

EMAN

www.eman-rese.ca



The Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network

Hundreds of partners and practitioners involved in the generation and use of ecological monitoring information collaborate to track and report on ecosystem changes through the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN).



photo: Brian Kotak

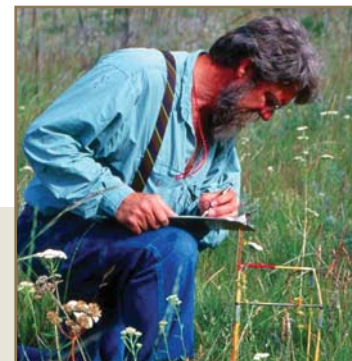


photo: Don Gayton

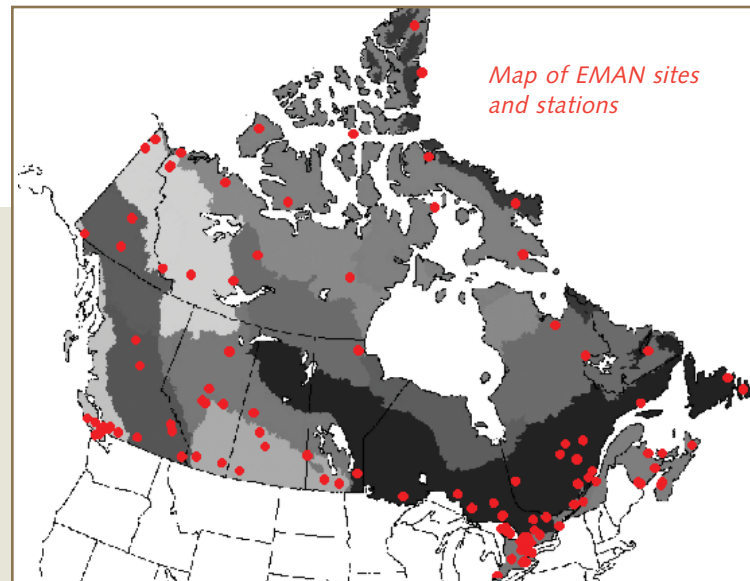
Participants include governments at all levels, non-governmental organizations, parks, landscape managers, community groups, academic institutions, and the general public.

Data on a variety of ecological parameters are collected at long-term integrated monitoring sites and through an extensive network of monitoring stations that span all of Canada's ecozones—in areas ranging from urban to wilderness.

Benefits

The partners involved in EMAN not only contribute to a better understanding of our environment but also have the opportunity to improve their own programs through the sharing of information and resources. The following are just some of the benefits the network offers:

- access to standardized ecosystem monitoring protocols developed by expert scientists and field-tested by partners
- access to workshops, training, equipment, and support as well as metadata, data, and data-management tools
- a forum for sharing innovative approaches, tools, and best practices for effective ecosystem monitoring with other groups across Canada
- the opportunity to contribute to regional or national assessments and peer-reviewed publications on ecosystem conditions



- a venue for communicating results more broadly
- the opportunity to help build a stronger network and to provide input into its directions and priorities

Achievements

The EMAN network has had many important successes over the years. The following are just a few examples:

- collaborating with Parks Canada to develop a suite of environmental measures for implementation in protected areas
- enhancing the Meteorological Service of Canada's ice-observation system by engaging citizens in monitoring ice-on and ice-off as indicators of climate change
- working with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Conservation Authorities to develop a standardized benthic biomonitoring protocol linked to the Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network
- supporting assessments of ecosystem change, such as the *National General Status of Freshwater Mussels*, *Assessments of Species Diversity in the Montane Cordillera and Mixedwood Plains Ecozone*, and *The State of the Crown of the Continent*

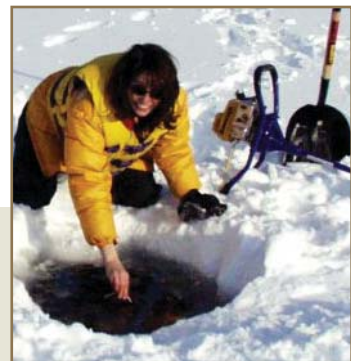


photo: Todd Paget

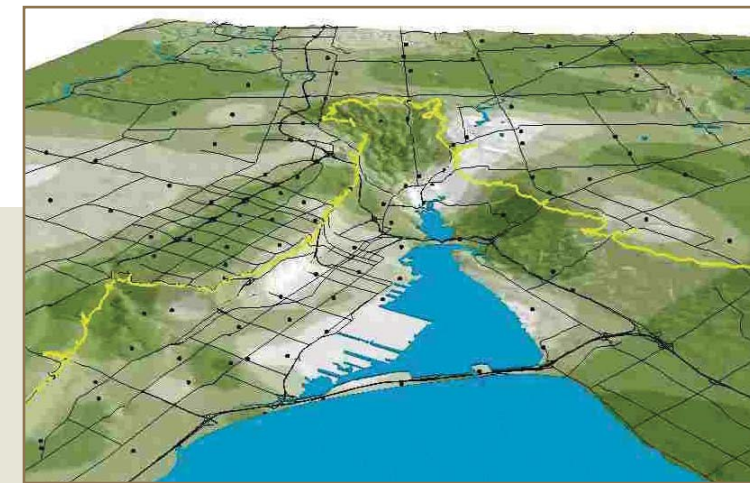


photo: Brian Craig

- developing and editing three special issues of the peer-reviewed journal *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment* through partner contributions
- testing ways to engage citizens and communities in the creation and use of monitoring information to support adaptive management
- hosting annual multi-disciplinary National Science Meetings where partners network, present results, and set priorities to improve EMAN's effectiveness

EMAN Coordinating Office

Environment Canada's EMAN Coordinating Office (EMAN CO) facilitates integrated monitoring, research, and assessment across partner agencies and organizations. EMAN CO aims to inform decision making by helping partners to deliver scientifically robust and policy relevant information on the status and trends of Canadian ecosystems and emerging environmental issues. EMAN CO supports multi-party community-based monitoring, a process where stakeholders collaborate to monitor, track, and respond to issues of common community concern.

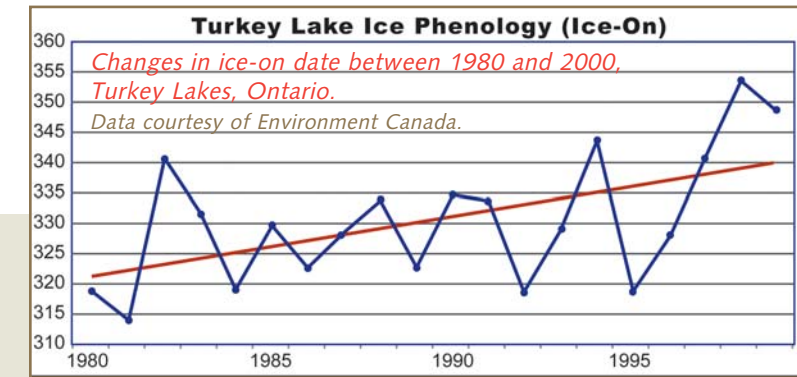


Relative lichen species diversity and abundance across the City of Hamilton. Source: Dan McCarthy, Brock University

NatureWatch

The EMAN Coordinating Office encourages citizen scientists to get involved in ecological monitoring through NatureWatch—a set of Internet-based monitoring programs that include FrogWatch, IceWatch, PlantWatch, and WormWatch. Volunteers use EMAN protocols to record and share observations on the natural environment in their communities. The program is collaboratively managed by EMAN Coordinating Office, Nature Canada, and provincial and territorial coordinators. Canadians of all ages are welcome to participate!

Visit www.naturewatch.ca.



More Information

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photo: Lisa Grbinicek