Directorat





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Lands Directorate

Geographers, planners, foresters, economists, cartographers, computer programmers, administrative and support staff - all are part of Environment Canada's Lands Directorate. When Environment Canada was formed in 1971, the Lands Directorate was established to keep an eye on the nation's land resource - to promote the efficient, effective, and environmentally sound use and management of this resource.

Lands directorate headquarters are located in Ottawa-Hull. Regional offices are:

- · Halifax, N.S.- Atlantic Region
- · Ste. Foy, Que. Quebec Region
- Burlington, Ont. Ontario Region
- Vancouver, B.C.-Pacific and Yukon Region Addresses and telephone numbers of

these offices are on the last page of this brochure. A list of Lands Directorate publications is available at every regional office as well as headquarters.

Land Policy

The directorate has a lead role in providing advice to the federal government on land use policy in Canada. To that end, the Lands Directorate is conducting studies of land problems and issues. The influence of federal programs on land use and the impact of policies, land planning programs, and regulations are also analyzed.

Federal Land Management

The directorate represents Environment Canada on the Treasury Board's advisory committee on federal land management. Federal department or agency proposals for buying or selling land, or changes in use of federal lands, are reviewed by this committee. Federal lands are mapped to support the directorate role.

Lands Research and Inventories

Ecological characteristics, resource potentials, and the actual use of land in Canada are researched. Projects include:

- The Canada Land Inventory (CLI). Land capability maps are produced for agricul-
- ture forestry wildlife outdoor recreation

 The Canada land use monitoring project keeps track of amount, location, and type of land use change on national and regional scales. Studies are being conducted in selected areas in Lands Directorate regions.
- The northern land use information mapping project provides environmental and resource information to assist those concerned with resource development and environmental quality in the north.

Land Use Research and Planning Services

The directorate conducts research into major national and regional land problems to inform the public and decision makers of their causes, solutions and importance to the nation. Programs to analyse the loss of agricultural land, the preservation of special resource lands, and the federal role in land use problems and solutions are undertaken. Examples of current initiatives are analysis of stress on the land resource, analysis of planning measures and their effectiveness across Canada, analysis of the abandonment of marginal lands, the rehabilitation of mining sites, and evaluation of the impact of federal programs on the nation's fruitland resource. This program also provides land planning assistance to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP) and to specific jurisdictions in solving land problems (Fraser Estuary Studies, Wetland Studies).















