
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Pêches et Océans Canada

Background

- Wild Salmon Policy (WSP) released on June 24, 2005 with \$1.1M in funding for FY 05/06
- WSP is the foundation for reform of fisheries and habitat management in the Pacific Region. It directly supports two of the four major themes:
 - Sustaining strong salmon populations by setting clear conservation objectives based on the principles of the Wild Salmon Policy;
 - Strengthening DFO programs that are critical to conservation, such as habitat protection, enforcement and the scientific assessment of stocks;



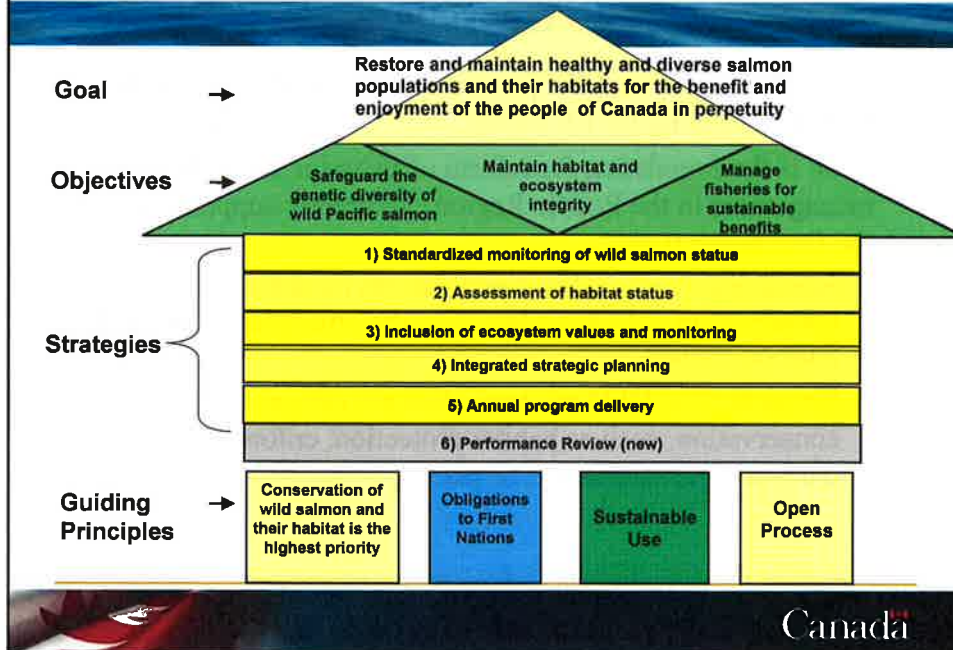


Background

- The WSP is part of Pacific Fisheries Renewal and supports the DFO Strategic Plan priorities of Science Renewal and Environmental Process Modernization.
- Implementation of the WSP is a major activity within DFO's Sustainable Development Strategy.
- The WSP will transform the management of salmon, their habitat and ecosystems.



WSP Structure





A Period of Change

- An explicit commitment to protect the genetic diversity in Pacific salmon
- Resource management will shift from large stock aggregates to focus on stewardship of essential building blocks of salmon diversity – i.e. conservation units
- All local spawning groups of salmon will be accounted for within CUs and two ‘Benchmarks’ to define their status (Lower value is a key addition to salmon assessment)
- Ecosystem considerations will be incorporated into decision making

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A Period of Change

- Conservation goals within CUs will be defined in long term strategic plans.
- Strategies to monitor and protect habitat will be developed, and integrated with salmon assessments and harvest planning.
- Performance in achieving goals of this Policy will be monitored, reported publicly, and reviewed.
- Consultation processes will be inclusive and transparent involving First Nations, Municipal, Provincial and Territorial governments, sport, commercial and environmental interests

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Implementation

- At the time of its announcement Minister Regan stated that implementation will begin immediately.
- DFO operations will need to immediately consider the intent of the WSP goal, objectives and principles.
- It is recognized that full implementation will take time, in the order of 5 years.
- WSP will be implemented within available resources, however the \$1.1M provided for FY 05/06 will jump start the implementation and focus on startup activities.



Implementation – A Phased Approach

Phase	Objective(s)	Date
1- Scoping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Completion of detailed Implementation Plan including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Establish Committee/Team/Advisory structure □ Assign resources – projects by Implementation Strategy (1-6) and Start-up Action Steps □ Determine timelines □ Consultation ■ Preliminary identification of CU's and their status 	June 2005- December 2005
2- Interim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provision of advice on CUs of concern for 2006 Fishery and programs for FY 2006/07 ■ Completion of Start-up Action Steps with functioning Interim planning process. 	January 2006- March 31, 2007
3- Final	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Completion of Action Step process 	2010



Implementation Action Steps

1. Standardized monitoring of wild salmon status

- **Identify Conservation Units**
- **Develop criteria to assess CUs and identify benchmarks to represent biological status**
- Monitor and assess status of CUs

2. Assessment of habitat status

- **Document habitat characteristics within CUs**
- **Select indicators and develop benchmarks for habitat assessment**
- Monitor and assess habitat status
- Promote and support linkages to develop an integrated data system for watershed management

Red bullets – Startup Action Steps

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Implementation Action Steps

3. Inclusion of ecosystem values and monitoring

- **Identify indicators to monitor status of freshwater ecosystems**
- Integrate climate and ocean information into annual salmon management processes

4. Integrated strategic planning

- **Implement an interim process for management of priority CUs**
- **Design and implement a fully integrated strategic planning process for salmon conservation**

Red bullets – Startup Action Steps

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Implementation Action Steps

5. Annual program delivery

- Assess the status of Conservation Units and populations
- Plan and conduct annual fisheries
- Plan and implement annual habitat management activities
- **Plan and implement annual enhancement activities**

6. Performance review

- Conduct post-season review of annual workplans
- Conduct regular reviews of the success of the WSP

Red bullets – Startup Action Steps

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Budget Allocations

- A total of \$1.1M announced on June 24, 2005.
- 400K of this is allocated to Salmon Science related to Williams
- The remaining 700K will be allocated to WSP implementation as follows:
 - Science 400K
 - Fisheries Management 200K
 - Habitat 100K
- Projects will be developed to address tasks identified under the WSP Action Steps.
- Resources will be tracked to ensure the allocations specifically address WSP implementation

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Implementation Structure

WSP Implementation Steering Committee

Chair: RDG

Members: Regional Directors from Science, OHEB, Fish Management, Treaty and each Area

Responsibility: Overall direction and accountability for implementation



Implementation Team

Chair: WSP Coordinator

Members: Representatives from Science, OHEB, Fish Management, Treaty and each Area

Responsibility: Representing and communicating with constituents, communication with Project Leaders where Branch has lead, briefing up.



Project Team(s)

Chair: Project Leader

Members: Staff, consultants, partners engaged in project.

Responsibility: Managing implementation projects



Consultation

- Consultation on WSP implementation will build on successful First Nations and multi-interest processes used in policy development.
- Commitment to FN and stakeholders to engage them fully in development of the implementation plan and in key areas of CU identification and planning process.
- First Nations approach based on:
 - bi-lateral processes with each First Nation.
 - BCAFC Policy Committee and Forum advice.
 - Developing linkages through AAROM bodies.
- A smaller WSP Implementation Advisory Forum based on March/April will be convened when necessary to receive advice from salmon interests



Communication Strategy

Objective : Effective communication with the general public, First Nations, stakeholders and staff regarding progress of WSP implementation.

- Brochure/Executive Summary
- Website – Status of WSP; links to information sources on CU and Habitat status;
- Articles/Papers – Pacific Currents, Fisheries-Climate Workshop-Special WSP Session



Implementation Timeline

Date	Activity	Lead	Deliverable
August 2005	Appointment of WSP Steering Committee and Implementation Team	RDG/RMC	List of appointees to RDG
	Development of Project Proposals to complete Scoping and Interim Phases	WSP Coordinator and Implementation Team	Package of proposals to RMC for approval Sept 6
	Initiate Project to begin ID of CUs	WSP Coordinator/ Science	Project proposal for approval by RMC Aug 23



Implementation Timeline

Date	Activity	Lead	Deliverable
September 2005	Convene FN and Multi-interest Forums to review policy and implementation plan	WSP Coordinator	2 day Forums held
Sept-Dec 2005	Preliminary definition of CUs and Status	Science	Report on CUs and Status
	Completion of Implementation Plan	WSP Coordinator	Plan completed for RMC approval Oct 31
January 2006-March 2007	Interim phase – completion of Start-up projects	WSP Coordinator	Plans for CUs of Concern Functioning Response Teams and Interim Planning process



Internal Challenge

- Develop working linkages among watershed, marine and fisheries planning and operational programs.
- Affect change through redirection of existing resources and expanding partnerships.
- Build and support an open, interest-based consultative processes.
- Provide leadership to affect culture change.



RMC Response and Direction

- Endorsement of the general approach.
- Have we missed anything?
- Advice on Implementation Team structure.
- Other concerns

