

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



Strategy 2 Assessment of Habitat Status

(excerpt from WSP document)

Under the Wild Salmon Policy, an overview of important habitat and habitat issues within CUs will be developed and habitat status will be assessed using indicators that combine scientific and local knowledge and recognize sensitive life stages and habitats. Indicators will be selected to be reflective of overall habitat health then tracked to assist in habitat planning within DFO and other jurisdictions, including First Nations governments, the Province of BC and local governments. Habitat data gathered from many sources within and outside DFO will be linked and made more accessible for habitat planning. The assessment will highlight good quality habitat that needs to be maintained and protected, and degraded habitats that need to be restored or rehabilitated on the scale of watersheds and conservation units to inform strategic and annual planning for salmon conservation.

Implementation Update for Strategy 2 - April 2009

Objective: To monitor and assess wild salmon habitat status in order to effectively protect habitat

Action Steps	Progress Made to Date	Next Steps
2.1 Document habitat characteristics	Developed templates for Overview and Habitat status reports to identify and track highly productive and limiting habitats.	Complete habitat status reports for highly productive and limiting habitats to inform strategic planning
2.2 Select indicators and benchmarks	Completed identification of proposed habitat indicators for streams, lakes and estuaries and their metrics and benchmarks. Drafted discussion paper on methodology for proposed habitat indicators. Peer review workshop on paper held on Jan. 15-16, 2009.	Revise methodology paper for proposed habitat indicators; draft proceedings from peer review workshop (to be made available on CSAS website) Refine the indicators, metrics and benchmarks Identify data sources for indicators
2.3 Implement Monitoring	Implementation of monitoring is dependent on the selection of indicators The work on proposed indicators is nearing completion.	Develop monitoring framework in collaboration with First Nations, partners and stakeholders; integrate habitat and ecosystems monitoring

2.4 Develop integrated habitat data systems	Some work complete on development of web-mapping application to store and share WSP data	Develop partnerships to support habitat monitoring Launch and implement web-mapping application Collaborate with other partners that are developing information sharing systems
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Background Information

- Habitat Status Update [[PDF](#)] WSP Forum March 2008

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