



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Ministry of
Environment and
Climate Change Strategy

Estimates Debates 2024

Prepared for:

Honourable George Heyman

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SPEAKING POINTS FOR
Hon. George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Budget 2024 Estimates

Wednesday March 13, 2024

Legislative Assembly

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Speaking Points

Introduction

- I'd first like to acknowledge that we're here on the territory of the Lekwungen speaking people the Esquimalt and the So-nghees First Nations.
- I'd also like to introduce the staff that will be supporting me through this debate – and who continue to support me every day.
 - Deputy Minister Kevin Jardine
 - Laurel Nash, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Environmental Protection Division
 - Jeremy Hewitt, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Climate Action Secretariat;
 - Jim Standen, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Conservation and Recreation Division;
 - Chris Trumpy, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Operations Division of the Environmental Assessment Office;
 - Amy Avila, Executive Lead for the Strategic Services Division;
 - and Ranbir Parmar, our Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer.
- And before I begin, I want to offer my sincere appreciation for the people of this institution who make this place work ...
- ... those in government, those in opposition, and the hardworking staff of the legislative assembly and in the public service.
- As you know, I won't be seeking re-election this fall, so I'm excited for one more debate of the estimates of my ministry's budget.

OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE PERSONAL STORY OF TIME IN OPPOSITION

- And as I look back at the last seven years, I'm proud of the steps we've taken in my ministry and across government...
- encouraged with the path that we're on to protect our natural environment, and everyone and everything that depends on it.
- Continue to be challenged by the effects of climate change; drought, floods and extreme heat.
- Global inflation also challenging people like never before, we're taking action to build a strong, inclusive and clean economy that works for everyone...
- Some possible examples:
 - Heat pump rebates
 - More EV charging stations
 - More campsites that are easier to book
- We continue to work towards more ways to help people with the cost of living.
- CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 is the strong action we need to make progress.

CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate Change Accountability Report shows we're making progress.
- 2023 report shows emissions are down 5% from 2018, the year our CleanBC plan was released.
- Current and future actions put B.C. on track to achieve 96% of our climate targets by 2030.
- Continuing to accelerate thoughtful, effective CleanBC policies can meet our climate targets and secure a more affordable future.
- This includes a 50% decrease in methane emissions from oil and gas, surpassing our 2025 reduction target of 45%, and putting us on a path toward a 75% reduction by 2030.

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- Passenger electric vehicle sales continue to be the highest in Canada, with 22.9% of all new sales so far in 2023, progressing well to B.C.'s target of 26% by 2026.
- Public charging network grew by 24% to remain one of the largest public charging networks in Canada.
- More than 13,000 CleanBC rebates for residential retrofits in 2023, including 6,000 incentives to make heat pumps more affordable, for an 84% increase from the previous year.
- People can save as much as \$14,300 on equipment and installation by combining a provincial sales tax exemption with provincial, federal and municipal top-up and rebate programs.
- Budget 2024 reaffirms our commitment to climate action.
- It includes \$318 million to continue lower emissions through clean transportation, energy-efficient buildings and communities, and support for the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- Another \$93 million will help people and communities reduce emissions:
 - \$40 million for additional heat pump rebates for households with low and middle incomes to provide access to affordable, clean energy;
 - \$20 million for active transportation grants to communities;
 - \$30 million to continue the implementation of electric vehicle public charging infrastructure; and
 - \$3 million to support youth involvement in climate-action initiatives.

INDUSTRY/OBPS

- While we're making great progress, we all agree that to make true progress on climate change, the economy and the environment need to go hand in hand.
- In February, we announced our finalized, updated carbon pricing system for large industry that will incentivize companies to lower pollution and create

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more good, clean jobs.

- Starting in 2024, B.C.'s output-based pricing system will see large industry pay for its emissions above a set target...
- ... and ensure companies have flexibility, support and incentives to reduce emissions and transition to a clean-energy future.
- This was the key request of industry
- ...and we have had great response from both industry – including the Mining Association of BC, Teck and Rio Tinto, as well as the Canadian Climate Institute and Clean Energy Canada.
- Industrial operators also have access to the CleanBC Industry Fund, which supports their transition to clean-energy solutions.
- We've invested \$215 million back into industry and reduced almost nine million tonnes of carbon emissions – the fund will be open for new applications in spring 2024.
- And last year, we announced our New Energy Action Framework, to support a strong economy and good, clean jobs.
- The plan will require proposed LNG facilities in B.C. to have a credible plan to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030 to proceed through the environmental assessment process.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- Another key mandate of my ministry is our work to make sure the environment is protected, clean, safe and resilient.
- All British Columbians deserve access to a sustainable and healthy environment.

- Clean Coast Clean Waters Initiative partners with communities to clean our coastlines, remove plastic waste, derelict vessels, and other harmful debris.
- The initiative protects our marine environment, creates jobs, and fosters economic recovery in coastal communities, all while aligning with the CleanBC Plastics Action Plan and B.C.'s commitment to a healthy future.
- The CleanBC Plastics Action Plan is a crucial step towards a cleaner future for our province.
- It tackles plastic pollution at its source by phasing out single-use plastics and transitioning to a circular economy.
- This protects our environment and encourages innovation, clean jobs and helps people make sustainable choices.
- We have also increased grants through the Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program, which helps people breath healthier air in their homes and in their communities.
- In partnership with the BC Lung Foundation, the Government of B.C. will provide \$240,000 in rebates this year to help replace 350 wood stoves with cleaner alternatives, including heat pumps.
- By offering rebates of up to \$3,000, we're encouraging residents to transition from older, polluting wood stoves to cleaner alternatives, particularly efficient heat pumps.

BC PARKS

- I also want to touch on our work to continue improving BC's Parks and Recreation Sites, which have been a source of joy for millions of people in British Columbia.
- Since 2017, we have added more than 1,800 new campsites to BC Parks and recreation sites in regions with the highest demand – the Lower Mainland, Thompson-Okanagan, Kootenay Rockies and Mount Robson.

- Of those campsites, 500 are located in Lower Mainland parks including Cultus Lake, Golden Ears, Chilliwack Lake, Stawamus Chief and Garibaldi, with another 40 campsites under construction in the Lower Mainland this coming year.
- Since the journey for many people seeking outdoor experiences begins online, we have created a new BC Parks website and online reservation service to provide easier access to information people need to plan a trip to a park.
- Launched in March 2022, the new reservation service was designed with input from campers, park operators and other service organizations, and is more reliable and easier to use.
- In 2023, the new “notify me” feature was added to the reservation service. The feature provides email notifications when a previously booked campsite becomes available at a specific campground.
- In October 2021, we announced a \$21.5 million investment for new campsites, trails and better facilities – including more accessibility options as we work to provide a more inclusive experience.
- In 2022, we constructed a new, fully serviced 90-site campground in E.C. Manning Park. The project is the first of its kind since it offers sites with hookups for water, sewer, and electricity.
- And we have established three new conservancies – including the
 - Tsaa Nuna (sa-nuh-na) Conservancy,
 - Tenh Dzetle (ten-thet-luh) Conservancy,
 - and Incomappleux (in-comma-plu) Conservancy.
- Through the Land Acquisition Program, BC Parks has acquired nearly 1,200 hectares of private land to add to parks and protected areas.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE

- And lastly, I want to touch on our Environmental Assessment Office, which plays a critical role in ensuring responsible development of major projects in our province.

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- In October, Minister Osborne and I issued an Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Cariboo Gold mine.
- This is the first project to have gone through a full environmental assessment under the new Environmental Assessment Act, which came into force in 2019.
- The project is a clear example of what the revitalized Act was designed to do to:
 - Enhance public confidence, transparency and meaningful public participation;
 - Advance reconciliation with First Nations and Indigenous groups; and,
 - Continue to protect the environment, people and communities while offering clear pathways to approvals on sustainable projects that create economic opportunities for the province.
- An important part of the EAO's assessment of projects that are proposing large workcamps near existing communities is the consideration of ways to reduce the impacts from the large influx of workers on the community and on specific groups, including gender.
- For the Woodfibre LNG project, the EAO heard considerable concern from the community about the potential effects of the workcamp on the District of Squamish, given the project's proximity to the small town.
- In response, for the first time, the EAO has required a Gender and Cultural Safety Plan, which is set to become standard practice for future projects with large work camps.
- It supports B.C.'s Gender-based Violence Action Plan, and is a concrete example of work that responds to violence against women, girls and gender diverse people.
- In 2023, the EAO also signed a second consent agreement with the Tahltan Nation on the Red Chris project that will guide how we move forward on proposed projects on their land.

- The work that the EAO is doing is some of the best in the country – possibly the world.

CONCLUSION

- That brings me to the end of my remarks.
- I look forward to your questions.

ENV ESTIMATES CONTACT LIST

NAME	ROLE	NUMBER
DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE		
Responsibilities: All		
Kevin Jardine	Deputy Minister	250-361-6753
Jennifer Meadows	Director, Executive Operations	250-507-0063
Haley Ronda	Manager, Executive Operations	778-698-0426
CORPORATE SERVICES FOR THE NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR		
Responsibilities: Budget		
Ranbir Parmar	Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer	250-213-8119
James Pittman	Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director	250 208-6616
Stefan Colantonio	Director, Financial Planning & Reporting	250-952-0701
GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT		
Scott McKenzie	Communications Director	250 893-4126
Matthew Borghese	Communications Manager	250-213-7655
CLIMATE ACTION SECRETARIAT		
Responsibilities: CleanBC, Roadmap to 2030, Program for Industry, Climate Adaptation		
Jeremy Hewitt	Assistant Deputy Minister	250-888-1466
Don D'Souza	ED, Accountability, Economics and Analysis	250-698-3662
Adria Fradley	ED, Clean Growth	250-893-4329
Elaine Cross	ED, Climate Partnerships & Engagement	778 974-2738
Cameron Lewis	ED, Resilience & Indigenous Relations	250-213-6882
Cheryl Tromp	Manager, Division Operations	250-978-9822
Cyndee Nurnberger	Executive Administrative Assistant	250-940-8686
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION (Formerly BCRST)		
Responsibilities: Parks Future Strategy, Campsite Expansion and Parks Foundation, Recreation Sites and Trails, Conservation Officer Service		
Jim Standen	Assistant Deputy Minister	250-888-7299
John Hawkings	Executive Lead, Recreation Strategy and Service Transformation	604 815-8866
Bob Austad	ED, Regional Operations	250-889-5462
David Ranson	ED, Provincial Services	250-818-6859
Rumon Carter	ED, BC Parks Service Transformation	250-896-2329
Jennie Aikman	ED, Recreation Sites and Trails	604-398-5913
Cam Schley	Chief Conservation Officer	250-876-6831
Launa Murai	Issues Manager	250-208-5933
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION		
Responsibilities: Spills, Waste, Regulatory regime, Extended Producer Responsibility, <i>Environmental Management Act (EMA)</i> , <i>Integrated Pest Management Act (IPMA)</i> , EMA and IPMA Compliance and Enforcement		
Laurel Nash	Assistant Deputy Minister	250-508-1670
Douglas Hill	ED, Authorizations and Remediation	250-302-3586
Sonya Sundberg	ED, Environmental Standards	250-213-1843
Rod Allen	ED, Env. Emerg & Land Remediation	778-974-3731
Robyn Roome	ED, Env. Monitoring & Analysis	778-671-9190
Brady Nelles	ED, Compliance and Environmental Enforcement	250-645-9314

Kara Charlton	Director, Strategic Initiatives	778-974-5089
Abbey Askin	Manager, Divisional Operations	778-362-7118
STRATEGIC SERVICES		
Responsibilities: Intergovernmental Relations, Corporate Planning, Legislation, Indigenous Partnerships, Service Transformation, Corporate support for Estimates.		
Amy Avila	Lead	778-679-3522
Lisa Paquin	ED, Strategic Policy	778-698-4419
Kelsey Singbeil	ED, Service Transformation	250-883-4029
James Prsala	ED, Indigenous Partnerships & Engagement	778-698-7290
Marta Gimenez-Sanchez	Estimates Lead	236-478-2834
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE		
Responsibilities: <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> , Compliance and Enforcement, Indigenous Relations		
Elenore Arend	Associate Deputy Minister	250-415-6297
Chris Trumpy	Assistant Deputy Minister	250-415-7754
Julie Chace	ED, Strategic Services and Compliance	778-677-6365
Mirella Standbridge	ED, Corporate Services	250-514-8413
Ann Lockley	A/ED, Communications & Engagement	778-974-5803
Sabrina Loiacono	Manager, Executive Operations	778-698-9290

Members of the Legislative Assembly – Feb 2024

B.C. NDP Caucus (55)

MLA	Constituency
Alexis, Pam (Hon.)	Minister of Agriculture and Food , Abbotsford - Mission
Anderson, Brittny	Parl. Sec for Tourism , Nelson - Creston
Babchuk, Michele	North Island
Bailey, Brenda (Hon.)	Minister of Jobs, Economic Development & Innovation , Vancouver-False Creek
Bains, Harry (Hon.)	Minister of Labour , Surrey-Newton
Beare, Lisa (Hon.)	Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills , Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
Begg, Garry	Surrey-Guildford
Brar, Jagrup (Hon.)	Minister of State for Trade , Surrey-Fleetwood
Chandra Herbert, Spencer	Vancouver-West End
Chant, Susie	Parl. Sec for Accessibility , North Vancouver-Seymour
Chen, Katrina	Burnaby-Lougheed
Chouhan, Raj (Hon.)	Speaker of the Legislative Assembly , Burnaby-Edmonds
Chow, George	Minister of Citizens' Services , Vancouver-Fraserview
Conroy, Katrine (Hon.)	Minister of Finance, Minister Responsible for the Columbia River Treaty , Kootenay West
Coulter, Dan (Hon.)	Minister of State for Infrastructure and Transit , Chilliwack
Cullen, Nathan (Hon.)	Minister of Water, Land & Resource Stewardship , Stikine
D'Eith, Bob (K.C.)	Parl. Sec for Arts & Film , Maple Ridge – Mission
Dean, Mitzi (Hon.)	Minister of State for Child Care , Esquimalt-Metchosin
Dix, Adrian (Hon.)	Minister of Health and Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs , Vancouver-Kingsway
Donnelly, Fin	Parl. Sec for Watershed Restoration , Coquitlam – Burke Mountain
Dykeman, Megan	Parl. Sec for Community Development & Non-profits , Langley East
Eby, David (Hon.) (K.C.)	Premier and President of the Executive Council , Vancouver-Point Grey
Elmore, Mable	Parl. Sec for Anti-Racism Initiatives , Vancouver-Kensington
Farnworth, Mike (Hon.)	Minster of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Deputy Premier , Port Coquitlam
Fleming, Rob (Hon.)	Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure , Victoria-Swan Lake
Glumac, Rick	Port Moody-Coquitlam
Greene, Kelly	Parl. Sec for Fisheries and Aquaculture , Richmond - Steveston
Heyman, George (Hon.)	Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy , Vancouver-Fairview
Kahlon, Ravi (Hon.)	Government House Leader, Minister of Housing , Delta North
Kang, Anne (Hon.)	Minister of Municipal Affairs , Burnaby-Deer Lake

Leonard, Ronna Rae	Courtenay-Comox
Lore, Grace (Hon.)	Minister of Children and Family Development , Victoria – Beacon Hill
Ma, Bowinn (Hon.)	Minister of Emergency Management & Climate Readiness , North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Malcolmson, Shelia (Hon.)	Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction , Nanaimo
Mercier, Andrew (Hon.)	Minister of State for Sustainable Forestry Innovation , Langley
Osborne, Josie (Hon.)	Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation , Mid-Island – Pacific Rim
Paddon, Kelli	Parl. Sec for Gender Equity , Chilliwack-Kent
Parmar, Ravi	Parl. Sec for International Credentials , Langford-Juan de Fuca
Phillip, Joan	Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Popham, Lana (Hon.)	Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport , Saanich South
Ralston, Bruce (Hon.) (K.C.)	Minister of Forests, Minister Responsible for Consular Corps , Surrey-Whalley
Rankin, Murray (Hon.) (K.C.)	Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation , Oak Bay – Gordon Head
Rice, Jennifer	Parl. Sec for Rural Health , North Coast
Routledge, Janet	Parl. Sec for Labour , Burnaby North
Routley, Doug	Parl. Sec for Value-Added Manufacturing , Nanaimo-North Cowichan
Russell, Roly	Parl. Sec for Rural Development , Boundary - Similkameen
Sandhu, Harwinder	Parl. Sec for Seniors' Services & Long-Term Care , Vernon – Monashee
Sharma, Niki (Hon.) (K.C.)	Attorney General , Vancouver-Hastings
Simons, Nicholas	Powell River-Sunshine Coast
Sims, Jinny	Surrey-Panorama
Singh, Aman	Parl. Sec for Environment , Richmond-Queensborough
Singh, Rachna (Hon.)	Minister of Education and Child Care , Surrey-Green Timbers
Starchuk, Mike	Surrey - Cloverdale
Whiteside, Jennifer (Hon.)	Minister of Mental Health & Addictions , New Westminster
Yao, Henry	Richmond South Centre

B.C. United (26)

MLA	Constituency
Ashton, Dan	Penticton
Bernier, Mike	Peace River South
Bond, Shirley	Prince George – Valemount
Clovechok, Doug	Columbia River - Revelstoke
Davies, Dan	Peace River North
De Jong, Michael (K.C.)	Abbotsford West
Doerkson, Lorne	Cariboo-Chilcotin
Falcon, Kevin	Leader of the Opposition , Vancouver-Quilchena

Halford, Trevor	Surrey-White Rock
Kirkpatrick, Karin	West Vancouver - Capilano
Kyllo, Greg	Shuswap
Lee, Michael	Vancouver-Langara
Letnick, Norm	Kelowna-Lake Country
Merrifield, Renee	Opposition Critic for ENV, Kelowna-Mission
Milobar, Peter	Kamloops-North Thompson
Morris, Mike	Prince George – Mackenzie
Oakes, Coralee	Cariboo North
Paton, Ian	Delta South
Ross, Ellis	Skeena
Shypitka, Tom	Kootenay East
Stewart, Ben	Kelowna-West
Stone, Todd	Kamloops-South Thompson
Sturdy, Jordan	West Vancouver – Sea to Sky
Sturko, Elenore	Surrey South
Tegart, Jackie	Fraser-Nicola
Wat, Theresa	Richmond North Centre

B.C. Green Caucus (2)

MLA	Constituency
Furstenau, Sonia	Leader of the BC Green Party, Cowichan Valley
Olsen, Adam	Saanich North & The Islands

Conservative Party of B.C. (2)

MLA	Constituency
Rustad, John	Leader of the Conservative Party of B.C., Nechako Lakes
Banman, Bruce	Abbotsford South

Independent (2)

MLA	Constituency
Robinson, Selina	Coquitlam-Maillardville
Walker, Adam	Parksville - Qualicum

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Budget Briefing

Fiscal 2024/25

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY (ENV)

Title	Contact	Private Office phone	Cell phone	Key Responsibilities/ Issues¹
Deputy Minister	Kevin Jardine	250-387-5429	250-361-6753	All
EFO / ADM, Corporate Services	Ranbir Parmar	778-698-3756	250-213-8119	Budget
Associate Deputy Minister EAO	Elenore Arend	778-974-3009	250-415-6297	Environmental Assessment projects, process, fees, review
ADM, Environmental Protection Division	Laurel Nash	250 953-4004	250 508-1670	Compliance and enforcement, contaminated sites and land remediation, environmental emergency program, extended producer responsibility, integrated pest management
ADM, Conservation and Recreation	Jim Standen	250-387-1288	250 888-7299	Environmental enforcement, Conservation Officer Service, BC Parks, Rec Sites & Trails
ADM, Climate Action Secretariat	Jeremy Hewitt	250-387-1134	250-888-1466	Clean BC, Climate Preparedness and Adaptation, climate policy and legislation
Executive Lead, Recreation Strategy and Service Transformation	John Hawkings	250-468-3918	604-815-8866	Outdoor recreation and guide recreation management service delivery

Lead, Strategic Services	Amy Avila	778-698-7296	778-679-3522	Indigenous partnerships, intergovernmental relations, business transformation, regulatory effectiveness, and sector integration, strategic policy and legislation.
Director, Communications (GCPE)	Scott McKenzie	778-698-7596	250-893-4126	All
Chief Financial Officer	James Pittman	778-698-5787	250-208-6616	Budget



Ministry of
Environment and
Climate Change
Strategy

Budget 2024

February 2024

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Ministry Budget 2023/24 – 2026/27

	2023/24 Restated	Change	2024/25 Estimates	2025/26 Plan	2026/27 Plan
Ministry Operations					
Environmental Protection	29,940	2,049	31,989	32,018	32,018
Conservation & Recreation	89,986	9,137	99,123	99,008	99,043
Climate Action	43,755	(23,891)	19,864	19,864	19,864
CleanBC Program for Industry	5,650	11	5,661	5,661	5,661
Executive & Support Services	30,351	1,065	31,416	31,356	31,356
Sub-Total	199,682	(11,629)	188,053	187,907	187,942
Environmental Assessment Office	16,392	682	17,074	17,074	17,074
Sub-Total	16,392	682	17,074	17,074	17,074
Park Enhancement Fund SA	12,920	69	12,989	12,989	12,989
Sustainable Environment Fund	26,135	-	26,135	26,135	26,135
TOTAL Ministry	255,129	(10,878)	244,251	244,105	244,140

Budget 2024 Highlights

- Budget 2024 is decreased by \$10.878M over the restated 2023/24 budget. Changes include:
 - Increase of \$2.371M for additional Conservation Officers
 - Increase of \$2.589M to salary and benefits for the Shared Recovery Mandate
 - Decrease of \$23.886M due to payments under Local Government Climate Action Program being accelerated and provided early, in 2023/24

Budget 2024 Changes by Core Business

Changes from 2023/24 Restated

	2023/24 Restated	2024/25 Estimates	Change	Budget 2024 Decisions			Budget 2022 & 2023 Decisions					
				Conservation Officer Services Uplift	Local Government Climate Action Program Acceleration	Shared Recovery Mandate	Clean BC Roadmap to 2030	CPAS Funding	Permitting	Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure	Shared Recovery Mandate	CleanBC minor Adj
Ministry Operations												
Environmental Protection	29,940	31,989	2,049			719	24	(105)	749		662	
Conservation & Recreation	89,986	99,123	9,137	1,999		863			325	5,040	910	
Climate Action	43,755	19,864	(23,891)		(23,886)	352	(505)	3			145	
CleanBC Program for Industry	5,650	5,661	11									11
Executive & Support Services	30,351	31,416	1,065	372		196		102	353		42	
Sub-Total	199,682	188,053	(11,629)	2,371	(23,886)	2,130	(481)	-	1,427	5,040	1,759	11
Environmental Assessment Office	16,392	17,074	682			419			115		148	
Sub-Total	16,392	17,074	682	-	-	419	-	-	115	-	148	-
Park Enhancement Fund SA	12,920	12,989	69			40					29	
Sustainable Environment Fund	26,135	26,135	-									
TOTAL Ministry	255,129	244,251	(10,878)	2,371	(23,886)	2,589	(481)	-	1,542	5,040	1,936	11

Fiscal Plan Comparison

Fiscal Plan Comparison (\$000)	2023/24 Restated	2024/25 Estimates	2025/26 Plan	2026/27 Plan
Budget 2023 - Baseline	255,129	263,177	263,550	263,550
Conservation Officer Uplift		2,371	1,852	1,887
LGCAP Acceleration		(23,886)	(23,886)	(23,886)
Shared Recovery Mandate		2,589	2,589	2,589
Budget 2024 Total Budget	255,129	244,251	244,105	244,140

Minister's Office

Minister's Office Budget	2023/24 Restated	2024/25 Estimates	Change
Ministry Operations			
Salaries and benefits	640	640	-
Legislative Salaries	75	75	-
Travel	75	75	-
Information Systems	10	10	-
Office Expenses	22	22	-
Total Budget	822	822	-

Capital Budget

3 Year Capital Budget (\$000)	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Estimates	2025/26 Plan	2026/27 Plan
Ministry Operations				
Land Acquisition	7,000	6,950	2,000	2,000
Land Improvements	31,614	30,565	26,614	26,614
Vehicles	5,932	4,384	1,900	1,900
Office Equipment	10	10	10	10
Specialized Equipment	2,419	2,777	2,092	2,092
Centralized Assets Total	46,975	44,686	32,616	32,616
Ministry Operations Total	46,975	44,686	32,616	32,616
Park Enhancement Fund				
Land Improvements	300	300	300	300
Specialized Equipment	100	100	100	100
Park Enhancement Fund Total	400	400	400	400
Ministry Total	47,375	45,086	33,016	33,016

- The Ministry budget of **\$244.251M** in 2024/25 is made up of the Ministry Operations vote, the Environmental Assessment Office vote, and two special accounts.

Ministry Operations

- Budget 2024 includes a **\$11.629M decrease** over the restated 2023/24 Estimates budget:
 - **\$5.040M increase** for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure to enhance existing asset maintenance and replacement programs (Budget 2023 decision)
 - **\$3.889M increase** to salary and benefits for the Shared Recovery Mandate (incl. Budget 2023 and 2024 decisions)
 - **\$2.371M increase** for conservation officers to support First Nation agreement commitments, enhance natural resource monitoring and respond to increasing human wildlife conflict and climate-related emergencies
 - **\$1.427M increase** to fund the implementation of the Solutions Framework for permitting (Budget 2023 decision)
 - **\$0.011M increase** to Minister's Office to reflect current staff complement
 - **Decrease of \$23.886M** due to acceleration of payments under the Local Government Climate Action Program
 - **Decrease of \$0.481M** to CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 activities (Budget 2022 decision)
- The Ministry Operations budget (Vote 24) in 2024/25 is **\$188.053M**; **\$11.629M** or **5.82%** lower than the restated 2023/24 budget.

Environmental Assessment Office

- The budget for the Environment Assessment Office (Vote 25) in 2024/25 is **\$17.074M** – this represents an increase of **\$0.682M** over the restated 2023/24 budget.
 - **\$0.567M increase** to salary and benefits for the Shared Recovery Mandate (incl. Budget 2023 and 2024 decisions)
 - **\$0.115M increase** to fund the implementation of the Solutions Framework for permitting

Special Accounts

- The budget for the Park Enhancement Fund is **\$12.989M**
 - **\$0.069M** to salary and benefits for the Shared Recovery Mandate (incl. Budget 2023 and 2024 decisions)

- The budget for the Sustainable Environment Fund is **\$26.135M**
 - No changes to budget from FY2023/24

Capital

- The capital budget is **\$45.086M** in 2024/25.
 - **\$6.0M** for land improvements and specialized equipment for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure.
 - **\$0.643M** for Vehicles and specialized equipment for Conservation Officers

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

2024/25 – 2026/27 Service Plan

February 2024



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2024/25 – 2026/27 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Heyman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
February 9, 2024

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Strategic Direction

In 2024/25, the Government of British Columbia will remain focused on providing the services and infrastructure that people depend on to build a good life. Government will continue delivering results that matter to British Columbians including helping people with costs, attainable and affordable housing, strengthened health care, safer communities, and a secure, clean, and fair economy. Government will continue working collaboratively with Indigenous Peoples as it implements the Action Plan for the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and delivers initiatives that advance reconciliation in ways that make a difference in communities throughout the province.

This 2024/25 service plan outlines how the [Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy](#) will support the government's priorities and selected action items identified in the December 7, 2022, Minister's [Mandate Letter](#).

Purpose of the Ministry

Under the [Ministry of Environment Act](#), the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy has responsibilities for the protection, management, and conservation of British Columbia's water, land, air, and living resources. Other ministries in the natural resource sector also have responsibilities in these areas in accordance with their own legislation and mandates.

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy delivers its mandate through several other key pieces of legislation including the Environmental Management Act, the Integrated Pest Management Act, the Park Act, the Protected Areas of British Columbia Act, the Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act, the Climate Change Accountability Act, and the Environmental Assessment Act. A full list of provincial legislation can be found at [BC Laws](#).

The ministry administers the province's parks and protected areas, and recreation sites and trails; monitors and enforces compliance with environmental laws and regulations; manages discharge to the environment from human activities; and protects B.C.'s biodiversity, ecosystems, native species, and natural habitats in parks and protected areas. It acquires, manages, and analyzes environmental and climate data to provide a robust platform for decision-making across the province. It mitigates and manages the risks and consequences from climate change, including developing plans to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets; responds to the impacts of climate change; and oversees provincial environmental assessment through the [Environmental Assessment Office](#). The ministry delivers services directly through staff, based in regional offices across the province, as well as through partnerships and agreements with First Nations, local governments, the federal government, and stakeholder groups.

Operating Environment

Looking into 2024/2025, the next fiscal year, the ministry expects to see continuing impacts on its operations due to climate change, most significantly due to extreme weather events across the province. The ministry will continue to dedicate resources to the clean-up of debris from the November 2021 atmospheric river event, which included significant damage to BC Parks infrastructure such as local access roads, park trails, tunnels, and bridges. The province recorded its worst ever wildfire season in 2023 in terms of area burned. Combined with the effects of the historic drought that the province is currently experiencing, there is a high likelihood of significant wildfires in 2024. Wildfires have serious impacts across the province, including damage to B.C. parks and protected areas. Wildfires can also create hazardous or toxic debris that must be managed during clean-up. Unfortunately, we can expect climate impacts like these will continue to affect the province and the ministry in the coming years.

The ministry is charged with helping the province prepare for climate change effects like these by implementing its [Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy](#), and launching the [ClimateReadyBC](#) platform to help communities and others identify and manage disaster and climate risks. Each year the ministry learns more about climate preparedness and will continue to examine resiliency efforts to help us focus our funding.

The ministry faces a complex regulatory environment as it continues its leadership in addressing climate change mitigation while maintaining alignment with evolving policy and legislation at the federal level. Government announced in Budget 2023 that it will be adopting an [Output-Based Pricing System](#) (OBPS) to align with federal legislation. Government will begin the transition to the OBPS in 2024, which will require significant staff resources from the ministry. In addition, as part of the [New Energy Action Framework](#), the B.C. government made a commitment to develop an oil and gas regulatory emissions cap to reduce and limit greenhouse gas emissions from the sector. Subsequently, the federal government introduced a national framework to cap greenhouse gas pollution from the oil and gas sector, which will require work at the provincial level to ensure that B.C. meets our greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for the sector, while avoiding unnecessary duplicate regulations.

Finally, [BC Parks](#), and [Recreation Sites and Trails BC](#) will continue to manage increasing public use of recreational infrastructure. While this public engagement is encouraging, increasing visitation results in challenges that must be managed by staff, including: crowding and traffic concerns; visitor safety concerns; human-wildlife conflict; and the potential for damage to cultural and ecological values.

Performance Planning

Goal 1: Effective protection and conservation of the environment

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy is responsible for the effective protection, management, and conservation of British Columbia's water, land, air, and living resources. The ministry engages and partners with First Nations in advancing this goal.

The ministry also seeks opportunities to continually improve the systems that govern natural resource decision-making and the sustainable stewardship of these resources.

Objective 1.1: Strong environmental regulation, compliance, and enforcement for a clean, safe, and resilient environment.

The ministry strives to protect the environment by managing risks to British Columbia's water, land, and air. It does this by setting robust regulatory requirements, verifying compliance, taking enforcement action where required, and evaluating environmental quality through air and water monitoring and assessment. It also promotes shared environmental stewardship and collaborative partnerships with First Nations.

Key Strategies

- Transform, through the use of new digital tools, the review of contaminated sites services applications resulting in timelier issuance of approvals in alignment with the recently announced [Permitting Strategy for Housing](#). Contaminated sites remediation supports the sustainable redevelopment of usable land and provides community benefits through environmental clean-up, improved human health protection, and increased economic development and housing availability.
- Implement the [CleanBC Plastics Action Plan](#), including the province-wide phase-out of single-use plastics. Key actions include:
 - Introducing a new regulation to limit the use of single-use and plastic waste, including restrictions on single-use plastic shopping bags, [oxo-degradable plastic packaging](#), food service ware, and food service accessories (such as lids and utensils);
 - managing and expanding the [CleanBC Plastics Action Fund](#);
 - phasing-in new product recycling under the [Extended Producer Responsibility Five-Year Action Plan](#) between now and 2026; and
 - supporting the largest coastline clean-up in B.C.'s history through the [Clean Coast, Clean Waters Initiative](#).
- Reduce municipal solid waste through regional solid waste management plans, promotion of organics recycling, food and plastic waste prevention initiatives, and continuous improvement and expansion of extended producer responsibility programs.

- Deliver the first phase of the B.C. government's new public interest bonding policy through the development of regulations over the next two years. This will ensure owners of large industrial projects are bonded moving forward so that they – not British Columbians – pay the full cost of environmental clean-up if their projects are abandoned.

Discussion

New digital tools will increase the timeliness and transparency of contaminated sites application services, many of which are associated with housing development projects in B.C. In addition, expanding the scope of applications that can be reviewed by professional reliance partners and increasing government's own review capacity will contribute to this objective.

Actions from all levels of government that encourage waste prevention, support the development of a circular economy, and contribute to our long-term reduction target of 350kg solid waste disposal per person. Managing municipal solid waste minimizes environmental impacts by supporting sustainable land management practices, reducing plastic pollution, improving air and water quality, and reducing greenhouse gas.

The [Single-Use Plastic and Waste Prevention Regulation](#) was introduced in 2023, and will phase-in prohibitions on the use of single-use plastics and waste. The [CleanBC Plastics Action Fund](#) was further supported with an additional \$25M investment, for a nearly \$40M investment in the past three years, towards reducing plastic waste through recycling innovation and reusable alternatives to single-use products.

The multi-phased implementation of recycling new products under the [Extended Producer Responsibility Five-Year Action Plan](#) is underway until 2026. This includes having more products listed by early 2024 and operational programs by 2025/26. Products include mattresses, single-use compressed canisters, refillable propane and spray foam tanks, fire extinguishers, automotive containers, batteries, and medical sharps.

Over the last 15 years, and particularly in the last five years, the ministry has supported communities to increase processing infrastructure, expand organics collection, and reduce food waste. This has diverted materials from landfills and is helping communities achieve their waste reduction goals. In partnership with the federal government, the government of B.C. funded 18 organic waste processing facilities with a combined grant investment of \$20M under the [Organics Infrastructure Program](#). Further, the government of B.C. contributed \$25.9M towards 17 organic waste collection programs and eight organic waste processing facilities under the [CleanBC Organics Infrastructure and Collection Program](#). These activities decrease greenhouse gas emissions and provide beneficial products such as nutrient rich compost to communities. All these projects will be operational by 2024/25.

Objective 1.2: Support the sustainability of British Columbia's environment and provide high-quality user experience through sound management of the protected areas system, recreation sites and trail networks.

The B.C. protected areas system includes representative and special natural places that are set aside for world-class conservation, outdoor recreation, education, and scientific study. B.C.'s protected areas system consists of over 14 million hectares, or 14% of the provincial land base. Many of these areas are important for the conservation of the province's environment and biodiversity.

Key Strategies

- Manage parks and protected areas for ecological restoration, biodiversity, and landscape connectivity.
- Create new camping opportunities, recreation sites, trails, and protected areas. Improve infrastructure and ensure provincial parks and recreation sites remain accessible and affordable for British Columbians.
- Lead work with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to co-develop and implement recommendations to better reflect [Indigenous Peoples' history and culture](#) as a component of BC Parks' broader effort on the path of reconciliation.
- Support the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to implement the [Framework Agreement](#) to meet government's commitment to protect at least 30% of terrestrial areas in B.C. by 2030.

Discussion

Together, [Recreation Sites and Trails BC](#), and [BC Parks](#) are among the principal providers of outdoor recreation opportunities for British Columbians. Demand for outdoor recreation continues to grow across the province. In response, BC Parks continues to deliver on government's \$21.59M commitment to expand recreation opportunities in campgrounds and day-use areas. Since 2021, BC Parks has added 135 new campsites, 26 kilometres of new trail, 38 kilometres of refurbished trail, and 137 new parking stalls at high-use parks. Many new projects are currently underway and will be completed over the next two years.

In addition to expanding recreation facilities, BC Parks has received \$3.6M over three years to improve accessibility in parks. This funding will be focused on replacing high-priority park amenities to a universal design standard (e.g., toilets), providing accessible parking, and improving trails to access park features.

BC Parks is committed to creating and delivering a strategy in 2024 for supporting the safe coexistence between people and bears in protected areas. This comprehensive strategy will focus on a wide range of activities including facility upgrades, bear safety education, and attractant management. It will be delivered in a phased approach beginning in 2024.

BC Parks is completing a report in consultation and cooperation with First Nations partners, to develop recommendations on how to address mandate commitments to increase Indigenous cultural expression within provincial parks. The report is expected to be made public in 2024.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2021/22 Baseline	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
1.1a Per capita municipal solid waste disposal (kg per person)	506	490	480	470	460

Data source: Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, manually compiled.

Discussion

This year, the ministry introduced a new baseline for the Performance Measure 1.1a to reflect the reported disposal rates that have been provided by regional districts. Significant debris clean-up and restoration activities after disaster events, including floods and fires have led to increasing amounts of waste being disposed. Construction and demolition debris are also contributing to increases in disposal rates across many regional districts, and regional authorities have communicated the need to continue to adjust future waste reduction targets in the short-term to recognize these changes.

Goal 2: A sustainable, clean economy

The ministry works to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, support clean and diverse economic development, and assist British Columbians to prepare for a changing climate.

Objective 2.1: Implement the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 to provide a pathway for B.C. to prosper economically while significantly reducing our greenhouse gas pollution to meet our legislated emissions reduction targets.

The [CleanBC Roadmap to 2030](#) (Roadmap) is a government-wide strategy that includes initiatives across different areas of the economy to reduce greenhouse gas pollution in a cost-effective way. Timely implementation of actions described in the Roadmap are expected to meet our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets while supporting affordability and business competitiveness.

Key Strategies

- Continue working with the [Climate Solutions Council](#) to meet the GHG emissions reduction targets legislated under the Climate Change Accountability Act by:
 - Implementing the Roadmap to achieve 2030 climate change targets by reviewing and measuring progress and updating approaches as needed;
 - establishing a new net-zero GHG emissions target for 2050; and

- publishing annual accountability reports as required under the Climate Change Accountability Act.
- Continue to work with the Ministry of Finance to implement annual increases to the carbon tax to meet federal requirements of \$170 t/CO₂e in 2030.
- Implement the B.C. Output-Based Pricing System to replace the CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program, which aligns with federal carbon pricing rules and promotes a competitive business environment.
- Develop policy and measures to achieve the Roadmap commitment to require new large industrial facilities to have credible plans to be net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 (or 2030 for new, large liquefied natural gas facilities that are already in or are entering into the environmental assessment process), and address government's 2030 and 2040 legislated targets.
- Establish policies that will reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 75% by 2030 (as compared to 2014) and achieve near elimination of industrial methane by 2035. Ensure oil and gas emissions are reduced in line with sectoral targets.

Discussion

Roadmap actions are being implemented by several ministries across government and include:

- Increases to the climate action tax credit. This credit now provides up to \$893.50 for a family of four and up to \$447 for a single person (Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy).
- Investing in 59 infrastructure projects around B.C. for renewable energy, clean transportation, and building efficiency through the federal-provincial CleanBC Communities Fund (Ministry of Municipal Affairs).
- Supporting 41 new projects in 2022 through the CleanBC Industry Fund that are expected to reduce GHG emissions by more than 2.5 MtCO₂e over a 10-year period (Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy).
- Creating a New Energy Action Framework that will:
 - Put in place a regulatory emissions cap for the oil and gas sector to ensure it meets its 2030 sectoral target of 33-38% reduction over 2007 levels; and
 - require that all proposed liquefied natural gas facilities to develop credible plans to be net-zero GHG emissions by 2030 (Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation and Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy).

As more of the policies and programs described in the Roadmap are implemented and begin to yield results, they will have a larger impact on GHG emission reductions. Government is required by legislation to publish the Climate Change Accountability Report annually to report on progress towards its targets.

Objective 2.2: Effective management of the risks and consequences associated with a changing climate.

Climate change is already causing significant impacts to British Columbia's environment, communities, and economy. Adapting to a changing climate and managing climate risks effectively is key to maintaining a robust economy, healthy ecosystems, and safe communities.

Key Strategies

- Coordinate implementation of the provincial [Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy](#) (CPAS) that will support a thriving and healthy province that is resilient to a changing climate.
- In partnership with Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, conduct a provincial disaster and climate risk and resilience assessment that is co-developed with Indigenous Peoples, applies an equity lens, and builds on local and regional input.
- In partnership with Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, develop a province-wide disaster and climate risk reduction plan that assesses risk priorities and systematically coordinates and implements cross-government interventions consistent with those priorities.
- Build community and government adaptation capacity and resilience, including partnerships with First Nations.
- Further develop a climate risk reporting program that meets the requirements of the [Climate Change Accountability Act](#).

Discussion

In June 2022, the government of B.C. released the first CPAS following engagement with Indigenous Peoples, local governments, the public, and other partners. Implementation, now underway, is being done cooperatively with Indigenous Peoples consistent with Action 2.12 of the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan](#).

The ministry is monitoring the effectiveness of actions taken across government as part of the CPAS and reports annually on progress in the annual [Climate Change Accountability Report](#). Key priorities for 2024/25 include:

- Working in partnership with the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness on developing a provincial disaster and climate risk and resilience assessment and disaster and climate risk reduction plan;
- reporting out on the \$2M [Indigenous Climate Adaptation Pilot Project](#), and developing recommendations for next steps with First Nations partners;
- developing climate adaptation indicators to help B.C. measure its climate adaptation progress; and
- negotiating with the Government of Canada to develop a bilateral adaptation agreement under the federal [National Adaptation Strategy](#).

Performance Measures

Performance Measures	2021/22 Baseline ¹	2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
2.1a B.C.'s annual GHG emissions as compared to 2007 levels (goal of 40% below 2007 levels by 2030)	2021 emissions are 3% below 2007 levels	2022 emissions are 1% below 2007 levels ²	2023 emissions are 5% below 2007 levels	2024 emissions are 9% below 2007 levels	2025 emissions are 15% below 2007 levels ³	2026 emissions are 19% below 2007 levels
2.1b Carbon intensity of B.C.'s economy (tonnes CO ₂ e per million dollars of gross domestic product)	220 tonnes CO ₂ e per \$M GDP	219 tonnes CO ₂ e per \$M GDP	205 tonnes CO ₂ e per \$M GDP	192 tonnes CO ₂ e per \$M GDP	178 tonnes CO ₂ e per \$M GDP	166 tonnes CO ₂ e per \$M GDP

Data source: Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, based on emissions data from the National Inventory report and GDP data from the B.C. government.

¹ The 2021/22 baseline emissions have been updated with 2021 data. Last year's service plan used 2020 emissions data, which was the most recent available at the time.

² The forecast suggests that emissions may rise in 2022 following a continued return to pre-COVID-19 levels of economic activity before the impact of CleanBC policies returns emissions to a downward trajectory.

³ Emissions modelling estimates that 91% of B.C.'s 2025 interim reduction target (16% below 2007 levels) will be achieved.

Discussion

British Columbia has set ambitious targets in the Climate Change Accountability Act to reduce GHG emissions to 40% below 2007 levels by 2030, 60% by 2040, and 80% by 2050. There are also targets set by Ministerial order including an [interim target of 16% reduction by 2025](#). This will allow for the recalibration of actions to ensure that the government of B.C. meets the 2030 legislated and sectoral GHG emissions reduction targets and it will provide measurement of progress in key sectors of the economy. In October 2021, the Roadmap was released, which builds on the previous work of CleanBC Phase 1 (2018), adding significant new and expanded actions that will accelerate GHG emissions reductions.

The government of B.C.'s GHG emissions reporting is based on the [National Inventory Report](#) from Environment and Climate Change Canada. Due to the necessary 16-24 month period to collect, verify and review the data from the federal government, the targets for this performance measure look at data from approximately two years behind the current year. The latest GHG emissions data for British Columbia is for 2021, published in the [Provincial GHG Inventory](#).

Performance Measures 2.1a and 2.1b include two interrelated metrics to ensure that GHG emissions reductions are occurring and that the carbon intensity of B.C.'s economy is decreasing. These metrics are: 1) the most recent data on progress toward B.C.'s GHG emissions reduction targets; and 2) B.C.'s GHG emissions per million dollars of gross domestic product (GDP).

These metrics demonstrate that achieving a low-carbon economy requires both low emissions and a robust economy. These performance measures have been updated to include the most current data provided in the [2023 Climate Change Accountability Report](#).

Performance Measures	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
2.2 Develop provincial and regional risk assessments and provincial plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foundational risk assessment methodology completed 2. Initiate a joint provincial scale Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA) with the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and in collaboration with First Nations partners 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete and publish the provincial scale DCRRA 2. Initiate a joint regional scale DCRRA with the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and in collaboration with First Nations partners 3. Support the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to develop a Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction Plan 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete and publish the regional scale DCRRA 2. Complete and publish the Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction Plan 	TBD ¹

Data source: Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, manually compiled.

¹ Targets for 2026/27 will be determined in future service plans and is dependent on continued funding beyond 2025/26.

Discussion

Performance Measure 2.2 tracks progress toward completing provincial and regional Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessments (DCRRA) and a Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction Plan. The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy will support the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness in this work. In 2023/24 the ministries completed development of the risk assessment methodology. Hazards for assessment were selected in collaboration with First Nations partners, and through engagement with other partners. These hazards include coastal and riverine flooding, extreme

heat, drought, wildfire, earthquake, and a scenario of cascading and compounding risks. The B.C. government will establish a risk assessment First Nations advisory group. A series of working groups involving subject matter experts from Indigenous organizations, various provincial ministries, academia, and non-governmental organizations will assess risk and resilience for each hazard. The provincial DCRRA is targeted for release in summer 2024 on [ClimateReadyBC](#). The provincial DCRRA will inform the [Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan](#) and Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction Plan.

Following completion of the provincial DCRRA, the ministries will continue collaboration with First Nations and engagement with local authorities and other partners to complete each regional DCRRA. These assessments will focus on hazards and values that are priorities for each region. Regions will be defined by watersheds and First Nations language groups. Results of these assessments will also be made available on ClimateReadyBC and will support local authorities and critical infrastructure owners to complete risk assessments as required under the [Emergency and Disaster Management Act](#) and associated regulations. Regional and local risk assessment results will inform development of emergency management plans and prioritization of investments in disaster mitigation.

Goal 3: Thorough, timely, transparent, and impartial environmental assessment

The [Environmental Assessment Office](#) (EAO) assesses major project proposals (e.g., mines, oil and gas pipelines, tourist destination resorts, etc.) for impacts on people and the environment. The assessments inform decision-making on whether proposed projects should be approved to proceed, and if so, what measures are necessary to reduce or eliminate potential adverse environmental, social, cultural, economic, and health effects.

Objective 3.1: Implement and evaluate the revitalized environmental assessment process.

The revitalized [Environmental Assessment Act](#) (the Act) came into force on December 15, 2019. The renewed environmental assessment process supports reconciliation by ensuring the rights of First Nations are respected and the public's expectation of a thorough, timely, transparent, and impartial process are met. As such, the process and outcomes achieved promote sustainability in B.C. by protecting the environment, meeting government climate targets, fostering a resilient economy, and supporting the well-being of British Columbians and their communities.

Key Strategies

- Continue to develop the remaining regulations, policies, and guidance materials for the Act to be fully supported along with digital tools that improve and streamline the [environmental assessment process](#) and [public engagement](#).
- Continue to support EAO staff, proponents, practitioners, government reviewers, First Nations, local governments, and the public with learning and development to effectively participate in regulatory activities under the Act.

- Negotiate government-to-government strategic agreements with First Nations (including decision-making agreements under section 7 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act), and federal agencies to support efficient environmental assessment processes that result in effective protection and mitigation conditions.
- Engage early in the process with First Nations to enable feedback on project design to improve or provide alternative approaches to develop a proposed project.
- Establish a framework to evaluate if the EAO is achieving its purposes as laid out by the Act.

Discussion

On an ongoing basis, the EAO develops new regulations, policies, and guidance to support the implementation of the Act and ensure the environmental assessment processes for projects are appropriately supported. In 2024, the [Dispute Resolution Regulation](#), a key regulation under the Act will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

Additionally, within five years of the Act coming into force, the Minister must initiate a review to determine what changes, if any, should be made. To prepare for this formal review process to begin in late 2024, the EAO in partnership with First Nations, industry, and other key stakeholders will co-develop a framework to inform the scope of the review and evaluate the performance of the Act. Based on the findings of the review, further policy and legislative updates may be undertaken in 2025/26.

The EAO negotiated and is now implementing the [first two agreements](#) under section 7 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act that require the Tahltan Central Government's consent in relation to environmental assessment decisions for the Eskay Creek Revitalization Project and the Red Chris Mine. These agreements uphold Tahltan jurisdiction, represent a significant milestone towards reconciliation, and provide clear and transparent decision-making processes.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
3.1 Environmental Assessment Act implementation	1. Finalize regulations and/or policies that enhance functionality of the Act 2. Finalize framework to evaluate whether implementation of the Act is achieving the intended purposes	Begin an evaluation of whether the Act is achieving the intended purposes	Complete the evaluation of the Act	Work through the legislative development process to update the Act, if needed, based on the evaluation

Data source: Environmental Assessment Office, manually compiled.

Discussion

Performance Measure 3.1 was chosen because it tracks the major milestones of one of the EAO’s most important initiatives: the implementation of the revitalized Environmental Assessment Act. Implementation of the Act drives directly toward Goal 3: thorough, timely, transparent, and impartial environmental assessment. Changes to the Environmental Assessment Act focused on enhancing public confidence, advancing reconciliation with First Nations, and protecting the environment, while offering clear pathways to sustainable project approvals. In 2024/25 the EAO will begin an evaluation of whether the Act is achieving these intended purposes, and in the process of evaluation, other potential performance measures will be considered.

Financial Summary

(\$000s)	2023/24 Restated Estimates ¹	2024/25 Estimates	2025/26 Plan	2026/27 Plan
Operating Expenses				
Environmental Protection	29,940	31,989	32,018	32,018
Conservation and Recreation Division	89,986	99,123	99,008	99,043
Climate Action	43,755	19,864	19,864	19,864
CleanBC Program for Industry and BC-Output Based Pricing System	5,650	5,661	5,661	5,661
Executive and Support Services	30,351	31,416	31,356	31,356
Sub-total	199,682	188,053	187,907	187,942
Park Enhancement Fund	12,920	12,989	12,989	12,989
Sustainable Environment Fund	26,135	26,135	26,135	26,135
Total	238,737	227,177	227,031	227,066
Capital Expenditures				
Executive and Support Services	46,975	44,686	32,616	32,616
Park Enhancement Fund	400	400	400	400
Total	47,375	45,086	33,016	33,016
Other Financing Transactions				
Climate Action Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets				
Disbursements	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Receipts	0	0	0	0
Net Cash Requirement (Source)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2023/24 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2024/25 Estimates.

* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

Financial Summary: Environmental Assessment Office

(\$000s)	2023/24 Restated Estimates¹	2024/25 Estimates	2025/26 Plan	2026/27 Plan
Operating Expenses				
Environmental Assessment Office	16,392	17,074	17,074	17,074
Total	16,392	17,074	17,074	17,074

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2023/24 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2024/25 Estimates.

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of February 2024, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy is responsible and accountable for the following organizations.

Climate Solutions Council

The Climate Solutions Council (the Council) was created in October 2017. The Council provides strategic advice to government on climate action and clean economic growth. It includes members from First Nations, environmental organizations, industry, business, academia, youth, labour, and local government. The Council supports a steady and committed approach to climate action that drives down emissions, increases economic opportunities, and improves community resilience.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

The mission of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy is to provide leadership in ensuring our natural legacy for future generations and to support positive economic outcomes for British Columbia.

MINISTRY SUMMARY

(\$000)

	Estimates 2023/24 ¹	Estimates 2024/25
VOTED APPROPRIATIONS		
Vote 24 — Ministry Operations.....	199,682	188,053
Vote 25 — Environmental Assessment Office.....	16,392	17,074
STATUTORY APPROPRIATIONS		
Park Enhancement Fund Special Account.....	12,920	12,989
Sustainable Environment Fund Special Account.....	26,135	26,135
OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>255,129</u>	<u>244,251</u>
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES ²	47,375	45,086
LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS ³	10,000	10,000
REVENUE COLLECTED FOR, AND TRANSFERRED TO, OTHER ENTITIES ⁴	—	—

NOTES

¹ For comparative purposes, figures shown for the 2023/24 operating expenses; capital expenditures; loans, investments and other requirements; and revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities are restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2024/25 Estimates. A reconciliation of restated operating expenses and capital expenditures is presented in Schedule A.

² A listing of estimated capital expenditures by ministry is presented in Schedule C.

³ A summary of loans, investments and other requirements by ministry is presented in Schedule D.

⁴ A summary of revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities is presented in Schedule E.

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

SUMMARY BY CORE BUSINESS

(\$000)

OPERATING EXPENSES	2023/24	2024/25 ESTIMATES		
	Net	Gross	External Recoveries	Net
Core Business				
Environmental Protection.....	29,940	34,205	(2,216)	31,989
Conservation and Recreation Division.....	89,986	99,478	(355)	99,123
Climate Action.....	43,755	19,947	(83)	19,864
CleanBC Program for Industry and BC-Output Based Pricing System.....	5,650	5,663	(2)	5,661
Executive and Support Services.....	30,351	31,418	(2)	31,416
Environmental Assessment Office.....	16,392	17,975	(901)	17,074
Park Enhancement Fund Special Account.....	12,920	13,489	(500)	12,989
Sustainable Environment Fund Special Account.....	26,135	26,135	—	26,135
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	255,129	248,310	(4,059)	244,251
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES				
	Capital Expenditures	Capital Expenditures	Receipts and P3 Liabilities	Net
Core Business				
Executive and Support Services.....	46,975	44,686	—	44,686
Park Enhancement Fund Special Account.....	400	400	—	400
TOTAL	47,375	45,086	—	45,086
LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS				
	Net	Disbursements	Receipts	Net
Core Business				
Climate Action.....	10,000	10,000	—	10,000
TOTAL LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS	10,000	10,000	—	10,000

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

Estimates
2023/24

Estimates
2024/25

VOTE 24 — MINISTRY OPERATIONS

This vote provides for the programs, operations, and other activities described in the voted appropriations under the following core businesses: Environmental Protection, Conservation and Recreation Division, Climate Action, CleanBC Program for Industry and BC-Output Based Pricing System, and Executive and Support Services.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Voted Appropriation

Environmental Protection.....	29,940	31,989
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Voted Appropriation Description: This sub-vote provides for clean, healthy, and safe water, land, and air for all living things; administering the *Sustainable Environment Fund Act*; setting emission and discharge standards; monitoring and reporting on ambient air and water quality; reducing and removing contaminating toxins and waste; managing pesticide use; responding to high-risk environmental emergencies; and administering extended producer responsibility programs. This sub-vote also provides for the provision of laboratory services to ministry-related vote activities, and to other public and private sector entities on a cost recovery basis. Activities also include the acquisition, collection, analysis, interpretation, inventorying, and reporting of data and activities related to emissions and discharges into the environment. Transfers are provided for activities concerned with protecting and managing the environment. Eligible costs are recovered from the Sustainable Environment Fund. Costs may also be recovered from special accounts, ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.

CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

Voted Appropriation

Conservation and Recreation Division.....	89,986	99,123
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Voted Appropriation Description: This sub-vote provides for the planning and protection of natural spaces, including provincial parks and protected areas and recreation sites and trails, as well as natural resource law enforcement and public safety services related to human-wildlife conflicts, regulated activities, and emergency management. This sub-vote provides for acquisition, planning, management, administration, and utilization of areas for recreation and conservation. This includes the planning, protection, inventory, maintenance, and restoration of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems in BC Parks and protected areas, recreation sites and trails, and reconciliation efforts with Indigenous Peoples through joint stewardship, cultural acknowledgement, and other government-to-government partnership activities; wildfire planning, prevention, and awareness; initiation of compliance and enforcement activities; provision of commercial and non-commercial recreational opportunities; development and maintenance of provincial park and recreation site facilities supporting public use of the front country, back country, and marine areas; promotion and management of recreation services; monitoring and reporting on park attendance, visitor satisfaction, and land status and condition; provision of information, marketing, education, community engagement, volunteers, and stewardship activities; promotion of use and awareness of the protected areas system; and fundraising from external sources to support program delivery. Transfers are provided for stewardship, information and education, and management and administration of parks and protected areas by third parties. This sub-vote also provides for activities related to upholding British Columbia and Canada laws and supporting the continuous improvement in compliance with requirements established by government to protect the environment, the province's natural resources, and related human health and safety, including education and promotion, inspections, investigations, and enforcement of standards for the protection of fish, wildlife, habitat, and the environment. This sub-vote also provides for monitoring, compliance, and enforcement of environmental standards for natural resources management for government and revenue policies; managing public safety issues related to emergency management, regulated activities, human/wildlife conflicts, and predator/livestock issues; combating natural resources crimes; and enforcing rules governing the use of forest service recreation sites, trails, and fire bans. This sub-vote also provides for legislation and policy development and implementation. Costs may be recovered from special accounts, ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, licensees, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

VOTE DESCRIPTIONS
(*\$000*)

	Estimates 2023/24	Estimates 2024/25
CLIMATE ACTION		
Voted Appropriation		
Climate Action.....	43,755	19,864
<p>Voted Appropriation Description: This sub-vote provides for support for the activities required to meet the province's climate action targets under the <i>Climate Change Accountability Act</i>, along with British Columbia's climate policies, the requirements under the <i>Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act</i>, and for adapting to the impacts of climate change. This includes leading engagement processes across ministries, other governments, a diverse range of stakeholders, and the general public. Activities include developing and leading the Province's climate action strategy; research and policy development on climate action measures; education and communication on impacts of climate change; advising and supporting Executive Council and its committees on matters of climate action and clean energy; the evaluation, management, and delivery of cross-government initiatives; and developing greenhouse gas requirements for industry, standardized offsets program, Carbon Neutral Government, and all related legislation and regulations. This sub-vote also provides for policy, planning, coordination and operational support, consultations, outreach, partnerships, education, research, and the procurement of carbon offsets. Costs may be recovered from special accounts, ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.</p>		
CLEANBC PROGRAM FOR INDUSTRY AND BC-OUTPUT BASED PRICING SYSTEM		
Voted Appropriation		
CleanBC Program for Industry and BC-Output Based Pricing System.....	5,650	5,661
<p>Voted Appropriation Description: This sub-vote provides for the administration and implementation of carbon pricing programs that improve the competitiveness of large industrial emitters operating within British Columbia, supports projects that identify or reduce greenhouse gas emissions from large industrial emitters, and incentivizes large industrial emitters to identify or reduce emissions. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.</p>		
EXECUTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES		
Voted Appropriations		
Minister's Office.....	822	822
Corporate Services.....	29,529	30,594
	30,351	31,416
<p>Voted Appropriations Description: This sub-vote provides for the office of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and the office of the Parliamentary Secretary for Environment; and executive support, including the deputy minister's office, and strategic services. This sub-vote provides executive direction and corporate administration to the ministry; finance, administrative, and strategic human resources; facilities; information and privacy; revenue collection; and trust fund management for ministry operations, programs, and clients. This sub-vote also provides for corporate service transformation; strategic and business planning; systems planning; corporate policy development; coordination of legislation and intergovernmental relations; developing and maintaining relationships with Indigenous Peoples, including through reconciliation activities and Indigenous partnerships; program evaluation; economic and regulatory impact analysis; and regulatory effectiveness. Transfers are provided for activities concerned with access, protection, and management of the environment. Costs may be recovered from special accounts, ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.</p>		
VOTE 24 — MINISTRY OPERATIONS	199,682	188,053

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

Estimates
2023/24

**Estimates
2024/25**

VOTE 25 — ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE

This vote provides for the programs, operations, and other activities described in the voted appropriation under the following core business: Environmental Assessment Office.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE

Voted Appropriation

Environmental Assessment Office.....	<u>16,392</u>	<u>17,074</u>
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Voted Appropriation Description: This sub-vote provides for the administration and continuous improvement of an objective, publicly accessible, and neutrally administered process under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. The process assesses environmental, economic, social, cultural, and health effects of major projects proposed in British Columbia; identifies means for preventing or reducing adverse effects; and regulates certified projects to ensure compliance with legally-binding project conditions. The Environmental Assessment Office promotes sustainability and supports reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia. The Environmental Assessment Office also facilitates public participation in environmental assessments and coordinates assessments with other governments, including Indigenous nations, and with other provincial ministries and agencies. Where projects have proceeded successfully through the process, the Environmental Assessment Office leads compliance and effectiveness monitoring, audit, and management, often in collaboration with other government agencies. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, organizations, businesses, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.

VOTE 25 — ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE

16,392

17,074

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

STATUTORY DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

Estimates
2023/24

Estimates
2024/25

STATUTORY APPROPRIATIONS

These statutory appropriations provide for the programs, operations, and other activities of the following special accounts: Park Enhancement Fund and Sustainable Environment Fund.

PARK ENHANCEMENT FUND

Statutory Appropriation

Park Enhancement Fund special account.....	<u>12,920</u>	<u>12,989</u>
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Statutory Appropriation Description: This statutory appropriation provides for the Park Enhancement Fund special account which is governed under the *Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act*.

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT FUND

Statutory Appropriation

Sustainable Environment Fund.....	<u>26,135</u>	<u>26,135</u>
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Statutory Appropriation Description: This statutory appropriation provides for the Sustainable Environment Fund which is governed under the *Sustainable Environment Fund Act* and regulations.

MINISTRY GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION

Salaries and Benefits	127,356	134,117
Operating Costs	82,840	88,169
Government Transfers	35,353	11,882
Other Expenses	41,780	42,283
Internal Recoveries	(28,141)	(28,141)
External Recoveries	(4,059)	(4,059)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....	<u>255,129</u>	<u>244,251</u>

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS¹

(\$000)

	Estimates 2023/24	Estimates 2024/25
PARK ENHANCEMENT FUND SPECIAL ACCOUNT		
This account was created by the <i>Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act</i> in 2008. It provides for enhanced management, facilities, and services benefiting parks and protected areas, including increased information, education, and interpretation programs; higher levels of natural and cultural resource assessment, management, research, and restoration; additional capital investments supporting the conservation and recreation goals of the ministry; improved volunteer program support; supplementary recreation program delivery; regional systems planning for conservation and recreation; and development and production of promotional, educational, and partnership products. Transfers are provided to support the programs, services, and activities provided for in this account. Revenues are received from ministries, other levels of government, organizations, businesses, licensees, and individuals; from stumpage from tree removal in parks and protected areas; from the sale or licensing of promotional and educational goods and services; from park reservation service charges; from the sale of BC Parks license plates; from donations, bequests, contributions from agreements under the Act; and earnings on account balances.		
SPENDING AUTHORITY AVAILABLE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR ².....	23,957	23,537
OPERATING TRANSACTIONS		
Revenue.....	12,900	12,900
Expense.....	(13,420)	(13,489)
Internal and External Recoveries.....	500	500
Net Revenue (Expense).....	(20)	(89)
FINANCING TRANSACTIONS		
Receipts.....	—	—
Disbursements.....	—	—
Capital Expenditures.....	(400)	(400)
Net Cash Source (Requirement).....	(400)	(400)
PROJECTED SPENDING AUTHORITY AVAILABLE AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR ².....	23,537	23,048

NOTES

¹ A Special Account is an account in the General Fund where the authorization to spend money from the account is located in an Act other than the *Supply Act*.

² The Spending Authority Available at the Beginning of the Fiscal Year 2023/24 is based on the 2022/23 *Public Accounts*. The Projected Spending Authority Available at the End of the Fiscal Year represents the cash and temporary investments projected to be available at the end of each fiscal year.

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS¹
(\$000)

	Estimates 2023/24	Estimates 2024/25
SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT FUND		
This account was created in 1990 by the <i>Sustainable Environment Fund Act</i> and subsequent amendments. It provides for the protection of the air, land, and water; and for environmental renewal by preventing pollution, controlling pollutants and administering remediation activities under the <i>Environmental Management Act</i> , the <i>Integrated Pest Management Act</i> , and related regulations. Revenue is derived from environmental levies, fees, and licences; and from contributions from the federal government, other organizations, and individuals. Expenses represent transfers provided to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for administration and development of policies, legislation, regulations, standards and criteria for discharges and emissions; monitoring and understanding of the receiving environment; education and encouragement of activities to prevent pollution; enforcement of waste reduction; air and water quality; administering contaminated sites, hazardous waste management, and soil and water remediation projects. Transfers are also provided to local governments, other organizations, and individuals to assist in waste management and to support various environmental protection initiatives.		
SPENDING AUTHORITY AVAILABLE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR ².....	11,903	12,958
OPERATING TRANSACTIONS		
Revenue.....	27,190	28,690
Expense.....	(26,135)	(26,135)
Net Revenue (Expense).....	1,055	2,555
FINANCING TRANSACTIONS		
Receipts.....	—	—
Disbursements.....	—	—
Capital Expenditures.....	—	—
Net Cash Source (Requirement).....	—	—
PROJECTED SPENDING AUTHORITY AVAILABLE AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR ².....	12,958	15,513

NOTES

¹ A Special Account is an account in the General Fund where the authorization to spend money from the account is located in an Act other than the *Supply Act*.

² The Spending Authority Available at the Beginning of the Fiscal Year 2023/24 is based on the 2022/23 *Public Accounts*. The Projected Spending Authority Available at the End of the Fiscal Year represents the cash and temporary investments projected to be available at the end of each fiscal year.

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS BY CORE BUSINESS

(\$000)

	Estimates 2023/24	Estimates 2024/25
CLIMATE ACTION		
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS OFFSETS — Disbursements represent the purchase of greenhouse gas emissions offsets for extinguishment in accordance with government's carbon neutral initiative. Administration costs are funded through the ministry's voted appropriations.		
Disbursements.....	10,000	10,000
Receipts.....	—	—
Net Cash Requirement (Source).....	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY
(\$000)

VOTE 24 Ministry Operations

Description	Total 2023/24 Operating Expenses	50	51	52	54	Total Salaries and Benefits	55	57	59	60	63	65	67	68	69
Environmental Protection	29,940	33,990	294	8,735	—	43,019	—	881	—	3,854	556	1,418	—	—	1,003
Conservation and Recreation Division	89,986	44,842	208	11,508	—	56,558	—	1,176	—	1,066	783	2,318	—	19	21,369
Climate Action	43,755	8,402	—	2,134	—	10,536	—	138	—	2,935	853	7,095	—	—	9
CleanBC Program for Industry and BC-Output Based Pricing System	5,650	2,310	—	586	—	2,896	—	31	—	1,200	1,510	27	—	—	—
Executive and Support Services	30,351	3,896	16	1,020	75	5,007	—	162	1,616	178	1,189	1,459	—	—	80
Minister's Office	822	486	—	154	75	715	—	75	—	—	10	22	—	—	—
Corporate Services	29,529	3,410	16	866	—	4,292	—	87	1,616	178	1,179	1,437	—	—	80
Total	199,682	93,440	518	23,983	75	118,016	—	2,388	1,616	9,233	4,891	12,317	—	19	22,461

VOTE 25 Environmental Assessment Office

Description	Total 2023/24 Operating Expenses	50	51	52	54	Total Salaries and Benefits	55	57	59	60	63	65	67	68	69
Environmental Assessment Office	16,392	9,524	62	2,426	—	12,012	1	496	645	852	125	160	—	—	3
Total	16,392	9,524	62	2,426	—	12,012	1	496	645	852	125	160	—	—	3

Statutory Appropriations

Description	Total 2023/24 Operating Expenses	50	51	52	54	Total Salaries and Benefits	55	57	59	60	63	65	67	68	69
Park Enhancement Fund special account	12,920	3,181	100	808	—	4,089	—	—	—	3,250	700	—	—	—	3,450
Sustainable Environment Fund	26,135	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	39,055	3,181	100	808	—	4,089	—	—	—	3,250	700	—	—	—	3,450

70	72	73	75	Total Operating Costs	77	79	80	Total Govt Transfers	81	83	85	Total Other Expenses	86	88	Total Internal Recoveries	89	90	Total External Recoveries	Total 2024/25 Operating Expenses
863	—	1,315	18	9,908	195	—	4,447	4,642	—	—	714	714	(24,077)	(1)	(24,078)	(26)	(2,190)	(2,216)	31,989
676	—	15,400	—	42,807	195	—	265	460	—	—	91	91	(436)	(2)	(438)	(2)	(353)	(355)	99,123
—	—	10	—	11,040	570	—	1,100	1,670	—	—	6	6	(1,305)	(2,000)	(3,305)	(1)	(82)	(83)	19,864
—	—	—	—	2,768	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	5,661
2,589	—	3,952	731	11,956	60	—	—	60	—	—	14,713	14,713	(317)	(1)	(318)	(1)	(1)	(2)	31,416
—	—	—	—	107	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	822
2,589	—	3,952	731	11,849	60	—	—	60	—	—	14,713	14,713	(317)	(1)	(318)	(1)	(1)	(2)	30,594
4,128	—	20,677	749	78,479	1,020	—	5,812	6,832	—	—	15,524	15,524	(26,135)	(2,005)	(28,140)	(31)	(2,627)	(2,658)	188,053

70	72	73	75	Total Operating Costs	77	79	80	Total Govt Transfers	81	83	85	Total Other Expenses	86	88	Total Internal Recoveries	89	90	Total External Recoveries	Total 2024/25 Operating Expenses
2	—	5	1	2,290	2,400	—	1,150	3,550	—	—	124	124	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(900)	(901)	17,074
2	—	5	1	2,290	2,400	—	1,150	3,550	—	—	124	124	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(900)	(901)	17,074

70	72	73	75	Total Operating Costs	77	79	80	Total Govt Transfers	81	83	85	Total Other Expenses	86	88	Total Internal Recoveries	89	90	Total External Recoveries	Total 2024/25 Operating Expenses
—	—	—	—	7,400	200	—	1,300	1,500	—	—	500	500	—	—	—	(500)	—	(500)	12,989
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26,135	—	—	26,135	—	—	—	—	—	—	26,135
—	—	—	—	7,400	200	—	1,300	1,500	26,135	—	500	26,635	—	—	—	(500)	—	(500)	39,124

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY

1. CleanBC

Question: *What is in the Budget 2024 for CleanBC?*

Response:

Background

- CleanBC funding will continue research programs, incentive and grant programs, and support for regulatory policy development.

Budget 2024 Funding

- Approved for fiscal 2023/24: \$93M Clean BC priority investments:
 - \$3M for the ministry for Youth Climate Corps.
 - Balance of the \$93M spending is for MOTI (**\$20M** for Active Transportation) and EMLI (**\$30M** for Public EV Charging Infrastructure and **\$40M** for Better Homes Better Building – Income Qualified Program).

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

2. Conservation Officer Services

Question: *What is in Budget 2024 for Conservation Officer Services?*

Response:

Background

- The Conservation Officer Services is a public safety provider focused on natural resource law enforcement and human wildlife conflict prevention and response. It has 143 Conservation Officers (COs) in 45 communities throughout B.C.
- New resources (10 COs) were added to support First Nation agreement commitments, enhance natural resource monitoring, enforcement presence and CO safety, conduct significant and complex investigations, as well as respond to increasing human wildlife conflict and climate related emergencies.

Budget 2024 Funding

- Operating funding of \$2.421M in 2024/25, ^{Government} in 2025/26, and ^{Government} in 2026/27 and ongoing and CRF capital funding of ^{Government} 2024/25.

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Budget 2024 Estimates Summary

(\$000s)	Fiscal 2023/24 Restated				Fiscal 2024/25							Fiscal 2025/26							Fiscal 2026/27									
	Fiscal Neutral			Restated Estimates 2022/23	Fiscal Neutral			Budget 2024 Decisions				Fiscal Neutral			Budget 2024 Decisions				Fiscal Neutral			Budget 2024 Decisions						
	Estimates 2023/24	(1)	(2)		(3)	2024/25 Opening Balance	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	2024/25 Estimates	2025/26 Opening Balance	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Opening Balance	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	C&E Re-Organization	Industrial Decarbonization	CARD Creation		C&E Re-Organization	Industrial Decarbonization	CARD Creation	COS Uplift	LGCAP Acceleration	SRM			C&E Re-Organization	Industrial Decarbonization	CARD Creation	COS Uplift	LGCAP Acceleration	SRM			C&E Re-Organization	Industrial Decarbonization	CARD Creation	COS Uplift	LGCAP Acceleration	SRM		
Environmental Protection	24,977	4,963		29,940	26,307	4,963				719	31,989	26,336	4,963						719	32,018	26,336	4,963					719	32,018
Conservation & Recreation	-		89,986	89,986	-		96,261	1,999		863	99,123	-			96,635	1,510			863	99,008	-			96,635	1,545		863	99,043
BC Parks, Recreation Sites and Trails	69,601		(69,601)	-	75,466		(75,466)				-	75,840		(75,840)						-	75,840		(75,840)					-
Compliance and Enforcement	25,997	(5,612)	(20,385)	-	26,407	(5,612)	(20,795)				-	26,407	(5,612)	(20,795)						-	26,407	(5,612)	(20,795)					-
Climate Action	42,942		813	43,755	42,585		813		(23,886)	352	19,864	42,585		813			(23,886)	352	19,864	42,585		813			(23,886)	352	19,864	
CleanBC Program for Industry	6,463		(813)	5,650	6,474		(813)				5,661	6,474		(813)					5,661	6,474		(813)					5,661	
Executive & Support Services	29,702	649		30,351	29,377	649				168	30,506	29,347	649			342		168	30,506	29,347	649			342		168	30,506	
Minister's Office	-			-	822					28	850	822						28	850	822						28	850	
Corporate Services	-			-	29,377	649		372		168	30,506	29,347	649			342		168	30,506	29,347	649			342		168	30,506	
Environmental Assessment Office	199,682	-	-	199,682	207,438	-	-	2,371	(23,886)	2,130	188,053	207,811	-	-	-	1,852	(23,886)	2,130	187,907	207,811	-	-	-	1,887	(23,886)	2,130	187,942	
Environmental Assessment Office	16,392			16,392	16,655					419	17,074	16,655						419	17,074	16,655						419	17,074	
Statutory Appropriations	16,392	-	-	16,392	16,655	-	-	-	-	-	419	16,655	-	-	-	-	-	-	419	16,655	-	-	-	-	-	-	419	17,074
Park Enhancement Fund SA	12,920			12,920	12,949					40	12,989	12,949						40	12,989	12,949						40	12,989	
Sustainable Environment Fund	26,135			26,135	26,135						26,135	26,135							26,135	26,135							26,135	
Total Ministry	39,055	-	-	39,055	39,084	-	-	-	-	40	39,124	39,084	-	-	-	-	-	40	39,124	39,084	-	-	-	-	-	40	39,124	
Total Ministry	255,129	-	-	255,129	263,177	-	-	2,371	(23,886)	2,589	244,251	263,550	-	-	-	1,852	(23,886)	2,589	244,105	263,550	-	-	-	1,887	(23,886)	2,589	244,140	

Notes:

- 1) Internal re-org to remove Compliance & Enforcement Core Business, and distribute branches to other core business (EPD and ESS - Strategic Services)
- 2) Correct Budget to reflect Industrial Decarbonization under Climate Action as it should have been
- 3) Creation of new Conservation and Recreation division, which combines Comp & Enforcement with BC Parks, Rec Sites and Trail under one Core Business
- 4) Budget uplift for Conservation Officers, to add 10 new FTEs, and related operating costs
- 5) Decision to accelerate payments made under the Local Government Climate Action Program - same total funding provided; but distributed in FY24 instead of out years
- 6) Increases related to Shared Recovery Mandate for Unionized and Excluded staff salaries/benefits

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**Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Budget 2024 Year over Year Comparison (OPERATING)**

(\$000s)	Restated 2023/24 Estimates Ending Balance	Fiscal 2024/25										Fiscal 2025/26					Fiscal 2026/27					
		Budget 2022 Decisions		Budget 2023 Decisions			Budget 2024 Decisions					Budget 2023 Decisions		Budget 2024 Decisions			Budget 2023 Decisions		Budget 2024 Decisions			
		Clean BC Roadmap to 2030	CPAS Funding	Permitting	Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure	Shared Recovery Mandate	Minor Changes	Conservation Officer Services Uplift	Local Government Climate Action Program Acceleration	Shared Recovery Mandate	2024/25 Estimates	Permitting	Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure	Conservation Officer Services Uplift	Local Government Climate Action Program Acceleration	Shared Recovery Mandate	2025/26 Estimates	Permitting	Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure	Conservation Officer Services Uplift	Local Government Climate Action Program Acceleration	Shared Recovery Mandate
Environmental Protection	29,940	24	(105)	749		662			719	31,989	29					32,018						32,018
Conservation & Recreation*	89,986			325	5,040	910		1,999	863	99,123	1	373	(489)		99,008				35			99,043
Climate Action	43,755	(505)	3			145			(23,886)	352	-				19,864							19,864
CleanBC Program for Industry	5,650						11			5,661	-				5,661							5,661
Executive & Support Services																						
Minister's Office	822									28	-				850							850
Corporate Services	29,529		102	353		42		372	168	30,566	(30)		(30)		30,506							30,506
	199,682	(481)	-	1,427	5,040	1,759	11	2,371	(23,886)	2,130	188,053	-	373	(519)	-	187,907	-	-	35	-	-	187,942
Environmental Assessment Office																						
Environmental Assessment Office	16,392			115		148				419	17,074				17,074							17,074
	16,392	-	-	115	-	148	-	-	-	419	17,074	-	-	-	17,074	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,074
Statutory Appropriations																						
Park Enhancement Fund SA	12,920					29				40	12,989				12,989							12,989
Sustainable Environment Fund	26,135										26,135				26,135							26,135
	39,055	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	40	39,124	-	-	-	39,124	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,124
Total Ministry	255,129	(481)	-	1,542	5,040	1,936	11	2,371	(23,886)	2,589	244,251	-	373	(519)	-	244,105	-	-	35	-	-	244,140

Note amounts are year to year incremental changes and does not reflect full budget decisions

* Conservation and Recreation was previously 2 Core Businesses: BC Parks, Recreation Sites And Trails; and Compliance and Enforcement

**Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Budget 2024 Year over Year Comparison (CAPITAL)**

(\$000s)	Fiscal 2024/25												
	Pre-Budget 2022 Decisions	Budget 2023 Decisions		Budget 2024 Decisions			Pre-Budget 2022 Decisions	Budget 2024 Decisions			No Change from FY26	2026/27 Estimates	
	Restated 2023/24 Estimates Ending Balance	Decisions from Prior FYs (1)	Outdoor Rec Infrastructure - Existing Asset Replacement	Outdoor Rec Infrastructure - Critical Employee Safety & Training	COS uplift for 4 FTEs (2)	Reprofiled from FY24 (3)	2024/25 Estimates	Decisions from Prior FYs (1)	COS uplift for 4 FTEs (2)	Reprofiled from FY24 (3)			2025/26 Estimates
Centralized Assets													
Land Acquisition	7,000	(5,000)				4,950	6,950		(4,950)		2,000		2,000
Land Improvements	31,614	(10,000)	5,000			3,951	30,565		(3,951)		26,614		26,614
Vehicles	5,932	(4,032)			486	1,998	4,384		(486)	(1,998)	1,900		1,900
Office Equipment	10						10				10		10
Specialized Equipment	2,419	(1,089)		1,000	157	290	2,777	(238)	(157)	(290)	2,092		2,092
Ministry Operations Total	46,975	(20,121)	5,000	1,000	643	11,189	44,686	(238)	(643)	(11,189)	32,616	-	32,616
Park Enhancement Fund SA													
Land Improvements	300						300				300		300
Specialized Equipment	100						100				100		100
Park Enhancement Fund SA Total	400						400				400		400
Total Ministry	47,375	(20,121)	5,000	1,000	643	11,189	45,086	(238)	(643)	(11,189)	33,016	-	33,016

Note amounts are year to year incremental changes and does not reflect full budget decisions

1) Funding decreases from end of time-limited 3 year funding for:

Park Facility Maintenance Program	- 5,000.00
Campsite Expansion	- 5,000.00
Back Country Facilities	- 1,089.00
Land Acquisition - Protected areas	- 5,000.00
Return to Base funding for Vehicles	- 4,032.00
FY26 - Reduction to time-limited	
Specialized Equipment funding	- 238.00

2) Cons Officer Services increase for 4 vehicles (\$486K), as well as 4 ATVs, firearms and radios (\$157K) - Provided for one year only

3) Capital budget reprofiled from FY24 to FY25 (FY25 increase ONLY), including:

BC Parks Specialized Equipment	290
BC Parks Accessibility Upgrades	661
Park Facility Maintenance	1,000
Campsite Expansion	2,290
Parks Expansion upfitting	863
Cons Officer vehicles	1,135
Land Acquisitions	4,950
	11,189

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**Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
2024/25 Budget changes by Core Business (\$000)**

	2023/24		2024/25		2025/26		2026/27
	Restated	Change	Estimates	Change	Plan	Change	Plan
Ministry Operations							
Environmental Protection	29,940	2,049	31,989	29	32,018	-	32,018
Conservation & Recreation	89,986	9,137	99,123	(115)	99,008	35	99,043
Climate Action	43,755	(23,891)	19,864	-	19,864	-	19,864
CleanBC Program for Industry	5,650	11	5,661	-	5,661	-	5,661
Executive & Support Services	30,351	1,065	31,416	(60)	31,356	-	31,356
Sub-Total	199,682	(11,629)	188,053	(146)	187,907	35	187,942
Environmental Assessment Office	16,392	682	17,074	-	17,074	-	17,074
Sub-Total	16,392	682	17,074	-	17,074	-	17,074
Park Enhancement Fund SA	12,920	69	12,989	-	12,989	-	12,989
Sustainable Environment Fund	26,135	-	26,135	-	26,135	-	26,135
TOTAL Ministry	255,129	(10,878)	244,251	(146)	244,105	35	244,140
Percent Change				-4.26%		-0.06%	0.01%

2024/25 Changes Include - Decrease of \$10.878M

Budget 2024 Decisions:

- 2.589 M increase to salary and benefits for the Shared Recovery Mandate
- 23.886 M decrease for Local Government Climate Action Program Acceleration
- 2.371 M increase for 10 new Cons Officers, in increase capacity and to meet commitments in First Nations Agreements

Budget 2023 Decisions:

- 0.011 M increase for minor edits
- 1.936 M increase to salary and benefits for the Shared Recovery Mandate
- 5.040 M increase for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure to enhance existing asset maintenance and replacement programs
- 1.542 M increase to fund the implementation of the Solutions Framework for permitting

Budget 2022 Decisions:

- 0.481 M decrease to Clean BC Roadmap to 2030
- 10.878 Total change

2025/26 Changes Include -Decrease of \$0.146M

Budget 2024 Decisions:

- 0.519 M decrease in Conservation Officer staffing

Budget 2023 Decisions:

- 0.373 M increase for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure to enhance existing asset maintenance and replacement programs
- 0.146 Total change

2026/27 Changes Include - Increase of \$0.035M

Budget 2024 Decisions:

- 0.035 M increase for additional staff required to meet commitments in First Nations Agreements

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Operating Budget - 2023/24 Restated to 2024/25
by Group Account Classification (GAC) and Votes (\$000)

Group Account Classification (GAC)	2023/24 Restated	2024/25 Estimates	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Ministry Operations				
Salaries and benefits	112,006	118,016	6,010	5.37%
Operating costs	73,150	78,479	5,329	7.29%
Government transfers	30,303	6,832	(23,471)	-77.45%
Other expenses	15,072	15,524	452	3.00%
Recoveries	(30,849)	(30,798)	51	-0.17%
Ministry Operations Total	199,682	188,053	(11,629)	-6%
Environmental Assessment Office				
Salaries and benefits	11,330	12,012	682	6.02%
Operating costs	2,290	2,290	-	0.00%
Government transfers	3,550	3,550	-	0.00%
Other expenses	124	124	-	0.00%
Recoveries	(902)	(902)	-	0.00%
Environmental Assessment Office Total	16,392	17,074	682	4%
Special Accounts				
Salaries and benefits	4,020	4,089	69	1.72%
Operating costs	7,400	7,400	-	0.00%
Government transfers	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%
Other expenses	26,635	26,635	-	0.00%
Recoveries	(500)	(500)	-	0.00%
Special Account Total	39,055	39,124	69	0%
Grand Total	255,129	244,251	(10,878)	(4%)

All Votes & Special Accounts	2023/24 Restated	2024/25 Estimates	Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
Salaries and Benefits	127,356	134,117	6,761	5%
Operating Costs	82,840	88,169	5,329	6%
Government Transfers	35,353	11,882	(23,471)	(66%)
Other Expenses	41,831	42,283	452	1%
Recoveries	(32,251)	(32,200)	51	(0%)
	255,129	244,251	(10,878)	(4%)

**Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
3 Year Capital Budget (\$'000)**

Spending by Asset Types	2023/24		2024/25		2025/26		2026/27
	Estimates	Change	Estimates	Change	Plan	Change	Plan
Ministry Operations							
Centralized Assets							
Land Acquisition	7,000	(50)	6,950	(4,950)	2,000	0	2,000
Land Improvements	31,614	(1,049)	30,565	(3,951)	26,614	0	26,614
Vehicles	5,932	(1,548)	4,384	(2,484)	1,900	0	1,900
Office Equipment	10	0	10	0	10	0	10
Specialized Equipment	2,419	358	2,777	(685)	2,092	0	2,092
Centralized Assets Total	46,975	(2,289)	44,686	(12,070)	32,616	0	32,616
Ministry Operations Total	46,975	(2,289)	44,686	(12,070)	32,616	0	32,616
Park Enhancement Fund							
Land Improvements	300	0	300	0	300	0	300
Specialized Equipment	100	0	100	0	100	0	100
Park Enhancement Fund Total	400	0	400	0	400	0	400
Ministry Total	47,375	(2,289)	45,086	(12,070)	33,016	0	33,016
Percent Change			(4.8%)		(26.8%)		-

2024/25 Changes Include - Decrease of \$2.289M

Budget 2024 Decisions:

- 4.950 M increase to **Land Acquisition** for Park Facility Maintenance Program (reprofile)
- 4.814 M increase to **Land Improvements** for Campsite Expansion (reprofile)
- 1.135 M increase to **Vehicles** for Back country Facilities (reprofile)
- 0.290 M increase to **Specialized Equipment** for BC Parks (reprofile)
- 0.486 M increase to **Vehicles** for Conservation Officer Services (4 vehicles and 4 ATVs)
- 0.157 M increase to **Specialized Equipment** for Conservation Officer Services firearms and radios
- 11.832 Total changes

Budget 2023 Decisions:

- 5.000 M increase to **Land Improvements** for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure: BC Parks - Existing Asset Replacement
- 1.000 M increase to **specialized equipment** for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure: Recreational Sites and Trails - Capital Equipment
- 6.000 Total changes

Decisions from previous FYs:

- 10.000 M decrease to **Land Improvements** for BC Parks (Budget 2021 decision provided 3 year funding FY22-24)
- 5.000 M return to BC Parks base envelope funding for **Land Acquisition** (Budget 2021 decision provided 3 year funding FY22-24)
- 4.032 M return to base envelope funding for **vehicles**
- 1.089 M decrease to **specialized equipment** (Budget 2021 decision provided 3 year funding FY22-24)
- 20.121 Total change

2025/26 Changes Include - Decrease of \$12.070M

Budget 2024 Decisions:

- 4.950 M decrease to Land Acquisition for Park Facility Maintenance Program
- 4.814 M decrease to Land Improvements for Campsite Expansion

Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
3 Year Revenue Projections
2023/24 Restated to 2026/27
(\$000s)

Revenues by Core Business	2023/24 Restated	Change	2024/25 Estimates	Change
Ministry Operations				
BC Parks				
Park Use Permit Fees	2,431	(481)	1,950	-
Backcountry Permits and Other Park Revenues	460	(247)	213	-
BC Parks Total	2,891	(728)	2,163	-
Climate Action				
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets	14,940	(84)	14,856	(70)
Climate Action Total	14,940	(84)	14,856	(70)
Other Revenues				
Miscellaneous Revenues	250	-	250	-
Other Revenues Total	250	-	250	-
Ministry Operations Total	18,081	(812)	17,269	(70)
Environmental Assessment Office				
EAO				
Fees, Licences, and Permits	1,130	(130)	1,000	-
EAO Total	1,130	(130)	1,000	-
Environmental Assessment Office	1,130	(130)	1,000	-
Special Accounts				
Park Enhancement Fund				
Park Licence Plates Sales	10,340	(2,310)	8,030	-
Discover Camping - External parties' contributions	5,080	(680)	4,400	-
Successions and Gifts	200	300	500	-
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,087	(617)	470	-
Park Enhancement Fund Total	16,707	(3,307)	13,400	-
Sustainable Environment Fund				
Discharges Fees	20,833	537	21,370	-
Diapers PST	5,000	1,500	6,500	-
Pesticides - Exams, Licences, and Permits	700	-	700	-
Miscellaneous Revenues	161	(41)	120	-
Sustainable Environment Fund Total	26,694	1,996	28,690	-
Special Accounts Total	43,401	(1,311)	42,090	-
Grand Total	62,612	(2,253)	60,359	(70)
		Total % Change	-3.6%	

Government Financial Information

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets

Projections reflect the revenues that are expected to be generated from offset payments from broader public sector organizations (BPSOs) under the Carbon Neutral Government (CNG) program. Forecasted values for 2023/24 forward are based on the public sector emission projections.

Version 1 - PEA & GEU & LGL separated

Ministry of Environment - Headcount by Classification

Based on CHIPS data at January 31, 2024

Classification		MO	DMO	CAS	SP	EPD	CARD	EAO	Rec Strat	PEF	Grand Total	% of Total Staff
Senior Executive (DM & ADM)	Excluded		1	1		1	1	1			5	0.4%
Management (AL, BL, SL)	Excluded		3	30	11	41	48	34			167	13.3%
Chief of Staff, Sr Exec (Band A), Ministerial & Exec Assistants (Sched A)	Excluded	2	1	1			1	3	1		9	0.7%
Legal Counsel - LGL	Excluded						0				0	0.0%
Union - GEU	Included		13	87	18	286	474	80		7	965	76.6%
Union - PEA	Included			9		96	4			1	110	8.7%
Ministerial Support Staff	Excluded	3					0				3	0.2%
Grand Total		5	18	128	29	424		118	1	8	1259	100%
% of Total Staff		0.5%	1.4%	10.2%	2.3%	33.7%		9.4%	0.1%	18.0%	100%	

Version 2 - PEA & GEU & LGL combined

Ministry of Environment - Headcount by Classification

Based on CHIPS data at January 31, 2024

Classification		MO	DMO	CAS	SP	EPD	CARD	EAO	Rec Strat	PEF	Grand Total	% of Total Staff
Senior Executive (DM & ADM)	Excluded		1	1		1	1	1			5	0.4%
Management (AL, BL, SL)	Excluded		3	30	11	41	48	34			167	13.3%
Chief of Staff, Sr Exec (Band A), Ministerial & Exec Assistants (Sched A)	Excluded	4	1	1			1	3	1		11	0.9%
Union	Included		13	96	18	382	478	80		8	1075	85.4%
Ministerial Support Staff	Excluded	1					0				1	0.1%
Grand Total		5	18	128	29	424	528	118	1	8	1259	100%
% of Total Staff		0.4%	1.4%	10.2%	2.3%	33.7%		9.4%	0.1%	18.0%	100%	

Note:

CARD includes BC Parks, Recreation Sites & Trails, and Conservation Officer Services

Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy – Estimates Briefing
STAFF BY CLASSIFICATION and CORE BUSINESS

Classification	MO	DMO	CA	SP	EP	CAR	PEF	Rec Strat	EAO	Total
Coop and Interns										0
Aboriginal Youth Intern Prog										0
Coop Education Train Prog Lv1			1		1				1	3
Coop Education Train Prog Lv2									2	2
Work Able Intern Prog						1				1
Coop and Interns Total	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	6
Clerks, Administrative and Financial Officers										
Administrative Coordinator									31	31
Administrative Officer (PO)R27										
Administrative Officer R15		2	4		2	3	1		2	14
Administrative Officer R18			9		7	5			4	25
Administrative Officer R21		1	4		8	1	1		7	22
Administrative Officer R24		1	18		8	11	2		5	45
Administrative Officer R27			1	2	1	12	2		4	22
Office Assistant R9		1								1
Clerk R12	1	3	5		8	4			6	27
Clerk R15		1		1	4	7				13
Clerk R9					1	5			4	10
Clerk Stenographer R12				1	6					7
Clerk Stenographer R9				1	9	23			3	36
Financial Officer R14										0
Financial Officer R21									2	2
Financial Officer R24										0
Clerks, Administrative and Financial Officers Total	1	9	41	5	54	71	6	0	68	255
DM and ADMs										
Assist Deputy Minister Non-OIC										0
Assistant Deputy Minister 1			1		1	1		1	1	5
Associate Deputy Minister									1	1
Deputy Minister 1										0
Deputy Minister 2		1								1
DM and ADMs Total	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	7
Management Band 1-6										
Band 1		1	1		1				2	5
Band 1 MS	1									1
Band 2			1		2	1			1	5
Band 2 MS	2									2
Band 3		1	12	4	10	19			2	48
Band 3 MS	1									1
Band 4		1	12	2	17	21			23	76
Band 5			4	4	8	6			4	26
Band 6				1	3	1			2	7
Management Band 1-6 Total	4	3	30	11	41	48	0	0	34	171
Biologists										
Biologist R21					1					1
Biologist R24					23	8				31
Biologist R27					12					12
Biologist R30					7					7
Biologists Total	0	0	0	0	43	8	0	0	0	51
Communications Officers										
Communications Officer R15		3								3

Communications Officer R18		1				1				2
Communications Officer R21					1	1				2
Communications Officer R24										0
Communications Officer R27									1	1
Communications Officers Total	0	4	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	8
Conservation Officers										
Conservation Officer R18										0
Conservation Officer R21						13				13
Conservation Officer R24					1	83				84
Conservation Officer R27						3				3
Conservation Officer R30					1	25				26
Conservation Officers Total	0	0	0	0	2	124	0	0	0	126
Economists										
Economist R21						2				2
Economist R24										0
Economist R27			6		2					8
Economist R30			6			1				7
Economists Total	0	0	12	0	2	3	0		0	17
Information Systems										
Information Systems R13										0
Information Systems R18						3	1			4
Information Systems R21										0
Information Systems R24						1			1	2
Information Systems R27										0
Information Systems R30										0
Information Systems Total	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	1	6
Laboratory Officers and Assistant										
Laboratory Assistant R11										0
Laboratory/Hlth Science Of R15					3					3
Laboratory/Hlth Science Of R21										0
Laboratory/Hlth Science Of R24					3					3
Laboratory/Hlth Science Of R30					2					2
Laboratory Officers and Assistant Total	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	8
Licensed Science Officers										
Licensed Sc Off Agrologist 2					2					2
Licensed Sc Off Agrologist 3			1		12					13
Licensed Sc Off Agrologist 4					9					9
Licensed Sc Off Engineer 1					1					1
Licensed Sc Off Engineer 3					3					3
Licensed Sc Off Engineer 4			1		1					2
Licensed Sc Off Forester 2						1				1
Licensed Sc Off Forester 4							1			1
Licensed Sc Off Geologist 3										0
Lic Sc Off (Geoscientist) 3					2					2
Lic Sc Off (Geoscientist) 4					4					4
Licensed Sc Off Other 2					1	1				2
Licensed Sc Off Other 3			1		16					17
Licensed Sc Off Other 4					8					8
LSO 3 -Designated Profssnl Eng			3		22	2				27
LSO 4 -Designated Profssnl Eng			3		15					18
LSO 5 -Designated Profssnl Eng										0
Licensed Science Officers Total	0	0	9	0	96	4	1	0	0	110
Park Assistants										
Park Assistant R12						20				20

Park Assistant R6						4				4
Park Assistant R9						5				5
Park Assistants Total	0	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	29
Planning Officer										
Planning Officer R24						1				1
Planning Officer R27						11				11
Planning Officer R30						3				3
Planning Officer Total	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	15
Policy Analysts										
Policy Analyst - Science R27			24	13	19	2				58
Policy Analyst - Science R30			2		3					5
Policy Social/Info/Health R27			4		1				6	11
Policy Analysts Total	0	0	30	13	23	2	0	0	6	74
Science and Research Officers										
Research Officer R18					1	1				2
Research Officer R21					1					1
Research Officer R24					1					1
Research Officer R27			1							1
Science Officer R30					1					1
Scientific/Tech Off R15 - Res						6				6
Scientific/Tech Off R18 - Res					2	24				26
Scientific/Tech Off R21 - Res					5	35				40
Scientific/Tech Off R24 - Res			1		30	10				41
Scientific/Tech Off R27 - Res			1		16	35				52
Scientific/Tech Off R30 - Res					3	12				15
Scientific/Technical Off R11										0
Scientific/Technical Off R15						2			1	3
Scientific/Technical Off R18						26				26
Scientific/Technical Off R21					10					10
Scientific/Technical Off R24					67	53				120
Scientific/Technical Off R27					9	9				18
Scientific/Technical Off R30					6	2				8
Science and Research Officers Total	0	0	3	0	152	215	0	0	1	371
Executive Assistants										
Executive Administrative Asst			1			1			1	3
Senior Executive Assistant		1							1	2
Executive Assistants Total	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	5
Librarian R27										0
Grand Total	5	18	128	29	424	528	8	1	118	1259

Key Messages

Budget 2024 Stakeholder Expectations – Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

- 1. Emissions reduction funding** - MABC, BCBC, COFI, Cement Association will want to see continued and increased commitment to funding emissions reductions through the CleanBC Industry Fund.

Key Messages

- We want to help the private sector move forward with electrification projects faster as we work to meet our 2030 climate targets.
 - Through the CleanBC Industry Fund, we have provided \$215 million to industrial operators to support their work to lower emissions – and pay less.
 - Our new Output Based Pricing System will reward innovators that reduce emissions below their sector’s average while growing the economy, and it will lower total costs to strengthen BC’s competitiveness while ensuring a strong price on pollution.
 - We have also partnered with BC Hydro on a new streamlined, joint application process for industrial electrification projects that will reduce administration time for every party involved, so we can reduce emissions faster with clean energy solutions.
 - We expect this new program to reduce timelines by a year for each project.
- 2. Single-Use Plastics** – The Restaurants Council of Canada/BC and several other private sector stakeholders, and local governments, will be looking for funding to support increased costs from the transition away from single-use plastics.

Key Messages

- We want to ensure people have the best options available to effectively transition from single-use and plastic items.
- We’re working with industry to make good environmental choices easier so British Columbians can use products that decrease pollution and emissions.
- As a result, businesses were given more time to source alternative products for several types of single-use plastics.
- We have invested close to \$40 million through the CleanBC Plastics Action Fund to support B.C.-based innovators to reduce plastic waste, reuse items and include more recycled material in the manufacturing of products.
- This includes dedicated Indigenous-led project funding, with an initial eight projects receiving more than \$1.3 million.

- 3. Advice/Recommendations**

Key Messages
Advice/Recommendations

Key Messages and Q&A

People-First Communications

Key Message and Question/Answer (KMQA)

Ministry team	ENV GCPE	
Date	Feb. 6, 2024	Last updated: Feb 7, 2024
Purpose	B.C's OBPS Announcement on February 16, 2024	
Writer (GCPE)	Mira Nurgaliyeva	
Policy area (Ministry)	Climate Action Secretariat	
Issues (GCPE)	Alison Copeland	
Director (GCPE)	Scott McKenzie	

Key Messages

Advice/Recommendations

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Advice/Recommendations

OPPOSITION MLA CORRESPONDENCE February 1, 2023 - February 27, 2024 (BY MLA)

ID	All (Full Name,Type)	Subject	Issue	Action	Received	NOTES
407070	Banman, Bruce	Request a meeting with Minister Heyman this coming Wednesday, December 6th on behalf of his constituents who are farmers in the Abbotsford region. MLA Banman would like to raise and discuss their concerns specific to the fiscal aid programs currently available to farmers throughout the province following the wildfire season.	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-12-11	Meeting request closed Dec. 19, 2023. The meeting did not happen because this issue ended up being under EMCR.
408736	Bond, Shirley	Closure of Renshaw Snowmobiling Area RST is the OPR (ENV)	Recreation Sites and Trails Closures	Draft Response	2024-02-20	With Rec Sites and Trails to draft priority response
408373	Bond, Shirley	Recreation access to Kakwa Provincial Park. MLA Bond requesting Minister Heyman intervene in road access impasse.	Park Access	Draft Response	2024-02-08	With BC Parks to draft priority response
404292	Bond, Shirley	The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) has initiated an environmental assessment (EA) for the Coyote Hydrogen Project (the Project) under the Environmental Assessment Act (2018).	Environmental Assessment	Signature		Internally generated item sent Sept. 29, 2023, under Associate DM signautre.

400146	Clovechok, Doug	MLA Clovechok requesting meeting with MGH to discuss a boat launch issue in Martha Creek Provincial Park	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-04-25	Meeting was held April 27, 2023
407088	Personal Private Citizen Personal Private Citizen Clovechok, Doug	Is opposed to the proposed Solar Farm in East Kootenay	Solar Power	FYI/File	2023-11-23	ENV filed/FYI as this was an EMLI issue. MLA's office responded to constituents and encouraged them to leave comments on the application via NRS link, Nov. 23, 2023.
402370	Personal Private Citizen Doerkson, Lorne	MLA passing on constituent inquiry - Request to have the Cemetery, Interment and Funeral Services Act amended to include Aquamation	Cremation/Aquamation	External Redirect with Letter	2023-07-11	Redirect to PSSG: Redirect letter sent July 17, 2023.
408102	Pinkney, Maureen (District of 100 Mile House) Municipal Government Doerkson, Lorne	"I write at the request of Mayor Maureen Pinkney, District of 100 Mile House. She would like to meet with you both (MNC) to discuss the historical use of the watershed flow	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2024-01-29	Meeting has not yet happened. MO notes of Feb. 8, 2024, indicate WLRS is lead.
402748	Personal Private Citizen Doerkson, Lorne	Questions and concerns RE climate change and forestry practices and their impact on wildfire frequency/severity.	Wildfire	Draft Response	2023-07-25	CU notes (July 31, 2023): Incoming sent to MGH as well as MNC (FOR): ENV provided content to FOR; WLRS/FOR to respond OBO MGH. Closed Aug. 15.
402277	Personal Information Private Citizen Doerkson, Lorne	MLA inquiring RE constituent complaint of experience camping Tweedsmuir Park — Fisheries Pool Campground near Bella Coola.	Campgrounds	Draft Response	2023-07-05	Response under ADM signature sent to MLA's constituents, Aug. 24, 2023. MLA cc'd.

405241	Doerkson, Lorne	Suggestion from constituent to have employee's of BCWS spend the late fall/early winter months clearing the right of ways and roadsides.	Transportation	FYI/File	2023-09-26	ENV filed/FYI as this was FOR/MOTI issue (and FOR/MOTI were included in the incoming).
397324	Letnick, Norm	MLA Letnick requesting meeting with MGH to discuss the Channel between Kalamalka and Wood lakes.	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-02-15	Meeting request: MO notes indicate meeting was Feb. 22, 2023.
405166	Merrifield, Renee	MLA Merrifield would like to discuss the rationale behind the regulation banning compostable bio-plastics, including the impact on the environment, why it was included in the regulation, and the environmental footprint of the CBP.	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-10-25	Meeting request: MO notes indicate meeting was Nov. 8, 2023.
401965	Merrifield, Renee	RE federal funding for Abandoned Boats Program (ABP), request to	Derelict Vessels	Draft Response	2023-06-21	Response under Minister signature sent to MLA, Aug. 2, 2023.
399383	Merrifield, Renee	Exceptions for newspaper industry to extended producer responsibility.	Recycling	Draft Response	2023-04-04	Response under Minister signature sent to MLA, April 27, 2023.
406447	Milobar, Peter	Adequate Phase 3 Power for North Thompson Valley	BC Hydro	FYI/File	2023-06-29	ENV filed/FYI as this was an EMLI issue (and the incoming was addressed to EMLI with a cc to ENV).
403807	Milobar, Peter	Re: an unauthorized weir on East Barriere Lake	Compliance and Enforcement	External Redirect w/o Letter	2023-08-31	Redirect to FOR. FOR reply, Nov. 17, 2023.

403785	Morris, Mike	"MLA Mike Morris is requesting a phone call or Zoom meeting with Minister Heyman to discuss staffing issues at Conservation offices in Prince George and Mackenzie as well as the ongoing issues with bears in these communities. Please let me know when the Minister is available so I can have MLA Morris available."	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-09-06	Meeting did not happen. MLA's office did not follow up after MO tried to schedule the meeting.
408083	Oakes, Coralee	Concerns RE wildfire effects on Eliguk Lake Lodge.	Wildfire	External Redirect w/o Letter	2024-01-17	Redirect to FOR (FOR confirmed they will respond, Jan. 26, 2024, and will cc ENV).
398807	Oakes, Coralee	Re: Three culvert crossings that are barriers to fish crossing into Stump Lake and will benefit the members of Nazko First Nation through the	Water Protection & Management	FYI/File	2023-03-20	Redirect to WLRS (WLRS confirmed they plan to respond, March 23, 2023). Incoming was addressed to MIRR, WLRS, MOTI and ENV.
401347	Ross, Ellis	Re: Clague/Bowbese Trail in Kitimat - seeking assistance in resolving the issues faced between the local	Trails	Draft Response	2023-06-01	Response under Minister signature sent to MLA, June 26, 2023.

401195	Shypitka, Tom	Re: Several rumor's pertaining to the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC 1) The Kootenay Trout Hatchery has gone private. The rumour is that the society has sold the hatchery to a private source. 2) Lakes in Region 4 are not being stocked this year. - According to the society stocking reports in 2023, of the 180 stocked lakes in this region, 46 have been stocked to date. - Stocking numbers to date include 6,750 Eastern Brook, 16,100 Kokanee and 153,000 Rainbow. - Rumour is that these numbers are reported in the stocking reports but are not actually being stocked in the lakes.	Fish & Wildlife	External Redirect w/o Letter	2023-05-25	Redirect to FOR (FOR confirmed they will respond, May 25, 2023). Incoming was addressed to FOR, ENV and WLRS.
400236	Stewart, Ben	Lauren is meeting with MLA Ben Stewart May 3 11:15am via teams.	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-05-01	Meeting request: MO notes state "Lauren is meeting with MLA Ben Stewart May 3,
401355	Personal Private Citizen Sturdy, Jordan Personal Private Citizen	Re: Camping on Bowen Island and concerns for fires.	Campgrounds	Draft Response	2023-06-01	Response under ADM signature sent to MLA's constituents, June. 15, 2023. MLA cc'd.

405374	Stewart, Ben	MLA Stewart enquiry on behalf of the South Okanagan Girl Guide Camp-Site Society, regarding land acquisition on Lake Okanagan.	Land Acquisition or Transfer	Draft Response	2023-10-27	Response under DM signature sent to MLA, Dec. 7, 2023.
407359	Tegart, Jackie Johnson, Diane (Fraser Valley Regional District) Municipal Government	Re: : Support for REO Rafting Impacted by Kookipi Creek Wildfire	Forest Fires	External Redirect w/o Letter	2023-12-14	External redirect to EMCR. EMCR responded Feb. 5, 2024.
404669	Tegart, Jackie	Re: Downton Wildfire that ravaged the Gun Lake area	Forest Fires	External Redirect w/o Letter	2023-10-02	External redirect to EMCR. EMCR responded Dec. 18, 2023. Please note, because ENV Minister was also Acting Minister for EMCR, we sent out EMCR response from Minister's ENV account.

GREEN MLA CORRESPONDENCE February 1, 2023 - February 27, 2024 (BY MLA)

ID	All (Full Name,Type)	Subject	Issue	Action	Received	NOTES
407060	Furstenau, Sonia	re: Illegal Feeding of elk in Youbou in the Cowichan Valley Would like government to change the Wildlife Act to establish a prohibition on feeding ungulates	Wildlife Act	Draft Response	2023-12-05	Response sent from Minister on December 20
402722	Furstenau, Sonia	Re: concerns about gravel pit operations at Personal Information	Mining	External Redirect w/o Letter	2023-07-17	Redirected to EMLI. EMLI responded on September 21
399803	Furstenau, Sonia	the issue of the illegal dumping of slaughter waste that is ongoing in Cowichan. In her meeting with a constituent, he was quite distressed that it seems MoE staff are aware of this issue, and of the risks it poses, but he is concerned to see the dumping continuing unabated.	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-04-14	Meeting was held on April 20
398445	Furstenau, Sonia	MLA Furstenau: Synergraze project in East Sooke.	Aquaculture	FYI/File	2023-03-06	AGRI responded on April 5
398422	Olsen, Adam	Meeting with Laurel and Lauren to discuss a pattern of wrongdoing and how Laurel may be able to find resolution. Ombudsperson Jay Chalke recommended MLA Olsen contact Laurel.	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-03-13	Lauren met with MLA Olsen on March 29
398367	Personal Private Citizen Olsen, Adam	RE: Bamberton Quarry Expansion - Malahat First Nation to expand a rock quarry on the shore of the Saanich Inlet. MLA Olsen responded to constituent.	Bamberton Quarry	FYI/File	2022-11-09	Filed as FYI with EAO

398362	Personal Information Private Citizen Olsen, Adam	RE: Request for CVRD Board to pursue an environmental assessment of proposed Bamberton Quarry expansion. MLA Olsen responded to constituent.	Bamberton Quarry	FYI/File	2022-11-22	Filed as FYI with EAO
407940	Tom, Don (First Nations Leadership Council) First Nation Olsen, Adam	Is in support of the Decision for the Bamberton Quarry Mines Act Amendment (Mines Act Permit Q-8-24, Notice of Work # 0800407-2020-01). MLA Olsen responded to First Nation.	Bamberton Quarry	FYI/File	2024-01-08	Filed as FYI with EAO
405519	Olsen, Adam	Re: Illegal dumping of garbage at Burgoyne Bay PP	Garbage Dumping & Litter	Draft Response	2023-10-26	Response from ADM sent on November 24 with follow up
404378	Personal Private Citizen Olsen, Adam	Re: The potential environmental impact of the Bamberton Quarry on Saanich Inlet's marine ecosystems. Quarry Application 0800407 Bamberton / Malahat Investment Corporation. MLA Olsen responded to constituent.	Bamberton Quarry	FYI/File	2023-02-21	Filed as FYI with EAO
404207	Olsen, Adam	Concerns re: decision on Roberts Bank Terminal Expansion	Roberts Bank	Draft Response	2023-09-22	Response from Minister sent October 20.
404021	Olsen, Adam	Concerns re: decision on Roberts Bank Terminal Expansion	Roberts Bank	Draft Response	2023-09-16	Response from Minister sent September 21.
403676	Olsen, Adam	Foreshore Lease application #0336205 FOR is OPR	Habitat Protection	External Redirect w/o Letter	2023-08-22	Redirected to FOR - FOR sent response on October 4.
403560	Olsen, Adam	Letter addressed to local First Nations - Bamberton Quarry Enhanced Mines Permitting Process and Cumulative Effects Analysis, including comments re: free prior and informed consent.	Bamberton Quarry	FYI/File	2023-08-28	Filed as FYI with EAO

402548	Falkenberg-Poetz, Eric (SIPS) Company Gawley, Jerram (MLA Olsen) Olsen, Adam	Re: Meeting Request by SIPS (Saanich Inlet Protection Society) with Honorable George Heyman, Environmental Minister	Meeting Request	Meeting Request	2023-03-14	Response from Minister sent April 6.
399808	Olsen, Adam Kilpatrick, Michael (Mayne Island Invasive Fallow Deer Committee) Association	Invitation to a community information meeting to discuss the Fallow Deer problem on Mayne Island.	Invitation	Invitation	2023-04-14	MLA Olsen shared the invitation with MGH, MNC, and MBR. Meeting was held at 1-3pm on 2023/05/21, at the Mayne Island AG Hall. 'Advice/Recom Advice/Recommendations Advice/recomm mendations Regrets were sent and FOR and WLRS were advised that MGH will not be attending.

OPPOSITION MLA CORRESPONDENCE February 1, 2023 - February 27, 2024 (BY MLA)

ID	MLA	Subject	Issue	Action	Received	Closed
403169	Ashton, Dan	Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park trail maintenance.	Recreation Sites and Trails Maintenance	Bullets	2023-08-16	2023-08-25
400465	Banman, Bruce	Concerns for safety due to bear Concerns in Aldergrove	Bears	Bullets	2023-05-08	2023-05-15
405158	Bond, Shirley	Grizzly Bear in Valemout	Bears	Bullets	2023-10-25	2023-10-31
403440	Bond, Shirley	Inquiry on approval for mountain bike trail by Tabor Mountain Recreation Society	Trails	Bullets	2023-08-24	2023-08-31
400171	Bond, Shirley	Concerns for illegal dumping at Kinbasket Lake	Garbage Dumping & Litter	Bullets	2023-04-26	2023-05-09
401421	Clovechok, Doug	Whiteswan Lake length of stay and maintenance Issues	Park Maintenance	Bullets	2023-06-06	2023-06-16
398033	Clovechok, Doug	Year round opening of the boat launch at Martha Creek Park	Boating	Bullets	2023-03-02	2023-03-15
404704	Doerkson, Lorne	Stop meeting with oil and gas	Clean Energy Vehicles (CEV)	Bullets	2023-10-17	2023-10-17
404002	Letnick, Norm	Continued dumping -Personal Information	Garbage Dumping & Litter	Bullets	2023-09-18	2023-09-25
406379	Merrifield, Renee	Myra-Bellevue Park - are there designated areas for hunting and what rules are in place to protect people using the park for recreation.	Firearms	Bullets	2023-11-22	2023-11-30
406348	Merrifield, Renee	Myra Bellevue Park and Fortis application	Parks	Bullets	2023-11-22	2023-12-05
400589	Merrifield, Renee	Inquiry from Alpine Civil Engineering Consultants Ltd on Site Disclosure Submission for Site ID: 24941	Contaminated Sites	Bullets	2023-05-10	2023-05-19
402389	Milobar, Peter	Questions regarding Frolek Cattle Co. park use permit being cancelled after 40 years Park Use Permit # 102139	Park Use Permits	Bullets	2023-07-13	2023-08-01
403208	Oakes, Coralee	Follow up #2 on final response plan for gasoline spill at 1535 Arbutus Road, Lhtako Gas Store	Spill Prevention/Response	Bullets	2023-08-16	2023-09-06

402693	Oakes, Coralee	Follow up on final response plan for gasoline spill at 1535 Arbutus Road, Lhtako Gas and Convenience Store	Contaminated Sites	Bullets	2023-07-26	2023-08-08
400079	Oakes, Coralee	Inquiry from constituent Harkamal Mann's application # 13844 - Fuel pump soil disposal	Contaminated Soil	Bullets	2023-04-20	2023-05-02
398957	Oakes, Coralee	Three culvert crossings that are barriers to fish crossing into Stump Lake	Briefing Material	Bullets	2023-03-27	2023-03-28
398640	Rice, Jennifer	Update on Bank Island Gold mine-Ben Mossman trial April 2022	Mining	Bullets	2023-03-20	2023-03-23
401360	Shypitka, Tom	Inquiry from Mr. Maisels, owner of Hike Fernie, regarding section 16 authorization	Trails	Bullets	2023-06-05	2023-06-12
400104	Stewart, Ben	Derelict Houseboat in Bear Creek	Garbage Dumping & Litter	Bullets	2023-04-21	2023-05-03
402939	Stone, Todd	Fire safety concerns for the re-opening of Lac La Jeune Provincial Park	Park Access	Bullets	2023-08-02	2023-08-08
402842	Stone, Todd	bathroom facilities at Jacko lake and feasibility of a new outhouse being added	Park Facilities	Bullets	2023-07-31	2023-08-02
407759	Sturdy, Jordan	RAPP Report Update <small>Personal Information</small>	Environmental Complaints	Bullets	2024-01-11	2024-01-18
403663	Sturdy, Jordan	Potential construction of a bridge to connect Owl Ridge with the village of Pemberton	Trails	Bullets	2023-08-31	2023-09-11
401165	Sturdy, Jordan	Inquiry on Parks policies with park acquisitions, building permits and consulting with local	Parks	Bullets	2023-05-29	2023-06-06
400846	Sturdy, Jordan	BC Parks campfire rules and fire mitigation plan for Apodaca Park on Bowen Island	Campgrounds	Bullets	2023-05-17	2023-05-29
404179	Sturko, Elenore	Constituent Concerns Andion Biofuel Question.	Bio-energy	Bullets	2023-09-25	2023-10-04
408347	Tegart, Jackie	The MO has requested, "Would you please connect with our conservation officers in the area to follow up on this report?" (I note, the MLA request is to have a CO in the Fraser–Nicola region contact a constituent concerning burning debris.)	Conservation Officer Service	Bullets	2024-02-07	2024-02-15

406814	Tegart, Jackie	MLA Tegart is inquiring about whether the Ministry has plans to convert the Kettle Valley Railbed into a recreational path.	Rail Trails	Bullets	2023-12-04	2023-12-13
404278	Tegart, Jackie	Lillooet Landfill Questions	Landfills	Bullets	2023-09-29	2023-10-12
404230	Tegart, Jackie	Gun Lake Water Quality - Impacts of Downton Lake Wildfire	Water Quality	Bullets	2023-09-27	2023-10-04
401695	Tegart, Jackie	Inquiry on the re-opening of Skihist Provincial Park, post wildfire of 2021	Park Closures	Bullets	2023-06-22	2023-06-29
400617	Tegart, Jackie	Inquiry on developing parking lot at Loon Lake	Park Facilities	Bullets	2023-05-11	2023-05-24
400109	Tegart, Jackie	Christina Lake Additional Parking Lot	Park Facilities	Bullets	2023-04-21	2023-05-03
398638	Tegart, Jackie	Update on repairs to the Coquihalla Canyon Provincial Park/Othello Tunnels that were severely damaged by flooding caused by the Atmospheric River	Park Maintenance	Bullets	2023-03-20	2023-03-27

GREEN MLA CORRESPONDENCE February 1, 2023 - February 27, 2024 (BY MLA)

ID	MLA	Subject	Issue	Action	Received	Closed
407224	Furstenau, Sonia	Uncovered organic waste piles on 2 Cobble Hill properties (within the ALR) owned by <small>Personal Information</small>	Waste Management	Bullets	2023-12-14	2023-12-20
401928	Furstenau, Sonia	Inquiry on whether Fisher Road Recycling had an Environmental Impact Study as part of the OMRR	Recycling	Bullets	2023-06-28	2023-07-10
398952	Furstenau, Sonia	Update on Fisher Road Recycling/Cobble Hill Odour Concerns	Air Quality	Bullets	2023-03-27	2023-04-04
398661	Furstenau, Sonia	Concerns about effluent discharge into the Cowichan estuary from Western Forest Products	Waste Water	Bullets	2023-03-20	2023-03-23
397686	Furstenau, Sonia	Funding Inquiry for relocation of Fisher Road Recycling	Recycling	Bullets	2023-02-23	2023-03-02
408479	Olsen, Adam	Question regarding dogs in Burgoyne Bay Park	Safety and Security	Bullets	2024-02-13	2024-02-23
407323	Olsen, Adam	Debris and dangerous trees in LAU, WELNEW/John Dean Park	Park Maintenance	Bullets	2023-12-18	2024-01-09
406577	Olsen, Adam	Garbage at Burgoyne Bay on Salt Spring Island	Garbage Dumping & Litter	Bullets	2023-11-29	2023-12-13
404981	Olsen, Adam	Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project.	Prince Rupert Gas	Bullets	2023-10-23	2023-10-25
402769	Olsen, Adam	Concerns regarding air quality, monitoring stations and frequency of reporting	Air Quality	Bullets	2023-07-28	2023-08-03
401485	Olsen, Adam	CRDs development of a Draft Solid Waste Management Plan 1. Who is responsible for approving the CRD Draft Solid Waste Management Plan? 2. Is there a contact within the Provincial government that constituents can communicate with to express concern? 3. Who will be responsible for monitoring the leachate from the Blackburn facility? If no one will be responsible, what is the explanation for why it will no longer be occurring?	Solid Waste Management Plans	Bullets	2023-06-08	2023-06-16

400881	Olsen, Adam	Inquiry on GRT Environmental and accepting and cleaning contaminated soils	Contaminated Soil	Bullets	2023-05-18	2023-05-29
400269	Olsen, Adam	BC Park User Fees, constituent recently transitioned to Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement and now only eligible for a 50% discount on camping instead of the 100% discount.	Persons with Disabilities	Bullets	2023-05-02	2023-05-09
400089	Olsen, Adam	Marine Polyfoam Recycling	Recycling	Bullets	2023-04-21	2023-05-02
399134	Olsen, Adam	Concerns for tree removal in Montague Provincial Park	Tree Management	Bullets	2023-03-30	2023-04-03
398894	Olsen, Adam	Git'luuhl'um'hetxwit Letter Concerning Enbridge EAO Certificate	Enbridge Pipeline	Bullets	2023-03-24	2023-03-29
398174	Olsen, Adam	Update on need for parking lot at Gowlland Tod Provincial Park due to safety concerns of parking on shoulder	Park Facilities	Bullets	2023-03-07	2023-03-23
397562	Olsen, Adam	Inquiry on garbage disposal this summer at Gowlland Tod Provincial	Park Facilities	Bullets	2023-02-21	2023-02-28

BC Green Caucus Estimates Questions

1. Considering BC's ongoing support for emissions-intensive projects (e.g., LNG Canada), can the Minister paint a picture of what net zero will look like in BC - including the roles that BC's Energy Action Framework and offsets/removals/CCS/etc. will play?

- The Province is developing a Net Zero for New Industry (NZNI) Policy to require new industrial projects to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 (2030 for new LNG facilities) and demonstrate a credible plan for this outcome during project design. The ministry is working with projects in the environmental assessment process to develop these net-zero plans.
- B.C.'s New Energy Action Framework (NEAF), announced on March 14, 2023, will build on actions outlined in the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 to drive clean economic growth and help the province meet its legislated climate targets.
- The NEAF will also:
 - require all new proposed LNG facilities in or entering the environmental assessment (EA) process to pass an emissions test with a credible plan to be net zero by 2030;
 - put in place a regulatory emissions cap for the oil and gas industry to ensure B.C. meets its 2030 emissions reduction target for the sector;
 - establish a clean-energy and major projects office to fast-track investment in clean energy and technology and create good, sustainable jobs in the transition to a cleaner economy; and
 - create a BC Hydro task force to accelerate the electrification of B.C.'s economy by powering more homes, businesses and industries with clean and affordable electricity.
- Our Roadmap to 2030 speaks to actions to help us achieve our legislated targets, including sectoral targets. Our interim targets e.g., 2025 give us time to assess our progress and recalibrate our programs as needed to maintain the focus on reducing emissions over time in order to meet our 2030, 2040 and 2050 targets.
- Government will closely monitor emissions trends and adjust its climate action measures accordingly. Further work will be necessary in the future to consider actions that would achieve net-zero emissions in the province.

a. Can the Minister speak to how BC's climate targets align with/ depend on industry? For instance, should industry fail to implement their own net zero plans - perhaps electing instead to accept financial penalties - what would that mean for BC's targets?

- The Province releases the Climate Change Accountability Report annually to assess gaps and determine areas where we need to make improvements. We are exploring options to strengthen existing CleanBC Roadmap commitments if changes are needed.
- Less progress towards one of the sectoral targets creates pressure on the other sectors. To monitor and manage this risk, BC compiles and publishes emissions information every year.
- Long-term, we are focused on powering more businesses and communities with clean, renewable hydro power, and encouraging innovation of clean alternatives, which will make life more affordable for British Columbians.

- In addition, CCAA requires government to review sectoral targets by the end of 2025, and that review may also lead to policy adjustments if necessary.
- Compliance and enforcement of the net-zero plan is a key consideration within the development of the Net-Zero for New Industry Policy. The Province recognizes that each project and industrial sector has unique challenges in achieving net-zero emissions, which is why complementary initiatives like the New Energy Action Framework's BC Hydro task force are crucial to help to unlock low-carbon alternatives for new industrial projects.

2. Can the Minister speak to the rationale for focussing limited resources on small, short-term climate affordability solutions (ex. Climate Action Tax Credit) when we need systemic, forward thinking action to address this crisis?

- To protect affordability, revenues generated by the new carbon tax increases will be directed to carbon tax relief for British Columbians through enhancements to the climate action tax credit.
- Budget 2023 committed that revenues from the new \$15 per tonne carbon tax rate increases will be directed to enhancements to the climate action tax credit – a refundable tax credit that is intended to help offset the cost of the carbon tax for low-to-moderate income individuals and families. For 2024/25:
 - The maximum amount for adults increases from \$447 to \$504;
 - The maximum amount for a spouse or common-law partner increases from \$223.50 to \$252;
 - The maximum amount for children increases from \$111.50 to \$126;
 - Single-parent families will continue to receive the spouse or common-law partner amount for the first child in the family; and
 - Income thresholds, at which point the credit begins to be phased out, will also be increased.
- Increases to the maximum payment amounts, as well as the income thresholds, will mean more British Columbians will be eligible for full or partial payments.
- In addition to affordability measures like the climate action tax credit, revenue from the carbon tax also helps support the CleanBC plan, which sets out actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while building a sustainable economy.
- Government invests in a variety of initiatives under CleanBC. This includes the CleanBC Program for Industry, which reduces emissions at industrial operations and drives innovation, heat pump rebates for households with low and middle incomes, active transportation grants to communities, electric vehicle public charging infrastructure, and youth involvement in climate-action initiatives.
- The carbon tax is an important part of our CleanBC Roadmap, which includes a suite of targeted actions to help address the climate crisis and create a cleaner economy. In addition to increases to the CATC, the Province is working to ensure the affordability and accessibility of CleanBC programs by:
 - Making electricity, electric bikes, used electric vehicles, and heat pumps PST exempt
 - Providing free public transit for children 12 and under
 - Providing B.C. bus passes to low-income seniors and people receiving disability assistance
 - Investing in active transportation and transit projects
- Providing income-tested incentives for zero-emission vehicles
 - Offering incentives for heat pumps and other home energy improvements, with greater support for lower- and moderate-income households and homeowners living in colder climates

- A range of studies have shown that B.C.'s carbon tax has reduced emissions and incentivized more environmentally friendly options in different areas. Emissions from gasoline, diesel, and natural gas consumption were lower than would have otherwise occurred without the carbon price. Modelling and other research suggests that without the carbon tax, B.C. emissions would have been higher.
- Carbon pricing is widely supported by industry, stakeholders, and academics because it has been shown to work around the world.

3. Can the Minister expand on what regulatory avenues exist for the government to pursue industrial facility owners who do not comply with 2023's amendment to the Environmental Management Act (EMA) outside of financial securities required prior to a facility being decommissioned (should costs for cleanup exceed predicted costs, for instance)?

- See attached estimates note

4. How would the Minister address concerns that mining EA amendments are being used to avoid the rigor and scrutiny of the EA process?

On Amendment Process:

- The EA Amendment Process focuses on the potential effects of proposed modifications to an existing EA Certificate or Exemption Order.
- The EAO can tailor the scope and scale of the amendment process appropriate for the nature of the proposed modification and its potential effects.
- Proposed modifications that may result in significant adverse effects (e.g. changes to facility location, outputs) and/or adverse effects to Indigenous interests are subject to rigorous amendment procedures and engagement similar to an environmental assessment.
 - This includes extensive data gathering, consensus seeking with First Nations, opportunity for First Nations dispute resolution, and public engagement.
 - The EAO also has information on the amendment process its guidance document titles: "[Amendments to Environmental Assessment Certificates and Exemption Orders Guidance for Holder](#)".

If asked about projects below threshold:

- Project amendments that meet modification thresholds in the Reviewable Project Regulation (RPR) can trigger an environmental assessment.
 - Typically, RPR modification thresholds consist of two conditions that projects must meet for a modification to an existing project to undergo review.
 - For example, in mining projects, both the "production capacity" and "area of land permitted for disturbance" thresholds need to be met for the modification to be reviewable.
- Feedback received during the Environmental Assessment Office's (EAO) 2018/19 review of the RPR revealed that some stakeholders and partners (FNs) believed that many new or modified projects were intentionally divided or phased to evade RPR thresholds, even though these projects had the potential to cause significant adverse effects.
- In response to that feedback, the RPR was amended to incorporate "effects thresholds" – specific criteria directly linked to a project's impacts – that are applicable to any new or modified proposed project.
- Consequently, any project exceeding the effects threshold outlined in the RPR would require an environmental assessment, regardless of whether it meets modification thresholds. The effects thresholds include proposed projects that:

- emit 380 000 tonnes or more per year of greenhouse gases directly from project facilities;
 - have facilities located, in whole or in part, in an area listed in the Protected Areas (*Environmental Assessment Act*) Regulation;
 - have liner infrastructure, such as transmission line or public highways, that include the clearance of 60 km or more of land, if the land is not alongside and contiguous to an area of land previously developed for one of those purposes; and
 - have 600 ha or more of land clearing (for projects such as mines) *
- *the EAO would generally interpret this as new disturbance

If asked about project notifications and designations

- There are two routes through which a proposed project in British Columbia can be deemed reviewable under the Environmental Assessment Act (2018):
 - If it meets or exceeds the thresholds outlined in the RPR; or
 - If it is designated as reviewable by the Minister or the CEAO, following notification of the project to the EAO, or following a designation request.
- Projects also may be required to notify the EAO if they meet the specified criteria thresholds outlined in the RPR when those thresholds are reduced by 15%.
- If a proposed project is deemed reviewable it must undergo an environmental assessment and requires an environmental assessment certificate or exemption order before proceeding to permitting.
- A project that does not meet the reviewable criteria outlined in the RPR can still be designated as reviewable by either the Minister or the CEAO.
- One outcome of the EAO's review of project notifications can be that the CEAO decides to submit the project notification to the Minister for consideration, and the Minister may decide to designate the project as reviewable.
 - Separately, any person, including a First Nation, may apply to the Minister to designate a proposed project as reviewable.
 - Moreover, a proponent of a proposed project that does not initially meet reviewable criteria may apply to the CEAO for the project to be designated.

5. What action has this Ministry taken to address the harmful environmental and health related impacts of ongoing shipbreaking in Baynes Sound?

- See attached estimates note

6. Is there any funding in this budget to examine the current state of regulation around outdoor air quality, and how effectively existing regulations are protecting British Columbians from current air quality-related health risks – especially considering growing risks to air quality from fires, for instance?

- See attached estimates note

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Protection Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Question #3 from Green Caucus –</p> <p>Pursuing noncompliant industry owners</p>
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KEY FACTS

Question 3. Can the Minister expand on what regulatory avenues exist for the government to pursue industrial facility owners who do not comply with 2023's amendment to the *Environmental Management Act* (EMA) outside of financial securities required prior to a facility being decommissioned (should costs for cleanup exceed predicted costs, for instance)?

New Bonding Tools:

- **Amendments to the *Environmental Management Act* (EMA) received royal assent in fall 2023.**
 - These amendments will come into force upon regulation.
- **ENV intends to launch an intentions paper in spring 2024 to seek First Nations, Indigenous organizations, industry, local government, and public input on proposed policy concepts for the new regulatory framework.**
- **The intentions paper summarizes policy specific to:**
 - Requirements for D&C plans including content, cost estimates, engagement with Indigenous peoples and local government, and frequency of reviews;
 - Financial assurance methods for determining security amount/form and managing financial assurance held by the Province;
 - Alignment with existing ministry compliance and enforcement framework to ensure new closure and security requirements are fulfilled; and,
 - Cost recovery provisions to strengthen the B.C. government's ability to recover public funds spent on environmental cleanup if owners fail to meet their obligations. Risk-based approach to determining which projects will be required to provide D&C plans and financial assurance.

Tools External to Bonding:

- **There are regulatory avenues under the EMA to seek costs related to both spills and remediation of a contaminated site.**

- **The Province may seek payment for the spill prevention costs incurred by the government.**
 - Section 91.4 of EMA deems costs incurred by the government in relation to a spill (or the prevention of an imminent risk of a spill occurring) as a debt due to the government by the person who had possession, charge or control of a substance at the time of the spill or the imminent risk of a spill.
- **The Province may seek payment for the remediation costs incurred by the government.**
 - Section 45 of EMA identifies who is responsible for remediation of a contaminated site, which includes, but is not limited to current and previous owners and operators of the Site.
 - Section 47 of EMA makes a person who is responsible for remediation of a contaminated site liable to any person or government body for reasonably incurred costs of remediation of the contaminated site.
 - Costs of remediation are defined in Section 47(3) of EMA and include costs in carrying out a site investigation.

Neucel Pulp Mill, Port Alice:

- **In 2019 and 2020, numerous letters were sent to Neucel demanding payment of the spill prevention costs incurred, but there was no response to the letters.**
 - The parent company, Fulida Group, was also in insolvency proceedings in China.
- **By March 31, 2024, costs towards the Site paid by the Province are forecast to be \$116.38M.**

Legal Information

Contact: Rod Allen,
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Branch
Environmental Protection Division,
(778) 974-3731

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Protection Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Question #5 from BC Green Caucus –</p> <p>Union Bay, Deep Water Recovery</p>
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KEY FACTS

Question 5. What action has this Ministry taken to address the harmful environmental and health related impacts of ongoing shipbreaking in Baynes Sound?

Union Bay:

- In Oct. 2021, FLNRO approved a modification to the existing *Land Act* lease to allow the moorage and storage of vessels on the water, and the transit of vessels to the shore.
- Former US Government (NOAA) vessels, MILLER FREEMAN and SURVEYOR were originally moored in the Fraser River and were moved to their current resting place for deconstruction. **Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) and Transport Canada deemed the vessels a low threat to pollute before they were towed to Deep Water Recovery.**
- **Federal approval is required to move the vessels to another site.** Deep Water Recovery (DWR) has been unable to move the Miller Freeman vessel from the foreshore due to its weight and hull construction.
 - Reducing the weight of the vessel while on the foreshore will allow it to be moved onto the paved surface area. **Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRs) is responsible for approving activities within the lease area.**
- The private lot area in question is zoned Industrial Marine by the Comox Valley Regional District, which does not include ship breaking, dismantling or salvaging. A civil claim is with the courts regarding the land use of the site.
- On Jan. 24, 2024, MLA Osborne's office held a virtual public meeting with community, provincial (ENV, FOR, WRLS) and federal (DFO) government representatives.
- On February 20, 2024, a letter from Minister Heyman and Minister Cullen was sent to the federal ministers of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Transport Canada requesting direct and immediate

engagement of the federal government as it relates to the protection of the marine environment and the transport of vessels to this site.

- DWR has claimed they changed their business model to primarily a ship repair and maintenance facility, which does not require a waste discharge authorization from ENV but still has the requirement of not causing pollution under the *Environmental Management Act*.

ENV Compliance Activities:

- Natural resource officers, conservation officers, spill response officers and environmental protection officers **have made numerous site visits in response to citizen complaints**.
- On Jan. 23, 2023, **ENV issued an Information Order**. It requires DWR to retain an independent qualified professional to sample, monitor and report monthly to the ministry.
- On Oct. 11, 2023, **DWR received a \$500 administrative penalty** for failing to submit their first monthly report by April 15. The penalty is currently under appeal with the Environmental Appeal Board.
- ENV issued a warning letter on Nov. 24, 2023, for late collection of water discharge samples. Inspections on the Information Order in January and February resulted in Notices of Compliance (fully compliant).
- On Mar. 14, 2024, **ENV issued a Pollution Abatement Order (PAO)** replacing the Jan. 2023 Information Order. Summary of PAO requirements:
 - Immediately cease release/discharge of effluent with copper, lead, zinc concentrations above BC Water Quality Guideline (BCWQG) levels to the environment
 - Have a Qualified Professional complete a Site Activity and Discharge Identification Update report to assess site activities and identify any potential contaminant sources and additional effluent discharge points.
 - Complete an Effluent Sampling and Management Plan (sampling component will replace the previous Information Order requirements) which will include actions proposed to eliminate discharge of copper, lead, and zinc in concentrations greater than BCWQGs to the environment.
 - Continue sampling as previously required by Information Order plus sample any new discharge locations and contaminants identified.

Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship:

- On February 16, 2024, WLRS issued DWR a Notice to Cease – No Further Vessels or Barges (storage or for transit) are permitted within the lease area.

Contact: Brady Nelles, Executive Director

Compliance & Environmental Enforcement,
Environmental Protection Division, 778-349-6051

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Protection Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Question #6 from Green Caucus –</p> <p>Outdoor Air Quality</p>
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KEY FACTS

Question 6. Is there any funding in this budget to examine the current state of regulation around outdoor air quality, and how effectively existing regulations are protecting British Columbians from current air quality-related health risks – especially considering growing risks to air quality from fires, for instance?

Outdoor Air Quality:

- **B.C.'s air quality is continually assessed against strict national air quality standards and provincial objectives for key pollutants including fine particulate matter, ozone, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide.**
 - These levels are used both to assess existing air quality and to gauge the potential impact of new sources.
 - Ministry staff participate on the Canadian Council for the Ministers of Environment, Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards Working Group which is currently reviewing the national standard for fine particulate matter.
 - Air quality standards for ozone and fine particulate matter were reviewed and strengthened in 2010, 2015, and 2020. Those for sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide were also updated in 2020.
- **British Columbians have access to high quality data and information about air quality.**
 - Every hour air quality measurements from over 100 locations in B.C. are available in real time on the government website along with air quality advisories if standards are exceeded.
 - Each year summary air zone reports are published, showing the status of every community in B.C where air quality is measured relative to the national standards.
- **The government is taking action to reduce wood smoke from home heating and open burning.**
 - The Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program has provided \$4.9 million to help support the exchange of over 10,000 old high-polluting wood stoves for cleaner heating options such as heat pumps and emissions-certified wood stoves.

- The Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation, revised in 2019, sets tough standards to protect air quality from slash burning, while still allowing burning that is required to reduce fire hazard around communities.
- Under the Clean BC Roadmap to 2030 government is working towards near elimination of slash pile burning by 2030
- **British Columbians are provided with timely warning of wildfire smoke when it is likely to be present.**
- In 2023 the ministry issued Smoky Skies Bulletins on 137 days, providing warning of smoke in different areas of the province and providing advice for minimizing exposure.
- The wildfire smoke forecasting system that B.C. supports in collaboration with other provinces received 12 million web visits in 2023, over 2 million of those from B.C. residents.

Contact: Sonya Sundberg,
Executive Director, Environmental Policy and Initiatives Branch
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(778) 698-4906

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Climate Action Secretariat</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>CAS Overview</p>
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KEY FACTS

- The Climate Action Secretariat (CAS) is responsible for the development and implementation of B.C.'s climate change strategies. This includes both leading and supporting initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare the province for the impacts of climate change. CAS is responsible for several of B.C.'s climate related pieces of legislation, regulation, and programs.
- CAS is comprised of the Assistant Deputy Minister's Office, and four subsidiary branches
 - Accountability, Economics and Analysis
 - Climate Partnerships and Engagement
 - Clean Growth
 - Resilience and Indigenous Relations
- There are 155 employees working in CAS, with 15 vacancies.
- Budget: Climate Action Secretariat: \$19.864M (FY 2024/25)
CleanBC Program for Industry: \$245.883M (FY 2024/25)

B.C. Carbon Tax & B.C. Output-Based Pricing System:

- B.C.'s broad-based carbon tax provides a signal across the economy to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and encourages sustainable economic activity and green jobs.
- The carbon tax increased by \$15/tonne on April 1, 2024, bringing it to \$80/tCO_{2e}. It will continue to increase by \$15/tonne each year until it reaches \$170/tonne in 2030.
- The carbon tax generated an estimated \$2.21 billion in 2022/23, \$2.65 billion in the 2023/24 fiscal year, will generate an estimated \$2.56 billion in the 2024/25 fiscal year, \$3.02 billion in the 2025/26 fiscal year, and \$3.50 billion in the 2026/27 fiscal year.
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Accountability and Provincial Inventory of GHGs

- Accountability and transparent public reporting are cornerstones of CAS and B.C.'s action on climate change.
- The *Climate Change Accountability Act (CCAA)* contains B.C.'s legislated

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greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions-reduction targets, including targets for 2030, 2040, and 2050.

- The CCAA requires B.C. to table a report (the Climate Change Accountability Report) in the Legislature each year on progress on towards targets and managing climate change risks, including spending, program results, and anticipated GHG emissions abatement, as well as forecasting emissions for three years into the future.
- The CCAA also requires the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to appoint a council of up to 20 people to provide advice on plans to reach climate targets and mitigate climate risks.
- B.C.'s Provincial Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (PI) reports province-wide GHG emissions and removals and is published every year.

Carbon Neutral Government and Public Sector Climate Leadership

- B.C.'s public sector is required to achieve carbon neutral operations under the CCAA and the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation.
- CAS invests in high-quality B.C.-based offset projects that reduce or sequester GHG emissions to compensate for, or offset, the emissions produced by the provincial public sector each year.
- Public Sector Climate Leadership through the 2018 CleanBC plan committed to reducing emissions from public sector buildings and government fleet vehicles by 50% and 40% by 2030, compared to 2010 levels.

CleanBC Industry Fund

- Through CAS, The CleanBC Industry Fund (CIF) supports the development, trial, and deployment of projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- The fund is currently available to large industrial operations which emit more than 10,000 tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_{2e}) per year and report under the Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act.

The fund historically has offered three different funding options to industrial operators: Emissions Performance, Innovation Accelerator, and Project Feasibility Studies. A fourth funding option will be offered in 2024/25 in collaboration with BC Hydro: Industrial Electrification.

CleanBC Roadmap Overview and Implementation

- The original CleanBC plan was launched in December 2018 with over 40 initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across our economy. The plan was projected to achieve ~75% of the 2030 climate target of reducing GHG emissions 40% below 2007 levels.
- The CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 (Roadmap), released in October 2021, built on the initiatives in CleanBC and described actions that could fully achieve the 2030 target.
- CAS is responsible for coordinating the implementation of Roadmap initiatives and supporting partner ministries in the development of key policy frameworks.

- See note 'CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 Implementation' for further details.

Climate Action Legislation and Regulations

- Three major elements of the Province's climate action legislative framework include the *Climate Change Accountability Act*, the *Carbon Tax Act*, and the *Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act*.
- Several ministries are responsible for climate legislation, regulations, and programming, with CAS coordinating, leading, and supporting implementation across government and public sector organizations.

Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy (CPAS)

- CAS is responsible for overall governance of CPAS and providing cross-government leadership, coordination, and knowledge-building for climate adaptation programming and policy development.
- CPAS was released in June 2022. Budget 2022 committed \$513M to support climate adaptation in B.C. from 2021/22 to 2024/25.
- Key adaptation initiatives underway, in partnership with the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness include the Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment and the development of a Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction Plan.

Engagement with Government of Canada on Climate Policy Priorities

- There are many areas of alignment on climate related goals between B.C. and Canada.
- These include agreements such as CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 (2021) and the federal Emissions Reduction Plan (2022), the B.C.'s Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy (2022) and the National Adaptation Strategy (2022).
- B.C. released its annual Climate Change Accountability Report on November 30, 2023 and in December 2023, Canada tabled its first progress report for the Emissions Reduction Plan.

Intergovernmental Communications

- Canada has also renewed funding for infrastructure agreements including the Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund and the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

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- Other areas of potential alignment and shared climate goals include electrification, carbon pricing, oil and gas cap, building efficiency, industrial decarbonization and methane regulations.

Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP)

- Local governments play a critical role in meeting the province's legislated climate targets by directly controlling or influencing over 50% of provincial energy and emissions.
- LGCAP concluded its second year in 2023 with 100% participation from all B.C. local governments and Modern Treaty Nations.
- LGCAP's performance metrics are included in the 2023 Climate Change Accountability Report to ensure:
 - LGCAP funds are used to achieve objectives outlined in the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 and the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy; and
 - Tracking of progress on climate action by local governments, aligned with these two strategies.

Government Financial Information

- See note 'Local Government Climate Action Program' for further details.

Climate Infrastructure – Clean BC Communities Fund

- The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) is a \$3.9B Federal/Provincial agreement, announced April 2018. The Clean Communities Fund (CCF) is a federal-provincial fund under the ICIP Green Infrastructure - Climate Change Mitigation sub-stream.
- CCF targets infrastructure that creates economic growth; sustains well-paying jobs; builds inclusive communities; and supports a low-carbon, resilient, green economy. In B.C., it is administered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and CAS.
- To date, there have been three intakes for CCF funding proposals (2019, 2020, and 2022) with \$244M allocated to 60 projects..
 - The majority of funding went to projects that generate and manage clean energy (72% of funding), followed by supporting building efficiency (22%), and clean transportation (6%).
 - Local governments were the primary recipients of funding (57%), followed by Indigenous groups (36%), non-profits (4%), and for-profits (3%).

Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund (LCELF)

- In 2018, Canada and BC signed the first LCELF agreement, with Canada contributing \$162.179 million and B.C. contributing \$172 million over five years (2017 - 2022).
- The Climate Partnerships and Engagement Branch coordinated the delivery of the program with financial [Table of Contents](#) administration conducted by Corporate

Services for the Natural Resource Sector.

- A \$2.2 billion recapitalization of Canada's Low Carbon Economy Fund was announced as part of Canada's Emissions Reduction Plan/Budget 2022, with the opportunity to enter into a second LCEL five-year agreement.
- CAS is currently negotiating with Environment and Climate Change Canada to finalize a new agreement Government Financial Information, and is working closely with other ministries to finalize proposals to be appended to the agreement.

Net Zero New Industry; Net Zero New LNG

- The CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 included a commitment to require all new large industrial facilities to demonstrate how they align with B.C.'s legislated climate targets and submit plans to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.
- The CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 outlines a plan for emissions reduction measures and policies that has been modelled to achieve 96 percent of the reductions needed for B.C. to attain its 2030 target of 40 percent below 2007 levels.

Indigenous Engagement and Climate Priorities

- CAS, through the Resilience and Indigenous Relations Branch, coordinates Indigenous engagement on climate action to ensure a consistent, cross-government approach that aligns with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Two key ongoing engagement mechanisms include the First Nations Leadership Council Technical Working Group on Climate Change and the Indigenous Climate Adaptation Working Group, which work with CAS to collaboratively develop and implement climate action.
- In FY 2022-23 CAS provided \$2 Million to support the Indigenous Climate Resilience Capacity-building Pilot Project. The Pilot is being co-led by Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative and First Nations Emergency Services Society.

Contact: Jeremy Hewitt, Assistant Deputy Minister
Climate Action Secretariat, 250 387-1134

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Climate Action Secretariat</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Carbon Tax and B.C. OBPS</p>
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KEY FACTS

Carbon tax introduction and changes

- British Columbia (B.C.) introduced a carbon tax in 2008 at \$10 per tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e).
- Through annual \$5/tCO₂e increases, the carbon tax reached \$30/tCO₂e in 2012. The carbon tax remained at \$30/tCO₂e until 2018, when it began increasing again at a rate of \$5/tCO₂e year.
- In response to COVID-19, the April 1, 2020, scheduled increase to \$45/tCO₂e was not implemented until April 1, 2021. The tax increased by \$5/tCO₂e on April 1, 2022, reaching \$50/tCO₂e.
- In line with the federal government trajectory, on April 1, 2023, B.C.'s carbon tax increased by \$15/tCO₂e to \$65/tCO₂e, equivalent to about 3.3 cents extra on a litre of gasoline, and will increase by \$15/tCO₂e to \$80/tCO₂e on April 1, 2024. B.C.'s carbon tax will continue to increase by \$15/tonne each year until it reaches \$170/tonne in 2030.
- In April 2024, B.C. will transition from the current industrial carbon pricing system, the CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program (CIIP), to the B.C. OBPS, ensuring significant emissions reductions and more flexible compliance options for industry.
- In the B.C. OBPS, carbon tax will continue to apply to purchased fuels, except for those consumed by large industrial emitters. They will be allowed to emit up to a certain limit and expected to pay the full carbon tax for any excess emissions.
- B.C.'s carbon price increase occurs alongside rising nationwide and global carbon prices, mitigating effects on B.C. competitiveness. Worldwide, 73 carbon pricing instruments, including taxes and emissions trading systems, put a price on carbon as of 2023, representing over 23% of global emissions.

Carbon Tax Administration and Revenues:

- **Tax policy decisions are the responsibility of the Minister of Finance.**
- The carbon tax signals emission reductions across the economy and encourages sustainable economic activity and green jobs.
- B.C.'s carbon tax covers the purchase and use of fossil fuels by both individuals and industry (~80% of emissions in a given year). The carbon tax generated an estimated \$2.21 billion in 2022/23, \$2.65 billion in the 2023/24 fiscal year, will

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generate an estimated \$2.56 billion in the 2024/25 fiscal year, \$3.02 billion in the 2025/26 fiscal year, and \$3.50 billion in the 2026/27 fiscal year.

- 2024/25 carbon tax revenues estimates indicate a 3.2% decline that reflects lower volumes and the transition to the B.C. OBPS, which will exempt large regulated industrial operations from paying carbon tax imposed under the *Carbon Tax Act*. These operations will instead pay for emissions that exceed performance-based emission limits.
- Budget 2024 confirms our commitment to direct revenue from carbon tax increases into relief for people through the Climate Action Tax Credit. All carbon tax revenue raised from this year's increase goes back to people through the credit.
- In fact, the new revenue is expected to be \$229 million this year, and enhancements to the credit are forecast at \$687 million.
- Carbon tax revenue helps families through the B.C. Climate Action Tax Credit (BCCATC) and the BCCATC will increase along with the carbon tax. Effective July 1, 2024, the maximum annual climate action tax credit increased from \$447 to \$504 for an adult, from \$223.50 to \$252 for a spouse or common-law partner, and from \$111.50 to \$126 per child.

CleanBC Program for Industry (CPI) and Transition to the B.C. OBPS:

- CPI was open to most industrial operations that report emissions under GGIRCA and designed to support large industrial facilities transitioning to cleaner, lower-emitting operations through two initiatives:
 - CleanBC Industry Fund (Fund), which invests directly in emission-reduction projects.
 - CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program (CIIP), which rewards operators based on how their emissions intensities compare to leading emissions benchmarks.
- The CIIP will remain in place for a transition year over the course of 2023 and 2024. The CleanBC Industry Fund, which funds emissions reductions projects together with industry, will remain in place.
- Initial regulations are in place as of February 2024, with the B.C. OBPS beginning on April 1, 2024, for industrial operators.
- Since Budget 2023, engagement on the B.C. OBPS included a series of information sessions with industrial operators and associations, a virtual workshop with 220 representatives from various industrial sectors, an information session in July with 62 First Nations and Indigenous attendees, and several senior level meetings with industrial associations and leadership from operations and covered facilities.
- On July 6, 2023, regulated operations received a notification package outlining proposed stringency of the B.C. OBPS. Reactions from industry operators were mostly negative, with many operators and associations concerned about higher stringency than other jurisdictions, limits of the use of offsets and lack of tools

from government (e.g., electricity transmission, carbon capture and storage) to reduce emissions and therefore carbon costs.

- In fall of 2023, the Premier directed the Ministries of ENV and FIN to recalibrate B.C. OBPS stringency to decrease carbon costs.
- Under the B.C. OBPS, large industrial facilities that emit over 10k tCO₂e will be exempt from paying the carbon tax up front, and can emit up to a specified product-specific limit, called a performance standard, without any cost. Any excess emissions above the performance standard are subject to a carbon price, called a compliance obligation.
- Performance standards are calculated using provincial production weighted average emissions intensities data collected over three years (2019-2021) from the CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program (CIIP).
- In the B.C. OBPS, a performance standard is based on the following formula:
 - Performance Standard = Reduction Factor * Production Weighted Average Emissions Intensity
- The reduction factor determines the percentage of priced emissions for a specific product.
- The production weighted average is calculated as the total emissions of the products divided by the total production amount of the product.
- If a facility's emissions exceed their limit or performance standard, then it can use a combination of compliance mechanisms to meet their compliance obligations:
 - **Earned Credits:** Credits that are issued to a facility when its emissions are verified to be below their emission limit. An earned credit can be used to meet future compliance obligations or sold to another operation.
 - **Offset Units:** Verified units that represent emission reductions and removals generated from approved B.C. carbon offset projects. The amount of offsets that can be used against a facility's carbon tax obligation will be limited.
 - **Direct payment:** Is a monetary payment to meet the facility's compliance obligations at the full carbon price for that year (e.g., \$170/tCO₂e for 2030).

Contact: Jeremy Hewitt, Assistant Deputy Minister
Climate Action Secretariat, Phone (250) 387-1134

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Climate Action Secretariat</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>CleanBC Program for Industry (CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program and CleanBC Industry Fund)</p>
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KEY FACTS

Industrial Emissions

- Annual greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting for industrial operations emitting over 10,000 tonnes of GHGs/year is a requirement of the Greenhouse Gas Emission Reporting Regulation under the *Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act*.
- Operations that emit 25,000 tonnes or more of GHGs must have their annual reports verified by an accredited verification body by May 31st the following calendar year to ensure accuracy and consistency in the data across industries and over time.
- Posting of reported GHG emissions provides open and transparent information to industry and the public and is in keeping with commitments to open government.
- In 2023, 522 facilities, represented by 107 companies reported their 2022 emissions. This excludes three electricity import operations/facilities.
- GHG emissions from these facilities totaled 18.74 megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO_{2e}) (not including emissions from electricity imports or biomass), which is approximately 0.35% higher than reported emissions from 2021 (18.67 MtCO_{2e}).
- The top five emitters and their 2022 emissions:
 1. Teck Coal Limited - 2.05 MtCO_{2e},
 2. NorthRiver Midstream Inc. - 1.66 MtCO_{2e},
 3. Canadian Natural Resources Limited - 1.41 MtCO_{2e},
 4. Tourmaline Oil Corp. - 1.31 MtCO_{2e}.
 5. Westcoast Energy Inc. - 1.11 MtCO_{2e}

CleanBC Program for Industry (CPI)

- This program is designed to support large industrial facilities in transitioning to cleaner, lower-emitting operations through two initiatives:
 - CleanBC Industrial Incentive Program (CIIP): rewards operators based on how their emissions intensities compare to leading emissions benchmarks.
 - CleanBC Industry Fund (CIF): invests directly into emission-reduction and technology advancement projects.
- CPI leverages industry investments in clean technology to substantially cut pollution and support jobs in the clean economy.

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- The Program supports industries such as oil and gas, pulp and paper, mining, cement, greenhouses, and other sectors.
- The Program is open to most¹ industrial reporters that emit over 10,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) per year.
- CPI is funded by the incremental carbon tax that large industrial facilities pay over \$30 per tCO₂e.
- CleanBC projections estimate the program, along with other industrial mitigation efforts, could reduce emissions by 2.9 million tCO₂e/year by 2030.
- Total CPI budget for 2023/24 was \$210,479,000 including approved contingencies, allocated as follows:

Government Financial Information

CleanBC Industrial Incentive Initiative (CIIP):

- This initiative has rewarded operators based on how their facilities' emissions intensity compares to emissions benchmarks. It will be wound down with the introduction of OBPS in 2024.
- In 2023/24 the CIIP program received 456 applications represented by 73 reporting operations and \$145.0M in payments were made.
 - CIIP payments were \$33.4M in 2019, \$81.7M in 2020, \$65.5M in 2021, and \$109.4M in 2022.
- During 2023/24, the Incentive payments to the operators were calculated according to their emissions performance compared to published benchmarks for different industrial sectors.
- For 2024, qualifying industrial operations will receive an initial CIIP grant in the spring to ensure operators have the fiscal room to accommodate the transition to the B.C. OPBS.

¹ Sectors that are not eligible for the CleanBC Incentive Program include natural gas distribution, waste treatment and disposal and sewage treatment, fossil fuel and hydro electricity generation and electricity transmission.

- Initial 2024 CIIP grant amounts will be based on each operation's 2023 CIIP application, adjusted for the \$15 per tonne CO₂e increase in incremental carbon tax in 2023.
- Initial 2024 CIIP grant amounts will be approximately \$187.7M, 75% of the expected total grant amount for the year. The remaining 25% will be remitted later in the year following a review of 2023 emissions reports and application data. CIIP 2024 total grant amounts are expected to be \$250M.

CleanBC Industry Fund (CIF)

- This fund supports industry's transition to cleaner operations by investing carbon tax revenues directly into eligible emissions reduction and clean technology development projects.
- The fund is anticipated to remain in place through the transition to the B.C. OBPS.
- The fund employs a competitive process to assess project proposals. Projects are assessed and ranked according to technical evaluation criteria, with highest ranked projects selected for funding.
- Previous rounds of Emissions Performance projects are expected to reduce approximately 8.75 MtCO₂e cumulatively over a ten-year period. See the Appendices for emission-reducing projects have been approved 2019-2022.
- CIF projects are jointly funded between the Province and industry proponents, with requirements for minimum industry contributions.
- CIF has historically had three funding streams:
 1. Emissions Performance (EP) - projects that invest in commercially available clean technologies that directly reduce greenhouse gas emissions (*provincial funding up to 50% of total project cost, \$25M cap*);
 2. Innovation Accelerator (IA) - pilot and pre-commercial demonstration projects (*provincial funding up to 75%*);
 3. Feasibility Studies (FS) - preliminary studies for potential projects intended for the Emissions Performance and Innovation Accelerator streams (*provincial funding up to 75%*).
- In 2024 CIF is launching a fourth funding stream:
 4. Industrial Electrification (IE) will be a program in partnership with BC Hydro and support large electrification projects that require a new or upgraded connection to the BC Hydro integrated grid (*provincial funding up to 50% of total project cost, \$25M cap*).

2023/24

- The 2023/24 CIF budget was used to for existing projects with financial milestone payments, new project contracts (described below), feasibility study stream and establishment of new industrial electrification stream.
- In alignment with the Spring 2024 transition to a B.C. Output Based Pricing System (BC-OBPS), the CleanBC Industry Fund did not launch a new intake for its EP and IA streams in F

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 available funding was allocated

towards waitlisted EP and IA projects from the 2022 intake year. Project announcements are anticipated early summer 2024.

- Approximately \$3M was invested into FS. This investment supported 12 studies across the Pulp & Paper, Mining, Utility and Oil & Gas sectors (Appendix C). Detailed project descriptions are expected to be released in Spring 2024.

2024/25

- The CIF is undergoing minor changes in 2024 to align with the new B.C. output-based pricing system (B.C. OBPS), announced in *Budget 2023*. *Budget 2023* also noted that “a portion of the revenues paid by industry under the B.C. OBPS will be directed to continuing the CIF,” and that “the funding available to the CIF under the B.C. OBPS is anticipated to be confirmed in Budget 2024.”
- A request for project proposals is expecting to launch in early April 2024 for all four funding streams under the CIF.
- The program is anticipating upwards of \$150M available for project intakes in Budget 2024. Final budget numbers for the CleanBC Program for Industry are expected in the Ministry Budget letter.

Contact: Jeremy Hewitt, Assistant Deputy Minister
Climate Action Secretariat, (250) 387-1134

Appendix A – CleanBC Industry Fund Emissions Performance Projects

Emissions Performance Totals				
	2019	2020	2021	2022
# of Projects:	12	21	31	17
Total CIF Contribution:	\$9,591,545	\$29,692,395	\$74,640,755	\$64,615,612
Proponent Contribution:	\$14,015,468	\$48,155,260	\$64,776,659	\$151,658,160
Other Funding:	\$6,347,647	\$2,327,644	\$22,870,158	\$45,968,193
Proponent + Other:	\$20,363,115	\$50,482,903	\$87,646,817	\$197,626,353
Total Project Costs:	\$29,954,660	\$80,175,298	\$162,287,571	\$262,241,964
Est. tCO ₂ e Reduced (10 years):	422,665	989,859	4,782,564	2,552,674
Total Projects by Sector:				
Agriculture	1	1	0	0
Cement	1	0	0	0
Lime	1	1	0	0
Manufacturing	0	0	1	0
Mining	4	6	1	3
Oil and Gas	4	10	19	12
Pulp and Paper	2	1	9	2
Utility	0	1	0	0
Waste	0	1	1	0

2019 EP PROJECTS

Copper Mountain Mine Ltd. – Princeton, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching, Energy Efficiency

Project description: Copper Mountain Mine near Princeton will pilot an electric trolley system for haul trucks to transport material from the mine to the surface processing facility. The project will help prove the technology for wider application. Four haul trucks will be upgraded to be compatible with the new trolley technology. A new laneway with an overhead electric trolley power supply will be installed in a steep section of the current mine haul road.

Funding: \$2 million

Emissions reduced: 54,063 tCO₂e through 2030

Domtar Inc. – Kamloops, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: Domtar's Kamloops Mill will install new equipment to more efficiently feed waste-wood like bark and sawdust from sawmills into its boilers to provide steam heat for the facility using less natural gas.

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Funding: \$1.3 million

Emissions reduced: 18,199 tCO₂e through 2030

Lafarge Canada Inc. – Richmond, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Lafarge Canada and the Capital Regional District are partnering on a project to use dried biosolid waste pellets from the Victoria area as a low carbon fuel to replace coal and natural gas used in the manufacture of clinker for the cement-making process.

Funding: \$753,500

Emissions reduced: 46,520 tCO₂e through 2030

Lhoist North America of Canada, Inc. – Langley, B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery, Energy Efficiency, Process Improvement

Project description: Lhoist's calcium quicklime facility will insulate its natural gas-fired kiln system to improve energy efficiency.

Funding: \$67,605

Emissions reduced: 4,730 tCO₂e through 2030

Ovintiv Canada ULC – Dawson Creek, B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture

Project description: Ovintiv will retrofit gas processing equipment at its Cutbank Ridge facility near Dawson Creek to run on compressed air instead of methane, eliminating venting of the fossil fuel into the atmosphere and repurposing it into the company's feedstock.

Funding: \$1.32 million

Emissions reduced: 10,709 tCO₂e through 2030

Shell Canada Energy – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Shell Canada Energy will replace methane venting equipment with new technology powered by clean electricity at its Groundbirch natural gas facility located west of Dawson Creek.

Funding: \$375,387

Emissions reduced: 19,419 tCO₂e through 2030

Teck Coal Ltd. – Kootenay B.C. (Trail and Elkview)

Project type: Fuel Switching, Process Improvement

Project description: Teck Coal will implement two CIF projects. The company will pilot a zero-emissions shuttle program with two electric buses for staff at its Elkview mining operation. It will also replace the burner head in its smelting furnace at its Trail operation with a more efficient model.

Funding: \$434,823

Emissions reduced: 61,248 tCO₂e through 2030

Thompson Creek Metals Company Inc. – North Coast and Nechako B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Thompson Creek Metals will replace all diesel-powered generators with electric-powered equipment at the Philip Lake pumping station at its

Mount Milligan copper and gold mine located northwest of Prince George, B.C.

Funding: \$439,441

Emissions reduced: 47,763 tCO₂e through 2030

Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. – Prince George, B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery, Energy Efficiency, Process Improvement

Project description: Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure will implement a project at its Prince George oil refinery that will increase energy efficiency by automating part of its gas flaring process.

Funding: \$197,995

Emissions reduced: 13,661 tCO₂e through 2030

Veresen Midstream LP – Dawson Creek, B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture

Project description: Veresen Midstream will significantly reduce flaring of methane gas during normal operations at its Steeprock sour gas processing plant near Dawson Creek by installing electric vapour recovery equipment that will capture methane and repurpose it into its feedstock.

Funding: \$817,839

Emissions reduced: 26,509 tCO₂e through 2030

West Fraser Mills Ltd. – Quesnel, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement, Energy Efficiency

Project description: West Fraser's Quesnel River Pulp will install a new pressurized scrubber and reconfigure its existing heat-exchange technology to improve energy efficiency at the mill site. The direct benefit will be less natural gas usage in the processing of converting wood chips into mechanical pulp.

Funding: \$1.53 million

Emissions reduced: 95,367 tCO₂e through 2030

Windset Farms – Delta, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Windset Farms will install a retractable thermal climate screen over one of its greenhouses in Delta to trap heat in low-light conditions. The technology is anticipated to reduce natural gas use by nearly 50%.

Funding: \$353,933

Emissions reduced: 24,480 tCO₂e through 2030

2020 EP PROJECTS

Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Canadian Natural will retrofit its three facilities' pneumatic devices to run on air instead of fuel gas.

Funding: \$142,750

Emissions reduced: 38,056 tCO₂e through 2030

City of Vancouver – Delta, B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture

Project description: The City of Vancouver will expand the current landfill gas collection capacity at the Vancouver Landfill. The work for this project will include horizontal and side slope collectors, vertical wells, header piping with condensate removal, and automated well tuning for high-producing wells.

Funding: \$4.26 million

Emissions reduced: 485,967 tCO₂e through 2030

ConocoPhillips Canada Resources Corp. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Renewable Energy

Project description: ConocoPhillips Canada will replace five gas-driven pumps with five solar-electric pumps at two heritage sites near Fort St. John.

Funding: \$51,633

Emissions reduced: 1,597 tCO₂e through 2030

Copper Mountain Mine Ltd. – Princeton, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy

Project description: Copper Mountain Mine near Princeton will pilot an electric trolley system for haul trucks to transport material from the mine to the surface processing facility. This project expanded the scope of the 2019 CIF-funded Copper Mountain Electric Trolley Project.

Funding: \$8 million

Emissions reduced: 29,793 tCO₂e through 2030

Crew Energy Inc. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery

Project description: Crew Energy will install waste heat recovery units at its gas processing facility near Fort St. John. Each waste heat recovery unit will recover additional thermal energy to a new hot oil loop that will be installed as a part of this project.

Funding: \$1.26 million

Emissions reduced: 68,047 tCO₂e through 2030

Domtar Inc. – Kamloops, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Domtar Inc. will replace the generation bank tubes in the #3 wood waste burning boiler at the Kamloops Pulp Mill. This will improve the reliability of the boiler and reduce the need to burn natural gas at the pulp mill.

Funding: \$1.75 million

Emissions reduced: 26,935 tCO₂e through 2030

Foothills Pipelines Ltd. – Sparwood, B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture

Project description: Foothills Pipelines will install new above ground small diameter piping at the TC Energy Crowsnest Compressor Station, with the objective of capturing and utilizing the natural gas that v

planned blowdown events.

Funding: \$364,740

Emissions reduced: 10,081 tCO₂e through 2030

FortisBC Energy Inc. – Mainland and Southwest B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture

Project description: FortisBC Energy will use Zero Emission Vacuum and Compression mobile compressors in order to reduce the atmospheric venting of natural gas during transmission pipeline maintenance activities.

Funding: \$1.08 million

Emissions reduced: 20,378 tCO₂e through 2030

Lhoist North America of Canada, Inc. – Langley, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Lhoist Canada will install new insulation around the outside of Kiln 1 at the Langley facility. Retaining this insulation will result in improved fuel efficiency and a reduction in natural gas consumed.

Funding: \$70,000

Emissions reduced: 1,428 tCO₂e through 2030

Murphy Oil Company Ltd. – Dawson Creek, B.C.

Project type: Methane Reduction, Process Improvement

Project description: Murphy Oil will retrofit high-bleed pneumatic devices to low-bleed pneumatic devices equivalents across numerous well sites in the Dawson Creek area.

Funding: \$40,000

Emissions reduced: 5,980 tCO₂e through 2030

Pacific Canbriam Energy Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Pacific Canbriam Energy will retrofit its five pneumatic devices to run on instrument air instead of fuel gas.

Funding: \$23,871

Emissions reduced: 1,310 tCO₂e through 2030

PETRONAS Energy Canada Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: PETRONAS will replace nine natural gas driven pneumatic pumps with electric pumps at its seven compressor stations near Fort St. John.

Funding: \$526,161

Emissions reduced: 17,432 tCO₂e through 2030

PETRONAS Energy Canada Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: PETRONAS will install electric boilers at its three gas plants near Fort St. John. This project will reduce heat demand on the natural gas fired boilers.

Funding: \$265,029

Emissions reduced: 10,645 tCO₂e through 2030

Pretium Resources Inc. – North Coast and Nechako B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Pretium will replace 13 diesel-powered haul trucks with seven electric haul trucks at the Brucejack Mine. These new trucks are emission free and have self-swapping batteries.

Funding: \$7.83 million

Emissions reduced: 64,481 tCO₂e through 2030

Teck Coal Ltd. – Kootenay B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Teck Coal will replace two diesel buses with two zero-emission electric buses that will transport workers from Elkford to the Fording River Mine.

Funding: \$410,000

Emissions reduced: 868 tCO₂e through 2030

Teck Coal Ltd. – Kootenay B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Teck Coal will replace two diesel buses with two zero-emission electric buses that will transport workers from Elkford to the Greenhills Mine.

Funding: \$410,000

Emissions reduced: 338 tCO₂e through 2030

Teck Coal Ltd. – Thompson-Okanagan B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Teck Coal will replace existing tractor trucks with a zero-emissions electric truck that will transport copper concentrate from the Highland Valley Copper Mine to the CN Terminal in Ashcroft, B.C.

Funding: \$768,670

Emissions reduced: 3,243 tCO₂e through 2030

Teck Coal Ltd. – Kootenay B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery

Project description: Teck Coal will have two improvements at its maintenance shop at the Line Creek operation: install heat exchange units between the exhaust and intake air to recover waste heat from the exhaust; and upgrade the fans to variable speed operation in order to reduce airflow during times when the air quality allows.

Funding: \$325,000

Emissions reduced: 13,450 tCO₂e through 2030

Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. – Prince George, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Tidewater Midstream will upgrade the Prince George Refinery's #2 Crude Heater to improve energy efficiency.

Funding: \$159,588

Emissions reduced: 5,397 tCO₂e through 2030

Tourmaline Oil Corp. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery

Project description: Tourmaline will install four waste heat exchangers at its gas processing facility near Fort St. John. This project will reduce the fuel gas usage at the facility operation and improve the facility greenhouse gas efficiency.

Funding: \$1.5 million

Emissions reduced: 81,002 tCO₂e through 2030

Windset Farms Ltd. – Delta, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Windset Farms will install thermal curtains at its Delta operation. Adding this insulation will result in improved energy efficiency and a reduction in natural gas consumed.

Funding: \$469,032

Emissions reduced: 52,800 tCO₂e through 2030

2021 EP PROJECTS

ARC Resources Ltd. – Dawson Creek, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: ARC Resources will connect their Dawson Creek Processing Plant to the low-carbon BC Hydro electric grid, replacing four onsite natural gas turbine generators that will be retired.

Funding: \$13.66 million

Emissions reduced: 1 million tCO₂e through 2031

Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching, Process Improvement

Project description: Canadian Natural Resources will replace 254 wellsite pneumatic methanol pumps with electric pumps operated by solar energy.

Funding: \$2.08 million

Emissions reduced: 298,913 tCO₂e through 2031

Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery, Energy Efficiency

Project description: Canadian Natural Resources will install heat exchangers on each of the two condensate trains at their Fort St. John gas processing facility to transfer the excess heat from the hot outlet condensate to the cold inlet condensate. This will recover waste heat, reducing fuel gas consumption and making the process more energy efficient.

Funding: \$282,781

Emissions reduced: 6,336 tCO₂e through 2031

Canlin Energy Corp. – Fort St. John and Fort Nelson, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Canlin Energy will replace four natural gas compressor drivers and associated equipment with electric alternatives at four compressor stations located near Fort St. John and Fort Nelson.

Funding: \$710,000

Emissions reduced: 90,587 tCO₂e through 2031

Canlin Energy Corp. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Canlin Energy will replace 21 wellsite pneumatic methanol pumps with electric pumps operated by solar energy near Fort St. John.

Funding: \$119,186

Emissions reduced: 12,584 tCO₂e through 2031

Catalyst Paper Corp. – Port Alberni, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: Catalyst Paper Port Alberni Division will install a new auxiliary hog wood waste feed system at its pulp and paper mill, improving the reliability of biomass fuel supply to the main onsite steam boiler and reducing natural gas use.

Funding: \$323,100

Emissions reduced: 24,490 tCO₂e through 2031

Catalyst Paper Corp. – Crofton, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: Catalyst Paper Crofton Division will reduce steam use by improving the efficiency of black liquor evaporation process at its pulp and paper mill. This will reduce natural gas use in the onsite steam boilers.

Funding: \$5.85 million

Emissions reduced: 289,393 tCO₂e through 2031

Catalyst Paper Corp. – Port Alberni, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: Catalyst Paper Port Alberni Division will replace the drum and inner roll on a bark press at the facility with a more efficient system to optimize the wood-waste press system and reduce the amount of natural gas required to burn higher moisture hog.

Funding: \$260,000

Emissions reduced: 1,361 tCO₂e through 2031

CertainTeed Canada Inc. – Delta, B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery

Project description: CertainTeed Gypsum will install a heat exchanger on a gypsum board dryer at their Vancouver manufacturing site. This will recover currently wasted heat and reduce the natural gas consumption of the drying process.

Funding: \$1.40 million
Emissions reduced: 25,565 tCO₂e through 2031

City of Vancouver – Delta, B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture
Project description: The City of Vancouver will install additional landfill gas capture infrastructure to increase the amount of methane captured from the landfill and reduce fugitive emissions. The City of Vancouver is considering possible end uses for the captured gas, which may include selling it for use as renewable natural gas.

Funding: \$1.43 million
Emissions reduced: 87,949 tCO₂e through 2031

ConocoPhillips Canada Resources Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement
Project description: ConocoPhillips Canada will capture and recover waste gas flare gas from the completion flowback processes at an average of nearly 50 wells annually in northeastern B.C. through 2031 by utilizing pressurized gas storage and compression technology.

Funding: \$764,183
Emissions reduced: 70,228 tCO₂e through 2031

Crew Energy Inc. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture
Project description: Crew Energy will utilize a higher efficiency compressor to convert an existing natural gas-fired model at their Wilder Sweet Gas Plant in northeastern B.C., reducing natural gas use.

Funding: \$103,308
Emissions reduced: 2,464 tCO₂e through 2031

Howe Sound Pulp & Paper Corp – Port Mellon, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement
Project description: Howe Sound Pulp & Paper will upgrade the existing bottom sand hopper of their biomass boiler at its Port Mellon pulp and paper mill in order to reduce maintenance, reduce natural gas consumption, and increase the facility's capacity to consume waste biomass fuels.

Funding: \$350,000
Emissions reduced: 50,630 tCO₂e through 2031

Howe Sound Pulp & Paper Corp. – Port Mellon, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement
Project description: Howe Sound Pulp & Paper will upgrade an existing system that captures and recycles lime kiln dust to increase efficiency and lower natural gas consumption.

Funding: \$520,000
Emissions reduced: 40,153 tCO₂e through 2031

Kruger Products Inc. – New Westminster, B.C.**Project type:** Fuel Switching**Project description:** Kruger Products will replace propane-powered lift trucks with electric trucks at the New Westminster Plant.**Funding:** \$43,750**Emissions reduced:** 1,803 tCO₂e through 2031**Nanaimo Forest Products Ltd. – Nanaimo, B.C.****Project type:** Fuel Switching**Project description:** Nanaimo Forest Products will install processing, control, and dust collection upgrades to their biomass boiler system at their Harmac Pacific pulp mill in Nanaimo to significantly lower natural gas consumption.**Funding:** \$12.07 million**Emissions reduced:** 296,978 tCO₂e through 2031**Nanaimo Forest Products Ltd. – Nanaimo, B.C.****Project type:** Waste Heat Recovery**Project description:** Nanaimo Forest Products will install upgrades to their largest pulp dryer and building heating and ventilation systems to recover waste heat and lower natural gas consumption at their Harmac Pacific pulp mill in Nanaimo.**Funding:** \$530,000**Emissions reduced:** 22,903 tCO₂e through 2031**Newcrest Red Chris Mining Ltd. – Northwest B.C.****Project type:** Fuel Switching**Project description:** Newcrest Red Chris Mining will connect to the BC Hydro electricity grid, allowing them to disconnect a diesel generator that currently powers four water pumps, and electrify a separate diesel-powered water pump in order to reduce fossil fuel consumption at the mine.**Funding:** \$448,243**Emissions reduced:** 9,846 tCO₂e through 2031**NorthRiver Midstream Inc. – Dawson Creek, B.C.****Project type:** Electrification**Project description:** NorthRiver Midstream will connect their Dawson Processing Facility to the low-carbon BC Hydro electrical grid to replace onsite natural gas generation.**Funding:** \$7.5 million**Emissions reduced:** 690,797 tCO₂e through 2031**NorthRiver Midstream Inc. – Dawson Creek, B.C.****Project type:** Waste Heat Recovery**Project description:** NorthRiver Midstream will install a waste heat recovery system at their Highway Processing Facility in order to reduce natural gas use in the heat medium system.

Funding: \$1 million

Emissions reduced: 72,172 tCO₂e through 2031

NorthRiver Midstream Inc. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Carbon Sequestration

Project description: NorthRiver Midstream will install a carbon and acid gas compression and injection system at their McMahon gas plant near Fort St. John to permanently store carbon dioxide rich acid gas in a subsurface reservoir.

Funding: \$10 million

Emissions reduced: 1.08 million tCO₂e through 2031

NorthRiver Midstream Inc. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery

Project description: NorthRiver Midstream will install a system comprised of 15 waste heat recovery units and five diverter valves to capture heat from drivers during unplanned outages and planned maintenance. The installation will reduce the annual overall emissions at the Jedney Facility by exchanging heat from the engine exhausts with the process.

Funding: \$3.99 million

Emissions reduced: 177,690 tCO₂e through 2031

Ovintiv Canada ULC – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency, Process Improvement

Project description: Phase 1 of 3 – Ovintiv will upgrade four Waukesha compressor engines across compression stations in northeastern B.C. to new high-efficiency units. This will reduce the amount of methane leakage and fuel consumed by the older series engines.

Funding: \$1.8 million

Emissions reduced: 39,233 tCO₂e through 2031

Ovintiv Canada ULC – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency, Process Improvement

Project description: Ovintiv will upgrade approximately 78 compressors with more efficient valves across 20 gas processing facilities in northeastern B.C. This will reduce the energy required and fuel needed to continuously run these compressors.

Funding: \$2.43 million

Emissions reduced: 73,261 tCO₂e through 2031

PETRONAS Energy Canada Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: PETRONAS will install a vapour recovery unit at a gas processing plant in the Fort St. John area to capture natural gas currently flared and vented to atmosphere and utilize it in the production process.

Funding: \$482,320

Emissions reduced: 11,497 tCO₂e through 2031

PETRONAS Energy Canada Ltd. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency, Process Improvement

Project description: PETRONAS will eliminate venting of methane used to operate facility equipment by installing a new instrument air compression system. The air compressor will be run by a set of new 25 kilowatt (kW) generators. The small generators will allow the facility to shut down a set of larger 75kW generators. More efficient generator use will reduce fuel consumption and eliminate methane venting.

Funding: \$240,808

Emissions reduced: 6,549 tCO₂e through 2031

Skookumchuck Pulp Inc. – Skookumchuck, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: Skookumchuck Pulp will modify their mill's hog feeding system by improving the conveyor belt system, increasing reliability and reducing natural gas use in their onsite boiler.

Funding: \$843,500

Emissions reduced: 59,875 tCO₂e through 2031

Storm Resources Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery

Project description: Storm Resources' Nig Creek Gas Plant will install a heat exchanger to recover waste heat energy from compressor exhaust. The recovered heat will be used to pre-heat the hot oil system and reduce natural gas combustion.

Funding: \$652,500

Emissions reduced: 12,176 tCO₂e through 2031

Tourmaline Oil Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture

Project description: Tourmaline will connect vented gas capture units on 35 compressors at various processing and compressing stations, recovering natural gas currently vented to the atmosphere.

Funding: \$1.46 million

Emissions reduced: 152,488 tCO₂e through 2031

Tourmaline Oil Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture

Project description: Tourmaline will replace 222 pneumatic drive actuators with electric drive equivalents, eliminating vented natural gas to the atmosphere.

Funding: \$710,000

Emissions reduced: 44,596 tCO₂e through 2031

Tourmaline Oil Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Waste Heat Recovery

Project description: Tourmaline will install five waste-heat exchangers on compressors within their natural gas processing facility. These new waste-heat

exchangers are expected to meet the heat demand for the facility, replacing a natural gas fired boiler as the primary heating source for the operation. This will reduce the amount of natural gas necessary for heating and increase the energy efficiency of the facility.

Funding: \$2.5 million

Emissions reduced: 49,608 tCO₂e through 2031

2022 EP PROJECTS

ARC Resources Ltd. – Dawson Creek, B.C.

Project type: Carbon Capture and Storage

Project description: ARC Resources Ltd. at its Dawson III and IV facilities in northeastern B.C. will install carbon capture and storage equipment on process heaters in order to sequester emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$7.42 million

Emissions reduced: 169,480 tCO₂e through 2032

ARC Resources Ltd. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: ARC Resources Ltd. at three locations in northeastern B.C. will replace natural gas driven compressors and generators with electric compressors and connect the facility to the B.C. grid in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$1.84 million

Emissions reduced: 52,730 tCO₂e through 2032

ARC Resources Ltd. – Dawson Creek, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: ARC Resources Ltd. at its Dawson 01-34 facility in northeastern B.C. will replace natural gas driven compressors with electric compressors and connect the facility to the B.C. grid in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$2.60 million

Emissions reduced: 130,761 tCO₂e through 2032

Copper Mountain Mine Ltd. – Princeton, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Copper Mountain, at its mine in the Thompson-Okanagan, will replace a diesel mining shovel with an electric mining shovel including associated support equipment in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuel.

Funding: \$2.65 million

Emissions reduced: 51,953 tCO₂e through 2032

Copper Mountain Mine Ltd. – Princeton, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Copper Mountain, at its mine in the Thompson-Okanagan, will replace a diesel mining drill with an electric mining drill including associated support equipment in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$1 million

Emissions reduced: 16,667 tCO₂e through 2032

Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Renewable Energy

Project description: Canadian Natural Resources, at several remote facilities in northeastern B.C., will replace pneumatic devices with solar powered equivalents in order to reduce emissions from methane venting.

Funding: \$1.57 million

Emissions reduced: 292,528 tCO₂e through 2032

Crew Energy Inc. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Crew Energy, at its Wilder facility northeastern B.C., will replace natural gas driven compressors and generators with electric compressors and connect the facility to the B.C. grid in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$18.22 million

Emissions reduced: 481,220 tCO₂e through 2032

Coeur Silvertip Holdings Ltd. – Northwest B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Coeur Silvertip, at its mine in northeastern B.C., will replace site diesel generators and propane heaters with equipment that runs on natural gas in order to improve fuel efficiency.

Funding: \$407,000

Emissions reduced: 6,718 tCO₂e through 2032

Kruger Products Inc. – New Westminster, B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Kruger Products, at its facility in southwestern B.C., will replace an existing dryer hood with an improved paper drying hood in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$700,000

Emissions reduced: 25,077 tCO₂e through 2032

Ovintiv Canada ULC – Dawson Creek, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Ovintiv, at its Saturn facility in northeastern B.C., will replace natural gas driven compressors with electric compressors and connect the facility to the B.C. grid in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$3.66 million

Emissions reduced: 57,397 tCO₂e through 2032

Ovintiv Canada ULC – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Phase 2 of 3 – Ovintiv, at two facilities in northeastern B.C., will

replace natural gas driven compressor engines with higher efficiency models in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$1.30 million

Emissions reduced: 39,048 tCO₂e through 2032

Ovintiv Canada ULC – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Energy Efficiency

Project description: Phase 3 of 3 – Ovintiv, at two facilities in northeastern B.C., will replace natural gas driven compressor engines with higher efficiency models in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$1.30 million

Emissions reduced: 38,350 tCO₂e through 2032

Pacific Canbriam Energy Ltd. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: Pacific Canbriam, at its facility in northeastern B.C., will recover vented gases for use as fuel in order to reduce emissions from methane venting.

Funding: \$212,000

Emissions reduced: 3,931 tCO₂e through 2032

PETRONAS Energy Canada Ltd. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: PETRONAS, at its Town North facility in northeastern B.C., will install equipment to recover vented gasses and to transport gas by-products for sequestration in order to reduce emissions from flaring.

Funding: \$4.06 million

Emissions reduced: 74,259 tCO₂e through 2032

Shell Canada Ltd. – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project type: Fuel Switching

Project description: Shell Canada, at its Groundbirch Montney facility in northeastern B.C., will replace natural gas driven compressors with electric compressors and connect the facility to the B.C. grid in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$17 million

Emissions reduced: 1,077,099 tCO₂e through 2032

Skookumchuck Pulp Inc. – Skookumchuck, B.C.

Project type: Process Improvement

Project description: Skookumchuck Pulp, at its facility in the Kootenay region of B.C., will replace lime-kiln instrumentation with improved process controls in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$193,000

Emissions reduced: 6,764 tCO₂e through 2032

Tourmaline Oil Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Project type: Methane Capture, Process Improvement

Project description: Tourmaline, at its facility in northeastern B.C., will install equipment to recover vented gases and convert cooler units to electric in order to reduce emissions from vented methane and combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$478,000

Emissions reduced: 28,691 tCO₂e through 2032

Appendix B – CleanBC Industry Fund Innovation Accelerator Projects:

Innovation Accelerator Totals		
	2021	2022
# of Projects:	4	6
Total CIF Contribution:	\$8,688,563.00	\$21,983,774.00
Proponent Contribution:	\$3,479,521.00	\$14,632,383.00
Other Funding:	\$0	\$1,313,964.00
Proponent + Other:	\$3,479,521.00	\$15,946,347.00
Total Project Costs:	\$12,168,084.00	\$37,930,121.00
Total Projects by Sector*:		
Agriculture	0	0
Cement	0	1
Lime	0	0
Manufacturing	0	0
Mining	0	1
Oil and Gas	2	2
Pulp and Paper	0	1
Utility	2	0
Waste	0	1

2021 IA PROJECTS

ConocoPhillips Canada Resources Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Project name: Continuous Methane Detection and Measurement

Project description: ConocoPhillips Canada will pilot and refine a real-time and continuous methane emission detection, measurement, and monitoring solution at their production facilities. This leak detection improves on the current practice of conducting methane fugitive surveys one to three times a year in person, allowing for enhanced ability to detect and reduce fugitive methane emissions.

Funding: \$270,946

FortisBC Energy Inc. – Mainland and Southwest B.C.

Project name: Burrard Terminal Hazer Methane Pyrolysis Hydrogen Production

Project description: Commercial Demonstration Project – Phase 1 –FortisBC will work with tech company Hazer at Suncor’s Burrard terminal to pilot an innovative methane pyrolysis technology that will produce zero-carbon emissions hydrogen. The process will store the carbon by-product as solid synthetic graphite instead of emitting it to the atmosphere. The graphite can then be sold for manufacturing or industrial use. If the pilot continues as a full commercial build out, the project would be expected to produce up to 2,500 tonnes of hydrogen per year, replacing the equivalent annual natural gas

usage of approximately 3,300 B.C. households. Project funding will go toward initial engineering and preliminary work on the reactor pilot.

Funding: \$8 million

FortisBC Energy Inc. – Richmond, B.C.

Project name: Satellite Leak Survey

Project description: Utilizing the natural gas distribution system around Richmond as a testbed, FortisBC will investigate the feasibility of a satellite-based methane detection technology. Learnings will help detect and quantify leaks throughout B.C. along FortisBC Energy Inc.'s natural gas distribution system.

Funding: \$127,500

PETRONAS Energy Canada Ltd. – Northeast, B.C.

Project name: Continuous Methane Detection and Measurement

Project description: PETRONAS will pilot and refine a real-time and continuous methane emissions detection, measurement, and monitoring solution at their production facilities. This leak detection improves on the current practice of conducting methane fugitive surveys one to three times a year in person, allowing for enhanced ability to detect and reduce fugitive methane emissions.

Funding: \$290,116

2022 IA PROJECTS

Aitken Creek Gas Storage ULC (FortisBC) – Fort St. John, B.C.

Project name: Pressure Energy Recovery Pilot

Project description: FortisBC will demonstrate a technology which recovers pressure energy from natural gas contained in production wells or storage reservoirs and converts it to electricity to power wellsite operations and reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.

Funding: \$741,000

City of Vancouver – Delta, B.C.

Project name: 3D Satellite Methane Detection and Measurement

Project description: The City of Vancouver will demonstrate a technology which locates methane gas within the body of the landfill using satellite-based radar to improve placement of gas collection infrastructure and reduce emissions from fugitive methane.

Funding: \$187,000

Lafarge Canada Inc. – Richmond, B.C.

Project name: Lafarge Carbon Utilization Hub

Project description: Lafarge will demonstrate two technologies which utilize carbon dioxide captured from their facility in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels. One technology will mineralize carbon dioxide into a cement additive and the other technology will produce synthetic fuels.

Funding: \$5 million

Nanaimo Forest Products Ltd. – Nanaimo, B.C.**Project name:** Hydrogen Blending Demonstration**Project description:** Nanaimo Forest Products, with support from HTEC and FortisBC, will demonstrate blending of hydrogen made by electrolysis into their lime kiln in order to reduce emissions from combustion of fuels.**Funding:** \$2.99 million**PETRONAS Energy Canada Ltd. – Northeast B.C.****Project name:** Carbon Capture Demonstration Pilot**Project description:** PETRONAS will demonstrate innovative carbon capture technology and storage on two natural gas fired engines to sequester emissions from combustion of fuels.**Funding:** \$3 million**Teck Metals Ltd. – Trail, B.C.****Project name:** CO₂ Utilization and Storage Pilot Project**Project description:** Teck Metals will investigate carbon dioxide (CO₂) utilization and storage opportunities at the Trail smelter facility including underground local basaltic rock formations to sequester emissions from metallurgical processing.**Funding:** \$10.06 million

Appendix C – CleanBC Industry Fund Feasibility Studies Projects:

Feasibility Studies Totals			
	2021	2022	2023 *
# of Projects:	14	18	12
Total CIF Contribution:	\$2,177,243	\$2,923,198	\$3,451,309.39
Proponent Contribution:	\$860,046	\$1,313,552	\$2,772,489
Other Funding:	\$10,875	\$23,688	\$19,024
Proponent + Other:	\$870,921	\$1,337,239	\$2,791,513
Total Project Costs:	\$3,048,164	\$4,260,437	\$7,023,729 **
Total Projects by Sector:			
Agriculture	0	0	0
Cement	1	1	0
Lime	0	1	0
Manufacturing	2	0	0
Mining	2	5	3
Oil and Gas	7	3	1
Pulp and Paper	1	8	6
Utility	1	0	2
Waste	0	0	0

*2023 FS Projects have not yet been announced. Project details to be finalized and released in Spring 2024.

** 2023 total project costs appear higher as one project received partial CIF funding and alternate funding source is unknown at this time.

2021 FS PROJECTS

Canoe Forest Products Ltd. – Canoe, B.C.

Study name: Waste Heat Recovery for Log Conditioning

Study description: Canoe Forest Products will evaluate the potential heat recovery from a natural gas fired regenerative thermal oxidizer (used to burn off excess organic vapour and control emissions) to be used in the log conditioning process when making plywood.

Funding: \$25,875

Copper Mountain Mine Ltd. – Thompson-Okanagan B.C.

Study name: Electric Haul Truck Trolley Assist System

Study description: Copper Mountain Mine will determine the technical and economic feasibility of adding corners to a haul truck trolley assist system which is to help understand the design requirements at the Copper Mountain Mine.

Funding: \$174,093

Howe Sound Pulp & Paper Corp. – Port Mellon, B.C.

Study name: Flash Dryer System Installation

Study description: Howe Sound Pulp & Paper will investigate the feasibility and estimate the natural gas emissions reductions of installing a higher efficiency kiln flash dryer at the Howe Sound mill.

Funding: \$210,000

Lehigh Hanson Materials Ltd. – Delta, B.C.

Study name: SCM Grinding Facility's BC Hydro System Impact Study

Study description: Lehigh Hanson Materials will investigate the technical and commercial considerations of building and operating a marine terminal and large-scale grinding facility adjacent to Lehigh's Delta Portland Cement manufacturing plant. The terminal and facility will import and grind granulated blast furnace slag to displace the use of higher-carbon clinker for their own facility and for concrete producers.

Funding: \$247,275

NorthRiver Midstream Inc. – District of Taylor, B.C.

Study name: Blue Hydrogen Production and Associated Carbon Capture and Storage

Study description: NorthRiver Midstream will evaluate the opportunity to update a gas-processing facility to produce blue hydrogen. The study includes a feasibility assessment of the technology required to produce hydrogen and capture emissions, reservoir storage, hydrogen transportation and commercial hydrogen utilization in the area.

Funding: \$180,000

NorthRiver Midstream Inc. –Fort Nelson, B.C.

Study name: Blue Hydrogen Production and Associated Carbon Capture and Storage

Study description: NorthRiver Midstream will evaluate the opportunity to update a gas-processing facility to produce blue hydrogen. The study includes a feasibility assessment of the technology required to produce hydrogen and capture emissions, reservoir storage, hydrogen transportation and commercial hydrogen utilization in the area.

Funding: \$180,000

NorthRiver Midstream Inc. – District of Taylor, B.C.

Study name: Cogeneration Facility Post-Combustion Capture Technology

Study description: NorthRiver Midstream will evaluate the technical feasibility of post-combustion carbon capture technologies and reservoir storage options for the Taylor Cogeneration facility, which is a natural gas power station primarily used to supply steam to a NorthRiver Midstream gas-processing plant and provide power to the electricity grid.

Funding: \$150,000

NorthRiver Midstream Inc. – Lower Mainland, B.C.

Study name: Compressed Natural Gas Fueling Hub Implementation

Study description: NorthRiver Midstream, in partnership with Tourmaline Oil Corporation, will assess the costs and business case of implementation of a compressed natural gas fueling hub at its McMahon facility. Compressed natural gas could displace the use of higher-carbon diesel for vehicles. The study will help remove barriers for the project, including decreasing implementation and market risks.

Funding: \$75,000

NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. – Northeast, B.C.

Study name: Turboexpander Installation at Compressor Stations

Study description: NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. will determine the suitability of installing turboexpander technology at existing NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. natural gas compressor stations located in B.C. A turboexpander has been identified as a potential emissions-free energy source that harnesses energy created through the pressure reduction of natural gas from a high pressure to a lower, usable pressure. The energy derived from this usable pressure can be used to generate up to 42 kilowatts of clean power by spinning a direct-drive generator shaft.

Funding: \$47,169

Teck Metals Ltd. – Kootenay B.C.

Study name: Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage Pilot Plant Study

Study description: Teck Metals will assess the feasibility and determine the appropriate technology and associated cost estimate for a carbon capture, utilization and storage facility at Teck's Trail Operations.

Funding: \$350,000

Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. – Prince George, B.C.

Study name: Carbon Capture & Sequestration from Steam Methane Reformers

Study description: Tidewater Midstream will determine the feasibility of a combined carbon capture and sequestration scheme in cooperation with another partner facility. The carbon capture and sequestration scheme would capture carbon dioxide emissions from two steam-methane reformers at the Tidewater refinery and one steam-methane reformer at the partner site.

Funding: \$48,750

Tolko Industries Ltd. – Thompson-Okanagan – Coldstream, B.C.

Study name: Biomass Fuel Switching: Installation and Operation

Study description: Tolko will investigate the technical and commercial considerations of installing and operating a single biomass-fired energy system to displace the natural gas systems currently used at a sawmill and the adjacent wood-pellet facility.

Funding: \$65,250

Tourmaline Oil Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Study name: Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage

Study description: Tourmaline will assess the technical and economic feasibility of

different post-combustion flue gas carbon capture technologies, including chemical solvents, membranes, solid sorbents and hybrid systems at multiple natural gas processing plants.

Funding: \$300,000

Veresen Midstream LP – Northeast B.C.

Study name: Steeprock Plan Carbon Capture

Study description: Veresen Midstream will help determine the scope, cost and schedule for capturing emissions from the flue gas of two process heat medium heaters for the purpose of potential carbon dioxide recovery and underground sequestration which would mitigate a significant part of the emissions to atmosphere from the Steeprock gas plant.

Funding: \$96,000

2022 FS PROJECTS

Barkerville Gold Mines Ltd. – Cariboo B.C.

Study name: Cariboo Gold Mine Electrification Project

Study description: Barkerville Gold Mines will assess the feasibility of building and operating the first-of-its-kind, all-electric, large-scale underground mining operation at the Cariboo Gold Mine. The study will include a cost-benefit analysis of operating and capital costs comparing electric to diesel and propane equipment. If deemed feasible, the results of this study will support the design, engineering, and clean energy operation of the Cariboo Gold Project.

Funding: \$290,464

Canfor Pulp Ltd. – Cariboo B.C.

Study name: Recovery Boiler Advanced Combustion Controls

Study description: Canfor will investigate the potential of an advanced liquor combustion control system for the facility recovery boilers. By improving the efficiency of the recovery boilers, more steam will be generated for the same amount of black liquor combusted. As more steam is produced by the recovery boilers, less steam from the power boiler will be required, resulting in a decrease of natural gas combustion in the power boiler.

Funding: \$59,475

Canfor Pulp Ltd. – Cariboo B.C.

Study name: Evaporators Advanced Process Control and Optimization

Study description: Canfor will evaluate how an advanced process control system implemented in the site's distributed control system can increase hot water production from the evaporators at the Canfor Northwood Pulp Mill. The facility power boiler generates steam which is used to heat water required in the production process by burning biomass and natural gas. Reducing the requirement of steam to heat the water will result in a decrease in natural gas combustion in the power boiler.

Funding: \$34,875

Catalyst Paper Corp. – Vancouver Island and Coast B.C.

Study name: Powerhouse Decarbonization Through APC

Study description: Catalyst Paper will identify emissions-reducing projects through the application of advanced process controls (APC) at the Catalyst Crofton Mill's kraft pulp mill powerhouse and utility area.

Funding: \$492,511

Gibraltar Mines Ltd. – Cariboo B.C.

Study name: Biosalix Carbon Neutral Mine Reclamation Using Pulp and Paper Residuals

Study description: The study will focus on alternative mine reclamation using process by-products (residuals) from Cariboo Pulp and Paper's Quesnel mill at Taseko's Gibraltar Mine, a copper mine in McLeese Lake, B.C. Pulp and paper residuals include biosolids, fines, and lime mud. Gibraltar Mine's tailings may require additional nutrients for successful long-term reclamation. The residuals will be mixed to create a growth medium for use in mine reclamation where willows will be grown for biomass and to further develop soils. Irrigation of reclamation areas using mine tailings water will be assessed.

Funding: \$142,125

Howe Sound Pulp & Paper Corp. – Vancouver Island and Coast B.C.

Study name: GHG Emission Reduction Through Waste-To-Biofuel Hydrothermal Conversion

Study description: Howe Sound Pulp & Paper will demonstrate the use of a technology that processes a mixture of sludge and/or low-quality and salt-laden biomass and converts it into marketable biochar. Currently, this material received by Howe Sound Pulp and Paper is expensive to dispose and requires fossil fuels to process. Howe Sound intends to valorize this low-quality biomass and sludge by converting it into sustainable biofuels and biomaterials.

Funding: \$123,375

Howe Sound Pulp & Paper Corp. – Vancouver Island and Coast B.C.

Study name: Lime Kiln Decarbonization Options Feasibility Study

Study description: Howe Sound Pulp & Paper will investigate the feasibility of utilizing carbon neutral fuels to displace natural gas in the facility lime kiln. Potential carbon neutral fuels include but are not limited to wood powder, gasified biomass, lignin powder, tall oil, liquid methanol, and turpentine.

Funding: \$48,675

Lafarge Canada Inc. – Mainland and Southwest B.C.

Study Name: Richmond Cement Plant Carbon Capture and Utilization

Study Description: Lafarge Canada will evaluate how to increase carbon capture with utilization technology at a commercial scale. Lafarge has been working with Svante since 2019 to demonstrate carbon capture on facility kiln flue gases in order to produce liquid-grade carbon dioxide. A utilization technology would transform the carbon dioxide into a substitute for crude oil known as Syn-crude which will be subsequently refined into

fuel.

Funding: \$306,267

Lhoist North America of Canada Inc. – Mainland and Southwest B.C.

Study name: Kiln Biofuel Feasibility Assessment

Study description: Lhoist Canada will assess the viability of adding a secondary heat source using bio-fuel combustion in order to further pre-heat combustion air entering the kiln. This will reduce the amount of natural gas required to reach the target temperature in the kiln.

Funding: \$18,750

Nanaimo Forest Products Ltd. – Vancouver Island and Coast B.C.

Study name: Lime Kiln Decarbonization Study

Study description: Nanaimo Forest Products will evaluate the implications of fuel switching using solid biofuel to replace natural gas consumed in the lime kilns. The kilns currently consume natural gas to produce heat and are one of the largest producers of greenhouse gas emissions on site.

Funding: \$158,200

Nanaimo Forest Products Ltd. – Vancouver Island and Coast B.C.

Study name: Lime Kiln Flash Dryer Study

Study description: TNanaimo Forest Products will assess the implications of integrating a lime flash dryer into facility lime kilns. This would reduce greenhouse gas emissions produced by the kilns by utilizing waste heat to dry and heat the lime prior to entering the kiln.

Funding: \$110,400

Orca Pacific Terminal Ltd. – Vancouver Island and Coast B.C.

Study Name: Renewable Dimethyl Ether (DME) Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) Innovation at B.C. Pulp Mill

Study Description: Orca Pacific Terminal will determine if there is a business case for producing renewable DME, meeting B.C.'s LCFS and Canada's Clean Fuel Standard, using a technology and processes that converts wood waste to renewable fuel.

Funding: \$295,631

Teck Metals Ltd. – Trail, B.C.

Study name: Microwave Drying

Study description: Teck Metals will investigate the feasibility of electrifying solids drying processes with a microwave system powered by hydroelectricity. Heating for the existing hot-air rotary dryers is from natural gas combustion. Using microwaves may provide more efficient heating and a lower carbon footprint.

Funding: \$72,600

Teck Metals Ltd. – Kootenay B.C.

Study name: Electrification of Molten Pot Heating

Study description: Teck Metals will investigate the feasibility of converting existing natural gas heated molten metal ~~to hydroelectric~~ powered induction heating. The

refining of lead requires melting and maintaining metal in a molten state. Induction heating may provide the required heat more efficiently and with a lower carbon footprint.

Funding: \$114,000

Teck Metals Ltd. – Kootenay B.C.

Study name: Trolley Assist Study

Study description: Teck Resources will evaluate the feasibility of a trolley assist system in order to reduce carbon emissions from the existing diesel electric truck fleet.

Funding: \$150,000

Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. – Cariboo B.C.

Study name: Prince George Refinery - Steam Methane Reformer Carbon Capture & Sequestration

Study description: Tidewater Midstream will advance a carbon capture and sequestration study which was conducted in 2021. The focus of this study will be on the capture of carbon dioxide from one steam methane reformer at the refinery and subsequent considerations for liquefaction, transportation, and sequestration of the estimated 148 tonnes per day of captured carbon dioxide.

Funding: \$250,000

Tourmaline Oil Corp. – Northeast B.C.

Study name: Synergy Testing Center

Study description: Tourmaline will advance the planning of a waste-heat recovery and renewable energy testing center. Understanding of the amount of waste-heat, carbon dioxide, electricity, and local biomass available at the subject site will help inform development of opportunities to capture carbon and produce renewable fuels.

Funding: \$200,000

Veresen Midstream LP – Northeast, B.C.

Study name: Steeprock Plant CO₂ Capture Reservoir Screening

Study description: Veresen Midstream will determine the location, characteristics, storage capacity, and first-pass risk assessment of depleted (or nearly so) reservoirs and deep saline aquifers for potential carbon dioxide (CO₂) sequestration in B.C. that are in reasonable proximity to the facility.

Funding: \$56,250

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Climate Action Secretariat</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>CleanBC Budget</p>
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KEY FACTS

CleanBC Budget 2024/25-2026/27:

- Budget 2024 commits \$318 million over three years in new operating funding to continue CleanBC grant and rebate programs for clean transportation, energy efficient buildings and communities, and to support the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- Budget 2024 announced an additional \$93 million for 2023/24 to provide rebates to low- and middle-income households for heat pumps (\$40 million), support the installation of new public EV charging infrastructure (\$30 million), be provided to communities to enhance active transportation planning and infrastructure (\$20 million), and support youth involvement in climate-action initiatives (\$3 million).
- The CleanBC Industry Fund is undergoing minor changes in 2024 to align with the new B.C. Output-Cased Pricing System. The program is anticipating upwards of \$150M available for project intakes in Budget 2024 with final budget numbers expected in the Ministry Budget letter (see CleanBC Program for Industry note)
- To help people with costs, government has expanded the climate action tax credit. The credit is currently up to \$893.50 for a family of four and up to \$447 for a single person, with amounts increasing to \$1008 and \$504 in July 2024. The number of people receiving the credit increases annually, with a goal to reach 80% of households in B.C. by 2030.

Government Financial Information

Transportation:

- The Province is investing more than \$15 billion in capital investments over the next three years to deliver the transit and transportation infrastructure that help lower greenhouse gas emissions and support a clean and growing economy.
- Incremental capital funding provided in Budget 2024 over the next three years includes \$50 million in Active Transportation infrastructure and \$27 million to enable more school districts to buy electric school buses.
- Budget 2024 provides \$248 million in capital funding over three years to BC Transit for expanded infrastructure outside the Lower Mainland to house

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additional buses, for new zero-emissions buses, and to increase the capacity of depots and passenger facilities.

- \$26 million in operating funds over the fiscal plan will support BC Transit base operations and inflationary pressures, which also supports CleanBC greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Emergency Management and Climate Preparedness and Adaptation:

- Bolstering the Province's capacity to prepare for and respond to future climate emergencies, government is investing \$405 million over four years, including \$154 million in operating funding and \$21 million in capital funding to support additional wildfire response, recovery and infrastructure resources.
- Of the remainder, \$234 million of new funding has been allocated for priority infrastructure projects and programming to decrease flood risks in the Lower Mainland and improve the Province's ability to manage water resources, while \$18 million will support year-round delivery of government climate emergency response and recovery programs.

CleanBC Budget 2023/24-2025/26:

- Budget 2023 included \$567 million in new operating and capital funding over three years for CleanBC initiatives, active transportation, climate resiliency, and emergency management programs. This includes building capacity across B.C. to support disaster risk assessment, preparedness and mitigation, and working collaboratively with local government and First Nations to make communities more resilient.
- Budget 2023 outlined the path ahead for carbon pricing changes for both households and industry to align with federal carbon pricing requirements, starting April 1, 2023, B.C.'s carbon tax rate is increasing annually by \$15 per tonne until it reaches \$170 per tonne in 2030.
- The current CleanBC Program for Industry is funded by the incremental carbon tax that large industrial facilities pay over \$30 per tCO₂e with a budget for 2023/24 of approximately \$210 million.
- Budget 2023 reflected the creation of the new Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and committed \$85 million over three years to increase emergency management capacity in the province.

Contact: Jeremy Hewitt, Assistant Deputy Minister
Climate Action Secretariat, Phone (250) 387-1134

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>BC Parks Overview General and Budget</p>
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Inclusion:

- **Accessibility:** An additional \$6M over 5 years will provide funding to expedite the replacement of high priority, aging facilities to an accessible, universal design. This funding will enable BC Parks (BCP) to target investment in parks near urban centers with a focus to ensure BCP's washrooms, parking facilities, and access (trails) to parking features in all frontcountry parks are meaningfully accessible.
 - Accessibility Audits conducted in 2018/19 in 332 frontcountry park sites found none are fully accessible. While new facilities are currently being built to accessible standards, the vast majority of BC Parks' existing infrastructure requires facility investment to ensure parks are accessible to everyone.
 - BCP committed to improve accessibility in all frontcountry campgrounds and day use areas in the 2017 Futures Strategy, and most recently in BC Parks' Commitment to Inclusion.
 - BCP acknowledges that some people and groups have been excluded from BC Parks due to both visible and invisible barriers. To address these barriers, we created BC Parks' Commitment to Inclusion in collaboration with diverse community partners. This is BCP's pledge to work toward a provincial parks system that is welcoming and meaningfully accessible to everybody. The Commitment to Inclusion outlines how we will prioritize inclusion and build a foundation for the work ahead.

Recreation – Attendance, Revenue, and Budget:

- BC Parks offers approximately 13,000 campsites – 11,000 vehicle-accessible campsites & approximately 2,000 walk in/backcountry with 79 group sites and picnic areas available for reservation. Recreation areas include 126 boat launch areas and approximately 6,000 kilometers of hiking trails.
- BC Parks' attendance for the 2023-24 fiscal year is estimated to be 27.5 million visits, representing approximately 1% average annual growth since the 2018-19 fiscal year.
- Attendance is an estimate of the total number of visits to provincial parks and includes camping, day use and boating statistics from 600+ data collection points in parks around the province.
- Park visitation reflects the contribution of parks to the Government's priorities of promoting healthy communities and creating a strong tourism sector.
- Reservation fees cover the cost of BC Parks' camping reservation service.
- Recreation User Fee revenues help to offset the cost of park operations. In Agreements where revenues exceed costs, surplus revenues are directed to the Consolidated Revenue Fund. In Agreements where costs exceed revenues, the Province pays a top-up payment to the Operator called a deficiency payment.

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Recreation Attendance Data

Attendance Type	Average Attendance (Person-Days) 2018-19, 19-20, 22-23	Attendance (Person-Days), 2023-24 (Estimated)	5yr Avg. Annual Growth Rate
Camping	3,295,051	3,500,536	1%
Day Use	22,551,977	23,815,491	1%
Boating	171,067	141,048	-4%
Total Attendance	26,042,494	27,457,076	1%

***Notes:** Numbers are rounded and may not add to totals. Attendance and Revenue data from 2020 and 2021 is not available due to failings of BC Parks' previous digital and data service provider (November 2019 – 2021/22) and their inability to report accurate attendance data, which was a partial reason for that relationship being severed. A new system, built by the internal development team referenced elsewhere in this submission, is now in place to accurately collect attendance data. A comparison is provided using 2019-23 averages. 2023-24 data has not yet been fully verified; final totals may differ.

****Total Recreation User Fee Revenue consists of Camping Fees, Day Use Fees (Picnic Shelter and Hot springs Revenue) and Boating Fees (Overnight mooring fees). Camping Reservation Fee Revenue consists of transaction fees minus vendor invoices- a comparison from 2022-23 has been provided.**

Campsite Expansion Program (2017-2021):

- BC Parks and BC Recreation Sites and Trails jointly delivered a 5-year, \$22.9 million program to add over 1,893 new campsites to high demand locations.
- 2021/22 was the final year of the program, 183 campsites were added to our system in regions with the highest demand, bringing the expansion to more than 1,900 sites added to the BC Parks and Recreation sites since 2017.
- The project delivered over 920 new campsites in BC Parks from 2017 – 2021, completed concluding with BC Parks' first full-service campground with 92 sites that opened in December 2021 in Manning Park named Skyview.

Camping Reservations Program:

- The BC Parks reservation service offers camping bookings in 184 frontcountry campgrounds, 63 backcountry campgrounds and 34 marine sites.
- There are approximately ~7,500 frontcountry campsites available for reservations, including 78 group sites, 30 cabins and 7 limited entry backcountry destinations. (In 2022, there were 79 group sites, however, Mount Seymour group site had to be decommissioned in 2023).
- Of the ~11,700 campsites BC Parks manages, approximately half are available on a first-come-first-served (FCFS) basis. In campgrounds that have reservations, most maintain some FCFS sites. In response to demand, reservations are required during peak season and many popular parks.
- In 2023, to meet growing demand, BC Parks added eight new frontcountry parks, 5 new frontcountry expansion projects and 1 new backcountry campground to the reservation services. This resulted in over ~9,000 new reservations in 2023.
- Over 67,000 reservations have been made so far in 2024. (Numbers as of March 5, i.e., covering reservations up to July 5, 2024))

- Following two years of failings by the previous vendor, in March 2022 BC Parks re-launched its reservation service in partnership with Camis, a Canadian technology company specializing in camping reservation systems.
- More than 366,000 reservations were made in the 2023 season – an increase of 15% since 2022.
- 79% of reservations in 2022 were made by BC residents.
- The camping reservation program received and processed \$34.5M in camping fees in the 2022-2023 fiscal year (transferred to Park Operators) – representing a significant increase from the previous year, when fees collected totalled \$23.2M
- The reservation portion of these fees are first used to cover the costs of the outsourced reservation service, with any excess reinvested into BC Parks through the Park Enhancement Fund (PEF). In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, BC Parks collected \$5.73M of these fees, with \$3.8M allocated to service provider costs.
- Approximately 99% of reservations are made online each year.

First Nations:

- The Ministry values strong relationships with First Nations regarding the management of protected areas.
- BCP is directly involved with **at least** 40 Collaborative Management Agreements, 12 broader Strategic Engagement Agreements and/or Reconciliation Protocols **and is currently engaged in negotiations at 10 active Treaty tables with First Nations.**

First Nations Park Operators:

- Of the 59 private contractors operating parks on BC Parks' behalf, 16 BC Parks are operated by 15 First Nation governments or businesses.
- In 2023/24, the total contract value of First Nations Park Operator services is forecast to be approximately \$1.6 million.
- This represents 3% of BCP' total Park Operator (PO) costs.

**Estimated – not all FN Operators report revenue to BCP. Likely to be higher.*

Park Enhancement Fund:

- The Park Enhancement Fund (PEF) is a dedicated and protected account that supports BC Parks in earning revenues and attracting donations which can be reinvested in enhancements to the provincial parks system.
- Revenue is derived from camping reservation charges, net proceeds from the BC Parks Licence Plate Program, stumpage fees collected from tree removal projects in protected areas, merchandise sales, donations, and interest earned on the account balance.

Park Ranger Staffing:

- Regional Operations staff with formal training and granted the authority of a Park Ranger – 134 positions are regular and 66 are seasonal.
- In 2022/23 seasonal staffing positions declined, but staffing capacity was in fact increased with the conversion of **Table of Contents** positions and longer seasonal Park

Ranger terms of six months.

Number of BC Parks Positions with Park Ranger Authority – 2022/23

Staffing Position	Regular Positions	Seasonal Positions	Total Positions
PPA Section Head	14	0	14
Area Supervisor	50	0	50
Recreation Services Officer	12	0	12
Community Liaison Officer	3	0	3
Senior Park Ranger	52	0	52
Park Ranger	0	66	66
Other Positions	3	0	3
Total	134	66	200

**Actual work term is a minimum of 7.5 months for seasonal Park Rangers for 2023/24.*

Total BC Parks Staffing:

	2023/24
Regular Positions – Park Ranger Status	134
Regular Positions – No Ranger Status	63.4
Seasonal Positions – Park Ranger Status.	66
Seasonal Positions – No Ranger Status	54
Regional Operations Branch Total FTEs	317.4
Provincial Services Branch Total FTEs	54
Service Transformation Branch Total FTEs	46.5
ADMO	3
Total BC Parks FTE Count	420.9

BCP System Facts

Land Base:

Over 15%, or nearly 14.4 million hectares, of BC's land base is dedicated to protected area status (this includes provincial and federal protected areas as well as publicly announced protected areas from land use plans). BCP manages 1,039 parks, conservancies, ecological reserves, recreation areas and protected areas.

- Provincially designated protected areas (parks, conservancies, ecological reserves, recreation areas, protected areas) – approximately 14.4%.
- Federally designated protected areas (national parks, national park reserves, 1 national historic park) – approximately 0.6%.
- Private conservation lands, Wildlife Management Areas, and environmental non-governmental organization lands – approximately 1.05%. (BC total 15.5%)
- A small percentage of provincially announced sites through land use planning processes that have not yet been designated.
- The 1,039 number only includes areas managed by BCP. Management direction has been approved for 744 (72%) of these areas and there are over 70 active management plan projects in the province.

Current Parks and Protected Areas System

Designation	Number	Area (ha)
<u>Class A Parks</u>	630	10,553,1
<u>Class B Parks</u>	2	3,778
<u>Class C Parks</u>	13	484
<u>Recreation Areas</u>	2	5,929
<u>Conservancies</u>	159	3,067,505
<u>Designations under the <i>Environment and Land Use Act</i></u>	85	383,670
<u>0Ecological Reserves</u>	148	160,292
Total	1,039	14,174,949

Budget Overview:

- Budget 2024 includes a \$5.973 million increase over the restated 2023/24 Estimates budget for BCP. This increase comprises of:
 - \$4.880 million increase for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure to enhance existing asset maintenance and replacement programs (Budget 2023 decision).
 - \$0.876 million increase to salary and benefits for the Shared Recovery Mandate (Budget 2023 (\$0.451M) and 2024 (\$0.425M) decisions)
 - \$0.217 million increase to fund the implementation of the Solutions Framework for permitting (Budget 2023 decision).

Capital Investment:

- In 2023/24, BCP received \$6M over 5 years (\$1.2M/year) to upgrade high-priority infrastructure to an accessible standard. Infrastructure upgrades are focused on toilet and parking facilities as well as trails to park features, in parks close to urban centers.
- BCP capital budget for 2024/25 decreased by \$0.035M from restated 2023/24 Estimates including:
 - \$5 million for land improvements for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure (Budget 2023 decision)
 - \$1 million for specialized equipment for Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure (Budget 2023 decision)
 - \$6.035 million **net reduction** due to end of time-limited commitment for projects (including campsite expansion, back country facilities, and protected area land acquisitions). Total reduction is \$16.089M, offset by \$10.054M reprofiled from FY24 to FY25
- BC Parks (BCP) is responsible for managing approximately \$1.5B worth of assets across the province, including buildings, bridges, structures, roads, trails, water and wastewater systems, campsites, day-use, and backcountry facilities.
- BC Parks continues to implement a new Asset Management System. This will strengthen existing asset management policies and practices, including capital expenditure planning and reporting, and provide better insight into the agency's total asset replacement value.

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- Capital projects are required to meet the following strategic objectives:
 - Proceed with approved Recreation Expansion and priority Backcountry projects.
 - Replace/refurbish facilities providing safe and economically justifiable recreation.
 - Replace or construct visitor facilities that promote diversified recreation opportunities (e.g. bike-friendly facilities etc.)
 - Improve accessibility of frontcountry parks with a focus on parking, washrooms and access routes to park features in parks nearest municipalities.
 - Maintain, improve, and expand (where feasible) BC Parks office spaces to ensure staff have sufficient, safe, and productive workspaces.
- Capital projects are prioritized for funding using the following criteria: health & safety, protecting park values, climate change mitigation, economic impact and financial sustainability, asset life spans, accessibility & inclusion, managing visitor use, recreation trends and Indigenous and stakeholder partnerships.
- In delivering these projects, BCP uses the following approaches:
 - Ensure BC Parks facilities meet regulatory requirements.
 - Incorporate Universal Design Guidelines in all frontcountry investments, where possible.
 - Look for partnership opportunities with Indigenous communities in capital projects to include Indigenous perspectives and promote Indigenous history/culture.
 - Design and construct trails where service levels are consistent with the amount and type of use.
 - Remove/decommission facilities that cannot justify their maintenance and upkeep.
 - Ensure conservation objectives are considered and incorporated in projects where applicable.
 - Use green technologies and products in capital projects where economically feasible.

Contact: Jim Standen, Assistant Deputy Minister
Conservation and Recreation Division, (250) 387-1288

ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division March 2024	Cultural Expression in BC Parks
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Indigenous Cultural Expression Mandate

- **Parliamentary Secretary Amandeep Singh’s mandate letter includes the continued directive to work with MIRR to reflect Indigenous Peoples’ history and cultures in provincial parks.**
- BC Parks has pursued a broad range of activities with First Nations partners to support this mandate, including but not limited to:
 - Park (re) naming, new website content, interpretive signage, cultural events, cultural inventories/studies, art installations and storytelling;
 - Collaboration with Guardians through joint patrols, participation in BC Parks training and the Shared Compliance and Enforcement Pilot;
 - Collaborative management and shared stewardship activities, such as the co-development of Visitor Use Management Strategies and actions.
- In 2022, five meetings were facilitated by BC Parks, the Parliamentary Secretary and First Nations partners to solicit the Nations’ input and perspectives for how BC Parks could improve the reflection of Indigenous Peoples’ history and culture in parks.
- With support from MIRR, the First Peoples Cultural Council (FPCC) was engaged to help BC Parks understand Indigenous People’s priorities with respect to engaging with government, and to help guide the focus of BC Parks’ resources.
- Advancement of the mandate has been challenged by the current Indigenous Relations staff resourcing challenges faced by BC Parks in regional operations, as there are no staff dedicated to the implementation.

Intergovernmental Communications

- The results of these meetings will be used to compile a report for the Minister and present proposed recommendations to further this mandate in Spring 2024.
 - This action will also address the Declaration Act Action Plan action 4.28: Draft a report with recommendations for how BC Parks can better reflect Indigenous Peoples’ history and culture in parks and protected areas.

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<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024)</p> <p>Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>BC Parks</p> <p>Facility Maintenance</p>
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KEY FACTS

- BC Parks' facility maintenance budget has increased over the last two years by an additional \$14.88M annually (capital and operating). This investment will support the repair and replacement of existing facilities in BC Parks, almost doubling the current maintenance budget.
- BC Parks infrastructure is worth approximately \$1.5B and has been gradually deteriorating over many decades as a result of deferred and reduced facility maintenance. Most of BC Parks' infrastructure was built more than 30 years ago and is in need of significant repair or replacement.
- Demand for camping and day use in BC Parks continues to be high, and this funding will ensure safe, high-quality outdoor recreation experiences for both residents and visitors alike.
- This increased funding has been phased over two years (2023/24 & 2024/25) and is supported by additional staff to deliver capital maintenance projects across the Province. The \$14.88M is comprised of \$10M in capital maintenance funding and \$4.88M in operational maintenance and amortization funding.
- Prior to this substantial investment, BC Parks' annual capital maintenance budget has remained at \$13.98M since 2016/17.
- 2024/25 is the second and final year of the budget lift. Moving forward, BC Parks total annual Facility Maintenance budget will be: \$23.98M in capital, and \$4.88M in operational maintenance and amortization funding.
- Despite the recent budget increase for facility repair and replacement, BC Parks' continues to have a large historic backlog of facility maintenance needs across the province.
- In addition to the above ongoing budget lift, Budget 2023 provided \$6M over 5 years to expedite the replacement of high priority, aging facilities to an accessible, universal design. This funding will enable BCP to target investment in parks near urban centers with a focus to ensure BCP's washrooms, parking facilities, and access (trails) to park features in all frontcountry parks are meaningfully accessible.
- BC Parks continues to implement a new Asset Management System. This will strengthen existing asset management policies and practices, including capital expenditure planning and reporting, and provide better insight into the agency's total asset replacement value. Planning for long-term asset repair and replacement is critical for a plant valued at \$1.5B.

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Contact: Jim Standen, Assistant Deputy Minister
Conservation and Recreation Division (250) 387-1288

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division March 2024</p>	<p>Mandate Commitment: Recreation Expansion</p>
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KEY FACTS:

- The demand for camping and recreation opportunities has been increasing significantly in recent years and there are not enough camping opportunities in high use locations to meet demand during peak times. Further, a number of day-use areas and trails have seen unprecedented increased use, particularly in the South Coast, Okanagan and West Coast regions.
- \$21.59M in new capital and operating funding was approved in 2021/22 to complete new recreation expansion projects over 3 years. Due to challenges encountered (summarized below) approval was granted in 2023/24 to extend the project to 5 years (completing in 2025/26). This extension will help ensure that much needed projects, including new campsites, day use improvements, new and renewed frontcountry and backcountry trails will be completed.
- The major challenges encountered include:
 - Increased timelines required for consultation with some First Nations.
 - Desire of some First Nations to advance complex discussions and broader interests and desires as part of individual project discussions.
 - Unanticipated archeological finds and associated permitting delays.
 - Local stakeholders not supportive of project (Christina Lake).
 - Other (weather, conservation values, BC Hydro permitting delays due to focus on flood recovery, internal staffing/labour challenges, and inflation).
- Despite the above challenges, the project is on track to exceed all deliverable commitments (300 new campsites, 30km of refurbished trails and 3km of new trails). Expanded parking availability at several popular parks will also be delivered.
- 13 projects have been completed to date and a further 22 projects are expected to be completed by end of fiscal 2025/26 (more than 30 projects in total),
- 13 projects have been announced in formal news releases and/or social media posts; initial announcements for a further 12 projects have also been made. Announcements will continue into 2024/25 and 2025/26 as projects are completed and open for use.
- Two properties were purchased on Hornby Island in 2021/22, including a popular 120 site private campground as part of the Recreation Expansion Mandate. The campground is currently in operation and planning for capital improvements and land designation (including associated consultation) is underway.
- The search for additional land acquisitions to support recreation expansion in high demand areas is ongoing and several properties are currently under consideration. \$10M in funding remains for acquisitions specifically allocated to this project.

Recreation Expansion Mandate: guide work to create new campgrounds, trails, and protected areas; propose new funding to improve infrastructure; and ensure provincial parks remain affordable for British Columbians.

- To deliver on this mandate, the following funding was initially approved over 3 years, from fiscal 2021/22 to 2023/24 (and now extended to 2025/26):
 - Recreation Expansion: \$22M to support planning and delivery of new frontcountry and backcountry campsites, new and renewed trails and day use opportunities in high demand locations. This project aims to build 100 new campsites, 1km of new trail and 10km of refurbished trails, per year.
 - Backcountry: \$1M annually for 3 years (ends March 31, 2023/24). This funding helped reduce a significant backcountry infrastructure backlog and deliver much needed trail and facility improvements in high-use backcountry locations.
 - Land Acquisition: \$5M annually over 3 years, with up to \$3M in contingencies in each year (unspent funds at the end of year 3 were reprofiled out to year 4 of the project). These funds will support development of new campgrounds and recreation opportunities, including the purchase of two high priority properties on Hornby Island, including a popular 120 campsite campground. The search for other acquisitions is ongoing.
 - Maintenance: A 3-year uplift of \$2M in operating funds annually (ends March 31, 2023/24). This funding supported maintenance of existing assets to ensure asset lifespans and levels of service are optimized. Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences
- Selection of individual projects considered:
 - campsite and recreation demand (with focus on high demand locations)
 - financial sustainability and project feasibility
 - alignment with public and stakeholder interests and needs
 - partnership and/or reconciliation opportunities with Indigenous Communities
 - partnership with stakeholder groups
 - accessible design
 - diversity and inclusion
 - affordable recreation

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<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Recreation Sites and Trails Overview</p>
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KEY FACTS

- In April 2022, Recreation Sites and Trails B.C. (RSTBC) was moved from the Ministry of Forests (FOR) to ENV, to align recreation services under one division with B.C. Parks. RSTBC is now a branch within the Conservation and Recreation Division (CARD).
- Recreations Sites and Trails B.C. is comprised of regional operations across four regions, with two headquarters sections for policy and program development. Regional staff primarily work from district offices managed by FOR.
- RSTBC staffing is comprised of seven excluded management positions and 55 regular staff.
- There is also a seasonal maintenance crew program staffed by 54 auxiliary employees (13 crews). This program is funded for three years, with \$900K/year in operational funding and contributions from the Columbia Basin Trust to fund 3 additional crews, totaling 15 seasonal staff.
- RSTBC's base budget is approximately \$7.9M in operational funds and \$1.4M in capital.
- In FY24, RSTB.C. received a \$3.5M operating budget uplift and \$0.100M in specialized capital for equipment purchases. This budget has funded critical staffing, maintenance work, and enabled contributions to volunteer groups through a \$0.300M B.C. Trails Fund.
- In addition to its base budget, RSTBC has received \$0.875M in Land Base Investment (LBI) funding, and the Forest Employment Program has provided over \$4M to support recreation sites and trails facilities in the past two years, predominantly in the form of maintenance funding. In FY25, the LBI funding will become base budget (\$812K).

The primary **focus** of **Recreation Sites and Trails B.C.** is:

- Manage established recreation sites (primarily campgrounds) and trails for the benefit of British Columbians and visitors.
- Manage public recreation use on Crown lands outside recreation sites and trails, in collaboration with partners and other agencies.
- Given staffing resources, the majority of RSTBC's focus is on managing established sites and trails, including rail trails.
- The legislative mandate for RSTBC comes from the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and *Forest Recreation Regulation*.

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Program Description:

The core function and activities of RSTBC include:

- Management of 1,933 recreation sites and 818 established trails, including rail trails.
- Negotiation and management of over 400 site and trail partnership agreements and service delivery contracts, including with First Nations.
- Delivery of capital improvement projects at recreation sites and trails.
- Resolution of recreation use conflicts on Crown land through multi-agency collaborative planning and management approaches.
- Development and implementation of trails policy and planning initiatives including the Trails Strategy for B.C., provincial mountain bike trails policy, and other leading outdoor recreation policy initiatives.
- Administration of the Off-Road Vehicle Fund granting program in partnership with the Powersports Coalition.

Staffing:

Recreation Sites and Trails FTE Count			
Classification	Regular	Seasonal	Total Position
Exec Director Band 5	1		1
Band 3	6		6
AO18	1		1
CLR12	6		6
LSO3	1		1
SIH27	1		1
STOR27	26		25
STOR24	2		2
AOR24	1		1
AO27	1		1
STOR21	26		26
PA9		17	17
PA6		34	34
	72	51	123

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<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Provincial Rail Trail Funding and Maintenance</p>
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KEY FACTS

Provincial Rail Trail Funding and Maintenance

- The Recreation Sites and Trails (RST) branch of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy manages 542km of abandoned rail corridor as recreation trail. These are portions of the Kettle Valley, the Slocan Valley and the Columbia and Western Rail Trails.
- Rail Trails are associated with old, complex infrastructure in remote and often steep terrain that pose risks to public safety, property, and the environment.
- Over the past decade, funding has been redirected by RST from general site and trail maintenance budgets to cover some critical rail trail maintenance. Other funding programs have been leveraged where available.

Government Financial Information

- A significant maintenance backlog remains based on decades of limited funding and a resulting maintenance deferral.
- In FY21 and again for FY22, RST was able to provide \$225,000 in funding from the Forest Employment Program to the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen for rail trail related maintenance works.
- In FY22, RST through partnership with the MOF Engineering Branch, completed over \$1.3M in critical infrastructure repairs and projects on rail trails.
- In FY23, RST completed \$0.778M in critical infrastructure repairs and \$1.692M in public safety and environmental risk mitigation works required from the 2021 atmospheric river flood damage.

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- In fiscal year 2023 (FY23), RST led a project reviewing governance options for governance of rail trails focused on more local involvement. There are limited local government management options across most of the 542kms.
- In 2023, RST received a \$6.5M temporary funding for three years of critical rail trail maintenance work. Initial estimates put ongoing maintenance of RST rail trails (operational and capital) at approximately \$3.3M per year.
- In FY24, RST utilized this funding along with DFAA funding to complete repairs to the abutment of a bridge, replacement of a failing bridge, maintenance to several major and minor culverts, inspection of rail trail infrastructure, and the completion 9 engineered designs with ongoing environmental and indigenous consultation which are slated for implementation in Y25 or Y26.

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ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division March 2024	Recreation Sites and Trails Other Revenue and Funding
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KEY FACTS

Other Recreational Sites and Trails B.C. (RST) Funding FY2023-24:

- **RST received ~\$3.66M in direct (transferred to RST) in funding from 6 different funding sources in FY2023-24.**
- This includes the following funding allocations:
 - \$731K from the Federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement (DFAA) program. Anticipating \$3.5M in FY25.
 - \$1.12M from the Forest Enhancement Program (FEP) administered by the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Initiative (JEDI). Advice/Recommendations The FEP program provides an 8% administrative fee on funds spent to support RST in administering this allocation.
 - \$875K from the Land Based Investment Program administered by the Ministry of Forests. This will be reduced to \$818K in FY25 and then incorporated into RST operational budget in FY26.
 - \$315k from the Columbia Basin Trust, which funds 4 seasonal maintenance crews. FY25 will be the final year of this 6-year program.
 - \$145k in Destination Development Funding, which was allocated from the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (TAC) to the applicant and then provided to RST under MOU.
 - \$400k from the Off-Road Vehicle fund under MOU to RST.
- Each of these revenue and funding sources come with set spending criteria and reporting requirements.
- **RST reviewed 53 projects, with a combined value of \$27.6M in FY2023-24, where funding would be provided directly to RST partners to spend on Recreation Sites and Trails. This includes:**
 - 29 projects with a value of \$12.6M from the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP), administered through JEDI.
 - 24 projects with a value of \$15.0M from the Destination Development Program, through TAC.

- Total funding and number of Trail projects funded by JEDI from 2016 to 2023:

Program	# of Projects	Total Funding
FEP	154	\$7,699,239
Rural Dividend	108	\$11,778,206
CERIP	9	\$3,772,862
RCDG	35	\$3,525,571
REDIP	11	\$2,420,177
Total:	317	\$29,196,055

- Funding Programs: Forest Enhancement Program (FEP); Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP); Rural Cooperative Development Grant (RCDG); Tourism Development Initiative (TRTDI); Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP)
- Total funding and number of Trail projects funded by TACS from 2020 to 2023:

Program	# of Projects	Total Funding
TDC	10	\$ 3,789,278
DDF	17	\$ 5,852,365
CERIP	17	\$ 4,655,497
TRTDI	57	\$ 4,205,815
Total:	101	\$ 18,502,955

- Funding Programs: Tourism Dependent Communities (TDC); Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP); Targeted Regional Tourism Development Initiative (TRTDI); Destination Development Fund (DDF).
- Indirect funding through Destination Development and REDIP have been a significant influence on the growth and direction of the RST program.
- While a benefit to delivering recreation amenities, the REDIP and Destination Development funding represents an unfunded administrative and maintenance workload for staff.
- RST is working with JEDI and TACS to improve the funding process to help address these pressures.

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<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>COS Overview</p>
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KEY FACTS

- The Conservation Officer Service (COS) is a Law Enforcement Agency that specializes in environmental investigations, statutory compliance and enforcement, and human wildlife conflict prevention and response. The COS has a public safety, law enforcement mandate, where the priority is apprehending poachers and polluters.
- The COS is the lead agency in B.C. to respond to predator attacks on people and human-wildlife conflicts that pose a risk to public safety.
- There are currently 150 sworn Conservation Officers (COs) working across the province, with 119 as frontline officers.
- All Conservation Officers are appointed as Special Provincial Constables under the *Police Act*.
- There are also 23 civilians who provide support to staff throughout the province.
- Throughout 2023, the COS carried as many as 27 vacant CO positions, which represented a provincial total vacancy rate of 16% (2022 – 25%).

Law Enforcement and Public Safety

- Although housed in the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the COS is a natural resource law enforcement service provider to multiple ministries.
- Conservation Officers enforce a wide range of provincial and federal legislation aimed at protecting the environment, human health and safety, and Crown resources and revenue — more than 35 statutes combined.
- Conservation Officers are uniformed armed law enforcement officers that drive marked patrol vehicles.
- As Special Provincial Constables, Conservation Officers are often called upon by the RCMP and other organizations to assist during times of natural disaster or emergencies, and provide supplemental policing as requested.
- COs are trained in use-of-force, defensive tactics, and firearms — akin to our policing partners. In addition to mandated law enforcement training, COs also undergo training in areas such as ATV operation, jet boating, predator attacks and swift water rescue.

- The COS is comprised of three primary work units: the Provincial Operations Branch, the Provincial Investigations Branch, and the Headquarters Branch.
 - The Provincial Operations Branch is the uniformed patrol branch of the COS. It is made up of frontline uniformed officers that drive marked patrol vehicles and interact with the public daily.
 - The Provincial Investigations Branch is made up of the General Investigations Section (GIS) and the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Section.
 - The GIS is a plainclothes unit tasked with investigating serious fish, wildlife, and environmental violations and targeting prolific offenders.
 - The AIS is part of B.C.'s Invasive Mussel Defence program. Inspectors are stationed at B.C.'s borders and inspect boats in efforts to prevent the introduction of zebra and quagga mussels into B.C.
 - The Headquarters Branch is made up of staff development, recruitment and training personnel along with civilian support staff.

- Conservation Officers are posted throughout B.C, with offices in 45 communities in eight regions.

- As the frontline of environmental law enforcement in B.C., the COS conducts hundreds of investigations each year and often works with multiple agencies.

- These investigations range from straightforward cases resulting in warnings or violation tickets, to complex investigations involving search warrants, production orders, arrest warrants and bail hearings. Investigations can be commercial in nature and involve criminal organizations.

- The COS is also responsible for managing complex commercial environmental and industrial investigations.

- These investigations can span interprovincial or international borders and COs often conduct joint investigations with law enforcement officers from various provinces, states, and federal agencies.

- Regarding enforcement actions, the COS uses a variety of processes to address non-compliance, including:
 - Violation tickets;
 - Trials in court;
 - Alternative measures;
 - Restorative justice, and
 - Administrative hearings.

- Significant dollar amounts are imposed by court-ordered creative sentences to organizations such as the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund.

- The COS also uses civil forfeiture for assets and property used in the commission of environmental crimes.

Human-Wildlife Conflict Prevention and Response

- As the lead agency for preventing and responding to human-wildlife conflicts in B.C., the COS has a primary mandate to protect human health and safety in this regard.
- The COS invests a significant amount of time to wildlife conflict prevention and response – in 2023, more than **31,000** hours were spent on wildlife conflicts.
- Policies and procedures to help guide Conservation Officers with regards to human-wildlife conflict and response, as well as the management of orphaned bear cubs, are from the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship.
- The COS is the agency of expertise in North America in predator attack responses and trains Conservation Officers and Fish & Game Agencies across Canada and the United States.

Fish and Wildlife Compliance and Enforcement

- A large part of a Conservation Officer's time is spent on compliance and enforcement related to the protection and preservation of fish, wildlife, and the environment.
- Separate from dealing with human-wildlife conflicts, this type of work can include hunting checks, angling-related enforcement, and patrols.

Integrated Environmental Enforcement Unit

- Established in the fall of 2020, the Integrated Environmental Enforcement Unit (IEEU) was created between the Conservation Officer Service and the Environmental Protection Division to investigate complex environmental files.
- The IEEU investigates significant environmental offences under the Environmental Management Act and the Integrated Pest Management Act for the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, pursuing both prosecutorial and administrative enforcement responses.

Report All Poachers and Polluters Hotline

- The COS 24-hour hotline - Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) - allows the public to report known or suspected violations of fisheries, wildlife, or environmental protection laws anonymously.
- The RAPP line also receives human-wildlife conflict calls.
- In 2023, the RAPP line received 53, 092 calls, an increase from the previous year. Of those, more than 80% - 43, 994 were related to human-wildlife conflicts.
- More than 9,000 calls related to violations such as unlawful dumping and illegal burning.

Indigenous Initiatives

- Indigenous initiatives are also an important aspect of the COS. Across the province, Conservation Officers build and foster relationships with First Nations through several initiatives, including:
 - Guardian programs;
 - Enforcement Memorandums of Understanding;
 - Jointly funded positions, and
 - Outreach activities and more.
- In 2023, the COS hosted 12 Guardian training sessions:172 participants attended, representing approximately 43 First Nations.
- The COS had 11 files referred to the Restorative Justice and First Nations Relations Program in 2023, with 6 files completed and 5 ongoing.

Contact: CCO Cam Schley
Conservation Officer Service, 250-847-0432

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>COS Staffing, Deployment and Capacity</p>
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KEY FACTS

Capacity:

- **The Conservation Officer Service (COS) provides public safety and environmental enforcement services to the citizens of our province.**
- There are currently 150 active sworn Conservation Officers working across the province, with 119 as frontline officers.
- All Conservation Officers are appointed as Special Provincial Constables under the *Police Act*.
- There are also 23 civilians who provide support to staff throughout the province.
- Throughout 2023, the COS carried as many as 27 vacant CO positions, which represented a provincial total vacancy rate of 16% (2022 – 25%).
- Conservation Officers are posted throughout B.C, with offices in **45** communities in eight regions.
- In the 2024/2025 fiscal budget, the COS is receiving an increase in operating funding and capital funding for 10 conservation officers. The increase in funding is for **4 new** conservation officers to meet commitments in the Blueberry River First Nation Implementation Agreement and Treaty 8 Consensus Document and to fill **6 vacancies**. The 4 new conservation officer positions will be in the Peace Region (Ft. St. John, Dawson Creek and/or Chetwynd) and 6 vacant positions will be filled in other regions of the province.

Deployment Guidelines and Staffing Decisions:

The COS uses deployment guidelines to ensure its operational mission and mandate to provide public safety and ensure environmental enforcement is delivered, while mitigating negative impacts to staff.

- With all resource deployment decisions, the COS ensures there is the least amount of impact to staff and the communities they serve.
- Conservation Officer deployment is regularly reviewed and adjusted by the COS as required.
- The COS looks at several factors when determining where Conservation Officers are posted, including officer safety, call volume, zone coverage, geographic location, call demand for public safety and enforcement concerns, population size, level of industrial, commercial and recreational activity, number of existing officers within the area and emerging environmental trends and partnership opportunities.

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- To address temporary, time-sensitive public safety or enforcement pressures, the COS may augment resources from one zone or region as necessary.

Of Note – Mt. Polley Task Force

- Following the Mt. Polley Mine tailing dam breach in 2014, the COS created a task force within its Provincial Investigations Branch (PIB) to properly resource and investigate this massive, complex file of significant public interest.
- The task force includes general duty and program support members, as well as officers with PIB. When necessary, the COS also contracts subject-matter expertise personnel.
- The Mt. Polley investigation has significantly increased operational funding pressures on the COS. Until 19/20, these pressures were managed corporately.
- Since that time, this has been cited as a COS pressure and has impacted core operations.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- Assessment of this file remains ongoing.

Indigenous Relations Positions

- The COS recognizes the importance of relationship-building with Indigenous Communities. The COS has a Restorative Justice and First Nations Relations Program, which historically has been a compliment of two officers.
- In November 2023, an additional sergeant position was implemented to help address growing demand, interest, and collaboration with Nations across B.C.
- The COS currently has three positions to oversee First Nations outreach and initiatives throughout the province.

ORV Enforcement

- Conservation Officers were designated enforcement lead with respect to Off-Road Vehicle regulations, which were introduced in 2015.
- To support this change, four additional FTEs were provided to the COS in 2016 from the Ministry of Forests (FOR).

Caribou Motorized Area Closure Enforcement

- Conservation Officers have been tasked since the 2017/2018 fiscal year to enforce motorized recreation closure areas. This work spans six different regions of the province.
- The COS receives supplemental funding from the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship for additional helicopter and snowmobile patrols, but to date have not received additional FTEs for this added enforcement work.

- This year, the COS received an increase in funding to support the Peace- Liard region.

RANKS	
Chief	1
Deputy Chiefs	3
Inspectors	15
Corporals- SDTR (CO27)	2
Sergeant - Restorative Justice First Nations (CO 27)	2
Sergeants - Ops (CO30)	22
Sergeant - AIS (CO30)	3
Sergeant - Detective (CO30)	4
Sergeant - Detective (CO27)	2
Detectives (CO24)	12
COs (CO24)	104
TOTAL	170
Civilians	
Civilian TOTAL	31
COS TOTAL	201

**Staffing statistics as of Feb. 13, 2024*

Contact: CCO Cam Schley
Conservation Officer Service, 250-847-0432

ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division February 2024	COS Equipment Resourcing
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KEY FACTS

COS Capital Costs

Annual Amortization

- The annual amortization budget in FY23 for costs associated with the purchase of all capital equipment was: **\$316,000**
- This includes:
 - **\$17,959 per year** to pay for Conservation Officer Online Reporting system (COORS) database major improvements.

ENV Capital Group

- The COS participates annually with all other ENV divisions to discuss program needs and agree on the distribution of the yearly capital allotment for ENV.
- Generally, the ENV group receives an allotment in the **\$320,000** range. Items purchased through the ENV group require amortization over several years.

COS Future Capital Needs

- The COS tracks the status of all capital items and assesses them annually for age, condition, and maintenance costs.
- The COS is currently operating and maintaining some equipment that was purchased in the 1990's.
- The table below shows the current capital needs of the COS.

Capital Items Needed	Quantity
Snowmobiles	14
ATV's	18
Side by Sides	7
Bear Traps	34
Wildlife Decoys	24
Boats	14
Boat Motors	11
Trailers	14
E-Bikes	8
Surveillance Equipment	6
Storage Containers	5
Patrol Cabin	2
Winch	1

Table 1. Current COS capital needs.

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- As indicated above, the annual capital distribution for the entire ENV will not keep pace with replacing existing capital, let alone allowing the COS to plan for future technology requirements. The COS was allotted **\$190,000** in FY 23 for capital purchases.

Patrol Vehicles

- COS Patrol Vehicles are administered by CSNR Fleet Services and the ENV fleet maintenance account.
- These costs are taken off the top of ENV initial budgets by executive and the Financial Services Branch.
 - The 2023 cost to purchase and fully outfit a COS marked patrol vehicle is **\$124,542**, while unmarked patrol vehicles cost **\$118,452**.
 - This does not include the costs for mobile police and forestry VHF radios, which are capital purchases.
 - In 2021, the COS and Fleet Services procured a standing offer to outfit 60 patrol units in total over a four-year period, averaging 15 units per year. For FY23, 10 trucks will be completed and placed in service.
 - The COS has a current fleet of 159 units.

COS Information Systems & Technology User Costs

Officer-Required Databases and Safety Systems:

- RCMP Radio Tech User Agreement: **\$180,300**
- E-COMM in the Lower Mainland: **\$153,970**
- CREST South Vancouver Island: **\$19,857**
- InReach GPS tracking device user fees: **\$ 67,400**
- Satellite phones under a new three-year lease: **\$117,100 per year**
- SPOT GPS trackers: **\$5,000**
- Telus RAPP line fees: **\$3,000**
- Emergency Co-ordination Centre (ECC): **\$460,000** under a Service Level Agreement contract to perform call intake for violation reporting and human wildlife conflict (the RAPP line).
- **Total fees for 2023 \$1,006,627**

Officer Mobile Devices Technology Fees:

- Adobe subscription fees: **\$8,700 per year.**
- Other Data Operation Charges: **\$3,400 per year**
- Mobile Device Service Fees (MDMIntune) for email to all iPhones and iPads and rugged laptops: **\$28,200 per year.**
- TELUS/Rogers subscriptions and data fees: **\$138,000 per year.**
- **Total fees for 2023: \$178,300**

- **The total cost of all services in FY 23/24 is \$1,184,927 million.**

Contact: Chief Conservation Officer Cam Schley
Conservation Officer Service

ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Conservation and Recreation Division March 2024	COS Other Revenues
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KEY FACTS

Enhanced Service Agreements:

- **The Conservation Officer Service (COS) delivers additional compliance and enforcement services through partnerships with other agencies and stakeholders.**
- **These partnerships typically ‘enhance’ the level of baseline services historically provided or address new or emerging priorities that fall under the COS mandate.**
- **2011** - The COS entered into a partnership with the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK) to create an additional permanent CO to address environmental issues from recreational use in sensitive habitats. Funding was contributed from the RDEK, Columbia Basin Trust, and the municipalities of Fernie, Sparwood and Elkford.
- **2015** – The COS entered into a partnership with the Environmental Sustainability and Strategic Policy Division of ENV (now with the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship) to provide enhanced compliance and enforcement, as well as training support, to the Aquatic Invasive Mussel Defence program.
- **2020** - The COS entered into a partnership with the Halfway River First Nation (HRFN) to hire a CO to provide enhanced compliance and enforcement, as well as outreach services, in critical areas identified by the HRFN.
- **2022** – BC Hydro provided funding to hire a Conservation Officer for enhanced service delivery within the Site C footprint & Peace River watershed. CO work is directed by a joint board comprised of COS and Treaty 8 representatives.
- **2022** - District of Squamish - The COS dedicated additional resources to the proactive less lethal intervention of bears, as well as proactive attractant enforcement. Funding was used to hire a dedicated Wildlife Safety Response Officer.
- **2023** - Resort Municipality of Whistler - The COS dedicated additional resources to the proactive less lethal intervention of bears, as well as proactive attractant enforcement. Funding was used to hire a dedicated Wildlife Safety Response Officer.

- In addition, the COS enters into various smaller partnership agreements with other stakeholders to provide enhanced natural resource law enforcement and public safety services beyond its regular level of service.
- These various partnership agreements not only contribute to protecting the environment and the public, but they also enable citizens to easily recognize the COS as the primary natural resource law enforcement and public safety agency in B.C.
- The COS continues to explore new partnerships to work collaboratively to protect the environment and the public.

Initiative	2023 Value	Result
Regional District of North Okanagan - Enhanced boat safety enforcement	\$27,000	Boat patrols in 2023 resulted in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 158 Powered Vessels checked • 854 Non-Powered Vessels checked • 27 VT's issued • 570 warnings issued • 78 vessels ordered to shore
Regional District of East Kootenay - Enhanced access management enforcement	\$75,000	The COS dedicated .3 of an FTE to outreach, compliance and enforcement activities.
Resort Municipality of Whistler – Enhanced Bear Conflict Prevention and Response	\$45,000	The COS dedicated additional resources to the proactive less lethal intervention of bears, as well as proactive attractant enforcement. Funds were used for a dedicated Wildlife Safety Response Officer.
District of Squamish	\$45,000	The COS dedicated additional resources to the proactive less lethal intervention of bears, as well as proactive attractant enforcement. Funds were used for a dedicated Wildlife Safety Response Officer.
Halfway River First Nation - Full funding of a Conservation Officer	\$141,000	A Conservation Officer was hired in April 2020 to provide enhanced service delivery in critical areas identified by the Halfway River First Nation.
BC Hydro – Full funding of a Conservation Officer	\$251,067	A Conservation Officer was hired in July 2022 to provide enhanced service delivery within the Site C footprint & Peace River watershed. CO work is directed by a joint board comprised of COS and Treaty 8 representatives.
Provincial Caribou Recovery Program - Enhanced patrols and outreach	\$100,000 for four regions and \$280,000 for the Peace	23/24 – Enforcement patrols targeted priority non-motorized closure areas

Increased Patrols and Game Checks - Peace Region	\$75,000	WLRS funding to cover operational costs linked to expanded patrols and increased game checks.
Increased Patrols and Game Checks – Omineca Region	\$58,500	WLRS funding covered operational costs linked to increased patrols and game checks.
COS Reservists in Dease Lake	\$75,000	WLRS contributed funding for two CO reservists in Dease Lake for August and September, to cover expanded patrols and joint game checks with FN guardians and WLRS staff. WLRS also contributed \$20 K for costs to help rotate CO's through Atlin in Sept.

Contact: CCO Cam Schley
Conservation Officer Service, 250-847-0432

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Protection Division</p> <p>February 2024</p>	<p>Division Overview and Budget</p>
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KEY FACTS

Division Overview:

- **Our vision: A clean, safe, and resilient environment – today and always.**
- **Our branches: Environmental Monitoring and Analysis, Environmental Policy and Initiatives (formerly Environmental Standards), Environmental Emergencies, Authorizations and Remediation, Compliance and Environmental Enforcement.**
- **Our staff: +430 FTEs in 18 communities, 40% in Victoria.**
- **Our core functions:**
 - Regulating air, liquid, and solid waste in B.C.
 - Overseeing planning functions for municipal waste, airsheds, extended producer responsibility, and area-based water quality management (in South East BC currently).
 - Planning for, mitigating, responding to, and recovering from environmental emergencies or disasters to protect the welfare of the public and the environment.
 - Provincial contaminated site remediation services and regulatory oversight.
 - Regulating sale and use of pesticides.
 - Oversight of provincial recycling programs.
 - Oversight of economic stimulus programs and CleanBC funding programs.
 - Environmental monitoring, assessment, reporting, and management of provincial environmental data systems.
 - BC Environmental Laboratory.
 - Compliance and Enforcement.
- **Mandate commitments:**
 - Complete the CleanBC Plastics Action Plan and set a target date to phase out single-use plastics.
 - Deliver the first phase of B.C.'s new bonding policy toward ensuring owners of large industrial projects are bonded moving forward so that they – not British Columbians – pay the full costs of environmental cleanup if their projects are abandoned.

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Budget:

- **Our divisional operating working budget for 2023/24 is \$29.071 million.**

Environmental Protection Division (EPD) (in millions)	2023/24
EPD Division 2023/24 Operating Estimates Budget	\$24.977
Add: Internal Reallocation	\$4.094
Total Operating Working Budget for 2023/24	\$29.071

- The Estimates budget of \$24.977 million includes an overall increase of \$5.140 million compared to the previous fiscal year. The increase includes funding for Permitting (\$1.198 million), Shared Recovery Mandate (\$3.064 million) and Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy (CPAS) Funding (additional \$1.701 million, Budget 2022 decision). EPD's estimates budget was increased by \$4.094 million due to internal reallocations including \$5.478 million to reflect the Compliance and Enforcement reorganization in fiscal year 2022/23.

Achievements:

- **Environmental Standards Branch**
 - Public Interest Bonding Strategy
 - Plastics Action Plan
 - Clean Coast Clean Waters
 - Plastics Action Fund
- **Environmental Monitoring and Analysis Branch**
 - Environmental Monitoring Network Expansion
- **Environmental Emergencies and Land Remediation Branch**
 - Completion of Debris clean-up work (Anthropogenic and woody debris)
- **Compliance and Environmental Enforcement Branch 2023/24 (to February 29, 2024)**
 - Completed 732 Inspections under the Environmental Management Act (EMA) & Integrated Pest Management Act (IPMA), issued 62 final administrative penalties, and responded to 952 complaints with a 94% response rate within 7 days.

Contact: Laurel Nash, Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Protection Division, Phone # (250) 953-4004

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Protection Division</p> <p>February 2024</p>	<p>CleanBC Plastics Action Plan including Plastics Action Fund</p>
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KEY FACTS

British Columbians are concerned about plastic waste:

- **The CleanBC Plastics Action Plan supports government’s commitment to phase out single-use plastics and transition to a circular economy.**
- When the plan was put out for public engagement in 2019, it attracted over 35,000 survey responses; with 94% of survey participants reported being concerned about the problem of plastic waste.
- More recently, an independent poll of 1,000 Canadians conducted in January 2023 found that 80% of British Columbians expressed support for bans, and that 85% of British Columbians (up 9% from 2021) use reusable bags instead of plastic or paper.
- There have been many new actions to reduce plastic waste undertaken following the Plastics Action Plan:
 - Implementation of bans and phasing-out specific types of single-use packaging with the Single Use and Plastic Waste Prevention Regulation.
 - Requiring producers to take responsibility for more plastic products and implementing the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) 5-year action plan (2021-2026).
 - Creation and expansion of the Plastics Action Fund.
 - Creation and expansion of the Clean Coast Clean Waters Initiative.

Bans/Phasing-out single-use plastics:

- **Government has made the mandate commitment to “Complete the Plastics Action Plan and set a target date to phase out single-use plastics”.**
- **In July 2023, the Single-Use and Plastic Waste Prevention Regulation was announced to phase out single-use and plastic items in B.C.**
 - Effective December 20, 2023, the regulation bans the distribution of single-use plastic utensils and restricts the distribution of other disposable foodservice accessories (e.g., wood utensils, napkins, condiment sachets).
 - Effective July 15, 2024, the regulation bans single-use plastic checkout bags, with fees on new paper and reusable bag; restricts food service ware made from problematic plastics (i.e., polystyrene foam, PVC, PVDC, biodegradable plastic and compostable plastic); and bans all oxo-degradable plastic packaging.

- The bans on PVC film wrap and polystyrene foam meat trays come into effect July 1, 2028, and July 1, 2030, respectively.
- Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

- ENV has developed a range of communications materials to support businesses as they transition away from single-use and plastic items and will be undertaking a broad public education campaign Spring 2024. These are available at gov.bc.ca/reuse.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) 5-year action plan (2021-2026):

Through the CleanBC Plastics Action Plan and EPR 5-yr Action Plan engagement process, **local governments, Indigenous Communities, and a range of stakeholders expressed the need for better management of plastics, packaging, and paper products from the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector.**

- ENV has taken several actions toward a commitment of identifying a policy approach for these materials by 2025. This includes the creation of a working group to look at interim opportunities for rural and remote communities. **ENV is now developing a discussion paper for broad public engagement that is anticipated to be released in spring 2024.**

Clean Coast Clean Waters Initiative Fund:

The Clean Coast Clean Waters Initiative Fund (CCCW) is part of the StrongerBC economic recovery plan to create jobs, support coastal and Indigenous communities during the COVID-19 downturn, and remove plastics pollution and marine debris from our coastal ecosystems.

- **The project is the largest coastal clean-up in B.C.'s history; the Province has supported CCCW with \$49.83M in total.**
- **By the end of 2022, the CCCW:**
 - **removed more than 1,500 tonnes of debris, including more than 500 tonnes of derelict vessels (118 vessels);**
 - **recycled or upcycled 64% of material recovered from shoreline projects;**
 - **cleaned over 4,600 kilometres of shoreline; and**
 - **created over 1,700 well-paying jobs.**
- These figures will increase when the data from 2023 is compiled.

Plastics Action Fund:

- The CleanBC Plastics Action Fund, initially announced in 2020, is investing over \$40M over 5 years to support innovative plastic waste reduction projects.
- **The third phase of funding is currently open for applications with over \$20M available for projects in four funding categories:**
 - Post-consumer Recycled Plastics Processing and Manufacturing;
 - Circular Economy Innovation, including reduction of plastic waste through reuse and repair;
 - Indigenous-led projects to reduce plastic waste; and
 - Regional Plastics Innovation, supporting smaller start-up projects outside of the lower mainland.
- To date, the Fund has supported over 30 projects with businesses and Indigenous communities to reduce plastic waste, increasing B.C.'s capacity to process recycled plastics by an anticipated 38,000 tonnes annually and preventing an estimated 38 million single-use containers while creating over 240 direct, new, long-term, full-time jobs.
- Projects have included: increasing the amount of recycled plastics that can be recycled back into food-grade packaging; use of 100% post-consumer recycled plastics in packaging; increasing the processing and recycling of ocean plastics; and implementation of reusable take-out container services.

Contact: Sonya Sundberg, Executive Director, Environmental Standards
Environmental Protection Division, 778 698-4906

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Protection Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Neucel Former Mill Site, Port Alice & Quatsino First Nation</p>
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KEY FACTS

Background:

- **PricewaterhouseCoopers Ltd. (PwC) has been the receiver and trustee over Neucel Specialty Cellulose Ltd. (Neucel) since April 2020.**
- Neucel continues to exist as a legal entity and the 100-year-old pulp mill in Port Alice (the Site) remains private property.
- The Province is funding PwC's costs for stabilizing and decommissioning the Site through a contractual agreement. The agreement is being extended until May 31, 2024.
- The Environmental Emergencies and Land Remediation Branch (EELR) within the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV) has been the lead overseeing the contract with PwC.
- Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

-

Financial Implications:

- **By March 31, 2024, costs towards the Site paid by the Province are forecast to be \$116.38M.**
 - **From 2020 to the end of 2023/24 fiscal year, the Province is anticipated to pay the receiver (PwC) \$17.96 M in fees.**

- Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

-

- Although government has Table of Contentsed creditor under the bankruptcy

proceedings, the assets onsite will not be sufficient to cover the costs incurred.

Work Remaining/ Next Steps:

- **Most of the demolition of the former mill buildings will be completed by March 31, 2024.**
- **By the fiscal year end, outstanding work on Site will include the final closure of landfills and demolition of marine and wastewater infrastructure.**
- It is anticipated that ongoing long-term treatment of effluent will be needed.
 - A treatment plant was added in late 2023 to remove mercury from effluent.
- The Ministry of Water, Lands, and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) is actively engaging with Quatsino First Nation's (Quatsino) related their interests when the demolition and de-risking at the Site concludes, and the receiver is discharged.

Quatsino First Nation Interests:

- **Quatsino asserts Aboriginal rights and title in relation to the Site.**
- **Quatsino are concerned with possible contamination and have emphasized the need for an investigation.**
 - No contaminated site investigation has yet been undertaken and it is out of scope for ENV.
- **Quatsino would like joint decision making for decisions related to the Site.**
 - The Province and Quatsino have been drafting an engagement plan for Neucel operational decisions. This does not extend to future decisions beyond ENV's current scope, such as any future remediation.
 - Quatsino are undergoing internal studies to inform their input into future Site decisions, including remediation and future economic opportunities.
 - Quatsino are concerned that the Province's efforts at the Site will dwindle once the receiver's scope of work is complete.
- Quatsino would like improved economic benefits from current Site activities.

Cost Recovery (related to BC Green Caucus' Q3):

- In 2019 and 2020, numerous letters were sent to Neucel demanding payment of the spill prevention costs incurred, but there was no response to the letters. The parent company, Fulida Group, was also in insolvency proceedings in China.

Legal Information

Contact: Rod Allen, Acting Executive Director, Environmental Emergencies & Land Remediation Branch
Environmental Protection Division, 778-974-3731

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<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Strategic Services Division</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>Resourcing Permitting Solutioning</p>
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KEY FACTS

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy has benefitted from the government’s 2023 commitment of \$77 million dollars over 3 years to help speed up the permitting process for natural resource sector, as part of the Housing Action Task Force.

- **ENV has been allocated resources to help speed up the permitting process for the natural resource sector:**
 - For the 24/25 fiscal year, ENV received approval of \$5.922M (\$3.319M in base budget and \$2.603M additional approval) for approximately 25 new FTEs and digital systems work to support improved permitting processes.
 - This is an increase of \$3.278M from the FY23/24 allocation of \$2.807M.
- **ENV is working with WLRS to contribute to priority permitting initiatives like the Housing Action Task Force:**
 - Every re-development project occurring on former commercial or industrial lands in B.C. must receive approval from the Land Remediation Branch at ENV before proceeding, to ensure protection of human health and the environment.
 - In 2023, ENV completed 199 housing-related contaminated sites applications, representing at least 64,000 housing units.
 - New positions helped make progress on reducing the backlog of contaminated sites permit applications by 20% in 2023.
 - In the 24/25 fiscal year, ENV anticipates hiring 6 new positions to focus on certificates of remediation and improving the process and timelines associated with these permits.
 - These are incremental resources to the current 47 FTES permitting staff in the Land Remediation Section.
 - In the 23/24 fiscal year, ENV hired 12 new positions to focus on certificates of remediation and improving the process and timelines associated with these permits.
 - ENV also received in-year funding 22/23 to hire 12 new positions to work on permitting process for these permits (including those for housing development).
 - Recruitment and training will take time. The ministry will continue to assist clients to navigate challenges of increased service demand.
- **A number of changes have been released or are currently under development to improve processing timelines to support the Housing Action Task Force:**

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- ENV has launched a new digital application intake and information management system to streamline and automate many of the previous manual processing responsibilities within the Land Remediation Branch. The new system simplifies the application process and directs applicants to provide complete submissions.
 - Clarified roles and responsibilities for ENV and the Contaminated Sites Approved Professional Society of B.C..
 - Role-specific training materials for staff and qualified professionals who submit applications.
 - Reduction in the number of approvals needed prior to development.
 - Policy and operational procedure changes that streamline processes, focus on a cost recoverable polluter pay system, and align with new digital service products.
 - These steps will eliminate the backlog, with only newly submitted contaminated sites permit applications in line for processing by 2026.
- **ENV is also supporting the Connectivity Permitting pilot, to improve permit processing and decision timelines within B.C. Parks:**
 - Staff guidance on responding to referrals for projects overlapping with *Land Act* map reserves has been developed to support timely recommendations on referrals.
 - B.C. Parks has funded a new, temporary position to provide surge capacity, support and coordination for First Nations consultation on provincial priority projects. This position is also supporting existing operations staff with consultation training, guidance, and best practices.
 - A new, temporary management position is supporting coordination and application tracking for connectivity projects. It functions as the central point of contact for CITZ/WLRS staff on connectivity files and issues management.
 - Additional positions for the 24/25 fiscal year are proposed to increase surge capacity and application support for priority projects, with the overall goal of improving processing times for these projects without impacting other permitting work pressures.
 - **ENV is working with WLRS on prioritizing this broader work to help reform the system, so that it works better and faster, while maintaining B.C.'s high environmental standards.**

Contact: Amy Avila, Lead
Strategic Services Division, Phone 778 679 3522

EAO PROFILE

CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREAS / BUSINESS PROCESSES

Associate DM Responsible: Elenore Arend

Environmental Assessment Office

The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) is a neutrally administered agency of the provincial government, reporting to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV). The EAO partners with ENV on corporate administration and matters of mutual benefit, but has a separate mandate, budget (vote), and human resources authority. The EAO was established in 1995 to administer the *Environmental Assessment Act* (the Act) and its regulations.

The office's vision is delivering "Excellence in Environmental Assessment", and its mission is to "Inspire confidence through transparent regulatory oversight that protects the environment, fosters a sound economy, and advances Indigenous reconciliation." This is achieved through our highly skilled and supported team in an integrated and effective organization and through the application of timely and transparent regulatory oversight.

The office is comprised of 150 employees, with an operating budget of \$ 17,074 million for the 2024/2025 fiscal year. The EAO is led by Associate Deputy Minister, Elenore Arend, and is comprised of four divisions: the EA Operations Division, led by Assistant Deputy Minister Chris Trumpy, the Strategic Services and Compliance Division, led by Executive Director Julie Chace, the Corporate Services Division, led by Executive Director Mirella Standbridge, and the Communications & Engagement team, led by Executive Director Michelle Roberts.

Budget: \$ 17,074 million

Employees: 150

Related Legislation:

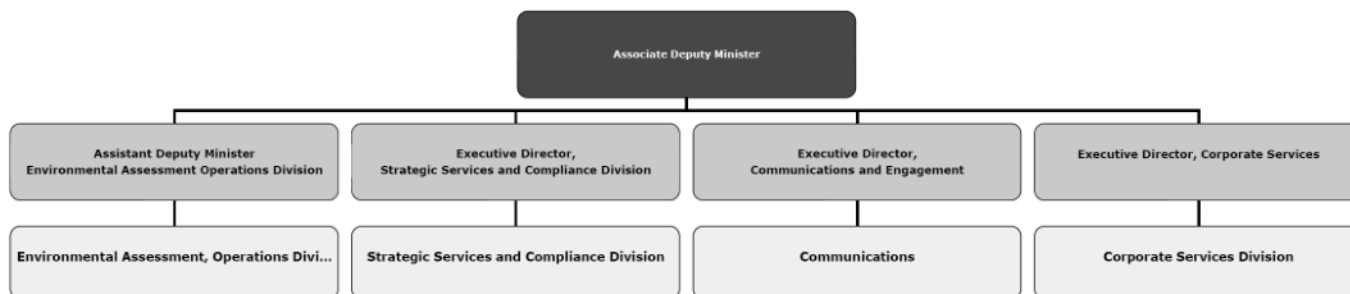
- *Environmental Assessment Act* 2002 and 2018
- Responsible Minister Order
- Reviewable Projects Regulation
- Reviewable Projects Transition Regulation
- Environmental Assessment Transition Regulation
- Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation
- Environmental Assessment Fees Regulation
- Conservation Officer Service Authority Regulation
- Natural Resource Officer Authority Regulation
- Protected Areas Regulation
- Administrative Penalties Regulation

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Regulations in development:

- Dispute Resolution Regulation
- Capacity Funding Regulation
- Regional/Strategic Environmental Assessment

Organizational Chart:



<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Assessment Office</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROJECTS</p>
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KEY FACTS

- Currently there are approximately 49 project/activities at various stages of the environmental assessment (EA) process. 21 of those are new major projects seeking EA certificates, 16 are seeking amendments to existing EA certificates, the other 12 projects are in post-certification activities, pre-EA, or designation/notification application review.
- The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) is also conducting an analysis of four designation requests that do not meet the threshold to be automatically reviewable.
- Of the 21 projects seeking EA certificates:
 - three are metal mining, four are coal mining,
 - one is industrial aggregates, three are transportation,
 - seven are energy,
 - two are non-metallic industrial manufacturing, and
 - one is waste management.
- 14 out of the 21 projects that are undergoing an EA represent an estimated \$21.5 billion in potential capital investment. This number will increase once capital investment estimates are provided by the remaining seven projects.
- EAO staff are currently reviewing one potential new EA project (Yellowhead Mine) which would be assessed under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018) if it formally enters the EA process. **No public announcements have been made on this project to date.**
- Three decisions have been made in since December 2022 under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (2002) including:
 - The Ministers granted a certificate on March 13, 2023, for the Cedar LNG project near Kitimat, British Columbia (B.C.)
 - The Ministers granted a certificate on September 28, 2023, for the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 project in Delta, B.C.
 - The Ministers decided not to issue a certificate on December 21, 2022, for the Sukunka Coal mine project on December 21, 2022.
- One decision was made in 2023 under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018):
 - The Ministers granted a certificate on October 10, 2023, for the Cariboo Gold Project in Wells, B.C.

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- In the past year (since December 2022), eleven amendments to existing certificates and four designation requests have received decisions.

BACKGROUND:

Below is a brief description of the Tilbury Marine Jetty project, which is with Ministers for decision on whether to grant an environmental assessment certificate.

Tilbury Marine Jetty

- Tilbury Jetty Limited Partnership (TJLP) (formerly WesPac Midstream—Vancouver LLC) proposes to develop a liquefied natural gas (LNG) marine jetty on the Fraser River, adjacent to FortisBC's existing Tilbury LNG Plant.
- The Tilbury Marine Jetty Project (TMJ) would include a dock and loading platform with a berth for docking a single barge or carrier for LNG loading. TMJ would provide LNG for both the local bunkering market, and for overseas export.
- On July 20, 2015, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change (MECC) approved the substitution of the EA process to the Province of British Columbia (B.C). The substituted process must meet the EA requirements of *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*.
- The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) accepted the Application for review on March 15, 2019.
- The initial scope of TMJ considered potential impacts from the proposed marine jetty at Tilbury Island to the marine pilot's station at Sand Heads, at the mouth of the Fraser River. On July 9, 2019, the federal MECC issued a decision to expand the scope of the Project to include marine shipping extended to the 12 nautical-mile limit of Canada's territorial sea.
- On August 6, 2019, at the request of TJLP, the EAO paused the 180-day Application Review to allow additional time for TJLP to conduct supplemental analysis on marine shipping to consider potential project-related effects with respect to the expanded scope. The EAO also issued a Section 13 Order to vary the procedural Order for the TMJ to reflect the scope change and additional Indigenous groups to be consulted with.
- On November 23, 2021, TJLP proposed additional analysis and consultation to address the potential for additional local bunkering traffic associated with TMJ compared to what was assessed in the Application. On December 2, 2021, the EAO issued a Section 24(4) order to extend the 180-day Application Review time limit to July 5, 2022.
- The EAO referred to provincial ministers for decision on October 11, 2022.

Appendix 1: Decisions

List of the Projects that have received Environmental Assessment Certificates since 2018

Project	Sector	Region	EAC Issuance Date
1. Cariboo Gold Project	Mines (Mineral)	Cariboo	10-October-2023
2. Roberts Bank Terminal 2	Transport (Railways)	Lower Mainland	28-September-2023
3. Cedar LNG	Energy (LNG Plant)	Skeena	13-March-2023
4. Vopak Pacific Canada	Energy (Storage Facility)	Skeena	20-April-2022
5. Blackwater Gold	Mines (Mineral)	Omineca	21-June-2019
6. Pattullo Bridge Replacement	Water (Shoreline)	Lower Mainland	29-April-2019
7. Revelstoke Generating Station Unit 6	Energy (Power Plant)	Kootenay	27-November-2018
8. Red Mountain Underground Gold	Mines (Mineral)	Skeena	05-October-2018
9. Burnco Aggregate	Mines (Gravel)	Lower Mainland	18-March-2018
10. Kootenay West Mine	Mines (Stone/Quarry)	Kootenay	24-January-2018

List of the Projects that have not received Environmental Assessment Certificates since 2018

1. Sukunka Coal Mine	Mines (Coal)	Peace	21-December-2022
2. Morrison Cooper/Gold	Mines (Mineral)	Skeena	07-February-2022

List of Amendments decided on in the last year (since December 2022):

EA Project	Request Type	Proponent	Sector
1. Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission	Typical Amendment	Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Limited	Energy
2. Site C Clean Energy	Typical Amendment	BC Hydro and Power Authority	Energy
3. Eagle Mountain – Woodfibre Gas Pipeline	Typical Amendment	FortisBC	Energy
4. Cedar LNG	Simple Amendment	Cedar LNG Partners LP	Energy
5. Red Chris Porphyry Copper-	Typical Amendment	Newcrest Red Chris	Metal Mining

Gold Mine		Mining Limited	
6. Woodfibre LNG	Typical Amendment	Woodfibre LNG General Partner Inc.	Energy
7. Eagle Mountain - Woodfibre Gas Pipeline	Typical Amendment #2	FortisBC	Energy
8. Line Creek Operations Phase II	Typical Amendment	Teck Coal Limited	Coal Mining
9. Line Creek Operations Phase II	Typical Amendment #2	Teck Coal Limited	Coal Mining
10. Mt. Milligan Copper-Gold	Typical Amendment	Thompson Creek Metals Company	Metal Mining
11. Baldy Ridge Extension – Harmer Relocation Project Utilities	Typical Amendment	Teck Coal Limited	Coal Mining

List of Designation Requests decided on in the last year (since December 2022)

EA Project	Request Type	Proponent	Sector
1. Bamberton Projects	Minister's Designation Request	Malahat Investment Corporation	Coal Mining
2. Copper Mountain New Ingerbelle Extension	Minister's Designation Request	Copper Mountain Mine (BC) Ltd.	Metal Mining
3. Big White Ski Resort Expansion	Minister's Designation Request	Big White Ski Resort	Resort
4. Masset Tank Fuel Storage Facility	Minister's Designation Request	North Arm Transportation Ltd.	Energy

Appendix 2: Active Projects

List of Active New Projects seeking Environmental Assessment Certificate

EA Project	Proponent	Sector
1. Angus	Vitreo Minerals Ltd.	Mining (Industrial Aggregates)
2. Aspen Solar and Energy Storage	Aspen BC Solar Project Limited Partnership	Energy
3. Chasm Solar and Energy Storage	Chasm BC Solar Project Limited Partnership	Energy
4. Coyote Hydrogen	Canada Fortescue Future Industries	Industrial

5. Crown Mountain Coking Coal	NWP Coal Canada Limited	Coal Mining
6. Delta Grinding Facility	Lehigh Hanson Materials Limited	Industrial
7. Eskay Creek Revitalization	Skeena Resources Limited	Metal Mining
8. Fording River Extension Project	Teck Coal Limited	Coal Mining
9. Fraser River Tunnel	Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure	Transportation
10. GCT Deltaport Expansion – Berth Four	GCT Canada Limited Partnership	Transportation
11. Highland Solar and Energy Storage	Highland BC Solar Project Limited Partnership	Energy
12. Highland Valley Copper – HVC 2040	Teck Highland Valley Copper Partnership	Metal Mining
13. Jordan Solar and Energy Storage	Jordan BC Solar Project Limited Partnership	Energy
14. Ksi Lisms LNG	Nisga'a Nation, Rockies LNG Limited Partnership and Western LNG LLC	Energy
15. Michel Coal	North Coal Limited	Coal Mining
16. New Polaris Gold Mine	Canagold Resources Ltd	Metal Mining
17. Summit Lake PG LNG	JX LNG Canada Ltd.	Energy (LNG Plant)
18. Tenas	Telkwa Coal Limited	Coal Mining
19. Tilbury Marine Jetty	Tilbury Jetty LP	Transportation
20. Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion	FortisBC	Energy
21. Wonowon Landfill	SECURE Energy Services Incorporated	Waste

List of Active Amendments

EA Project	Proponent	Sector
1. Basal Aquifer Dewatering (Highland Valley Copper)	Highland Valley Copper Corporation	Metal Mining
2. Brucejack Mine	Pretium Resources Inc.	Metal Mining
3. Cabin Gas Plant	Enbridge G&P Canada Limited Partnership	Energy
4. Cariboo Gold	Osisko Development Corp.	Metal Mining
5. Coastal Gas Link	Coastal GasLink Pipeline Limited	Energy

(Electrification)		
6. Coastal Gas Link (Racoon Lake)	Coastal GasLink Pipeline Limited	Energy
7. Galore Creek Copper-Gold Silver	Galore Creek Mining Corporation	Metal Mining
8. Kootenay West Mine	CertainTeed Canada Inc.	Mining
9. Line Creek Operations Phase II Boundary Extension for Powerline Corridor	Teck Coal Limited	Coal Mining
10. Mt Milligan	Thompson Creek Metals Company	Mining
11. Orca Sand and Gravel	Orca Sand and Gravel Limited	Gravel Mining
12. Prince Rupert Gas Transmission	Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Limited	Energy
13. Red Chris Porphyry Copper-Gold Mine	Newcrest Red Chris Mining Limited	Metal Mining
14. Trans Mountain Expansion – Kingsvale Power Line Removal	Trans Mountain Pipeline ULC	Energy
15. Vopak Pacific Canada	Vopak Development Canada Inc	Energy
16. Willow Creek	Conuma Coal Resources Limited	Coal Mining

List of Active Projects at other stages:

EA Project	Request Type	Proponent	Sector
1. Hartland Landfill	Minister's Designation Request	Capital Regional District	Waste Disposal
2. Timicw Good Earth Recycling Waste Facility	Minister's Designation Request	Bonaparte First Nation and 357999 BC Ltd.	Waste Disposal
3. Tranquille on the Lake	Minister's Designation Request	Ignition Tranquille Developments Ltd.	Resort
4. Zincton All Seasons Resort	Minister's Designation Request	Zincton Farms Ltd.	Resort
5. Mud Bay Nature-Based	Exemption Request	City of Surrey	Shoreline Modification

Foreshore Enhancement			
6. Sparwood Well #4	Exemption Request	City of Sparwood	Water Management
7. Silverberry Secure Landfill	Certificate Transfer	Tervita Corporation	Waste Management (Landfill)
8. Revelstoke Generating Station Unit 6	Extension Request	BC Hydro and Power Authority	Energy
9. City of Coquitlam Nixon Road Wells	Project Notification	City of Chilliwack	Groundwater
10. Record Ridge Industrial Mineral Mine	Project Notification	West High Yield Resources Ltd.	Mining (Quarry)
11. Sunshine Coast Regional District Ground Water	Project Notification	Sunshine Coast Regional District	Groundwater
12. Yellowhead Mine	Pre-EA	Taseko Mines Limited	Mining (Metal)

<p>ESTIMATES NOTE (2024) Confidential</p> <p>Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy Environmental Assessment Office</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>EAO Compliance and Enforcement</p>
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KEY FACTS

- Compliance and Enforcement is a key part of the statutory mandate of the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and is important for maintaining public and First Nation confidence in the environmental assessment process.
- The EAO works closely with provincial and federal agencies to coordinate compliance and enforcement oversight.
- The EAO's Compliance and Enforcement Officers have the authority to issue orders under the 2018 Environmental Assessment Act to prevent non-compliance, cease work or to remedy the adverse effects of non-compliances.
- The Act provides for the use of additional enforcement tools to address non-compliances, including issuing violation tickets, recommending prosecutions, and the option to recommend administrative monetary penalties to a statutory decision-maker.
- All inspection records and enforcement actions completed by compliance and enforcement staff are publicly posted on the EAO's website.
- Currently, key compliance and enforcement activities include compliance and enforcement oversight of the Site C, Coastal GasLink, Trans Mountain Expansion, LNG Canada, Woodfibre LNG, Eagle Mountain Gas Pipeline, and Pattullo Bridge Replacement projects, which are all currently under construction.

Background:

- In the spring of 2011, the EAO established a Compliance and Enforcement Branch (CEB). The Environmental Assessment Act (2018) provides modernized compliance and enforcement tools including new investigation authorities, violation tickets, prosecutions, and administrative monetary penalties. This brings the EAO CEB into alignment with other provincial natural resource agencies.
- CEB currently has twelve compliance and enforcement officers that are also delegated authority by the Chief Executive Assessment Officer to issue Orders to Prevent, Cease or Remedy under Section 53 of the Act. Having a range of enforcement tools available supports compliance and enforcement officers' ability to react in a timely and effective manner when faced with escalating incidents of non-compliance.

- In cases of non-compliance, EAO CEB determines what form of enforcement may be appropriate. The EAO Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Procedures provides guidance for officers when determining enforcement.
- CEB also conducts compliance and enforcement activity on projects that are or may be in violation of Section 6 of the Act, which requires Projects that meet the Reviewable Projects Regulation to obtain an Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) or Exemption Order before proceeding.
- In 2023, EAO CEB conducted 98 inspections and issued 30 notices of non-compliance, 13 warnings and 21 orders. Officers also prepared 12 administrative penalty packages for decision. EAO issued four administrative penalties in 2023 totaling \$559 600.
- EAO CEB continues to advance work with First Nations in the conduct of compliance and enforcement within their traditional territories. EAO CEB has developed policy to guide officers and First Nation regarding the opportunities and expectations for Indigenous attended inspections.
- EAO CEB retains an Indigenous Liaison Compliance and Enforcement Officer, who is tasked with proactively engaging with First Nations to determine their concerns regarding projects within their traditional territories that are regulated by the Act, facilitate First Nations representatives' attendance to inspections, and communicate with Nations regarding the results of inspections.
- The EAO operates the CEB in accordance with leading practices from other jurisdictions, and in coordination with ENV, FOR, EMLI and the BC Energy Regulator.
- In addition to joint inspections with provincial agencies, the EAO conducts periodic joint inspections with the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada.
- The EAO has publicly posted all inspection records and enforcement actions since 2016.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT **TIMELINES FOR ASSESSMENTS**

Key Messages:

- Our government is committed to regulating major projects in a way that promotes sustainability – protecting communities and the environment and ensuring good projects that create good jobs move ahead smoothly.
- Due diligence to properly assess major projects is critically important and carried out by a neutral regulatory body (EAO) operating at arms length.
- Our 2018 Environmental Assessment Act was designed to support more predictable, timely, robust assessments, and good decisions on projects.
- Legislated timelines help keep the process on track and create better certainty for all those participating in the process.
- The new early engagement phase at the start helps identify and address issues and concerns early on so they don't cause delays later – thorough planning and engagement with First Nations by proponents at this stage is key to keep timelines on track in the rest of the process.
- The complexity of the project and the quality of the proponent's planning, information and consultation affects how long an assessment takes.
- The first project to complete an assessment under the new Act, Cariboo Gold mine, completed the process in three and a half years.
- The EAO continues to prioritize timely processes - with final decisions made last year on three projects, eight amendments approved, and seven projects reviewed to determine if an assessment should be required.
- Provincial regulators in the natural resource sector are collaborating to coordinate their processes to enhance efficiency of major project reviews, and ensure they are well-resourced for projects of strategic importance.
- EAO is currently developing a suite of digital tools to streamline the considerable administrative process internally, which will help project assessment teams better track all elements of assessments.

If asked why some assessments progress faster than others...

- An environmental assessment requires extensive analysis of the environmental, health, cultural, social and economic effects of a project to inform the very important decision of whether or not a project is in the public interest. It's important that we do these assessments right.
- Multiple factors can impact timelines – proponent readiness and the depth of early engagement and relationship-building with First Nations, proponent changes to project design mid-way through an assessment, new legal jurisprudence on complex issues, and significant public interest.
- Meaningful engagement and relationship-building with First Nations and stakeholders even before entering the assessment process go a long way to avoiding delays later on.
- In addition, projects that align with provincial policy, strategy and direction are more likely to have more straightforward reviews and regulatory approvals.

Background

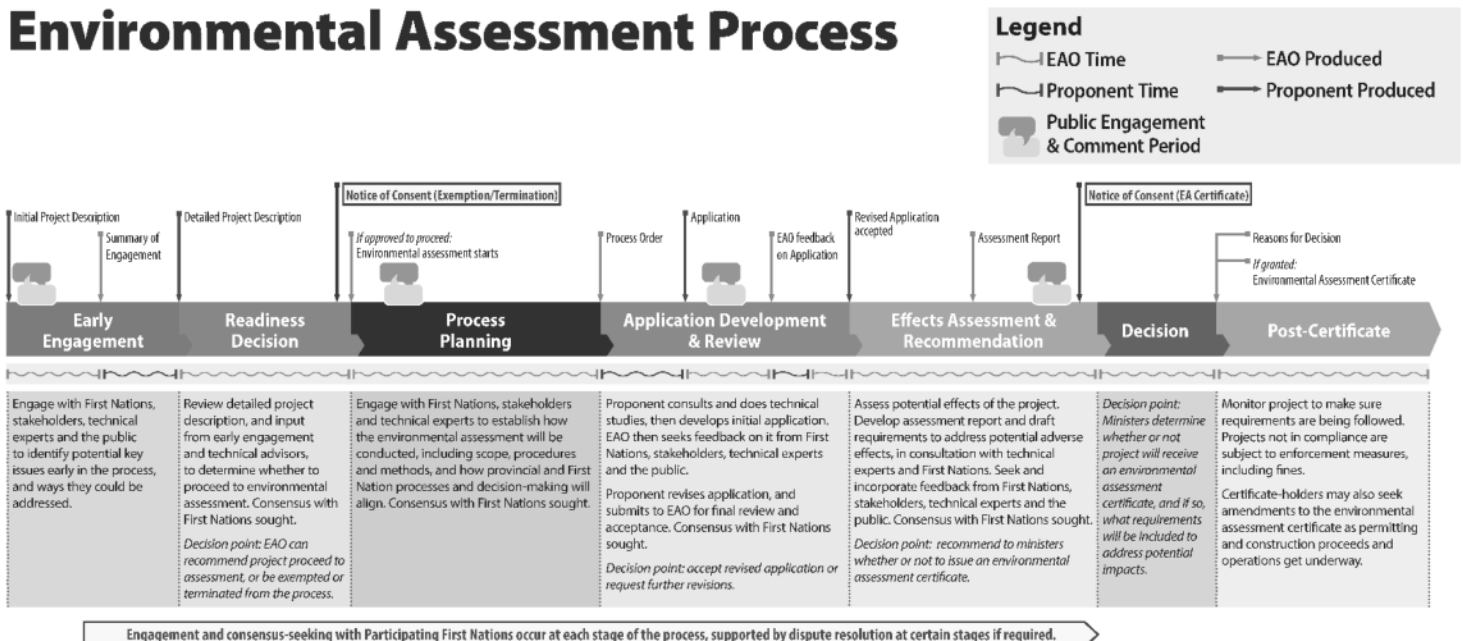
- The BC Environmental Assessment Act sets out legislated timelines to ensure certainty in each step of the assessment process. Timelines are applied to both government and proponents.
- Under the 2018 B.C. Environmental Assessment Act, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy or the Environmental Assessment Office may extend any time limit – which may be done for a variety of reasons, often proponent-drive or -requested.
- Legislated timelines in calendar days (not business days):
 - Early Engagement (first phase of the assessment process) - 90 days for the EAO to prepare a summary of what has been heard from the public, First Nations and stakeholders.
 - Process Planning (when the EAO works with First Nations and technical experts to develop the plan for the assessment – its scope, the information required, timelines, etc.) - 120 days to issue the process order.
 - Application Development and Review - 180 days for the EAO to review and provide a summary of issues and concerns raised during engagement on the proponent’s application for an environmental assessment certificate and any further instructions for revisions to the application).
 - Effects Assessment and Recommendation - 150 days for the EAO to develop its draft report on its assessment of the project’s impacts, and any mitigation measures recommended to address them.
 - Decision (whether or not to approve the project to proceed) – 30 days from when the EAO provides the two ministers with its final report and recommendations.
- The EAO may also suspend or extend a time limit during the application review for any of the following reasons:
 - The EAO requires the proponent to provide more information and it is the opinion of EAO staff that the request warrants additional time.
 - A required action has not been taken by the proponent.
 - The Minister of Environment is awaiting the outcome of an investigation, inquiry, or hearing considered to be relevant to the project review.
- In accordance with direction from the DM Solutions Project Board, EAO and other Natural Resource Sector ministries are coordinating respective processes to enhance efficiency of major project reviews, and to ensure that projects of strategic importance to the province are adequately resourced.
- In the mining sector, the EAO and the Major Mines Office (EMLI) work together on the prioritization of reviews, shared direction to proponents, and shared relationship-building with First Nations.
- The most common reason for a timeline suspension is a proponent requesting a delay of the referral for decision while any outstanding issues are finalized.

Advice/Recommendations

First environmental assessment under the new 2018 Act

- The first project entirely assessed under the new 2018 Environmental Assessment Act was the Cariboo Gold project, an underground gold mine in Wells, B.C. It received an environmental assessment certificate in October 2023.
- The Cariboo Gold assessment met all legislated timelines with two exceptions: the Early Engagement phase was extended by 21 days at the proponent’s request to allow additional public engagement after the COVID-19 pandemic was declared; and the Effects Assessment phase was extended by about four months at the proponent’s request to allow review of and an additional public comment period on project design changes. The proponent indicated that predictability of the process was improved by the Act.
- Several factors allowed the assessment to proceed fairly smoothly, including: the proponent engaging deeply with First Nations and hiring experienced consultants; a small number of First Nations involved (three), and First Nations being generally supportive of the project. The Deputy Ministers Mining Project Board also identified Cariboo Gold as a priority project, greatly improving the timeliness of provincial agency comments on the Application (technical advisor comments received 95% on time, compared to a 60% average for projects generally).
- The early identification of issues helped encourage the proponent in identifying additional mitigations and allowed the EAO to consult and gather information to better understand the issues.

Environmental Assessment Process



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