

Intergovernmental Collaboration Across Western Canada at PNWER



2019 Summit – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Inter-Provincial-Territorial Agreement for Coordinated Regional Defense Against Invasive Species

Manitoba

Saskatchewan

Alberta

British Columbia

Yukon

Northwest Territories (potential for 2019)

Inter-Provincial-Territorial Agreement for Coordinated Regional Defense Against Invasive Species

A framework for collaboration for all invasive species that addresses:

- ✓ Preventing the spread of known invasive species
- ✓ Control or management options to reduce or eliminate invasive species
- ✓ Identification of new or emerging invasive species

Inter-Provincial-Territorial Agreement for Coordinated Regional Defense Against Invasive Species

Scope:

- All invasive species that have or are at risk of migrating into the jurisdiction of any of the Parties
- Not intended to duplicate or replace any existing programs/agreements
- Focus: aquatic invasive species (zebra and quagga mussels in particular)

We jointly recognize :

- The negative impacts on biodiversity, infrastructure, economic activity, recreational pursuits, and cultural and social values
- The desire to broaden existing collaborations
- The presence of invasive species to varying degrees in respective and neighbouring jurisdictions
- That cross border activities place jurisdictions at increase risk of the introduction to additional invasive species
- That collaborative efforts add value to enable each jurisdiction in ensuring environmental protection
- That specific efforts to address aquatic invasive species is a priority to prevent further spread

Governance

Western Agreement enables collaboration

- Brings jurisdictions with decision making authority together to find common ground and ensure Western alignment when possible
- Ministerial level support for collaboration on AIS prevention

Individual Provinces/Territories maintain ultimate decision making authorities

- Enabled through legislation in each Province/Territory

Individual Provinces/Territories champion stakeholder collaboration

- Stakeholder priorities and opportunities for collaboration are coordinated within each individual jurisdiction

2019-20 Key Priorities

Prevention

- Promote appropriate aquatic invasive species prevention messaging
- Coordinate watercraft inspection programs
- Improve Early Detection and Rapid Response Planning/Capacity
- Identify and address high risk species pathways

2019-20 Key Priorities (continued)

Engagement and Partnerships

- Collaboratively engage with federal government to ensure their response to the recent Office of the Auditor General report is informed by the needs of western Canada
- Work with Pest Management Regulatory Agency to expand control options for AIS
 - Control option for zebra and quagga mussels is the top priority
- Continued communication of western Canada priorities with all regional, national and international partners.
- Collaboratively work with nationally and regionally focused, organizations looking to support the priorities of western Canada provinces and territories