

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA

Who We Are

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) is the federal government department specializing in the sustainable development and use of natural resources, energy, minerals and metals, forests and earth sciences. At NRCan, we deal with natural resource issues that are important to Canadians. We look at these issues from both a national and international perspective, using our expertise in science and technology, policy and programs. How we manage our land and resources today will determine the quality of life for Canadians both now and in the future.

What We Do

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) provides four main services to Canadians.

- We conduct leading-edge science and technology to provide Canadians with ideas, knowledge and technologies. This helps Canadians use their country's resources wisely, reduce costs, protect the environment and create new products and services.
- We build and maintain a national knowledge infrastructure on Canada's land and resources, so all Canadians can easily access the latest economic, environmental and scientific information.
- We ensure that federal policies and regulations on issues such as the environment, trade, the economy, Canadian land and science and technology enhance the natural resources sector's contribution to the economy. At the same time, we make sure these policies and regulations protect the environment and the health and safety of Canadians.
- Together with international agencies and other nations, we promote Canada's international interests. This helps Canada meet its commitments related to natural resources, and keeps access open to global markets for Canadian products, services and technology.

How We Work

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has evolved significantly over the last few years. Today, we focus on core federal responsibilities and play an increasingly active role at the international level. Most importantly, we have reoriented our policies, and our science and technology programs, to ensure the sustainable development of our natural resources: the integration of economic, social and environmental objectives in decisions to develop energy, forestry and mineral resources.

NRCan's Earth Sciences Sector provides geoscience and geomatics information to support public policy decisions. This sector also provides support for polar science, as well as expertise and technology to help clients exploit domestic and foreign markets.