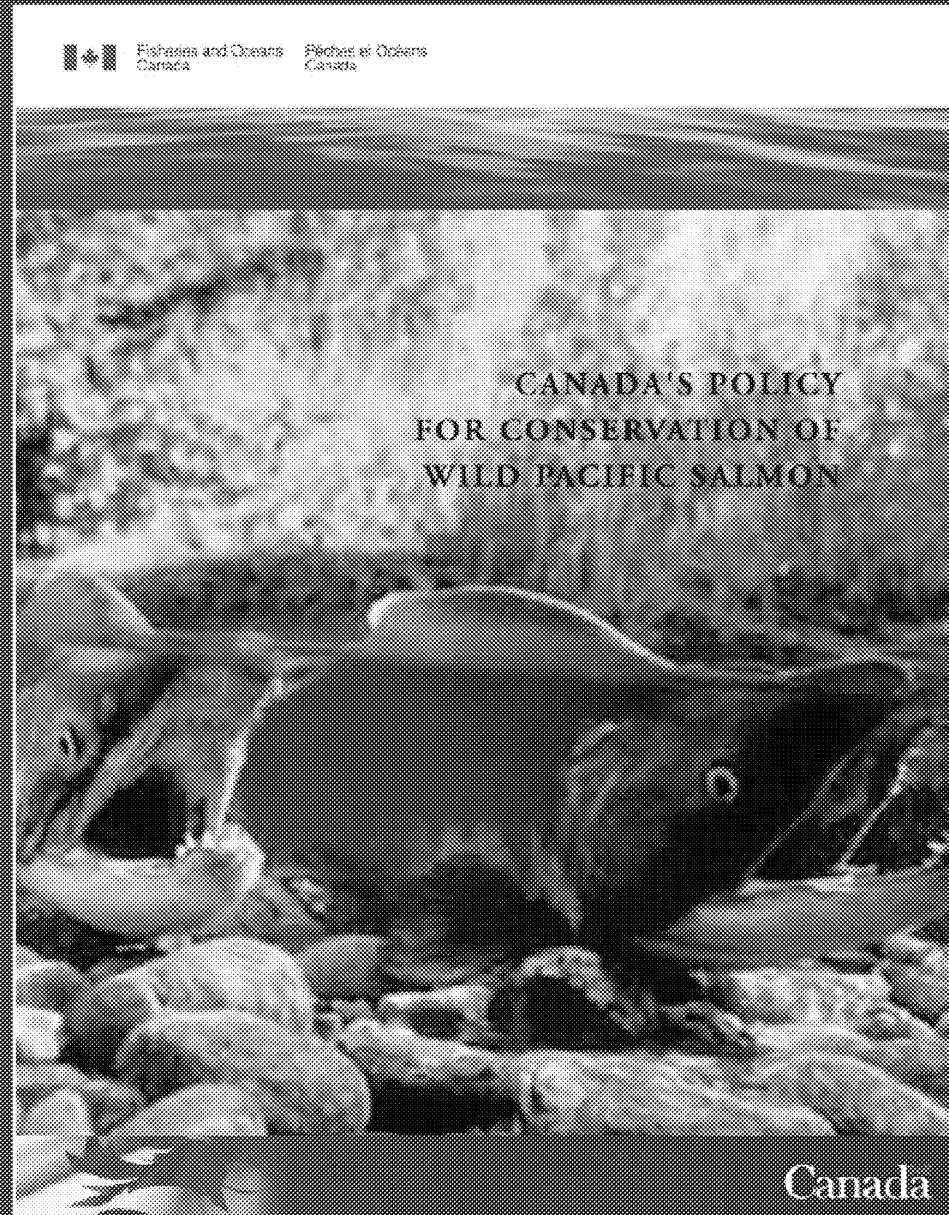


WSP Strategy 2, Assessment of Habitat Status

The HMP Connection

Nov.24/08



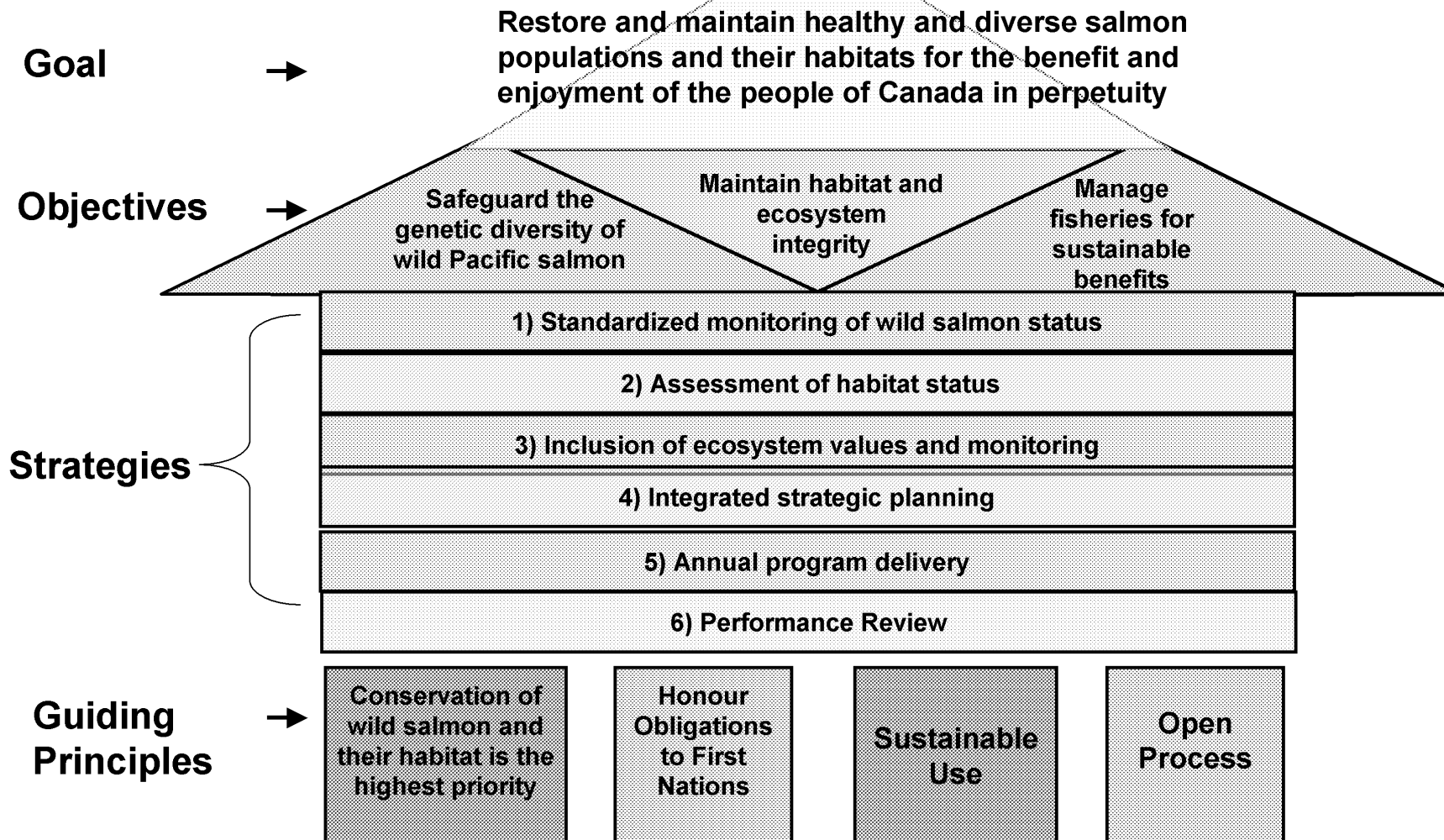


Session Objectives

1. Provide context and connections to HMP
2. Identify key challenge-the disconnect
3. Identify options for NHQ support



WSP Overview





WSP Strategy 2-Habitat Status

Action Steps

- 2.1 Document habitat characteristics within Conservation Units
- 2.2 Select habitat indicators and develop benchmarks for habitat assessment
- 2.3 Monitor and assess habitat status
- 2.4 Establish linkages to develop an integrated data system for watershed management

Progress

1. Developed and piloted approaches and products for delivery
2. In process of Transition Strategy with HMP



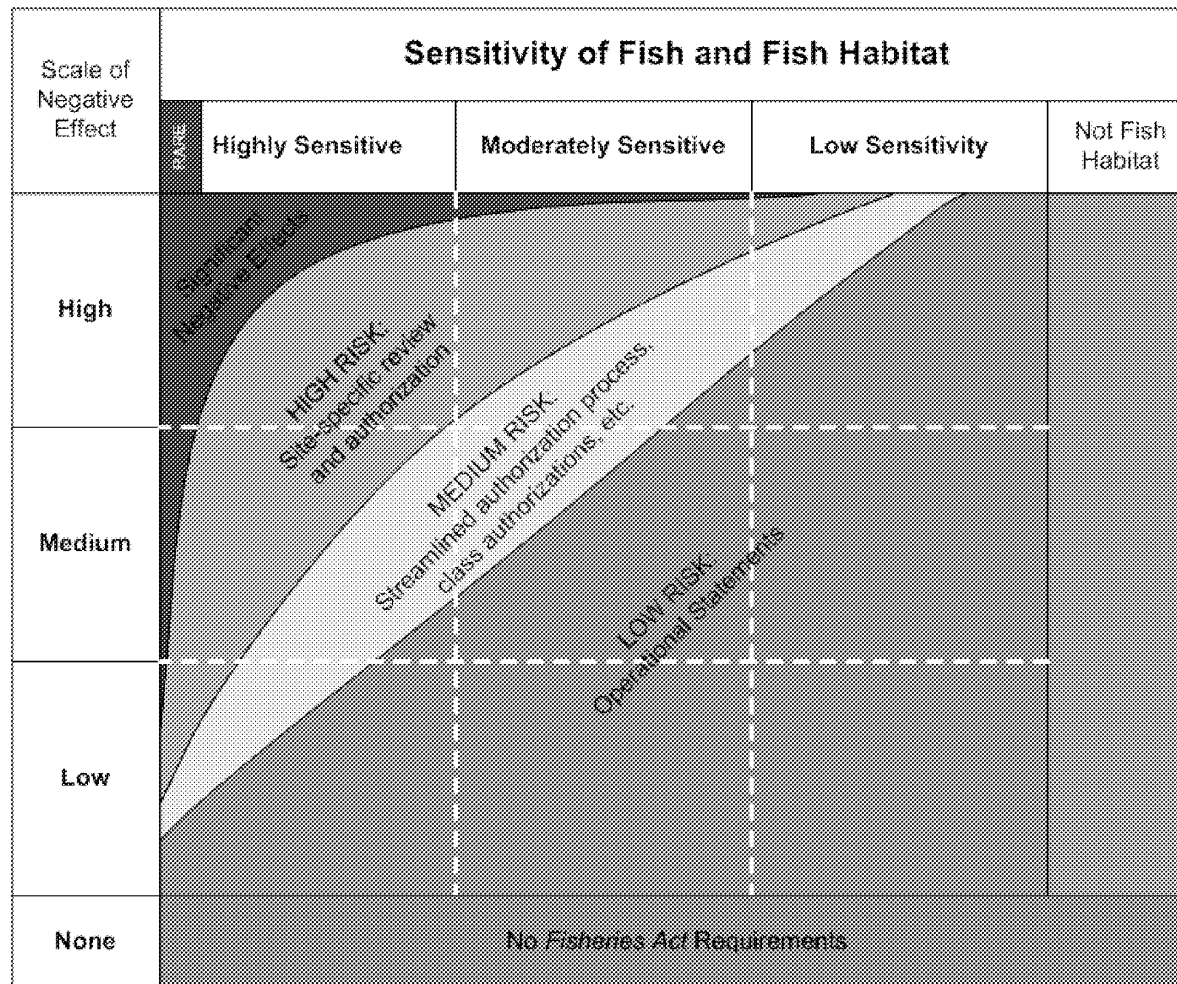
WSP Connections with HMP

WSP	HMP Policies and Programs
	EPMP
-Characterize habitat i.e. ID highly productive and limiting habitats	-Risk management framework (slide 6)
-Highly productive and limiting habitat information used to prioritize restoration and conservation efforts	-Streamlining regulatory reviews
-Habitat status information made transparent for proponents	-Coherent and predictable decision-making
-Monitoring habitat status with indicators provides objective data to support decision making	-Enhanced partnering and Major projects model
	Policy for the Management of Fish Habitat
-Habitat status informs integrated planning	-Integrated planning-one of 8 Strategies



WSP Connection to the RMF

Highly productive and limiting habitat?





WSP Disconnect with HMP

WSP	EPMP
-Monitoring predominantly environmental, including cumulative effects, with some efficacy	-Habitat compliance modernization (HCM), predominantly compliance and efficacy

1. Habitat Program Mandate and Priorities

- Collection and monitoring of environmental habitat status indicator information is not a mandate of the National Habitat Management program

2. OHEB Resourcing

- Development, collection and monitoring work is a costly process: an explicit budget is needed to continue progress. Strategy 2 coordinator due to sunset in April '09; no FTE identified to continue work (App.1)
- Full scale implementation of Strategy 2 is additional work that cannot simply be added to the already full plates of habitat staff.
- WSP implementation was identified to NHQ as a funding pressure for three FYs: 2005 – 2008; some limited funding provided in 06-07, but no support for continued work



Options for NHQ Support

1. Monitor transition of WSP into Pacific Region's HMP to evaluate any program benefits
2. Advocate benefits of habitat characterization and environmental monitoring to industry and partners
3. Consider supporting WSP as a pilot for testing efficacy of habitat characterization and environmental monitoring in HMP improvement
4. Consider delivery of habitat characterization and environmental monitoring nationally in HMP e.g. Pacific and Atlantic WSPs



Appendix 1- Pacific Region Commitments

- **2005 Launch of Wild Salmon Policy**
 - Culmination of 5 years consultations; high expectations of delivery
- **Pacific Region Implementation Plan- 2006-2010**
 - 1.2 Pacific Fisheries Reform
 - Specific Action-Pacific Salmon Fisheries Reform
 - Implement the WSP
 - Assessment of salmon habitat associated with priority CUs
 - 1.7 Environmental Process Modernization-Pacific Implementation
 - Specific Action-Develop and implement the required risk-management framework
 - Habitat Management staff will spend less time reviewing routine projects and more on monitoring habitat status and on projects posing a higher risk to fish habitat
 - Specific Action-Increase collaboration with a range of partners
 - Habitat priorities will be established on the basis of sensitivity and risk, as determined by biological and physical indicators, and on importance, which will reflect fisheries values and population risks.



Appendix 1– Pacific Region Commitments

- **OHEB**

- Nov '05 formed a WSP Habitat Working Group (HWG)
- Dedicated a full-time Strategy 2 coordinator resourced through Mar. '09 (05-06 57.3K, 06-07 146.9K, 07-08 110.6K, 08-09 projected <227K, total <542K)
- Composition and Governance of HWG
 - HWG chaired by coordinator and composed of Science and OHEB staff at various levels of management, with wide-ranging specialties, represent Areas and the Region
 - Purpose to develop approaches and products for Strategy 2 implementation and expand internal WSP network
 - Coordinator reports through OHEB Policy Advisor to OHEB RD where HWG recommendations brought forward for review
 - Coordinator member of Implementation Team where HWG recommendations brought forward for review and integration



Appendix 1– Pacific Region Commitments

- **Habitat Led Internal Consultations '06 through '08**
 - Typically gain advice from both an expertise and operational perspective
 - WSP HWG and in-house experts '06-'08
 - Developed and tested both products e.g. indicators, web-mapping application and approaches e.g. two-tier monitoring, two levels of reporting
 - Session co-led with Science Branch '07 wherein gained feedback on approaches e.g. two tier monitoring and recommendations on indicators
 - Series of Regional staff meetings '06-'08 (Hatchery Managers, BCI Area multi-branch, BCI OHEB, Lower Fraser Area and Major Projects, Resource Restoration Group, RHQ plus involvement in Pacific Region all-staff conference call)
 - Presented products e.g. indicators, monitoring outcomes and web-mapping application and approaches e.g. habitat status reports for feedback from Area, Regional and program perspectives
 - OHEB managers '07-'08
 - Present products e.g. indicators, monitoring outcomes, web-mapping application and approaches for feedback and to develop options for program integration
 - Implementation Team '06-'08
 - To ensure products and approaches are consistent with WSP and can integrate with other Strategies



Appendix 1- Pacific Region Commitments

- **External Consultations '06 through '08**

- Typically gain advice on developments to-date and upcoming steps in implementation
 - Fall Dialogue Sessions '06
 - Presented approach to developing indicators plus two levels of monitoring and reporting
 - Habitat Indicators Workshop June '07
 - Requested advice on data sources for potential indicators for lakes, streams and estuaries and practical exercise on indicators
 - WSP Stakeholder Forum '08
 - Presented recommended indicators for lakes, streams and estuaries and web-mapping application
 - Requested advice on monitoring framework challenges
 - Series of stakeholder meetings '06-'08 PFRCC, MCC, SEHAB, Streamkeepers, Watershed Watch, SNFC, SFU, FSWP and Strategy 3 sessions with US Scientists and UBC Workshop
 - Gained advice on indicators, two levels of monitoring and reporting, pilots, collaborative monitoring, and monitoring framework challenges