

**Summary of Provincial Auditor Recommendations for the
2018 Report Volume 1, Chapter 18 and 2018 Report Volume 2 Chapter 31**

Recommendation (New/Outstanding)	Page #	Current Status	Action Taken to Implement since PA Report	Planned Actions for Implementation	Timeline for Implementation
2018 report volume 1, chapter 18, Environment – Regulating Landfills					
<p>Outstanding:</p> <p>We recommended that the Ministry of Environment adopt guidance on landfills from the proposed Environmental Code as operating practice.</p> <p>(2013 Report – Volume 2; Public Accounts Committee agreement April 30, 2014)</p> <p>Status – Partially Implemented</p>	234	Partially Implemented	<p>Landfill guidance documents will provide specific construction, operational, and closure information for landfill management. Some guidance material has already been developed</p>	<p>The ministry is developing a solid waste management strategy. Consultation on the draft strategy and the Red Tape review of the Municipal Refuse Management Regulations was completed by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The results of the consultation were provided on April 2, 2019. Changes to regulations and guidance documents will be developed once the Strategy is finalized and Red Tape Review is completed.</p>	2020-21
<p>Outstanding:</p> <p>We recommended that the Ministry of Environment amend operating permits for all high-risk landfills to ensure they require appropriate groundwater monitoring.</p> <p>(2013 Report – Volume 2; Public Accounts Committee agreement April 30, 2014)</p> <p>Status – Partially Implemented</p>	235	Partially Implemented	<p>New and renewed permits now require all landfill owners to conduct groundwater monitoring unless they obtain sign-off from their engineering consultant certifying that site-specific conditions identified through a formal site assessment do not warrant groundwater monitoring.</p> <p>Prior to issuing the new permits, the ministry and landfill owners will determine the timeframe for implementation of required groundwater monitoring programs.</p> <p>43% of operating landfills that require groundwater monitoring have it in place.</p>	<p>A new for 2016 permit to operate template has now been approved for issuance to all landfill and transfer station operations as their existing permits become due for renewal. Landfills are given up to five years to have groundwater monitoring in place.</p> <p>New sites are issued the new permit template immediately.</p>	<p>All permits to be updated by 2021 to include groundwater monitoring if applicable. Groundwater monitoring to be in place by 2026.</p>

Recommendation (New/Outstanding)	Page #	Current Status	Action Taken to Implement since PA Report	Planned Actions for Implementation	Timeline for Implementation
<p>Outstanding:</p> <p>We recommended that the Ministry of Environment perform landfill inspections in accordance with its established frequency requirements.</p> <p>2013 Report – Volume 2; Public Accounts Committee agreement April 30, 2014)</p> <p>Status – Partially Implemented</p>	238	Partially Implemented	<p>The ministry targets landfills that have not been inspected in the targeted 3-year cycle when planning inspections for each year.</p> <p>The frequency of inspections requires annual adjustment as the number of inspections completed depends on how many non-compliance findings require follow-up action.</p>	<p>The ministry is further refining risk evaluation of landfills to develop a true risk rating based on site-specific criteria and not primarily based on site size.</p> <p>The ministry will continue to put a priority focus on the higher-risk landfills and will adjust our compliance plans to align with assigned resources and compliance assurance targets.</p>	2020-2021
2018 report volume 2, Chapter 31, Environment – Preventing the Entry and Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species in Saskatchewan					
<p>Outstanding:</p> <p>We recommend that the Ministry of Environment formalize a risk-based watercraft inspection strategy related to aquatic invasive species.</p> <p>(2016 Report – Volume 1; Public Accounts Committee agreement September 15, 2016)</p> <p>Status – Partially Implemented</p>	227	Partially Implemented	<p>Data has been collected since 2015 on high-risk watercraft movement across the province. This includes data collected both internally, as well as data shared by our partners across western Canada. Using this data, we have developed a formal watercraft inspection strategy that is currently in draft.</p>	<p>The draft strategy is currently under review and will be finalized by the start of our watercraft inspection season in mid-May of 2019. The ministry is also planning to establish a new, permanent watercraft inspection station on HWY 1 in response to gaps identified in the draft strategy.</p>	2019-20

Recommendation (New/Outstanding)	Page #	Current Status	Action Taken to Implement since PA Report	Planned Actions for Implementation	Timeline for Implementation
<p>Outstanding:</p> <p>We recommend that the Ministry of Environment establish a risk-based strategy for sampling Saskatchewan waters for aquatic invasive species.</p> <p>(2016 Report – Volume 1; Public Accounts Committee agreement September 15, 2016)</p> <p>Status – Not Implemented</p>	228	Partially Implemented	<p>Data has been compiled and analyzed related to both high-risk water craft movement within the province as well as current data on waterbodies within that network related to susceptibility to aquatic invasive species introduction and establishment. Data from the 2015 anglers survey completed by Department of Fisheries and Oceans will feed into this strategy however it has still not been returned to the province. We are hopeful we will be provided this information by the end of 2019. We have also partnered with the University of Regina to help us fill data gaps related to waterbody information that will evaluate risk and hope to have a comprehensive data set for southern and central Saskatchewan by 2020.</p>	<p>A draft strategy has been developed based on the analysis of the existing data. The draft strategy is planned to be finalized by the start of the monitoring season in 2019. We plan to continue to update this strategy over the next couple years as more information comes in, both from DFO as well as the U of R.</p>	2019-20
<p>Outstanding:</p> <p>We recommend that the Ministry of Environment complete and test a formal rapid response plan to mitigate the spread of aquatic invasive species in Saskatchewan waters.</p> <p>(2016 Report – Volume 1; Public Accounts Committee agreement September 15, 2016)</p> <p>Status – Not Implemented</p>	229	Partially Implemented	<p>The ministry is working with other western Canadian jurisdictions to develop both a provincial and a coordinated inter-jurisdictional response plan. The provinces of western Canada met in February of 2019 with DFO to start the process of developing formal response plans that incorporate incident command. Each province is currently working through the development of draft strategies, with plans to begin coordinated response testing in the fall of 2019.</p>	<p>A draft early detection and rapid response plan has been developed and now includes a finalized crisis communications plan. We are currently incorporating a formal incident command system into our strategy with plans to test our response in the fall of 2019. Department of Fisheries and Oceans has provided resources to the provinces around development and finalization of these plans and will play a key role in helping us achieve our goal of a functional, inter-provincial response plan by the end of 2019-20.</p>	2019-20

Recommendation (New/Outstanding)	Page #	Current Status	Action Taken to Implement since PA Report	Planned Actions for Implementation	Timeline for Implementation
<p>Outstanding:</p> <p>We recommend that the Ministry of Environment measure the effectiveness of its aquatic invasive species public education and awareness campaign regularly.</p> <p>(2016 Report – Volume 1; Public Accounts Committee agreement September 15, 2016) Status – Partially Implemented</p>	229	Partially Implemented	<p>Questions concerning AIS awareness were incorporated into the 2015 angler survey conducted Jan-March 2016.</p> <p>Questions intended to measure public awareness of AIS and the clean-drain-dry initiative have been included in the electronic watercraft inspection form and have been analyzed from the 2018 inspection season.</p> <p>Monitoring of government of Saskatchewan web page hits for AIS is on-going.</p>	<p>We are still waiting for the results of the 2015 anglers survey and are hopeful to have these returned to the province by the end of 2019. We will continue to survey for education and awareness through the watercraft inspection program in 2019 and will continue to monitor traffic on our online AIS related publications. We also plan to utilize the organizations on the AIS task force to survey stakeholders they represent in late 2019 on AIS and use this data in our analysis. We plan to complete a formal review in 2020 on the overall effectiveness of our program.</p>	2019-20