



Hydro-Québec's Biodiversity Strategy

2022-2026



Biodiversity is the variety and abundance of living organisms (plants, animals, fungi, etc.), their interactions and the ecosystems in which they live. Biodiversity is essential to the well-being of people and their activities, which depend to a large extent on the services nature provides. However, biodiversity is clearly in decline, and it is important to act now to reverse the loss of natural capital.

Preserving, enhancing and taking biodiversity into account in our actions and decisions means reducing our environmental footprint, fighting against climate change, ensuring the longevity of our activities and contributing to a more sustainable world.

Hydro-Québec's fourth Biodiversity Strategy distinguishes itself from previous strategies through heightened ambitions on all fronts. The action plan will be deployed gradually, beginning in fall 2022.



Four action fronts

1 Increase resilience

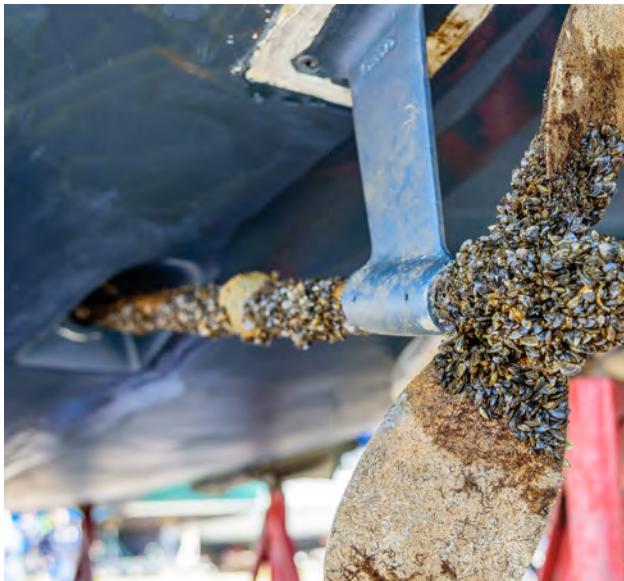
Nature's resilience is largely dependent on healthy biodiversity. As a result, it is essential to preserve or restore it through actions aiming to:



- Integrate biodiversity in territory planning and development.
- Favor projects and practices that support nature's resilience.
- Encourage nature-based solutions.
- Act in highly impacted areas (urban, peri-urban and agricultural).

2 Reduce threats

Though nature is constantly evolving, its ability to adapt is limited. We must therefore continue to minimize factors leading to the erosion of biodiversity. We are committed to:



- Limiting the loss of habitat, protecting and restoring nature, and promoting connectivity between natural spaces.
- Considering biodiversity as an essential element in the fight against and adaptation to climate change.
- Avoiding the introduction and propagation of invasive exotic species.
- Responsibly and respectfully managing resources affecting biodiversity.
- Reducing our sources of pollution and limiting waste production.

Four action fronts

3 Improve knowledge

It is important to understand our dependency on biodiversity, the services that nature provides, our impacts on them and the role of our infrastructure. For this reason, we plan to:

- Develop research strategies and partnerships with holders of Indigenous and local knowledge, various levels of government, university researchers and environmental groups.



4 Share knowledge



Mobilizing and sharing knowledge is essential for protecting and enhancing biodiversity. In this regard, we intend to:

- Raise awareness among our managers, staff and partners so that they develop the reflex to take biodiversity into account when making decisions and before operational activities are carried out.
- Share current best practices and develop innovative practices.
- Inform the public and raise their awareness of issues surrounding biodiversity and actions implemented by Hydro-Québec.

