

2023-2026

STRATEGIC PLAN

**Fisheries, Forestry
and Agriculture**



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

In accordance with government's commitment to transparency and accountability, I am pleased to submit to the House of Assembly and the people of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture's 2023-26 Strategic Plan. As Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, I am accountable for the preparation of this plan and the achievement of the goals and objectives contained therein.

As a category one government entity, under the **Transparency and Accountability Act** (the Act), the department is required to prepare a strategic plan every three years. In accordance with the Act, this document identifies the key areas the department will focus on during the planning period, and consideration of the strategic directions of government, the department's mandate, and its fiscal resources.

Through the goals and objectives outlined in this strategic plan, the department will further contribute to its vision of sustainable renewable resources that are responsibly developed for the social, cultural, ecological, and economic well-being of the province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elvis Loveless". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hon. Elvis Loveless
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

Table of Contents

Overview	1
Staff Complement.....	2
Online Services.....	3
Service Standards	5
Horizontal Initiatives.....	7
Contact Information	7
Mandate	8
Budget.....	8
Lines of Business	9
Animal Health	9
Education and Awareness	9
Licensing/Permitting	10
Inspection, Compliance and Regulatory Enforcement.....	11
Marketing.....	12
Resource Research and Development.....	13
Sustainable Resource Management.....	14
Conservation	15
Primary Clients.....	15

Vision	17
Strategic Issues.....	17
Strategic Issue 1 - Development and Growth of Renewable Resources	17
Goal	18
Goal Indicators	18
Objective 2023-2024.....	18
Indicators	18
Objective 2024-2025.....	19
Objective 2025-2026.....	19
Strategic Issue 2 - Sustainable Resource Management.....	20
Goal	20
Goal Indicators	20
Objective 2023-2024.....	21
Indicators	21
Objective 2024-2025.....	22
Objective 2025-2026.....	22
Annex A – Strategic Directions.....	i
Annex B – Inactive Entities.....	ii

Overview

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) is a category one government entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**. FFA supports and encourages the development and sustainability of the province's fishing, aquaculture, agriculture and forestry industries, as well wildlife and administration of Crown lands. Its main responsibilities include:

- Licensing and regulating the province's fish processing sector, as well as wildlife, forestry and land resources;
- Supporting the strategic development of the fishing industry as a key pillar of economic growth;
- Promoting the further development and diversification of competitive and sustainable agriculture businesses;
- Managing the province's timber resources and forest industry to develop and sustain it as an economic pillar in the province;
- Effectively and sustainably developing, managing and licensing the aquaculture sector;
- Conserving, protecting and responsibly managing inland fish, wildlife, forestry and land resources;
- Providing emergency response services related to fire suppression and wildlife control/vehicle collisions; and,
- Delivering education and awareness around the province's natural resources.

Additionally, FFA is responsible for conservation, marketing, sustainable development and diversification efforts for sectors under its mandate. For additional information, please visit the departmental website at: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa>.

Staff Complement

As of March 31, 2023, the department had 594 employees and 977 positions (a significant number of seasonal positions start later in the spring). The distribution of employees among the four branches of the department is shown in Figure 1 below.

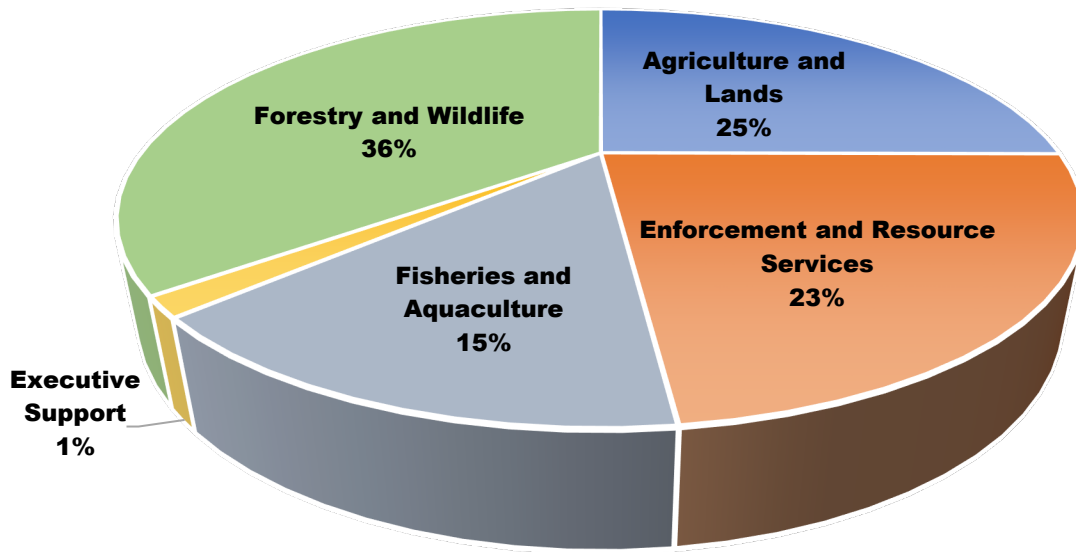


Figure 1: Employee Distribution by Branch

The department is headquartered in St. John's, with a total of 74 office locations in 43 communities throughout the province. Figure 2 shows the geographical distribution of employees throughout the province. Employment opportunities are administered by the Public Service Commission, who is tasked with conducting a merit-based recruitment process that is fair, equitable and transparent. Gender balance is considered during the hiring process and efforts are made to ensure the department is representative of the population it serves.

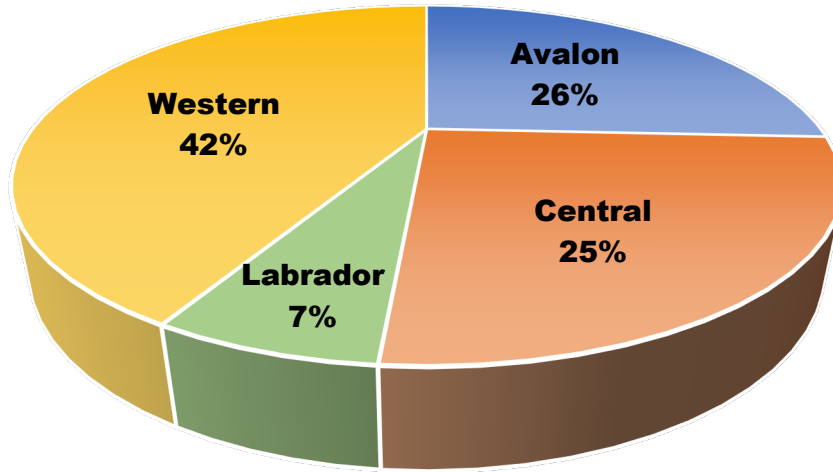


Figure 2: Employee Distribution by Region

Online Services

The department offers a growing number of its services online. A current listing of online services is in the table below.

Fish Processing, Fish Buyers, and Aquaculture Site Licensing and Development - Online Services	Frequently Asked Questions: https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/fishaq/online-services/faq/ Portal Access: https://licensing.eservices.gov.nl.ca/citizenaccess/
Crown Lands Appointments, Applications and Fee payments	Crown Lands Appointments: https://www.gov.nl.ca/crownlands/book-an-appointment/

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026

	<p>Guidelines for the Preparation of Applications for Crown Lands: Crown-Lands-Application-Guidelines-V2.9-Final.pdf (gov.nl.ca)</p> <p>Crown Lands Application: https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/files/lands-forms-pdf-crown-lands-application.pdf</p> <p>Crown Lands Application Fee Payment: https://onlinepayments.gov.nl.ca/OnlinePayments/index.jsp</p> <p>Crown Lands Annual Invoices: https://onlinepayments.gov.nl.ca/OnlinePayments/index.jsp</p>
<p>Digital Air Photo, Data, and Map Sales</p>	<p>https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/lands/maps/aerialphotos/</p>
<p>Domestic Cutting Permit Renewal Application</p>	<p>https://www.my.gov.nl.ca</p>
<p>Report suspected poaching or illegal activity</p>	<p>https://www.gov.nl.ca/feedback/report-poaching/ www.stoppoaching.ca</p>
<p>Forest Fire Hazard Mapping</p>	<p>Observed readings for current date: https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/public-education/forestry/forest-fires/fire-hazard-map/</p> <p>Forecasted readings: https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/public-education/forestry/forest-fires/fire-hazard-map-forecast/</p>

Honey Bee Registration Form	Beekeepers can now register with the Province in anticipation of legislative changes requiring mandatory registration. https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/programs-and-funding/programs/apiculture/
Wildlife Permits/Licences	https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/licenses-permits-and-fees/w-license/

In addition to Online Services, information on provincial programs and funding for renewable resource sectors can be found at the following links.

Agriculture Programs and Funding	https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/programs-and-funding/programs/
Fisheries and Aquaculture Programs and Funding	https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/programs-and-funding/fisheries-and-aquaculture/
Forestry Programs and Funding	https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/programs-and-funding/forestry-programs-and-funding/

Service Standards

FFA provides services according to defined standards and regularly monitors them to ensure those standards are met or exceeded. The achievement of service standards is a shared responsibility between the FFA and its clients and highly dependent on the submission of all required documentation to departmental staff in a timely fashion. Additionally, service standard commitments vary to reflect the unique requirements of programs and services including:

Resident Big Game Licence Process

Following the application deadline date, FFA will notify applicants of the resident big game licence draw results within six weeks.

Non-Resident Big Game Licence Process

Following the receipt of a licence order, for each ordering period, FFA will process and issue licences within 20 business days. Following the receipt of a licence request for the Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association draw, FFA will process and issue licences to successful outfitters within 10 business days.

Domestic Cutting Permit

Following the request for a Domestic Cutting Permit, FFA will issue immediately for in-person requests at a local forest management district office and within 10 business days for requests received by email or phone. For online permit renewals, residents may choose between receiving their Domestic Cutting Permit via email within 24 to 48 hours or via postal mail within five to 10 business days.

Crown Lands Application Process

Upon receipt of a completed Crown lands application, FFA will notify applicants of the status of their application within 90 business days. Status information will include either approval, refusal or if the application is held, reasons for the hold and information regarding follow-up.

Updated information on FFA's service standards may be viewed at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/service-standards/>.

Horizontal Initiatives

FFA also contributes to a number of horizontal initiatives across Government. These include, but are not limited to, participation in:

- The Provincial Government's climate change action plan, which was released on March 1, 2019, includes actions that each of the partners will take to achieve the collective goal of growing industry and stimulating new private sector employment. It contains actions that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from across the economy, stimulate clean innovation and growth and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- A digital-by-design approach to service delivery, which was launched in April 2018 along with a five-year plan to enhance government services for residents.

Contact Information

Contact information for FFA, including divisions, offices and program areas can be found on the departmental website at: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/department/contact/>.

Minister's Office

Tel: (709) 729-3705

Fax: (709) 729-0360

Email: ffaminister@gov.nl.ca

Mandate

The mandate of FFA includes:

- Development and growth of renewable resource including fisheries, aquaculture, inland fish and wildlife, agriculture and forestry for optimum sustainable economic benefit to the province as well as its ecological integrity.
- Conservation and protection of the province’s inland fish, wildlife, wildlife habitat, forestry and land resources.
- Administration of Crown lands as a social and economic resource for the province.
- Regulation of, and compliance and enforcement activities for animal health and protection, food safety, aquaculture, agriculture, fish processing, inland fish, wildlife, and forestry.

Budget

FFA’s fiscal 2023-24 budget is approximately \$107 million as shown below.

Division	# of Employees	Budget
Agriculture and Lands	149	\$ 36,158,400
Enforcement and Resource Services	137	\$ 11,579,500
Fisheries and Aquaculture	88	\$ 12,877,200
Forestry and Wildlife	211	\$ 39,655.600

Executive and Executive Support	9	\$ 6,833,300
Total Department	594	\$107,104,000

Lines of Business

Animal Health

FFA's Animal Health Division provides mobile clinical routine and emergency veterinary services to livestock and poultry owners across the province. Additionally, it conducts diagnostic laboratory testing in support of farm animal veterinary services and provides regulatory pre-processing food safety and quality testing. The division conducts disease surveillance to monitor, identify and control animal diseases of public health and economic importance.

FFA's Aquatic Animal Health Division provides veterinary services and regulatory oversight of the aquaculture industry on behalf of the department. It supports the aquaculture industry by conducting active and passive surveillance, epidemiological studies, applied research and analysis.

Education and Awareness

FFA provides activities to promote education and awareness around the province's natural resources. For example, the department provides training programs such as firearm safety and hunter and trapper education courses. It also promotes fire education, prevention and mitigation to help increase public awareness and reduce the threat of wildfires. Furthermore, FFA is responsible for the development and implementation of environmental education programs. The Department manages and

administers the programs at Salmonier Nature Park, which serves as a wildlife rehabilitation, interpretation and research facility. Finally, FFA provides education on seafood quality to processors and harvesters and educates youth and the public about our fisheries and oceans.

Within the agriculture sector, FFA invests in awareness and public trust initiatives in the food system, such as agriculture fairs, Canada's Agriculture Day, Agriculture in the Classroom and Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month. FFA also administers public awareness programs (presentations to schools, service clubs, etc.) addressing public concerns on forest resource management issues, developing district sustainable forest management plans and producing materials and organizing events that promote the sustainability of our fisheries and oceans.

In addition to specific education and awareness activities, FFA also provides services and support to the public and Provincial Government departments and agencies through Crown lands administration, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Mapping (such as a map and air photo library service), Provincial Land Use Atlas, Crown Lands Registry, and the provision of topographic base maps and the geodetic reference system for legal and engineering surveys.

Licensing/Permitting

FFA is responsible for the licensing and permitting and the development and implementation of policies and regulations related to each type of licence, such as fish processing, fish buyers and restricted buyers. Under the authority of the **Fish Inspection Act** and the **Fish Processing Licensing Board Act**, Fish processing licensing policies and procedures are used to support the Fish Processing Licensing Board to review and make recommendations to the Minister on all fish processing licensing requests.

As the lead department for aquaculture licensing in the province, FFA manages an extensive aquaculture licensing program under the authority of the **Aquaculture Act**. The one-stop licensing program involves extensive internal review, along with a coordinated process involving input from relevant provincial and federal agencies as well as any relevant organizations. FFA licenses fur farms under the **Animal Health and Protection Act** and Regulations; and it licenses abattoirs under the **Meat Inspection Act**.

Under the authority of the **Wild Life Act** and **Forestry Act**, FFA also issues hunting and trapping licences, Newfoundland and Labrador Guide licences, permits for the non-consumptive use, possession, importation and export of wildlife. It issues licences and permits for commercial or domestic timber cutting, commercial or domestic sawmilling, burning, operating during the fire season, timber export, the purchase of timber, protection of livestock from wild animals, bear protection, replacement of a big game licence, removal of nuisance animals, game export, temporary outdoor identification cards, possession for taxidermy, transport of firearms and fur bearer export.

Finally, under the authority of the **Lands Act**, FFA issues licences and other forms of title such as grants, leases and easements for an array of other purposes such as cottages, agriculture, commercial resource based cabins, sawmill sites, pastures, residential uses, commercial ventures, trails, boathouses and wharves.

Inspection, Compliance and Regulatory Enforcement

FFA conducts comprehensive inspection, compliance and enforcement duties for the fishing and aquaculture industries within its legislative authority. Fisheries Field Representatives (FFR's) conduct inspections at fish buying stations, points of export, processing plants, aquaculture sites, dockside and on board vessels throughout the province. Additionally, FFA is responsible for auditing fish buyers and processors

located throughout the province to ensure compliance with legislation, regulations, policies and conditions of licences.

Enforcement services include resource enforcement, which focuses on protecting the province's valuable wildlife, inland fish, and forestry resources through the enforcement of provincial and federal laws and regulations relating to them. FFA also uses compliance and enforcement as a tool in forestry management delivered by conservation officers located at various regional and district offices across the province. In agriculture, the Farm Industry Review Board addresses compliance issues under the **Natural Products Marketing Act** and the **Farm Practices Protection Act**. Additionally, FFA enforces lands legislation and addresses incidents of unauthorized use and occupation of Crown lands.

Marketing

FFA provides marketing support services to fish, seafood, and agrifoods industries in the province. The department collaborates with industry, stakeholders and the Federal Government, providing innovative and collaborative solutions for market development, support and intelligence. FFA also offers a wide range of programs and services aimed at maximizing production and market development to increase market awareness and demand in domestic and international markets.

In the agrifoods sector, FFA supports the development of primary and secondary products of animal and plant-based industries, specializing in professional extension support through the delivery of training; evaluating, recommending, and implementing new opportunities for primary and secondary agrifoods products; and developing new markets and products.

Resource Research and Development

FFA assists the fishing, aquaculture, agriculture and forestry industries through the provision of technical and financial support in development. Innovation within these sectors is fostered through extensive interaction with the private sector, industry-related organizations, other government departments and academia. FFA also delivers the Atlantic Fisheries Fund, which is a contribution program funded jointly by the federal-provincial-territorial governments. This fund invests over \$400 million over seven years to support Canada's fish and seafood sector.

FFA is responsible for the sustainable and orderly development of the aquaculture industry. The Aquaculture Development Division oversees the administration, licensing, planning, development and delivery of aquaculture policies and programs, creating new economic opportunities, including the Aquaculture Capital Equity Program (ACEP) and promoting public trust. Additionally, FFA collects and monitors biological and environmental data to follow biophysical data trends on existing aquaculture sites and new growing areas to support sustainable industry expansion.

FFA offers business development programs and advisory services to the agriculture and agrifoods industry. The Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program provides non-repayable financial support to further strengthen and grow the agricultural sector including investment in agricultural land development and infrastructure to support food self-sufficiency. The Community Garden Support Program provides financial assistance to community organizations, municipalities, and schools to establish new community gardens or expand existing gardens. FFA also delivers the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP), a federal-provincial cost-shared program, that provides investment to strengthen domestic market development, agriculture innovation and growth, risk management, environmental sustainability and climate change, value-added agriculture and agrifood processing, and public trust. FFA offers business

advisory services to new entrants and existing farmers to research and analyze opportunities to increase profitability and competitiveness in the Newfoundland and Labrador agriculture industry.

FFA's forest management programs are responsible for the development of forest-related research programs and science capacity in the province, which is consistent with themes of the Provincial Sustainable Forest Management Strategy.

Through its agriculture research and development programs, FFA also carries out applied research and development to build science-based knowledge and innovation capacity around crop production, soil health and nutrient management. Primary research and demonstration activities are intended to grow and diversify the agriculture industry through collaborative efforts between industry, provincial and federal governments and academic institutions to ensure the science is applicable for use on Newfoundland and Labrador farms.

Sustainable Resource Management

FFA works to ensure a balance between environmental, economic and social values with management plans and programs that safeguard viable resources that are economically sustainable and provide employment.

FFA offers a number of programs and services in the areas of land resource stewardship, forest management, geographic information systems, mapping and land use management. It designates and manages wildlife areas and is responsible for the administration and management of the Province's Crown lands.

The department's forest management and protection programs include: sustainable forest management planning, silviculture, resource roads construction, forest inventory, forest fire suppression, forest insect control, and maintaining Environmental

Management System ISO 14001 certification for forest harvesting operations on Crown land. The fire suppression program, along with FFA’s wildlife control programs, are also important public safety programs.

FFA contributes to the sustainable management of our adjacent fish resources by providing input into federal decision-making processes to ensure the province receives maximum benefit from the resource. FFA also plays a significant role in the sustainable management of our coastal and ocean resources through strong collaborative relationships with other federal and provincial departments, as well as industry stakeholders and academia.

Conservation

FFA is responsible for sustainable management of the resources under its mandate and jurisdiction, such as our province’s forest, agricultural and land resources. It protects and conserves the province's biodiversity, fish and wildlife resources and wildlife habitat. Additionally, FFA designates and manages wildlife areas to support conservation efforts. FFA is responsible for identifying, designating, developing and implementing recovery strategies for species at risk according to the **Endangered Species Act**.

Primary Clients

The primary clients of FFA include individuals or groups who use the department’s services and resources and who have an influence on its business. In delivering its mandate, FFA identifies the following as primary clients:

Agriculture	
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Horticulture Council of Newfoundland and Labrador
Chicken Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador	Newfoundland and Labrador Beekeepers Association

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026

Dairy Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador	Newfoundland and Labrador Fur Breeders Association
Egg Producers of Newfoundland and Labrador	Newfoundland and Labrador Young Farmers Forum
Farmers and Producers	Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture
Food First NL	Pet and Livestock Owners
Fisheries and Aquaculture	
Aquaculture Operators	Marine Institute (Centre for Fisheries Ecosystem Research)
Association of Seafood Producers	Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association
Fish Harvesters	Processing Plant Workers
Fish, Food and Allied Workers – Unifor	Seafood Processors of Newfoundland and Labrador
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Unaffiliated Seafood Buyers and Producers
Forestry	
Canadian Council of Forest Ministers	Natural Resources Canada - Canadian Forest Service
Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Ltd.	Newfoundland and Labrador Lumber Producers Association
Domestic and commercial harvesting and sawmill operators	Newfoundland and Labrador Forest Industry Association
Forestry Safety Association of Newfoundland and Labrador	Northern Peninsula Loggers Association
FPInnovations	Registered Professional Foresters of Newfoundland and Labrador
Maritime Lumber Bureau	Value Added and Secondary Manufacturers
Wildlife	
Atlantic Salmon Federation	Nature Conservancy Canada
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society	Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association
Canadian Wildlife Service	Parks Canada
Ducks Unlimited Canada	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Friends of Salmonier Nature Park	Stewardship Association of Municipalities
Hunters, trappers and anglers	Tourism operators
Labrador Hunting and Fishing Association	
General	
College of the North Atlantic	Humber Environment Action Group
Environmental groups	Indigenous Governments and Groups
General public	Memorial University – Grenfell Campus

Vision

The vision of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture is that of sustainable renewable resources that are responsibly developed for the social, cultural, ecological and economic well-being of the province.

Strategic Issues

These actions support the strategic directions of government, namely a healthy economy, healthier people, better living, and a prosperous future.

Strategic Issue 1 - Development and Growth of Renewable Resources

Newfoundland and Labrador’s abundance of renewable resources continue to be a significant source of economic, cultural and recreational value for residents of the province. Over the next three years, FFA will continue to respond to the needs of renewable resource sectors by continuously pursuing strategic opportunities and seeking to remove barriers to better support sector growth and cultivate conditions that foster increased business activity and stimulate employment in these sectors. Where necessary, this will include modernizing legislation and developing policies to support

industry growth. The growth of the renewable resources industry translates into real socio-economic benefits for our rural, coastal and inland communities.

Goal

By March 31, 2026, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have supported development and growth of renewable resources for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Goal Indicators

- Supported industry diversification, growth and development in renewable resource sectors.
- Modernized legislation and policies to support industry development and growth.
- Researched the impacts of climate change on renewable resource sectors and identified potential mitigations to minimize impacts.
- Developed and implemented a multi-species aquaculture strategy.
- Enhanced the agriculture industry and furthered provincial food self-sufficiency and security.

Objective 2023-2024

By March 31, 2024, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have developed and implemented initiatives to facilitate the development and growth of renewable resource sectors for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Indicators

- Completed a timber resource analysis to provide opportunities for advancing timber production and forest enhancement.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026

- Launched the Aquaculture Multi-Species Research and Development Fund and commenced development of a Multi-Species Aquaculture Strategy.
- Enhanced data collection methods to support advancement of multi-year forest management planning and reforestation initiatives.
- Implemented the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership Agreement and the Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program by providing funding to support sustainability and growth of the agriculture sector.
- Upgraded equipment and strengthened programs at the Centre for Agriculture and Forestry.
- Supported fish harvesters and processors to improve productivity and operational efficiencies.
- Supported initiatives to identify new market opportunities and expand international markets for fish and seafood products.

Objective 2024-2025

By March 31, 2025, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have further developed and implemented initiatives to facilitate the development and growth of renewable resource sectors for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Objective 2025-2026

By March 31, 2025, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have continued to develop and implement initiatives to facilitate the development and growth of renewable resource sectors for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Strategic Issue 2 - Sustainable Resource Management

Renewable resources must be protected and managed sustainably and in a manner that recognizes the cultural significance of these resources as well as the social, economic, and recreational activities related to them. Over the next three years, FFA will continue to manage the provinces renewable resources to ensure that future generations also benefit from Newfoundland and Labrador's valuable resources. Additionally, FFA will continue to enhance the resilience of the province's renewable resources to the effects of an increasingly changing climate. In our efforts to support activities that explore and mitigate the impacts of climate change, FFA will also improve sustainability of our forests, wildlife and plant biodiversity, along with other renewable resources. By focusing on sustainability and adapting to climate change, resources in Newfoundland and Labrador will thereby be managed in such a way to maximize their socio-economic benefits for the people of the province.

Goal

By March 31, 2026, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have enhanced the sustainable management of renewable resources for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Goal Indicators

- Modernized legislation and policies to support sustainable resource management.
- Improved sustainable management of wildlife, wildlife habitat, forests, fisheries, agriculture, and land resources.
- Increased resilience to the effects of climate change on the province's renewable resources.
- Enhanced animal health and protection.

Objective 2023-2024

By March 31, 2024, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have developed and implemented initiatives to enhance the sustainable management of renewable resources for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Indicators

- Advanced initiatives to better manage the Province's approach to wildfire management.
- Progressed development of legislation regarding resource enforcement and development of enforcement related amendments to other relevant legislation.
- Continued actions to manage spruce budworm populations and infectious animal diseases of concern.
- Advanced a fish processing licensing review by conducting research, including a jurisdictional scan, to determine industry best practices.
- Implemented science-based management and monitoring of wildlife populations to protect and conserve wildlife resources.
- Increased in-province capacity to conduct preliminary testing of reportable animal diseases and modernized the Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory.
- Implemented the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program and On-Farm Climate Action Fund under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership by providing funding to support sustainability of the agriculture sector.
- Supported silviculture and research into reforestation and forest improvement.
- Initiated tree planting projects to capture carbon, enhance biodiversity and expand provincial forest coverage.

Objective 2024-2025

By March 31, 2025, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have further developed and implemented initiatives to enhance the sustainable management of renewable resources for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Objective 2025-2026

By March 31, 2026, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will have continued to develop and implement initiatives to enhance the sustainable management of renewable resources for the socioeconomic benefit of the province.

Annex A – Strategic Directions

Strategic directions are the expressions of desired physical, social, or economic outcomes that would normally require action by, or involvement of, more than one government entity. These directions are generally communicated by government through platform documents, the Speech from the Throne, annual budget speeches, and policy documents. The **Transparency and Accountability Act** requires departments and public bodies to take into account these strategic directions in the preparation of their performance-based plans.

These following strategic direction themes were considered, as appropriate and applicable, in the development of this document.

- A Healthy Economy
- Healthier People
- Better Living
- A Prosperous Future

Annex B – Inactive Entities

There are 22 category three entities which report to the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture.

The following entities are category three public bodies which report to the Minister of FFA and were inactive for either the period from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 (for fiscal year-end entities), or January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 (for calendar year-end entities):

- Forest Land Tax Appeals Board
- Newfoundland and Labrador Farm Products Corporation

In the event that either of these public bodies becomes active, it will prepare and table an Activity Plan and subsequent Annual Performance Reports in compliance with the Act.

