# A Decade of Working Together on Conservation & Sustainable Use of Canada's Natural Assets

Naturally Connecting Canadians

A Federal-Provincial-Territorial Initiative

- CBS endorsed by FPT Ministers in April 1996
- Federal, provincial, territorial and sectoral strategies and action plans
- First Joint Meeting of Ministers identifies cross-cutting biodiversity priorities – 2001
- Canada's Stewardship Agenda 2003
- Invasive Alien Species Strategy 2004
- Request to Develop Biodiversity Outcomes Framework - 2005

## In March Stakeholders Provided Advice on Strategic Directions & Key Outcome Areas

- Expand from species and protected areas focus to ecosystem-based focus
- Valuation of biodiversity and Natural Capital Accounting
- Integrated and Adaptive Planning and Management supported by enhanced science & information
- New governance arrangements that engage civil society in planning, delivery, monitoring, reporting and assessment
- Nationally coordinated status and trends and performance-based monitoring and reporting

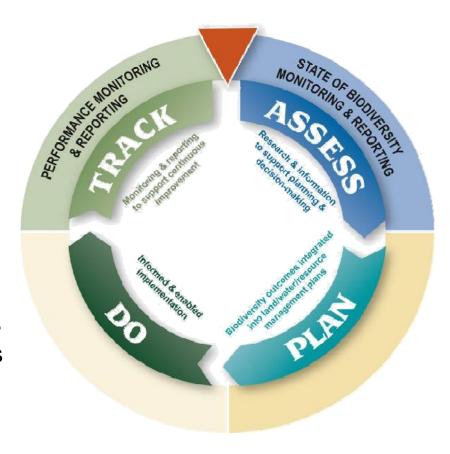
#### Key Enabling Elements Needed to Achieve Biodiversity Outcomes within an ecosystem and adaptive management approach

Assess: Science and Information to Support Integrated Planning and Priority Setting

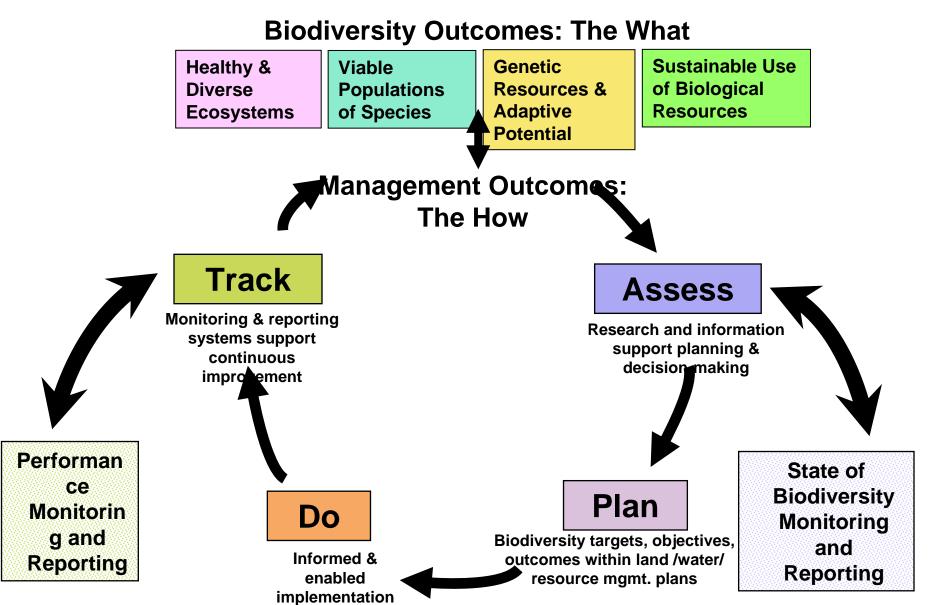
**Plan:** Governance to support a synergistic and syndicated approach

**Do:** Targeted and sustained communications and engagement

**Track:** Long term commitment, networks and systems to monitor and report changes and progress

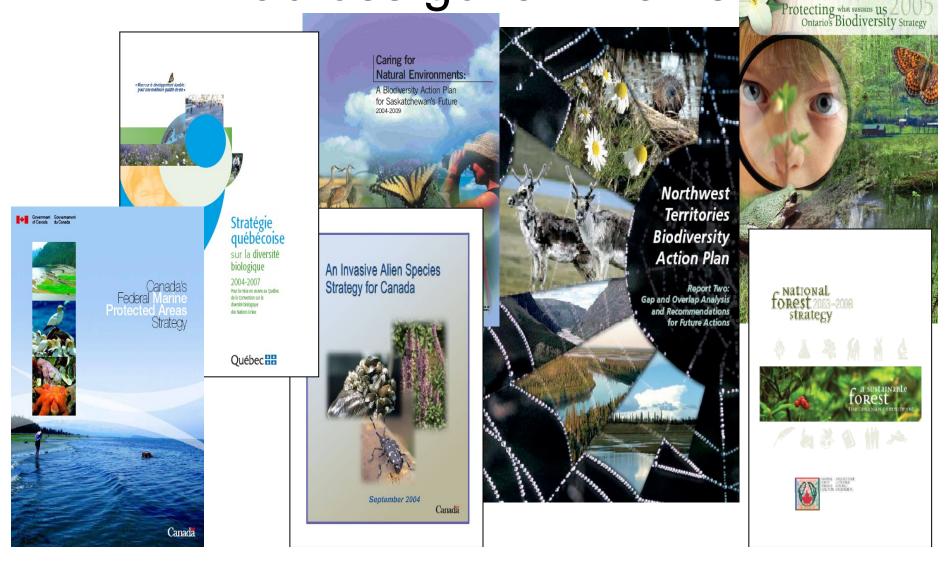


### The framework takes an, iterative, adaptive mgmt. approach - continuous feedback and improvement



The framework can be used to connect plans and achievements

across governments



## New tools and initiatives related to biodiversity science and information

- Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Program
- Landscape modeling, visualization & prediction
- GEOSS
- Citizen science (e.g., EMAN)
- Census of Marine Life
- CBD indicators (e.g., Trophic Index)
- Canadian Biodiversity Index
- Gap Analysis (protected area networks)
- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
- Taxonomy initiatives GBIF, DNA barcoding

## ASSESS - Biodiversity Information: many initiatives but limited inter-operability

#### <u>International</u>

- CBD's Clearing-house Mechanism
- Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)
- Ocean Biogeographic Information System
- Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS)
- NatureServe International
- BarCode of Life

#### Canadian

- Federal Biodiversity Information Partnership
- NatureServe Canada and CDCs
- Canadian Bird Trends database
- RESEAU
- National Forest Information System
- National Land and Water Information System
- Canadian Conservation Areas Database (CCAD)
- Conservation Areas Reporting and Tracking System (CARTS)

#### **Proposed Thematic Areas**

- Place-based (Integrated Landscape Management, Protected Areas)
- Species-based
- Genetic Resources, Access and Benefit Sharing
- Sector-based (Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Mining, Oil and Gas, Tourism)
- Climate Change and Biodiversity
- Invasive Alien Species
- Valuing Ecosystem Goods and Services
- Citizen Engagement and Stewardship
- Aboriginal Issues and Traditional Knowledge
- Science and Information
- Monitoring, Indicators and Reporting
- Governance and Institutional Reform

## Track- Unable to <u>report</u> on state of Canada's biodiversity in a comprehensive way

#### Recent International Reports have heightened awareness of biodiversity loss and its impact on people

 Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005; Global Biodiversity Outlook 2; Living Planet Index etc.

#### Biodiversity Reporting in Canada predominantly focused on Wildlife/Species at Risk

 Wild Species 2005; population status of Migratory Game Birds; COSEWIC; environmental signals

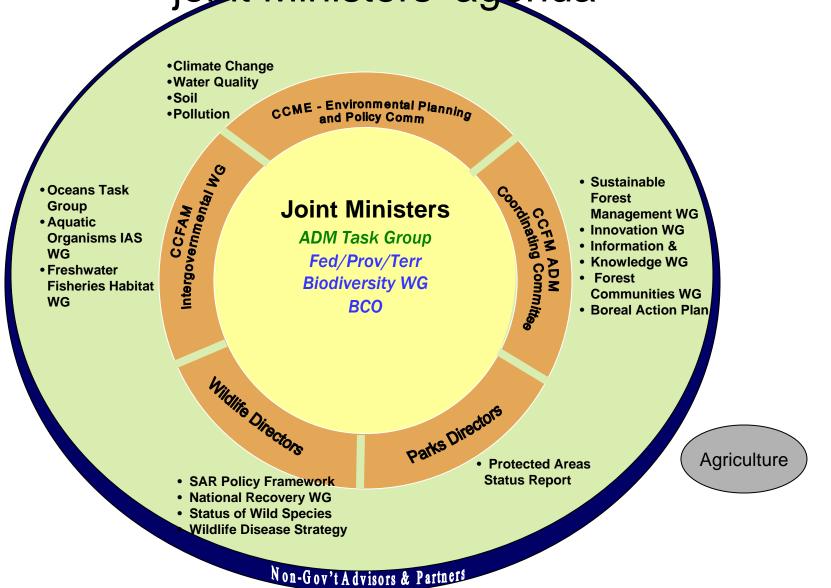
#### Some ecosystem assessments but national picture incomplete

- Ecosystem Based: The Boreal In the Balance, 2005; Status of Protected Areas 2006; State of Canada's Forests, 2005-2006
- Watershed Based:
  - Mackenzie River Basin State of Aquatic Ecosystem Report, 2005
  - Great Lakes State of the Environment 2006 in process
  - St. Lawrence River Monitoring and Reporting 2003
  - Georgia Basin/Puget Sound 2006 in process

#### **Performance Reporting**

Canada's 4<sup>th</sup> National Report due in 2009

## PLAN - Governance: Needs to support integrated joint Ministers' agenda



## And create a linkage with the plans and priorities of a wide range of partners......

