Regional Surface and Ground Water Management and Governance Study Guide to Reviewing Working Arrangements

Throughout this study, we have developed and discussed key objectives and conditions for improved water governance and management in our region. Specifically, we established four governance objectives and welcomed nine best practices:

Objectives

Objective 1: Decision makers are informed and held to account as a result of a clear governance structure for the region.

Objective 2: Our governance model includes monitoring and reporting of cumulative effects for more effective decision-making.

Objective 3: Regulations and environmental standards on private land that protect water quality, water quantity and ecosystem health are effectively enforced.

Objective 4: Decisions and stewardship activities are funded through a sustainable and credible model that builds long-term public confidence.

Best Practices

Enabling Powers in Legislation

Co-governance with First Nations

Support from and partnership with Local Government

Sustainable funding

Legal framework for water(shed) management

Availability of data, information, and monitoring

Independent oversight and public reporting

Continuous learning and capacity building

Assess cumulative impact

To guide your constructive review of the potential (working) governance arrangements for feedback to the Regional Water Management Committee, a qualitative evaluation of the arrangements against the objectives and best practices is provided in Tables 1 and 2. The results of the evaluation are categorized as follows:



Arrangement does not meet, or minimally meets, condition

Arrangement partially meets condition

Arrangement mostly or fully meets condition

Table 1 (evaluation against objectives) and Table 2 (evaluation against best practices) are provided on the following pages.



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Table 1: Qualitative review of working governance arrangements against objectives

Objective	#1 – Informal Coalition	#2 – CVRD Commission	#3 – Regional Society	#4 – Regional Authority
Objective 1: Decision makers are informed and held to account as a result of a clear governance structure for the region.			۲	
Objective 2: Our governance model includes monitoring and reporting of cumulative effects for more effective decision- making.				
Objective 3: Regulations and environmental standards on private land that protect water quality, water quantity and ecosystem health are effectively enforced.				
Objective 4: Decisions and stewardship activities are funded through a sustainable and credible model that builds long-term public confidence.				



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Table 2: Qualitative review of working governance arrangements against best practices

Best Practices	#1 – Informal Coalition	#2 – CVRD Commission	#3 – Regional Society	#4 – Regional Authority
Enabling Powers in Legislation			\bigcirc	
Co-governance with First Nations	\bigcirc			
Support from and partnership with Local Government			\bullet	
Sustainable funding	\bigcirc			
Legal framework for water(shed) management			\bigcirc	
Availability of data, information, and monitoring				
Independent oversight and public reporting	\bigcirc		\bullet	
Continuous learning and capacity building				
Assess cumulative impact				

