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[Home](#) > [Pacific](#) > [Consultations](#) > [WSP](#)



Strategy 1 Standardized Monitoring of Wild Salmon Status

(excerpt from WSP document)

The Wild Salmon Policy requires a systematic process to organize all Pacific salmon streams and lakes into geographic units for conservation and specification of the means to monitor abundance and distribution of Pacific salmon within those units over time. The Department developed a scientific approach to determine conservation units and has identified conservation units for British Columbia, in collaboration with First Nations, the Province of BC, other partners and stakeholders.

Below is an updated list of salmon Conservation Units (CUs) by species and a list of sites for each CU. A preliminary list was released in 2006 for comments and feedback. Based on these comments and the finalized methodology, the list of CUs was revised and the updated version released at the WSP Stakeholder Forum on March 27-28, 2008.

Next steps involve developing criteria to assess conservation units and identify benchmarks to assess the biological status or health of a conservation unit. Monitoring frameworks will then be developed to outline the process for data gathering and regular assessments of the conservation units.

Implementation Update for Strategy 1 - April 2009

Objective: To monitor and assess the status of wild salmon in BC and the Yukon

Action Steps	Progress Made to Date	Next Steps
1.1 Identify Conservation Units (CU's)	DFO collaboration with Nature Conservancy of Canada to complete methodology paper on CUs (Holtby/Ciruna, Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat Research Document 2007/070, available here) Completed and consulted on draft list of CUs for BC in 2006; released revised list in 2008 for consultation	Develop and consult on list of CUs for Yukon Ongoing review of all CUs
1.2 Develop criteria to assess CU's and identify benchmarks to represent biological	Drafted methodology paper on status indicators and benchmarks for CUs Pacific Scientific Advice Review	Revise benchmarks methodology paper; PSARC workshop proceedings to be available on Canadian

<p>status</p>	<p>Committee (PSARC) workshop on benchmarks methodology, Jan. 4-5, 2009</p>	<p>Science Advisory Secretariat (CSAS) website</p> <p>Develop tools and guidelines to support the development of benchmarks</p> <p>Collaborate with First Nations and stakeholders to identify and monitor benchmarks for CUs</p>
<p>1.3 Monitor and assess status of CU's</p>	<p>Implementation of monitoring is dependent on the selection of status indicators. The methodology paper on status indicators and benchmarks for CUs is planned to be completed later this year.</p>	<p>Develop tools and provide guidance on development of assessment frameworks for CUs</p> <p>Monitor and assess CUs</p>

WSP Presentations - Conservation Units

Indicators of status and benchmarks for Conservation Units in Canada's Wild Salmon Policy [PDF] Feb 2009 by Carrie Holt, Blair Holtby, Alan Cass and Brian Riddell

Assessing the Status of Conservation Units for the Wild Salmon Policy [PDF] WSP Forum March 2008 by Carrie Holt

Background Information

Conservation Unit Attachments

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