



3-Year Vision for WBM Evolution

1. **PURPOSE:** This document describes the planning framework for achieving the short-term and long-term goals of the Inter-Governmental Partnership (IGP) in implementing and evolving the *Water Balance Model for British Columbia* (WBM).
2. **BACKGROUND:** The decision by the IGP to go straight to a web-accessible tool:
 - 2.1 Increases the opportunities to promote its widespread use.
 - 2.2 Results in greater need to provide training in its use.
 - 2.3 Places responsibility on the IGP to provide coordination and oversight
3. **PROJECT VISION:** The over-arching goal of the IGP is to promote changes in land development practices. This will be achieved over time.
 - 3.1 **Short Term Goal** – For application of the WBM to become standard practice for land use decisions, there must be:
 - 3.1.1 Confidence in the science behind the hydrology engine.
 - 3.1.2 The GUI must be easy to understand and simple to use.
 - 3.2 **Long Term Goal** – As use of the WBM becomes standard practice in British Columbia for land development decisions, then the WBM can evolve into a more sophisticated tool at two levels:
 - 3.1.1 Hydrology Engine
 - 3.2.2 Interfacing with Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
4. **PLANNING FRAMEWORK:** Refer to Attachment #1 for an overview of the 3-year plan that will create the momentum to undertake successive phases as listed below:
 - 4.1.1 Phase 1 – Develop & Implement Graphical User Interface (GUI)
 - 4.1.2 Phase 2 – Build Demonstration Projects to Build Confidence
 - 4.1.3 Phase 3 – Incorporate Technical Enhancements and Linkages
5. **NEXT STEPS:** The IGP will develop a detailed roadmap for getting to Phases 2 and 3, and that addresses how the IGP will:
 - 5.1.1 Generate self-sustaining funding for website maintenance
 - 5.1.2 Decide when and how to incorporate additional modules
 - 5.1.3 Obtain funding for incorporation of additional modules
 - 5.1.4 Track, document and publicize WBM case study applications by Partners
 - 5.1.5 Fulfill an umbrella role for coordination and oversight in sharing WBM results
 - 5.1.6 Incorporate a feedback loop so that case study results can be used to improve the WBM engine
 - 5.1.7 Generate funding for WBM fine-tuning as may be needed once case study results are available for calibration and validation