



APR 02 2019

Mr. Pat Kehoe
Co-Chair, Canadian Wetlands Roundtable
Director of International Partnerships,
Ducks Unlimited Canada
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Mr. Frank Annau
Co-Chair, Canadian Wetlands Roundtable
Director of Environment and Science Policy,
Canadian Federation of Agriculture
envsci@canadian-farmers.ca

Dear Mr. Kehoe and Mr. Annau:

Thank you for your correspondence of February 6, 2019, sharing the Canadian Wetlands Roundtable's recommendations for the development of a national wetlands inventory. I regret the delay in responding.

I appreciate the Roundtable's views on the importance of conserving wetlands, and the ecosystem services it provides to Canadians. As you know, the federal government participates and supports various wetland conservation initiatives, including the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. Canada is also an active member of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

In 2016, Environment and Climate Change Canada developed the Extent of Canada's Wetlands Indicator under the Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators (CESI) program (www.ec.gc.ca/indicateurs-indicators). The Indicator is a measure of the extent of Canadian wetlands and is derived from several data sources, including provincial and territorial governments, as well as the Canadian Wetland Inventory, managed by Ducks Unlimited Canada. The Indicator uses the highest quality datasets that are available, but accuracy varies regionally. I agree that a more complete and accurate inventory would help improve the reporting, monitoring and management of wetlands in Canada, and contribute to the delivery of Canada's national strategies and international commitments related to wetlands.

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As new technologies become available, the Department will seek to integrate datasets into a national wetlands inventory that supports the CESI program. Environment and Climate Change Canada will continue its partnerships with Natural Resources Canada and other federal departments to improve the development and availability of an authoritative geospatial dataset and its dissemination through the Open Government's Open Maps website at <https://open.canada.ca/en/open-maps>.

I appreciate your taking the time to bring this information to my attention, and I extend my best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C McKenna', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, P.C., M.P.
The Honourable Navdeep Bains, P.C., M.P.
