

## **Position Description**

### **Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

<b>Position Title:</b>	Director General, Ecosystem Programs Policy
<b>Position Number:</b>	32736
<b>Department:</b>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
<b>Sector:</b>	Policy
<b>Classification:</b>	EX-2
<b>Supervisor's Title:</b>	Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy
<b>Location:</b>	Ottawa
<b>Date:</b>	

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#### **General Accountability:**

Accountable for the development of legislation, regulations, and operational policies and standards to support the effective, efficient, coherent and timely management of impacts of works and undertakings related to non-fishing activities on fish and fish habitat, and for the provision of federal and operational guidance to ensure national coherence in the implementation of the *Species at Risk Act*, and the DFO SARA Program, including leadership of the development of related DFO SARA parliamentary, legislative and regulatory processes. Provides strategic leadership with respect to the review and modernization of the Habitat Management Policy. Directs DFO's consultation processes and external relations with respect to habitat management and SARA. Advises senior management, provides functional guidance and support for the Regions, and supports various committees.

#### **Organization Structure:**

This is one of three management positions reporting to the current ADM, Program Policy. The others are the DG, Fisheries and Aboriginal Policy; and the DG, Aquaculture Management.

Reporting to the DG, Ecosystems Programs Policy, are the following management positions:

##### **Director, Habitat Management Policies and Practices (Staff of 21):**

Accountable for the development and continual renewal of regulatory and operational policy frameworks, standards, and national implementation strategies and approaches, in support of the implementation of the Habitat Management Program in harmony with departmental strategic objectives and government-wide requirements. Provides advice and support to the Department, OGDs, P/T, Aboriginal groups, municipalities, industry, NGOs and the public on application of the habitat protection provisions of associated legislation and policies. Consults with and engages partners and stakeholders and negotiates agreements with provinces and others. Represents the government and DFO in a variety of interdepartmental, intergovernmental and international fora and at meetings with external organizations.

##### **Director, Species at Risk Policies and Strategies (Staff of 5 + Functional Staff of 95):**

Accountable for managing the development of federal policies and operational policies and guidelines for the implementation of the *Species At Risk Act* for Canada's aquatic species, and for guiding the development and delivery of the DFO's SAR Program nationally and in all regions. Coordinates DFO's SARA policy initiatives development and review with those of Parks Canada with respect to federal lands and Environment Canada with regard to all non-aquatic species, and with the Sectors, P/T governments, Aboriginal communities and organizations, private industry and others to ensure protection of Canada's aquatic and other wildlife species and promote the biological, social and economic sustainability of Canada's aquatic species, and to ensure Canada meets its commitments under the UN Convention on the conservation of Biological Diversity.

### **Nature and Scope:**

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), through legislative authorities, powers, duties and functions is engaged in the development and delivery of regulations, policies, practices and programs in support of Canada's economic, ecological and scientific interests in marine and freshwater inland fisheries waters, oceans and aquatic ecosystems and the safe, efficient and environmentally sound movement of commercial and other traffic over Canada's oceans and inland waterways. The Department is responsible for the development of approaches, strategies, standards, directives and cost recoverable services related to the legislated mandate of the Canadian Coast Guard; and those associated with regulatory, scientific and technical activities related to the control of harvesting of fisheries resources and of impacts of human activities on fish and fish habitat and the sustainable management of Canada's oceans. These programs are delivered through six regional operational centres across Canada: Newfoundland and Labrador, Gulf, Maritimes, Quebec, Central and Arctic, and Pacific as well as the National Capital Region.

The mandate of DFO's Policy Program Sector is to provide policy direction and support for the Department's major programs: Fisheries Resources Management; Habitat Management; Aquaculture; Aboriginal Affairs; and Species at Risk. The Sector also drives the Department's renewal agenda as determined by Strategic Review and new departmental directions, and by government directions.

Within this context, the DG, Ecosystems Programs Policy, is accountable for the development of legislation, regulations, and operational policies to support the effective, efficient, coherent and timely management of impacts of works and undertakings related to non-fishing activities on fish and fish habitat, and for the provision of federal and operational guidance to ensure national coherence in the implementation of the *Species at Risk Act*, and the DFO SAR Program, including leadership of the development of related DFO SAR Program legislative and regulatory processes.

More specifically, with respect to the Habitat Management Program, the DG is responsible for the development of regulations, operational policies, results- and outcome-based national standards, and practices for the delivery of the Habitat Management Program to fulfill departmental responsibilities under the *Fisheries Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, and to respect the legal Duty to Consult Aboriginal groups. He/she makes certain

that the HMP is evolving to meet the needs and conditions required for fish habitat sustainability and enable the utilization of Canada's renewable fisheries resources and sustain the economic, cultural, social and ecological benefits and opportunities they provide to Canadians, as well as emerging departmental and GOC strategic priorities.

The DG is also accountable for leading and directing regulatory streamlining initiatives and for the provision of advice on the application of legislation and regulations, including the habitat protection provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, on the application of Section 36 on the prevention of pollution to marine and freshwater fish bearing waters of Canada, and the application of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and other EA processes and Duty to Consult Aboriginal groups prior to regulatory decisions. He/she plays a leadership role with regard to the development and implementation of a risk-based approach to the management and protection of resources in risk areas.

In this regard, the DG is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of key linkages and the management of strategic consultations and liaison across DFO, with the policy and scientific community in OGDs, and with the provinces and territories. The incumbent ensures the development of consultative and collaborative relationships with external groups, think tanks, provincial, territorial and municipal governments, industry, ENGOs, CNGOs and Aboriginal groups. In particular, he/she directs the identification of current Best Placed Delivery practices and leads the negotiation of associated Partnering Agreements and other arrangements with the provinces and other stakeholders. He/she manages a watching brief, environmental scanning and liaison activities to identify and articulate policy and legislative issues and federal and provincial legislation, policies and programs that impact on habitat management.

The DG directs the delivery of expert advice and briefings to the ADM and other senior executives on regulatory and policy issues and their implications for the federal agenda and on broad policy and regulatory issues and their implication for the protection of freshwater and marine fish habitat to support the sustained economic utilization of Canada's fisheries resources, and leads the development of recommendations on the optimal approach. He/she ensures the provision of authoritative functional guidance and support regarding the habitat provisions of *Fisheries Act* and related regulations, and advice on key issues related to the application of operational policies, to the Habitat Management Operations Branch of the Ecosystem and Fisheries Sector and the Regional Habitat Management units.

The DG also provides strategic leadership with respect to the review and modernization of the Habitat Management Policy, including the coordination of the undertaking of research and of the provision of scientific advice on habitat policy issues. He/she consults with departmental managers and scientists, in Headquarters and in the Regions, and with senior officials and scientists of P/T governments to discuss and address issues related to defining the habitat management program needs and priorities for research, scientific advice, monitoring, data management and product and technology transfer.

In addition, the mandate of the DG includes responsibility for the development of federal and operational guidance to help clarify, streamline and ensure national coherence in the implementation of SARA and the DFO SAR Program. In this respect, he/she leads the development of federal policies and DFO-specific operational policies and guidelines for the implementation of the *Species At Risk Act* by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans as “competent minister” under SARA responsible for Canada’s aquatic species as defined in SARA and the *Fisheries Act*. This includes, for example, the development of a risk-based framework, permitting guidelines and guidance on non-listed species. He/she provides guidance for the development and delivery of the SAR Program nationally and in all Regions in cooperation with the Sectors, Parks Canada, Environment Canada, and OGDs and other organizations to ensure the biological, social and economic sustainability of Canada’s aquatic species.

As well, the DG leads the provision of advice and support for parliamentary, legislative and regulatory processes, such as SARA parliamentary review, legislative amendments, compensation regulations and program renewal.

The DG is accountable for leading DFO management and staff directly and through regional OHSAR managers and the Regional Managers of SAR in the transmittal of the vision and objectives of SARA, DFO SAR Program policy direction, and the intent of policy and legislative initiatives to lay the basis for a consistent approach to the development and delivery of the DFO SAR Program across all Regions. He/she provides functional direction to SAR Regional Managers in their interpretation of DFO and federal government SAR policies, regulations, and policy guidelines, as well as on new directions sought through new SAR policy and regulatory initiatives, domestically and internationally, to provide them with a dynamic policy framework for their management of the delivery of the DFO SAR Program in each of DFO’s regional organizations across Canada.

The DG provides authoritative advice and recommendations to senior management regarding the scientific evidence defining requirements for the design and implementation of Departmental and federal government policy initiatives under SARA, on the economic merit of existing and proposed DFO and federal government policy initiatives under SARA, and on the effectiveness of SARA in achieving policy and program objectives, including those on the conservation of biological diversity.

The DG directs and leads an extensive process of collaboration and partnership with other Sectors of DFO, other federal departments, provincial governments, Aboriginal groups, environmental and other NGOs, and industry domestically and internationally which includes managing the strategic involvement of DFO with respect to SARA at the CCRM, the CESSC and its various committees, the CCFAM, Wildlife Management Boards, the CWDC, the Interdepartmental SAR Management Committees (DM’s Committee, ADMs’ Committee, and DG Operations Committee), the External Advisory Committees (SARAC/NACOSAR), and such international cooperation committees and working groups as are established for inter-jurisdictional SAR cooperation and issue management and related research, and preparation of briefings, representation, and liaison. He/she represents the Department in consultations and

negotiations with stakeholders to promote the acceptance of DFO habitat management and SAR policy, regulatory, and legislative initiatives for aquatic species protection and sustainable development and their implementation.

### **Dimensions**

Staff:	30
Salary and Operating Budget	\$10 million

### **Specific Accountabilities:**

1. Directs development of regulations, operational policies, results- and outcome-based national standards, and practices for the delivery of the Habitat Management Program.
2. Leads and directs regulatory streamlining initiatives and the provision of advice on the application of legislation regulations.
3. Manages a watching brief, environmental scanning and liaison activities to identify and articulate policy and legislative issues and federal and provincial legislation, policies and programs that impact on habitat management, and briefs the ADM and other senior executives.
4. Provides functional guidance and support to the Habitat Management Operations Branch and the Regional Habitat Management units regarding the habitat provisions of *Fisheries Act* and related regulations, and advice on key issues related to the application of operational policies.
5. Provides strategic leadership with respect to the review and modernization of the Habitat Management Policy, including the coordination of the undertaking of research and of the provision of scientific advice on policy issues and monitoring and data management.
6. Directs the development of federal and operational guidance to help clarify, streamline and ensure national coherence in the implementation of SARA and the DFO SAR Program.
7. Leads the development of federal policies and DFO-specific operational policies and guidelines for the implementation of SARA.
8. Leads the provision of advice and support for parliamentary, legislative and regulatory processes, such as SARA parliamentary review, legislative amendments, compensation regulations and program renewal.

9. Provides functional direction to SAR Regional Managers in their interpretation of DFO and federal government SAR policies, regulations, and policy guidelines, and in the delivery of the SAR Program.
10. Advises senior management on the scientific evidence defining requirements for the design and implementation of SARA, on the economic merit of existing/proposed SARA policy initiatives, and on the effectiveness of SARA in achieving policy and program objectives.
11. Directs and leads an extensive process of collaboration and partnership with internal and external stakeholders on habitat management and SAR, and manages DFO involvement with a number of committees.

**Certification:**

The foregoing is an accurate and comprehensive statement of the duties and responsibilities assigned to this position.

_____ Incumbent	_____ Date	_____ Signature
_____ ADM	_____ Date	_____ Signature