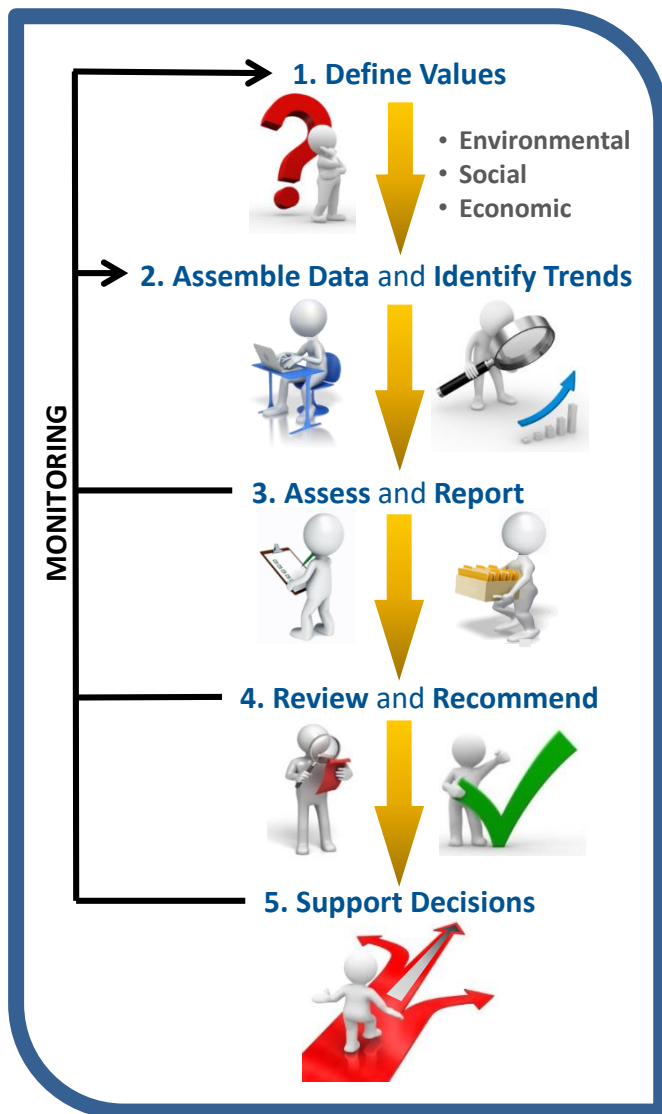




What is it?

The Cumulative Effects Framework is a set of policies, procedures and decision-support tools to assess and track the current condition and trend of values to ensure they stay within government's existing objectives.

The Framework



Safeguarding Values

The Cumulative Effects Framework is not a stand alone policy – its principles will be integrated into existing government business and program areas.

If cumulative effects assessments determine that a value is approaching a level of concern, then management responses will be considered and options identified to bring that value back on track.

Implementation

Implementing the Cumulative Effects Framework will be a process – it's complex. A phased, adaptive management approach will be used so the Framework can be refined and improved as we gain experience during implementation. This process will also allow us to proactively manage the risk of cumulative effects during implementation.

Once implemented, the Cumulative Effects Framework will be a made-in-B.C. solution to some of our complicated and challenging problems of the natural resource sector.

For more information visit: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/cumulative-effects-framework>

Or contact us at: CumulativeEffects@gov.bc.ca

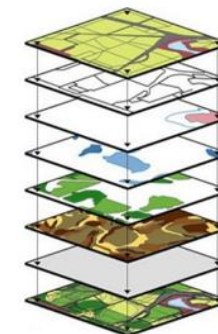
Cumulative Effects Framework

Assessing and Managing Cumulative Effects in British Columbia

**Improved Stewardship
For Our
Resource Values**



Cumulative effects are changes to environmental, social and economic values caused by the combined effect of past, present and potential future activities and natural processes.



The Province is already managing cumulative effects using a number of its existing stewardship tools, such as:

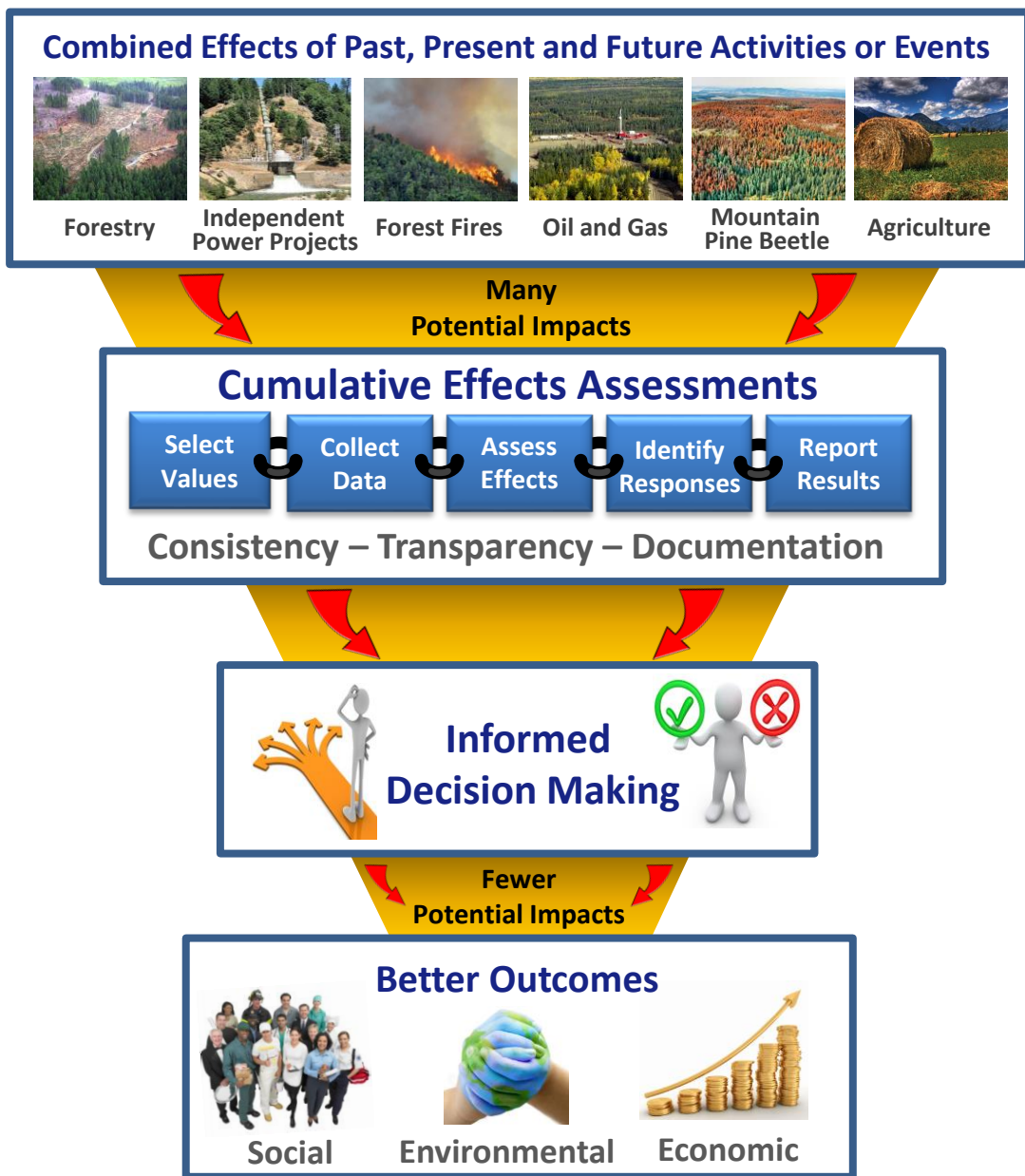
- parks and protected areas
- strategic land use planning
- monitoring, research and inventory
- management designations, including wildlife habitat areas, ungulate winter ranges, and conservation lands – to name a few

The Cumulative Effects Framework will bring an integrated and consistent approach to cumulative effects assessments and resource management across the natural resource sector.

Additionally, the Cumulative Effects Framework will help minimize any potential unintended consequences from natural resource development on those environmental, social and economic values that are important to British Columbians.

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS FRAMEWORK

The Cumulative Effects Framework uses cumulative effects assessments to help inform and support decision making so there are fewer potential impacts on values.



The Cumulative Effects Framework focuses on the big picture. Cumulative effects assessments are conducted on a broad scale, not on a project-by-project or sector-by-sector basis.



The Benefits

- Streamlines authorizations
- Improves outcomes for values
- Contributes to legally supportable and lasting decisions
- Supports consideration of potential impacts to Aboriginal and Treaty rights

Cumulative Effects Framework Implementation

Before Implementation

Addressing User Needs

Limited data available to the public
Uncertain expectations for proponent

Assessment Approach

Project-focused assessment of effects
Variable assessment approaches

Decision Support

Varying data and information
Sector specific management responses

Better Outcomes

Focused on preventing adverse effects
Variable results for values

Shift

Client Oriented

Values Focus

Consistency & Coordination

Outcomes Focus

After Implementation

Open access to cumulative effects assessments
Clear and consistent expectations upfront

Values-focused assessment at a broad scale
Clear and consistent assessment approaches

Consistent cumulative effects information
Coordinated management responses

Focused on achieving desired outcomes
Improved condition of values