



# Environmental Flow Needs

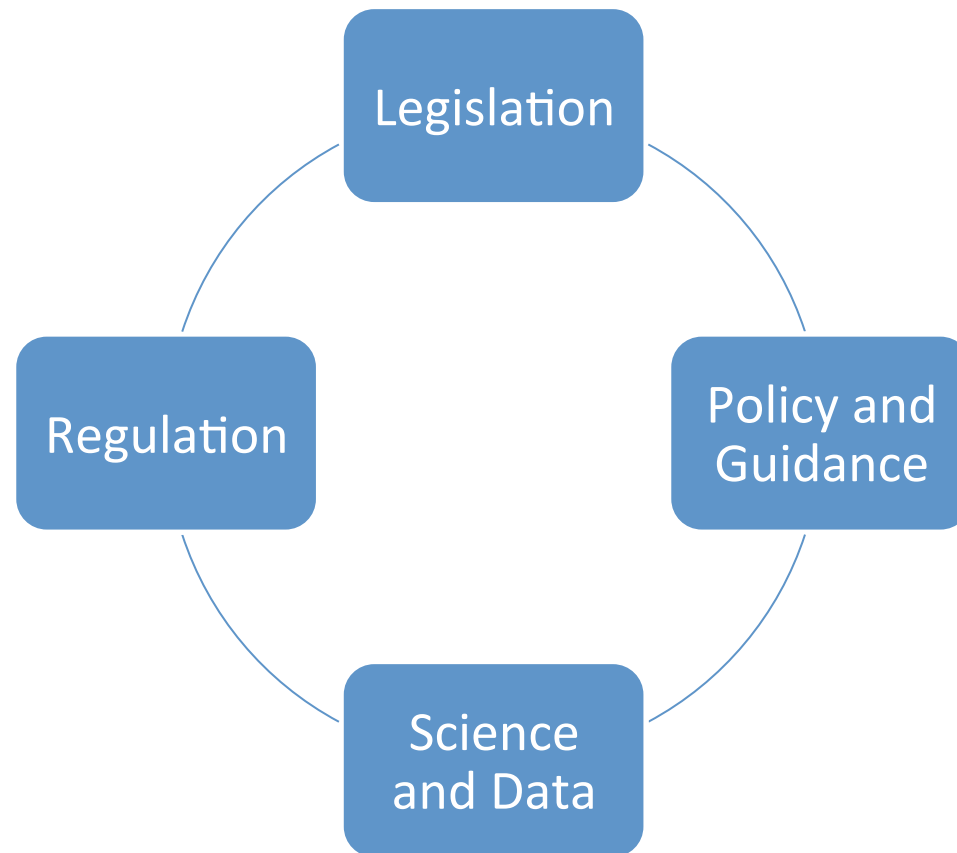
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Comptroller of Water Rights

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development

# Provincial Approach to EFN

*“in relation to a stream, means the volume and timing of water flow required for the proper functioning of the aquatic ecosystem of the stream”*





## **WSA Section 15 “Must consider”**

- Decision makers are expressly required to consider EFN
- Discretionary for licensing existing groundwater use
- Discretion of decision-maker to request any information relevant to EFN

# Other Legislative Protections for Aquatic Ecosystems

- Temporary protection orders (during shortages)
  - Critical Environmental Flows
  - Fish Protection Orders
  - Essential household needs protected
- Licence Terms and Conditions
- Water reservations for conservation purpose



# EFN and Future Regulation

- Water Objectives
- Water Sustainability Plans
- Other Regulation





# Status of Provincial EFN Work

- EFN technical guidance document (FLNRORD)
- Working collaboratively with ONA and OBWB on regional EFN studies
- Training related to EFN and determining hydraulic connection
- Science and technical work

