



Toward 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada: Status and Next Steps



FPT Biodiversity Working Group
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Outline

- Context – Domestic and Global
- Canada's Draft Biodiversity Goals & Targets
- Next Steps



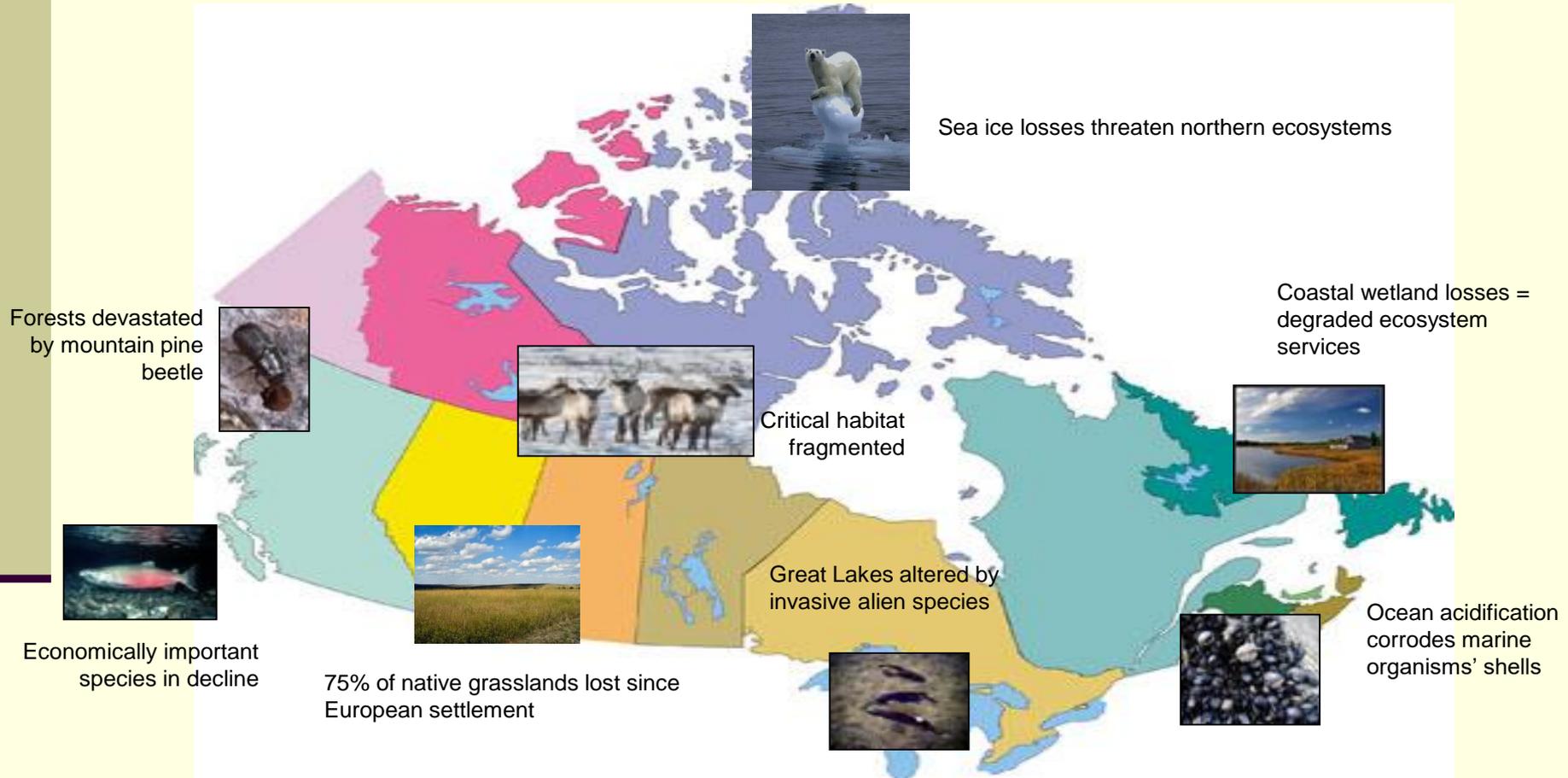
Biodiversity in Canada

- Canada's Share of Earth's Biodiversity:
 - World's longest coastline
 - 24% of the world's boreal forest
 - 15% of the world's temperate forest
 - 25% of the world's wetlands
 - 3rd largest area of glaciers in the world
- Canada's economic, environmental and human well-being depends on biodiversity
 - Basis for natural resource sectors, agriculture, ecotourism, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals
 - Source of employment, medicine and cultural value for Canadians
- While much of Canada's natural endowment remains healthy, pressures on Canada's species and ecosystems continue to increase

Source: Canadian biodiversity: ecosystem status and trends 2010



Issues and trends vary across Canada



The Shared Policy Foundation: Biodiversity Outcomes Framework for Canada

- Complements and builds on the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy (1995)
- Endorsed by federal, provincial and territorial ministers in 2006
- Provides the architecture for setting out domestic direction to 2020

What Conservation And Use Outcomes	Healthy and Diverse Ecosystems	Viable Populations of Species	Genetic Resources and Adaptive Potential	Sustainable Use of Biological Resources
Why Benefits For People	Clean air, water and soil and provision of ecological services essential for human well-being	Sustainable yield of food and fibre Cultural, aesthetic, spiritual and recreational values	New food varieties, pharmaceuticals, bioenergy Increased production, and resistance to pests and disease	Healthy, prosperous communities, sustainable livelihoods, traditional lifestyles
How Management Outcomes	Assess Plan Do Track	Research and information support planning and decision-making Biodiversity outcomes integrated into land, water and resource management plans in a participatory manner Informed and enabled implementation Monitoring and reporting systems support continuous improvement		



Global Context: The Convention on Biological Diversity 2011-2020 Strategic Plan

- In October 2010, Canada and other Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) agreed on the Convention's Strategic Plan for 2011-20
- Strategic Plan is a globally aspirational, flexible framework of goals and targets
- Success depends on contributions from all sectors, not just governments
- All Parties urged to:
 - Develop national biodiversity targets that are relevant domestically, using the Strategic Plan and its Aichi targets as a guide
 - Review, update and revise national biodiversity strategies and action plans as appropriate and report by COP 12



Developing Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets

- Biodiversity goals and targets are an important tool in advancing and promoting conservation in Canada
 - Focus on biodiversity priorities for Canada
 - Provide basis for measuring and reporting progress
- Identify specific, medium-term outcomes to support long-term outcomes of the Biodiversity Outcomes Framework
- Like many countries, draft goals and targets are informed and inspired by Aichi targets, tuned to Canada's unique context
- Specifics on how progress will be measured will be key
 - Indicators and data sources



Progress to Date

- Federal, provincial and territorial government working group developed initial draft 2020 biodiversity goals and targets, taking into consideration:
 - The state of Canada's biodiversity, trends, pressures and drivers
 - Existing plans, commitments and strategies at all levels
- Views and input on the draft goals and targets invited in August – September from Aboriginal organizations and stakeholders
 - Questionnaire; bilateral meetings; webinars
 - *See Annex for a summary of what we heard*
- Goals and targets recently updated in light of feedback to date



Draft Biodiversity Goals for Canada

By 2020...

- Goal A: Canada's lands and waters are planned and managed using an ecosystem approach to support biodiversity conservation outcomes at local, regional and national scales.
- Goal B: Direct and indirect pressures as well as cumulative effects on biodiversity are reduced, and production and consumption of Canada's biological resource are more sustainable.
- Goal C: Canadians have easy access to adequate and relevant information about biodiversity and ecosystem services to support conservation planning and decision-making.
- Goal D: Canadians are informed about the value of nature and more actively engaged in its stewardship.



Draft Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada

By 2020...

Goal A: Canada's lands and waters are planned and managed using an ecosystem approach to support biodiversity conservation outcomes at local, regional and national scales.

Target 1. At least 17 percent of terrestrial areas and inland water, and 10 percent of coastal and marine **areas, are conserved** through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

Target 2. **Species at risk** listed under federal law exhibit, at the time of reassessment, population and distribution trends that are consistent with achieving the objectives of existing federal recovery strategies.

Target 3. Canada's **wetlands** are conserved or enhanced to sustain their ecosystem services through retention, restoration and management activities.

Target 4. Biodiversity considerations are integrated into **municipal** planning and activities of major municipalities across Canada.

Target 5. The ability of Canadian ecological systems to **adapt to climate change** is better understood, and priority adaptation measures are underway.



Draft Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada (cont'd)

By 2020...

Goal B: Direct and indirect pressures as well as cumulative effects on biodiversity are reduced, and production and consumption of Canada's biological resource are more sustainable.

Target 6. Continued progress is made on the sustainable management of Canada's **forests**.

Target 7. **Agricultural working landscapes** provide a stable or improved level of biodiversity and habitat capacity.

Target 8. **Aquaculture** management promotes the sustainable use of aquatic resources (including marine, freshwater and land-based) in ways that conserve biodiversity.

Target 9. All **fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants** are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem-based approaches.

Target 10. **Nutrient** levels are stabilized or reduced in lakes of the major drainage areas of Canada.

Target 11. Pathways of **invasive alien species** introductions are identified, and risk-based intervention plans are in place for priority pathways and species.

Target 12. **Innovative mechanisms** for fostering the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied.



Draft Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada (cont'd)

By 2020...

Goal C: Canadians have easy access to adequate and relevant information about biodiversity and ecosystem services to support conservation planning and decision-making.

Target 13. The **science base** for biodiversity is enhanced and **knowledge** of biodiversity, including traditional and community knowledge, is better integrated and more accessible.

Target 14. Canada has a comprehensive **inventory of protected spaces** that includes private conservation areas.

Target 15. Measures of **natural capital** related to biodiversity and ecosystem services are developed on a national scale, and progress is made in integrating them into Canada's national statistical system.



Draft Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada (cont'd)

By 2020...

Goal D: Canadians are informed about the value of nature and more actively engaged in its stewardship.

Target 16. Biodiversity is integrated into elementary and secondary school **curricula**.

Target 17. More Canadians **participate** in biodiversity conservation activities.



Next Steps

- Identify and select appropriate indicators that will allow Canada to track and report on progress against updated targets
 - Details on possible indicators help provide specificity (see supporting documents)
- Finalize Canada's 2020 biodiversity goals, targets and the related indicators between now and summer 2013
- Report on domestic goals, targets and indicators in Canada's 5th National Report to the CBD in March 2014



Questions...

- Are the possible indicators outlined in the supporting documents the best available for capturing progress towards the corresponding biodiversity targets?
 - Should any of the identified indicators *not* be used? If so, on what grounds should the indicator(s) in question be excluded, and what would be an appropriate alternative?
 - Are there other relevant, existing indicators, data sets, and/or measurement programs that should be considered when reporting progress towards Canada's biodiversity targets?
- What ongoing or planned initiatives are you aware of that support the proposed goals and targets and could be showcased (for example, in Canada's National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity)?



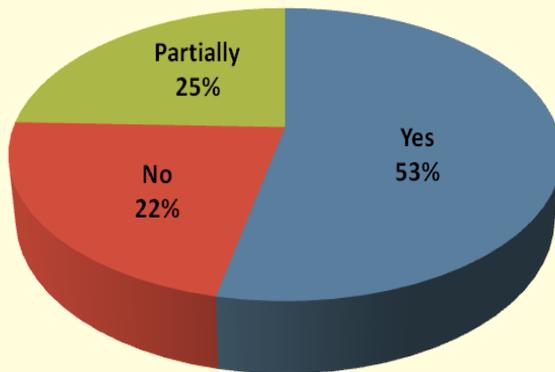
For more information, contact:
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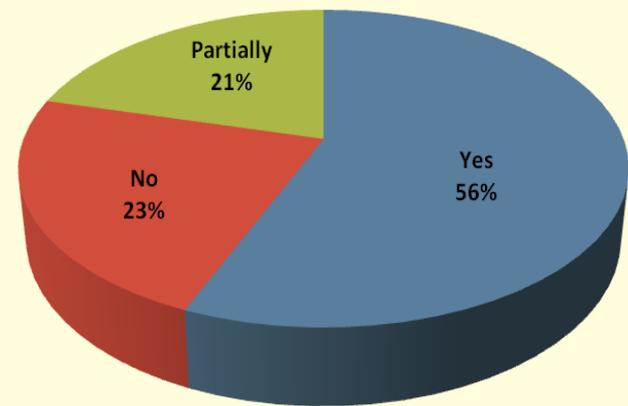
ANNEX: Overview of Responses

- ~75% of questionnaire respondents answered “yes” or “partially” to the following questions:

Question 1 - Do the proposed goals and targets adequately reflect the most important priorities and opportunities on which Canada should act to conserve biodiversity?



Question 2 - Do these proposed targets meet the criteria of being “ambitious but achievable”?



ANNEX:

What We Heard: General Comments

- **Comments expressing support and interest in engagement**
 - Broad support for a strong Canadian biodiversity strategy involving all sectors of society
 - Preference for earlier and more fulsome engagement, particularly with Aboriginal peoples

- **Comments suggesting need for greater specificity and detail**
 - Goals and targets not specific enough and therefore lack accountability
 - Greater specificity in the target language as well as information on implementation, including metrics for measuring progress, is required

- **Comments suggesting need to fill gaps**
 - Certain key elements important for effective biodiversity conservation are missing
 - Goals and targets should more precisely mirror global Strategic Plan (Aichi Targets)

