

BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: July 26, 2023

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Nathan Cullen, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

ISSUE: Update on the development of a B.C. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework and next steps

KEY POINTS:

- The attached draft B.C. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework (the Framework) has been updated since it was presented to the Deputy Minister Committee on Natural Resources (DMCNR) in May 2023 based on review and feedback from select advisors.
- s.13; s.16

BACKGROUND:

- Engagement with First Nations and multi-sectoral partners (i.e., Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM), Council of Forest Industries (COFI), industry sectors, Environmental Non-Government Organizations (ENGOS), and academics) was conducted in collaboration with Ministry of Forests (FOR) from January to May 2023. This included broad forums, regional sessions and virtual focused sessions on the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework.
- s.12; s.13; s.16
- Internal engagement across Ministries has been ongoing and is now focused on operational aspects of the Framework (how will it affect operations across Natural Resource Sector Ministries).

DISCUSSION:

- Key changes made to the draft Framework (since May 2023) include:
s.13; s.16

- s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:

- First Nations views and comments raised during engagement on the Old-Growth Strategic Report (OGSR) and Recommendation 2 in Winter/Fall have been incorporated into the draft. Engagement will continue with First Nations through weekly open calls on the OGSR led by the Ministry of Forests.
- s.13; s.16

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- Assessment of potential implications will be conducted in September-November.

NEXT STEPS:

- The Project Plan Summary (Attachment 2) outlines the next steps to finalize the draft. Key milestones include:
s.13; s.16

- The Project Plan Summary also outlines key areas of focus over the coming months, including:
s.13; s.16

Attachment(s):

1. s.13; s.16; s.20
2. s.12; s.13; s.16; s.20



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	Initials	Date
CFO/EFO (if required)	LH	July 25, 2023
ADM	DM	July 21, 2023
Program Dir/Mgr.	CD	July 21, 2023

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16 ; s.20

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s.12 ; s.13 ; s.16 ; s.20