

## **Restoration Priorities Plan for Pacific Region**



DFO Restoration Centre of Expertise Salmon Enhancement and Habitat Advisory Board June 2024

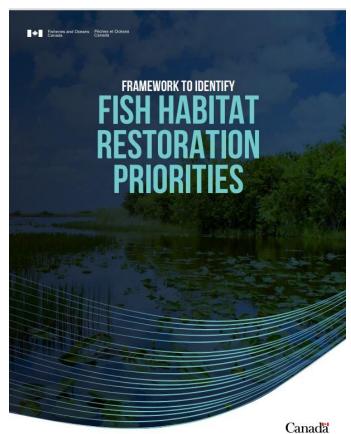
#### **Presentation**

- 1. Habitat Restoration Priorities Plan for Pacific Region
- 2. Engagement
- 3. Timelines
- 4. Review Draft Goals and Objectives
- 5. What We're Hearing
- 6. Questions/Feedback



# What is the Restoration Priorities Plan for Pacific Region?

- Guided by DFO's National Framework to Identify Fish Habitat Restoration Priorities
- Evergreen document that will outline and prioritize fish habitat restoration goals for Pacific Region
- Led by the Restoration Centre of Expertise





#### **Restoration Priorities Plan for Pacific Region**

Purpose: To establish

habitat restoration priorities

for

**British Columbia and** Yukon



#### **Purposes of the Restoration Priorities Plan**

- Prioritize restoration resources among the restoration community
  - First Nations and Inuit Governments
  - Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Municipal Governments
  - ENGOs, Community Groups, Academia, Industry
- Support decision-making and funding opportunities
- Guide for more localized restoration priority planning





#### **Restoration Priorities Plan for Pacific Region**



#### All fish species and life stages

- Salmonids
- Forage fish
- Shellfish and crustaceans

#### All fish habitats

- Terrestrial: riparian and upland habitats that support fish habitat
- Aquatic: nearshore, estuary, tidal flats, wetlands, floodplains, rivers, and lakes

#### **Engagement**

- Regional engagement with BC and Yukon restoration community
  - Let's Talk Pacific Salmon website with more information
- 5 BC First Nations engagement sessions facilitated by the First Nations Fisheries Council of BC (April)
- 2 DFO Sessions (May)
- 2 Sessions for BC Practitioners (June)



DFO/FNFC Interior Region engagement session in Kelowna on April 30, 2024.





#### Phase 2 - Survey









Home / Phase 2 - Habitat Restoration Priorities Plan for British Columbia and Yukon / Phase 2 Survey: Habitat Restoration Goals and Objectives

#### Phase 2 Survey: Habitat Restoration Goals and Objectives

The survey can take 10-60 minutes depending on your level of interest and how much you would like to share.

We encourage registering for a Let's Talk Pacific Salmon account, so that you may save your progress and return to the survey at any time.

This survey is open until July 31, 2024.

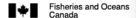
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#### Why Provide an Email?

We're asking people to provide an email on Let's Talk Pacific Salmon so that we can better ensure a respectful and productive online conversation, and have more context about your unique perspective.

By registering your email address, you may save your progress and return to the survey at any time.

For further details see the <u>Terms of Use</u> and <u>Privacy Policy</u>. Let's Talk Pacific Salmon will not replace targeted engagement with First Nations, Indigenous organizations, other partners, and key stakeholders.







## **Development Timeline**

	Phase 1	ase 1 Phase 2 - Developing Goals and Objectives							Drafting First Edition of RPP							
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Internal		Review & Engagem <mark>ent</mark>														
Indigenous	Review & Engagement			Re	view & E	Engageme	ent									
Province Territory Municipal eNGOs Consultants Industry	Review & Engagement			Re	view & E	Ingageme	ent								<b>&gt;</b>	
RCOE Team	Drafting Goals and Priorities									Draft st Edition ion Priori				Launch ration Prio Plan iical Docu		







## **Draft Goals and Objectives**

Draft Restoration Goals	Draft Restoration Objectives						
Increase the quantity, quality, & diversity of aquatic habitat	<ul> <li>Restore natural processes in watersheds and along marine shorelines (e.g., process-based restoration: create space in the riverscape for flooding and channel migration, improve longshore drift and regain natural sediment transportation)</li> <li>Increase habitat diversity (e.g., large wood, bioengineered habitat)</li> <li>Improve the quantity &amp; quality of fish habitat needed for spawning, rearing, feeding, refuge, overwintering, &amp; migration</li> </ul>						
Improve habitat connectivity	Reconnect or reconstruct instream, shoreline, off-channel, floodplain, & wetland						
(i.e., lateral, vertical and	habitat and improve lateral river flow						
horizontal water flow)	Promote groundwater recharging						
Improve fish passage	<ul> <li>Remove barriers to migrating fish such as coastal floodgates, jetties, weirs/dams, &amp; undersized culverts</li> </ul>						
Improve water quality	<ul> <li>Maintain &amp;/or improve stream temperature using shading methods (e.g., overhanging vegetation, large wood)</li> <li>Protect or improve access to groundwater sources &amp; cold water refugia</li> <li>Increase riparian vegetation cover (i.e., improve filtration to reduce point source pollution, decrease anthropogenic sources of sedimentation)</li> </ul>						
Improve water quantity for fish	<ul> <li>Increase channel complexity &amp; reduce channelization to slow flow</li> <li>Develop or expand storage opportunities (e.g., promote groundwater recharging)</li> <li>Contribute to improving water depth &amp; fish passage conditions</li> </ul>						
Re-establish regenerative slope stability	<ul> <li>Plant &amp; seed native trees &amp; shrubs to stabilize slopes at higher elevations in the watershed</li> <li>Reduce slope length using bioengineering techniques to encourage vegetation growth</li> <li>Revegetate riparian areas with native trees and shrubs</li> </ul>						





### What We're Hearing\*

\*As of May 2024

- Content of the plan:
  - There is general support for the draft goals and objectives.
  - We should adopt key principles guiding RPP and project selection:
    - Climate change mitigation and resiliency
    - Uphold First Nations Rights, Title, jurisdiction and Indigenous Knowledge
    - Align plan with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
  - Rethink "priorities" and what is "important"
    - Everything is connected, All is one, Interconnected food webs
- Funding
  - More, long-term, stable and accessible
- Collaboration, coordination, trust and partnerships
  - Between DFO, BC, ECCC, Transport Canada, First Nations & Municipal Governments
- Monitoring
  - Standardized protocols, baseline and long-term, data sharing
- Habitat protection, harvest moratoriums and improved enforcement





## Questions/Feedback?

Strategic Initiatives, Restoration Centre of Expertise

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#### **Feedback & Review Process**

