



True to its name, Environment Canada is in the business of protecting the environment, conserving the country's natural heritage and providing weather and environmental predictions to keep Canadians informed and safe.

They support sound environmental decisions and work to repair the damage of the past, to collect and pass on knowledge, and to develop, implement and enforce policies to prevent future damage. Their objective is to work towards sustainable development.

Environment Canada (EC) is a diverse organization with programs, services, and people that lead the way in implementing the federal government's environmental agenda.

The Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada leads on wildlife matters that are the responsibility of the federal government. This includes management of migratory birds; protected areas which are nationally important wildlife habitat; and of species at risk.

Accurate, Detailed Data

Kathleen Moore is a Conservation Planner with CWS and works at the Pacific Wildlife Research Centre in Delta. Kathleen works with conservation planners, biologists and managers both within CWS and EC as well as with conservation partners in non-government environmental organizations. CWS and their conservation partners, required accurate, detailed property boundaries in order to complete mapping of all conservation areas in BC; including CWS National Wildlife areas. They also required property boundaries for all Federal Crown lands in BC.

CWS became a member of ICIS in 2010, providing the group with access to the required data. Now, they have access to detailed, standardized digital property boundaries and PIDs. "Access to this data has helped us improve our property information which results in better conservation planning," says Kathleen Moore.

Collaborative Spirit

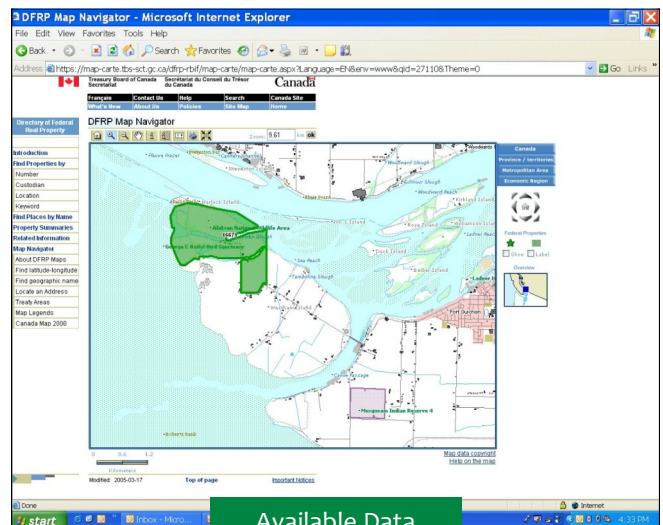
"We use the Local Government Cadastre and the Integrated Cadastral Fabric to obtain digital polygons for our properties. We then use the PIDs to run through BC Online to confirm that the title is with CWS or one of the other conservation partners," states Kathleen. "In addition to the property boundaries, the conservation partners have created a common Access database in which we enter standard attributes about the conservation areas such as date secured, title holders etc." In the collaborative spirit of ICIS, the conservation area boundaries and attributes have been shared with the ICIS partners and will continue to be updated on a regular basis.

The ICIS relationship is beneficial for a number of reasons:

- The provision of detailed, standardized property boundaries provides a uniform base for BC to work from;
- The data is up to date;
- Using the ICIS web mapping tool for looking up information is often a quicker alternative to using their own internal software and files;
- One-window access to data eliminates the need to approach numerous agencies and saves a significant amount of time website allows for easy download of data as needed;

- ICIS membership is so broad and comprehensive, making it the authoritative source for this type of data;
- ICIS develops work plans and gets them done and seems less subject to the problems that can impact individual members with their own constant shifting of priorities.

CWS plans to continue to take advantage of the ICIS relationship in the future for a number a variety of conservation planning efforts.



Available Data
Before & After ICIS

