

Tracking Implementation Progress of Council Recommendations Update Report – October 2012 – Vol. 2

1.0 Introduction

As part of the implementation tracking system, Council staff prepare two reports: a detailed report and an update report. The Detailed Report lists all recommendations and their implementation status, by individual recommendation, theme or full suite of recommendations. The Detailed Report is in table format, fully updated twice a year and posted on the Council's website.

The Update Report provides a general overview of implementation progress, highlighting both successes and challenges; it is presented as an administration item at the March and October Board meetings. As part of this presentation, the Board will have an opportunity to discuss implementation progress and may offer advice to implementers concerning any challenges that are identified.

The first Update Report was presented in March 2012. This second Update Report focuses on general progress since then, and similarly describes implementation progress by project.

2.0 Projects

2.1 *Water For Life* Renewal (January 2008)

Complete. No further reporting required.

2.2 Intra-Basin Water Movement (June 2008)

No change since the March 2012 update.

2.3 Wetland Policy and Implementation Plan (September 2008)

2.3.1 Wetland Policy

No change since the March 2012 update.

2.3.2 Wetland Implementation Plan

No change since the March 2012 update.

2.4 Shared Governance (September 2008)

With the establishment of the last planned WPAC for the province, shared outcomes in watershed management planning can now be achieved for each major watershed.

2.5 Watershed Management Planning (September 2008)

No change since the March 2012 update.

2.6 Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity Sector Planning (September 2008)

CEP plans for the Downstream Petroleum sector and the Power Generation sector have been approved and posted on the Alberta Water Council website. The Chemical sector's draft CEP plan was presented to the Council and is awaiting approval from the sector. Most recommendations have either been implemented or are awaiting completion of all the sector plans before they can be addressed.

2.7 Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems (March 2009)

An environmental monitoring system working group was established to support the design of a new environmental monitoring system, with a focus on implementation for the province.

2.8 *Water for Life* Implementation Review 2006 – 2008 (June 2009)

The *Water for Life* Implementation Review Committee has documented implementation progress since the last review and their findings will be presented at the October 2012 Alberta Water Council meeting.

2.9 Water Allocation Transfer System Upgrade Project (August 2009)

No change since the March 2012 update.

2.10 Provincial Ecological Aquatic Criteria for Health (November 2009)

Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development is working with Tourism, Parks and Recreation to include in the Environmentally Significant Areas map supporting watershed and regional planning.

2.11 Moving from Words to Actions (June 2011)

GoA implementation:

ESRD continues to make improvements on their website to support work of the *WFL* partners. As well, the GoA released its *WFL* Progress Report (2008-2011), summarizing actions and initiatives by the GoA under the *WFL* Action Plan. GoA progress on the other recommendations directed at them is covered in the Detailed Report.

Water for Life Partnerships implementation:

The Land Stewardship Centre, WPACs and the AWC continue to make progress in meeting the intent of the recommendations directed to them. For specifics, refer to the Detailed Report.

3.0 Conclusion

When reviewing the Detailed Report, it is important to understand that recommendations whose implementation status is “in progress” may not have a specific update; however, progress in many cases is being made, and it may be premature to report on work in progress.

In addition, the GoA has announced its intent to engage Albertans in a conversation about water. The results of this conversation may affect the direction and priorities for water management in the province, which in turn may impact the implementation of some of our recommendations.