

2016-2017 PROJECT PLAN SUMMARY

Project Name:	A2-1-4 Deposition and Effects
Type of Project:	Focused Study
Delivery Agent:	ECCC
Project Contact:	Tom Harner (ECCC) - tom.harner@canada.ca
Budget:	\$ 1,534,540

Project Description:

This project is a new initiative to enhance integration of monitoring, and process studies in the oil sands region related to the deposition of pollutants, for the purpose of assessing ecosystem health and cumulative environmental effects associated with the mining activities. Pollutants targeted in this study include polycyclic aromatic compounds (PACs); mercury (Hg); other elements including lead isotope ratios; additional and comprehensive measurements of coarse and fine particulate matter (PM, PM_{2.5}) speciation; and, polar and sulphur-containing Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), nitrogen (N), and sulfur (S). The project builds on insights and gaps that were identified as a result of measurements and analysis conducted during the Joint Oil Sands Monitoring (JOSM) implementation phase. The project will also establish synergies with a broad group of experts within ECCC, WBEA, Alberta Environment and Parks, NRCan, Health Canada, and academia to identify and address new science questions to improve our understanding of ecosystem effects.

Project Objectives:

To develop a comprehensive and integrated long term work plan for the oil sands region related to pollutant deposition and effects

Key Outcomes:

Comprehensive and integrated long term work plan for the oil sands region through a cooperative approach which includes synergies between federal and provincial government scientists, stakeholders and other experts (e.g. academia)

Geographic Scope:

With the exception of the measurements conducted under Canadian Air Precipitation Monitoring Network (CAPMoN) with two ecosystem sites in northern Saskatchewan (Pinehouse Lake and Flat Valley), the project activities will be carried out in the Wood Buffalo region.

Associated Data and Reports:

Final quality controlled data are submitted to the oil sands data portal in order to be made publicly accessible. Analysis of the data will be made available through publications in peer-reviewed literature. A short interim report (1-2 pages) will document project progress including implementation of new activities, sample collection, sample and data analysis and submissions to the data portal.