

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment

Fish, Wildlife and Lands Branch

Sustainable Development Unit



Sustainable Development Unit

Overview of the role of the Ecological Protection Specialists (EPS) and the permitting process:

- Who we are
- Where we are
- What we do
- Permitting
- DTC and Engagement
- Current Action Items
- How we do it



Who We Are

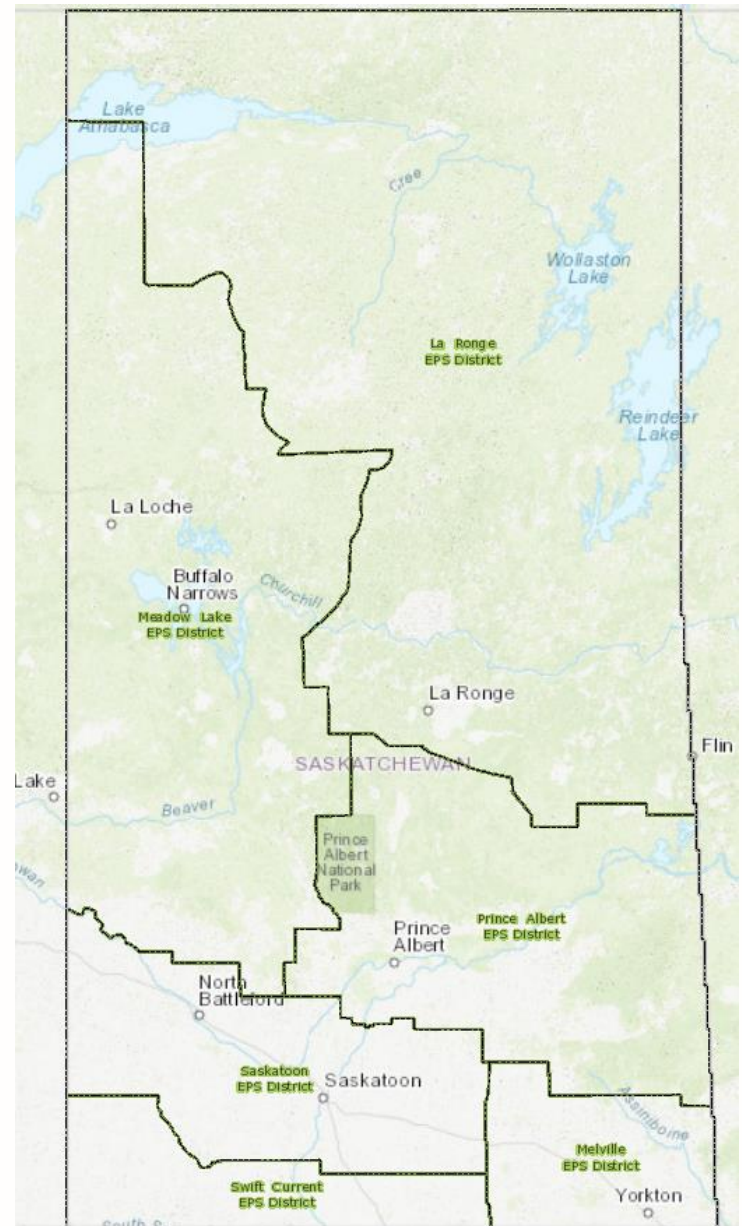
Sustainable Development Unit Manager - Tracey Charabin

Ecological Protection Specialists (EPS)

Matthew Tokaruk	- Prince Albert
Shannon Munroe	- Prince Albert
Rayelle Schamber-Brown	- Meadow Lake
Natasha Hirschfeld	- Meadow Lake
Andy Cook	- Regina
Ed Gee	- Regina
Andrew Rempel	- Saskatoon
Ken Dillabaugh	- Swift Current
Janna White	- Swift Current
Courtney Trudeau	- Swift Current



Where We Are



What We Do

The Sustainable Development Unit is responsible for leading Environment's response to the complex and growing demands associated with:

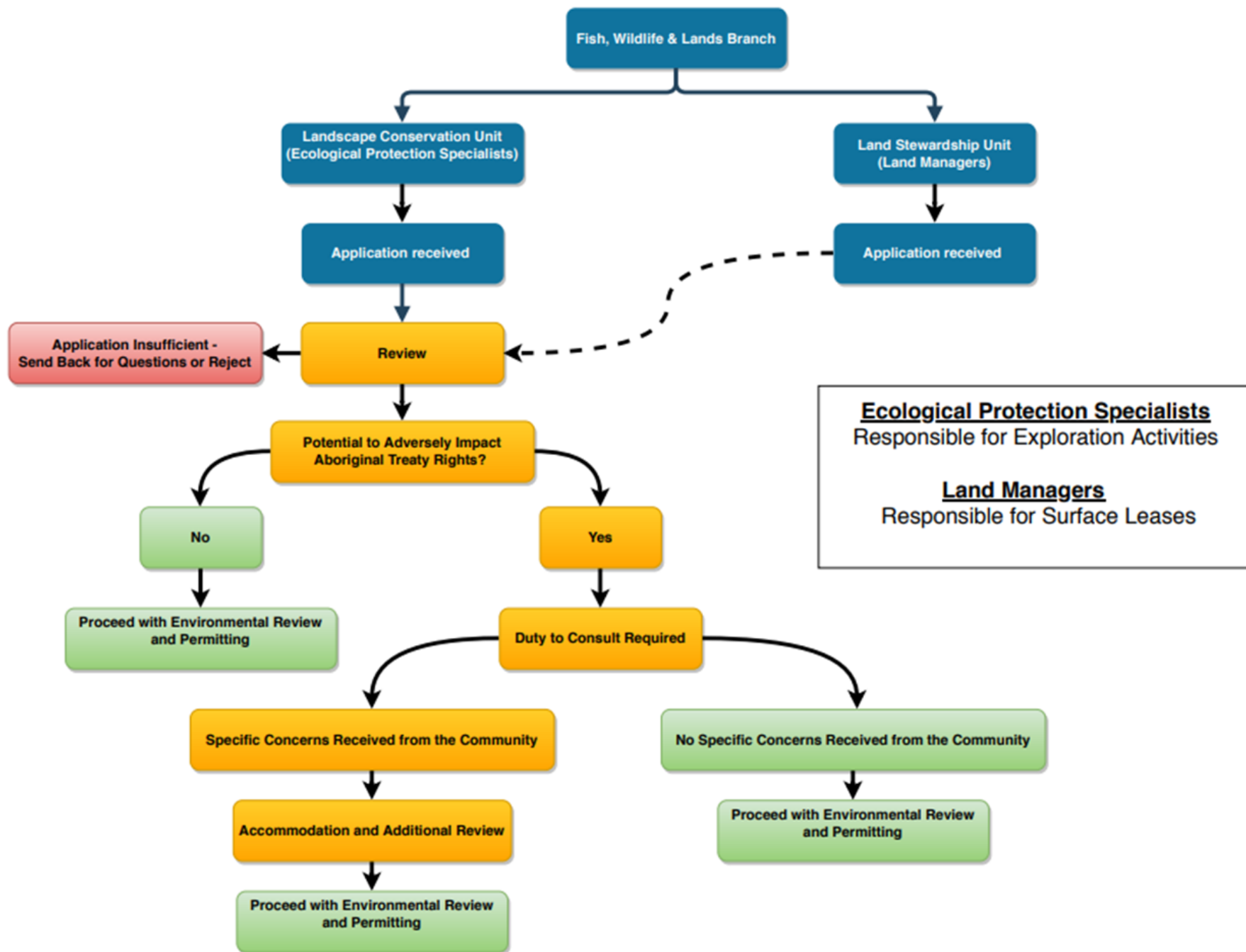
- mineral exploration
- petroleum and natural gas exploration and development
- the utility and transportation industries
- other industrial developments





EPS Program Delivery

- Completing environmental review of proposed projects, directing changes as required
- Overseeing the Duty to Consult process to ensure requirements are met with First Nations/Metis communities
- Ensuring environmental regulations are adhered through permitting, inspections and compliance action
- Working with clients to ensure the protection of sensitive species
- Working with clients to ensure communication with other active land users
- Initiating appropriate corrective and/or enforcement action to obtain compliance where problems are identified
- Evaluating reclamation, mitigation and construction practices to ensure appropriate results are obtained



The Duty to Consult and Proponent Engagement

Proponent Handbook

Voluntary Engagement with
First Nations and Métis Communities
to Inform Government's
Duty to Consult Process

November 2013




- The Duty to Consult is the legal responsibility of the Government of Saskatchewan
- Engagement is carried out by the proponent, is voluntary, and is strongly recommended
- Engagement is often critical to program success
- The earlier and more meaningful the engagement the higher the likelihood of building a positive relationship with First Nations and Métis Locals
- Ongoing communication is often preferred by many First Nations and Métis Locals

Example of Typical Permits

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT CROWN LAND WORK AUTHORIZATION		
Company Address	Permit #:	19-PA-000XXX
	Date:	September 25, 2019
	File #:	19-PA-000XXX
	Permitting Office:	Prince Albert
Having paid the required fee of: \$115.00		
Is authorized to: Carry out a uranium exploration program consisting of both drilling and geophysical work continuing through March 2019. Drill pads will be located on both land and ice and the program shall have a maximum of 20 drill holes.		
Project Location: Approximately XX km north of the existing Key lake Mine site with a Temporary Work Camp located at XXXXXXX E, XXXXXXX N (Zone 13 NAD 83).		
Special Conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See attached <i>Schedule A – Mineral Exploration Permit Conditions</i> 		
Issued pursuant to <i>The Provincial Lands Act, 2016.</i>		
This permit expires: December 31, 2019		

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AQUATIC HABITAT PROTECTION PERMIT		
Company Address	Permit #:	19-PA-000XXX
	Date:	September 25, 2019
	File #:	19-PA-000XXX
	Permitting Office:	Prince Albert
Is authorized to: Carry out a uranium exploration program consisting of both drilling and geophysical work continuing through March 2019. Drill pads will be located on both land and ice and may be in proximity to wetlands, watercourses and waterbodies.		
Project Location: Approximately XX km north of the existing Key lake Mine site with a Temporary Work Camp located at XXXXXX E, XXXXXXX N (Zone 13 NAD 83).		
Special Conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See attached <i>Schedule A – Mineral Exploration Permit Conditions</i> 		
Issued pursuant to <i>The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010.</i>		
This permit expires: December 31, 2019		

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Forest Product Permit</h2> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 5px;">Pursuant to the Forest Resource Management Act and Regulation permission is granted to the Permittee for (check one)</p>	<p style="font-size: large; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">0934 J</p>																																																																																																									
<input type="checkbox"/> Timber <input type="checkbox"/> Haying <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing <input type="checkbox"/> Special Products <input type="checkbox"/> Oil & Gas Exploration <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Exploration <input type="checkbox"/> Right of Way <input type="checkbox"/> Science Projects																																																																																																											
Company Name _____ Individual Name _____ Date of Birth _____ LBR _____ BRC _____ Drivers License _____ or SHSC# _____ Address _____ City _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____ Tel No _____ Operator # _____ Operator Name _____ LBR _____ FID _____ Inspecting Officer Name _____ LBR _____ FID _____		Application date _____ M _____ Day _____ Yr _____ Received by (person) _____ Operating Office Name _____ Fire Year _____ Fire Name _____																																																																																																									
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Permittee Signature (Individual/Company representative) _____ If representative please print name _____		Approved By _____ Printed Name _____																																																																																																									
This license is subject to the Forest Resources Management Act and Regulations, officer's instructions and terms and conditions as stated in the following attachments: <input type="checkbox"/> Operating Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Scaling Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Schedule <input type="checkbox"/> Range Management Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Agreement Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Access Letter (Ag & Food) <input type="checkbox"/> Special Products Ledger <input type="checkbox"/> Conditions																																																																																																											

Pertinent Acts and Regulations

Provincial Legislation

- *The Provincial Lands Act, 2016*
 - *The Crown Resource Land Regulations, 2019*
- *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*
 - *The Mineral Industry Environmental Protection Regulations, 1996*
 - *The Environmental Management and Protection (General) Regulations*
 - *The Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods Regulations*
- *The Forest Resources Management Act*
 - *The Forest Resources Management Regulations*
- *The Wildlife Act, 1998*
 - *The Wildlife Regulations, 1981*
 - *The Wildlife Species at Risk Regulations*
- *The Heritage Property Act*
 - *The Heritage Property Regulations, 2016*
- *The Wildfire Act*
 - *The Wildfire Regulations*
- *The Fisheries Act (Saskatchewan), 1994*
 - *The Fisheries Regulations*

Federal Legislation

- *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*
 - *Migratory Birds Regulations*
- *Fisheries Act*
- *Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations*
 - *Fishery (General) Regulations*
- *Species at risk Act*



Typical Permit Conditions

‘Schedule A – Mineral Exploration Permit conditions’

1)The project is to be undertaken in the manner described in the project proposal and any addendums.

2)Any conditions issued under this permit will supersede commitments made in the proposal.

3)A copy of this permit must be available on site and all employees and contractors working on this project must be familiar with the permit conditions. This permit does not replace or supersede any approvals, licenses or authorizations, including building permits that may be required from municipal, federal, or other provincial agencies. The permit holder will maintain in force all such approvals, licenses, or authorizations that may be required. (e.g., Saskatchewan Provincial Heritage Resources at 306-787-5774, fax at 306-787-0069, or email at arms@gov.sk.ca).

4)Any program requiring water for drilling (except water from municipal or private sources) requires approval from the Water Security Agency in the form of a Temporary Water Rights License for Industrial Water Use. Link here: <https://www.wsask.ca/Permits-and-Approvals/Regulatory-Info/Temporary-Water-Rights-Licence-for-Industrial-Water-Use/>

5)Notification of the commencement and completion dates of this project are to be provided to the issuing office of Ministry of Environment.

6)The issuing office of the Ministry of Environment must approve any changes to the submitted plans before being implemented in the field.

7)All activities are to occur during dry or frozen ground conditions. During overly wet conditions, work must be stopped for any activity that could potentially cause undue rutting of the ground surface (other than permanent roadways). Rutting could be defined as a disturbance 5 meters in length and greater than 15 cm in depth. If frozen ground conditions do not exist, alternate approved methods must be used to prohibit rutting of the ground surface (i.e. timber matting, planks, etc.).

8)Project work will not develop, enter or impact any water bodies or watercourses within the project area unless excluding the identified crossing points and ice drilling locations.

9)The discharge of a substance must be reported if the substance may cause or is causing an adverse effect or the substance meets the criteria set out in Table 1 of the Discharge and Discovery Reporting Standard for that substance. Regardless of volume, any spilled substance that may cause an adverse effect must be cleaned up immediately and removed from the site for proper disposal.

10)All fuels, oils, lubricants and other petroleum-based products must be stored on or in secondary containment that must be capable of holding at least 110 per cent of the products volume. All Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods (HWSHG) such as used oils, used oil containers; fuel filters and HAZMAT padding must also be stored on or in secondary containment until proper disposal occurs. Spill kits and or spill/drip trays must be utilized on site whenever these products are stored or utilized.

12)No debris is to be deposited in any water body or watercourse or on the ice of any frozen water body or watercourse. Any debris accidentally deposited is to be removed immediately. All refuse is to be removed to a licensed landfill site with the exception of hazardous waste, which must be handled according to the appropriate Regulations. Refuse must not be buried or burned on site (unless otherwise approved).

Typical Permit Conditions

‘Schedule A – Mineral Exploration Permit conditions’ Continued...

13) Any mitigation or reclamation measures requested by Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment will be the responsibility of the proponent.

14) All equipment used in construction must be clean and free from oil or fuel leaks, non-indigenous plants or seeds and other sources of contamination.

15) To prevent the spread of Zebra and Quagga mussels follow Clean, Drain and Dry best management protocols to ensure compliance with the Saskatchewan Fisheries Regulations.

16) Sumps shall not be used for this project.

17) Drill muds and additives used for drilling must not have an adverse effect on the environment. “Adverse effect” as defined in section 2(a) of the Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010.

18) All clearing within 100 meters of any waterbody or watercourse will be hand cut, unless otherwise approved and the approach to any waterbody or watercourse will be doglegged. Existing access points must be used whenever possible

19) No drilling, trenching or hydraulic stripping is to occur within 30 meters of any waterbody or watercourse.

20) Proponent must ensure that the drill pad size is kept to a minimum (900m²).

21) Maximum width of access trails is 5 meters unless, otherwise approved. Trails for line-cutting or geophysics shall not exceed 1.5 meters.

22) No material is to be pushed into standing timber and no damage is to be caused to the residual stand. All leaning trees are to be removed from standing timber.

23) Where access trails cross existing trails, those trails are not to be blocked.

24) Any access opened to conduct this project must be reclaimed at projects conclusion unless otherwise approved by the Ecological Protection Specialist. All woody debris cleared for this program is to be evenly distributed across cleared areas upon completion

25) Slumping of previous drill holes must be remediated as soon as possible after detection.

26) Prior to expiry of this permit, the proponent must plug all drill holes in a manner that prevents the vertical movement of aquifer fluids between permeable water bearing zones. All flowing artesian drill holes must be sealed to prevent discharge into the environment as per section 24(2) (a) of *The Mineral Industry Environmental Protection Regulations, 1996*.

27) All reclamation work is to be completed within 30 days of completion of this project, or expiry of this permit, whichever the sooner, unless otherwise approved by the Ecological Protection Specialist.

28) Prompt and effective stabilization of the bank or boundary of any water body or watercourse is required as soon as possible after construction. Emphasis will be on a rapid return to pre-development conditions. Erosion control should be consistent with the erosion hazard. Mechanical erosion/stabilization control measures (e.g. matting, livestock enclosures, ground grids) may be required until sufficient vegetation is re-established.

Typical Permit Conditions

‘Schedule A – Mineral Exploration Permit conditions’ Continued...

29) If on ice drilling will be carried out during the project a closed loop system must be used to capture drilling waste.

30) When working from April 1 to October 31 within the Provincial Forest, the proponent must contact the nearest Forest Protection Base prior to any activity occurring. A Wildfire Prevention and Preparedness Plan must be submitted to the Ministry of Environment. Guidance for preparing a Wildfire Prevention and Preparedness can be found here: <http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/66/86721-Wildfire%20Prevention%20and%20Preparedness%20for%20Industrial%20and%20Commercial%20Operations.pdf>

31) Any flights required for the Ministry of Environment personnel for inspection of the project area are the responsibility of the proponent, within reason.

32) Caribou are sensitive to visual and auditory disturbances. A precautionary response shall be implemented upon caribou sightings within the activity area of active drilling and travel. Response to caribou sightings shall include, but not be limited to, allowing the caribou to pass undisturbed. Regular activities may proceed once the caribou are out of sight from the active work area. Any sightings of caribou must be sent to both the project Ecological Protection Specialist and the Saskatchewan Conservation Data Center (www.biodiversity.sk.ca/ReportsCaribou.php). All sightings must be included in the closure report. This precautionary response does not include activity within the temporary work camps.

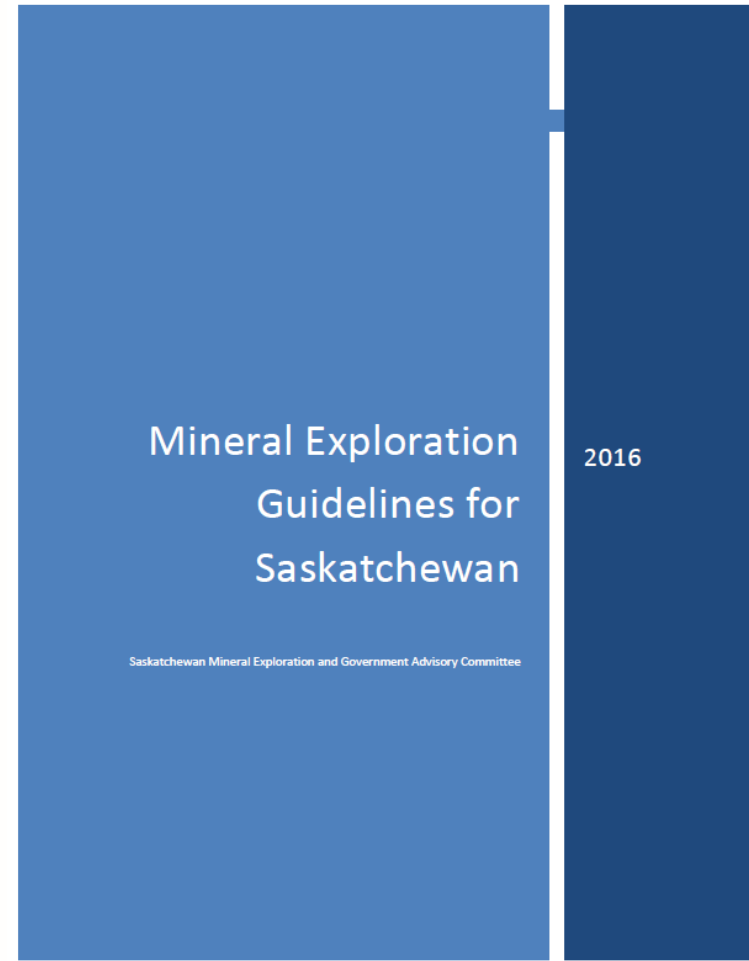
33) Within 60 days of the date these permits expire or upon completion of this project, the proponent must complete and submit a Closure Report. The outline for a closure report can be found in the Saskatchewan Mineral Exploration Guidelines.

QUESTIONS?



SMEGAC

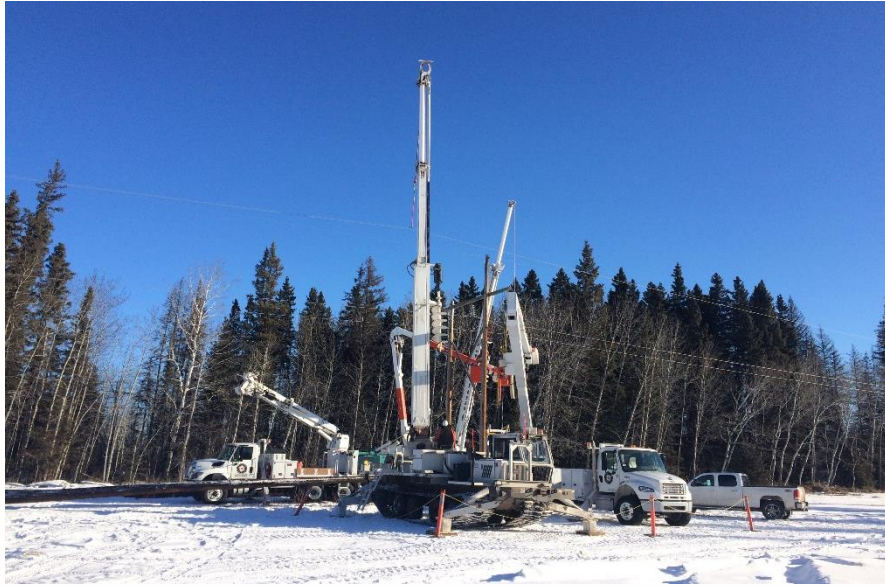
- Saskatchewan Mineral Exploration and Government Advisory Committee
- Mineral Exploration Guidelines for Saskatchewan to assist government and industry in the application and approval process for activities on land administered by the Ministry of Environment
- Representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Energy and Resources, Ministry of Government Relations, and various mineral exploration companies active in the province, among others
- Modernization and review of the Mineral Exploration Guidelines for Saskatchewan 2016 is currently underway with a SMEGAC subcommittee led by the Sustainable Development Unit.



Inspections – What We See



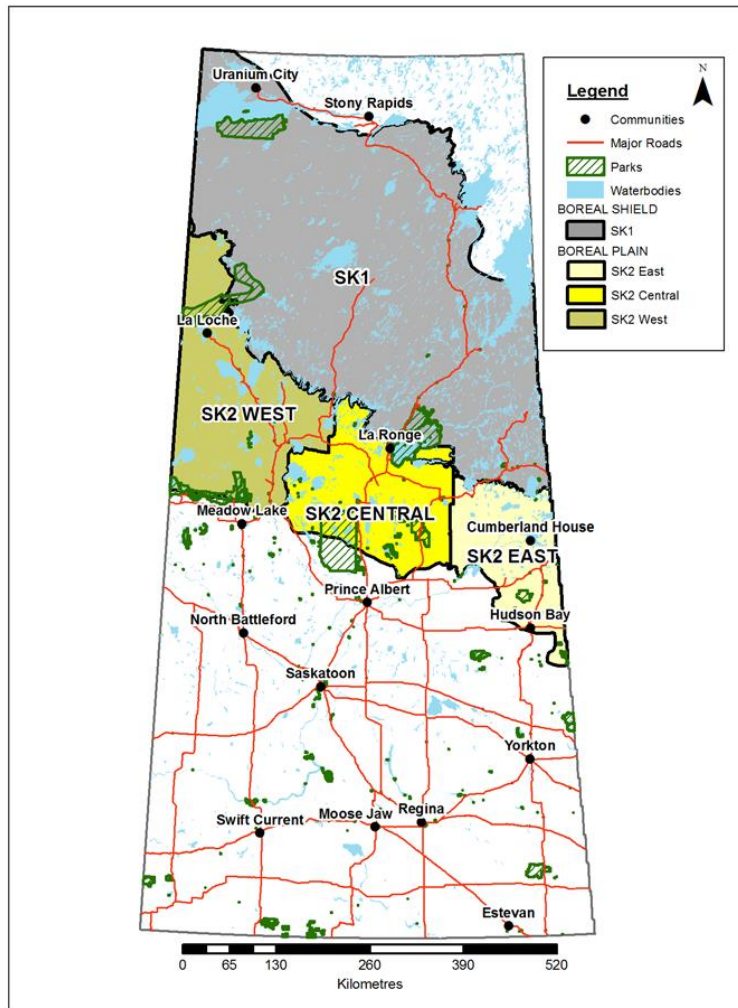
Inspections – What We See, Continued...



Inspections – What We See, Continued...



Other Ministry of Environment, Fish, Wildlife and Lands Branch Initiatives



Caribou Range Plans

- SK2 Central Complete, SK2 West and East up next followed by SK1
- Planning has focused on inclusiveness and participation to ensure that stakeholders, Métis, and Indigenous communities have had the opportunity to engage and be part of the planning process
- Landscape Management will focus on managing human-caused disturbance, altering the pattern of human-caused disturbance, and maintaining adequately-sized and well-connected patches of undisturbed caribou habitat
- Habitat broken into Tiers (1, 2 and 3)

Caribou Range Planning Continued...

Boreal Plain Ecozone – SK2 Central Caribou Administration Unit – Landscape Management Goals

1. Reduce the amount of human-caused disturbance below current levels.
2. Maintain ≥ 80 per cent of high potential woodland caribou habitat in a condition unaffected by direct and/or indirect human-caused disturbance.
3. Maintain adequate connectivity between different areas of SK2 Central and adjacent caribou administration units.
4. Increase forest harvest event sizes to more closely emulate natural forest patterns.
5. Decrease the total amount of non-permanent linear features



Other Ministry of Environment, Fish, Wildlife and Lands Branch Initiatives Continued...



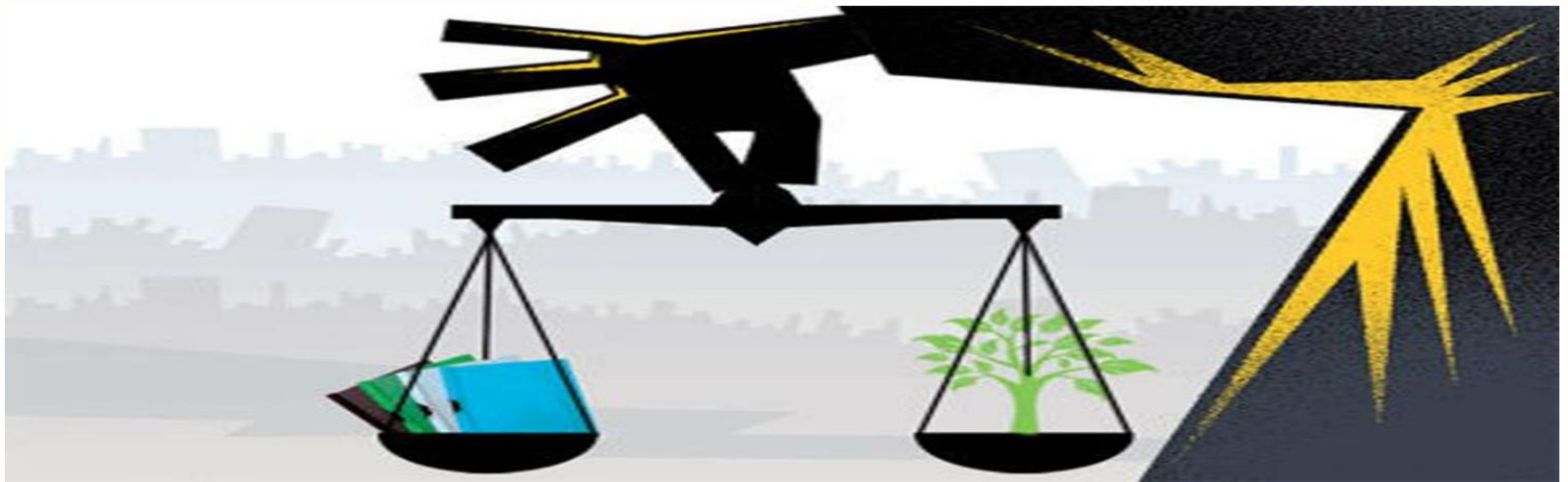
Habitat Management Plan

- Province wide landscape level plan
- Four main sub committees
 - Grassland
 - Parkland
 - Boreal Plain
 - Boreal Shield
- Goal is to provide a single plan with four focuses that will be used at the provincial scale to manage habitat while still allowing development to continue.



How We Do It

- Balancing the need for ecological protection and the demand for economic development





Questions?