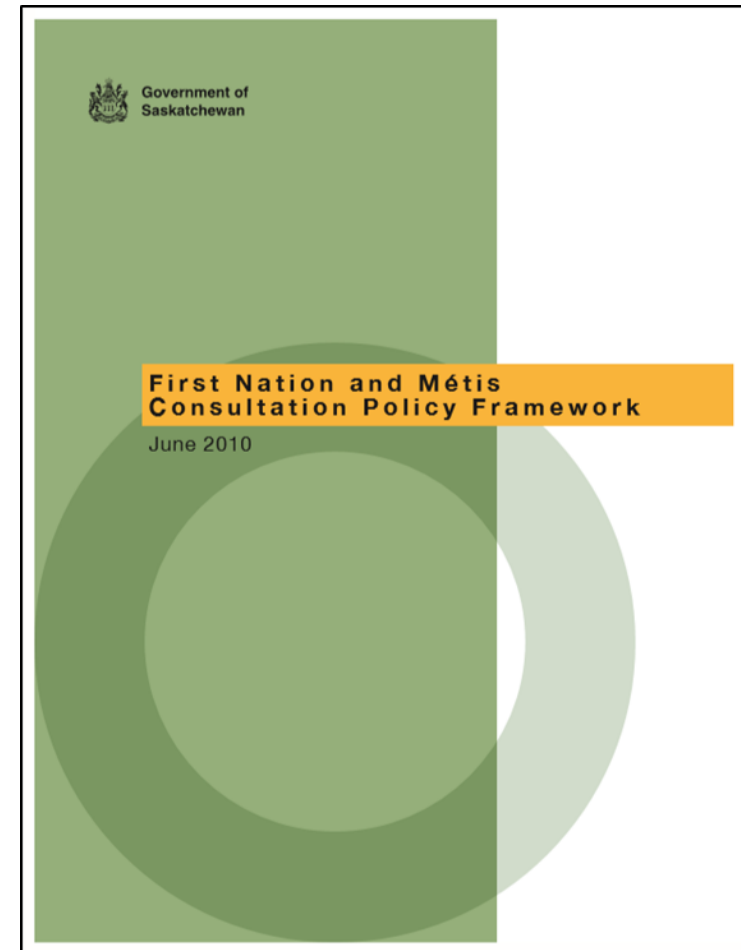


Mineral Exploration & Duty to Consult

- Determine if consultation is required and at what level
- Identify potentially impacted First Nations and Métis communities



- Provide Notice
- Consider the response
- Accommodate
- Report back



Saskatchewan Environmental Code

February 2021 changes:

- aligning code development to the ministry's annual strategic planning
- discontinuing the Code Advisory Committee

Public and stakeholder engagement remain a key tenet of results-based regulation and code chapter development.

Code chapters in development (using new approach):

- Transfer Station
- Compost

Code chapters approved to proceed:

- Work in or Near Water
- Forest Operations
- Hazardous Substance Storage

Woodland Caribou Recovery Update

Priority Topics

Status



- **SK2 Central** - Published in 2019 – available online
- **SK2 West** - Completed public engagement - to be published in fall 2021
- **SK2 East** – Public engagement expected Oct-Dec 2021
- **SK1** – Beginning in late 2021

Protected and Conserved Areas Road Map



Protected Areas (PAs)

Clearly defined geographical spaces. Recognized, dedicated and managed for long-term conservation values. Governance and ownership recognizes conservation objectives.

Other Effective Area- Based Conservation Measures (OECMs)

Clearly defined geographical spaces. Not protected areas, but governance and management approach results in long-term conservation in addition to other values. Governance and ownership recognizes conservation objectives.

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs)

Indigenous-led, involving a long-term commitment to conservation and may or may not be a PA or OECM. Governance and ownership recognizes conservation objectives in a shared stewardship approach.

Habitat Management Plan

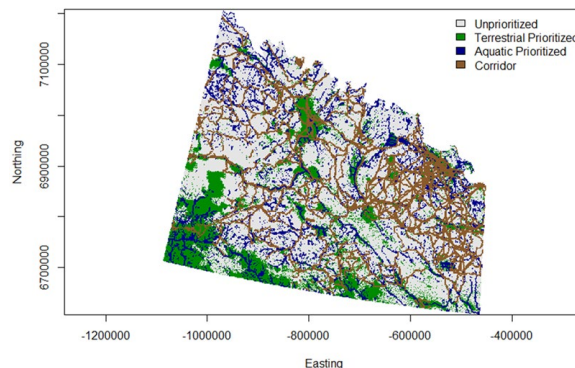
Strategic planning



Stakeholder & expert input HABITAT ADVISORY COMMITTEE INTER-MINISTRY HMP PROJECT TEAM



Habitat assessment



Vision: Healthy and resilient Saskatchewan landscapes that support self-sustaining populations of fish and wildlife, balanced economic growth and the well-being of Saskatchewan people.

Environmental Protection

- Review of Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management
- Coordination with other regulatory agencies
- Approvals for decommissioning operations
- Addressing COVID-19 pandemic issues
- Environmental Compliance Management System (ECMS) Update



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BRANCH FIELD INSPECTION GUIDELINE



September 2017
EPB 455

Solid Waste Management Strategy

- 2021-22 Priorities
 - Development of a comprehensive communications strategy and education campaign
 - Finalizing an assessment of barriers to regional waste management and options to reduce them
 - Finalization of two Saskatchewan Environmental Code Chapters
 - Transfer Stations
 - Composting Facilities
 - Developing a baseline report on organic and food waste in the province

Environmental Assessment Guideline Review

- Technical Proposal Guidelines
 - Clarified emissions information submission requirements
 - Proposals will be posted online (even if no-EIA determination)
- Guidelines for the Terms of Reference and Environmental Impact Statement
 - New table format to identify information expectations for TOR vs. EIS
 - Administrative submission requirements
- Stakeholder engagement concluded July 7, 2021
- Final guidelines expected this year

Environmental Assessment Project Updates

- **Active projects:**

- 1 - Scoping
- 4 - Conducting Impact Assessment
- 2 - Environmental Impact Statement Review



- **Expected future projects:**

- Value Added Agriculture (Canola Crushing)
- Rare Earth Elements Mining and Processing
- Forestry and Processing
- Renewable Energy Generation
- Water Resource Projects
- Renewable Diesel, Carbon Capture and Sequestration

Federal Carbon Pricing Benchmark 2023-2030

- Maintaining the Carbon Pricing Signal
 - Cannot negate the carbon pricing signal
 - 1:1 generation of performance credits
 - Balanced supply and demand for credits
- Complete OBPS Coverage
 - Similar scope of coverage for combustion emissions, coverage of industrial process emissions, no partial OBPS backstop
- Application of federal backstop until 2026; interim review in 2026
- Engagement and Next Steps

Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Update

- MOU provinces jointly released a Feasibility Report (April 2021)
- SMR Discussion Paper received highly-informed and positive feedback (April 2021)
- Progressing with the MOU Strategic Plan, including a Saskatchewan Appendix (anticipated release Fall 2021)
- Preparing a Federal Funding Request for SMR Planning Phase
- Preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) with SaskBuilds and Procurement for a detailed Business Case

Questions

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