

Annual Report

2025-26

Ministry of Environment

Letters of Transmittal



The Honourable
Darlene Rowden
Minister of
Environment

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

I respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Ministry of Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Darlene Rowden".

Darlene Rowden
Minister of Environment



Sharla Hordenchuk
Deputy Minister of
Environment

The Honourable Darlene Rowden
Minister of Environment

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of Environment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Shordenchuk".

Sharla Hordenchuk
Deputy Minister of Environment

Organizational Overview

This Annual Report for the Ministry of Environment presents the results for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026. It outlines the outcomes of publicly committed strategies, key actions and performance measures identified in our 2025-26 Business Plan. It also reflects progress toward commitments from the Government of Saskatchewan for 2025-26, the Saskatchewan Growth Plan and speeches from the throne. This report also demonstrates the ministry's commitment to effective public performance reporting, transparency and accountability.

The purpose of the Ministry of Environment is established in *The Ministry of Environment Regulations, 2007*. The ministry provides science-based solutions, compliance and mitigation measures to protect the environment, safeguard communities and promote balanced economic growth. Our goal is to enhance the quality of life for all Saskatchewan residents. In 2025-26, the ministry's adjusted full-time equivalent (FTE) utilization was 359.0.

The ministry derives its mandate, responsibilities and authority from several acts and regulations. Acts currently assigned to the Minister of Environment, either solely or jointly, are:

The Conservation Easements Act
The Ecological Reserves Act
The Environmental Assessment Act
The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010
The Fisheries (Saskatchewan) Act, 2020
The Forestry Professions Act
The Forest Resources Management Act
The Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Heritage Act

The Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act
The Natural Resources Act
The Protection of the Wild Ponies of the Bronson Forest Act
The Provincial Lands Act, 2016
The Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act
The Wildlife Act, 1998
The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act

Mandate

The Ministry of Environment's role is to manage the health of Saskatchewan's environment in a responsible manner that supports sustainable growth through objective, transparent and informed decision-making and stewardship.

Mission

We will manage and protect Saskatchewan's environment for the well-being of the province and its people.

Vision

A healthy, resilient environment.

[Ministry of Environment's Business Plan for 2025-26](#)

Progress on Goal 1: Safe communities and a healthy environment.

Delivering on Saskatchewan's Growth Plan depends on a healthy environment, and the Ministry of Environment is proud to lead that work. Through results-based regulation and our commitment to enhance the health of the environment, we are strategically reducing and managing solid waste and ensuring the province is resilient to the effects of a changing climate. A made-in-Saskatchewan industrial emissions pricing system and a sustainable, integrated solid waste management system tailored to the unique needs of our province will protect the environment, increase innovation and help build a stronger economy. Taking a One Health approach to fish and wildlife diseases and a comprehensive view to protecting the environment further demonstrates the ministry's commitment to building strong and safe communities.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Coordinate the development and implementation of provincial policies to support sustainable growth and enhance Saskatchewan's overall resilience to the effects of a changing climate.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Continue to implement *Prairie Resilience: A Made-in Saskatchewan Climate Change Strategy*.
 - The ministry advances the goals of the *Prairie Resilience* strategy through ongoing policy analysis, federal advocacy and negotiations, the Output-Based Performance Standards (OBPS) Program and technology fund program enhancements. Implementation continues for the commitment to track and report on resilience under the Climate Resilience Measurement Framework.
- Develop an enhanced framework for annual resilience reporting, integrating advanced emissions modelling and analysis.
 - The Climate Resilience Measurement Framework is transitioning to an expanded narrative-driven online format, which will include an enhanced emissions profile for the province. This work is augmented by ongoing analysis into emissions displacement and sector-specific emissions intensity modelling (e.g. irrigation).
- Develop and launch the Saskatchewan Greenhouse Gas GHG Inventory and carbon accounting framework.
 - The consumption-based carbon accounting model is established, and analysis has been completed for 2018 to 2021.
 - The ministry is undertaking analysis to better understand and validate how the federal National Inventory Report calculates emissions across all sectors.
- Streamline the OBPS Program's administrative and reporting requirements for regulated emitters.
 - Implementation of automated workflows and data validation checks streamlined emissions return submission processing and improved the efficiency of submission reviews and approvals.
- Continue to expand the OBPS Program to cover more sectors and emissions, protecting more emitters from the federal carbon tax.

- Effective, April 1, 2025, the province paused the collection of compliance payments under Saskatchewan's OBPS Program to provide financial relief to industry amid global economic uncertainty and tariffs. The pause remains in effect while negotiations occur with the federal government on the future of industrial carbon pricing.
- Support Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS) development by issuing OBPS Program performance credits to regulated emitters undertaking CCUS projects.
 - The 2024 CCUS reports and credits have been processed and approved.
- Deliver the Saskatchewan Technology Fund's second project application intake, including awarding \$50 million in funding for industry-led emissions reduction initiatives.
 - In October 2025, the second intake of the Technology Fund awarded \$47.5 million to nine industry-led projects that are expected to eliminate over 1.5 million tonnes of emissions, attract over \$352 million in additional investment, and support over 8.2 gigajoules of energy savings.
 - To date, the fund has supported 22 projects, awarded \$73 million, and leveraged over \$630 million in private investment.
- Support Saskatchewan's transition to a clean electricity grid by directing Clean Electricity Transition Grant funding towards SaskPower's clean electricity operating expenses.
 - Grant initiatives are expected to deliver more than 1.86 million megawatt hours of renewable electricity, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 1.83 million tonnes of CO₂e. Programs include clean electricity power purchase agreements for wind, solar, and hydro projects, as well as demand-side management initiatives that improved energy efficiency in 1,428 homes, including 39 retrofits in northern Indigenous communities, and supported 70 businesses in implementing energy-saving upgrades.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Implement the Solid Waste Management Strategy to improve the health of Saskatchewan's people and environment, as well as attract investment into the province through new growth opportunities.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Engage with stakeholders to review the Solid Waste Management Strategy.
 - From October 2025 to January 2026, engagement activities were conducted for the Solid Waste Management Strategy renewal. Stakeholder feedback is being summarized in a 'What We Heard' document.
- Begin development of a revised Solid Waste Management Strategy that ensures consideration of evolving needs and priorities.
 - Insights from stakeholder engagement, along with the findings of a comprehensive review of the current strategy, will play a key role in shaping the renewed strategy.
- Explore regulatory options for materials identified in the Canada-Wide Action Plan for Extended Producer Responsibility. Engage on potential changes to *The Household Hazardous Waste Product Stewardship Regulations* and *The Used Petroleum and Antifreeze Products Stewardship Regulations*.
 - Regulatory and program reviews of *The Used Petroleum and Antifreeze Products Stewardship Regulations* and *The Household Hazardous Waste*

Product Stewardship Regulations were completed. Engagement on proposed changes to these regulations is anticipated for 2026.

- Continue work with Indigenous Services Canada and the Ministry of Government Relations on the development of northern regional landfills.
 - Work continues on facilities at Stanley Mission and Southend including closure of old sites and establishment of transfer stations.
 - The Buffalo Narrows Regional Landfill project was delayed due to 2025 wildfires and is expected to commence construction in spring 2026.
 - Funding was secured through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program and geotechnical investigations are planned for 2026 to determine suitability for a landfill at a location between Pelican Narrows and Sandy Bay. Further feasibility work is being undertaken to determine if one or two landfills would be required for the region.
- Review the agricultural plastics stewardship programs for effectiveness and efficiency.
 - A review of *The Agriculture Packaging Product Waste Stewardship Regulations* and the Agricultural Plastic Stewardship Program is currently underway and expected to be completed in 2026.
- Continue to work with other jurisdictions through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment to implement action plans in support of the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste.
 - Work continues on the delivery of remaining activities related to the Zero Plastic Wastes Strategy.
- Participate in, and support the work of, the Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (SWMAC) and integrate recommendations into the strategy as required.
 - The ministry continues to support the work of the SWMAC. Committee recommendations are being considered during development of the renewed Solid Waste Management Strategy.
- Implement a Saskatchewan Environmental Code chapter for composting facilities.
 - The compost facilities chapter was approved in May 2025 and has been implemented.
- Engage on new regulations and standards to modernize solid waste management.
 - Draft documents and timelines for public review are being finalized. Awareness presentations are being held at various stakeholder forums (e.g. Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council – Waste Solutions Summit).

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Identify, prevent and mitigate risks to emerging wildlife health diseases through comprehensive plans and regulations.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Continue to participate in the One Health Management Group, with the ministries of Agriculture and Health, to identify and respond to emerging fish and wildlife diseases.
 - The ministry has actively participated in the One Health management group and a key area of coordination has been with the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Strategy. The ministry is working with the Ministries of Agriculture and Health to finalize the CWD Strategy. The three ministries engaged with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and provided feedback on proposed changes to the federal CWD program for domestic cervids that are managed within the Saskatchewan game farm program.

- The ministries also coordinated on communication and prioritization of vaccination for high-risk groups (wildlife officers, laboratory workers, rehabilitators) for highly pathogenic avian influenza.
- Enhance surveillance for emerging wildlife disease threats.
 - The CWD surveillance program tracks, detects and manages spread of the disease. It operated through the fall and winter hunting seasons. Mandatory CWD surveillance in select wildlife management zones (WMZs) was implemented to better understand prevalence of the disease. The program wrapped up in early 2026 with 2900 total submissions, higher than the previous two years. Submissions were substantially improved in mandatory WMZs (37, 39, 43, 47, 50 and 55) compared to previous years.
 - To assist hunters with sample submissions, six program employees staffed 31 rotating sampling stations from September to December 2025. A total of 109, of the 2900, submissions were collected through these stations.
 - In total, 362 positive test results were received: 195 white-tailed deer, 124 mule deer, 33 elk and 10 moose. CWD was detected in three new WMZs during the 2025-26 surveillance season.
 - Mandatory surveillance was implemented in key WMZs located near cattle farm operations that had positive bovine tuberculosis detections. Targets were met for areas around the 2023 cattle herd detection and bovine tuberculosis was not detected. Surveillance continued in WMZs 37 and 39 around 2024 cattle detections, with sample targets met in both zones. These results are pending culture by the CFIA.
- Implement a provincial CWD carcass disposal program.
 - CWD carcass disposal locations were assessed and re-established for key areas across the province. This program has been successful in ensuring potentially infected cervids are transferred to the appropriate landfill that is certified for this type of disposal.
- Continue to complete assessment and corrective action planning work to address environmental, human-health and safety risks at the non-uranium abandoned mine sites.
 - The ministry completed drone surveys and site inspections at the Anglo-Rouyn and Box mine sites. CanNorth Consulting completed summer and fall monitoring and vegetation control activities at the Newcor site and submitted an annual report deliverable.
 - The ministry has been approached by several companies interested in reprocessing tailings at the abandoned mine sites. Work is being done to determine the government's legal ownership of the tailings and how to structure appropriate partnerships with the interested parties.
 - The University of Saskatchewan completed a field sampling program at the Western Nuclear abandoned mine site, as part of their research into the life cycle of weathered tailings at northern mine sites.
- Implement air zone management strategies recommended in the annual *Saskatchewan Air Quality Report: Meeting the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards*.
 - Implementation of strategies have focused on characterizing air pollutant concentrations in air zones, new Rapid-deployment Air Quality Stations (RAQS), deployment of mobile stations in targeted locations, ongoing collaboration with Cenovus and the Government of Alberta to establish a publicly-reporting air quality station in Lloydminster and engagement with stakeholders on improvements to the air zone management program.

- Develop a plan to improve the air zone management program based on the program review.
 - The program review included recommendations and action items to improve the Air Zone Management Program (AZMP). Actions completed to date include:
 - Technical network analysis to classify ambient monitoring stations in Saskatchewan (provincial, air zone association and near-fence industry) and identify monitoring gaps;
 - Drafting a Monitoring and Reporting Roadmap that defines the monitoring objectives of the AZMP, presents the priorities and action items that the ministry will undertake over the next five years;
 - Drafting updated Air Monitoring Guideline and stakeholder engagement plan; and
 - Drafting proposed short-term and long-term solutions for air zone association sustainability), re-delineation of air zone boundaries and changes to governance.
- Continue developing new code chapters to replace *The Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods Regulations*.
 - The code chapters to replace *The Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods Regulations* were drafted and reviewed both internally and by a series of focus groups with external stakeholders. A public engagement plan was developed and engagement will occur in 2026-27.
- Develop a plan to address high-risk illegal dump sites in northern Saskatchewan.
 - Inventory of sites and prioritization work has been completed. Next steps, including work planning, will proceed.

Performance Measure Results:

Number of facilities registered in the OBPS Program.

- The ministry aimed to increase the number of facilities covered under the OBPS Program by five per cent in 2025-26.
- Effective, April 1, 2025, the province paused Saskatchewan's OBPS Program to provide financial relief to industry amid global economic uncertainty and tariffs.

Emissions intensity of Saskatchewan's economy (greenhouse gases per unit of gross domestic product).

- The ministry targeted a continued decrease in the emission intensity of Saskatchewan's economy.
- Emission intensity of Saskatchewan's economy has declined by 44 per cent since its 1995 peak of 1,446.7 tonnes per million dollars of GDP.
- Between 2023 and 2024, the latest year for which data is available, the emission intensity of Saskatchewan's economy decreased by 5.2 per cent, from 854.2 to 809.7 tonnes per million dollars of GDP.

Amount of waste generated in kilograms per capita.

- From 2014 levels, the ministry is aiming for a 30 per cent reduction by 2030 and a 50 per cent reduction by 2040.
- As of 2022, the latest year for which data is available, waste generated per capita is at 729 kg. This is a 14 per cent drop from 2014 levels.

Progress on Goal 2: Sustainable landscapes and wildlife populations that are resilient and biologically diverse.

Sustainably growing the province's natural resource economy is a key part of the Saskatchewan Growth Plan. The ministry is working to accomplish this through evidence-based decision-making on land use and environmental impacts. Strategies guide monitoring and response to issues impacting natural resources, including the Habitat Management Plan, the Habitat Mitigation Framework, associated policies and programs, and the Framework for the Prevention and Management of Invasive Species in Saskatchewan. In collaboration with partners, including Indigenous communities, programs and policies are developed to conserve the province's biodiversity and resilience. These measures will lead to the long-term health of Saskatchewan's natural resources by ensuring their future sustainability.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Enhance the resilience of Saskatchewan's natural resource economy by supporting evidence-based decision-making on sustainable growth initiatives.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Implement action items identified by the working group for the Framework for the Prevention and Management of Invasive Species in Saskatchewan and track progress.
 - Director and program level committees met in December 2025 to finalize Terms of Reference and plan a program showcase event to provide space to highlight recent successes, risks, areas of collaboration, and any other relevant information.
 - Another year of the aquatic invasive species inspection program was successfully implemented. Over 4,500 watercraft inspections were completed in 2025. A total of 444 samples from 109 different waterbodies were collected and analyzed for the presence of invasive mussels and spiny waterflea, with no detections found.
- Continue collaborating with Alberta Forestry, Parks and Tourism, to monitor ongoing survey data addressing risks related to mountain pine beetle and other forest health threats.
 - The risk of mountain pine beetle in the northern boreal forest has declined significantly since 2023 and remains a low risk. Discussions have occurred with the Government of Alberta, and a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed to support information sharing on forest health threats of mutual concern. Progress on the MOU has not occurred since 2024; however, the MOU offers a foundation that can be advanced as priorities emerge and align.
- Implement resilience programming to build provincial capacity to adapt and thrive in a changing climate.
 - The ministry reviewed and revised the resilience reporting approach, expanding and refining content with stakeholders to better reflect cross government initiatives within a narrative driven online format, positioned for implementation in 2026–27.

- Build a forest resource inventory for the Prince Albert and Meadow Lake timber supply areas.
 - The ministry continues to work with forest licensees to develop forest inventories for the Prince Albert and Meadow Lake timber supply areas (TSAs).
 - The ministry provided support for inventory development with advisory support for post-fire inventory adjustments, in-kind field work, and financial contribution through contracted services.
 - Inventories on both the Prince Albert and Meadow Lake TSAs are 70 per cent complete, and once finalized, will provide information current to autumn 2024.
 - Inventory adjustment methods have been developed for both TSAs and will be used to adjust inventories to account for the fires of 2025.
 - Final inventories for both license areas are anticipated in September 2027.
- Implement the Habitat Mitigation Framework's Boreal Offset Policy and Voluntary Contributions Payment option to support industry in mitigating impacts of growth and development.
 - Engagement on a draft policy has been completed and a 'what we heard' report will be shared with stakeholders before the policy is finalized in 2026. All approvals are in place to receive voluntary payments, and the first payment was made in 2026.
- Implement a five-year habitat management work plan.
 - Work has begun to outline the approach for developing the five-year HMP implementation plan. Multiple options will be provided, as the specific implementation steps will depend on whether federal funding is received and the amount provided.
- Continue to develop and implement range plans for woodland caribou in the northern provincial forests.
 - The SK1 (Boreal Shield) Range plan is in development with future engagement sessions scheduled in fall 2026. This plan will establish habitat management objectives and strategies to maintain SK1 in a condition that continues to support a self-sustaining caribou population while recognizing the importance of Traditional land use and supporting economic activity.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Work with our partners to develop and implement programs and policies to protect the province's biodiversity.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Collaborate with other ministries to engage partners and stakeholders to implement a multiple-species approach to managing critical habitat on Crown land.
 - The existing Activity Restriction Guidelines for Sensitive Species (ARGs) has been updated to offer a results-based approach to provide stronger support to proponents in compliance with *The Wildlife Act, 1998*. The guidelines support proponents in mitigation planning for land-based projects, developments, activities and operations within Saskatchewan and clarify connections, as well as, process and guidance, using a science-based approach with updates to species, timing windows, and setbacks.
 - The next steps include consideration of feedback received from internal and external partners and incorporating updates to finalize the document.

- Implement a priority action plan for establishing protected areas that provides clarity on the Protected and Conserved Areas Program and designation process.
 - The ministry has continued to review proposals for additions to PCAN.
 - The ministry has received federal funding to support the PCAN program and create positions to focus on the management of lands added to PCAN.
- Examine opportunities for new management approaches for protected and conserved areas.
 - It is expected that the 12 per cent target will be achieved by the end of the 2026-27 fiscal year. Once this milestone is reached, the PCAN roadmap will be updated to reflect the current status of protected and conserved areas in the province and to identify the actions needed to support the second outcome to manage protected and conserved areas.
- Incorporate First Nations wildlife management values into wildlife management planning and programming.
 - The ministry's Indigenous Engagement Fund supports meaningful participation in engagement initiatives with Indigenous communities and organizations. The fund was used to host a series of four facilitated sessions with the First Nations Outfitting Association (FNOA) and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN). The ministry then held a fifth follow up meeting with FNOA and FSIN to discuss the commitment to develop a two-eyed approach to identifying allocations that reflect both western science and Indigenous knowledge. Work on this initiative will continue in 2026-27.
 - The Indigenous Engagement Fund supported northern Indigenous members' engagement with other jurisdictions (NU, NT, MB governments and various Indigenous communities) on barren ground caribou issues through participation on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board.

Performance Measure Results:

Total protected areas in Saskatchewan.

- The ministry was targeting to protect 7,809,629 hectares (12 per cent) by 2025.
- The ministry continues to work on internal and external proposals to achieve 12 per cent. Work has been completed to include Woodland Caribou Tier 1 lands in PCAN to achieve 10.8 per cent by the end of 2025.

Annual timber harvest utilization rate (e.g. amount of timber harvested compared to the annual allowable cut (AAC)).

- In 2025-26, the ministry aimed to support an increase to the annual timber harvest utilization rate to 50 per cent (4.5 million m³), and an increase of the annual timber harvest utilization rate to 80 per cent (7 million m³) by 2030.
- Construction of a new Oriented Strand Board (OSB) facility in Prince Albert has not yet begun. Without a new facility, utilization rates of AAC will not increase a substantial amount. Market conditions could lead to reduction in the current utilization rates of AAC because of potential mill curtailments.
- 2025-26 was the worst wildfire year in Saskatchewan history. The impact from the wildfires has significantly reduced the AAC. Modeling has determined the new AAC volumes, but the re-allocation process is in progress and will impact future harvest utilization rate.

Population status of game species.

- The ministry aims for sustainable game populations. The target is dependent on the game species and is identified in the species management plan.
- The ministry conducted an aerial survey of elk within wildlife management zone 48. Survey information for past surveys is posted [online](#).

Amount and distribution of important habitats.

- The ministry's target is to maintain adequate habitat to support the continued presence of sensitive species.
- The 20-year Habitat Management Plan has been finalized and will be publicly posted. Work is underway on the first five-year implementation plan.

Progress on Goal 3: Knowledgeable, compliant and engaged regulated communities.

Saskatchewan's natural resource industries are instrumental to the province's economic growth. A comprehensive, clear and transparent regulation and enforcement structure ensures industry partners can operate and grow, while also protecting and enhancing environmental outcomes. This is further accomplished by reducing the risk of contamination through compliance assurance activities and working with industry partners to identify impacted sites. Opportunities to increase engagement and involvement with First Nations and Métis communities continue through permitting processes and the ministry's ongoing commitment to duty to consult.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Collaboratively design and implement regulatory tools and processes to enhance environmental outcomes.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Provide guidance on assessment and closure requirements to landfills that received federal landfill closure infrastructure funding.
 - Work has continued with landfills that received landfill closure infrastructure funding to achieve compliance outcomes within the required timeframes.
- Implement program review recommendations to enhance permitting processes for mineral exploration in Saskatchewan.
 - New actions have been identified through the Government of Saskatchewan's Red Tape Reduction Committee to further enhance the exploration permitting process and are on track for completion by December 2026.
- Evaluate and implement innovative permitting efficiencies to support well-established industry practices.
 - The evaluation has been completed.
- Formalize review of advanced mineral exploration permitting process to create best-in-class opportunity. Continue to review and develop guidance on the ministry's regulatory and permitting framework.
 - A review of advanced mineral exploration permitting process has been completed.
 - The ministry continues to undertake a review of guidance documents utilized to support wind energy facilities, including the development of a discussion paper for engagement.
- Develop training program and certification process for scalers in the province to support the forest industry.
 - A third scaling course was completed in Saskatchewan on October 24, 2025. An additional scaling course will be offered in 2026-27.
- Improve the oversight process of impacted sites by developing additional guidance material for completing environmental site assessments.

- Amendments to the site assessment Saskatchewan Environmental Code Chapter are being contemplated by the ministry, identified as part of a Red Tape Review of the Environmental Site Assessment.

Performance Measure Results:

Percentage of operating landfills requiring groundwater monitoring are doing so.

- In 2025-26, the ministry targeted 89 per cent of operating landfills requiring groundwater monitoring would be in compliance, and 100 per cent in compliance by 2030.
- At the end of 2025-26, 78.4 per cent of operating landfills that require groundwater monitoring were meeting this requirement.

2025-26 Improvement and Innovation Highlights

1	Modernization of the Solid Waste Regulations An internal draft of the regulations and standards are nearing completion. These items will move forward for review and approval ahead of external stakeholder engagement. Timelines have been amended to allow for posting the draft regulations for review. Updating these regulations will ensure environmental protection while providing clear, consistent, transparent, and outcome-focused requirements for stakeholders.
2	Clean Electricity Transition Through the Clean Electricity Transition Grant, the ministry advanced a cleaner, more reliable, and affordable electricity system by supporting renewable power generation, energy-efficiency upgrades for homes and businesses including northern Indigenous communities and early planning for small modular reactors, strengthening long-term energy security and economic growth.
3	Emission Reduction Projects Through its flexible, industry-championed design, the Saskatchewan Technology Fund reinvests every dollar collected back into Saskatchewan projects. This keeps funding in-province while supporting compliance and competitiveness. The fund has delivered substantial emissions reductions and energy savings, driving practical results that lower costs, strengthen industrial performance, sustain jobs, and advance Saskatchewan's environmentally responsible economic growth.
4	Mineral Exploration Permitting Process The ministry will continue implementing improvements and, where possible, expand the use of Environmental Protection Plans. A review of the webpage is underway to enhance transparency for clients by developing public facing policies and materials. Additional improvements identified through the Red Tape Reduction Committee will be implemented by December 2026.

Financial Summary

In 2025-26, the Ministry of Environment had expenses of \$268.699 million, a decrease of \$5.361 million from the Budget Estimate of \$274.060 million. The ministry incurred savings primarily due to delays in commencement of federal provincial cost-sharing agreements and some additional savings in salaries and operational expenditures.

Expense Summary

The following table outlines information on the actual and budgeted expenditures (excluding non-appropriated expense adjustments), by subvote and program area. Explanations are provided for variances from budget greater than \$100,000.

Ministry of Environment Expense Actuals

	2024-25 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Budget (\$000s)	2025-26 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Variance (\$000s)	Notes
Central Management and Services (EN01)					
Minister's Salary	57	57	57	-	
Executive Management	1,622	1,717	1,633	(84)	
Central Services	9,300	9,664	9,907	243	1
Accommodation Services	4,036	4,161	3,997	(164)	2
Subvote Total	15,015	15,599	15,594	(5)	
Climate Resilience (EN06)					
Climate Resilience	5,236	5,511	5,080	(431)	3
Subvote Total	5,236	5,511	5,080	(431)	
Fish, Wildlife and Lands (EN07)					
Fish and Wildlife Program	5,788	6,145	6,156	11	
Lands Program	5,483	9,176	5,370	(3,806)	4
Fish and Wildlife Development Fund	5,440	5,236	5,379	143	5
Subvote Total	16,711	20,557	16,905	(3,652)	
Environmental Protection (EN11)					
Environmental Protection Program	6,633	6,543	6,674	131	6
Environmental Assessment and Stewardship	1,528	1,784	1,635	(149)	7
Beverage Container Collection and Recycling	36,334	36,930	36,930	-	

System					
Remediation of Contaminated Sites	1,356	485	1,396	911	8
Business Support Services	3,612	2,870	2,155	(715)	9
Subvote Total	49,463	48,612	48,790	178	
Forest Service (EN09)					
Forest Programs	6,093	7,542	6,064	(1,478)	10
Insect and Disease Control	1,018	1,226	833	(393)	11
Subvote Total	7,111	8,768	6,897	(1,871)	
Clean Electricity Transition (EN19)					
Clean Electricity Transition	140,000	174,710	174,710	-	
Subvote Total	140,000	174,710	174,710	-	
Total Appropriation	233,536	273,757	267,976	(5,781)	
Capital Asset Acquisition	(1,240)	(165)	(22)	143	
Amortization of Capital Assets	1,158	468	712	244	
Non-spending Control Items	67	-	33	33	
Total Expense	233,521	274,060	268,699	(5,361)	

Notes:

1. Increased due to information technology costs for the eCLMS system.
2. Decreased due to renovation and capital project savings.
3. Decreased due to salary, contract and database management savings.
4. Decreased due to delays in commencing federal-provincial contribution agreements.
5. Increased due to increases in wildlife licence revenue, resulting in increased transfer to the FWDF.
6. Increased due to salary expenses.
7. Decreased due to vacancy and operational savings.
8. Increased due to adjustment to remediation plan estimates.
9. Decreased due to savings in salaries, operations and information technology projects.
10. Decreased due to vacancy and operational savings.
11. Decreased due to operational savings.

Revenue Summary

In 2025-26, the Ministry of Environment collected revenues related to the Output-Based Performance Standards electricity sector compliance obligations, environmental handling charges, hunting and angling licence fees, forestry fees and dues, Crown land management and receipts from other governments.

Ministry of Environment Revenue

	2025-26 Budget (\$000s)	2025-26 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Variance (\$000s)	Notes
Own-source revenue				
Investment income	110	153	43	
Other fees and charges	94,537	73,273	(21,264)	1
Miscellaneous	358,617	408,305	49,688	2
Transfers from the federal government	3,789	1,867	(1,922)	3
Total Revenue	457,053	483,598	26,545	

Notes:

1. Decreased due to forestry dues, harvest amounts were reduced due to tariffs.
2. Increase in output-based performance standards revenue from the electricity sector.
3. Delays in executing agreements.

Additional financial information can be found in the Government of Saskatchewan Public Accounts located at <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/893>