

REGIONAL SERVICES OPERATIONAL PLANNING 2005/06

WATER MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

The Operational Plan for Water Management Operations includes the following:

- Information on the Alberta Environment Business Plan 2005-08
- Staff Capability and The People Plan in Water Management Operations
- Plans for each Program Area including:
 - a summary of the ongoing functions for each program area
 - an Overview of the program area listing initiatives where resources will be focused in the coming year
- Performance Reporting
 - managers will report on the ongoing functions and the initiatives listed in the Overview on a quarterly basis
 - managers will provide an overall assessment of the functions and the list of initiatives, indicating if work is generally “on track”
 - managers will identify highlights (key achievements) and exceptions (changes in resources, timelines, etc.)
 - performance indicators are being developed to provide information on key components of the programs

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ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT BUSINESS PLAN 2005-2008

VISION

Alberta's environment sustains a high quality of life.

MISSION

Steward and protect Alberta's environment to sustain diverse ecosystems, healthy Albertans, strong communities and a prosperous economy.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management Framework
- Water
- Climate Change
- Staff Capability

CORE BUSINESS 1: ASSURING ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Goal 1	Alberta's environment is clean and safe.
Goal 2	Albertans receive effective and efficient services.

CORE BUSINESS 2: SHARING ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT & STEWARDSHIP

Goal 1	Albertans work with others to safeguard the environment.
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BUSINESS PLANS AND OPERATIONAL PLANS

Government 20 Year Strategic Plan
Government of Alberta 3 Year Business Plan
Department of Environment 3 Year Business Plan
Department of Environment – Performance Plan 2005-2006
Regional Services Operational Plan 2005-2006
Region and Water Management Operations Operational Plans 2005-2006
Team Operational Plans 2005-2006
Individual Performance Agreements and Contracts 2005-2006

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WATER MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

STAFF CAPABILITY AND THE PEOPLE PLAN IN WATER MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

OVERVIEW OF KEY INITIATIVES

HUMAN RESOURCES STRATEGY

- manage staff recruitment and retention initiatives
- build leadership capacity and support succession planning for the department
- maintain status as an employer of choice

LEADING

- coordinate and communicate across Water Management Operations and across the department
- schedule regular staff meetings
- ensure continuous staff recognition
- build continuous improvement of staff morale
- encourage managers and senior managers to access PAO leadership programs

LEARNING

- ensure that all staff have learning plans in place to identify training and development objectives
- increase usage of personal learning accounts to 100%
- invest 5% of the manpower budget in staff training and development activities

WORKPLACE HEALTH

- provide incentives to staff to identify and implement change that promotes a safe and efficient workplace
- integrate existing Healthy Workplace initiatives and emerging Best Practices
- ensure that a safety plan is in place (using the OH&S template)
- continue to ensure that all staff have necessary training to meet health and safety requirements
- ensure that Prevention of Workplace Violence awareness and discussion are completed with all staff by Sept/05; follow-up procedures are developed, implemented and communicated across the Region by the end of Feb/06
- include safety as a standing item once a month at staff meetings
- manage the vehicle fleet and ensure vehicle needs are met
- address office space, IT and furniture/equipment needs
- implement the office ecology strategy to reduce impact of operations on the environment
 - facilitate reduction of waste by individual staff and reduce overall waste generation by AENV
 - reduce paper waste generation
 - properly manage and dispose of waste materials with hazardous properties (batteries, cleaners, etc.)(see workplan for details)

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PROGRAM AREA: DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, HUMAN RESOURCES, FINANCE

responsibility for:

- *delivery of the department's mandate for ownership and operation of the province's water management infrastructure*
- *financial management*
- *leadership role for Water Management Operations teams*
- *leadership for human resource management, including health and wellness, and safety*
- *leadership role in development of alliances and partnerships and ongoing liaison*
- *leadership role in interdepartmental and intergovernmental relations*
- *issues management*

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM AREA (areas where resources will be focused in coming year)

Provide leadership to ensure that the work of Water Management Operations is aligned with the department's business plan and strategic priorities, and supports the department's strategic shifts.
Provide leadership to ensure that the Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management framework is implemented.
Provide leadership to ensure that progress is made on Water Strategy initiatives.
Provide leadership to ensure that the province's water management infrastructure is managed effectively and efficiently, and for long term sustainability.
Support continued work on collaborative and cross - ministry approaches to operation and maintenance of the province's water management infrastructure.
Continue to provide a staff member to support the department Transition Team (SREM).
Continue to build the working relationship with Communications Branch.
Provide leadership to ensure that the department initiatives for improved Information Management, Knowledge Management and Electronic Information Management are effectively implemented. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ support Corporate Services initiative to use Water Management Operations in a pilot project on improvement of records management
Complete an external audit and apply for a Certificate of Recognition under the Partnerships Program.
Strategic, Business, Operational Planning and Performance Management
Participate in department business planning.
Complete operational planning and quarterly reporting (quarterly reports and quarterly management team meetings).
Complete performance agreements and contracts, including learning and development plans.
Improve staff understanding of their contribution to operational plans and department business plan goals and strategies.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING – HIGHLIGHTS/ EXCEPTIONS

At each quarter, report if initiatives are "on track", identify highlights (key achievements) and exceptions (changes in resources, timelines, etc.)

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- under development

WATER MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

PROGRAM AREA: WATER OPERATIONS

<p>INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT <i>responsibility for management of the provincially owned water management infrastructure, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>ensuring public safety, emergency preparedness planning, emergency response planning, and testing programs</i>▪ <i>building and maintaining public awareness, using partnerships where possible</i>▪ <i>meeting all environmental assurance and protection requirements</i>▪ <i>meeting all statutory and regulatory requirements</i>▪ <i>meeting all financial reporting requirements</i>▪ <i>contract and land management</i>
<p>INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS <i>responsibility for the safe and efficient operations of the province's water management infrastructure including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>operating all infrastructure</i>▪ <i>managing supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems</i>▪ <i>providing emergency response capability</i>▪ <i>maintaining working relationships with local governments and others</i>▪ <i>building and maintaining public awareness, using partnerships where possible</i>
<p>INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE <i>responsibility for</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>inspecting, identifying and prioritizing maintenance and capital rehabilitation requirements</i>▪ <i>managing of non-operational maintenance in cooperation with Alberta Transportation</i>▪ <i>maintaining working relationships with local governments and others</i>▪ <i>building and maintaining public awareness, using partnerships where possible</i>▪ <i>performing and documenting operational maintenance and surveillance</i>
<p>ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MONITORING <i>responsibility for</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>managing environmental mitigation monitoring programs related to the province's water management infrastructure</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>evaluating performance of environmental mitigation projects</i>○ <i>reporting on environmental effects of water management projects</i>○ <i>reporting on accuracy of predicted impacts of water management projects</i>▪ <i>maintaining working relationships with local governments and others</i>▪ <i>building and maintaining public awareness, using partnerships where possible</i>
<p>DAM AND CANAL SAFETY REGULATION <i>responsibility for</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>managing regulatory and non-regulatory programs to ensure that dams and canals in the province are operated and maintained to meet internationally accepted safety standards, with clear responsibility and accountability</i>▪ <i>participating in environmental assessments of proposed projects with major structures including oil sands mines</i>▪ <i>developing and/or delivering awareness and education programs and initiatives, using partnerships where possible</i>▪ <i>establishing and maintaining working relationships with local governments and other stakeholders</i>▪ <i>establishing and maintaining working relationships at the national level to share knowledge and develop best practices</i>

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PROGRAM AREA: WATER OPERATIONS

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM AREA (areas where resources will be focused in coming year)

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT

<p><i>Cross Region</i> Support the implementation of the SREM framework. (leads – Environmental Assurance and Strategic Directions)</p>
<p><i>Cross-Region</i> Build staff and public awareness about the Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management framework. Ensure implementation of the department’s Effective Infrastructure performance measure. Support and enhance the Environment Infrastructure Management System.</p>
<p><i>Water Strategy Initiatives</i> Continue to support the completion of watershed management plans. (lead – Environmental Management – all Regions)</p>
<p><i>Water Strategy Initiatives</i> Evaluate, as part of the watershed planning process, water management infrastructure needs.</p>
<p><i>Water Strategy Initiatives</i> Complete the identification of potential reservoir sites as part of the watershed planning process.</p>
<p><i>Water Strategy Initiatives</i> Manage the study to determine the full cost of water provided by Alberta’s existing water management infrastructure and other existing water management infrastructure that receives funding support from the provincial government.</p>
<p><i>Cross Ministry Initiatives</i> Participate in the Government of Alberta Capital Planning Initiative serving as members of the working committees and task groups.</p>
<p><i>Cross Ministry Initiatives</i> Continue to identify priorities and to work with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation in implementing water management capital projects (coordinated by Water Capital Planning Committee).</p>
<p><i>Cross Ministry Initiatives</i> Continue to provide the lead for Regional Services in providing support to Emergency Management Alberta for the provincial program. (joint – Central Region and Northern Region)</p>
<p>Continue to ensure that all regulatory requirements are current for all provincial water management infrastructure including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ continue to review, update and test Emergency Preparedness Plans (EPP’s) and Emergency Response Plans (ERP’s) to current standards ▪ review and update Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Manuals to current standards ▪ other requirements under legislation and regulations
<p>Ensure awareness of the risk management and site security programs developed by WMO for the provincial water management infrastructure and associated facilities.</p>
<p>Maintain the land acquisition plan for lands adjacent to provincially owned infrastructure, in cooperation with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation.</p>
<p>Investigate a possible partnership arrangement with SRD to administer the land management responsibilities for lands held by AENV (link to Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management framework and sector regulation).</p>
<p>Support the Special Areas Board with the preliminary system design for the Special Areas Water Supply Project.</p>

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PROGRAM AREA: WATER OPERATIONS

<i>Water Strategy Initiatives</i> Support negotiation of individual water management agreements with each of the Northwest Territories, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. (lead – Strategic Directions)
Provide technical and professional support related to the International Joint Commission hearings on reviewing the apportionment agreement for the St. Mary and Milk Rivers.
Continue to participate in negotiations regarding a settlement agreement with the Siksika Nation.

INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS

Continue to maintain existing partnership arrangements and to expand opportunities for new partnerships arrangements including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ AENV/WID/City of Calgary Agreement - complete construction of the 5 flow monitoring stations and test/use them during the irrigation season▪ Carseland-Bow River Headworks – coordinate with the BRID and other major users to facilitate the construction of the Lomond crossing and the South Dam replacement structures▪ coordinate the Calgary Weir Modification Project with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, the Parks Foundation and other major stakeholders▪ coordinate the Shepard Storm Water Diversion Project with the City of Calgary▪ investigate partnering with local government and non-government organizations on operations of infrastructure at St. Paul and Buffalo Lake
Work with the Siksika Nation, Alberta Aboriginal Affairs, Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation and the federal government to identify and implement the land transfer related to the Carseland-Bow River Headworks.
Investigate opportunities to consolidate emergency pumping programs under one department (AAFRD).
Complete an inventory/evaluation of all control and SCADA systems and identify required upgrades and capital investments to ensure the continued performance level, reliability and security of the systems.
Upgrade data management systems at major facilities in concert with Corporate Services.
Using a collaborative approach between operations staff and environmental mitigation monitoring staff, identify and implement opportunistic operational procedures that reduce environmental impacts at provincially owned infrastructure.
Investigate opportunities to improve accuracy of monitoring related to water supplied by provincial water management infrastructure to support water use efficiency.
Pilot and evaluate a new computer model for the Oldman River Dam reservoir to improve the accuracy of managing flows for instream flow needs downstream.
Continue with development of Water Management Operations website information. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ investigate opportunities to improve the capability to project short term water demand and provide information on line
Enhance training for staff involved in emergency response related to provincial water management infrastructure.

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

<i>Cross Ministry Initiatives</i> Continue to work with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation on non-operational maintenance to meet program objectives.
<i>Cross Ministry Initiatives</i> In cooperation with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, rehabilitate projects constructed under the Northern Alberta Erosion Control program (prior to 1978).

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PROGRAM AREA: WATER OPERATIONS

Work with the federal government and local authorities to improve maintenance of infrastructure at Fort Chipewyan.
Seek options for administrative support for the Drainage Districts Council.
Work with the Drainage Districts to improve the District maintenance programs and to improve cooperation between the Districts and local authorities – investigate new funding arrangements to provide long term stability, develop improved water management strategies, and partnership opportunities.

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MONITORING

Prepare the final report on the Oldman River Dam Environmental Mitigation Monitoring Program.
Continue implementation of the Pine Coulee and the Highwood/ Little Bow Environmental Mitigation Monitoring Program.
Continue participation in the Follow-up Environmental Assessment related to the Piikani Reserve, serving on Technical Working Committees.
<i>Water Strategy Initiatives</i> Support the development of a science-based method for determining the instream requirements of fish without having to undertake detailed assessments on every river reach in Alberta (participate on department steering committee). (lead – Environmental Assurance)
<i>Water Strategy Initiatives</i> Provide professional support to watershed planning. (lead Environmental Management – all Regions)
Provide professional and technical support related to the development of a watershed stewardship group for the Vermillion River watershed. (lead – Alberta Sustainable Agriculture Program)

DAM AND CANAL SAFETY REGULATION

<i>Cross Region</i> Support the implementation of the SREM framework. (leads – Environmental Assurance and Strategic Directions)
Continue to work with the EUB on the review of tailings ponds and other dam structures and continue to clarify regulation of such structures under the proposed sectoral regulatory approach (Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management).
Continue to work with SRD and the Cumulative Effects Management Association (CEMA) on the development and implementation of land reclamation requirements for oilsands mines.
Emergency Preparedness Plans (EPP's) and Emergency Response Plans (ERP's) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ implement a compliance program to ensure the completion of EPP's and ERP's based on the new provincial guidelines
Dam Safety Audit Guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ complete the pilot program to implement the guidelines for provincially owned structures▪ initiate implementation for private sector structures using selected structures
Operations, Maintenance and Surveillance Manuals <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ work with private sector to confirm an implementation schedule for private sector structures
Continue to maintain and improve the geotechnical instrumentation network at provincially owned infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ develop a systems approach to effectively collect, verify, review, evaluate and report the instrumentation data in a timely manner▪ improve capability to identify potential problems and determine actions to be taken to ensure a safe and stable operation of the facilities and to minimize risk

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