

## Oil Sands Monitoring (OSM)

### 2016-2017 PROJECT PLAN SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>B1-1-1 Core Biodiversity Monitoring</b>
<b>Type of Project:</b>	Long term
<b>Delivery Agent:</b>	ABMI
<b>Project Contact:</b>	ABMI Management Team (Kirk Andries and Colleen Scott) andries@ursuspag.com/ cscott@prioritysolutions.ca/ jherbers@ualberta.ca/ dan.farr@gov.ab.ca
<b>Budget:</b>	\$ 5,760,440

#### Project Description:

This project involves monitoring trends in species, habitat and human footprint and includes several sub-projects such as Data Collection, Specimen Processing, Remote Sensing, Data Analysis, Information Dissemination, and Application.

#### Project Objectives:

In addition to landscape information about state and change in vegetation and human disturbance, the ABMI measures and reports on the status and trends in species and habitats at 565 sites across the OSM region and the rest of the province. This includes the collection and management of knowledge on mammals, birds, plants, moss, lichen, soil mites, wetlands, habitat and human footprint. Data and knowledge generated by the ABMI are value-neutral, independent, and publicly accessible.

#### Key Outcomes:

- Trend monitoring of species, habitats and human footprint indicators in the OSM region.
- Correlative and causative inference between land-use, species and habitat
- Baseline information on biodiversity, habitat, and footprint used to support regional and sub-regional planning, policy and management
- Oil Sands monitoring is fully integrated with monitoring across Alberta
- Close integration with existing provincial monitoring programs
- Augments monitoring systems to address unique regional and sub-regional knowledge requirements
- Data addresses a number of recommendations arising from the provincial and federal governments and Royal Society of Canada reports on oil sands monitoring, and supports Integrated with legislative requirements associated with the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
- Enhancements in vegetation and human footprint monitoring

#### Geographic Scope:

The ABMI core program for the OSM region is designed to survey the entire OSM region on a 5-year rotation using a monitoring design that groups sites into panels of nine. During 2016/17 ABMI core data will be collected at 91 upland sites and 91 wetland sites. Human footprint and vegetation will be monitored throughout the entire OSM region. Note that ABMI data are also collected outside the OSM region (as part of the broader ABMI program; not funded through OSM), and this additional information will be used to strengthen OSM analyses and reporting where appropriate.

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### Associated Data and Reports:

- Biodiversity Status Report
- Species-Habitat Relationships
- Species Distributions
- Species Intactness Maps and Coefficients