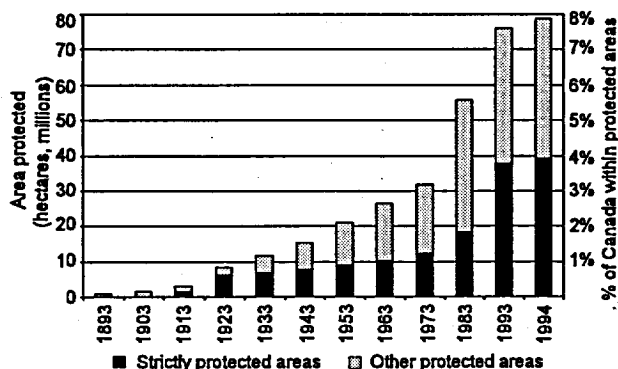


Growth in the Establishment of Protected Areas in Canada



Note:

- (1) Strictly protected areas include nature reserves, wilderness areas, national parks, many provincial parks, and natural monuments.
- (2) Other protected areas include habitat/species management areas, protected landscapes and seascapes, and managed resource areas.

Source: Environment Canada

Canadian governments have increased the number of protected areas as part of efforts to preserve species at risk and conserve representative ecosystems.

especially in more heavily populated parts of the country. We continue to lose lands due to inefficient models of urban development, and questions about the protection of habitats such as wetlands remain.

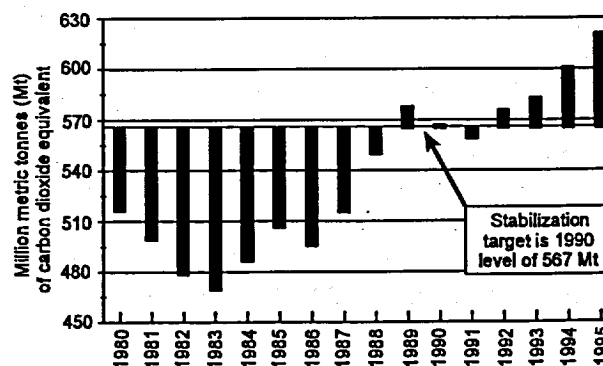
There is international consensus, through the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, that human activities are having a discernible influence on the global climate. Canada is projected to experience greater temperature changes than most regions of the world. Potential consequences for Canada of climate change include increased heat waves, floods, droughts, and storms, as well as major shifts in forestry, agriculture, and fisheries resource bases and damage to northern ecosystems.

In 1995, approximately 89 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions in Canada were attributable to transportation and fossil fuel

production and consumption. Reducing fossil fuel use in Canada is a challenge, due in part to our large landmass, cold climate, an increasing population, and a growing economy.

While Canada has made gains in efficiency and in reducing carbon dioxide emissions, we have recognized that we will not meet our commitment under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to stabilize greenhouse gas emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2000. Recent forecasts estimate that Canada's emissions, in the absence of additional measures, are likely to exceed 1990 levels by 8 percent in the year 2000. To improve our performance, the federal government announced a number of initiatives in December 1996, which include research, education, technology commercialization, an enhanced Climate Change Voluntary Challenge and Registry Program, and regulatory measures. In addition, the federal government will work with the provinces and territories to strengthen and expand the National Action Program on Climate Change. All levels of government have agreed to explore new actions to meet our climate change objectives.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Comparison to Stabilization Target (1980-1995)



Source: Environment Canada

Canada's greenhouse gas emissions have risen steadily since the early 1980s.