

**PROJECT ELEMENT FOUR  
INVENTORY OF INFORMATION ON ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS**

**Project Element Status as of December 14, 2001**

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
1. Assemble Project Element Technical Subcommittee (TSC)	Aug. 2000-Jan. 2001	In Progress	Candidates identified, and members have been meeting regularly.
2. Ecological Impacts TSC meetings	Jan. 2000-Sep. 2002	In Progress	Project Secretariat assisted with Canadian Indicators Workshop on April 10-11, 2001 in Burlington, ON. Results of workshop were utilized by Ecological Impacts TSC for the successful conduct of the Experts Workshop on November 13-14, 2001. TSC has met periodically by conference call over the course of the project.
3. December 12, 2000 Develop Project Element Work Plan	Dec. 2000-Jan. 2001	Complete	Presented and approved at April 5, 2001 PMT meeting. Revised in December 2001 consistent with PMT decisions.
4. Literature Search and Analysis - Ecological Impacts	Aug. 2000-July 2001	Complete	Consultant Michel Slivitzky was retained for this task, and supplemental funds were secured from Environment Canada for study conduct. A contract was executed; the interim report was submitted in April 2001, and a final (revised) report was submitted to, and accepted by the PMT in November 2001.
5. Inventory of Existing Models	Aug. 2000-July 2001	In Progress	Consultant Rao Manam (Great Lakes Center, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) was retained to assemble material for a descriptive inventory. An interim report was received in April 2001. Commission staff and consultant (Limno-Tech) are refining a draft inventory and will complete in February 2002.

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6. Experts Workshop	Aug. 2001-Oct. 2001	Complete	Project Secretariat staff and selected PMT members presented at/participated in a mid-April workshop organized by Environment Canada in Burlington, ON. Among others, the focus was on 1) means to determine minimum streamflow requirements to minimize/avoid ecological impacts of water withdrawal; and 2) indicators that can be employed to assess such impacts. Project Secretariat staff and TSC members also organized and successfully conducted a workshop on November 13-14, 2001 in Ann Arbor. More than 35 experts from a dozen disciplines participated, along with many PMT members. The focus was on identifying "essential questions" that need to be asked (and tools that should be used) to assess ecological impacts of water withdrawal. Proceedings document available in January 2002.
7. "Resource Improvement" Analysis	Dec. 2001-Feb. 2002	In Progress	This additional task was authorized by the PMT in June 2001. It will entail preparation of a "white paper" that presents alternate definitions of "resource improvement," review of case studies and applications; and identification of issues and recommendations associated with Annex 2001 implementation.
8. Synthesis Report	May 2001-Jan. 2002	To be completed	This project activity will be initiated and completed in the November 2001-January 2002 timeframe, following completion of the preceding project tasks.