



J. Dalziel

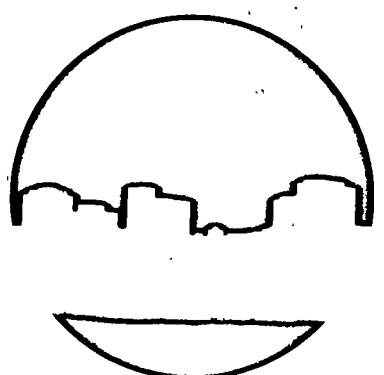
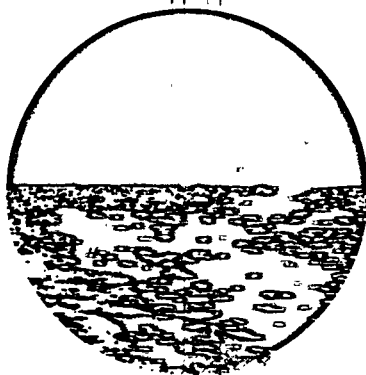
annual report/79-80

Atlantic Regional Library
Environnement Canada
JUL 26 1988
Bibliothèque de la région
de l'Atlantique
Environnement Canada

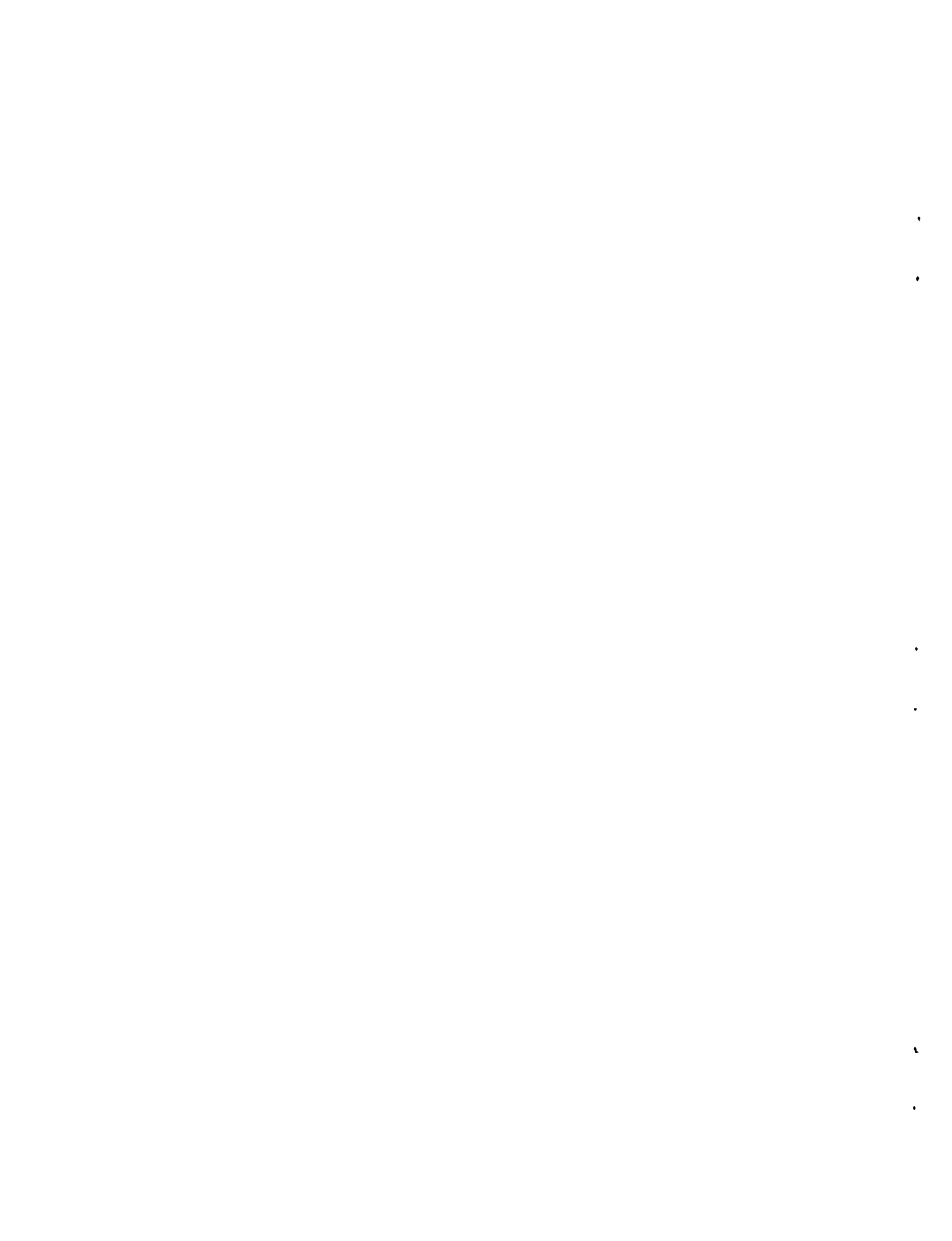
Dartmouth Env. Can. Lib./Bib.



39 066 753



ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1979-80
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SERVICE
ATLANTIC REGION



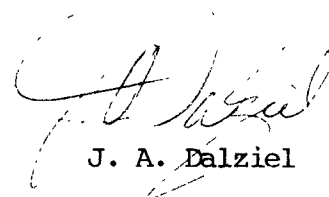
During the fiscal year, our attention began to turn towards those issues which will be the most pressing during the 1980's. The contamination of the environment of toxic chemicals, the long range transport of air pollutants, particularly acid rain, and the management of hazardous wastes are issues that cannot be ignored. The collection of data has already started and programs are being set up to handle these matters. Our human and financial resources are increasingly being used towards the solutions to these problems making our work all the more challenging since we must continue to address pollution problems affecting federally managed resources.

Communication links with the Departments of Environment of the Atlantic Provinces and the public were further enhanced during the year. This is a continuation of the trend that was established during recent years, and much of the credit must continue to go to the District Directors. This concept has been extremely successful and has helped to eliminate the problems that once existed in this area, many of which could be attributed to lack of adequate communication between our two groups. A major shift in the provincial organization took place this year in Prince Edward Island when the responsibility for the environment was transferred to the new Department of Community Affairs. We look forward to continuing the same close cooperation that has existed in the past.

The year began on a rather hot issue when on April 5, 1979, our trailer complex located at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO) was destroyed by fire. Many of our scientists and field technicians lost their personal reference library, which took years to accumulate and cannot be readily replaced. In addition to these personal losses, much field equipment was stored in the complex and the loss resulted in a delay in the beginning of many field programs. We were fortunate in being able to obtain almost instant, alternate accommodations at BIO through the excellent cooperation of the Director General and his staff.

The uncertainty that still exists relative to the role of DFO and DOE in the field of environmental protection continues to lead to much speculation on the future role of the Service. As problems of this nature have an adverse effect on morale and productivity, there is a need to resolve these issues as quickly as possible.

The following information describes highlights of the Region's efforts in terms of outputs and achievements in relation to the use of the resources available.



J. A. Dalziel

Introduction	i
Contents	ii
Programs	
Air Pollution Control	1
Water Pollution Control	2
Environmental Emergencies	4
Federal Activities	5
Waste Management	6
Contaminants Control	7
Management and Common Support Services	8
Financial and Person-Year Reports	9

OBJECTIVE

To define the air pollution problem and to promote the attainment of desirable air quality levels and control emissions of air contaminants deemed a significant danger to health or environment.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS

The air pollution program was very active in the past year. Studies of the Long Range Transport of Air Pollution conducted by this Region indicate that 75 percent of the sulphur being deposited by the atmosphere on Nova Scotia originates from outside the Province, while 25 percent is from local sources. Monitoring of aerosol sulphate and precipitation quality at a rural site in Nova Scotia has allowed us to determine that the deposition of sulphur from the atmosphere is about 15kg/hectare from sources outside Nova Scotia. It was also determined that in Nova Scotia about 80 percent of the deposition of sulphur is by rain and snow. A survey of lake water quality of lakes in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia revealed that acidity has increased from two to five times during the past 20-25 years.

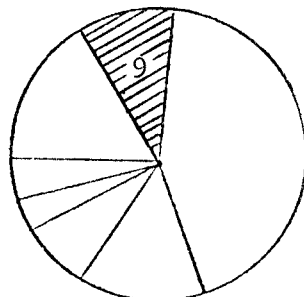
In cooperation with the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and the Centre for Energy Studies, a survey of fuel and emissions was carried out on 600 vehicles. An average saving of 16 percent in fuel costs and reduced air pollution emission resulted.

An extensive pollution control program at Advocate Mines in Baie Verte, Newfoundland, is nearing completion. The emission tests of asbestos fibres emitted from the dryer and the primary and secondary crushers showed that these sources were in compliance.

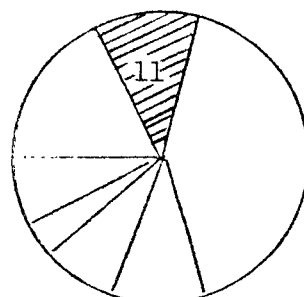
The installation of the scrubber at the St. Anne-Nackawic Pulp and Paper Mill funded under the Demonstration of Pollution Abatement Program in New Brunswick is completed. Emission tests for the scrubber demonstrate that it is successful in controlling emissions of particulate matter, sulphur dioxide and odourous sulphur compounds.

RESOURCES UTILIZED

Operating Expenditures
(percent)



Person-Years (percent)



OBJECTIVE

To identify and define water pollution problems, and develop, implement and advance environmental protection by prevention and enhancement measures to achieve water quality adequate to provide the medium for the management of renewable resources and support a maximum diversity of other water uses.

To prevent the degradation of the oceanic environment by dumping of hazardous materials.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The water pollution control efforts have been highlighted by a number of achievements. In cooperation with provincial authorities, acceptable compliance schedules have been developed with two pulp and paper mills - Price-Abitibi Newfoundland, Grandfalls, and Bowaters Newfoundland, Cornerbrook.

Negotiations are proceeding with Bowaters Mersey, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick International Paper, Dalhousie, New Brunswick, to finalize a compliance schedule. There were substantial improvements at other pulp and paper plants in the Region - Fraser's, Edmundston, New Brunswick; Masonite Canada, Chester, Nova Scotia (non-toxic effluent); and Irving Pulp and Paper, Saint John, New Brunswick. Of particular note, Boise Cascade on the Miramichi River, New Brunswick, started up a new dry debarking woodroom and discontinued by-passing of bark being discharged to one of our more important salmon rivers.

Two refineries, Texaco and Imperial Oil in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, came into compliance with the Refinery Regulations completing a five-year compliance schedule.

The Atlantic Region conducted 19 bacteriological surveys in support of the United States - Canada Bilateral Agreement on Shellfish. As a result of these surveys, more acreage was reopened for harvesting than was recommended for closure.

A major report on coal mining and coal washing practices in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was completed and will allow the Environmental Protection Service to evaluate more effectively on new proposals for mines and wash plants.

Communication and cooperation with provincial environment agencies on pesticides application projects have improved. Federal environmental concerns are now identified in a coordinated manner and advice is provided to achieve a greater and more appropriate degree of environmental protection. This effort was assured through inspections and sampling programs.

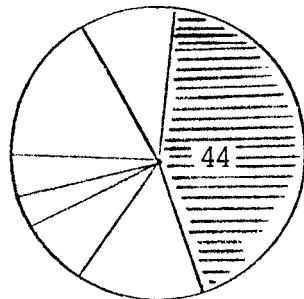
Effluent guidelines and regulations were implemented at 33 meat and poultry, potato processing, dairy product and fish processing plants where impacts were anticipated on fish and shellfish resources.

A total of 176 Ocean Dumping Control Act applications were reviewed and 154 permits were issued. Inspections were conducted at 15 sites including the Restigouche and Miramichi estuaries where major projects with potential problems are underway or planned.

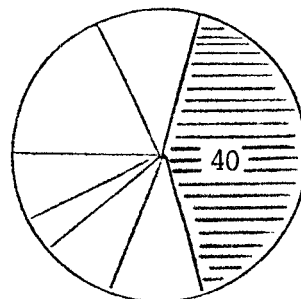
Legal action initiated against CIL Ltd. in Dalhousie, New Brunswick, for violations of the chlor-alkali effluent regulations under the Fisheries Act has followed a complicated route including an appeal to the New Brunswick Court of Appeals on the legality of the Federal/Provincial Environmental Accords and the constitutionality of the Fisheries Act.

RESOURCES UTILIZED

Operating Expenditures
(percent)



Person-Years (percent)



OBJECTIVE

To enhance the environment and protect it from the effects of environmental emergencies.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

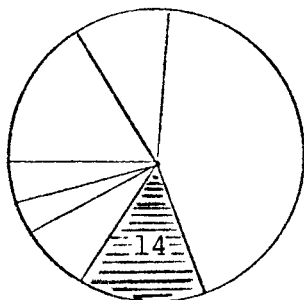
During the first four months of the year most of the resources of the Environmental Emergencies Division were devoted fully to the Kurdistan incident. A great deal of credit should go to these people and to the other staff members who worked tirelessly for several months to ensure that the oil was cleaned up in an environmentally safe manner. The cooperation that existed between all agencies during this period was commendable. Our post-event evaluation revealed a number of minor operational problems that are currently being actioned. As a result of this incident and the creation of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Regional Environmental Emergency Team concept is being reviewed.

A spill prevention package for the training of tank truck drivers was developed for incorporation into the Atlantic Petroleum Association training program. Such cooperative ventures have been very effective as has been demonstrated by a similar program designed for firemen.

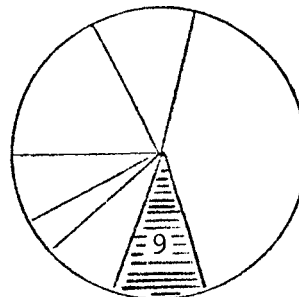
Response was provided to 800 spill reports of which 117 were classified as significant. Although the majority of these spills involved oil, other hazardous materials are requiring an increasing effort.

RESOURCES UTILIZED

Operating Expenditures (percent)



Person Years (percent)



OBJECTIVE

To ensure environmental protection from the impact of all facilities operated or under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government.

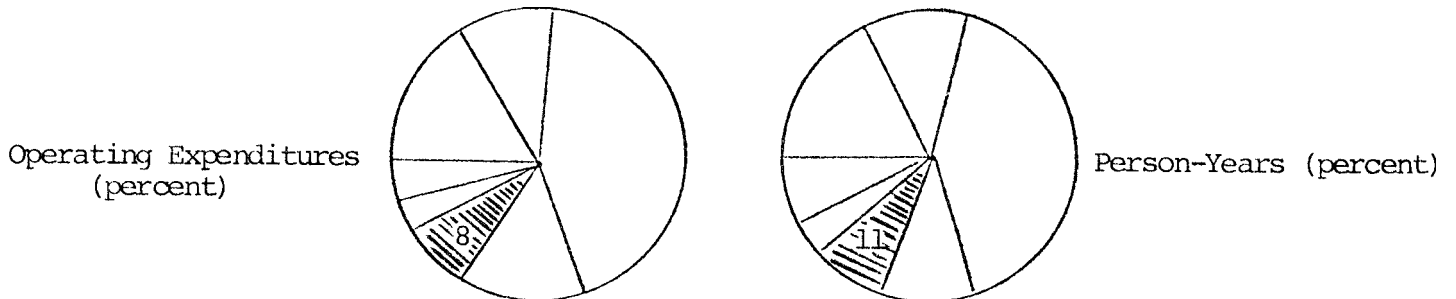
HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENT

Considerable time continued to be spent in the review and promotion of environmental impact assessments. The regional office was heavily involved in the review of the pipeline proposal for moving natural gas east from Montreal through the Maritimes. That Environmental Impact Statement highlighted a significant shortcoming in Environment Canada's ability to influence the National Energy Board's decision-making on such projects. Other major projects receiving consideration were the Donkin coal mine in Cape Breton, Annapolis River tidal power project and a northern New Brunswick zinc smelter.

Greater emphasis has been placed on the promotion and development of screening mechanisms by other federal departments for the environmental implications of their projects. In particular, good cooperation has been achieved with the Department of Public Works by providing workshops for their project managers to describe the types of environmental problems which can be encountered. Similar efforts will be made with other departments and agencies.

Exploratory drilling for hydrocarbons in the offshore area continued at a rapid pace throughout the year and a total of 12 holes were drilled, the most promising of which was Hibernia P15. As a result of this find the drilling continued in the Grand Banks area throughout the winter. Although our attempt to restrict drilling into and testing in oil bearing strata during the winter did not meet its primary objective, it did result in a more meaningful dialogue between Environment Canada and Energy, Mines and Resources Canada thereby ensuring that environmental concerns were properly addressed.

RESOURCES UTILIZED



OBJECTIVE

To reduce, and protect against, the adverse impacts of human health and the environment resulting from activities associated with all aspects of solid and hazardous waste management and to encourage recovery and reuse of waste materials.

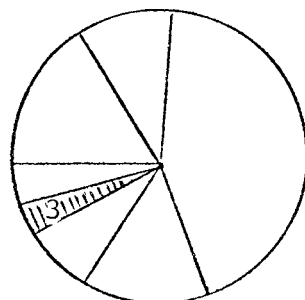
HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Regional Hazardous Wastes Management Program has proceeded to the point where three candidate Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility sites were identified and the inventory of hazardous wastes for the Maritimes was completed. This cooperative federal/provincial program will continue in an attempt to select and develop a suitable hazardous wastes management system. It is worthy to note that 200 requests for assistance in disposing of hazardous wastes were responded to during the year. The regional office has also developed a quick reference system on methods of safely disposing of hazardous wastes.

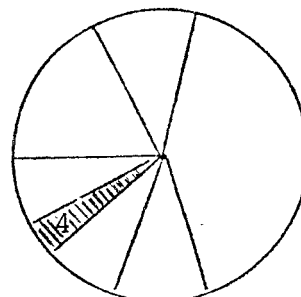
A viable resource recovery program yielded significant results - paper recovery from federal establishments grew 10 fold to more than 200 tonnes per year, silver to 3000 oz. per year. Unfortunately, as a result of the national program review, the Environmental Protection Service regional offices are to phase out of this program.

RESOURCES UTILIZED

Operating Expenditures
(percent)



Person-Years (percent)



OBJECTIVE

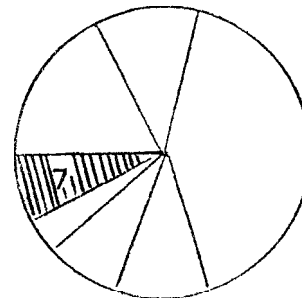
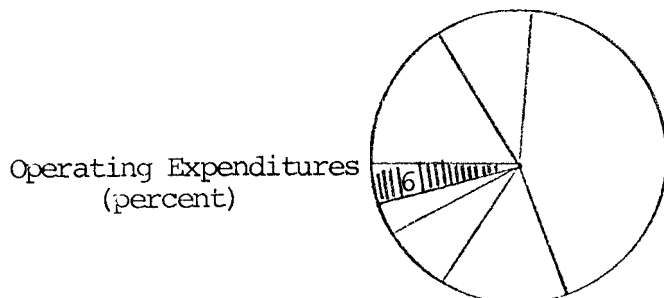
To limit or prevent the entry of contaminants into the environment.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Region developed a long-term operational plan for the evaluation and investigation of regional contaminant problems from the report on Environmental Contaminants in the Atlantic Region.

As a result of press publicity, several new owners and users of Poly-chlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) containing equipment were discovered, and public attention was focused on the PCB problems in Atlantic Canada. Dioxin contamination of the environment in the immediate vicinity of two regional wood preserving operations were also defined for possible regulation of chlorophenol release.

PCB contamination at three former United States communication sites in Labrador was inspected and controlled at substantial cost. Final cleanup of these sites is expected to take place in 1980 once ownership has been resolved as there remains a concern for potential threat to public health.

RESOURCES UTILIZED

Person-Years (percent)

OBJECTIVE

To provide direction to national and regional Service programs and to provide administrative financial and information support for an efficient and effective operation.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

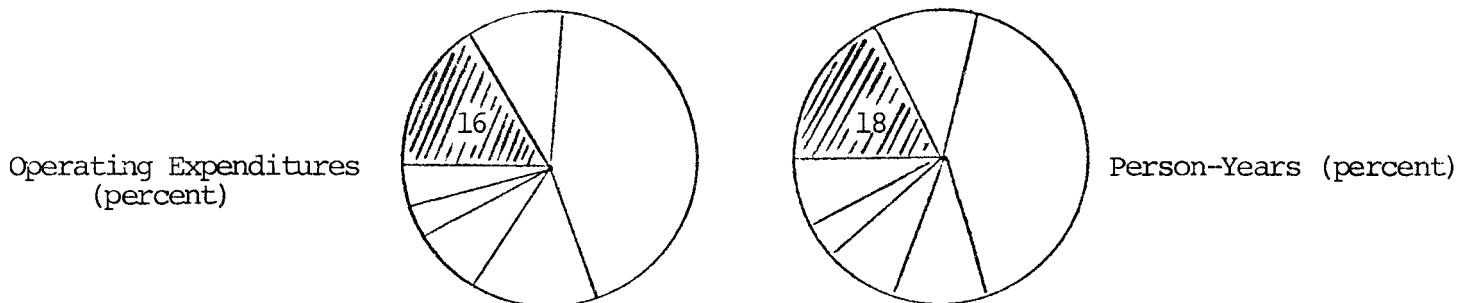
During the year the Region converted the existing manual financial system to the computerized Financial Allotment Control System. This difficult transition took place without any major problems and we are only beginning to realize the potentials of this system in areas of planning, control and evaluation.

The Resource Utilization Inventory System continued to prove its worth in the provision of time reporting summaries on a monthly and quarterly basis. With the additional validation procedures implemented this year, the accuracy of the results was greatly improved.

Improvements were also made on existing planning and financial accounting procedures in areas of person-year projections, overhead costings and financial reporting and control.

The Slide Tape Show on environmental protection was well received and has since been modified into a film strip for use in schools. A teacher's guide was also produced to accompany the film strip. Work also continued on the Environmental Workbook which should be available for distribution in late 1980.

RESOURCES UTILIZED



Expenditures during fiscal year 1979/80

Salaries	\$2,196,083.26
Operating Expenditure	811,130.10
Capital	31,970.43
Summer Youth Employment Program	54,412.39
Summer Job Corps	61,130.62
Special Allotment and Studies	113,444.86
TOTAL	<u>\$3,268,171.66</u>

Person-Year Utilization during fiscal year 1979/80

Operational	60.7 PY
Laboratory	7.6
Travel	3.5
Training and Conferences	0.8
Program Direction and Coordination	6.3
Leave, Stat. Holidays	10.7
TOTAL	<u>89.6 PY</u>

