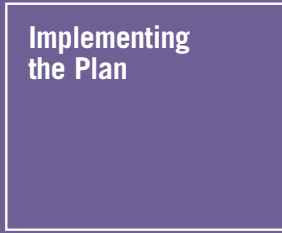


# Burrard Inlet

Part D:



## Implementing the Plan

## Part D: Implementing the Plan

This part of the Consolidated Environmental Management Plan for Burrard Inlet outlines a number of implementation strategies that will be undertaken to realize the goals, objectives and partnership actions identified in this Plan.



The Consolidated Environmental Management Plan for Burrard Inlet builds upon existing BIEAP partner programs by consolidating environmental management objectives and policy initiatives. In approving this Plan, the BIEAP partners are formally recognizing links in their environmental management activities and committing to the coordination of future policy development. The partners are committing to:

- Maintaining strong working partnerships amongst all Plan participants;
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the Plan's policy framework and actions;
- Providing funding for research and monitoring programs, and
- Working together to resolve conflicts to better align environmental planning processes.

### Working Relationships to Implement the Plan

BIEAP's partners, collectively and individually, are responsible for leading and/or participating in many of the actions contained within this Plan. Municipalities, First Nations, businesses and industries, community groups, and stakeholders and residents also play a vital role in contributing to the continued health of Burrard Inlet. Appendix D of the Plan identifies opportunities and linkages between local governments and First Nations and the implementation of this Plan. Appendix C identifies community stewardship groups and projects that also contribute to the implementation of this Plan.

### Five-Year Plan Review

At the end of the first five years, the BIEAP partners will review the Plan to determine how well the goals and objectives have been achieved and determine whether it is still relevant or whether new goals, challenges and opportunities will require the attention of the BIEAP partners.

### Plan Implementation Committee

A Plan Implementation Committee will be established to implement and monitor Plan actions. The BIEAP Plan Implementation Committee will be comprised of working level managers and resource people from the various BIEAP partners, local governments, First Nations and agencies such as the Fraser Basin Council.

The Plan Implementation Committee will also be charged with determining priorities, creating annual work plans and defining the activities required to achieve the actions contained within this Plan. Interdisciplinary teams will be established to work on specific issues as required.

The mandate of the BIEAP Plan Implementation Committee is to:

### Monitoring Plan Policy and Objectives

#### 1. Establish an ongoing monitoring program in Burrard Inlet.

Through consistent monitoring, in conjunction with the GVRD, BIEAP will be able to establish a baseline of environmental indicators and start an annual state-of-the-environment reporting system. This monitoring information, along with information derived from the research activities identified in this Plan, will enable BIEAP to understand the environmental conditions within

Burrard Inlet, determine environmental trends and identify new issues requiring BIEAP's attention or resources.

The monitoring program will be based upon environmental performance indicators, many of which are currently used by the BIEAP partner agencies.

The Consolidated Plan's monitoring program will remain flexible to incorporate advances in technology and scientific method. As more research, information and understanding on environmental causes and effects in Burrard Inlet becomes available, the criteria for setting and measuring Plan goals and objectives will become more sophisticated.

### **Geographic Information System**

#### **2. Develop and maintain tools such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Technology.**

A GIS will be used to develop a comprehensive habitat inventory for Burrard Inlet, to create a biodiversity strategy, to monitor habitat losses and gains, and to guide the remediation of contaminated soils and sediments. The GIS database may also utilize and link partner and local government resources.

### **Annual Reporting System**

#### **3. Institute an annual public reporting system on the work achieved through the BIEAP partnership.**

BIEAP will be accountable for monitoring the success of the Consolidated Plan and for reporting to the public on its progress. The BIEAP Plan Implementation Committee will be responsible for determining priorities, creating annual work plans and consulting the public on the annual work plans.

Appendix 5 contains an example of a Work Program showing how the Plan Implementation Committee may structure its annual work plan and budget.

### **Communications**

#### **4. Establish a communications program using the BIEAP website as a tool.**

BIEAP's website will be supplemented with a comprehensive inventory of the various habitat protection and enhancement programs and funding sources available to non-governmental organizations and industry. This comprehensive information base will assist community stewardship groups, streamkeepers and other groups to start or maintain programs and projects to protect and enhance the environmental quality of Burrard Inlet.

### **State of the Environment Report**

One of the initial implementation activities to be undertaken by the BIEAP partners is the compilation of a State of the Environment Report for Burrard Inlet. This State of the Environment Report will provide a snapshot of Burrard Inlet's environment and information on a number of environmental benchmarks or indicators which, like measures of economic performance, document current status and trends. The objectives of State of the Environment (SOE) reporting are to:

- Increase the awareness of the public concerning environmental conditions and trends;
- Help the public understand the relationship between human activities, and environmental quality and the sustainability of ecosystems;
- Provide a broad basis for improved decision-making on environmental matters in Burrard Inlet, and
- Serve as a monitoring tool as periodic reviews and updates of the various environmental indicators are undertaken.



The environmental indicators used to report on Burrard Inlet will be based upon those used by the BIEAP partners in their environmental reporting and monitoring activities. Some of the indicators and trends to be explored include:

**Water Quality and Land/Sediment Contamination:**

- fecal coliform counts
- fish health
- number of shellfish closures
- area of contaminated land remediated
- contaminant loadings entering Burrard Inlet from CSOs
- industrial discharges of certain metals and pollutants
- hazardous spills
- recreational boat moorage and live-aboard statistics.

**Healthy Ecosystems and Biodiversity:**

- protected areas (status and trends of protected areas)
- percentage of terrestrial and marine ecosections in protected area status
- wildlife species at risk, or threatened or endangered species in the Inlet as a percentage of known species
- forest species and coverage
- net gain or loss of fish and wildlife habitat
- riparian ecosystems, i.e., percentage of riparian areas logged
- bird abundance, i.e., active bird nestings and bald eagle populations
- seabird winter populations, i.e., bird surveys
- archeological and heritage site inventories.

**Burrard Environmental Review Committee (BERC) and Coordinated Project Review**

A key component of the BIEAP partnership's efforts to coordinate the environmental management of the BIEAP area of interest is the review of proposals for shoreline development and other activities in the marine ecosystem. The Burrard Environmental Review Committee (BERC) will play an important role in implementing the Plan through the Coordinated Project Review Process. To this end, BIEAP will undertake the following:

- **Provide resources for the coordinated environmental review of projects in Burrard Inlet.** BERC is a one-window approach for lead agencies and developers in obtaining environmental advice on Track 2 projects. BERC will continue to provide coordinated environmental assessments for all projects, works and undertakings within Burrard Inlet's program boundaries (seaward from top of the bank in the Inlet).
- **Implement reforms and improve BIEAP's public registry of project applications (Referral Log) through the current Project Review Task Force.** BIEAP's project registry or referral log is a user-friendly public service that provides information to the public about development proposals in Burrard Inlet. The BIEAP partners will continue to implement and monitor the efficiency reforms made to the BIEAP Project Review Process.

**Funding Commitments  
for Research and  
Monitoring**

One of the largest challenges pertaining to the ongoing implementation of the Consolidated Plan will be the degree to which the partners are willing to provide ongoing funding to carry out the recommended actions and activities. BIEAP is funded by equal and annual contributions from each of the partners. The total operating budget for the BIEAP program in 2000 was \$300,000.

There are both capital and non-capital costs associated with implementing this Plan. Non-capital costs for research, coordination, consultation, planning, monitoring and evaluation will be the responsibility of the BIEAP program. The BIEAP Implementation Committee will oversee these activities and draw on the resources of other agencies and organizations where possible.

Capital costs identified in the Plan will be the responsibility of the initiating agency or regulatory authority. For example, most of the costs associated with the Sediment Management Plan for False Creek will be funded by the participating agencies and property owners. In endorsing this Plan, the partners are committing to providing the funds for the research and monitoring programs contained in this Plan.