



**CANADA'S NATIONAL REPORT 2003-2005:
THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS**

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INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION	
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Email:	
SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION (OPTIONAL)	
<i>Please, include a summary on the implementation of Ramsar Convention in your country during the last triennium</i>	
Canada's implementation of the Ramsar Convention over the last triennium has been marked by new ventures and the renewal and further development of successful long-term programs.	
The Canadian Wetland Inventory (CWI) represents a new approach to wetland mapping and classification in Canada. Based on satellite remote-sensing, image analyses software and Geographic Information System technology for wetland identification and classification, the CWI is expected to lead to reliable monitoring and indicator development for species-at-risk, habitat conservation, watershed management, climate change, and a host of other applications by the year 2009. The work on this program over the last triennium has been	

largely experimental and focussed on agreement among the partners on CWI standards and methods.

On a similar note, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) has partnered with over 50 organizations including government, industry, and aboriginal communities and has successfully mapped over 51 million hectares (20 percent) of the western boreal forest. This work will make an important contribution to the CWI, for which DUC serves as a technical partner. For additional information on the CWI see Operational Objective 1: Inventory and Assessment.

The **North American Waterfowl Management Plan** (NAWMP) continues to be a flagship initiative in Canada, involving the provincial, territorial and federal governments as well as national, regional and local non-government conservation organizations and the private sector. It has delivered extensive wetland habitat and waterfowl population objectives since 1986 in cooperation with the United States and Mexico.

Over the years Canadian program partners from the *Pacific Coast, Canadian Intermountain, Prairie Habitat, Eastern Habitat, and Western Boreal Program* Joint Ventures have conserved over 2 million hectares (5 millions acres) of wetland and have invested close to one billion dollars towards conservation efforts across the country. In early 2005, Canada's Honourable Stéphane Dion, Minister of the Environment, announced that Canada is renewing its commitment under the NAWMP. For additional information on the NAWMP see Operational Objective 2: Policies and Legislation, Including Impact Assessment and Valuation, Operational Objective 3: Integration of Wetland Wise Use into Sustainable Development, Operational Objective 4: Restoration and Rehabilitation, Operational Objective 7: Private Sector Involvement, Operational Objective 9: Communication Education and Public Awareness, Operational Objective 12: Management of Shared Water Resources, Wetlands, and Wetland Species, Operational Objective 14: Sharing of Expertise and Information, Operational Objective 15: Financing the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands, Operational Objective 18: Institutional Capacity of Contracting Parties.

Over the last triennium, wetlands have been a key element in wetland-related **legislation, framework, and strategy developments.**

The Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) was developed and implemented in 2003. The APF's objective is for Canada to be the world leader in food safety, innovation and environmentally-responsible production. The Framework was developed to significantly transform agricultural production in Canada, emphasizing the importance of sustainable land management and the environment. NAWMP's *Prairie Habitat Joint Venture* and Eastern Habitat Joint Venture partners are working to influence the APF to benefit wetlands.

The *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) was proclaimed in June 2003, and is one part of a three part Government of Canada strategy for the protection of wildlife species at risk. This three part strategy also includes commitments under the *Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk* and activities under the *Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk*. In addition, it complements existing laws and agreements to provide for the legal protection of wildlife species and conservation of biological diversity. It applies to all federal lands in Canada; all wildlife species listed as being at risk; and their critical habitat.

An Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada was approved at the joint meeting of Ministers in September 2004. The purpose of the Strategy is to establish a coordinated national policy and management framework that minimizes the risk of invasive alien species to the economy, environment, and society. The Strategy seeks to establish a comprehensive, coordinated and efficient system that protects Canada's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, domestic animals and plants, and native biodiversity. For additional information on legislative reviews (including provincial/territorial) and other developments see Operational Objective 2: Policies and Legislation, Including Impact Assessment and Valuation.

Provincial, territorial, and federal governments as well as national, regional and local non-government conservation organizations and the private sector have continued to implement **management activities** on wetlands, including Ramsar sites. Management activities are currently being addressed in a draft Management Plan for Canada's **newest Ramsar site**. The not-for-profit organization Wildsight (formerly the East Kootenay Environmental Society) was responsible for nominating the Columbia Wetlands, which has since received designation (2005). For additional information on designation and management activities see

Operational Objective 10: Designation of Ramsar Sites, Operational Objective's 11: Management Planning and Monitoring of Ramsar Sites and 12: Management of shared water resources, wetlands and wetland species.

Canada's *Wetkit* site continues streamline access to practical tools that can help Canadians better understand and manage wetlands. The site helps users to find the tool they need, and to access that tool quickly and easily. *WetKit* also provides an opportunity for conservation agencies to distribute their tools, for businesses, to promote their products and projects, and for users to contribute to *WetKit's* design and development. The site may be accessed at: <http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/> For additional information on communication activities see Operational Objective 9: Communication, Education, and Public Awareness.

Canada has also been involved in **international wetland conservation activities**. Relying on its expertise in habitat conservation and stewardship, the not-for-profit Wildlife Habitat Canada is working with the Wetlands International-Indonesia Programme, with financial assistance from the Canadian International Development Agency (US\$3.4 million over five years), the Indonesian government, and the Global Environment Centre to enhance conservation practices in Indonesian peatlands through the Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia (CCFPI) project.

In addition, the Canada-Iraq Marshlands Initiative (CIMI), a cooperative venture supported by Canadian and Iraqi university, government and non-government partners and with \$3 million in support from the Canadian International Development Agency, is being implemented over the 2004 to 2007 period. The Initiative is designed to directly complement Iraq's plans to increase scientific and biological understanding of the marshes in southern Iraq in order to facilitate restoration efforts, and to build capacity for effective wetlands management. For additional information on international activities see Operational Objective 13: Collaboration with Other Institutions, Operational Objective 14: Sharing of Expertise and Information, Operational Objective 16: Financing the Convention.

As the Administrative Authority to the Ramsar Convention, Environment Canada's **administrative duties** over the last triennium have included helping coordinate and attending the Western Hemisphere Ramsar Regional Meeting, North American Region representative on the Standing Committee, and chairing the Subgroup on Finance.

In addition, Canada's Observer to the STRP (Randy Milton) was a member of the Ramsar synthesis report team on "Wetlands & Water: Ecosystem Services and Human Well-Being" to be reported to COP 9, participated in two meetings of the Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands, co-chaired the working group struck by the Panel to undertake the review of the wise use concept to be reported to COP 9, and participated in the working group struck by the Panel to provide further elaboration of additional Criteria and guidelines concerning socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity. For additional information on administrative activities see Operational Objective 17: Institutional Mechanisms of the Convention, Operational Objective 18: Institutional Capacity of Contracting Parties, and Operational Objective 20: Training.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1.1: Describe the extent of wetland resources, especially at global and national (or, where appropriate, provincial) scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the convention and in particular the application of the wise use principle

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	The Canadian Wetland Inventory is expected to lead to reliable monitoring and indicator development for species-at-risk, habitat conservation, watershed management, climate change, and a host of other applications by the year 2009.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To apply Phase 1 products (see below) to develop a full national wetland inventory and monitoring program, leading to reliable monitoring and indicator development for species at risk habitat conservation, watershed management, climate change, and a host of other applications.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 1.1.1.- Promote and encourage the use of standard wetland inventory methodologies following the *Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6)*, to undertake, update and disseminate national (or, where appropriate, provincial) scientific inventories of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, all Parties without completed inventories to have initiated action in line with the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory, and as far as possible to have completed and disseminated comprehensive national wetland inventories.

1.- Country has a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory (<i>if inventory exists, please include the number of sites</i>)	E	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
2.- Methodologies recommended in the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory (Resolution VIII.6) were used for National Wetland Inventory	B		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include information on the application of inventory methodologies, the status of the inventory - end date or expected timeframe, contents of the inventory - and other additional comments you consider relevant.</i>]			
<p>Canadian Wetland Inventory (CWI) partners (Environment Canada, Natural Resources Canada, North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada), Ducks Unlimited Canada, Canadian Space Agency, and more) acquire digital satellite images and analyze them to map and classify wetlands. This analysis uses tools and technologies such as the <i>Canadian Wetland Classification System</i>, Geographic Information Systems and image analysis software in the identification and classification of wetlands.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the CWI wound up in 2003 and involved testing, adapting and refining techniques to extract and validate wetland information from remote sensing data. This largely experimental phase focussed on agreement among the partners on CWI standards and methods.</p> <p>Phase 1 resulted in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satellite images optimized for wetland mapping • Increased expertise in land classification based on remote sensing, and • Digital wetland maps for the demonstration project regions. <p>Phase 2 will apply the Phase 1 products to develop a full national wetland inventory and monitoring program, leading to reliable monitoring and indicator development for species at risk habitat conservation, watershed management, climate change, and a host of other applications. Although subject to budget appropriations, Phase 2 is being planned for completion by 2009.</p>			

Action 1.1.2.- Include in national wetland inventories information which identifies: a) potential Ramsar sites; b) wetlands of national, provincial or local importance in the territory of each Contracting Party; and c) wetlands

that need restoration and rehabilitation, with a list of priorities, giving particular priority to inventories of karst and caves, intertidal wetlands, coral reefs, peatlands, sites supporting globally threatened species, and other wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All national wetland inventories initiated after COP8 to include information on wetland importance; potential Ramsar sites; wetlands for restoration; location of under-represented wetland types; and values and functions, in particular in relation to poverty eradication strategies.

<i>See actions 3.2.1, 3.3.1, r4.1.1, and Operational Objective 10.1</i>		
<i>Note: if available, please indicate the number of sites under each category:</i>		N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites
1. The inventory assesses and documents potential Ramsar Sites	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands of national, provincial or local importance	C	
3. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands that need restoration and rehabilitation	C	
4. The inventory assesses and documents wetland types and features under-represented in the Ramsar List	B	
5. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply	B	
6. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of coastal protection	B	
7. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of flood defense	B	
8. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of food security	C	
9. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of poverty alleviation	C	
10. The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of cultural heritage	C	
11.- The inventory assesses and documents wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of scientific research	B	
12.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Comments on the information included in the wetland inventory in light of the items indicated above]		
Canada's Wetland Inventory (CWI) is in its second phase of development. Once completed it will assess and document many of the items indicated above. As part of the first phase, demonstration projects in certain regions were conducted which have already assessed and documented some of the items indicated above. For example, the techniques and technologies used for the CWI are already helping Canadians in southern Quebec to better understand and manage wetlands. The <i>Conservation Atlas of Wetlands in the St. Lawrence Valley</i> is helping municipalities in southern Quebec make sound wetland management decisions.		

Action 1.1.3.- Ensure that national arrangements for the custodianship, storage and maintenance of wetland inventory data and information, including metadata, are in place and introduce the necessary measures to ensure that this resource is both as comprehensive as possible and readily accessible to the full range of stakeholders.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All wetland inventories to have full data management, custodianship, and metadata records in place.

1. National arrangements established for the custodianship, storage and maintenance of wetland inventory data and information, including metadata	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
As Canada's national topographic mapping agency, the Centre for Topographic Information of Natural Resources Canada is building a data model for a hydrographic layer of topographic information that will be used as Canada's baseline for wetland inventory data.		

Action 1.1.4.- Make available a web-based wetland inventory meta-database and encourage the inclusion of a metadata record for all national (including provincial) wetland inventories.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, a Web-based metadatabase in place and populated with information on all national wetland inventories.

1. National (including provincial) wetland inventory metadata record provided for inclusion in Ramsar's Web-based wetland inventory metadatabase	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Metadata records will be created once the mapping phase of Canada's Wetland Inventory occurs. Other compatible provincial/territorial inventories are taking place, and in these cases metadata is being stored provincially, for example Nova Scotia wetland inventory metadata resides on a Nova Scotia Geomatics web site under GeoConnections.		

Action 1.1.6.- Encourage the use of relevant information from wetland inventories by decision-makers, wetland managers and wetland users in the development and implementation of national wetland policies and national and local wetland programmes.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: By COP9, all Parties with wetland inventories to have made these available to all stakeholders.

1. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among decision makers	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among wetland managers	B	
3. The use of relevant information from wetland inventory has been promoted among other wetland users	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>The use of relevant information from the development of Canada's Wetland Inventory has been promoted among decision makers, wetland managers, and other wetland users in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada's <i>Wetkit</i> site http://www.wetkit.net/modules/4/index.php, provides information on the project, it's process, partners and results, and targets farmers, foresters, woodlot owners, municipal planners, environmental assessment practitioners, community leaders, property owners, developers, and many others. • articles and specialized papers on the project have been developed and widely distributed via newsletters and publications (e.g. Radarsat International Newsletter, Ducks Unlimited Canada's <i>The Conservator</i>), and • presentations on the project have been delivered at national, continental, and international science 		

and technology symposiums (e.g Canada's Remote Sensing Symposium in 2003, International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium in France, 2003, Monitoring Science and Technology Symposium in Denver, Colorado, 2004.

The techniques and technologies used for the CWI are already helping Canadians in southern Quebec to better understand and manage wetlands. The *Conservation Atlas of Wetlands in the St. Lawrence Valley* is helping municipalities in southern Quebec make sound wetland management decisions. Moreover, digital wetland inventories (compatible with the CWI) are assisting land managers and regulators in their decisions affecting wetlands on the 13.5 million ha of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

Action 1.1.7.- Give high priority to developing projects for inventory activities for the *Small Grants Fund*.

1. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were funded	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Wetland inventory project proposals were submitted to the Small Grants Fund and were not funded	A	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not applicable.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1. INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 1.2: Assess and monitor the condition of wetland resources, both globally and nationally (or, where appropriate, provincially), in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention and in particular the application of the wise use principle

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	A = High; B = Medium; C = Low; D = Not relevant; E = No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A = Good; B = Adequate; C = Limiting; D = Severely limiting; E = No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 1.2.1.- Actively contribute to the work of the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* project (<http://www.millenniumassessment.org>) by serving on its Board and Executive Committee and on its various working groups; analyze the MA's methodologies, results and findings at Ramsar COP9, and review the necessary actions, if any, to update and make comprehensive the global assessment of wetland resources and their condition. (Refer also to Action 1.1.5)

1. Contribution made to the work of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment project (MA)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the contribution made to the work of the MA.]		
Canada has two individuals serving on the <i>Millennium Ecosystem Assessment</i> Board as Members at Large; representing the Indigenous Peoples' Biodiversity Network, and the David Suzuki Foundation. In addition, more than 50 Canadians from a variety of government, nongovernment and academic institutions were lead		

and contributing authors to the work of the MA . Canada has also contributed to a *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* expert working group by undertaking a subglobal assessment in British Columbia (BC).

The assessment site in North and Central Coastal BC covers the coastal waters, islands, and watersheds of the Canadian Pacific from the Alaskan border south to the Strait of Georgia and from the summits of the coastal ranges west to the continental slope. It includes Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands (QCI) and northern Vancouver Island. The region has a land area of 11 million hectares and marine area of 11 million hectares.

The Coast Information Team (CIT) was established to provide independent information on the region using the best available scientific, technical, traditional, and local knowledge. CIT was set up by the Provincial Government of British Columbia, First Nations of the region, environmental groups, and forest products companies.

The CIT's information and analyses are intended to assist First Nations and three sub-regional planning processes to make decisions that will achieve ecosystem-based management (EBM), defined as "an adaptive approach to managing human activities that seeks to ensure the coexistence of healthy, fully functioning ecosystems and human communities". The assessment will include a Wellbeing Assessment that measures current environmental and human conditions in each of the eight sub regions that make up the CIT analysis region, to provide a context for decision making, a test of options and scenarios, and a baseline for monitoring implementation of the plans and progress toward EBM and sustainability.

Canada's Observer on the STRP (Randy Milton Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources) with Dr. Jacqueline Alder (University of British Columbia) are members of the Ramsar synthesis report team on "Wetlands & Water: Ecosystem Services and Human Well-Being" to be reported to COP 9

Action r1.2.i.- Make available to Contracting Parties and other interested organizations the findings and guidance developed by the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)* for their use, as appropriate, of the MA guidance and methods for sub-global ecosystem assessments in the assessment of wetland ecosystems at the local, national and regional (supra-national) scale, including through international cooperation on the assessment of transboundary aquatic ecosystems. (Resolution VIII.7).

1. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at national scale	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at regional (supranational) scale	B	
3. MA guidance and methods used for ecosystem assessment at local scale	B	

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the use of MA guidance and methods.]

PDF versions of all reports resulting from the abovementioned subglobal assessment site in North and Central Coastal British Columbia was posted on the CIT web site (www.citbc.org) and provided to the sub-regional and First Nations planning processes. Metadata and all public domain data will also be made available via the site.

At the local level, the Nova Scotia Wetlands and Coastal Habitats Program (Department of Natural Resources) is using the MA's Framework for Assessment (*Ecosystems and Human Well-Being*) to guide the development and explanation of a wetland policy for the province..

Action 1.2.2.- Establish a repository for the contribution by Contracting Parties of summarized national (or, where appropriate, provincial) assessments of changes in the status of wetland resources, as the basis for regular analysis and improved reporting on the status of wetland resources.

1. Repository of assessments of changes in wetland status established	H	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the repository of assessment of changes in wetland status, its contents and uses.]		
<p>While Canada has not established a national repository specific for the assessment of change in the status of wetland resources, all environmental assessments conducted in Canada must be posted on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agencies <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry</i> (CEAR) at: http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/index_e.cfm. The Registry contains information about projects undergoing environmental assessment across Canada, and contains a search tool to find specific projects. Projects may be searched by keyword, province or territory, and by date range.</p> <p>Moreover, inventories and assessments related to wetlands are listed as information resources on Canada's <i>Wetkit</i> site at: http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/.</p>		

Action 1.2.5.- Undertake assessments of the vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character, including their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 20 Parties willing to undertake vulnerability assessments and report to COP9.

1. Assessments of the vulnerability of wetlands to change in ecological character were undertaken	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The assessments include impacts of climate change	B	
3. The assessments include impacts of sea-level rise	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the assessments undertaken.]		
<p>A new report (2004) prepared for the Wildlife Society entitled <i>Global Climate Change and Wildlife in North America</i>, provides the first comprehensive assessment of global warming's likely consequences for North American wildlife. The report details the disruption of essential ecological processes, displacement or disappearance of coastal wetland species, significant loss of coastal marshes and disruption of alpine and Arctic ecosystems.</p> <p><i>Global Climate Change and Wildlife in North America</i> is the distillation of a two-year review by a professional panel of hundreds of peer-reviewed scientific reports examining the wildlife implications of global warming. The report may be viewed at: http://www.nwf.org/nwfwebadmin/binaryVault/Wildlife_Society_Report2.pdf.</p> <p>As well, the International Joint Commission has released a comprehensive report that provides valuable insight and advice on an issue that could have significant implications for the Great Lakes. The report, <i>Climate Change and Water Quality in the Great Lakes Basin</i>, includes a "white paper" which explores risks, opportunities, and responses associated with climate change and Great Lakes water quality. It also includes the proceedings of a May 2003 climate change workshop, a presentation that provides practical insight about how to deal with the consequences of climate change, and advice to the International Joint Commission.</p>		

Action r1.2.iv.- Continue to document the past losses and current status and trends of coastal wetlands, including in national wetland inventories, and report on their conservation status in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.4)

1. Past losses and current status and trends of coastal wetlands documented	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the conservation status and trends of coastal wetlands.]

In 2004 at the State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC) the current state of Great Lakes coastal wetlands was presented.

The Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Consortium is developing practical methods for tracking coastal wetlands trends across the basin. The centerpiece of this effort, coordinated by the Great Lakes Commission, is the first comprehensive and classified inventory of coastal wetlands within the bi-national Great Lakes basin. The inventory will provide a geographic information system (GIS) foundation to track wetland change and build a long-term monitoring dataset. The map-based interface allows users to zoom in on and identify wetlands anywhere in the Great Lakes basin, and obtain detailed information by clicking on their images on the map. Pending final review, it will be available through the Great Lakes Commission web site.

3.- Summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands [Please provide here a summary on the conservation status of coastal wetlands and provide reference citation to any relevant publication, reports or analysis.]

See Action r1.2.iv (2).

Action r1.2.v.- Update information on mangrove forest cover and conservation status and levels of use of mangroves, and provide this information to the Bureau and STRP. (Resolution VIII.32).

1. Information on mangrove forest cover has been compiled

A

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;

D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status

(explain below); I = No answer

2. Information on conservation status of mangroves has been compiled

A

3. Information on levels of use of mangroves has been compiled

A

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information compiled related to mangroves.]

Not applicable

Action r1.2.vi.- Report on the impacts of dams on wetlands in the territory of each Contracting Party, in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.2).

1.- The impacts of dams on wetlands have been assessed (*if available, please include number of sites affected*)

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in

some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;

G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

**N° wetlands /
Ramsar sites**

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the impacts of dams on wetlands, sites affected, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

Not applicable.

3.-Impacts of dams on wetlands [Please provide here a summary of impacts and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]

In Canada, Environmental Assessments would be undertaken in decision making on large dams, in which the impacts of dams on wetland values and functions would be considered.

Action r1.2.vii.- Monitor and assess the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands, and on the livelihoods of local communities and indigenous peoples dependent on these wetlands, and report this information to the Ramsar Bureau and STRP. (Resolution VIII.35).

1.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the ecological character of Ramsar sites and other wetlands have been assessed (<i>if available, please include number of sites assessed</i>)	H	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;	N° wetlands /Ramsar sites
2.- Impacts of drought and other natural disasters on the livelihoods of local communities and indigenous peoples dependent on these wetlands have been assessed	H	E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the impacts of drought and other natural disasters on wetlands and people dependent on them, with any other information you consider relevant.]			
<p>Canada's <i>Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration</i> (PFRA) has been working with rural Prairie people for more than 60 years, helping them meet the challenges presented by a demanding climate and an ever-evolving agricultural industry. PFRA serves over 30,000 clients annually, from a network of district and regional offices and special Centres in the three Prairie provinces, and the Peace River region of British Columbia. The web site features contact details for PFRA offices and centres, information on the risk of drought in Western Canada, GIS datasets and printable maps, flash animations illustrating best management practices for water quality, and more.</p> <p>Likewise, the <i>National Water Supply Expansion Program</i> (NWSEP) was introduced in 2002 and is a four-year, \$60-million initiative under Canada's <i>Agricultural Policy Framework</i> (APF). The NWSEP supports the Environment element of Canada's APF through the development, enhancement and protection of vital water resources to help address water constraints in agricultural areas of Canada.</p>			

Action 1.2.6.- Assess the contribution of Ramsar sites and other wetlands to the maintenance of fisheries, including utilizing information available from the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* (MA) and other assessment programmes, and recommend sustainable management practices which can contribute to the WSSD target of, where possible by 2015, maintaining or restoring depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield.

1. The contribution of Ramsar sites and other wetlands to the maintenance of fisheries has been assessed	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below) ;I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the assessment undertaken.]		
<p>Other wetlands have been assessed for their contribution to the maintenance of fisheries, for example: Environment Canada and the United States Environmental Protection Agency completed a project that identified areas of the Great Lakes shoreline that contain high quality faunal habitat that could be identified as Biodiversity Investment Areas (Holland and Reid 1996). In attempting to use the Holland and Reid (1996) approach for the coastal wetlands, this project has identified eco-reaches of Great Lakes shoreline that support extensive use by birds for breeding habitat, and by fish for spawning and/or nursery habitat. The results show that the eco-reaches of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence should be protected for faunal use. Wetlands in E3 (Lake Erie), SC1 (along the Detroit River), and SC2 (in Lake St. Clair) also deserve high priority not only because they serve important habitat for a large number of fish and bird species, but especially because there are so few wetlands remaining in these coastal stretches.</p>		
3. Recommendations on sustainable management practices of fish stocks in wetlands have been transmitted to relevant authorities/stakeholders	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the recommendations and their transmission to relevant authorities/stakeholders.]		

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Province of Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, and Food and Rural Affairs promote the booklet: *Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management: Best Management Practices* as part of a best management series. This booklet explains how Canadians can create, restore, maintain and enhance fish and wildlife habitats on rural lands. It also provides management tips for dealing with problem wildlife by: identifying which habitats are, or could be, on your property, describing the best management practices for each habitat, and discussing techniques to deal with nuisance wildlife

Action 1.2.7.- Undertake assessments of water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands, to support the implementation of the *Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolution VIII.1), as a contribution to the WSSD Plan of Implementation.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least 50 CPs to have undertaken water quality and quantity assessments.

1. The water quality and quantity available to, and required by, wetlands has been assessed

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the assessment undertaken.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION, INCLUDING IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2.1. Specify the most appropriate policy instrument(s) to be used in each country to ensure the wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		To have wetland issues (conservation, wise use, restoration/rehabilitation) integrated into all relevant sectoral strategic or planning processes and documents at any of the following levels: national, regional, provincial, and local.

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 2.1.1.- If not yet done, develop and implement a National Wetland Policy using the guidelines adopted by COP7 for this purpose (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2), and ensure that policy goals are explicit, comprehensive and accessible.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument initiated by all Parties not having it, incorporating WSSD targets and actions, as appropriate.

1. A National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) goals are explicit, comprehensive and accessible	B	
3.The National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporates WSSD targets and actions	B	
4- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the status of the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument, its contents, and any other information you consider relevant.]		
<p>The Government of Canada announced and has implemented <i>The Federal Policy on Wetland Conservation</i> since March 1992, which outlines seven strategies that provide practical direction, support, and tools for the use and management of wetlands. The Federal Government in partnership with the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada) has developed a Federal Land Managers Implementation Guide and Training Course. Four Canadian provinces also now have implemented provincial wetland management policies. The Province of Ontario has established a Wetland Management Course also.</p> <p>The North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) continues to be a flagship initiative involving the provincial, territorial and federal governments as well as national, regional and local non-government conservation organizations and the private sector in Canada. It has delivered extensive wetland habitat and waterfowl population objectives since 1986 in cooperation with the United States and Mexico. In early 2005 Canada's Honourable Stéphane Dion, Minister of the Environment, announced that Canada is renewing its commitment under the NAWMP.</p>		

Action 2.1.2.- Ensure that wetland policies are fully integrated into and harmonized with other strategic or planning processes and documents, in particular those related to biodiversity, desertification, climate change, agriculture, trade in endangered species, water resource management, integrated coastal zone management and environmental planning in general including national strategies for sustainable development called for by the WSSD. When these other documents include chapters or sections on different ecosystems, ensure that one of them is devoted to wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument fully integrated into other strategic and planning processes by all Parties, including poverty eradication strategies and water resources management and water efficiency plans and national strategies for sustainable development in line with WSSD targets.

1. Wetland issues have been incorporated into national strategies for sustainable development called for by WSSD	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Wetland issues have been incorporated into poverty eradication strategies	C	
3. Wetland issues have been incorporated into water resources management and water efficiency plans	B	
4. Wetland issues (conservation, wise use, restoration/rehabilitation) have been integrated into other sectoral strategic or planning processes and documents at any of the following levels: national, regional, provincial, and local	B	
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the incorporation of wetland issues into other sectoral strategic or planning processes.]		
<p>Wetlands are specifically noted as key elements in the <i>Canadian Biodiversity Strategy</i> and Canada's <i>Federal Water Policy</i>. Wetlands are the primary focus of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in Canada and wetlands are a key element in the delivery national waterbird, shorebird and important bird areas conservation projects involving many partners. These in particular include Wetlands International — The Americas and Wildlife Habitat Canada.</p>		

Wetlands are also a key focus of national and provincial strategies and action plans, such as: Canada's *National Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities*, New Brunswick's Coastal Areas Protection Policy, the Prairie Conservation Action Plan, the Great Lakes Action Plan, the Fraser River Action Plan, and Plan 2000 for the St. Lawrence River. Each of these involve many government and non-government cooperators and partners.

Responses to the national and provincial/territorial biodiversity strategies incorporate wetland conservation in a series of actions related to agriculture and forest conservation as well as sustainable development initiatives. For example, the Agricultural Policy Framework's objective is for Canada to be the world leader in food safety, innovation and environmentally-responsible production. The Framework was developed to significantly transform agricultural production in Canada, emphasizing the importance of sustainable land management and the environment. Prairie Habitat Joint Venture and Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (North American Waterfowl Management Plan) partners are working to influence the Framework to benefit wetlands.

Likewise, an Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada was approved at the joint meeting of Ministers in September 2004. The purpose of the Strategy is to establish a coordinated national policy and management framework that minimizes the risk of invasive alien species to the economy, environment, and society. The Strategy seeks to establish a comprehensive, coordinated and efficient system that protects Canada's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, domestic animals and plants, and native biodiversity.

Action r2.1.i.- When reviewing land tenure policies consider, where appropriate, wetland tenure systems and user rights in a manner that promotes fair, transparent and sustainable management of wetlands and their resources. (Resolution VIII.34).

1. Wetland tenure systems and user rights have been considered in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland tenure systems and user rights in order to promote fair, transparent and sustainable management.]		

Action r2.1.ii.- Give priority to reviewing legislation, policies and incentives directly or indirectly related to high Andean wetlands and prepare additional national strategies designed to ensure their wise use and conservation, duly integrated into National Wetland Policies, National Biodiversity Strategies, National Development Plans, and other similar instruments. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. A review of legislation, policies and incentives directly or indirectly related to high Andean wetlands has been completed	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. The conservation and wise use of high Andean wetlands has been incorporated into relevant national strategies / processes	A	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions taken in relation to high Andean wetlands.]		
Not applicable		

Action 2.1.3.- Ensure best practice examples of integration and harmonization of policies and legislation are made available to the Ramsar Bureau and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, so as to contribute to the development of good practice guidance to assist Contracting Parties.

1. Examples of best practice related to the integration and harmonisation of policies and legislation have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau/STRP	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2. POLICIES AND LEGISLATION, INCLUDING IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND VALUATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 2.2. Develop, review, amend when necessary, and implement national or supra-national policies, legislation, institutions and practices, including impact assessment and valuation, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the Convention, and especially the wise use principle, is being fully applied

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Clarification of the responsibilities of various levels of Government regarding wetland management for stakeholders through government involvement.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	A Review of all national policies, legislation and practices, including impact assessment and valuation to ensure that the Convention and wise use principle is being fully applied.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 2.2.1.- Apply the *Guidelines for Reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 3) to carry out a review of legislation and institutions and, as necessary, amend or modify legislation and institutional procedures to preclude unwise use of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 100 Parties to initiate and if possible complete by COP9 comprehensive reviews of their laws and institutions.

1. The Party is one of the 100 CPs identified by the Ramsar Bureau to initiate and if possible complete by COP9 a comprehensive review of wetland-related legislation and institutions	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i>
2. A review of legislation and institutions to promote the wise use of wetlands has been completed	E	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i>
3. Legislation and institutional procedures have been modified to preclude unwise use of wetlands	D	<i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the review of legislation and institutions and the amendments made to preclude unwise use of wetlands.]*

In 2004 Ducks Unlimited Canada implemented a *Wetlands in Agricultural Landscapes* project with funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, to address the valuation of wetlands in an attempt to help formulate wetland policy at both the Federal and Provincial Government levels. This project will help clarify the responsibilities of various levels of Government regarding wetland management for stakeholders through government involvement. It will provide an open forum for discussion of the role of wetlands in the agricultural landscape, including wetland benefits, costs, and an approach to wetland policy that addresses the needs of stakeholders.

In addition to the work being done by Ducks Unlimited Canada, several provincial governments have/are reviewing and modifying wetland related legislation and institutions to preclude their unwise use, for example:

Ontario

- A public review of the Ontario *Parks Act* was initiated in 2004.
- The Ontario *Municipal Act* was updated, enabling municipal planning authorities to prohibit or regulate the: i) placing or dumping of fill, ii) removal of topsoil, and iii) the alteration of the grade of the land. Topsoil is defined to include “organic material...and deposits of partially decomposed organic matter such as peat. This revised legislation enables local planning authorities to regulate or prohibit peat extraction, if they so choose.
- The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is leading the development of a Ontario Biodiversity Strategy. The intent of the Strategy, which complements the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy, is to conserve Ontario’s biodiversity and provide for the sustainable use of the province’s biological resources. A draft strategy has been prepared for public consultation.
- Issued under the authority of Ontario’s *Planning Act*, an updated version of the Provincial Policy Statement was released March 1st, 2005. It now includes two wetland-related enhancements: i) a significant increase in the area of the Province subject to the “no-development” wetlands policy, and ii) application of this more restrictive policy to all significant Great Lake coastal wetlands.
- The Technical Experts Committee’s (TEC) Report to the Ontario Minister of the Environment (Fall 2004) provided advice to the Province. Ontario currently is reviewing the report and public comments on it. The TEC report includes guiding principles, and a number of recommendations related to the protection and restoration of “natural areas” (i.e., wetlands; riparian areas; woodlands) and their roles in the planning process for protecting source waters.

Saskatchewan

- All Acts and Regulations have been reviewed to determine if they meet the Saskatchewan’s Watershed Authority’s mandate concerning water quality and quantity issues.

Nova Scotia

- All Acts and Regulations have been reviewed to determine if they meet the Watershed Authority’s mandate concerning water quality and quantity issues.
- Wetland issues (conservation, wise use, restoration/rehabilitation) are integral to the implementation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan through the NS Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, and the federal provincial agreement to implement the Agricultural Policy Framework.

British Columbia

- BC’s Riparian Areas Regulation directs local governments to allow development within a 30 meter riparian assessment area only if it has been certified by Qualified Environmental Professionals (QEPs) that the development will not result in a harmful alteration of riparian fish habitat (includes fish-bearing wetlands) in urban settings.
- The *Wildlife Act* of British Columbia was amended in May 2004 to enhance the Province’s ability to protect and recover species at risk. The amendments enable Cabinet to list as endangered, threatened or extirpated the full range of species that can be similarly listed under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, including plants at risk and invertebrates at risk, which were previously not protected by the *Wildlife Act*. With listing come a series of prohibitions against the killing, trading, trafficking and transport of individuals of that species. Many species at risk are wetland dependant.
- A Wetland Evaluation Guide that was published in partnership with Environment Canada and Wildlife Canada in 1992 is being revised to make it more appropriate for use in British Columbia. The guide will provide a standardised means for evaluating wetlands in the Province.

Moreover, the North American Waterfowl Management Plans’ *Prairie Habitat Joint Venture* partners are working

to influence the Agricultural Policy Framework (2003) to benefit wetlands, waterfowl, and all wildlife by developing beneficial management practices, establishing biodiversity principles, and delivering ecological goods and services for Prairie Canada.

Action r2.2.i.- Where not already undertaken, initiate intra- and inter-ministerial dialogues including, as appropriate, institutions represented in Ramsar/ National Wetland Committees where these have been established, with a view to enhanced integration of relevant policies related to the conservation of water resources, wetlands and biodiversity. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Intra- and/or inter-ministerial dialogues have been established	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Intra –and/or inter-ministerial dialogies have been established through the Federal Wetlands Forum, established February 2, 2001 (World Wetlands Day), to promote inter-agency cooperation (information exchange) and coordination on policy implementation, wetland management and scientific research. It is structured at an informal “working level” and is comprised of 17 federal agencies and 4 national non-government organizations.

Likewise, intra –and/or inter-ministerial dialogies have been established via the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada), whose members are drawn from federal, provincial and/or territorial governments and from non-government organizations.

Action r2.2.ii.- Recognize cultural and heritage values relating to wetlands in existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and policies. (Resolution VIII.19)

See action r3.3.iii

1. Cultural and heritage values related to wetlands have been incorporated into existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and policies	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Cultural and heritage values related to wetlands have been incorporated into existing heritage protection, legal frameworks and polices at the federal, provincial/territorial, and public level in Canada.

Federal Legal Frameworks and Policies

Canada’s federal *Parks Canada Agency* plays a leading role in federal government activities related to recognizing places representative of Canada's natural heritage and places of national historic importance, and in protecting and presenting these places to the public. In some cases, Parks Canada's heritage activities entail direct responsibility for the management of federal lands and their associated resources. Parks Canada contributes to an international heritage agenda through its leadership role in, participation in, or support for, international conventions, programs, agencies and agreements, including the Ramsar Convention.

The *Canada Wildlife Act* allows for the historical and cultural values of Aboriginal peoples to be considered in the establishment and management of Environment Canada protected areas, namely: National Wildlife Areas and Marine Wildlife Areas.

Provincial/Territorial Frameworks and Policies

Virtually all provinces and territories have cultural resource management programs and/or

departments/agencies. For example, the *Special Places Protection Act* (1989) provides Nova Scotia's Heritage Division with a mandate for protecting important archaeological, historical and palaeontological sites and remains, including those underwater. It allows the government to designate outstanding heritage sites as Protected Sites, ensures that quality research is carried out through its Heritage Research Permit system; provides a stop-order provision when significant sites are threatened by development; and features stiff penalties for those who damage or destroy important sites.

Public Protection

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is Canada's national river conservation program. It promotes, protects and enhances Canada's river heritage, and ensures that Canada's leading rivers are managed in a sustainable manner. The CHRS is a public trust and local citizens champion the program. Actions taken are grass roots driven and governments -- federal, provincial and territorial -- lend support and guidance, and provide approvals as required.

Within the last triennium six rivers were designated as *Canadian Heritage Rivers*: The Clearwater (Alberta section), the Cowichan (BC), the Tatshenshini (Yukon), the Missinaibi (Ontario), the Three Rivers (PEI), and the Coppermine River (Nunavut). Management Plans for a Canadian Heritage River, take a watershed approach to rigorously monitor the use of the river, and any changes to its outstanding natural, cultural and recreational values. As well, improved information sharing between managing agencies help ensure that not only its scenic splendour, but also its ecological integrity, will remain unimpaired. *Canadian Heritage Rivers* may be accessed at: <http://www.chrs.ca/>

Action r2.2.iii.- Give priority to assessing the conservation status of mountain wetlands, to reviewing the legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on these important ecosystems, and to taking the necessary actions for stopping and reversing such impacts. (Resolution VIII.12)

See action r3.1.i

1. The conservation status of mountain wetlands has been assessed	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. A review of legislation, policies and practices that may be impacting negatively on mountain wetlands has been completed	C	
3. Actions have been taken for stopping and reversing impacts on mountain wetlands	C	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on assessment, reviews and other actions taken in relation to mountain wetlands.]		

Action r2.2.iv.- Make use, as appropriate, of the *Guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/ or processes and in strategic environmental assessment*, as adopted by Decision VI/7 of CBD COP6, with the assistance of the guidance prepared by the STRP and embedded in the text of the CBD Guidelines (Resolution VIII.9); and encourage full participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessments. (Resolution VIII.9)

1. The Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment annexed to Resolution VIII.9 are being applied	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the application of the Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (annex to Resolution VIII.9).]		
The Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment are being partly applied in existing environmental assessment legislation in Canada, for example over 99% of Environmental Assessments under the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i> are Screenings. The process is consistent with section 2 (a) 8 of the Guidelines,		

“Screening is used to determine which proposals should be subject to impact assessment, to exclude those unlikely to have harmful environmental impacts and to indicate the level of environmental appraisal required”.

3. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in impact assessment processes

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in impact assessment processes.]

Another form of Environmental Assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* is a Comprehensive Study. This Study is a self-directed assessment undertaken by the responsible Authority, for which public participation is required. As applicable, this would require the involvement of local and indigenous communities. Screenings, on the other, do not necessarily require public involvement or review.

The roles and responsibilities for Environmental Assessments north of the 60th parallel vary somewhat as a result of Environmental Assessment regimes under the aboriginal comprehensive land claims in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Yukon, and northern Quebec. These Environmental Assessment processes take into account special circumstances pertaining to each geographical location. For example, Environmental Assessments under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement is administered by the Nunavut Impact Review Board. The Board is required to screen project proposals to determine if they have significant impact potential, and hence whether a review is required.

Under Nova Scotia's *Environment Act*, local communities and indigenous peoples provide input and comment on Environmental Assessment Registration documents provided by project proponents. In most instances, project Terms of Reference require the proponents to undertake public sessions and seek the input of local and indigenous peoples potentially affected by a proposed project.

Action 2.2.2.- Apply Strategic Environmental Assessment practices when reviewing national and provincial policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to identify at least 50 Parties to have in place Strategic Environmental Assessment for policies, programmes and plans impacting on wetlands.

1. The Party has been identified by the Ramsar Bureau as one having in place Strategic Environmental Assessment in relation to wetlands

B

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2. A review of policies, programmes, and plans that may impact upon wetlands has been completed

G

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the review of policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]

See Action 2.2.1.

4. Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way Strategic Environmental Assessment practices have been applied while reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands.]

In Canada, the *Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals* calls for strategic environmental assessments to be conducted for any policy, plan, or program proposal that is

submitted to a Minister or to Cabinet for approval and that is likely to have important environmental effects, positive or negative, including those that would impact wetlands. The *Directive* was recently amended to include provisions for improved transparency. As of January 2004, public statements of environmental effects must be prepared whenever an assessment of environmental effects has been conducted.

Action 2.2.3.- If not yet in place, develop and implement Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) legislation so as to ensure that an EIA is carried out, as appropriate, in wetlands, including Ramsar sites, where adverse impacts may occur due to a proposed development, change in land/water use, invasive species, etc., in line with additional guidance adopted by Resolution VIII.9 and enlisting the collaboration, if required, of the *International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)*. Ensure that these impact assessments include full and appropriate consideration of the environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have required EIA, as appropriate, for proposed projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands.

1.- Legislation on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) applicable to wetlands is in place	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° wetlands /Ramsar sites
2.- EIA is carried out for projects, developments or changes which may impact on wetlands <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B		
3.- EIAs have included full and appropriate consideration of the environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts	B		
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include comments on Environmental Impact Assessment implementation at national level.]			
<p>This is a matter of regulatory requirement under federal and provincial environmental impact assessment (EIA) legislation in Canada. EIA generally applies to most federal and provincial projects under federal or provincial legislation; and sometimes both for cost-shared projects. There are many project examples where wetland impacts have been identified and subject to EIA requirements at both the federal and provincial level in Canada.</p> <p>Environment Canada published a general guidance paper entitled <i>Wetland Environmental Assessment Guideline</i> (Milko 1998) on factors to consider about wetlands in the EIA process. A separate initiative is also seeing the development of national guidelines for wetlands and impact assessment under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan that may be affected by development proposals.</p>			

Action r2.2.vi.- Establish contact with the relevant national contact points from within the networks of the *International Association for Impact Assessment* with a view to identifying sources of expertise and advice for assisting with wetland-related impact assessment. (Resolution VIII.9)

1. Experts from the International Association for Impact assessment have been involved in EIA processes in the country	I	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the involvement of IAIA experts in EIA processes in the country.]		

Action r2.2.vii.- Provide impact assessment materials relevant to wetlands, including case studies indicating lessons learned, guidelines, sources of advice, and other relevant materials, to the Bureau for incorporation into the *IUCN Biodiversity Economics Web site*. (Resolution VIII.9)

1. EIA materials, including case studies, have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau for loading in the EIA-dedicated Web site	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on EIA materials.]</i>		

Action 2.2.4.- Promote the continuing development, wide dissemination - primarily through the Internet-based resource kit (<http://www.biodiversityeconomics.org/assessment/ramsar-503-01.htm>) and application of methodologies to undertake valuations of the economic, social and environmental benefits and functions of wetlands, in collaboration with the *International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)*, Ramsar's International Organization Partners, and interested Parties and organizations.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: STRP to have made progress on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation, and all CPs with experience in this area to have engaged in the STRP work.

1. Progress has been made in the development and/or application of methodologies for the valuation of economic, social and environmental benefits and functions of wetlands	E	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i>
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work on methodologies for economic, social and environmental valuation of wetland benefits and functions	B	<i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on progress made and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]</i>		

In Canada's 2000 budget, the federal government asked the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy (NRTEE) to "...develop a set of indicators to measure environmental performance in conjunction with economic performance." Working in close collaboration with Statistics Canada and Environment Canada, the National Round Table developed six proposed new formal economic measures or indicators. The idea is that these indicators will augment familiar economic data such as gross domestic product (GDP) and the consumer price index (CPI). Five of the recommended indicators measure Canada's natural capital – measuring trends in forest cover, freshwater quality, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and the extent of wetlands. The sixth indicator measures educational attainment. Since development, the extent of wetlands indicator has been cancelled.

In 2004 a report was released that urges governments to develop a system that puts a price tag on the services nature provides in our settled areas. Dr. Nancy Olewiler, a professor of economics and director of the Public Policy Program at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, was commissioned by Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) with the support of the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) to author a comprehensive discussion paper entitled, *The Value of Natural Capital in Settled Areas of Canada*. Dr. Olewiler uses Canadian case studies to illustrate the value of nature and shows that preservation or restoration of natural areas within settled parts of Canada will create substantial benefits to society. These case studies included: the Lower Fraser Valley in British Columbia, the Upper Assiniboine River Basin in Saskatchewan/Manitoba, the Grand River Watershed in Ontario and the Mill River Watershed in Prince Edward Island. The report may be accessed at: <http://www.ducks.ca/aboutduc/news/archives/pdf/ncapital.pdf>.

Along these lines, Environment Canada is developing a Competitiveness and Environmental Sustainability Framework that will satisfy five objectives:

- a better decision-making process that will enable us to work together better and more coherently: government, industry, NGOs and other stakeholders;
- more environmental science and technology;
- better circulation of information;
- a better system of incentives;
- better public education concerning environmental issues.

Also, in 2004 Ducks Unlimited Canada, with funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, implemented a Wetlands in Agricultural Landscapes project intended to address the valuation of wetlands in an attempt to help formulate wetland policy at both the Federal and Provincial Government levels. The project would involve a facilitated process to bring together stakeholders from Government, agriculture, urban and environment to discuss future wetland policy in each of three provinces being proposed as case studies: Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Nova Scotia. This project will help clarify the responsibilities of various levels of Government regarding wetland management for stakeholders through government involvement. It will provide an open forum for discussion of the role of wetlands in the agricultural landscape, including wetland benefits, costs, and an approach to wetland policy that addresses the needs of stakeholders. The benefits will be a great appreciation for wetland values, a better understanding of the public and private (agriculture and industry) costs and benefits of wetlands, and a path forward for policy development that addresses concerns about wetlands.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.1. Develop and disseminate methodologies to achieve the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	For Ramsar's new management planning guidelines (Resolution VIII.14) to be adapted and incorporated into national practice	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To continue to develop and disseminate methodologies to achieve the conservation and wise use of wetlands.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 3.1.1.- Review the wise use concept, its applicability, and its consistency with the objectives of sustainable development.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: STRP to spearhead process of reviewing and updating guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach, in particular in line with the outcomes of WSSD.

1. Work has been done to review the wise use concept, its applicability and its consistency with the objectives of sustainable development	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F = Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The Party has contributed to the STRP work to review and update the guidance on the wise use concept, including the ecosystem approach	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the revision of the wise use concept and contribution to STRP work, if applicable.]		
Canada's observer to the STRP (Randy Milton, Manager, Wildlife Resources Wetlands and Coastal Habitats Program Department of Natural Resources, Nova Scotia) co-chaired the working group struck by the Panel to undertake the review of the wise use concept. The results of this work will be available for the COP9.		

Action 3.1.2.- Compile advice, methods and best practice studies for the wise use of wetlands, including the application of the ecosystem approach, and disseminate these to wetland managers

1. Advice, methods and best practice studies on the wise use of wetlands, including the application of the ecosystem approach, have been compiled and distributed to wetland managers	D	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Environment Canada's Regional offices have delivered workshops on wetland stewardship and conservation to municipalities, planning commissions, industry groups, and other government departments. They have also created and disseminated various outreach/extension materials to wetland owners and managers.</p> <p>Provincial/territorial governments have also provided advice and best practice methods to wetland managers. For example, the government of British Columbia has supported the Sensitive Ecosystems Inventory (SEI) on east coast of Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast. The SEI identifies wetlands as well as other sensitive ecosystems and provides guidance on conservation of these values to landowners, land-use decision-makers and the general public.</p> <p>Likewise, the Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association has been widely promoting the <i>Wise use of Mires and Peatlands</i> written by Hans Joosten and Donal Clarke. This document has been prepared following the joint IMCG-IPS meeting which took place in Wageningen, the Netherlands on 30th March 2001. It takes into account the suggestions made at that meeting as well as numerous suggestions submitted in writing both before and since the meeting.</p>		

Action 3.1.3.- Ensure that the principles embodied in the *Convention's new management planning guidelines* adopted by Resolution VIII.14 are applied to decision-making about, and the wise use of, all wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to consider how to adapt and to incorporate, as necessary, into national practice the new management planning guidelines to the wise use of all wetlands.

1. Ramsar's new management planning guidelines (Resolution VIII.14) have been adapted and incorporated into national practice	F	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 3.1.4.- Disseminate and encourage the use of the Convention's guidance on the wise use concept to governments, responsible agencies and bilateral and multilateral donor organizations, in order to assist their development and implementation of sustainable development funding policies that fully address the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1. Ramsar guidance on the wise use concept and its application has been made available to appropriate decision-makers, institutions and processes	B	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Ramsar guidance on the wise use concept and its application has been made available to appropriate decision makers, institutions, and processes via Canada's <i>Wetkit</i> site. The site allows users to access Ramsar <i>Handbooks for the Wise Use of Wetlands</i> that embody nearly all of the various guidelines that have been adopted by the Conference of the Contracting Parties, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wise Use of Wetlands: Guidelines for Implementation of the Wise Use Concept</i> 		

- *Developing and Implementing National Wetland Policies*, and
- *Reviewing Laws and Institutions to Promote the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands*

The *Wetkit* site targets farmers, foresters, woodlot owners, municipal planners, environmental assessment practitioners, community leaders, property owners, developers, and many others, and is located at: <http://www.wetkit.net/modules/2/>

Action r3.1.i.- Share information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands, and develop, as appropriate, national, regional or local strategies and plans for their conservation and wise use, particularly with a view to strengthening coordination of Ramsar implementation with work underway in the framework of bilateral and multilateral environmental agreements, especially the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and the *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and those agreements dealing specifically with mountains, as well as with the initiatives of international organizations, including the *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*, with the Bureau to report on progress to COP9. (Resolution VIII.12)

See action r2.2.iii

1. Actions have been taken to improve the awareness and understanding of values and functions of mountain and high altitude wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2. Information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been shared with other interested Parties	B	
3. National, regional or local strategies and plans for the conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been developed	B	
4. Ramsar work on mountain wetlands has been coordinated with other environment-related and mountain-related agreements and institutions	C	

5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on information available and strategies developed concerning mountain and high altitude wetlands.]

Actions have been taken to improve the awareness and understanding of values and functions of mountain and high altitude wetlands in a new report (2004) entitled *Global Climate Change and Wildlife in North America*. This report provides the first comprehensive assessment of global warming's likely consequences for North American wildlife. The report details the disruption of essential ecological processes, displacement or disappearance of coastal wetland species, significant loss of coastal marshes and disruption of alpine and Arctic ecosystems. One of the report's major findings indicate that amphibian populations and distributions are likely to change significantly as air and water temperatures change, with species inhabiting high-altitude areas being particularly at risk. The report may be accessed at: http://www.nwf.org/nwfwebadmin/binaryVault/Wildlife_Society_Report2.pdf

Information, expertise and experience concerning the study, conservation and wise use of mountain and high altitude wetlands have been shared with other interested Parties through the development of a Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture (CIJV) implementation guide. Endorsed by the North American Bird Conservation Initiative and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan's CIJV partners are developing a more specific implementation plan to guide the needs of all birds as well as broader biodiversity values, including wetlands.

Action r3.1.iii.- Establish, with the support of IOPs and other partners and collaborators of the Convention, specific work programmes for high Andean wetlands and the basins fed by them, in order to preserve their valuable biodiversity, their function as regulators of water, and as living space of many local and peasant communities and indigenous peoples. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Specific work programmes for the wise use of high Andean wetlands and the basins fed by them have been established	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Not applicable.		

Action r3.1.v.- Exchange information relating to the conservation, integrated management and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems, especially where this involves the full participation of local communities and indigenous peoples. (Resolution VIII.32)

1. Information relating to the conservation, integrated management and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems, especially in relation to the participation of local communities and indigenous people, has been exchanged with other Parties and institutions	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Not applicable.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.2. Ensure the conservation and wise use of peatlands as a demonstration of the ecosystem-based approach under the Convention

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Take further action to implement at a national level the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r3.2.i.- Establish a Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands and prepare an implementation plan for global action on peatlands. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. The Party has participated in the Ramsar Bureau-led process to establish a Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Canada's observer to the STRP (Randy Milton, Manager, Wildlife Resources Wetlands and Coastal Habitats Program Department of Natural Resources, Nova Scotia) has been supported in-part by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, the Global Peat Initiative, and Environment Canada to participate in two meetings of the Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands. The Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association has been actively involved in the activities of the Coordinating Committee and has financially contributed to the GPI to support its work.		

Action 3.2.1.- Implement the *Guidelines for global action on peatlands* as adopted by Resolution VIII.17, noting the priority sought therein for inventories of peatlands, the protection and possible designation of peatlands as Ramsar sites, the transfer of peatland restoration technology, and the maintenance of the cultural significance of peatlands, and implement those actions identified as national priorities.

1. Action has been taken to implement at national level the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands (Resolution VIII.17)

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association has been widely promoting the *Wise use of Mires and Peatlands* written by Hans Joosten and Donal Clarke. In addition, the CSPMA undertakes a pro-active campaign on environmental issues. This campaign resulted in our adoption of a Preservation and Reclamation Policy (revised 1999), the publication of an issue paper on Canadian Peat Harvesting and the Environment (second edition 2001), and the production of an environmental video (2001) that has been viewed by hundreds of garden and environmental writers in Canada and the USA.

The **Peatland Ecology Research Group (PERG)** headed by Line Rochefort of Laval University (Quebec, Canada) has since 1992 been undertaking research into the integrated and sustainable management of Canadian peatlands. Formed through a partnership of the university scientific community, the Canadian peat moss industry and federal and provincial agencies, the work of PERG (<http://www.gret-perg.ulaval.ca/>) has been recognized with the establishment of an Industrial Research Chair in Peatland Management. The research program of the industrial chair addresses a major social issue: the need to protect natural resources and to ensure wise, sustainable use of the environment for future generations. A key area of research is development of restoration techniques for harvested peatlands (see Action r3.4.xviii).

Due to the extent of peatlands in Canada, the development phase of the Canadian Wetland Inventory has particularly focused on approaches to delineate and classify peatlands.

Wildlife Habitat Canada acted as the lead in developing the content and contacts for the Canadian folder of the Peat Portal (www.peat-portal.net), sponsored by the Global Environmental Centre. The site is designed to promote the conservation and protection of the world's peatlands. Moreover, WHC is working with the Wetlands International-Indonesia Programme, with financial assistance from the Canadian International Development Agency (US\$3.4 million over five years), the Indonesian government, and the Global Environment Centre to enhance conservation practices in Indonesian peatlands through the Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia (CCFPI) project.

Action r3.2.ii.- Identify and make available sources of funds in order that the activities identified in the implementation plan for global action on peatlands can be undertaken. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. Funds have been made available at national level for the implementation of the Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

. The Industrial Research Chair in Peatland Management situated within the Peatland Ecology Research Group (<http://www.gret-perg.ulaval.ca/>) is funded equally by the peat industry and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. The Ministry of Natural Resources of New Brunswick as well as other academic agencies also contribute to the research program.

Action r3.2.iii.- Include information on the status and trends in national peatland resources in National Reports to the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the *Ramsar Convention*, and other conventions, as appropriate. (Resolution VIII.17)

1. Summary of the status and trends in national peatland resources is available	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Status and trends in national peatland resources <i>[Please include information on the conservation status and trends of peatland resources and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]</i>		
<p>Wildlife Habitat Canada acted as the lead in developing the content and contacts for the Canadian folder of the Peat Portal (www.peat-portal.net), sponsored by the Global Environmental Centre. The site is designed to promote the conservation and protection of the world's peatlands.</p> <p>Currently, the Canadian folder consists of six sub-folders. The first two are examples of conservation issues. How well have we protected representative wetland/peatland ecosystems or critical wetland/peatland wildlife habitats? How will climate change affect the distribution and kinds of wetlands/peatlands. The third and fourth folders are designed to address items concerning how well we understand wetlands/peatlands in Canada. Do we have indicators about wetland/peatland quality and quantity, or do we understand what key elements maintain the integrity of wetlands/peatlands? Do we have basic reference maps and descriptions of wetlands/peatlands. The final or fifth folder is about how we determine the status of wetlands/peatlands. This is intended to examine the 'status' of wetlands/peatlands in a broad context (i.e. what are the current stress factors affecting wetland/peatland conservation? what is being done to monitor wetland/peatland changes and what have the trends been? what are the opportunities and gaps in conservation and protection practices?).</p> <p>The Department of Natural Resources Canada has developed the <i>Peatlands of Canada</i> map (1:6 500 000), which estimates the peatland distribution across Canada and identifies the dominant peatland class (bog, fen, swamp or marsh) for all peatland regions. It is available from Natural Resources Canada, GeoAccess Division, Canada Centre for Remote Sensing, 615 Booth Street, Room 650, Ottawa ON K1A 0E9</p> <p>Provincial peatland inventories are also available for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, northeastern and southeastern Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan and may be referred to on the <i>Wetkit, Tools for Working with Wetlands in Canada</i> Web site at: http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/keyword_search.php?region_id=14&keywords=peatland</p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.3. Increase recognition of the significance of wetlands for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and scientific research

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To increase recognition of the significance of wetlands for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and scientific research	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To continue to implement the North American Waterfowl Management Plan's Habitat Joint Ventures, which have been instrumental in protecting wetlands of special significance; including for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defence etc..	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 3.3.1.- As part of national (or, as appropriate, provincial) wetland inventories, assess and document wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and/or scientific research, and, where appropriate, seek to have these sites protected in recognition of these values.

See action 1.1.2

1. Measures have been taken to protect wetlands which are of special significance for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, cultural heritage, and/or scientific research	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The North American Waterfowl Management Plan’s Habitat Joint Ventures have been instrumental in protecting wetlands which are of special significance.

The Pacific Coast Joint Venture (PCJV) partners are addressing emerging threats such as potential impacts of expansion of aquaculture in British Columbia, impacts of oil spills on marine birds and impacts that could arise if the current moratorium on oil and gas in British Columbia is lifted. A major success for PCJV partners in 2004 was the acquisition of Northy Lake South Farm, almost 60 hectares (148 acres) of wetland, agricultural and forested upland on Vancouver Islands east coast. The area is located within an important watershed for fisheries, agriculture, and wildlife. The combination of fish habitat and agricultural production creates an important habitat for migrating and wintering waterfowl.

The Eastern Habitat Joint Venture has formed partnerships with the Mining Association of Canada and Maritimes Northeast Pipelines Limited, who are financing a wide range of new and existing programs, including landscape-oriented habitat activities, including securement, enhancement, management, and stewardship.

The Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture secured over 260 hectares (640 acres) of wetland habitat within 5,100 hectares (12,600 acres) of rangeland and forest in British Columbia’s Tunkwa Watershed. The wetlands play a significant role by increasing the heterogeneity and biodiversity of the landscape, and by providing important breeding, migration, and staging habitat for waterfowl. The project addresses range-management practices and water supply management by integrating the diverse needs of a wide array of land users, including ranching, forestry, angling, and outdoor recreation that rely upon the water and wetlands within the Tunkwa Watershed.

Likewise, Ducks Unlimited Canada’s (DUC’s) Western Boreal Program has incorporated several components that support the conservation of wetlands, water, and associated up-land habitat to assess waterbird use of the boreal wetland habitat. This has engaged several researchers in academia to study water science issues in the western boreal forest. The information collected is key to advancing DUC’s conservation agenda, including new protected areas and sustainable development in Canada boreal forest.

Action 3.3.3.- Consider using the guiding principles in Annex I of Resolution VIII.19 to promote full recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands, and ensure that this is fully appreciated and taken into account in their wise use and management.

<i>See actions r2.2.ii, 6.1.6</i>		
1. Actions have been taken to promote the recognition of the social and cultural heritage of wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2. The social and cultural heritage of wetlands is being taken into account in their wise use and management	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the on recognition of social and cultural heritage of wetlands.]		
<p>The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is Canada's national river conservation program. It promotes, protects and enhances Canada's river heritage, and ensures that Canada's leading rivers are managed in a sustainable manner. The CHRS is a public trust and local citizens champion the program. Actions taken are grass roots driven and governments -- federal, provincial and territorial -- lend support and guidance, and provide approvals as required.</p> <p>Within the last triennium six rivers were designated as <i>Canadian Heritage Rivers</i>: The Clearwater (Alberta section), the Cowichan (BC), the Tatshenshini (Yukon), the Missinaibi (Ontario), the Three Rivers (PEI), and the Coppermine River (Nunavut). Management Plans for a Canadian Heritage River, take a watershed approach to rigorously monitor the use of the river, and any changes to its outstanding natural, cultural and recreational values. As well, improved information sharing between managing agencies help ensure that not only its scenic splendour, but also its ecological integrity, will remain unimpaired. <i>Canadian Heritage Rivers</i> may be accessed at: http://www.chrs.ca/</p> <p>Interpretation centres located at Canadian Ramsar sites (e.g. Quebec's Cap Tourmente) and other wetlands (e.g. Ontario's Wye Marsh) also promote the recognition of social and cultural heritage of wetlands.</p>		

Action r3.3.ii.- Urge public institutions to ensure that a more decisive effort be made with regard to groundwater, placing emphasis on the hydro-geological, social, economic and environmental aspects within the framework of communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) regarding wetlands. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. Actions have been taken to ensure that public institutions place emphasis on the hydrogeological, social, economic and environmental aspects of groundwater	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>For the most part, ground water (including drinking water) issues fall under provincial/territorial and/or municipal jurisdiction (e.g. conservation authorities) in Canada. Several provinces/territories and non-profit organizations have taken actions to place emphasis on the hydrological, social, economic and environmental aspects of groundwater. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial water management strategies for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba are in the process of being implemented. The North American Waterfowl Management Plan's Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV) partners are aligning themselves as key players in the delivery of effective water management strategies to significantly improve for wetlands and migratory birds. • In the fall of 2002 the province of Nova Scotia released a comprehensive drinking water strategy that is now being implemented. The Strategy is based upon the principles of sustainability and integrated management, and the premise that all persons are responsible for maintaining and protecting the environment. An interdepartmental Drinking Water Management Committee of senior provincial staff has been charged to manage and implement the Strategy. • The Government of Ontario is moving forward on a series of initiatives to preserve water quality, including new legislation, regulations, standards and requirements. They have established a Web page containing information to help educate the public about the importance of clean, safe drinking water. 		

It also helps those responsible for water quality to understand the rules, regulations and standards currently in place. The page may be accessed at: <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/water.htm>

Action r3.3.iii.- Within national and legal frameworks and available resources and capacity, consider *inter alia* the compilation and assessment of both material and non-material cultural elements related to wetlands and water, taking into account, as appropriate, intellectual property rights, customary law, and the principle of prior informed consent, in accordance with CBD and WIPO rules; promoting the appreciation and revitalization of these cultural values among populations close to wetlands, and in general among the wider public; including all relevant aspects of cultural heritage in the design and implementation of wetland management, carrying out such efforts with active participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders; and consider using the cultural values of wetlands as a tool to strengthen this involvement, particularly in wetland planning and management. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Compilation(s) and assessment(s) of both material and non-material cultural elements related to wetlands and water have been undertaken	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
2. Actions have been taken to promote the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values related to wetlands and water	B	D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;
3. All relevant aspects of cultural heritage have been incorporated in the design and implementation of wetland management	B	F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
4. Cultural values of wetlands have been used as a tool to strengthen involvement of local stakeholders, particularly in wetland planning and management	B	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the actions made to take into consideration cultural heritage and values of wetlands.]		
Compilations and assessments of material and non-material cultural elements related to wetlands and water have not been undertaken. Actions have been taken to promote the appreciation and revitalization of cultural values related to wetlands and water, for more information see Action's r2.2.i.i , r3.3.i.i and 3.3.3.		

Action 3.3.4.- Develop and implement wise use wetland programmes and projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and food and water security plans at local, national and regional levels.

1. Wise use wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and food and water security plans have been developed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 3.3.5.- Promote research, including through the establishment of national and regional research and training centres, into the role of wetlands in water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, and cultural heritage.

<i>See action 20.1.8</i>		
1. Research has been promoted on the role of wetlands in any of the following areas: water supply, coastal protection, flood defense, food security, poverty alleviation, and cultural heritage	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The North American Waterfowl Management Plan's Habitat Joint Ventures have been instrumental in		

conducting research on the role of wetlands of special significance, including for reasons of water supply, coastal protection, flood defence, and more. For examples see Action 3.3.1.

Action r3.3.v.- Secure the wise use of temporary pools through ensuring, as a high priority, that their management is sustainable, respecting their specific characteristics and addressing root causes of their loss and degradation, taking into consideration the guidance in Resolution VIII.33, and including by:

- i) undertaking, as far as possible, baseline inventory of temporary pools;
- ii) raising awareness of their presence and their specific values and functions;
- iii) ensuring the maintenance of their specific hydrological functioning;
- iv) ensuring that their natural resources are sustainably used and not overexploited;
- v) recognizing the commitment to, and importance of, temporary pools to local communities and indigenous peoples, and supporting their management and protection; and
- vi) undertaking regular surveillance of temporary pools so as to identify and avert any threat to their values and functions, always considering the traditional uses and management. (Resolution VIII.33)

1. Actions have been taken to secure the wise use of temporary pools

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Actions have been taken to secure the restoration and wise use of temporary pools in British Columbia's South Okanagan through Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program and EcoAction. The Puddle Project promotes the conservation of wetlands under one hectare and vernal ponds, in British Columbia, particularly the South Okanagan. The project is managed by Ducks Unlimited and the South Okanagan –Similkameen Conservation Partnership. The British Columbia Wildlife Federation Wetland Education program provides coordination of small wetland conservation in other parts of British Columbia. Mapped wetlands are viewable on www.cmnbc.ca.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3. INTEGRATION OF WETLAND WISE USE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.4. Integrate policies on the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties, and in decision-making processes at national, regional, provincial and local levels, particularly concerning territorial management, groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and marine zone planning, and responses to climate change

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RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	To integrate policies on the conservation and wise use of wetlands in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties, and in decision-making processes at national, regional, provincial and local levels, particularly concerning territorial management, groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and marine zone planning, and responses to climate change.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Continue to implement Canada's Ecosystem Initiatives (see below), as well as other relevant programs, including the <i>Canadian Heritage Rivers</i> program (see below), that integrate policies on the conservation and wise	

	use of wetlands into their planning activities and decision making processes.
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Action 3.4.2.- Apply the Guidelines in *Integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) and, where appropriate and feasible, participate in the related CBD/Ramsar project entitled the “*River Basin Initiative*” so as to support the WSSD agreement to increase understanding of the sustainable use, protection and management of water resources.

1. The Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 4) have been used/applied	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on application of the Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management.]

Canada’s on-going *Ecosystem Initiatives* are a set of strategic plans that address environmental, economic, and social concerns at the regional and local levels. The Initiatives are characterized by:

- an ecosystem approach
- decisions based on sound science
- federal/provincial/territorial government partnerships
- citizen/community engagement
- pollution prevention

Environment Canada is promoting an ecosystem approach through several programs, including:

- the Northern River Basins Study/Northern Rivers Ecosystem Initiative, and the
- the Fraser River Action Plan/Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative.

Within the last triennium six rivers have been designated as *Canadian Heritage Rivers*: The Clearwater (Alberta section), the Cowichan (BC), the Tatshenshini (Yukon), the Missinaibi (Ontario), the Three Rivers (PEI), and the Coppermine River (Nunavut). Management Plans for a Canadian Heritage River, take a watershed approach to rigorously monitor the use of the river, and any changes to its outstanding natural, cultural and recreational values. As well, improved information sharing between managing agencies help ensure that not only its scenic splendour, but also its ecological integrity, will remain unimpaired. *Canadian Heritage Rivers* may be accessed at: <http://www.chrs.ca/>

3. The Party has participated in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the participation in the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative.]

Action r3.4.i.- Ensure that due attention is given to the role of mountain and high-altitude wetlands, and the importance of their conservation and wise use, in the preparation and implementation of river basin management plans. (Resolution VIII.12)

1. Due attention has been promoted / given to the role of mountain and high altitude wetlands in the preparation and implementation of river basin management plans	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Where Management Plans exist for river basins, such as the abovementioned Heritage River Management Plans, due attention is given to the role of mountain of high altitude wetlands in the Management Plan, as

applicable.

Action r3.4.ii.- Use, where appropriate, in managing or assessing the impact of dams on sensitive riverine and wetland ecosystems, all available information, including information provided by the World Commission on Dams (WCD), in association with the guidance adopted by the Ramsar Convention, to inform and guide local and national processes for allocation of water resources and decision-making, in order to ensure that wetlands and their values and functions are fully taken into account in decision-making on large dams. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Wetland values and functions have been taken into account in decision-making on large dams	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Environmental Assessments would be undertaken in decision making on large dams, in which wetland values and functions would be considered.		

Action r3.4.iii.- Take the necessary steps, wherever possible and appropriate, in order to maintain the migration access for indigenous fish and other species past dams. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Steps have been taken to ensure that dams are not impeding the migration of indigenous fish and other species	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
See Action 3.4.ii (2).		

Action r3.4.iv.- Undertake the systematic implementation of environmental flow assessments, where appropriate, to mitigate socio-economic and ecological impacts of large dams on wetlands, and encourage the development of appropriate centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation, and in doing so apply the *Guidelines on water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolutions VIII.1, VIII.2)

1. Assessments of environmental flow have been undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the assessments of environmental flow undertaken in relation to mitigation of impacts of large dams.]			
See Action 3.4.ii (2).			
3.- Centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation have been encouraged (if available, please include number of centres)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° centres
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [If applicable, please include information on the centres of expertise on environmental flow assessment and implementation that have been encouraged.]			
The Department of Fisheries and Oceans often make an assessment of environmental flow requirements to maintain ecological character of wetlands and riverine habitats when projects impact fish habitat or river flow (e.g. dams); and mitigation / compensation is typically required under any work or undertaking that results in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat.			

Action 3.4.5.- Apply the *Guidelines for integrating wetlands into integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)* as adopted by Resolution VIII.4.

1. The <i>Guidelines for integrating wetlands into integrated coastal zone management (Resolution VIII.4)</i> have been used/applied	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Canada's on-going <i>Ecosystem Initiatives</i> are a set of strategic plans that address environmental, economic, and social concerns at the regional and local levels. The Initiatives are characterized by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an ecosystem approach • decisions based on sound science • federal/provincial/territorial government partnerships • citizen/community engagement • pollution prevention <p>Environment Canada is promoting an ecosystem approach through several programs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Atlantic Coastal Action Program. <p>Likewise, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan's Pacific Coast Joint Venture are addressing emerging threats, such as oils spills and the aquaculture industry by recently agreeing to up-date their Strategic Plan to more effectively consider emerging conservation pressures.</p>		

Action r3.4.vi.- Document case studies of good practice in the integration of wetlands into ICZM and make these available to the Convention for review by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) as the basis for preparing further guidance on wetlands and ICZM under the Convention. (Resolution VIII. 4)

1. Case studies of good practice examples on the integration of wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management have been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau	C	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 3.4.6.- In decision-making processes related to freshwater resources, apply the *Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands*, as adopted by Resolution VIII.1.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have made available the guidance on water allocation and management for ecosystems to support decision-making on water resource management in all CPs, as a contribution to achieve the WSSD target on water resources management and water efficiency plans.

1. The <i>Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1)</i> have been used/applied in decision-making related to freshwater	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Canada's on-going <i>Ecosystem Initiatives</i> are a set of strategic plans that address environmental, economic, and social concerns at the regional and local levels. The Initiatives are characterized by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an ecosystem approach • decisions based on sound science • federal/provincial/territorial government partnerships • citizen/community engagement 		

- pollution prevention
- Environment Canada is promoting an ecosystem approach through several programs, including:
- St. Lawrence Action Plan Vision 2000,
 - Great Lakes 2000,
 - Northern River Basins Study/Northern Rivers Ecosystem Initiative, and the
 - the Fraser River Action Plan/Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative.

Action r3.4.viii.- Bring the *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands* and the additional guidance on tools and methodologies to the attention of national ministries and/or agencies (at different levels of territorial organization) responsible for water resource management; encourage these bodies to apply the guidance in order to ensure appropriate allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands in their territory; ensure that the principles contained in the Ramsar Guidelines are incorporated into national policies on water and on wetlands; and include representatives of national water management ministries and/or agencies in the membership of National Ramsar/Wetland Committees. (Resolution VIII.1)

See action 18.1.2

1. Representatives of national water management ministries and/or agencies are included in National Ramsar/Wetland Committee

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is a member of the Federal Wetlands Forum. Also a member, Environment Canada is responsible for national water management in its management of Marine Wildlife Areas, and or Migratory bird Sanctuaries and National Wildlife Areas with water components. All other water management ministries or agencies are provincial or territorial in nature and are not included in the Federal Wetland Forum. However, the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada) members are drawn from federal, provincial and/or territorial governments and from non-government organizations, and would include provincial/territorial water management ministries.

Action r3.4.ix.- Develop projects and other activities that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands, make such good practice examples available to others through the information exchange mechanisms of the *Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative*, and report to COP9 on the successes achieved and lessons learned from these activities. (Resolution VIII.1)

1. Projects that promote and demonstrate good practice in water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands have been developed

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant projects.]

The North American Waterfowl Management Plan and it's Joint Ventures have numerous examples of projects that promote and demonstrate good water allocation and management for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands over the last triennium.

The Living by Water Program, initiated in 1997 by two shoreline residents from British Columbia, also works towards healthier human and wildlife habitat along the shorelines of Canada.

The program targets shoreline residents, by helping them obtain information to protect their property, prevent problems like erosion, and protect water quality, fish and wildlife habitat. The Program can help with materials, services and support to deliver outreach and awareness-raising programs about shorelines in communities. The

Program focuses on both general audiences (including children) and shoreline residents.

3.- Summary on successes achieved and lessons learned in developing this type of projects [Please provide a summary on the relevant projects, successes achieved, and lessons learned in their development.]

The Living by Water Project has recently grown into a national partnership initiative, with regional coordinators in several centres across the country.

Action r3.4.x.- Develop mechanisms to better plan and manage for the wise use of water in the Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. Mechanisms to better plan and manage the wise use of water in the Andean Region have been developed

A

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Not applicable.

Action r3.4.xi.- Seek to maintain, as far as practicable in countries affected by drought, the continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites and other wetlands, so as to ensure that they can continue to provide their full range of values and functions for people and biological diversity. (Resolution VIII.35)

1. Efforts have been made to maintain continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites and other wetlands in situations of drought

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Efforts have been made to maintain continued allocation of water to Ramsar sites, for example the Government of Saskatchewan manages the water level of Last Mountain Lake Ramsar site to reduce interwatershed flooding and/or situations of drought., thereby providing economic benefits to agriculture, recreation, and residents of the region.

Action r3.4.xiv.- Study, from an interdisciplinary point of view and with the participation of civil society, the impact of the use of groundwater on the conservation of the wetlands in those territories where these impacts exist. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. Interdisciplinary studies on the impact of the use of groundwater on the conservation of wetlands have been undertaken

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xv.- Promote proposals for the participation of civil society, both public and private, related to the management of groundwater within the framework of integrated management of water resources. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. The participation of civil society in the management of groundwater resources has been promoted

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 3.4.9.- Ensure that national policy responses to the implementation of the *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and management, afforestation and reforestation do not lead to damage to the ecological character of wetlands.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All relevant CPs to have assessed implications of *Kyoto Protocol* implementation on wetlands (including applying COP8 restoration guidelines).

See action 4.1.4

1. The implications of implementation of the Kyoto Protocol for wetland conservation have been assessed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

In 1999, Wetlands International (Americas), the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada), the International Institute for Sustainable Development, and Ducks Unlimited Canada authored a Feasibility Investigation on the Potential for Crediting Wetland Conservation as Carbon Sinks. Since that time several studies have been undertaken to assess and report on sequestered carbon and linkages in using the sequestered carbon as tools to further encourage conservation actions, including of peatlands (see Action r3.4.xviii) and prairie potholes (see Action r3.4.xx).

Action r3.4.xvi.- Make every effort, when implementing UNFCCC and, where appropriate, its *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and forest management, afforestation and reforestation, that this implementation does not lead to serious damage to the ecological character of their wetlands, using, where appropriate, strategic and other forms of environmental impact assessment and risk assessment, taking account Resolutions VII.10, VII.16 and VIII.9, as well as Article 4.1 of the UNFCCC and Article 2.1 of the *Kyoto Protocol*, as appropriate. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Efforts have been made to avoid serious damage to the ecological character of wetlands due to the implementation of UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xvii.- Consider, and use as appropriate, the information on climate change and wetlands in the background papers Ramsar COP8 DOC. 11 and COP8 DOC. 40 when integrating climate change considerations into national policy pertaining to the conservation and wise use of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. The information provided in COP8 documents related to climate change has been considered and used in national policies pertaining to wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r3.4.xviii.- Take action to minimize the degradation, as well as to promote restoration, and improve management practices of those peatlands and other wetland types that are significant carbon stores, or have the ability to sequester carbon and are considered as mitigation factors, as well as to increase the adaptive capacity of society to respond to the changes in these ecosystems due to climate change. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Actions have been taken to minimize degradation, restore and improve management of peatlands and other wetland types that are significant carbon stores, or have the ability to sequester carbon	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>With funding from more than a dozen companies, including the Canadian Peat Spagnum Peat Moss Association, as well as provincial associations in Quebec and New Brunswick, Dr. Line Rochefort at the University of Laval undertook extensive laboratory experiments and field trials on peatland restoration. After considerable outdoor experimentation, Dr. Rochefort and members from the Peatland Ecology Research Group (PERG) demonstrated peatland restoration on a small scale (one square-metre plots). By 2001 several companies had started restoration work on abandoned peat sites and today restoration work is underway on more than 800 hectares of harvested peatlands in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, and Saskatchewan. Industry support for PERG has steadily increased and has enabled Dr. Rochefort to add much needed expertise in hydrology and carbon assessment from the University of Waterloo and McMaster University, to address every aspect of ecosystem restoration, including biodiversity, hydrology and carbon storage.</p> <p>Likewise, the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Wildlife Habitat Canada, and the Deh Cho First Nations are conducting a joint study on wetland habitat conservation and carbon estimates in northern boreal and low arctic ecosystems in Canada's North West Territories. The project is focused on providing a broad based mechanism and data to access and plan wetland habitats, as well as to examine linkages in using the sequestered carbon in peatlands as tools to further encourage conservation actions.</p>		

Action r3.4.xix.- Recognize the important role of mangrove ecosystems in mitigating climate change and sea-level rise, especially in low-lying areas and Small Island Developing States, and plan their management, including required adaptation measures, so as to ensure that mangrove ecosystems may respond to impacts caused by climate change and sea-level rise. (Resolution VIII.32)

1. Management planning measures have been taken to preserve the role of mangrove ecosystems in mitigating climate change and sea-level rise	A	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Not applicable.		

Action r3.4.xx.- Undertake, where possible, studies of the role of wetlands in carbon storage and sequestration and in mitigating the impacts of sea-level rise and make their findings available to the Convention. (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Studies on the role of wetlands in carbon storage and sequestration and in mitigating the impacts of sea-level rise have been undertaken	H	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
x2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>Two research projects "Finding a Natural Solution: Exploring Carbon Sequestration of Prairie Wetland Landscapes" and "Management of Agricultural Landscapes with Wetlands and Riparian Zones: Economic and Greenhouse Gas Implications" were initiated and funded by Ducks Unlimited Canada, and recently received funding from three federal government departments, Environment Canada, Natural Resources Canada, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.</p> <p>The research project "Finding a Natural Solution" employs a landscape approach at 26 sites to examine the functional linkages between prairie wetlands, riparian areas and their adjacent agricultural fields and grasslands</p>		

in terms of carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas flux. Canadian farmers are beginning to adopt soil conservation methods, which can enhance the carbon sink capacity of agricultural soils and may also reduce greenhouse gases.

The idea is to assess land-use management and land-use change in aligning potential benefits from wetland and grassland restoration on the Prairies with the agricultural soils biological sink. The study is certainly aimed at mitigating greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere that are otherwise a by-product of certain types of agricultural practices (and as a consequence of reduced emissions or increased sequestration will help to positively impact climate change effects). However, the study is not aimed specifically at mitigating sea level rise directly (i.e. the storage function of coastal wetlands and salt marshes).

Action r3.4.xxiv.- Contribute information on wetlands and agriculture to the *Wise Use Resource Centre* maintained by the Ramsar Bureau, to the *River Basin Initiative* and to the *Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment*, and future meetings of the *World Water Forum*. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Information on wetlands and agriculture has been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau and others	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4. RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4.1. Identify priority wetlands where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites

[Go to previous Operational Objective](#) [Go to next Operational Objective](#) - [Go to Table of Contents](#)

PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 4.1.2.- Establish wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes, where feasible, at destroyed or degraded wetlands, especially in those associated with major river systems or areas of high nature conservation value, in line with Recommendation 4.1 and Resolutions VII.17 and VII.20.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs with lost or degraded wetlands to have identified priority sites for restoration; restoration projects underway or completed in at least 100 CPs.

Action 4.1.2.- Établir, lorsque c’est possible, des programmes de restauration/remise en état des zones humides détruites ou dégradées, en particulier dans les grands bassins hydrographiques ou les régions très importantes pour la conservation de la nature, conformément à la Recommandation 4.1 et aux Résolutions VII.17 et VII.20.

1. Wetland restoration / rehabilitation programmes or projects have been developed	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Organizations, such as Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC), Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), and the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) and more, have taken on the responsibility to conserve, restore, and in some cases acquire wetlands in Canada.</p> <p>North American Waterfowl Management Plan</p> <p>Over the years the North American Waterfowl Management Plan has become so successful that partners from the Pacific Coast, Canadian Intermountain, Prairie Habitat, Eastern Habitat, and Western Boreal Program Joint Ventures combined have conserved over 2 million hectares (5 millions acres) of wetland and have invested close to one billion dollars towards conservation efforts across the country. For example the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (partners include the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food) delivered on habitat securement objectives, including restoration and rehabilitation of wetland and associated habitat (e.g. 50 hectares of land in the Lynde Marsh was acquired in 2004, achieving 44 per cent of the Lynde Marsh protection target of 243 hectares, and 1261 hectares of the provincially significant Alfred Bog were acquired and protected from industrial development).</p> <p>Funding Programs</p> <p>Funds have also been established to implement various restoration and rehabilitation projects in Canada, including wetland related projects.</p> <p>The Wetland Habitat Fund is a private land stewardship program for southern Ontario landowners. Wildlife Habitat Canada, a national non-profit conservation organization, coordinates and supports the program in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Canadian Wildlife Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other supporters and partners.</p> <p>As part of the National Strategy for the Protection of Species at Risk, the federal government has established the Interdepartmental Recovery Fund (IRF) for federal departments and departmental corporations. The IRF became operational in the 2002-2003 fiscal year.</p> <p>The IRF provides funding to federal departments and departmental corporations for implementing recovery activities for species designated by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) as nationally extirpated, endangered or threatened that are on federal lands or under federal jurisdiction. IRF also supports surveys of endangered, threatened and extirpated species on federal lands. As such, it supports federal organizations in their efforts to meet the requirements of the proposed Species At Risk Act. This program also fosters partnerships among federal organizations and with other organizations interested in the recovery of species at risk.</p> <p>The IRF is one of the three main federal funding programs centered on the protection and recovery of species at risk that add to the investments made by Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Parks Canada Agency and many other federal departments and departmental corporations in the recovery of species at risk. The two other federal funding programs involved in the protection and recovery of species at risk are the Habitat Stewardship Program and the Endangered Species Recovery Fund.</p> <p>The following are <u>other</u> examples of recent restoration/rehabilitation projects in Canada:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources prepared initial plans to clean up the derelict Mid-Canada Line radar bases in Polar bear Provincial Park (a Ramsar site) and elsewhere. • In British Columbia Criteria and Best Management Practices are being developed to assist in 		

identifying candidate wetlands for restoration and rehabilitation. This initiative is being carried out under the Wetland Stewardship Partnership comprised of representatives from federal, provincial, municipal and non-government organizations

Action r4.1.i.- Report on progress in implementation of Actions 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 in triennial National Reports to the COP (Resolution VIII.16).

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>		
1.- Actions have been taken to restore / rehabilitate those wetlands defined as priority for restoration (if available, please include number of sites)	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
N° wetlands / Ramsar sites		
1		
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
To conserve wetlands and their associated habitats, Ducks Unlimited Canada has developed priority conservation plans for threatened habitats in Canada, including: British Columbia’s Georgia Basin, the Fraser River Plateau and the Columbia River Basin, western Canada’s Boreal forest, Saskatchewan’s Missouri Coteau Georgia, the lower Great Lakes and St. Lawrence region, and an Atlantic coastal region.		

Action r4.1.ii.- Integrate fully the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) into National Wetland Policies and plans, paying particular attention to issues of legislation, impact assessment, incentive measures, and the mitigation of impacts of climate change and sea-level rise. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration (Resolution VIII.16) have been integrated into the National Wetland Policy or equivalent instrument(s)	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not applicable.		

Action r4.1.iii.- Pay particular attention to the role of wetland restoration in management at the catchment and river basin level in relation to the allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions (Resolution VIII.1), integrating the conservation and wise use of wetlands into river basin management (Resolution VII.18), and transboundary action (Resolution VII.19). (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The role of wetland restoration has been taken into account in river basin management	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Ducks Unlimited Canada has developed a conservation plan to conserve wetlands in British Columbia’s Columbia River Basin.		

Action 4.1.3.- Compile information on new research and methodologies for the restoration and rehabilitation of lost or degraded wetlands and disseminate this information.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Continue to add new case studies and methods to Ramsar wetland restoration Web site.

1. Information and/or case studies on wetland restoration and rehabilitation is available	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;
2. Information on new research and methodologies for wetland restoration/rehabilitation has been compiled and disseminated	B	F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the information on restoration/rehabilitation of wetlands and its dissemination.]		
<p>The Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada has recently (2004) released the second edition of <i>How Much Habitat is Enough? A Framework for Guiding Habitat Rehabilitation in Great Lakes Areas of Concern</i>. The Framework provides science-based information and general guidelines to assist government and non-government restoration practitioners, planners and others involved in natural heritage conservation and preservation in ensuring there is adequate wetland, riparian and forest habitat to sustain minimum viable wildlife populations and help maintain selected ecosystem functions and attributes.</p> <p>The Framework provides 18 wetland, riparian and forest habitat guidelines and accompanying rationales. Within Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOCs), the Framework can be used to assist in the setting and achievement of delisting criteria concerning fish and wildlife habitat beneficial-use impairments, and post delisting can provide further guidance on habitat restoration. It may be accessed at: http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/docs/pdf/habitatframework-e.pdf.</p> <p>Information on new research and methodologies for wetland restoration/rehabilitation has also been compiled and may be accessed on Canada's Wetkit site at: http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/.</p>		

Action 4.1.4.- Apply the guidelines on wetland restoration adopted by Resolution VIII.16 to ensure that national policy responses to the implementation of the *Kyoto Protocol*, including revegetation and management, afforestation and reforestation, do not lead to damage to the ecological character of wetlands.

<i>See action 3.4.9</i>		
1. The <i>Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been used in the assessment of the implications of the implementation of the <i>Kyoto Protocol</i> for wetland conservation	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not applicable.		

Action r4.1.iv.- Apply the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* when considering the provision of compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention, using the guidelines for such provision of compensation adopted by Resolution VIII.20. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. The <i>Principles and guidelines on wetland restoration</i> (Resolution VIII.16) have been applied in relation to the provision of compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r4.1.v.- Ensure, when implementing the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration*, that the cultural and archaeological heritage significance of wetlands being considered for restoration is fully recognized so as to ensure that this significance is maintained, taking into account the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites*, annexed to Resolution VIII.19. (Resolution VIII.16).

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. Cultural and archaeological heritage significance of wetlands has been considered in restoration actions	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r4.1.vi.- Identify, as part of national training needs assessments, training needs in wetland restoration, identify training opportunities and expertise in wetland restoration, and create relevant training modules as part of the *Ramsar Wetland Training Initiative*, once established. (Resolution VIII.16). (Refer also to Action 20.1.5)

<i>See action 20.1.5</i>		
1. Training needs in relation to wetland restoration have been assessed	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Training opportunities and expertise in relation to wetland restoration have been identified	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on training needs and opportunities in relation to wetland restoration.]		
<p>Assessments of wetland training needs have been conducted by the federal government, several provinces and local municipalities. The results have led to the development of several training initiatives in Canada, such as:</p> <p>The Temperate Wetlands Restoration Training Course – An intensive five-day introductory course developed by a committee of representatives from Ducks Unlimited Canada, Environment Canada, Trent University and the Ontario Ministry of Natural resources. The course provides participants with a well – balanced approach to the management of wetland restoration within the framework of policies and guidelines of the Province of Ontario, and practical instruction in wetland restoration. Participants travel by bus to many sites through central and south-west Ontario to view various types of restoration, undertaken in a range of management situations. Written and practical exercises are provided to challenge participants and encourage a learning atmosphere. http://www/trenu.ca?wsc/wetlandsrestorecourse.shtml</p> <p>Wetlandkeepers – A Program of the British Columbia Wildlife Federation, supported by Environment Canada and other agencies to teach individuals and groups to inventory and monitor local habitats. Many of the participants in the Wetlandkeepers Program are working towards wetland conservation in their local communities. The Wetlandkeepers Program has four main thrusts: a handbook, training, liaison and outreach. The handbook provides an overview of wetland ecology, extensive information on laws and rights regarding wetland conservation and step-by-step procedures for conducting wetland inventories, cleaning-up saltwater marshes and raising awareness of wetlands. A two and one-half day workshop provides hands-on practice of boundary mapping, plant inventory, water quality measurements, soil sampling and birding. People interested in arranging a course in their community contact the Provincial Wetlandkeepers Coordinator who can help arrange a course through an educational institution in the area. http://www.bcdf.bc.ca/programs/wetlands/wetlands.html</p> <p>The Wetland Institute – Also administered by the British Columbia Wildlife Federation, the Institute has a similar focus to the Wetlandkeeper Course, but it is more rigorous in its delivery, includes an education component and provides time for participation to create their own wetland project plans. It is a six day course with a high instructor-to-participant ratio and consists of a combination of classroom work field study and great speakers. As a result of the 1998 Institute there are a number of new wetland projects on the ground in British Columbia, including a large land acquisition plan near Cumberland on Vancouver Island, and mapping and video projects in Vancouver. http://www.bcdf.bc.ca/programs/wetlands/wetlands.html</p> <p>Working with Wetlands Training Course – A training course developed and delivered by the North American</p>		

Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada) and Environment Canada. It is designed for federal officers and consultants involved in environmental assessment, development planning, real property transactions, and land use planning and management. Participants learn why wetlands are important, what is expected of federal officials, and how to carry out wetland responsibilities. They are introduced to resources that can help them to take an ecological approach to wetland management problems. The course ranges from one to three days in length, and includes field and classroom study. Experts in wetland ecology, policy, and natural resources management are involved in course delivery. <http://www.wetkit.net/showtool.cfm?tool=221>

Other institutes offering wetlands training:

Trent University Watershed Science Centre – A unique interdisciplinary and inter-institutional alliance for integrated science, facility sharing, expert consultation, management services, training and technology transfer on watershed ecosystem management, health, protection and rehabilitation. The Centre leads and encourages the development of integrated scientific analysis and understanding of ecological processes within watersheds. Their goal is to transfer this knowledge and provide a focus for further collaboration, and integration by partners, sponsors and clients. <http://www.trentu.ca/wsc/>

University of Waterloo Wetlands Research centre – Committed to research and training on all aspects of wetlands, including evaluation and classification, ecology, hydrology, geochemistry, function, values, management and conservation. The Centre provides both undergraduate / graduate programs and professional short courses on topics of research at the Wetlands Research Centre, both within the university and with interested agencies and the general public. <http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/Research/Wetlands/>

University of Manitoba Field Station (Delta Marsh) – A field research and teaching facility of the Faculty of Science at the University of Manitoba (Winnipeg, Canada), is located on the south shore of Lake Manitoba. It borders Delta Marsh, a Ramsar site, that is one of the largest lacustrine marshes in North America. http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/science/delta_marsh/

The Peatland Ecology Research Group (University of Laval, Quebec) – PERG offers a knowledge transfer workshop on peatland restoration. Participants learn the step-by-step methods described in the second edition of the Peatland Restoration Guide by François Quinty and Dr. Line Rochefort. The event is open to all those interested in studying the “Canadian way” of peatland restoration. It also includes presentations on the cultivation of berries and forest plantations on cutover peatlands. During field excursions, the delegates visit many restored sites and are able to see restoration works in action. http://www.gret-perg.ulaval.ca/fr_colloques.html

Action r4.1.vii.- Investigate opportunities to link poverty relief to wetland restoration, by incorporating the provision of work, skills and opportunities into restoration projects and by focusing on the restoration of ecosystem goods and services upon which communities depend. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. Restoration projects linked to poverty relief have been developed and implemented

C

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r4.1.viii.- Disseminate the *Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration* (Resolution VIII.16) to community stakeholders who have an interest in wetland restoration; and involve local communities and indigenous peoples in restoring and maintaining wetlands, in line with the guidance in Resolution VII.8 concerning establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.16).

1. The <i>Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration</i> have been disseminated to community stakeholders	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in wetland restoration activities	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the dissemination of the Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration and the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in wetland restoration.]		
The principles and guidelines for wetland restoration have been disseminated to community stakeholders, and local communities and indigenous peoples have been involved in wetland restoration activities. The following are some examples:		
In the Atlantic regions of Canada Aboriginal Environmental Awareness and Natural Resource Management Workshops have been implemented by Environment Canada. Capacity building has taken place through Northern Ecosystem Initiative, as well as work on a First Nations Water Management Strategy.		
In other parts of Canada, work has been initiated with native communities (such as the Walpole First Nation) to conserve their wetlands, as well as species-at-risk.		
Likewise, the Long Point World Biosphere Committee (comprised of local stakeholders) continues to actively support wetland and wildlife stewardship in the Long Point ecosystem, on Lake Erie. Also at Long Point, recent Coastal Zone Climate Change and Adaptation Workshop included presentations by experts on anticipated changes and afternoon sessions for local stakeholders to discuss possible local responses to these changes.		

Action r4.1.ix.- Utilise the information and resources of *Ramsar's restoration Web site*, and contribute relevant additional information on wetland restoration projects and experience to this Web site, so as to increase the wide availability of such information, and particularly to provide demonstration projects that illustrate the application of the principles and guidelines adopted by Resolution VIII.16. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. The Ramsar Web site on wetland restoration has been used and materials have been provided to it	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the use of Ramsar web site on wetland restoration and the materials provided to it, if applicable.]		
The Ramsar Web site on wetland restoration has been used, however, Canada has not provided any materials to it.		

Action r4.1.xi.- Prepare guidance on compensation for wetland losses in response to Resolution VII.24, and report on these matters to COP9. (Resolution VIII.16)

1. Contribution has been made to preparation of guidance on compensation for wetland losses, in response to Resolution VII.24	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 5. INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 5.1. Develop guidance and promote protocols and actions to prevent, control or eradicate invasive alien species in wetland systems

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	A comprehensive, coordinated and efficient system that protects Canada's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, domestic animals and plants, and native biodiversity.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To establish a coordinated national policy and management framework that minimizes the risk of invasive alien species to the economy, environment, and society.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r5.1.ii.- Work closely with counterpart national focal points for the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *UN Convention to Combat Desertification*, the *UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme (MLAB)*, the *International Maritime Organization (IMO)*, and others in the development and implementation of national policies, strategies and management responses to threats from invasive alien species, and ensure that prevention, eradication and control of such species are fully incorporated in national legislation and national wetland and biodiversity policies, strategies and action plans, applying the *Ramsar Guidelines for reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 3) and *Guidelines for developing and implementing National Wetland Policies* (Ramsar Handbook 2). (Resolution VIII.18)

1. National policy, strategy and management responses to threats from wzaQ have been developed and implemented	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i>
2. Prevention, eradication and control of invasive alien species have been fully incorporated in national legislation and national wetland and biodiversity policies, strategies and action plans	B	<i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i>
3. Actions related to invasive species have been carried out in cooperation with the focal points of other conventions and international organizations/processes	B	<i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on incorporation of invasive species matters in national legislation and policies, actions taken, and cooperation in this field.]*

An Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada was approved at the joint meeting of Ministers in September 2004. The purpose of the Strategy is to establish a coordinated national policy and management framework that minimizes the risk of invasive alien species to the economy, environment, and society. The Strategy seeks to establish a comprehensive, coordinated and efficient system that protects Canada's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, domestic animals and plants, and native biodiversity.

In early 2005 Canada's Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and Minister of the Environment, announced details of a 2005 Budget benefiting the Great Lakes Region. The Ministers explained the details pertaining to the

aquatic elements of the National Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada, the Great Lakes Action Plan and the Canadian Coast Guard Program.

Among the measures announced by Finance Minister, is an \$85 million investment on a National Invasive Alien Species strategy for work being undertaken by Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Natural Resources Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Action r5.1.iii.- Undertake risk assessments of alien species which may pose a threat to the ecological character of wetlands, taking into account the potential changes to ecosystems from the effects of global climate change, and applying the guidance available in Ramsar's *Wetland Risk Assessment Framework* (Resolution VII.10). (Resolution VIII.18)

1. Risk assessments of alien species that pose a threat to wetlands have been undertaken

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

A number of risk assessments of alien species that pose a threat to wetlands have been conducted across Canada, by various federal, provincial/territorial, and non-government organizations on: purple loose strife, phragmites, European Green Crab, Galerucella beetles, and more. For example, Environment Canada is working with the Long Point Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Fund to assess the expansion of invasive Phragmites at Long Point Ramsar site in the Lake Erie ecosystem.

Action r5.1.iv.- Identify the presence of invasive alien species in Ramsar sites and other wetlands in the Party's territory, the threats they pose to the ecological character of these wetlands (including the risk of invasions by such species not yet present within each site), and the actions underway or planned for their prevention, eradication or control; for Ramsar sites, report on this to the Ramsar Bureau without delay in line with Article 3.2 of the Convention, so that this information may be included in the *Ramsar Sites Database* (refer also to Operational Objective 11.2); and make information provided by Contracting Parties available to the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and others in support of the implementation of the *CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan 2002-2006*. (Resolution VIII.18)

1.- Problems of invasion by alien species in Ramsar sites have been assessed and communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant Article 3.2 of the Convention (if applicable, please include number of sites)

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N° wetlands / Ramsar sites

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the problems of invasion by alien species, sites affected and other additional comments you consider relevant.]

Problems of invasion by alien species in Ramsar sites have been assessed, but not communicated to the Ramsar Bureau.

Action r5.1.v.- Cooperate fully in the prevention, early warning in transboundary wetlands, eradication and control of invasive species concerning invasive species in shared wetlands, river systems, and coastal/marine zones, including examining carefully, prior to moving water between river basins, the potential environmental impacts due to invasive species, and applying the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention* (Ramsar Handbook 9) in recognition that many aquatic invasive species, both inland and coastal and marine species, can spread rapidly and repeatedly throughout entire wetland ecosystems, river basins and coastal and marine zones, such that eradication in one place may not prove effective at preventing further invasions. (Resolution VIII.18)

<p>1. International cooperation related to invasive species in transboundary/shared wetlands and water systems has been agreed and implemented</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>Cross-border (US and Canada), multi-partnered response to track and eradicate <i>Spartina anglica</i>, an exotic invasive plant, from foreshore of Roberts Bank and Boundary Bay in British Columbia. The area will continue to be monitored to ensure any recolonization is caught early and eliminated.</p>		

Action 5.1.2.- In collaboration with the *Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)*, the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, Ramsar’s International Organization Partners, and interested Parties, continue to develop and disseminate practical guidance for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species, based on case studies and documented experiences from around the world.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Guidance for invasives’ management prepared.

<p>1. Practical guidance for the prevention, control and eradication of invasive species has been developed and disseminated</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>Environment Canada is working with local stakeholders to test and demonstrate control methods in various ecosystems throughout Canada. Environment Canada along with Agriculture and Agri-food Canada and their Prairie Farm rehabilitation Agreement program, are implementing a grazing program at Last Mountain Lake Ramsar site that includes pulse grazing to reduce invasive plant species like smooth brome (<i>Bromus inermis</i>) and enhance habitat for native breeding waterfowl and other birds.</p> <p>The Ontario government is working with non-government organizations to raise awareness of invasive species issues affecting wetlands through communications products including brochures, watchcards, information on website, presentations, displays, workshops, etc. In addition, the Ontario government has created a Fish Rescue Program with non-government-organizations and the pet/aquarium industry to find homes for unwanted pets, to prevent unauthorized release into wetlands or waterways</p> <p>The Saskatchewan government is participating in the Aquatic Invasive Species Task Group and national strategy development under CCFAM direction, and the Government of British Columbia is contributing to a Provincial Invasive Plant Strategy that is being led by the Fraser Basin Council, in conjunction with stakeholders and other government agencies.</p>		

Action r5.1.ix.- In the development and implementation of national strategies and responses to invasive alien species, recognize that terrestrial invasions by alien species can threaten and affect the ecological character of wetlands, including through the lowering of water tables and alteration of water flow patterns, and ensure that appropriate measures to prevent or control such invasions are in place. (Resolution VIII.18)

<p>1. The impact on wetlands of terrestrial invasions by alien species has been assessed</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p></p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 6. LOCAL COMMUNITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CULTURAL VALUES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 6.1. Encourage active and informed participation of local communities and indigenous people, in particular women and youth, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 6.1.1.- Apply the *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 5), giving particular attention to the importance of incentive measures (refer to Operational Objective 8.1), the building of trust, the need for flexible approaches, the exchange of knowledge, capacity building and the continuity of resources and efforts.

1. The guidance for the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management has been applied

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The guidance for the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management has been applied into the **North American Waterfowl Management Plan** Joint venture activities, as applicable.

Likewise, the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority has developed a Community Involvement Policy that addresses both public interests and First Nation duty to consult.

The Ontario government planning and stewardship programs are designed to engage and involve local communities and Indigenous People. The Ontario Stewardship Network is a community based initiative to engage people in hands-on work, including wetland conservation and restoration. Eastern Habitat Joint Venture partners undertook more than 123 stewardship projects (via landowner agreements) on over 3,500 hectares.

The British Columbia Provincial Government is actively pursuing opportunities for sharing the responsibility of environmental protection. Partnerships are being developed with other levels of government, First Nations, communities, academic institutions, industries, volunteer organizations, and citizens.

Action 6.1.2.- In consultation with and with the full support of indigenous people, document and encourage the application of appropriate traditional knowledge and management practices of indigenous people and local communities in the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly where wetlands are under the traditional ownership of local communities and indigenous people.

1. Traditional knowledge and management practices in relation to wetlands has been documented and its application encouraged	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 6.1.4.- Promote public participation in decision-making processes with respect to wetlands and their conservation and ensure that there is full sharing with the stakeholders of technical and other information related to the selection of Ramsar sites and management of all wetlands.

1.- Public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands has been promoted	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the promotion of public participation in decision-making with respect to wetlands.]</i>			
A Public consultation process is mandatory in the development of all Environment Canada Protected Areas, including those with wetland and water components. Likewise, a public consultation process is mandatory in the Management Plan development and review process for all Environment Canada Protected Areas.			
3.- Local stakeholders have been involved in the selection of new Ramsar sites <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the participation of local stakeholders in Ramsar site selection, the sites involved (if applicable), and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
<p>In Canada, conservation organizations, community groups, government agencies, and individuals can all participate in proposing that a wetland or wetland system be included on the <i>List of Wetlands of International Importance</i>.</p> <p>However, nominations can be made only by the appropriate administrative authority(ies) for a site, defined for this purpose as the party(ies) holding title to the land or water area. This may include federal, provincial, territorial, private, corporate or other non-government authorities.</p> <p>Most recently, the not-for-profit organization Wildsight (formerly the East Kootenay Environmental Society) was responsible for nominating the Columbia Wetlands, which has since been designated as Canada's newest Ramsar site.</p>			

Action r6.1.i.- Implement, where appropriate, Resolution VII.8 on *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* with respect to the planning and operation phases of dams, and extend this principle of participation to wider issues related to water resources management at basin level, utilising Resolution VII.18 on *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management*, and Resolution VIII.14 on *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands*. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. Local stakeholders have been involved in wider issues related to water resources management at basin level	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 6.1.5.- Elaborate for consideration by COP9 further guidance on the application of the *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous people's participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 5), based on experiences gained at the field level, and in particular the experience of Pacific Island States and other Small Island Developing States, and working with the CBD and others in line with the *CBD-Ramsar 3rd Joint Work Plan*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Elaborated guidelines, developed jointly with CBD, available to COP9.

1. Resource information on local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management has been compiled	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional information on the resources compiled about local communities' and indigenous people's participation in wetland management.]</i>		
3. The Party has contributed with case studies and other materials to the elaboration of further guidance on the participation of local communities and indigenous people in wetland management	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the contribution to the elaboration of the guidance indicated above.]</i>		

Action r6.1.iii.- Report on progress and successful experiences in applying Participatory Environmental Management strategies, in National Reports to COP9. (Resolution VIII.36)

1. Participatory Environmental Management strategies have been applied	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Summary on progress and successes in relation to Participatory Environmental Management strategies <i>[Please provide here a summary on progress and successes and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>		

Action 6.1.6.- Consider using the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites* (Resolution VIII.19), and continue to document case studies on social and cultural values of wetlands and how they can be incorporated into the effort to conserve and sustainably use wetland resources.

<i>See action r3.3.iii</i>		
1. The guiding principles on cultural values (Resolution VIII.19) have been used or applied	B	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the application of the Guiding Principles on cultural values.]</i>		
3. Resource information and case studies on cultural aspects of wetlands have been compiled	C	<u>Choose an answer</u> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the resource information compiled.]</i>		

Action r6.1.v.- Establish appropriate consultation mechanisms at regional or national levels, in order to consider how the list of Guiding Principles included in the Annex to Resolution VIII.19 might be applied in developing and promoting cultural values of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Consultation mechanisms on the application of the guiding principles on cultural values have been established	C	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r6.1.vi.- Consider using the cultural values of wetlands as a tool to strengthen active participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders in wetland conservation and wise use, particularly in wetland planning and management. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Cultural values of wetlands are being used to improve local stakeholders' involvement in wetland planning and management	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r6.1.vii.- Consider conducting appropriate joint educational and training activities with regard to the cultural values of wetlands and developing pilot projects for testing on a local, regional and national scale further improvement of the application of and/or integration of the Guiding Principles included in the Annex to Resolution VIII.19 in wetland conservation and wise use. (Resolution VIII.19)

1. Educational and training activities have been developed in relation to cultural aspects of wetlands	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>The Wetland Institute – administered by the British Columbia Wildlife Federation, the Institute includes an education component and provides time for participation to create their own wetland project plans. It is a six day course with a high instructor-to-participant ratio and consists of a combination of classroom work field study and great speakers. As a result of the 1998 Institute there are a number of new wetland projects on the ground in British Columbia, including a large land acquisition plan near Cumberland on Vancouver Island, and mapping and video projects in Vancouver.</p> <p>http://www.bcdf.bc.ca/programs/wetlands/wetlands.html</p>		

Action r6.1.ix.- Undertake the necessary measures to retrieve, assess and document for current use all ancestral practices of indigenous peoples that are compatible with the environment in the Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

1. The ancestral practices of indigenous people in the Andean region that are compatible with environment protection have been retrieved, assessed, and documented	A.	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not applicable.		

Action 6.1.7.- Apply the *New guidelines on management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) in such a way as to ensure the full incorporation of the cultural features of wetlands in their sustainable use.

1.- Cultural values of wetlands have been incorporated into the management planning of Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of sites</i>)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H =</i> <i>Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include information on the incorporation of cultural values into management planning, sites involved, and other comments you consider relevant.</i>]			
<p>Canadian Ramsar Sites</p> <p>Environment Canada Protected Area Management Plans (of which 15 overlap with Ramsar sites) consider cultural values in their development and on-going review processes.</p> <p>Other Wetlands</p> <p>Within the last triennium six rivers were designated as <i>Canadian Heritage Rivers</i>: The Clearwater (Alberta section), the Cowichan (BC), the Tatshenshini (Yukon), the Missinaibi (Ontario), the Three Rivers (PEI), and the Coppermine River (Nunavut). Management Plans for a Canadian Heritage River, take a watershed approach to rigorously monitor the use of the river, and any changes to its outstanding natural, cultural and recreational values. As well, improved information sharing between managing agencies help ensure that not only its scenic splendour, but also its ecological integrity, will remain unimpaired. <i>Canadian Heritage Rivers</i> may be accessed at: http://www.chrs.ca/</p>			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 7. PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 7.1. Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 7.1.1.- Encourage the private sector to apply the wise use principle (Ramsar Handbooks 1 to 6) in their activities and investments affecting wetlands.

1. The private sector has been encouraged to apply the wise use principle in activities and investments concerning wetlands	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E =</i> <i>In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [<i>Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.</i>]		
The Living by Water Program, initiated in 1997 by two shoreline residents from British Columbia, also works towards healthier human and wildlife habitat along the shorelines of Canada.		

The program targets shoreline residents, by helping them obtain information to protect their property, prevent problems like erosion, and protect water quality, fish and wildlife habitat. The Program can help with materials, services and support to deliver outreach and awareness-raising programs about shorelines in communities. The Program focuses on both general audiences (including children) and shoreline residents.

Over the last triennium the Living by Water Project has grown into a national partnership initiative, with regional coordinators in several centres across the country.

Action 7.1.2.- Seek opportunities to involve the private sector, national science academies, universities and other professional, scientific, and technical societies of recognized merit in wetland-related decision-making, through vehicles such as National Ramsar/Wetlands Committees, site or river basin management authorities/committees, and outreach activities.

<p>1. The private sector, academia and specialized institutions have been brought into decision-making related to wetlands</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The Canadian Habitat Joint Ventures of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan have been instrumental in bringing the private sector, academia and specialized institutions into the decision making process related to wetlands. For example, the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture has made ground-breaking partnerships with resource based industries that are providing new investment into the joint venture’s programs and have initiated innovative activities with impacts reaching far beyond the local area of program delivery.

In recognition of the importance of the Canadian intermountain region for wetlands and waterfowl, conservation partners formalized and coordinated their efforts into the Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture (CIJV) (part of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan). Recently endorsed by the North American Bird Conservation Initiative and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada), CIJV partners are developing a more specific implementation plan to guide their actions.

CIJV partners include: Ducks unlimited Canada, the Land Trust of British Columbia, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Nature Trust of British Columbia, the British Columbia Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Parks Canada, Grasslands Conservation Council of British Columbia Teck Cominco Ltd., the Ktunaxa-Kinbasket Tribal Council, the University of Northern British Columbia, Lignum Limited, the BC Cattlemen’s Association, BC Hydro, the Federation of British Columbia Naturalists and British Columbia Field Ornithologists.

In addition, the 9th Living Lakes Conference took place from Sept. 26 to Oct. 2, 2004 in the Columbia River Wetlands in Canada. The conference hosted by the Living Lakes partner organisation East Kootenay Environmental Society (EKES), the District of Invermere and the Global Nature Fund (GNF). The Conference created an opportunity for Canadian corporations and governments - regional to national - to demonstrate their commitment to protect the ecological integrity of critical waterways, such as the newly designated Columbia Wetlands Ramsar site.

Action 7.1.4.- Establish, where appropriate, national and local private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” forums where companies can seek advice on applying wise use practices in their businesses, and can also identify opportunities for supporting the activities of the Convention.

1. A private-sector “Friends of Wetlands” forum or equivalent mechanism has been established	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
While a “Friends of Wetlands” forum has not been established, there already exist some “Friends of Groups” for select Ramsar sites. These include: Cap Tourmente, Lac St. Francois, and Alaksen.		

Action 7.1.5.- Review, in cooperation with the private sector, domestic and international trade in wetland-derived plant and animal products, both exports and imports, and as appropriate implement the necessary legal, institutional and administrative measures to ensure that harvesting is sustainable and in accordance with the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)*.

1. A review of domestic and international trade in wetland-derived plant and animal products has been carried out	H	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Legal, institutional and administrative measures are being implemented to ensure sustainable harvesting of wetland products	H	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the measures taken to ensure sustainable harvesting and trade of wetland products.]		
Within Canada, the implementation and administration of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) are shared among federal and provincial/territorial agencies. The scientific authorities for CITES within Canada are responsible for monitoring the status of species listed within the Appendices, those species that are threatened by international trade and those at risk if trade is not controlled (including wetland species, as applicable), and recommending, if necessary, remedial measures to limit the export of specimens in order to maintain each species throughout its range at a level consistent with its role in ecosystems.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 8. INCENTIVES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 8.1. Promote incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use principle, and the removal of perverse incentives

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	The continued promotion of incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use principle.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	The review and removal of perverse incentives.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 8.1.1.- Continue to review existing, or evolving, policy, legal and institutional frameworks to identify and promote those measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands and to identify and remove measures which discourage conservation and wise use.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: SC/Bureau to have identified at least 50 CPs to have reviewed policy and legal and institutional frameworks and sought to remove measures adversely affecting wetland conservation and wise use.

1. A review of positive and perverse incentive measures in relation to the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Actions have been taken to promote incentive measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	B	
3. Actions have been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands	I	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the promotion and implementation of incentive measures and removal of perverse ones.]		
<p>Since 1995, Environment Canada's Ecological Gifts Program has enabled individual and corporate landowners to protect their land by donating ecologically-sensitive land to an environmental charity or government body. An "ecogift" can be a donation of land or a partial interest in land - such as a conservation easement, covenant, or servitude. The site may be accessed at: http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/ecogifts/intro_e.cfm. Over the last triennium the Ecological Gifts Program has produced several publications aimed at providing donors, recipients, appraisers and other interested individuals with more information on various aspects of the Ecological Gifts Program, they may be accessed at: http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/ecogifts/egpub_e.cfm.</p> <p>Canada's <i>Wetkit</i> site (partners include Environment Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council) lists positive funding and incentive measures in relation to the conservation and wise use of wetlands. <i>WetKit</i> showcases a wealth of wetland tools and explains how each one can help conserve wetlands and benefit you or your business. The site may be accessed at: http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/.</p> <p>To assist landowners, Ducks Unlimited Canada has a number of online resources on Conservation Easements, located at: http://www.ducks.ca/resource/landowner/index.html.</p>		

Action r8.1.ii.- When reviewing agricultural policies, identify possible subsidies or incentives that may be having negative impacts, on water resources in general and on wetlands in particular, in the territory of a Contracting Party and/or elsewhere in the world consistent with their other international rights and obligations, and remove or replace them by incentives that would contribute to wetland conservation, ensuring that these activities and support measures should not support agricultural policies that are inconsistent with trade-related agreements. (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular have been identified	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Actions have been taken to remove or replace agriculture subsidies or incentives having negative impacts on water resources and in wetlands in particular	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on agriculture subsidies and incentives and their impacts on water resources and wetlands.]		

Action r8.1.iii.- Review programmes of subsidies concerning the use of groundwater in order to guarantee that those programmes do not lead to negative consequences for the conservation of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.40)

1. The programmes of subsidies concerning the use of groundwater have been reviewed in relation to the negative consequences that they may have on wetland conservation	I	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ²

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.I. Integrate CEPA processes into all levels of policy development, planning and implementation of the Convention

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action r9.i.ii.- Integrate wetland CEPA into all relevant regional (where applicable), national, catchment and local wetland and other appropriate sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes, such as those for biodiversity conservation, water management, fisheries, poverty reduction, etc.

1. Wetland CEPA has been incorporated into sectoral policies, strategies, plans and programmes

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

In the Greater Vancouver area of British Columbia a small community non-government organization has developed a Wildlife Conservation Strategy that includes wetlands and other habitats for their area and has secured commitments from local municipal departments to implement. Likewise, in British Columbia several communities and government agencies have contributed to the development of sensitive habitat atlases (including wetlands)for their municipality which are served on a web mapping site (www.cmnbc.ca).

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ³

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.II. Demonstrate that CEPA processes are effective in achieving Ramsar's wetland wise use objectives at the global, national and local levels

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		

² The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

³ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	
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Action r9.ii.i.- Develop pilot projects to evaluate a range of approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands, in particular involving those who make a direct use of wetland resources

1. Pilot projects have been developed to evaluate different approaches for applying CEPA in promoting the wise use of wetlands	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r9.ii.ii.- Review existing CEPA programmes and case studies and document the lessons learned regarding effective approaches from these experiences.

1. A review of existing CEPA programmes has been completed	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Lessons learnt in implementing CEPA programmes have been documented	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on implementation of CEPA programmes and information available.]		
Municipal Stewardship is a core initiative of the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) in Newfoundland and Labrador. Through a Municipal Stewardship Agreement with the Province, municipalities agree to protect and manage specific wetland habitats located within their municipal boundaries. The provincial office of the EHJV, in turn, provides towns with technical advice, resource inventories, and a management plan. An audit 10 years after its inception evaluated how the program has progressed in meeting its specific goals. The audit results [see Municipal Wetlands Stewardship Audit Report 2003 (NFLD&LB): http://www.whc.org/whats_new.htm] have been transmitted to the Ramsar Secretariat.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁴

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.III. Provide national leadership, networks and cohesive frameworks to support and catalyse CEPA for the wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

⁴ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar’s Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

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Action r9.iii.i.- Contracting Parties (as requested by Resolution VII.9) are urged as a matter of priority to appoint suitably qualified persons to fulfil the roles of national government and non-government Focal Points for wetland CEPA, and to advise the Ramsar Bureau of the persons fulfilling these roles and their contact details.

1. A National Government Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. A National NGO Focal Point for wetland CEPA has been appointed	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information about Government CEPA and NGO CEPA Focal Points].		

Action r9.iii.ii.- Establish a national *Wetland CEPA Task Force* (if no other mechanisms exist for this purpose), ensuring suitable stakeholder and NGO representation, to undertake a review of needs, skills, expertise and options, and to set priorities for the implementation of this programme of work.

1. A National wetland CEPA Task Force has been established	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r9.iii.iii.- Formulate, drawing upon the *Additional Guidance on reviewing and action planning for wetland communication, education and public awareness (CEPA)* developed for this purpose, a national (and, where appropriate, sub-national, catchment or local) action plan for wetland CEPA which incorporates the conclusions to emerge from Action r9.iii.ii above, and provide a copy of this to the Ramsar Convention Bureau so that it can be made available to other Parties and interested organizations and individuals. (The Additional Guidance document is available in hard copy from the Bureau and in html at http://ramsar.org/outreach_reviewsactionplansI.htm)

1. A National Action Plan for wetland CEPA has been developed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r9.iii.iv.- Review and, where appropriate, integrate wetland CEPA into the business of national wetland, biodiversity, forestry, agriculture, irrigation, power generation, mining, tourism, and fisheries committees, and other relevant policy and planning committees where they exist.

1. Wetland CEPA has been incorporated into the business of sectoral policy and planning committees	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r9.iii.v.- As part of undertaking actions r9.iii.ii, r9.iii.iii and r9.iii.iv, ensure that attention is given to the efficiency and effectiveness of communication and information-sharing systems between relevant government ministries, departments and agencies, and where necessary develop mechanisms to address any shortcomings.

1. Actions have been taken in relation to communication and information-sharing on wetland issues between relevant ministries, departments and agencies	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>The Federal Wetlands Forum was formed to promote inter-agency cooperation (information exchange) and coordination on policy implementation, wetland management and scientific research. It is structured at an informal “working level” and is comprised of 17 federal agencies and 4 national non-government organizations.</p> <p>The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (NAWCC) was established to provide national leadership for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and to take a leadership role in wetlands policy and awareness. The NAWCC Canada members are drawn from federal, provincial and/or territorial governments and from non-government organizations.</p> <p>Other examples include the following:</p> <p>In British Columbia, Environment Canada has participated in the development of a Biodiversity Strategy for British Columbia through the BC Conservation Lands Forum (a provincial partnership of government and conservation organizations)—includes freshwater and marine species, plant communities, and ecosystems.</p>		

Action r9.iii.vi.- Collaborate globally and nationally to encourage synergy with the CEPA activities under other international conventions and programmes, including the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and the *UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme*.

1. Actions have been taken to encourage synergies on CEPA activities among international conventions and programmes	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Ducks Unlimited (DU) and Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) announced an education partnership on World Wetlands Day (2005). The new partnership between the world leader in wetlands conservation (DU) and the US leader in water and wetlands education (Project WET) harnesses the power of both organizations to educate more young people about the importance of wetlands and water resources. The partnership is also part of DU's launch of its new North American wide wetlands education program called Project Webfoot.</p> <p>Project WET is active in the United States, Canada, Mexico and 14 other countries and is based in Bozeman, Montana. Project WET annually reaches thousands of K-12 teachers and millions of students with water education materials and programming.</p> <p>DU has nearly 70,000 school-aged members in what it calls its Greenwing program and worked with its counterpart in Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), to design a new wetlands education program for educators and students. DUC has another 38,000 Greenwing and student members actively involved in its education programs.</p>		

Action r9.iii.vii.- Establish and maintain an on-line searchable listing of expertise in CEPA and of the CEPA Focal Points, one which can be accessed to assist CEPA activities at national and international levels, and promote this service to assist CEPA programmes and activities.

1. A roster (or equivalent tool) on wetland CEPA expertise in the country is available	H	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Canada's *WetKit* site showcases a wealth of wetland tools and explains how each one can help conserve wetlands. Users can search a number of CEPA tools, including *Teaching Resources*, *Interpretive Centres*, and *News and Magazines*. The site may be accessed at: <http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/>.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁵

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.IV. Transfer, exchange and share CEPA information and expertise that promotes and results in the wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.iv.iii.- Continue to produce, distribute and share resource materials to support wetland CEPA actions

1. Materials to support wetland CEPA have been produced and distributed

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) has a wide selection of online wetland resources for students, parents, teachers, landowners and farmers, researchers, media, outdoor enthusiast and sportspeople. For example, Ducks Unlimited Canada provides free bilingual resource materials to assist educators in meeting curriculum requirements in the life sciences (based on guidelines established in the Common Framework of Science learning Outcomes; Pan-Canadian Protocol for Collaboration on School Curriculum published in 1997). DU has developed three units in the wetland ecosystems series. Each unit consists of an educator's guide and accompanying student journal.

- Grades 4 to 6: Habitats, Communities and the Diversity of Life
- Grades 7 to 8: Interactions and Ecosystems
- Grades 9 to 12: Evolution, Diversity and the Sustainability of Ecosystems

Through the hands-on activities and interactive lessons provided in the educator's guide and student journal of each unit, students can develop the foundation for literacy in the life sciences. Educators can help students enhance their understanding of the environmental, technological and social aspects of science and encourage them to work together to solve problems. It is hoped that the resource materials help students develop an appreciation for science and a sense of wonder about wetlands and the natural world. Their resources may be accessed at: <http://www.ducks.ca/resource/index.html>

Hinterland Who's Who is joint initiative between Environment Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Federation (a non-government organization) that provides in-depth descriptions of wildlife, discussions on issues, actions

⁵ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

that you can take to help wildlife, and educational materials that teachers and group leaders can use; including information on wetlands at: <http://www.hww.ca/hww2.asp?pid=0&id=233&cid=2> and estuaries for wildlife at: <http://www.hww.ca/hww2.asp?cid=2&id=226>

Canada's *Wetkit* site is a web-based tool kit designed to streamline access to practical tools that can help Canadians better understand and manage wetlands. *WetKit* showcases a wealth of wetland tools and explains how each one can help conserve wetlands and benefit you or your business. *WetKit* also helps users to find the tool they need, and to access that tool quickly and easily - on the Internet or over the phone. The site is a resource for Canadians who influence what happens on the ground including farmers, foresters, woodlot owners, municipal planners, environmental assessment practitioners, community leaders, property owners, developers, and many others. *WetKit* also provides an opportunity for conservation agencies to distribute their tools, for businesses to promote their products and projects, and for users to contribute to *WetKit's* design and development. It may be accessed at: <http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/>

Action r9.iv.iv.- Maintain, and seek to expand, the Ramsar global e-mail networks to include Ramsar Administrative Authorities, Ramsar national wetland CEPA Focal Points, CEPA professionals, Ramsar site managers, those facilities dedicated to environmental education and awareness raising, and local stakeholders. Establish and support similar national e-groups and the linking of these with the global network.

1. A national email network on wetland CEPA has been established

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r9.iv.v.- Promote and seek to resource the coordination of the *Wetland Link International* programme of the *Wildfowl & Wetland Trust*, UK, in order to allow it to assist wetland education centres to create a global network and national centres of excellence for promoting CEPA, and to facilitate information exchange between centres in developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1.- National wetland centres (or equivalent facilities) are part of the Wetland Link International Programme of the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust, UK (if available, please include number of centres or facilities)

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N° centres
1

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are part of the Wetland Link International Programme, and any other comments you consider relevant.]

Action r9.iv.vi.- Promote and seek to resource the twinning of wetland education centres to encourage the exchange and transfer of information and expertise between centres in developed countries and those in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1.- National wetland centres (or equivalent facilities) are twinned with similar facilities in other countries (if available, please include number of centres or facilities)

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

N° centres

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional information on the centres or facilities that are twinned with similar ones in other countries, and further comments you consider relevant.]*

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁶

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.V. Improve the individual and collective capacity and opportunities of people to participate in and contribute to using wetlands wisely, through the recognition of the values of wetland resources

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PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.v.i.- Review the current national needs and capacities in the areas of wetland CEPA, including in relation to the establishment and operations of wetland education centres (see Operational Objective r9.viii) and use this to define capacity-building priorities within the national wetland CEPA action plan (see Action r9.iii.iii)

1. A review of needs and capacities in the areas of wetland CEPA has been completed

C

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Action r9.v.ii.- In collaboration with Ramsar's International Organization Partners, identify sources of expert information and training opportunities in wetland CEPA in order to facilitate the sharing of expertise and knowledge at the local, national, regional and global levels.

1. Sources of expert information and training opportunities in wetland CEPA have been identified

D

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]*

Sources of expert information in wetland CEPA have been identified and listed on Canada's *Wetkit* site. Users can access the following tools: *Helpful Agencies, Interpretice Centres, Training Courses, Teaching Resources* and more. The site may be accessed at: <http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/>

Action r9.v.iii.- Seek resources through appropriate mechanisms to support the capacity building identified as priorities through Action r9.v.i, ensuring that key groups such as women and indigenous and rural communities are not overlooked.

⁶ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

1. Resources for capacity building in wetland CEPA have been sought	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Progress in obtaining resources for capacity building in wetland CEPA has been made	B	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the activities for resourcing capacity building in wetland CEPA.]</i>		

Action r9.v.iv.- Review formal educational curricula to ensure that they are incorporating information on the ecosystem services provided by wetlands, promoting the wise use principle, and recognizing the importance of CEPA in pursuing the objective of wise use.

1. A review of formal educational curricula in relation to wetland services and wise use has been carried out	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Changes in the formal educational curricula to incorporate wetland-related issues have been effected	C	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the consideration of wetland services and wise use in the formal educational curricula.]</i>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁷

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VI. Foster sustained national campaigns, programmes and projects to raise community awareness of the important ecosystem services provided by wetlands as well as their social, economic and cultural values

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PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	C	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.vi.i.- Undertake national campaigns, programmes or projects to raise awareness, build community support, and promote stewardship approaches and attitudes towards wetlands.

1. National campaigns, programmes or projects to increase awareness on wetland issues have been launched	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Ducks Unlimited (DU) and Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) announced an education partnership on World Wetlands Day. The new partnership between the world leader in wetlands conservation		

⁷ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

(DU) and the US leader in water and wetlands education (Project WET) harnesses the power of both organizations to educate more young people about the importance of wetlands and water resources. The partnership is also part of DU's launch of its new North American wide wetlands education program called Project Webfoot. Project WET is active in the United States, Canada, Mexico and 14 other countries and is based in Bozeman, Montana. Project WET annually reaches thousands of K-12 teachers and millions of students with water education materials and programming.

DU has nearly 70,000 school-aged members in what it calls its Greenwing program and worked with its counterpart in Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), to design a new wetlands education program for educators and students. DUC has another 38,000 Greenwing and student members actively involved in its education programs.

Action r9.vi.ii.- Celebrate *World Wetlands Day* with appropriate national and local events and promotions and the distribution of resource materials, in order to raise awareness of wetland values and functions

1. World Wetlands Day activities have been carried out	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the WWD activities that have taken place, if any, at national and local levels.]

There have not been any large scale activities carried out to celebrate World Wetlands Day, however, in 2004 the non-profit organization Wildsight (formerly the East Kootenay Environmental Society) used World Wetlands Day to announce the impending designation of Canada's newest Ramsar site, the Columbia Wetlands. In addition, Ducks Unlimited and Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) announced an education partnership on World Wetlands Day (2004), and Ducks Unlimited Canada has developed news releases to increase the awareness of the significance of wetlands and World Wetlands Day.

Action r9.vi.iii.- Collaborate with the media to inform decision-makers and the broader society about the values and benefits of wetlands.

1. Collaboration with the media has been systematically used to convey the wetland message	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r9.vi.iv.- Promote appropriate *Wetlands of International Importance* as 'demonstration sites' for Ramsar's wise use principle and ensure that they are suitably equipped in terms of capacity, signage, and interpretive materials.

1.- Actions have been taken to promote and equip Ramsar site(s) as demonstration sites for the wise use principle (if available, please include number of sites)	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) equipped, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]

The 9th Living Lakes Conference took place from Sept. 26 to Oct. 2, 2004 in the Columbia River Wetlands (Canada's newest Ramsar site). The conference hosted by the Living Lakes partner organisation Wildsight (formerly the East Kootenay Environmental Society), the District of Invermere and the Global Nature Fund (GNF), focused on two key themes:

- Land and Water Use in Recreational Development

Managing development and growth to ensure wetlands and lakes are healthy and enjoyable for generations to come.

- Business and Corporate Social Responsibility for Water Ecosystems

Recognising that healthy lakes and wetlands are a part of a vibrant economic future, and that accountability for environmentally responsible economic activity rests with business, along with communities and government.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁸

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VII. Support and develop mechanisms to ensure that CEPA processes are incorporated into participatory, multi-stakeholder wetland management

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.vii.iii.- Ensure that multi-stakeholder bodies are in place to guide and inform catchment/river basin and local wetland-related planning and management, and that these bodies include appropriate expertise in CEPA.

1. CEPA expertise has been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management tools	D	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r9.vii.v.- Where they do not already exist, introduce into site management plans the appropriate strategies and actions for complementary communication, education and public awareness

1.- CEPA strategies and actions have been incorporated into the management plans of Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)	D	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the actions taken, the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
Environment Canada (EC) has approved policies and procedures to include CEPA actions into new or revised EC Protected Area Management Plans.			

⁸ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar’s Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA) ⁹

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE R9.VIII. Promote and support the role of wetland and other education centres as focal points for global, national and local CEPA efforts

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action r9.viii.i.- Seek to establish education centres at Ramsar and other wetland sites to provide focal points for local and national CEPA activities.

<p>1.- Education centres have been established at Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</i>)</p>	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p>N° centres N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites</p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the centres established and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</p> <p>Several of Canada’s Ramsar sites already have education centres and kiosks located on site, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre is located on the Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area Ramsar site. • Information Kiosks are located at the Last Mountain Lake and Southern Bight Minas Basin Ramsar sites. • Point Pelee National Park Ramsar site has a Visitor Centre on site which includes exhibits, a theatre, a children's activity area, book store and interpreters/naturalists on-site 			
<p>3.- Additional education centres are planned for Ramsar sites and other wetlands (<i>if available, please include number of centres and sites</i>)</p>	D	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p>N° centres N° wetlands/ Ramsar sites</p>
<p>4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the centres planned and the Ramsar site(s) involved, and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</p> <p>A multi-year partnership was signed in 2003 between Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to implement a series of wetland interpretive facility enhancements and rural private land wetland rehabilitation projects in southern Ontario (new wetland viewing platforms etc.)</p> <p>A multi-year partnership was signed in 2005 between Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Nova Scotia Department of Natural resources to develop a wetland interpretive facility within the provincial Shubenacadie Wildlife Park.</p>			

⁹ The Operational Objectives and Actions listed here are those adopted by Resolution VIII.31 (Annex 1), which fully incorporate and expand upon the 15 Actions as listed in Ramsar’s Strategic Plan 2003-2008 (Resolution VIII.25).

Action r9.viii.ii.- Where wetland education centres exist, review the information they present and ensure that it is serving to promote in suitable ways the *Ramsar Convention* and its wise use principle, and also that the centres are helping to foster communication and, where appropriate, participation, among the local wetland management ‘actors’ and stakeholders

1. The information provided at wetland education centres has been reviewed to ensure that it is in line with the Convention’s principles and goals	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r9.viii.iv.- Seek to involve suitable places of learning, education and training (museums, zoos, aquaria, botanic gardens and related institutions) in national CEPA efforts; encourage the development of wetland-related interpretative exhibits and programmes at such venues, and facilitate linkages with wetland-based centres. (see also Operational Objective R9.v).

1.- Places of learning, education and training (museums, zoos, aquaria, botanic gardens, etc.) are involved in national CEPA efforts and activities (if available, please include number of facilities)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° facilities
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the facilities involved in national CEPA efforts and activities, and any other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>There are many places of learning, education and training facilities throughout Canada that have on-going national CEPA activities related to wetlands. The following are but a few:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre, operated by Ducks Unlimited Canada and Manitoba Conservation and located on the Oak Hammock Marsh Ramsar Site, is dedicated to fostering public awareness and knowledge of the inherent values of wetland ecosystems throughout North America, and to promoting public support for their conservation. The Centre offers a full schedule of entertaining and educational public programs, slide shows, children's programs, adult workshops, day camps, special events, and seasonal activities such as snowshoe walks and canoe excursions) for drop-in visitors and members. The Centre's newsletter “The Reeder” – containing information about the Centre's coming events – is published three times each year and is now available on-line. • The Toronto Zoo’s Adopt-A-Pond Wetland Conservation Program provides teachers, students and community groups with information resources and educational opportunities to conserve, restore and create wetland habitats. • The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre has several programs that inspire the stewardship of aquatic habitats through community connections, habitat restoration and educational experiences. • The Cape Jourimain Nature Center is operated by a local not-for-profit organization and the Canadian Wildlife Service on the grounds of the Cape Jourimain National Wildlife Area, New Brunswick. Operating since 2002, the center was constructed as an environmental education training facility incorporating innovative environmental technologies as a model for sustainable development. The center comprises an exhibit hall with interpretive displays on wetland and upland ecosystems and human history, viewing towers, and interpretive trails. http://www.capejourimain.org/ 			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10.1. Apply the Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Handbook 7)

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 10.1.1.- Renew efforts to apply the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the Ramsar List* (Resolution VII.11) including, as a matter of priority the establishment of a strategy and priorities for the further designation of Ramsar sites so as to achieve, as soon as possible, the coherent national networks called for in the Vision for the List. (Resolution VIII.10).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Report on implementation progress to the Ramsar Bureau by 31 December 2003, with consolidated Bureau report circulated to all Parties by 31 March 2004. Each CP which has not designated a Ramsar site since accession to the Convention to have designated at least one new site. Designation of a further 55 million ha and 250 Ramsar sites, as progress towards global targets of 2500 sites and 250 million ha by 2010.

1. A strategy and priorities have been established for further designation of Ramsar sites, in application of the Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
A strategy for futher designation of Ramsar sites in Canada is being planned.		

Action r10.1.i.- Identify all wetlands which potentially qualify for designation as Ramsar sites, as a concrete output of the strategy and priorities called for in Action 10.1.1, establish targets for future designation in terms of number of sites to be designated, and communicate these targets to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties and to the Ramsar Bureau. (Resolution VIII.10)

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>		
1. All potential Ramsar sites have been identified and targets for future designations have been defined.	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Not all of Canada's potential Ramsar sites have been identified. However, two possible targets have been identified for designation; Alfred Bog in Ontario and Burns Bog in British Columbia.		

Action r10.1.ii.- Use the appropriate 1% thresholds contained in *Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition* in identifying and designating *Wetlands of International Importance* under Criterion 6 of the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Resolution VIII.11). (Resolution VIII.38)

1.- The appropriate 1% thresholds contained in <i>Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition</i> have been used in identifying and designating Ramsar sites under Criterion 6 (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites designated under Criterion 6</i>)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 1
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and any other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			
The appropriate 1% thresholds contained in <i>Waterbird Population Estimates 3rd Edition</i> have been used in identifying and designating Ramsar sites under Criterion 6 for Canada's newest Ramsar site, the Columbia Wetlands.			

Action 10.1.2.- In undertaking Action 10.1.1, give priority attention to the designation sites for each representative, rare or unique wetland types present in the territory of a Contracting Party, as well as to wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List, including, inter alia, karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, salt marshes, tidal flats, peatlands, wet grasslands, temporary pools, arid-zone wetlands and mountain wetlands (Resolution VIII.12), and in so doing apply the guidelines so far approved by the COP to assist in the designation of some of these wetland types (Resolutions VIII.11 and VIII.33), and report on progress to COP9.

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of representative, rare or unique wetland types present in the territory has been done (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites designated</i>).	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 11
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			
3.- Designation of wetland types currently under-represented in the Ramsar List has been done (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites designated</i>).	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]			

Action 10.1.3.- Give priority to the designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites, as a contribution to the WSSD target of establishing representative networks of marine protected areas by 2012.¹⁰

<i>See action 1.1.2</i>			
1.- Designation of coastal and marine Ramsar sites has been done (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites designated</i>).	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites 19
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			

¹⁰ In line with Articles 1.1 and 2.1 of the Convention, which include as Ramsar wetlands areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres, and indicates that Ramsar sites may "incorporate islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six metres at low tide lying within the wetlands."

Action 10.1.4.- In addition to the priority established in 10.1.2, also assign priority to the designation as Ramsar sites of wetlands hosting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic to the territory of a Contracting Party or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species.

See action 1.1.2

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites supporting globally threatened species and species that are unique or endemic, or for which the territory supports a significant proportion of the global extent of the species, has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i>.	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 15
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

Action r10.1.iv.- Collaborate in the identification and designation as Ramsar sites of national and international site networks for migratory species, including migratory waterbirds, as a contribution to other initiatives under related international and regional environmental conventions and programmes, including, *inter alia*, the *Convention on Migratory Species* and its Agreements such as the *African-Eurasian Waterbirds Agreement (AEWA)*, and other existing arrangements such as the *North American Waterfowl Management Plan*, the *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network*, and the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*. (Resolution VIII.10)

See action 12.2.2

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites that form part of networks for migratory species has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i>.	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 32
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Canada's newest Ramsar site, the Columbia Wetlands, forms part of a new network for thousands of migrating waterfowl. The site includes the presence of a National Wildlife Area and supports wildlife that also use the nearby Kootenay National Park.			

Action 10.1.5.- Designate, as a priority, those eligible sites that are not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime, including those utilised for agriculture, as the basis for accelerating the establishment of such regimes, and ensure that this is done soon after designation.

1.- Designation of Ramsar sites that are not under any form of protective or sustainable use management regime, including those utilised for agriculture, has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i>.	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites 3
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

Action 10.1.6.- Consistent with the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 9), designate the national area of transboundary wetlands as a Ramsar site and invite the concerned neighboring country(ies) to do likewise, with a view to establishing a harmonized management regime for the entire wetland.

1.- Designation as Ramsar sites of the national area of transboundary wetlands has been done <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</i>		<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

Action r10.1.v.- Identify additional high Andean wetlands for inclusion in the *List of Wetlands of International Importance*. (Resolution VIII.39)

1.- High Andean wetlands have been designated as Ramsar sites <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated).</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
Not applicable.			

Action r10.1.xi.- Develop, for consideration by COP9, additional Criteria and guidelines for the identification and designation of Ramsar sites concerning their socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity, as listed in Annex 1 of the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*, which would be applied on each occasion in conjunction with one or more existing Criteria for the identification and designation of Ramsar sites; and include in this work a full analysis of the implications for Contracting Parties of the implementation of such Criteria for the management of Ramsar sites, including Contracting Party obligations and responsibilities for maintaining the ecological character of any sites so selected in order to ensure that the coherent national networks of Ramsar sites fully incorporate all relevant aspects of the biological diversity of wetlands. (Resolution VIII10)

1. The Party has contributed to the elaboration of additional Criteria and guidelines concerning socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Canada's observer to the STRP (Randy Milton) participated in the working group struck by the Panel to provide further elaboration of additional Criteria and guidelines concerning socio-economic and cultural values and functions that are relevant to biological diversity.		

Action r10.1.xviii.- [The STRP has been asked to] review . . . the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, including their use by aquatic and other water-dependent biota, and prepare guidance for Contracting Parties concerning the identification and designation of such wetlands for the Ramsar List, taking into account the experience gained by Parties that have already done so. (Resolution VIII.2)

1. The Party's experience with the ecological roles played by reservoirs and other human-made wetlands, and lessons learned, have been communicated to the STRP for inclusion in its review	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 10.1.8.- Continue to support the work of *Wetlands International* and others in the updating for each COP of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations for the application of Criterion 6 for Ramsar site designation, having first undertaken international scientific consultation on its contents; seek to provide such population information for other wetland-dependent taxa; and apply this information for the designation of Ramsar sites. (Refer also to Operational Objective 12.2.)

1. Contributions have been made to the updating of the 1% thresholds for waterbird populations	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the contributions made.]</i>		
3. Populations information for wetland-dependent taxa other than waterbirds have been provided to Wetlands International	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information provided.]</i>		

Action r10.1.xxi.- Assist *Wetlands International* and *BirdLife International* through the continued collection and supply of population data on waterbirds, including globally threatened species and those species identified by *BirdLife International* in *Threatened Birds of the World* as being data deficient. (Resolution VIII.38)

1. Population data on waterbirds is collected regularly	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. The population data on waterbirds collected has been regularly provided to Wetlands International	B	
3. The population data on waterbirds collected and supplied to WI included information on globally threatened species and species with deficient data	B	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the information available about population data on waterbirds.]</i>		

Wetlands are the primary focus of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in Canada and wetlands are a key element in the delivery of national waterbird, shorebird and important bird areas conservation projects involving many partners. These in particular include Wetlands International — The Americas and Wildlife Habitat Canada.

In addition, the North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) is an avian survey designed to collect long-term data on the population status and trends of breeding birds throughout North America. The BBS is coordinated in Canada by Environment Canada’s Canadian Wildlife Service and in the United States by the U.S. Geological Survey, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

Environment Canada, in fact, cooperates with a wide variety of government and non-government organizations to develop projects and monitoring programs related to bird conservation, including the following:

- The North American Bird Conservation Initiative – a coordinated effort among Canada, the United States, and Mexico to maintain the diversity and abundance of all North American birds;
- The Canadian Landbird Monitoring Strategy - a framework for enhancing and coordinating surveys of land birds, particularly those involving volunteers;
- The North American Waterfowl Management Plan – see above;
- Canada’s Waterbird Conservation Plan - outlines the steps needed to conserve the broad array of species of seabirds, inland colonial waterbirds, marshbirds, and other water-related species; and

- Canadian Shorebird Conservation Plan - The plan's vision is for healthy populations of shorebirds distributed across their range and a diversity of habitats in Canada and throughout their global range.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10. DESIGNATION OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 10.2. Maintain the Ramsar Sites Database and constantly update it with the best available information, and use the database as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Environment Canada anticipates having the data sheets, and maps complete and submitted to the Ramseau Bureau by Fall 2005.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Environment Canada is in the process of updating missing or incomplete data sheets and maps	

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Action 10.2.2.- Ensure that the social and cultural values and features of listed sites are fully recognized in the descriptions of Ramsar sites in the *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*, as the basis for their incorporation in site management planning.

1. Special care has been taken to include the social and cultural values and features in the 'Information Sheets on Ramsar Wetlands' submitted for inclusion in the Ramsar Database	B	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Social and cultural values are accounted for, where applicable, in Canada's current Ramsar site Information Sheets under the heading "Social and Cultural Values". Social and cultural values are also captured under other headings, including: Current Land Use Activities, Current Conservation Education, Current Recreation and Tourism etc., where applicable.		

Action 10.2.3.- Submit missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of listed sites as a matter of utmost urgency, and also ensure that all previously submitted site descriptions are in the format of the approved *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*.

1. All missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of Ramsar sites have been submitted to the Ramsar Bureau	G	<i>Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Environment Canada is in the process of updating missing or incomplete data sheets and maps and anticipate having them complete and submitted to the Ramseau Bureau by Fall 2005.		

Action 10.2.4.- Fully update and submit revised *Ramsar Information Sheets* as frequently as necessary to record changes in the status of sites, and at least at intervals of not more than six years, so that they can be used for reviewing change in ecological character and progress in achieving the Vision and Objectives of the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Ramsar Handbook 7) at each COP.

<p>1. All required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands have been submitted to the Ramsar Bureau</p>	<p>G</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>		
<p>Environment Canada is in the process of updating the Information Sheets on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS) and anticipate having them complete and submitted to the Ramseau Bureau by Fall 2005, at which time they will be submitted to the Ramsar Bureau.</p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11.1. Maintain the ecological character of all Ramsar sites

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

<p>PRIORITY:</p>	<p>A</p>	<p><i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i></p>
<p>RESOURCING:</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i></p>
<p>TARGETS (text answer):</p>		
<p>PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):</p>		

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Action 11.1.1.- Consistent with Article 3.1 of the Convention, define and apply the measures required to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, using as the basis for this the official definitions of “ecological character” and “change in ecological character” adopted by Resolution VII.10 and the integrated package of Convention tools for site management as presented in Ramsar Handbook 8 as well as the supplementary guidance adopted by COP8, and ensure that this information is included in the *Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*.

<p>1.- The measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been defined and applied <u>(if available, please include number of sites where measures have been applied).</u></p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p>N° Ramsar sites</p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of sites involved and any additional comments on the implementation of this action that you consider relevant.]</p>			
<p> </p>			

Action 11.1.2.- Apply the Convention’s *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) to develop management plans or strategies for all Ramsar sites.

<p>1. The <i>New Guidelines for management planning</i> have been used in the development of management plans or strategies</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the way the guidelines have been used.]	
Canada has not developed any new management plans within the last triennium.	
MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES	N° Ramsar sites
3.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place	<u>18</u>
4.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied	<u>15</u>
5.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being prepared	<u>0</u>
6.- Ramsar sites with management plans or strategies being revised or updated	<u>2</u>
7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites whose management plans fall under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant.]	
The last review in 2003 indicated that 17 out of 36 sites had management plans or strategies in place, 2 sites had management plans or strategies being revised or up-dated, and 17 sites had no plans or strategies in place. Since 2003, one new site has been established bringing the total to 37 sites, has a management plan in use, bringing the total number of management plans or strategies in place and being fully applied to 18.	

Action r11.1.i.- When reviewing and updating existing management plans, recognize that other management planning processes exist, especially where other designations apply to the same areas that are listed as Ramsar sites, and that these may be valid alternatives for delivering management planning where such approaches adequately and fully implement clearly stated conservation objectives to ensure the conservation and wise use of these wetlands. (Resolution VIII.14)

MANAGEMENT PLANS AT RAMSAR SITES (CONT.)	N° Ramsar sites
1.- Ramsar sites in which management plans developed under other processes (e.g., Biosphere Reserves) are being applied	<u>15</u>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites under this category, and any other comments you consider relevant.]	
The last review in 2003 indicated that 14 sites had management plans that were developed under other processes. Of the 14 sites, 13 management plans were Environment Canada Protected Area Management Plans and 1 resulted from the Great Lakes Wetlands Conservation Action Plan. Canada has since designated a new Ramsar site, that also has a management plan in place from other processes, bringing the total to 15 management plans developed under other processes.	

Action r11.1.ii.- Utilize all the available Ramsar tools and guidance to assist in management planning processes, including *inter alia* the description and maintenance of ecological character and designing a monitoring programme (Resolution VI.1); the wetland risk assessment and indicators (Resolution VII.10); the guidance on impact assessment (Resolution VIII.9) and on wetland restoration, including identification of sites appropriate for restoration (Resolution VIII.16); and, where appropriate, the *Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands* (Resolution VIII.17). (Resolution VIII.14)

1. The full array of Ramsar tools and guidance have been used in the development or updating of management plans for wetland sites	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r11.1.iii.- Take note of the emphasis in the *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands* (Resolution VIII.14) on ensuring the involvement of all stakeholders in all stages of the management planning process, and utilize the guidelines adopted by Resolution VII.8 on *Establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook no. 5) and the *Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites* annexed to Resolution VIII.19 to assist in this process. (Resolution VIII.14)

1. All stakeholders have been fully involved in the management planning processes	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Those Ramsar sites that are also Environment Canada Protected Areas, and that have Management Plans in place, underwent considerable stakeholder and public consultation in the management planning process.		

Action r11.1.iv.- Take into account, when planning the management of Ramsar sites and other wetlands, the wider management implications of activities within river basins and other catchments, which duly acknowledge the need for appropriate implementation of agricultural practices (Resolution VIII.34), applying Resolution VII.18 on *Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Handbook no. 4), and the guidance adopted by COP8 on integrated coastal zone management (Resolution VIII.4) and on the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (Resolution VIII.1). (Resolution VIII.14)

1. The wider management implications (e.g., agricultural practices, river basin management, coastal zone management) have been taken into account in preparing the management plans for Ramsar sites	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r11.1.v.- Include in each management plan for a Ramsar site an objective of maintenance of the ecological character of the site so as to provide a basis for implementation of Article 3.1 of the Convention, in recognition that this greatly facilitates the identification, reporting and resolution of changes in ecological character (refer also to Operational Objective 11.2). (Resolution VIII.8)

1.- Measures to maintain ecological character have been incorporated into the site management plans <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			

Action r11.1.vi.- Manage wetlands so as to increase their resilience to climate change and extreme climatic events, and reduce the risk of flooding and drought in vulnerable countries by, *inter alia*, promoting wetland and watershed protection and restoration (refer also to Operational Objective 4.1). (Resolution VIII.3)

1. The need to increase wetland resilience to climate change and extreme climatic events has been taken into account in management planning	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r11.1.vii.- Apply waterbird monitoring data, and analyses drawn from them, when appropriate, as a means of providing objective information for site management planning and the evaluation of national or regional wetland policies. (Resolution VIII.38)

1. Waterbird data and analysis derived from them have been used in management planning	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>All of Canada's Habitat Joint Ventures under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) include comprehensive evaluation plans that focus on habitat and evaluation objectives. For example, with a strong research base, Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV) population data are being scientifically linked with habitat objectives to improve the effectiveness of habitat programs.</p> <p>Likewise, waterbird data and analysis derived from initial ecosystem assessments and on-going monitoring programs located at Ramsar/Environment Canada Protected Area sites (15 in total) are considered in the development and revision of all Environment Canada Protected Area site Management Plans.</p>		

Action r11.1.x.- With the support of Contracting Parties and IOPs, the Ramsar Bureau should identify agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites, and contribute this information to the preparation of the guidelines as requested in Action r11.1.ix and share this information with the secretariats of CBD and the *Convention to Combat Desertification* (CCD). (Resolution VIII.34)

1. Assistance has been provided to the Ramsar Bureau in the identification of agriculture-related management practices developed for areas that include Ramsar sites	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action r11.1.xii.- Identify examples of effective management and exemplary models at Ramsar sites and other wetlands for listing on the *San José Record* and submit nominations for consideration through the approved procedure, once established. (Resolution VIII.15)

1.- Best-practice examples of effective management of Ramsar sites have been identified for possible nomination to the San José Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites identified and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]			

Action 11.1.4.- Promote, as necessary, the establishment and implementation of zoning measures for larger Ramsar sites, wetland reserves, and other wetlands (Recommendation 5.3 and Resolution VIII.14) and strict protection measures for certain Ramsar sites and other wetlands of small size and/or particular sensitivity (Recommendation 5.3).

1.- Zoning measures have been established for larger Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites with zoning measures, and additional comments you consider relevant.]			

3.- Strict protection measures have been established for Ramsar sites of small size and/or particular sensitivity <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with strict protection measures, and any additional comments you may consider relevant.]</i>			
The majority of Canada's Ramsar sites (minus 3) have some form of protection measures.			

Action 11.1.5.- Consider as a matter of priority the establishment of cross-sectoral site management committees for Ramsar sites, involving relevant government agencies, local community representatives, and other stakeholders, including the business sector.

N° Ramsar sites			
1.- Site management committees have been established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	D	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;	
2.- Cross-sectoral site management committees established at Ramsar sites <i>(if available, please include number of sites)</i>	D	H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites with management committees under each category, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			
For a few Ramsar sites, Friends of Groups exists, these include: Cap Tourmente, Lac St. Francois, and Alaksen. The Friends of Cap Tourmente National Wildlife Area Association works in collaboration with the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada to promote, create, and support interpretation and awareness activities of natural and historical heritage of the NWA, and more.			

Action r11.1.xiv.- Give priority for support to the development of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management, in recognition of their essential values and functions in combating poverty through the sustainable use of their ecosystems and their role in maintaining the quality and quantity of water, including at the basin scale; and give priority to projects addressing these issues in the future operation of the *Small Grants Fund*. (Resolution VIII.10)

1. Actions have been taken to develop coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management as a tool for combating poverty	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 11.1.6.- Continue to give high priority in the *Operational Guidelines for the Small Grants Fund* to support for management planning at Ramsar sites.

1. Project proposals to support management planning of Ramsar sites have been submitted to the Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r11.1.xv.- Take into account the *General guidance for interpreting “urgent national interest” under Article 2.5 of the Convention and considering compensation under Article 4.2 of the Convention* (Resolution VIII.20) when invoking the right under Article 2.5 and considering compensation in those cases where the boundaries of sites included in the Ramsar List are restricted or a Ramsar site is deleted from the List. (Resolution VIII.20)

<p>1.- Article 2.5 of the Convention has been invoked to reduce the area of Ramsar sites and/or to delete sites from the List, and Article 4.2 (compensation) has been applied (if applicable, please include number of sites)</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p>N° Ramsar sites</p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</p>			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11. MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND MONITORING OF RAMSAR SITES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 11.2. Monitor the condition of Ramsar sites, notify the Ramsar Bureau without delay of changes affecting Ramsar sites as required by Article 3.2, and apply the Montreux Record and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

<p>PRIORITY:</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i></p>
<p>RESOURCING:</p>	<p>C</p>	<p><i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i></p>
<p>TARGETS (text answer):</p>	<p>To have up-to-date Management Plans for all of Canada’s Ramsar sites, which include monitoring programs.</p>	
<p>PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):</p>	<p>To revise and develop Management Plans for all of Canada’s Ramsar sites and apply the Montreaux Record and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems.</p>	

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Action 11.2.1.- Establish for each Ramsar site an effective monitoring programme, ideally as part of the site management plan, which is designed to detect and provide early warning of changes in ecological character. In so doing, use the Convention’s framework for designing an effective monitoring programme (Resolution VI.1) and its *Wetland Risk Assessment Framework* (Resolution VII.10) (Ramsar Handbook 8).

			<p>N°Ramsar sites</p>
<p>1.- Monitoring programmes have been established at Ramsar sites (if available, please include number of sites)</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p>32</p>
<p>2.- Monitoring programmes are part of the site management plan (if available, please include number of sites)</p>	<p>B</p>		
<p>3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of Ramsar sites falling under each category, and any additional comments you consider relevant about monitoring programmes.]</p>			
<p>For those Ramsar sites that are located on, or partly located within, Environment Canada Protected Areas (15 total, see list below), it is policy that adequate monitoring programs be conducted to assess the overall environmental quality of the protected areas for a range of habitats, species, and to assess changes to the protected areas specie population and habitat caused by on and off-site natural and man made events. The monitoring programs are predetermined in site Management Plans, as applicable. These sites include: Alaksen</p>			

N° Ramsar sites

Baie de L'Isle Verte
 Cap Tourmente
 Chignecto
 Dewey Soper
 Lac St. Francois
 Last Mountain Lake
 Long Point
 Mary's Point
 McConnell River
 Polar Bear Pass
 Queen Maud Gulf
 Southern James Bay
 St. Clair
 Southern Bight-Minas Basin
 Lac St. Pierre
 Columbia Wetlands

Sites that are located in whole, or in part on National Parks also undergo monitoring programs as determined in their management planning regimes, these include:

Whopping Crane Summer Range
 Peace Athabasca Delta
 Old Crow Flats
 Pelee Marsh

Likewise, those sites protected in whole or in part by provincial and/or territorial legislation and other agreements as Management Wildlife Areas, Provincial Parks, Game Sanctuaries and more undergo monitoring programs. These include:

Creston Valley
 Grand Codroy Estuary
 Hay-Zama Lakes
 Tabusintac Lagoon and River Estuary
 Malpeque Bay
 Matchedash Bay
 Polar Bear Pass Provincial Park
 Mer Bleue Conservation Area
 Miniseng Swamp
 Musquodoboit Harbour
 Oak Hammock Marsh

Action 11.2.2.- Ensure that sites on the Ramsar List are used as baseline and reference areas for national, supranational/regional, and international environmental monitoring to detect trends in the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the processes of desertification (Objective 4.1 of the Objectives for the List (Resolution VII.11), and report on status and trends to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

1.- Ramsar sites are used as baseline and reference areas for national environmental monitoring <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and any additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			
3.- Status and trends on the loss of biological diversity, climate change and the process of desertification <i>[Please include a summary of the cited issues and provide reference citation to any relevant publications, reports or analyses.]</i>			

Action 11.2.3.- Ensure that at Ramsar sites where change in ecological character may occur as a result of proposed developments or changes in territorial and/or water use which have potential to affect them, an impact assessment is carried out which considers the full range of environmental, social and economic benefits and functions provided by the wetland, and that the resulting conclusions are communicated to the Ramsar Bureau, in line with Article 3.2 of the Convention, and fully taken into account by the authorities concerned.

See action 2.2.3

1. Proposed developments that may affect the ecological character of Ramsar sites have been subject to EIAs, and the results communicated to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	D	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Ownership of Ramsar sites varies; not all designated sites are located on federal or provincial/territorial crown land. Federal and provincial/territorial EIA legislation are triggered only if governments are involved in the proposed project either as the project proponent or through land ownership, financial assistance, or regulatory action (for example, provides a permit that allows a project to go ahead).		

Action r11.2.iv.- Put in place, as a matter of high priority in fulfillment of 3.2 of the Convention, mechanisms in order to be informed at the earliest possible time, including through reports by national authorities and local and indigenous communities and NGOs, if the ecological character of any wetland included in the Ramsar List has changed, is changing or is likely to change. (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Mechanisms have been established to collect information on changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites in accordance with Article 3.2	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Canada's Wetland Inventory when complete will be able to detect and collect changes in ecological character of Canada's Ramsar sites.		

Action 11.2.4.- In fulfilment of Article 3.2 of the Convention, report to the Ramsar Bureau without delay all actual or likely changes in ecological character on Ramsar sites, and include Ramsar sites "where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur" in the *Montreux Record* as appropriate.

1.- Changes or likely changes (both positive and negative) in ecological character at Ramsar sites have occurred or may occur (Art. 3.2) <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	G	Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Changes or likely changes in ecological character of Ramsar sites have been reported to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	C		
3.- Ramsar sites were included in the Montreux Record since COP8 <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C		N° Ramsar sites
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the changes or likely changes in ecological character, and list the sites affected.]</i>			
5.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the steps followed to include sites in the Montreux Record since COP8.]</i>			

Action r11.2.vi.- Utilize all appropriate mechanisms to address and resolve as soon as practicable the matters for which a site may have been the subject of a report pursuant to Article 3.2; and once those matters have been resolved, submit a further report, so that both positive influences at sites and changes in ecological character may be fully reflected in reporting under Article 3.2 and in the reporting to all meetings of the COP in order to establish a clear picture of the status and trends of the Ramsar site network at three-year intervals (Resolution VIII.8)

1. Actions have been taken to address the problems that have originated a report to the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Article 3.2	B	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the actions taken.]</i>		
Regarding Malpeque Bay Canada RAMSAR site and the local opposition to Irvings proposed wind turbine generator complex, Environment Canada has reviewed and provided comment on the proposed project and will have a chance to comment on the project through the federal Environmental Assessment process. At that time the Department will develop a firm opinion on the project.		

Action 11.2.5.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record* request a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* of independent experts, where appropriate, to review the problems affecting the site and offer recommendations for remedial actions.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: For all sites on the *Montreux Record*, and which have not been subject to a *Ramsar Advisory Mission (RAM)*, CPs to request such a Mission prior to COP9.

1.- Ramsar Advisory Missions have been requested to review the problems at Ramsar sites included in the Montreux Record, if any <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	Choose an answer A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>			

Action 11.2.6.- Where a *Ramsar Advisory Mission* has been completed for a *Montreux Record* site, take all necessary steps to implement the recommendations, and report at regular intervals to the Bureau on the results of these actions. At the appropriate time, seek the removal of the site from the *Montreux Record*, having provided the Bureau and STRP with details of the site condition using the approved questionnaire (Ramsar Handbook 7).

<i>(For CPs with sites in Montreux Record and RAMs made)</i>			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to implement the recommendations of Ramsar Advisory Missions <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
2.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which the site(s) was/were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned, comments on RAM missions, results of the actions taken, including possible removal of sites from Montreux Record.]</i>			

Action r11.2.viii.- For sites included in the *Montreux Record*, regularly provide the Ramsar Bureau with an update on progress on taking action to address the issues for which these Ramsar sites were listed on the Record, including reporting fully on these matters in National Reports to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Resolution VIII.8)

			N°Ramsar sites
1.- Actions have been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar sites were listed in the Montreux Record <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	A	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	
2.- Actions taken to address issues at Montreux Record Ramsar sites have been communicated to the Ramsar Bureau	A		
3.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include the list of Ramsar sites concerned and results of the actions taken.]</i>			
Not applicable.			

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.1. Promote inventory and integrated management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	C	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	The Canadian Wetland Inventory to be able to properly identify all transboundary/shared wetland systems.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To develop a full national wetland inventory and monitoring program, leading to reliable monitoring and indicator developments and a host of other applications.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.1.1.- Identify all wetland systems in each Contracting Party shared with other Parties and with non-parties and promote cooperation in their management with the adjoining jurisdiction(s), applying, where appropriate, the *Guidelines on integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management* (Ramsar Handbook 4, Section A1 of the Guidelines), and the *Principles and Guidelines for integrating wetlands into Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)* (Resolution VIII.4).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: All CPs to have identified their transboundary wetlands. 50% of CPs to have identified cooperative management mechanisms.

1.- All transboundary/shared wetland systems have been identified (<i>if applicable, please include number of sites</i>)	E	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	N° wetlands/ wetland systems
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please list the transboundary wetlands identified and provide any other additional comments you consider relevant.]

Once complete, the Canadian Wetland Inventory will be able to properly identify all transboundary/shared wetland systems.

Action 12.1.2.- Pursue cooperation on shared hydrological basins, lake systems and coastal systems through the establishment of bi- or multilateral management commissions. (Section A2 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: 50% of CPs with shared basins and coastal systems to be part of joint management commissions or authorities.

1. Cooperative management of shared wetland systems has progressed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Cooperative management of shared wetland systems has progressed through the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and it's Habitat Joint Ventures, as well as other joint initiatives, such as the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement

Action r12.1.i.- Cooperatively apply the *Guidelines for allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions of wetlands* (Resolution VIII.1) within the context of the management of water allocations in shared hydrological systems, making use of the Ramsar *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Convention* (Resolution VII.19).

1. The guidelines for allocation and management of water have been applied in the context of shared water systems	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>	
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 12.1.3.- Where appropriate, engage in joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries that share wetlands, international river basins, or coastal systems, taking note, where applicable, of the terms of the *Espoo Convention on impact assessment* in a European transboundary context.

<i>See action 2.2.3</i>		
1. Joint impact assessment processes with neighbouring countries have been applied in shared wetland systems	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>Joint impact assessment processes with neighboring countries have been applied in shared wetland systems in the following ways:</p> <p>Under the joint Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA), the United States and Canada are committed to the restoration and maintenance of the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great lakes basin ecosystem. In support of this work, bi-national, State of the Lake Ecosystem Conferences (SOLEC) are held. The 1996 State of the Lake Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC) examined the health of aquatic and terrestrial communities and the biological habitat of nearshore ecosystems in the Great Lakes. The background paper presented on coastal wetlands concluded that there is no comprehensive inventory or evaluation of Great Lakes coastal wetlands (Maynard and Wilcox, 1997). This lack of information on Great Lakes wetlands has also been recognized in Strategy 2 of the Great Lakes Wetlands Conservation Action Plan (GLWCAP), where the need to develop a wetland database has been identified. Information on wetlands is required by many National, Provincial and local governments, non-government agencies, and individuals interested in wetland conservation and restoration. It can be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess and monitor the status, losses of and changes in coastal wetlands; • develop habitat management strategies; • target limited resources for conservation and restoration programs; • set goals for biodiversity and endangered species recovery plans; • identify natural heritage areas, for land use planning purposes; and • identify inventory and information gaps. <p>A number of attempts have been made to use LANDSAT data (25-30 m resolution) to identify and monitor wetlands. This has proved to be ineffective, in terms of providing accurate information on the location, size and type of wetlands. Participants at a 1997 workshop on remote sensing concluded that information collected through site level wetland evaluations and studies are critical for providing a large-scale summary of the location, characteristics and status of Great Lakes wetlands (Riley and Snell 1997).</p> <p>The following report updates and consolidates information on coastal wetlands from a variety of sources including Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) wetland evaluation files, Environment Canada's Environmental Sensitivity Atlases, OMNR's Natural Areas Database and other site specific studies. It provides information on the wetland type, site type, significance and status of wetlands, a qualitative assessment of stressors affecting coastal wetlands, and data on biodiversity with respect to significant species dependent on coastal wetlands. This report and associated database provides a framework for the development of a comprehensive and current coastal wetlands database.</p> <p>The Ontario Ministry of Natural resources also cooperates with the United States via the Great Lakes Commission and the International Joint Commission on bi-national water quantity and quality issues.</p>		

Action 12.1.4.- Ensure enhanced accessibility to information, analyses, good practice examples, and experience-sharing on integrating wetlands and biodiversity into integrated river basin management, including through the Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: River Basin Initiative fully operational.

<p>1. Actions have been taken to ensure accessibility of information, analysis, good practice examples, etc., on integrating wetlands and biodiversity issues into river basin management</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
<p>2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i></p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.2. Promote cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	<p>A</p>	<p><i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i></p>
RESOURCING:	<p>B</p>	<p><i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i></p>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 12.2.1.- Identify and designate as Ramsar sites all wetlands which satisfy the relevant Ramsar Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species, giving priority in the first instance to waterbirds, fish, and marine turtles, especially those that are globally threatened. (Section B1 of the Guidelines)

<p>1.- Wetlands which satisfy Criteria in relation to wetland-dependent migratory species have been designated as Ramsar sites <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites designated)</i></p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	<p>N° Ramsar sites</p>
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3.- Implementation progress since COP8 *[Please include information on the designated sites and other additional comments you consider relevant.]*

Within the last triennium Canada has designated the Columbia Wetlands in British Columbia as the nation’s 37th Ramsar site. This wetland qualifies under all eight Criteria and comprises a regionally unparalleled diversity of 16 habitats and shelters around 216 species, of which the bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) and badger (*Taxidea taxus*) are endangered. A nesting and rearing habitat for over 180 species of birds, total counts in excess of 10,000 swans, geese and ducks have been recorded in spring, 15,000 ducks in autumn, and up to 1200 tundra swans (*Cygnus colombianus*) in single day counts (1977). Several indigenous and introduced fish species spawn and feed in the area, 31% of which is composed of standing and flowing water. Despite having a management plan in place, human intervention has been on the rise in the past few years.

Action 12.2.2.- Continue to promote and support the development of further regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species, as exemplified by the *African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)*, the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy*, the *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network*, and others. (Sections B2 and B4 of the Guidelines)

<i>See action r10.1.iv</i>		
1. New regional site networks and initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species have been developed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 12.2.5.- Ensure that national hunting legislation is consistent with the wise use principle for migratory waterbird and other wetland-dependent species, taking into account geographical range, life-history characteristics of species, and research on sustainable harvesting.

1. National hunting legislation is consistent with wise use principle for wetland-dependent species, including waterbirds	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
<p>The <i>Migratory Bird Convention Act</i> implements the 1916 treaty between Canada and the United States, in which the two countries agree to adopt a co-ordinated system to protect migratory birds from indiscriminate harvesting and destruction. The Parksville Protocol, an amendment to the Convention, came into force on October 7, 1999.</p> <p>The Regulations concern the conservation and protection of migratory birds. The Regulations control, for example, hunting and possession of migratory game birds; sale, purchase, or shipment of migratory birds, their nests or eggs; scientific collection, aviculture, and taxidermy; activities designed to reduce the damage migratory birds cause to crops or other property and the danger they pose to aircraft; and requirements for hunters to use non-toxic shot for most migratory game bird species.</p>		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12. MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER RESOURCES, WETLANDS AND WETLAND SPECIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 12.3. Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 12.3.2.- Encourage development of regional arrangements under the Convention similar to *MedWet*, where appropriate, applying the *Guidance for the development of regional initiatives in the framework of the Convention on Wetlands* (Resolution VIII.30) for example in the Black Sea, Caspian Sea, the Caribbean, South America and the Altaj-Sayansky region.

1. Party has been involved in the development of a regional initiative in the framework of the Convention	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Canada has made voluntary contributions towards the creation of the <i>Regional Ramsar Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere</i> located in Panama.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 13.1. Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other agencies

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):	To provide strategic coordination and policy advice to ensure coherence between domestic and international policy and programs and also among international activities of Environment Canada (Canada's Administrative Authority to the Ramsar Convention).	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	A Ramsar Committee is being planned that will include representatives from Canada's Administrative Authority and regional bodies or programmes which have interest in wetland conservation and wise use.	

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Action 13.1.1.- Continue to strengthen cooperation and synergy with the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *Convention to Combat Desertification*, the *Convention on Migratory Species* and its Agreements, the *World Heritage Convention*, and the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, in particular through the vehicles of Joint Work Plans and collaboration among the respective subsidiary scientific bodies of the conventions and the secretariats, and at national level among the Ramsar Administrative Authorities and Focal Points of the different MEAs.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: *3rd CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan* fully implemented. *CMS/AEWA Joint Work Plan* in place and being implemented. Joint activities developed with UNCCD and UNFCCC, including through participation in the Joint Liaison Group with UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD.

See action 18.1.1

1. Mechanisms are in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the MEAs involved and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>		
Environment Canada (Canada's Ramsar Administrative Authority) has an International Relations Directorate that is responsible for collaborating with the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements. The Directorate provides strategic coordination and policy advice to ensure coherence between domestic and international policy and programs and also among international activities of the department.		

Action r13.1.iii.- Make renewed efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, including through ensuring their participation in National Ramsar Committees, so as to foster synergies and harmonization. (Resolution VIII.5)

See action 18.1.2

1. Amongst other efforts to increase collaboration at the national level between the institutions and focal points responsible for the implementation of MEAs, focal points of other MEAs have been encouraged to participate in the National Ramsar / Wetland Committee

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the MEAs whose focal points participate in the Ramsar Committee and additional comments you consider relevant.]

Focal points responsible for the Convention on Biological Diversity participate in the Federal Wetlands Forum. (see r15.1.5).

Action 13.1.2.- Maintain and, where appropriate, seek opportunities to further promote cooperation with UNESCO, in particular its *Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)*, especially as regards wetlands within *Biosphere Reserves*, and in the area of the development of curricula to integrate wetland issues.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the National Committees and contacts of UNESCO MAB Programme

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]

Informal mechanisms are in place between Canada's Administrative Authority for the Ramsar Convention and contacts of the UNESCO MAB Programme.

Action 13.1.3.- Give priority to the implementation of the Memoranda of Cooperation or Understanding with the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention)*, the *Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Mediterranean Sea (Barcelona Convention)*, the *Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea*, other regional seas conventions, and the *Danube River Protection Convention*, and seek to establish similar cooperative arrangements with other regional instruments, such as the *Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME)*.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of the applicable regional seas conventions

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the relevant mechanisms.]

Action 13.1.5.- Develop closer working relationships with appropriate regional bodies or programmes which have an interest in wetland conservation and wise use, including the *Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)*, the *Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)*, the *European Union (EU)*, the *Council of Europe*, the *Southern African Development Community (SADC)*, the *African Union (AU)*, and the *Organization of American States (OAS)*.

1. Mechanisms are in place for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and regional bodies or programmes which have interest in wetland conservation and wise use

F

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional information on the mechanisms in place.]

A Ramsar Committee is being planned that will include representatives from Canada's Administrative Authority and regional bodies or programmes which have interest in wetland conservation and wise use.

Action 13.1.6.- Support and contribute to the development and implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement Africa's Wetland Management Strategy under the Environmental Initiative of NEPAD, *the New Partnership for Africa's Development*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: NEPAD's Action Plan to have fully incorporated Ramsar issues and mechanisms, and being implemented by relevant CPs, in lines with WSSD targets.

1. The Party has participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 13.1.7.- Continue to contribute, through the application of Ramsar tools and mechanisms, to the implementation of the *Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Review of Ramsar's contribution to the *Barbados Programme of Action*, as a contribution to the WSSD target.

1. The Party has participated in wetland-related activities within the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 13.1.8.- Continue the development and implementation of joint work plans under the Memorandum of Cooperation between the *Ramsar Convention* and the *South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP)*

1. The Party has participated in the implementation of the Ramsar/SPREP Joint Work Plan

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action r13.1.vi.- Make use, as appropriate, of the *UNEP Guidelines on Enhancing Compliance with multilateral environmental agreements and on National Enforcement, and International Cooperation in Combating Violations, of Laws Implementing Multilateral Environmental Agreements* in enhancing and supporting compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, including the *Ramsar Convention*. (Resolution VIII.24)

1. The Party has made use of the UNEP guidelines in relation to Ramsar

I

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14. SHARING OF EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 14.1. Promote the sharing of expertise and information

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

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Action 14.1.1.- Using mechanisms such as the national focal points for communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) and for the STRP, promote the sharing of knowledge (traditional, indigenous, and more recently derived technologies and methods) at the global, regional, and national levels. (Section D1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to share knowledge at the global and/or regional and/or national level

B

Choose an answer
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

There are numerous examples where Canada has shared knowledge at the Global level. The following is one example.

The Canada-Iraq Marshlands Initiative (CIMI) alone has resulted in the following:

- An interdisciplinary Canada-Iraq wetland management workshop for Iraqi scientists was held in Amman, Jordan from June 19-22, 2004. It brought together a cross-section of the professional Iraqi wetland community with representatives from government, universities and NGOs and international representatives. It assisted in design of the CIMI Work Plan,
- The Launch of the Key Biodiversity Areas Survey Program in February 2005. This was preceded by two field training courses held in Jordan and Syria in November 2004 and January 2005. Iraqi scientists expanded their expertise in rapid ecological assessment techniques for flora, fauna and water and soil information,
- the organization of a National Conference on Development and Needs Assessment of the Marshes in Islah, Iraq from December 1-2, 2004 involving 450 participants from all stakeholder interests.
- Five Iraqi graduate students are now studying at the University of Waterloo. A study tour and special session on the marshes will include 12 Iraqi scientist traveling to Montreal for an international science conference and the University of Waterloo Canada in August 2005, and
- Three technical reports and a full outline of the CIMI initiative are available of the project’s web site: www.cimiwetlands.net as well as media stories and photographs from the project.

For examples at the regional and/or national level see Action r4.1.vi, as well as Canada’s *Wetkit* site located at: <http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/>.

Action 14.1.2.- Recognize training as an important element of international cooperation under the Convention and provide access to such training, especially for wetland managers, and wetland educators and those others responsible for implementing the Convention, from other countries that would benefit from these opportunities. (Sections D2 and D3 of the Guidelines).

1. The Party has engaged in international cooperation activities related to training on wetland issues	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Canada has made voluntary contributions towards the creation of the <i>Regional Ramsar Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere</i> located in Panama.		

Action 14.1.3.- Develop twinning and/or networks of transboundary wetlands and wetlands sharing common features, as an important mechanism for sharing knowledge and providing training opportunities.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least 75 twinning arrangements to be in place and reported to the Bureau for Web publicity on the Ramsar Web site.

1.- Networks among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training	B	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the wetland networks established and other comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>The Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Consortium consists of scientific and policy experts drawn from key U.S. and Canadian federal agencies, state and provincial agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other interest groups with responsibility for coastal wetlands monitoring. Approximately two dozen agencies, organizations and institutions have been brought into the Consortium as Project Management Team members. This is an unprecedented assembly of coastal wetlands expertise. In addition, other members are brought in as small project teams are formed to address discrete project elements and pilot studies. The Consortium is coordinated by staff at the Great Lakes Commission (GLC) in Ann Arbor, Michigan and has been funded by the U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office in Chicago, Illinois.</p> <p>In addition, the Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association is comprised of 18 peat moss producers and marketers representing 95 percent of Canada's total production. Canada, the world's largest producer and exporter of sphagnum peat moss for horticultural use, produces more than 98 percent of the sphagnum peat moss used in the United States.</p> <p>As well as promotional efforts, the CSPMA undertakes a pro-active campaign on environmental issues. This campaign resulted in our adoption of a Preservation and Reclamation Policy (revised 1999), the publication of an issue paper on Canadian Peat Harvesting and the Environment (second edition 2001), and the production of an environmental video (2001) that has been viewed by hundreds of garden and environmental writers in Canada and the USA. The CSPMA is a member of the Washington, DC based Compost Council, the Mulch and Soil Council, the Garden Writers Association of America and the International Peat Society, headquartered in Finland.</p> <p>Membership consists of Voting Members, which includes all producers and brokers of Canadian sphagnum peat moss; Affiliate Voting Members, which includes all the bag suppliers; and Affiliate Non-Voting Members, which includes suppliers of the industry.</p>			
3.- Twinning arrangements among wetlands sharing common features have been established for knowledge sharing and training (if applicable, please include number of sites involved)	C	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>	N° wetlands / Ramsar sites

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the twinning arrangement, the sites involved and other comments you consider relevant.]

Action 14.1.4.- Further review and develop Internet-based resource kits and knowledge and information sharing, including the *Convention's Wetland Expert Database*, on topics including impact assessment, incentives, management planning, river basin management, participation, education and public awareness, and Ramsar sites.

<p>1. Internet-based resource kits for knowledge and information sharing on wetland issues have been developed</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

WetKit was initiated in 1998 as a joint project of the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada) and Environment Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service. Additional partners stepped forward in 1999 and 2000 to help make the *WetKit* searchable database available publicly on the world wide web - and the *WetKit* Internet site was launched in June, 2000.

Canada's *Wetkit* site is a web-based tool kit designed to streamline access to practical tools that can help Canadians better understand and manage wetlands. *WetKit* showcases a wealth of wetland tools and explains how each one can help conserve wetlands and benefit you or your business. *WetKit* also helps users to find the tool they need, and to access that tool quickly and easily - on the Internet or over the phone. The site is a resource for Canadians who influence what happens on the ground including farmers, foresters, woodlot owners, municipal planners, environmental assessment practitioners, community leaders, property owners, developers, and many others. *WetKit* also provides an opportunity for conservation agencies to distribute their tools, for businesses to promote their products and projects, and for users to contribute to *WetKit's* design and development. It may be accessed at: <http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/>

Action r14.1.i.- Share information and experiences on the management, conservation and sustainable use of mountain ecosystems similar to those of the high Andean region. (Resolution VIII.39)

<p>1. Actions have been taken to share information and experiences on wetlands in mountain ecosystems</p>	<p>B</p>	<p><i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i></p>
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2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

In recognition of the importance of the Canadian intermountain region for wetlands and waterfowl, conservation partners formalized and coordinated their efforts into the Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture (CIJV) (part of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan). Recently endorsed by the North American Bird Conservation Initiative and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada), CIJV partners are developing a more specific implementation plan to guide their actions.

CIJV partners include: Ducks unlimited Canada, the Land Trust of British Columbia, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Nature Trust of British Columbia, the British Columbia Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Parks Canada, Grasslands Conservation Council of British Columbia Teck Cominco Ltd., the Ktunaxa-Kinbasket Tribal Council, the University of Northern British Columbia, Lignum Limited, the BC Cattlemen's Association, BC Hydro, the Federation of British Columbia Naturalists and British Columbia Field Ornithologists.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15. FINANCING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.1. Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.1.1.- Mobilize direct funding support from multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies in order to assist developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition in the conservation and wise use of wetlands and in implementation of the present Strategic Plan. (Based on Section E1 of the Guidelines).

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Each CP with a bilateral donor agency to have encouraged it to give priority for funding for wetland conservation and wise use projects in relation to poverty alleviation and other WSSD targets and priorities.

1. (For CPs with development assistance agencies) Funding support has been mobilized from development assistance agency for wetland issues	B	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2. Other forms of funding support have been mobilized for wetland issues	B	

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Relying on its expertise in habitat conservation and stewardship, Wildlife Habitat Canada is working with Wetlands International-Indonesia Programme, with financial assistance from the Canadian International Development Agency (US\$3.4 million over five years), the Indonesian government, and the Global Environment Centre to enhance conservation practices in Indonesian peatlands through the Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia (CCFPI) project. This project will conserve wetland biodiversity, maintain and increase carbon storage, and improve the livelihood of current and future generations in Indonesia. Proposed measures to accomplish these objectives include the development of wetland/peatland conservation practices, alternative livelihood options, strengthening forest management policy and enforcement, forest fire prevention, forest rehabilitation, promoting low impact logging, and reduction in land conversion.

Also, the Canada-Iraq Marshlands Initiative (CIMI) is a cooperative venture supported by Canadian and Iraqi university, government and non-government partners with \$3 million in support from the Canadian International Development Agency. CIMI is led by the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. The CIMI project, being implemented over the 2004 to 2007 period, is designed to directly complement Iraq's plans to increase scientific and biological understanding of the marshes in southern Iraq in order to facilitate restoration efforts, and to build capacity for effective wetlands management.

Action r15.1.i.- Encourage bilateral and multilateral donors to assign priority to supporting wetland inventories in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition in recognition of the importance of inventory as the basis for developing and implementing sustainable use of wetlands. (Resolution VIII.6)

1. The Party has worked with bilateral and multilateral donors to mobilize funding support for wetland inventories	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 15.1.2.- Mobilize resources to support the implementation of management plans for Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition. (Refer also to Operational Objective 11.1)

1.- The Party has worked with donors to mobilize resources for implementation of Ramsar site management plans <i>(if applicable, please include number of sites)</i>	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° Ramsar sites
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please list the sites involved and include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>			

Action r15.1.ii.- Encourage Contracting Parties and donor organizations to give priority for support to the development of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management, in recognition of their essential values and functions in combating poverty through the sustainable use of their ecosystems and their role in maintaining the quality and quantity of water, including at the basin scale. Resolution VIII.10) (Refer also to Operational Objective 11.1)

1. The Party has worked with donors to mobilize support for the establishment of coherent national and international networks of Ramsar sites and their effective management	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r15.1.iii.- Urge multilateral and bilateral donors to ensure that the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands and production potential of wetlands is fully addressed in the design, planning and implementation of river basin and water resource management projects, taking into account the special circumstances and constraints of the concerned countries. (Resolution VIII.1)

1. The Party has worked with donors to ensure that the ecological functions of wetlands are conserved when designing and implementing water projects	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action r15.1.iv.- Continue support, and, as appropriate, increase this support, for wetland-related projects in the Oceania region and extend it to include capacity building activities. (Resolution VIII.42)

1. Financial support provided for wetland-related projects in the Oceania region	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 15.1.3.- For those Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies, respond to sections E1, E2, E5, E7, E10, E11, E14 and E15 of the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* (Ramsar Handbook 9), and especially consider issues such as long-term fund generation mechanisms, appropriate monitoring of projects, training of development assistance agency staff, priority for institutional capacity building, the need for cooperation between development assistance agencies, and the importance of coordination between bilateral development assistance agencies and the Ramsar Administrative Authorities in the donor and recipient countries.

<i>(For CPs with development assistance agencies)</i>		
1. Work has been done with the development assistance agency in relation to Ramsar's <i>Guidelines for international cooperation</i> (Res. VII.19)	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Canada's Administrative Authority for the Ramsar Convention is working with the Canadian International Development Agency in relation to Ramsar's Guidelines for international cooperation.		

Action 15.1.4.- Pursuant to 15.1.3, urge all Parties with bilateral development assistance agencies to report on their performance with regard to wetland-related activities at each COP. (Based on Section E5 of the Guidelines)

<i>(For CPs with development assistance agencies)</i>		
1. The performance of the development assistance agency in relation to wetland issues has been assessed	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 15.1.5.- For those Parties involved in the priority-setting for, and the determining of, the *modus operandi* of the multilateral development and environment-related assistance agencies, seek to ensure that wetland conservation and wise use is afforded due attention and priority.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Relevant CPs to report to COP9 on ensuring that multilateral donor agencies afford priority to wetlands within poverty alleviation schemes.

1. The Party has worked with multilateral agencies to ensure that wetland issues receive due attention	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> <i>A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer</i>
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Environment Canada is a member of the Federal Wetlands Forum, which was formed to promote inter-agency cooperation (information exchange) and coordination on policy implementation, wetland management and scientific research. It is structured at an informal "working level" and is comprised of 17 federal agencies and 4 national non-government organizations. Environment Canada also formed the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (NAWCC) to provide national leadership for the North American Waterfowl		

Management Plan, and to take a leadership role in wetlands policy and awareness. The NAWCC Canada members are drawn from federal, provincial and/or territorial governments and from non-government organizations.

Action 15.1.6.- Provide financial support, preferably on a medium and/or long-term basis, to the operations of the *Ramsar Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, and the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, seeking to have available a minimum of one million US dollars annually for the former and half a million US dollars for the latter. (Based on Sections E4 and E9 of the Guidelines.)

See action 16.1.2

1. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2. Financial support provided to the Ramsar Endowment Fund	C	
3. Contributions have been made to the Ramsar Voluntary Fund for the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme	C	
4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on contributions made to support the funds and services indicated above.]		

Action 15.1.7.- Mobilize resources to support the development of wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites and the training of wetland educators in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

1. Actions have been taken to mobilize resources to support wetland training and education centres at Ramsar sites in developing countries and countries with economies in transition	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
Canada has made voluntary contributions towards the creation of the <i>Regional Ramsar Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere</i> located in Panama.		

Action 15.1.8.- For those Parties eligible for development assistance, include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in national portfolios and plans for consideration by development assistance agencies, and give priority among these for projects to build institutional capacity. (Based on Sections E8 and E12 of the Guidelines)

1. Project proposals related to wetlands have been submitted to development assistance agencies	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 15.1.9.- For eligible Contracting Parties of both the *Ramsar Convention* and the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)*, develop wetland conservation and wise use projects suitable for consideration by the *Global Environment Facility (GEF)*, as part of the implementation of the Joint Work Plan with the CBD and in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7 of Decision IV/4 of CBD's COP4 relating to inland water ecosystems.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Assistance provided to at least 15 countries in preparing projects for submission to the *Global Environment Facility*.

1. Project proposals related to wetlands have been submitted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF)	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 15.1.12.- Pursue involvement of the private sector (including corporations and foundations) in wetland conservation and seek opportunities for private sector funding of wetland projects under Ramsar.

1. Steps have been taken to involve the private sector and private-sector funding in wetland projects	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
Through the North American Waterfowl Management Program, several companies are supporting wetland projects that involve community participation. As well, the Nature Conservancy of Canada and its supporters are contributing to wetland conservation throughout Canada through acquisition of key freshwater and coastal wetland systems.		

Action 15.1.13.- Promote establishment of effective mechanisms to encourage environmentally sound trade in wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites, compatible with international trade agreements.

1. Mechanisms have been established to encourage environmentally sound trade of wetland products, in particular from Ramsar sites	H	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
The <i>Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act</i> (WAPPRIITA) is the legislative vehicle by which Canada meets its obligations under CITES. The purpose of WAPPRIITA is to protect Canadian and foreign species of animals and plants that may be at risk of overexploitation because of illegal trade and to safeguard Canadian ecosystems from the introduction of species considered to be harmful (this includes wetland species and ecosystems). It accomplishes these objectives by controlling the international trade and interprovincial transport of certain wild animals and plants, as well as their parts and derivatives. WAPPRIITA also makes it an offence to transport illegally obtained wildlife between provinces and territories or between Canada and other countries.		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15. FINANCING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 15.2. Ensure that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer
RESOURCING:	B	A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer
TARGETS (text answer):		

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	
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COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 15.2.1.- Work with international development agencies, including banks, financial institutions and private investors and developers, to ensure that proposed grants, loans, and development projects include environmental safeguards and environmental assessments of possible impacts upon wetlands. (Based on Section G1 of the Guidelines.)

1. Actions have been taken to work with investors on possible impacts of their projects on wetlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Action 15.2.3.- Review wetland-related project development approval and consider the introduction of mechanisms to direct resources derived from these activities back to hands-on wetland management in the country. (Based on Section G3 of the Guidelines.)

1. Work has been done to introduce mechanisms to direct resources derived from wetlands back to wetland management

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16. FINANCING OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 16.1. Provide the financial resources required for the Convention's governance mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	A	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	A	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 16.1.1.- Pay annual contributions to the Convention's core budget in full and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year.

1. Ramsar dues have been paid in full and in a timely manner

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Canada has paid all of its Ramsar dues in a full and timely manner.

Action 16.1.2.- Consider providing additional voluntary contributions to the Convention to support the *Small Grants Fund* and its *Endowment Fund*, the *Voluntary Fund for the Convention’s Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, and the *Training Service*, regionally-based initiatives such as *MedWet*, the undertaking of *Ramsar Advisory Missions* for sites included in the *Montreux Record* and other Ramsar sites, and other priority activities as determined by the Strategic Plan.

In addition to any contributions listed under Action 15.1.6 above, voluntary contributions have been made:

1. to the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International	C	<i>Choose an answer for each indicator</i> <i>A = Not applicable;</i> <i>B = Yes;</i> <i>C = No;</i> <i>D = Partly/ in some cases;</i> <i>E = In progress;</i> <i>F= Being planned;</i> <i>G = Being updated;</i> <i>H = Other status</i> <i>(explain below);</i> <i>I = No answer</i>
2. to support regional initiatives under the Convention	B	
3. for Ramsar Advisory Missions related to Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record	C	
4. towards the development and maintenance of logistics of the San José Record	C	
5. to support the work of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)	C	
6. to expand the internship programme at the Ramsar Bureau	C	
7. in relation to COP9	B	
8.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the contributions made to support the services indicated above.]</i>		

Canada has made voluntary contributions towards: the creation of the *Regional Ramsar Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere* located in Panama, Ramsar Regional meetings, and by means of sponsoring delegates for COP9.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 17.1. Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Ramsar Bureau are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support implementation of this Strategic Plan

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):		
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	To designate a Canadian observer to the STRP to support implementation of the Strategic Plan.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 17.1.6.- Ensure that each Contracting Party has nominated a national focal point for the work of the STRP (as called for by Resolutions VII.2 and VIII.28) and two focal points (one government, one non-government) for the *Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme* (as called for by Resolutions VII.9 and VIII.31)

See also Action r9.iii.i. concerning CEPA national focal points.

1. The National Focal Point for the work of STRP has been nominated

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the STRP National Focal Point and other comments you consider relevant.]

Randy Milton (the Manager of Wildlife Resources, Wetlands and Coastal Habitats Program Department of Natural Resources, Nova Scotia) is Canada's observer to the STRP at the present time.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF CONTRACTING PARTIES

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 18.1. Develop the capacity within, and promote cooperation among, institutions in Contracting Parties to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands

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PRIORITY:	B	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	A Ramsar Committee, representing federal and provincial/territorial governments, non-government organizations, and the private sector that are concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Determine appropriate existing mechanism for the abovementioned Ramsar Committee to reside.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 18.1.1.- Encourage the review of existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands, and on the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

- increase cooperation and synergy among institutions with direct or indirect responsibility for wetland issues, especially those responsible for the management of water resources and for biodiversity and wetland conservation and management;
- promote enhanced cooperation, and where appropriate integrated approaches, among the national focal points of environment-related conventions, and consider establishing a coordinating committee to ensure that integrated approaches are taken;
- promote enhanced contact, and where appropriate close coordination, between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and national professional, technical, scientific and educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including those involved in social and cultural heritage issues; and
- provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, to enable these institutions to implement the Convention to full effect.

1. A review of national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands has been completed

D

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the review and other comments you consider relevant.]

In 2004 Ducks Unlimited Canada implemented a *Wetlands in Agricultural Landscapes* project with funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, to address the valuation of wetlands in an attempt to help formulate wetland policy at both the Federal and Provincial Government levels. This project will help clarify the responsibilities of various levels of Government regarding wetland management for stakeholders through government involvement. It will provide an open forum for discussion of the role of wetlands in the

agricultural landscape, including wetland benefits, costs, and an approach to wetland policy that addresses the needs of stakeholders.

The province of British Columbia conducted a survey of organizations and individuals supporting wetland conservation in the province. The results of the survey - initiated in the fall of 2002 -- are available on the Internet, and describe about 150 initiatives. The results showed that most of the energy is being invested in "stewardship and restoration." The least common activity is "to change legislation or regulations to protect wetlands." The results may be accessed at: <http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/wld/wetlands.html>

See action 13.1.1

3. A coordinating committee among focal points of environment-related conventions is in place

C

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

4.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the coordinating committee and other comments you consider relevant.]

5. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and other national institutions directly or indirectly responsible for wetland issues, in particular water and biodiversity

F

Choose an answer for each indicator

A = Not applicable;

B = Yes;

C = No;

D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress;

F= Being planned;

G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below);

I = No answer

6. Mechanisms are in place to ensure cooperation between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and relevant professional, scientific or educational societies and agencies involved in wetland conservation or management, including social and cultural heritage issues

F

7.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include information on the relevant cooperation mechanisms and any other comments you consider relevant.]

A Ramsar Committee is being planned that would include representatives from other national, professional, scientific, and educational societies that are responsible for wetland issues, including social and heritage issues.

Action r18.1.i.- Build and strengthen institutional capacity and synergies between related instruments at the national level in order to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands and report to COP9 on progress on this matter, including achievements and the identification of difficulties encountered (Resolution VIII.3)

1. Work has been done to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Nationally, work is been done to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands in the following ways:

1) The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Wildlife Habitat Canada, and the Deh Cho First Nations are conducting a joint study on wetland habitat conservation and carbon estimates in northern boreal and low arctic ecosystems in Canada's North West Territories. The project is focused on providing a broad based mechanism and data to access and plan wetland habitats, as well as to examine linkages in using the sequestered carbon in peatlands as tools to further encourage conservation actions.

2) Natural Resources Canada's Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Program in collaboration with the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Research Network will be hosting the *Adapting to Climate Change in*

Canada 2005: Understanding Risks and Building Capacity conference to be held at Le Centre Sheraton Montréal Hotel, Montréal, Québec, May 4-7, 2005. This conference will provide the first opportunity for researchers and decision-makers from a wide range of disciplines to share results and information in pan-Canadian event.

The conference program includes invited plenary presentations and panels, themed sessions, poster sessions, workshops, and field trips. Conference themes include:

- The impacts of climate change on natural and managed resources
- Research techniques and approaches for assessing vulnerability and adaptation to climate change
- Incorporating climate change and variability into policy and decision making

3) Canada will also be hosting the 11th Conference of the Parties (COP 11) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Montreal, November 7 -- 17, 2005, with 189 governments expected to attend. This session is especially significant as it will be the first Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol following the Protocol entering into force. A total of 141 Parties have ratified the treaty.

As chair of the UN climate conference, Canada will be in a pivotal position to broker the next generation of climate change action. This means moving the 'Kyoto Club', an unofficial name for the countries who have ratified the Protocol, towards agreement on more ambitious and binding targets after the first period of the Kyoto Protocol ends in 2012.

Provincial and territorial work is also being done to address the linkages between climate change and wetlands, for example: in Nova Scotia the Deputy Minister's Climate Change Working Group has identified climate change impacts and adaptation as an important issue. An "Issues Paper" has been drafted to identify Nova Scotia's vulnerabilities to climate change, and identify priority options for adapting to climate change impacts. It is anticipated that stakeholder review of the Paper will serve to identify opportunities for partnerships at all levels of government, industry and nongovernment organizations in dealing with adaptation. Wetlands are one of the important natural features included in the paper.

Action 18.1.2.- Establish National Ramsar/Wetlands Committees to provide the opportunity for input from, and representation of, relevant government agencies, including national water management ministries and/or agencies, where appropriate, and non-governmental organizations, STRP and CEPA National Focal Points, key stakeholders, indigenous people and local communities, the private sector and interest groups, and land use planning and management authorities (Recommendation 5.13). When in place, ensure the proper functioning of these Committees.

See actions r3.4.iii, r13.1.iii

1. A National Ramsar / Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body) is in place

B

*Choose an answer for each indicator
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No;
D = Partly/ in some cases;*

2. If a Ramsar Committee exists, it is cross-sectoral (relevant ministries and agencies, NGOs, key stakeholders, local communities, private sector, etc.)

B

*E = In progress; F= Being planned;
G = Being updated; H = Other status
(explain below); I = No answer*

3.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the National Ramsar Committee].

In Canada, two forums/councils exist that provide the opportunity for representation and input on Ramsar related issues. They are:

The Federal Wetlands Forum

The Federal Wetlands Forum – established February 2, 2001 (World Wetlands Day) to promote inter-agency cooperation (information exchange) and coordination on policy implementation, wetland management and scientific research. It is structured at an informal "working level" and is comprised of 17 federal agencies and 4 national non-government organizations. The core group is comprised of:

- Environment Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada

- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Department of National Defence
- Natural Resources Canada
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Canadian Space Agency
- Industry Canada
- Ducks Unlimited Canada and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (NAWCC) (Canada)

The Forum meets 3 – 4 times per year or more often as needed. The Forums current priorities include the Canadian Wetland Inventory (CWI) and engaging decision makers. They coordinated the 2003 National Conference on Wetland Stewardship. The event was a forum to:

1. Promote the key relationship of wetlands to clean water and healthy communities through national initiatives.
2. Provide a report card on the ecological status of wetland resources in Canada.
3. Facilitate the establishment of a national wetland inventory and monitoring program through earth observation satellite technology and related initiatives.
4. Facilitate implementation of national wetland stewardship initiatives through technology such as the Stewardship Canada Web Portal and *WetKit*.
5. Highlight natural resources industry sector innovations in the stewardship of wetlands and the economic opportunities in the sustainable use of Canadian and global wetland resources.
6. Identify opportunities and challenges for wetland conservation and wise use through education.
7. Facilitate further research and collaboration in areas such as wetland assessment, understanding wetland functions and values, and their integration into the policy and decision-making process.
8. Explore and identify performance indicators to measure progress in tracking and fostering the implementation of recommendations emanating from this conference.

North American Wetlands Conservation Council

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (NAWCC) (Canada) - was established in 1990 by the federal Minister of the Environment to provide national leadership for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and to take a leadership role in wetlands policy and awareness. In 2000, the Wetlands Council expanded its mandate and membership, becoming the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) Canada Council and taking on the additional role of coordinating the North American Bird Conservation Initiative in Canada. However, the Wetlands Council continues to exist as a Standing Committee of the NABCI Canada Council, and it continues its roles with regards to wetlands and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. NAWCC Canada members are drawn from federal, provincial and/or territorial governments and from non-government organizations. NAWCC (Canada) continues to support the innovative and ever-evolving website *WetKit*: www.wetkit.net. This site is a model for environmental information management and offers "one-stop shopping" for wetland stewardship information, technologies and advice. It presents practical, cost-effective management tools for industry, communities and landowners.

Action 18.1.3.- Review the designated Ramsar national Administrative Authority (and provincial (sub-national) focal points where appropriate) and STRP and CEPA national focal points in each Contracting Party, with a view to ensuring that these positions are being effective in increasing involvement in the work of the Convention of all relevant agencies and organizations concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

1. The institutional capacity for the effective implementation of the Convention – including the Ramsar Administrative Authority, National Wetland Committee (or equivalent body) and STRP and CEPA focal points– has been assessed

D *Choose an answer*
A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The Commissioner on Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD) has been engaged (2004 - present) in an audit/study of federal Department performance relative to three International Environmental Agreements (IEAs) including the Ramsar Convention. The draft audit report made recommendations to improve documentation on the conservation status of existing Ramsar sites.

Action 18.1.4.- Assist in achieving a cohesive and coordinated national effort towards the implementation of the Convention, using Ramsar's national planning tool (based on the National Report Format) as an ongoing planning and monitoring mechanism. Ideally, this tool should be used by all relevant government departments/agencies and include input from National Ramsar/Wetland Committee members and other stakeholders as appropriate.

1. The National Report Format has been used as a national planning tool for the implementation of the Convention

C

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20. TRAINING

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 20.1. Identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition, and implement appropriate responses

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	C	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	B	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Not applicable.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):		

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 20.1.1.- Implement, and further develop and publicize, the *Convention's Wetland Training Service*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: Ramsar Wetland Training Service in place and fully implemented.

1. The Party has participated in the development and use of the Ramsar Training Service managed by Wetlands International

D

Choose an answer

*A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;
E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;
H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer*

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

Canada has made voluntary contributions towards: the creation of the *Regional Ramsar Center for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere* located in Panama, Ramsar Regional meetings, and by means of sponsoring delegates for COP9.

Action 20.1.2.- Identify at national, provincial, and local levels the needs and target audiences for training in implementation of the Convention and, in particular, use of the *Wise Use Guidelines and Ramsar Handbooks*.

GLOBAL TARGET 2003-2005: At least half of CPs to have assessed national and local training needs.

1. An assessment has been completed of national and local training needs in the implementation of the Convention and use of the Wise Use Handbooks	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		

Action 20.1.3.- Identify and disseminate, nationally, regionally and globally, information describing the current training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands through the further development of the *Bureau's Ramsar Wise Use Resource Centre* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_index.htm) and the *Directory of Wetland Management Training Opportunities* (http://ramsar.org/wurc_training_directory.htm).

1. The wetland-related training opportunities that exist in the country have been identified	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]</i>		
<p>Wetland-related training opportunities that exist in Canada have been identified and listed on Canada's <i>Wetkit</i> site at: http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/sub_category_search_results.php?parent_cat_id=29&cat_id=40&aux_cat_id=&region_id=14.</p> <p>The list includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Temperate Wetland Restoration Training Course (Ontario ministry of Natural resources, Environment Canada, Trent University, and Ducks Unlimited Canada), • the Wetland keepers Program (British Columbia Wildlife Federation and Environment Canada), and • the Working with Wetlands Training Course (North American Wetlands Conservation Council and Environment Canada). 		

Action 20.1.5.- Assemble and make available, or develop, new training activities and general training modules as necessary, for the use of the Ramsar Handbooks, with specialized modules including coverage of the following fields:

- a) wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring;
- b) national wetland policies and plans;
- c) integrated catchment/river basin and coastal zone planning and management;
- d) integrated site management planning at the local, provincial or catchment/river basin level;
- e) wetland restoration and rehabilitation;
- f) invasive alien species;
- g) agricultural impacts on wetlands and water resources;
- h) impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment;
- i) impacts of climate change, and adaptive management and mitigation of such impacts
- j) economic valuation of wetlands;
- k) communication, education and public awareness techniques.

1. Training modules and materials on wetland-related issues have been developed	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 <i>[Please include information on the development of training modules and materials for the issues listed above, and additional comments you consider relevant.]</i>		

Training modules have been developed for many of the training courses listed in Action 20.1.3. Other training modules and materials have been developed, including the *Working with Wetlands in Env'l Assessment under CEAA* (Participant's Manual) (2000), developed by the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada) and Environment Canada.

Course materials includes a selection of tools to help practitioners better consider wetlands in the environmental assessment process including:

- wetland functions and benefits
- how CEAA relates to wetlands
- five good reasons for conserving wetlands
- how to implement the federal policy on wetland conservation in project assessments under CEAA
- checklist for EAs involving wetlands
- sequence of mitigation alternatives
- major red flags for scoping project assessments involving wetlands
- guide to identifying wetland issues in EA
- considerations for describing a wetland
- an overview of functional assessments
- potential effects on wetland functions and mitigation examples

Course materials may be accessed at: http://www.wetkit.net/docs/master_manual_web.pdf...

Action 20.1.6.- Provide opportunities for manager training by:

- a) encouraging personnel exchanges for on-the-job training, possibly between twinned sites;
- b) holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites;
- c) siting wetland manager and wetland educator training facilities at Ramsar sites;
- d) obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world;
- e) establishing further regional training initiatives such as the *Wetlands for the Future Initiative* funded by the Government of the USA for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

1. Opportunities for manager training in the country have been provided	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		
The Working with Wetlands Training Course (North American Wetlands Conservation Council and Environment Canada) is designed for federal officers and consultants involved in environmental assessment, development planning, real property transactions, and land use planning and management.		

Action 20.1.7.- Continue to encourage the development of projects for submission to the *Small Grants Fund* for support for training activities.

1. Training-related projects have been submitted to the Small Grants Fund	C	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

Action 20.1.8.- Encourage further development and use of regional wetland training and research centres, including a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere (Resolution VII.26) and a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in Western and Central Asia (Resolution VIII.41).

1.- Support has been provided to the development of regional wetland training and research centres <i>(if applicable, please include number of centres)</i>	F	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer	N° centres
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include the list of centres and other additional comments you consider relevant.]			
<p>The 2005 Wetlands Institute training course entitled "Sustainability" will be held in Victoria, British Columbia in July 2005.</p> <p>Participants learn wetland mapping, inventory, and restoration techniques, all placed in the community context. The Wetlands Institute focuses on project development and implementation. Participants interested in building and implementing a plan for a wetland education, conservation, or restoration project in their own community are encouraged to apply.</p> <p>This 1-week course is primarily field-based and participants gain field skills by working on three projects in the host community. Register by March 1, 2005 and the registration fee is only \$500 (includes meals and accommodation). After March 1, 2005 the late registration fee is \$750. Fifteen registrants are accepted on a first come, first serve basis, on condition of submission of an acceptable project portfolio.</p>			

Action 20.1.9.- Exchange information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about training for the conservation and wise use of wetlands through the *Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programme*, the Bureau, *MedWet* and the IOPs of the Convention.

1. The Party has participated in exchanges of information and expertise related to wetland training issues	B	<i>Choose an answer</i> A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated; H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer
2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]		

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 21.1. Secure the universal membership of the Convention

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PLANNING TOOL SECTION

PRIORITY:	C	<i>A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer</i>
RESOURCING:	C	<i>A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer</i>
TARGETS (text answer):	Over the 2004 to 2007 period, to directly complement Iraq's plans to increase scientific and biological understanding of the marshes in southern Iraq in order to facilitate restoration efforts, and to build capacity for effective wetlands management.	
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (text answer):	Provide advice and assistance to the Iraq Ministry of the Environment in the development of Ramsar Convention accession materials including support for the first Ramsar site designation in Iraq.	

COP9 REPORT SECTION

Action 21.1.1.- Recruit new Contracting Parties through:

- a) seeking direct contact with non-Contracting Parties to provide information on the benefits of membership and advice or assistance in overcoming obstacles;
- b) intensifying contacts with the diplomatic representatives of non-Contracting Parties;
- c) seeking assistance from the secretariats of other conventions, including the Regional Seas Conventions, and in-country offices of the *United Nations Development Programme*, the *World Bank* and others;
- d) organizing subregional workshops involving Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties;
- e) providing assistance for the identification of *Wetlands of International Importance* that could be listed as Ramsar sites upon accession;
- f) encouraging attendance by observers from non-Contracting Parties at regional meetings and meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and
- g) publishing and disseminating an accession kit to assist countries in the Oceania region (and Small Island Developing States more generally) through the accession process. (Resolution VIII.42)

1. Actions have been taken to encourage the adherence to the Convention of new Contracting Parties

B

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some cases;

E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer

2.- Implementation progress since COP8 [Please include additional comments on the implementation of this action.]

The Canada-Iraq Marshlands Initiative (CIMI) is a cooperative venture supported by Canadian and Iraqi university, government and non-government partners with \$3 million in support from the Canadian International Development Agency. CIMI is led by the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

The CIMI project, being implemented over the 2004 to 2007 period, is designed to directly complement Iraq's plans to increase scientific and biological understanding of the marshes in southern Iraq in order to facilitate restoration efforts, and to build capacity for effective wetlands management.

CIMI is also providing advice and assistance to the Iraq Ministry of the Environment in the development of Ramsar Convention accession materials including support for the first Ramsar site designation in Iraq, potentially by November 2005.

FEEDBACK ON COP9 NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT

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Please include additional comments on the COP9 National Planning Tool, National Report Format. (For instance, adequacy of the questions, the difficulties in completing them, and any further recommendations on how these reporting guidelines could be improved)

This reporting mechanism needs to be made simpler, but still effective. The following are some suggestions:

- The degree of detail required for the answers needs to be demonstrated or inferred.
- Redundancy throughout the document needs to be minimized.
- More specific, less general, questions would be preferred for those larger countries with complex governance structures.
- Instead of one long document, perhaps several smaller ones divided by topic or operational objective (this would make the circulation and review process more effective and less arduous).

In case a specific working group would be created, will you be interested in participating in the preparation of the COP10 National Report Format?

I

Choose an answer

A = Not applicable; B = Yes; C = No; D = Partly/ in some

cases; E = In progress; F= Being planned; G = Being updated;

H = Other status (explain below); I = No answer