



Biodiversity Offsets in British Columbia

Offsetting in the Canadian Context: Experience and Potential

Land Use 2021 – A Place for Biodiversity Offsets Webinar Series

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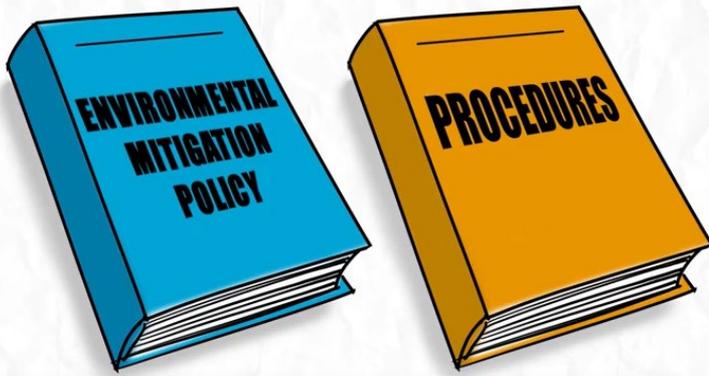
Ministry of
Environment and
Climate Change Strategy

Overview

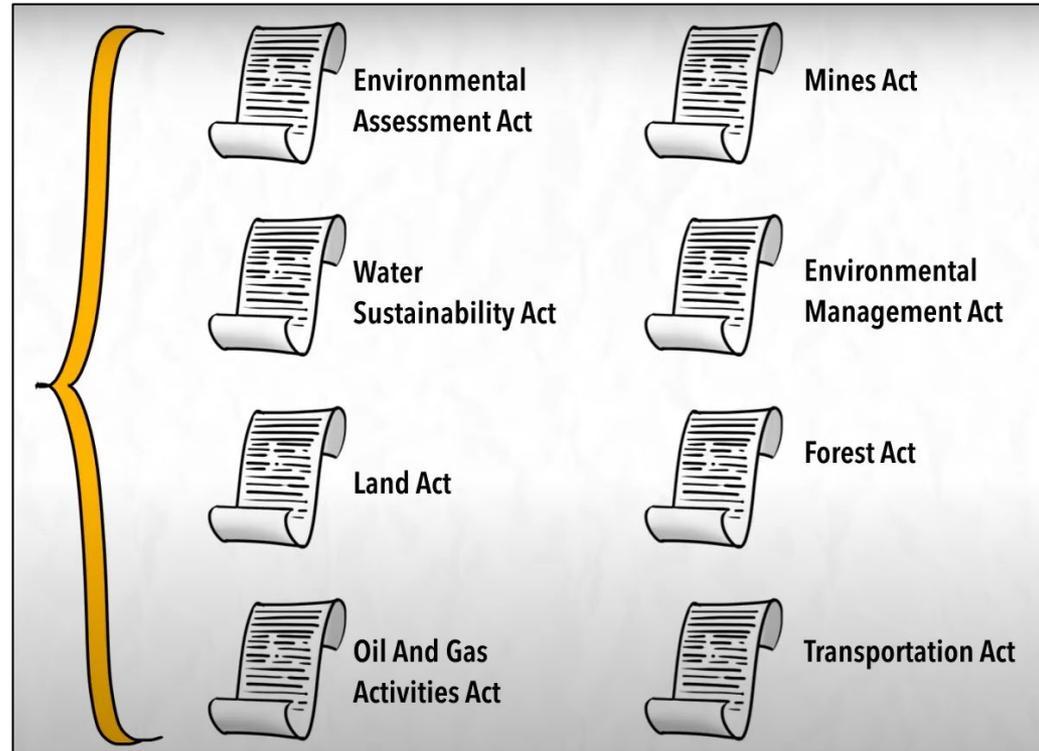
- Context
- Overview of Offsetting in B.C.
- Challenges
- Opportunities
- Path Forward



Context: Purpose & Legislative Framework



Supporting Durable Transparent Decision Making
on projects affecting Provincial Lands.



“... sustain environmental values and components that are important to British Columbians”

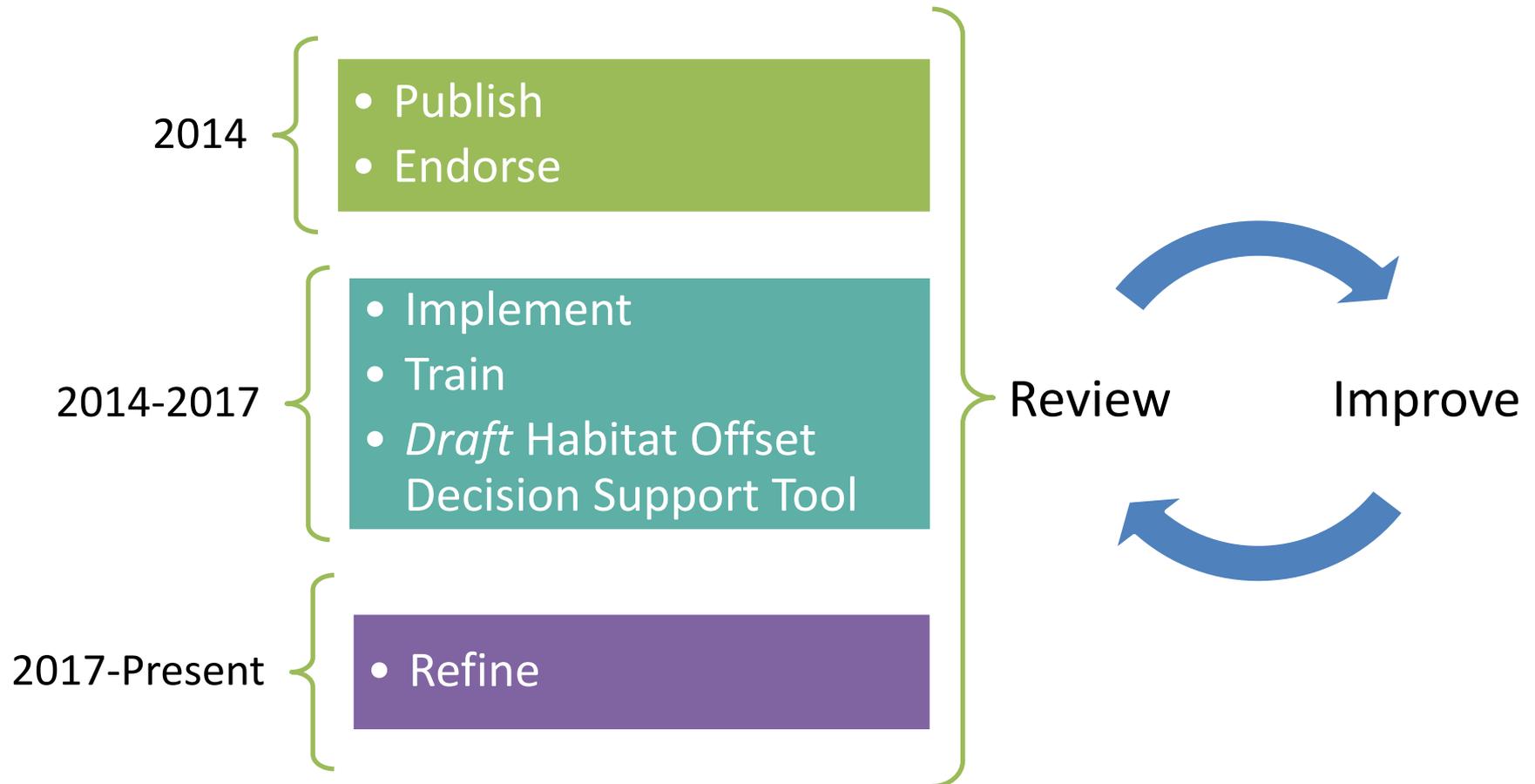
Context: Regulatory Requirement

Water Sustainability Act

Mitigation measures

- 16 (1) If the decision maker considers that the diversion and use of water, or changes in and about a stream, proposed by an application for an authorization, or the changes in and about a stream proposed to be made under a change approval, are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the water quality, water quantity or aquatic ecosystem of a stream or aquifer, a stream channel or other uses of water from the stream or aquifer to which the application relates, the decision maker may
- (a) require that the applicant submit a proposal for **mitigation measures** to address those effects, which mitigation measures must meet prescribed criteria, if any, and
 - (b) impose under section 14 (1) (f) [*powers respecting applications and decision maker initiatives*] terms and conditions requiring implementation of the proposed mitigation measures if those measures meet the prescribed criteria.
- (2) If the decision maker considers that the effects described in subsection (1) cannot be addressed, or cannot be fully addressed, by mitigation measures proposed by the applicant but can be **compensated for by other mitigation measures** taken on a different part of the stream or aquifer than the part to which the proposal relates, the decision maker may impose under section 14 (1) (f) terms and conditions requiring the applicant to take compensatory mitigation measures that meet the prescribed criteria, in place of or supplemental to any mitigation measures proposed by the applicant, on a different part of the stream or aquifer to which the application relates.
- (3) With the consent of the applicant, the terms and conditions of an authorization or change approval may require that the applicant take compensatory mitigation measures on a different stream or aquifer than the stream or aquifer in respect of which the application is made.

Environmental Mitigation Policy (EMP)



Offsetting in B.C. - Challenges



Framework



Consistency



Public Land

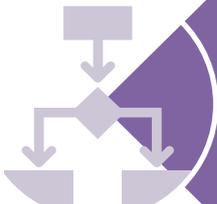
Offsetting in B.C. - Opportunities



Conservation Outcomes

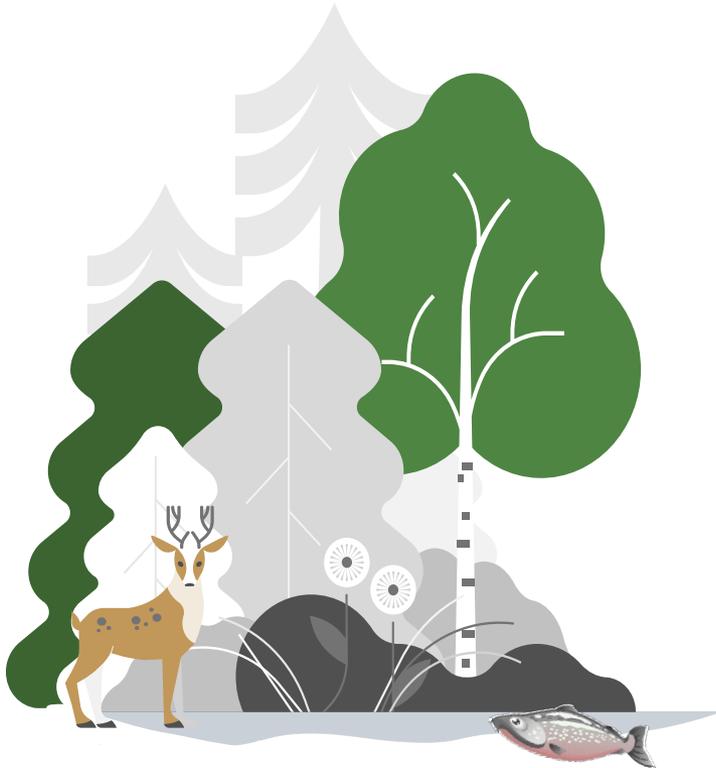


Reconciliation



Support Decision Making

Path Forward



- Project-by-project -> landscape
- What do we want to achieve?

THANK YOU

Contact

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Resources

- [Environmental Mitigation Policy](#)
- [2010 Crown Land Indicators and Statistics Report](#)