

# Ministry of Environment



## Plan for 2019-20

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# Statement from the Minister



*The Honourable  
Dustin Duncan*

*Minister of Environment*

Each year, the Ministry of Environment produces an annual plan that directs its work for the upcoming year and confirms its commitments to the people of Saskatchewan. I am pleased to present the Ministry of Environment Plan for 2019-20.

Government Direction and Budget for 2019-20 is focused on *The Right Balance* for Saskatchewan. We're returning to a balanced budget with sound fiscal management while keeping taxes low, supporting economic growth and ensuring quality government programs and services for people and businesses in Saskatchewan.

The Ministry of Environment continues to ensure the environment is protected, communities are safe and economic growth is balanced with environmental health. The 2019-20 plan describes how the ministry will manage and protect Saskatchewan's environment, and outlines the programs that will bring these goals to life.

# Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to having *The Right Balance*. We will continue to carefully manage spending and focus on government priorities, such as competitive taxes, investments in economic growth and providing programs and services that meet the needs of Saskatchewan people and businesses.

**Saskatchewan's Vision**

*"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."*

**Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people**

**Meeting the challenges of growth**

**Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people**

**Delivering responsive and responsible government**

Saskatchewan's Vision and goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and partners to align their programs and services and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's residents.

All organizations will report on progress in their 2019-20 annual reports.

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Plan for 2019-20

# Operational Plan

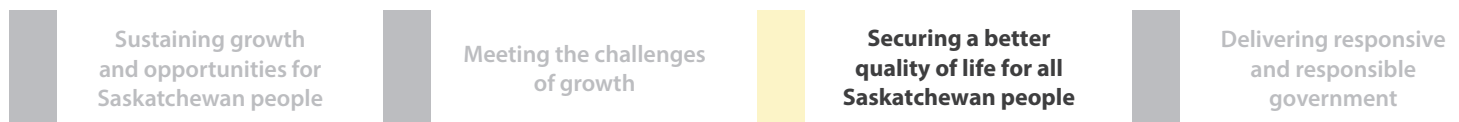
## Mandate Statement

The Ministry of Environment's role is to manage the health of Saskatchewan's environment in a respectful, responsible and enforceable manner that balances growth with sustainable development through objective, transparent and informed decision-making and stewardship.

## Mission Statement

We manage and protect Saskatchewan's environment for the well-being of the province and its people.

## Government Goals



Strategic priority: Protecting Saskatchewan's environment

## Ministry Goal

Safe communities and a healthy environment protected from adverse environmental impacts

## Strategy

Ensure all communities have solid waste management solutions in place.

### Key Actions

- Implement a solid waste management strategy.
- Implement a new fee structure for the Multi-Material Recycling Program.
- Develop and implement a household hazardous waste program.

## Strategy

Identify, prevent and mitigate risks to human health and safety.

### Key Actions

- Build community resilience to wildfires by undertaking mitigation projects for at-risk communities.
- Transition wildfire management responsibilities to the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency, after the 2019 wildfire season.
- Work with the ministries of Agriculture and Health to identify and respond to risks to human health as a result of diseases from insects and wildlife.
- Ensure contaminated sites are safely managed and remediated.



## Strategy

5a) The Government of Saskatchewan will work with the provinces and territories to develop a national strategy for the management of contaminated sites.

## Key Actions

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## Performance Measures

- Number of communities participating in the Multi-Material Recycling Program.
- Number of community wildfire mitigation projects initiated.
- Percentage of legacy contaminated sites reviewed and rated using the National Classification System for Contaminated Sites.
- 25 indicators in the *Saskatchewan Climate Resilience Measurement Framework*, to measure progress in the face of changing global climate.



## Government Goals

Sustaining growth  
and opportunities for  
Saskatchewan people

Meeting the  
challenges of growth

Securing a better  
quality of life for all  
Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive  
and responsible  
government

Strategic Priority: Advancing Saskatchewan's natural resource strengths balancing protection and development

## Ministry Goal

Productive, resilient and biologically diverse landscapes

### Strategy

Conduct and use cumulative effects analysis to inform decision-making.

### Key Actions

- Develop and implement an invasive species and insect and disease management framework.
- Begin work on a habitat management plan to guide habitat conservation while supporting responsible development.
- Implement recommendations from the land use planning review.

### Strategy

Work with our partners to develop and implement programs and policies to protect the province's biodiversity.

### Key Actions

- Ensure natural and commercially forested lands are managed in a manner that enhances the removal and storage of carbon from the atmosphere while allowing for sustainable harvesting, respecting normal forest cycles and fire preparedness.
- Develop and implement landscape-based plans for maintaining and recovering species at risk.

## Performance Measures

- Number of road/trail permits approved with reforestation requirements.





## Government Goals

Sustaining growth  
and opportunities for  
Saskatchewan people

Meeting the  
challenges of growth

Securing a better  
quality of life for all  
Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive  
and responsible  
government

Strategic Priority: Comprehensive, clear and transparent regulation and enforcement

## Ministry Goal

Knowledgeable, compliant and engaged regulated communities

## Strategy

Collaboratively design and implement regulatory tools and processes to enhance environmental outcomes.

## Key Actions

- Implement new Environmental Code chapters.
- Review and co-ordinate environmental assessment requirements with the federal environmental assessment framework to ensure Saskatchewan's interests are considered.
- Implement and co-ordinate a regulatory framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Refresh the ministry compliance framework.

## Performance Measures

- Number of new or revised results-based regulations, code chapters, standards and policies.
- Changes in intensity in provincial greenhouse gas emissions.





## Government Goals



Strategic priority: Engaged and high-performing organization

## Ministry Goal

A high-performing organization committed to excellence

## Strategy

Proactively build strong, collaborative relationships with First Nations and Métis communities and organizations.

### Key Actions

- Customize an Indigenous engagement framework.
- Ensure relevant ongoing learning for staff.

## Strategy

Increase client satisfaction through improved service.

### Key Actions

- Develop and use strategic, collaborative and co-ordinated approaches to better ensure success for external ministry engagement initiatives.
- Enhance government and public use of geomatics data for decisions related to land use.
- Examine opportunities to improve online business services.
- Publish the *State of the Environment 2019: A Focus on Forests* online.

## Strategy

Foster a positive culture that reflects the Saskatchewan Public Service core values.

### Key Actions

- Ensure internal committees have work plans that champion accountability, innovation and safety.
- Maintain corporate knowledge and address changing workforce needs through professional development, mentoring, succession planning and hiring practices.
- Identify and implement actions to promote the objectives of a Mission Zero workplace.
- Maintain mental health and well-being plans that address the National Standard of Canada for Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace and Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) response.

## Performance Measures

- Number of publicly accessible online map services published by Environment.
- Number of publicly downloadable spatial datasets published by Environment.

# Highlights

## 2019-20 budget highlights:

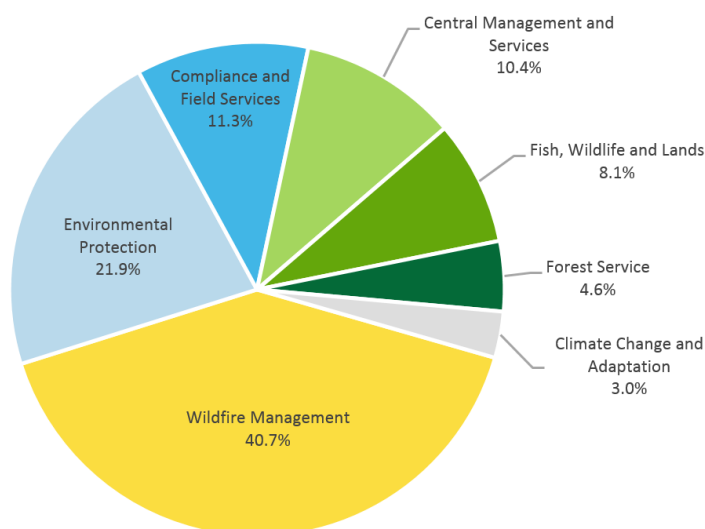
- The ministry's proposed budget for 2019-20 includes a 9.1 per cent funding increase for SARCAN Recycling, which is directly related to environmental handling charge revenue from 2017-18.
- The budget provides \$846,000 to support the ministry's conservation officer service in its role as part of the province's new Protection and Response Team.
- The budget will continue to focus on public safety and property protection by investing up to \$2.85 million in wildfire mitigation programming, an increase of \$2.55 million.
- The woodland caribou initiative will receive \$1.42 million, an increase of \$750,000.
- The budget includes \$2 million in new funding for incentives associated with SaskPower's Net Metering program.
- The 2019-20 budget includes \$9.252 million towards the purchase of a CL215T air tanker.

# Financial Summary

2019-20 Estimates	(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	18,237
Climate Change and Adaptation	5,313
Fish, Wildlife and Lands	14,333
Compliance and Field Services	19,823
Environmental Protection	38,599
Forest Service	8,069
Wildfire Management	71,624
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>175,998</b>
Remediation of Contaminated Sites	(100)
Capital Asset Acquisitions	(17,333)
Capital Asset Amortization	12,212
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>170,777</b>

For further financial information, see the Budget Estimates at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget>

Ministry of Environment Budget 2019-20



## For More Information

Please visit the ministry's website at: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/environment>