

MORE INFORMATION ON MEASURES TO PROTECT B.C.'S WATER, LAND AND AIR



We want your input

B.C. is renowned for its spectacular scenery and incredible natural environment. The province is working to protect and enhance this environmental legacy.

We're honouring our commitment to adopt a scientifically based, principled approach to environmental management that ensures sustainability, accountability and responsibility.

I welcome your input and invite you to contact me for more information on our measures to protect and enhance B.C.'s water, land and air resources.

Gordon Campbell
Premier

Send your comments to:

Premier Gordon Campbell
PO Box 9041, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E1

E-mail: premier@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
www.gov.bc.ca/wlap

BC Parks
www.bcparks.ca

Discover Camping
Vancouver: 604 689-9025
Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 689-9025
www.discovercamping.ca

Habitat Conservation Trust Fund
Victoria: 250 387-9853
Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 387-9853
www.hctf.ca

Conservation Officer Service
Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 663-9453 (WILD)
wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/eeeb

Provincial Emergency Program
Provincial Emergency Reporting: 1 800 663-3456
www.pep.bc.ca

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
www.gov.bc.ca/agf

Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C.
Victoria: 250 356-9126

Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management
www.gov.bc.ca/srm

Environmental Assessment Office
Victoria: 250 356-7479
www.eao.gov.bc.ca

Land and Water BC
Victoria: 250 952-6246
www.lwbc.bc.ca

Ministry of Forests
www.gov.bc.ca/for



A NEW ERA for B.C.'s WATER, LAND AND AIR

The province's vision includes a commitment to improve air quality, ensure safe drinking water and maintain healthy, sustainable communities and industries throughout British Columbia, for current and future generations.

Our priorities include:

- A scientifically based, principled approach to environmental management that ensures sustainability, accountability and responsibility.
- Science-based standards for environmental protection.
- Promoting clean and renewable alternative energy sources.
- A strong private-sector economy that maintains high environmental standards.



PROTECTING CLEAN AIR PROVINCEWIDE

To protect and enhance air quality in B.C., the province has:

- ▶ Strongly opposed the Sumas 2 power plant, to protect air quality, particularly in the Fraser Valley.
- ▶ Committed to be a partner in developing a new rapid transit line along one of the Lower Mainland's busiest corridors.
- ▶ Invested \$4.7 million in clean-energy and fuel-cell research over two years and, with the federal government, committed \$13 million to B.C.'s fuel-cell industry.
- ▶ Dedicated over \$300,000 to community-driven clean-air partnerships, to make our communities cleaner, healthier and safer.
- ▶ Improved B.C.'s air-quality monitoring and reporting, and is developing strategies to manage B.C.'s greenhouse gas emissions and air quality in threatened airsheds.

Investing in zero emissions technology



To support B.C.'s leadership in developing clean-air vehicles, the province has invested \$4.7 million in clean-energy and fuel-cell research.

ENSURING CLEAN, SAFE DRINKING WATER

To ensure safe drinking water, B.C. has:

- ▶ Introduced a comprehensive, \$16-million Drinking Water Action Plan to enhance testing and assessments, strengthen accountability and improve water management and delivery.
- ▶ Provided funding under the Canada-B.C. Infrastructure Program toward 68 water-related improvement projects valued at over \$332 million.
- ▶ Established a \$2-million Living Rivers trust fund.
- ▶ Improved our capacity for water-quality monitoring and reporting.

HARNESSING CLEAN ENERGY

The province is working to ensure clean energy sources play increasing roles in meeting B.C.'s growing energy needs.

- ▶ B.C.'s Energy Plan has set the target of producing 50 per cent of all new electricity through clean and renewable energy sources. It also encourages energy efficiency and conservation.
- ▶ To encourage development of B.C.'s vast reserves of clean-burning coalbed methane, the province has established a new royalty regime to help offset the cost of developing this resource.
- ▶ B.C. committed over \$13 million toward 28 "green" and six community infrastructure projects, including investments to improve the energy efficiency of local government facilities.
- ▶ Expansion of the used oil stewardship program means almost 20 million more litres of used oil and millions of used filters will be recycled in B.C.

STRONG, SCIENCE-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

In support of science-based, principled environmental management, B.C. has:

- ▶ Adopted a scientific approach to wildlife management and established local moratoriums where grizzly bear populations are endangered.
- ▶ Adopted a scientific approach to salmon aquaculture management, implementing the most comprehensive regulatory regime in the world.
- ▶ Continued to support wildlife habitat, through \$5.3 million in grants supporting fish and wildlife conservation projects across B.C.
- ▶ B.C. is working toward having an environmentally sound offshore oil and gas industry. A \$2-million grant to UNBC is supporting research on related scientific and socio-economic issues.

Sustainability of B.C.'s Number-One Industry



Beyond investing \$20 million a year in forest research, B.C. replants 200 million trees a year, ensuring the future of our forests.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LAND USE AND WILDLIFE PROTECTION

To ensure responsible stewardship of our lands and wildlife, the province has:

- ▶ Introduced a new Environmental Management Act that enables the establishment of clear environmental standards, with penalties for violators.
- ▶ Invested \$12 million a year in forest research to ensure B.C. remains a leader in sustainable forest management.
- ▶ Six land and resource management plans and three coastal plans underway or nearing completion. By late 2004, most of B.C. is expected to be covered by completed land-use plans.
- ▶ Enabled a new approach to contaminated sites legislation that will encourage redevelopment of abandoned lands, thereby creating new jobs and preserving green space.

PROTECTING MORE B.C. SPLENDOUR IN PARKS

To enhance the diversity of B.C.'s parks, the province has:

- ▶ Established the Southern Gulf Islands National Park with the federal government and provided \$25 million for parkland acquisition in the Gulf Islands.
- ▶ Protected Wakes Cove on Gabriola Island and the Texada Lands on Saltspring Island.
- ▶ Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the federal government to explore the potential for a new national park in the Okanagan and marine conservation areas to protect some of B.C.'s most valuable marine ecosystems.
- ▶ Begun work with communities to identify opportunities to increase tourism in, and public access to, parks.