



Post-2000 Acid Rain Strategy 5-Year Review

Acid rain Workshop on Taking
Stock and Next Steps,
Gatineau, February, 2005

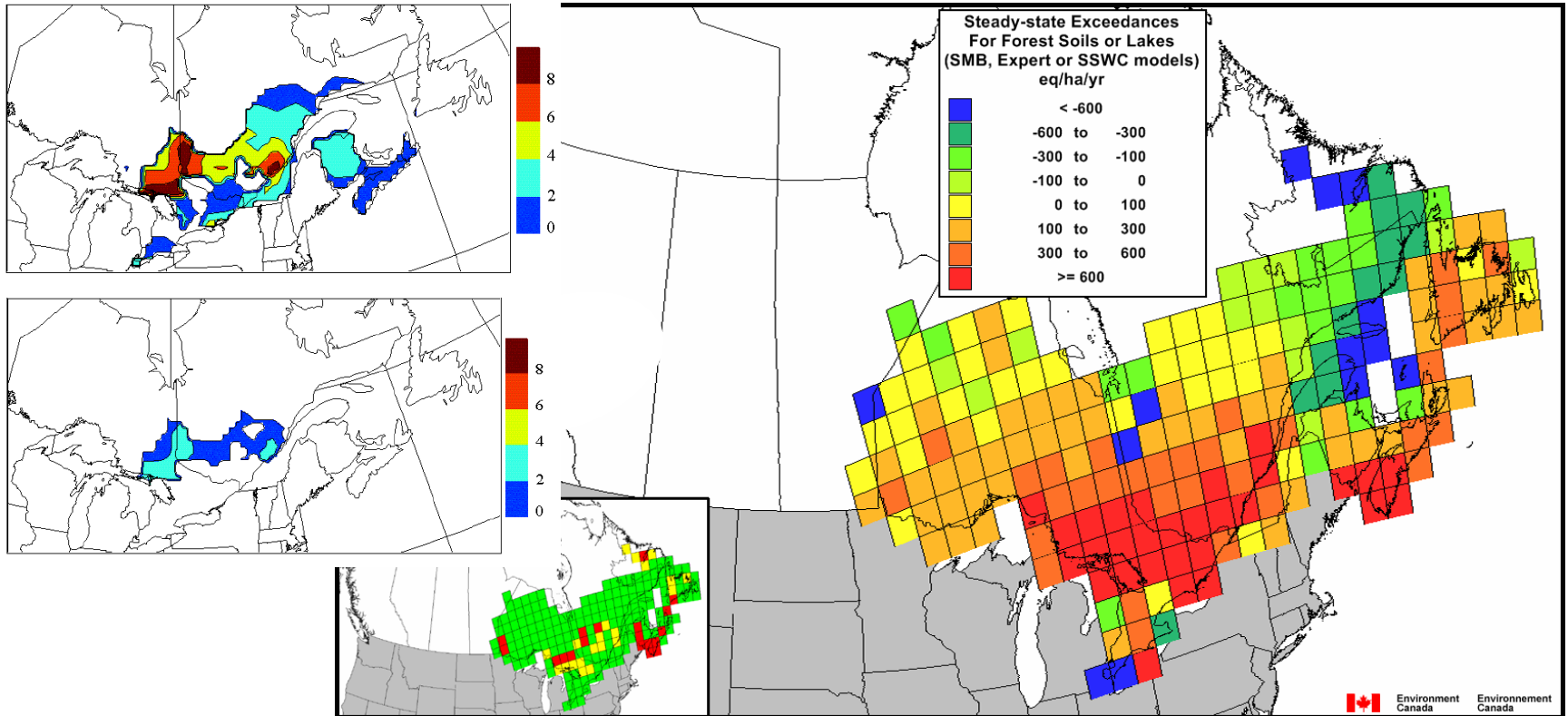
Canada has made excellent progress:

- eastern Canada SO₂ cap of 2.3 M tonnes (almost 30% below cap in 2000)
- International Emission Reduction Commitments under UN ECE LRTAP Convention & Canada-US Air Quality Agreement
- permanent national SO₂ cap of 3.2 M tonnes (~ 25% below cap)
- SOMA SO₂ cap of 1.75 M tonnes (~ 35% below cap)
- stabilize NO_x emissions at 1987 levels (currently below 1987 levels)

1998 Canada-Wide Acid Rain Strategy for Post-2000

- Signed by **all** federal/provincial/territorial Energy and Environment Ministers
- Main elements:
 - Meet critical loads
 - Reduce acidifying emission in Canada and US
 - Prevent pollution and keep clean areas clean
 - Maintain our science and monitoring program
 - Reporting and Communication

Long term goal of the post-2000 strategy is to reduce acid deposition to below the critical Loads across Canada



5-Year Review: Where Are We?

- Not a requirement of the Strategy, but:
- Its important to review the Strategy:
 - is it effective?
 - is it working?
 - are the goals still appropriate?
- It's a commitment by commitment review
- "Next Steps" to be informed by Workshop

Meet critical loads:

- Our agreed long term goal
- Then: wet sulphate – aquatic ecosystems
- Now: wet & dry – sulphur & nitrogen
aquatic ecosystems & soils
Kg/ha/yr to eq/ha/yr
- We need to widen coverage to West & North
(Deposition & Critical Loads)

Reduce Emissions in Canada & US

- In the East:
 - we have met SO₂ targets and set new ones:
 - Ont 885 Kt to 442.5 Kt in 2015*
 - Que 500 Kt to 250 Kt in 2010
 - NB 175 Kt to 87.5 Kt in 2010
 - NS 189 Kt to 94.5 Kt in 2010

* Under review

Emissions targets (contd.)

- In the West:
 - no set SO₂ caps though sources regulated
- Nationally:
 - SO₂ Cap of 3.2 Mt - NOx cap at 1994 levels
- SO₂ & NOx caps in transboundary region.
- For the US: (Canada-US AQA)
 - 1991 commitment to roughly 50 % SO₂ cut and 20 % NOx cut. In 2000 further NOx cuts to meet Ozone standards.

Pollution prevention & Keeping clean areas clean:

- Minimize emissions growth – continuous improvement
 - controls on new and existing sources
 - address transboundary flows - *interprovincial* and *international*
 - multi-pollutant approaches linked to PM, O₃ & climate change
- This remains an ongoing challenge:
Balancing growth pressures.

Maintain our science and monitoring program

- Setting priorities for Continuing monitoring is critical
 - support science – track progress
 - upgrade & broaden modelling
 - address more of the problem e.g. nitrogen dry deposition, new areas.
- Assess role of nitrogen
 - work begun with initial results on forest soils, mechanisms and critical loads
- Completed 1999 5-year Science review

Key recommendations of the Science Coordination Subgroup include:

- Sustain and prioritize monitoring in key areas:
 - air and precipitation-aquatic ecosystems
 - terrestrial ecosystems, forests
- Investigate effects on materials
- Intensify work on Nitrogen
- Investigate and quantify issue synergies
- Improve Models
- Maintain stakeholder partnerships and sharing of information, work and resources

Reporting and Communication

- Reporting and assessment of compliance with commitments (NO_x and SO₂)
- Annual reports on domestic programs (annual AR report)
- Provide Acid Rain information to Canadians
- Improve and target communications:
 - overcome current “its fixed” view
 - transmit new findings to key stakeholders

Next Steps

- The 5-year review will set out “next steps”
- The Task Group wants your advice:
 - What is critical?
 - What is important?
 - What can be de-emphasized?
 - What should we do next?
 - Who are our stakeholders (have we missed any)?
 - ?