

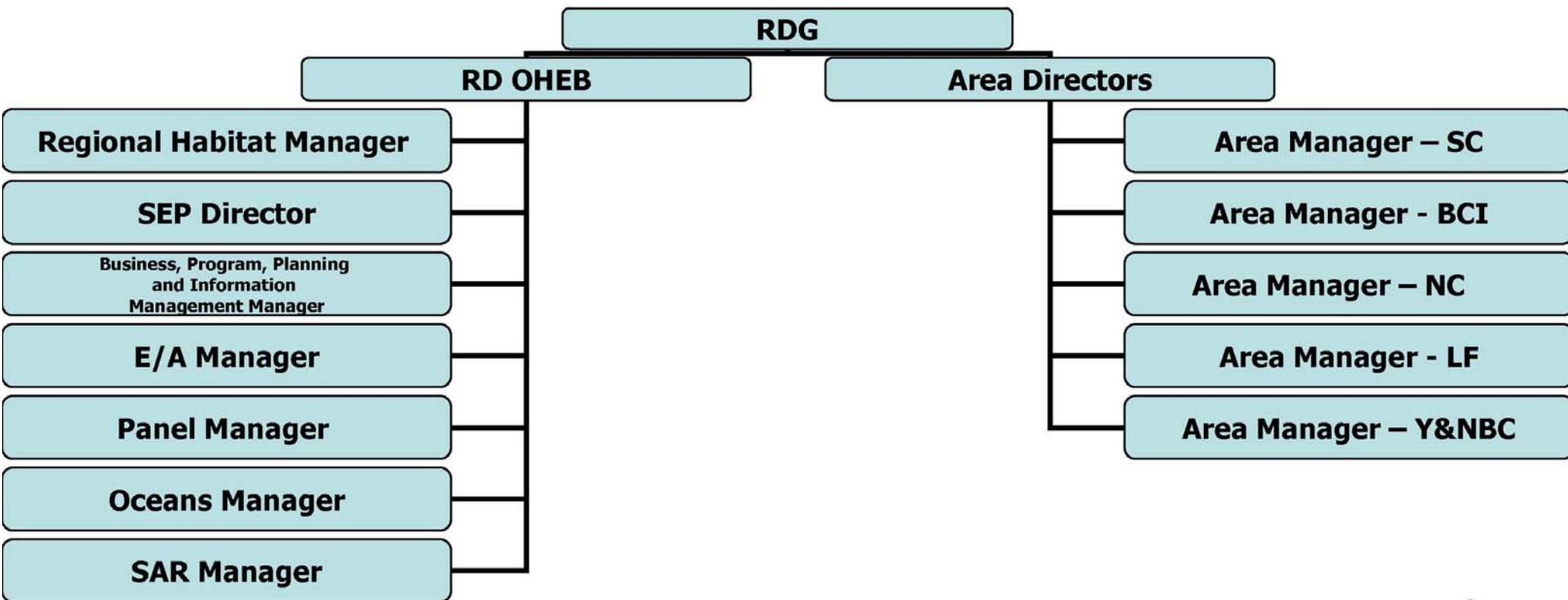
Pacific Region
Oceans, Habitat and Enhancement
Branch

Cohen Interview Preparation
March 10, 2011

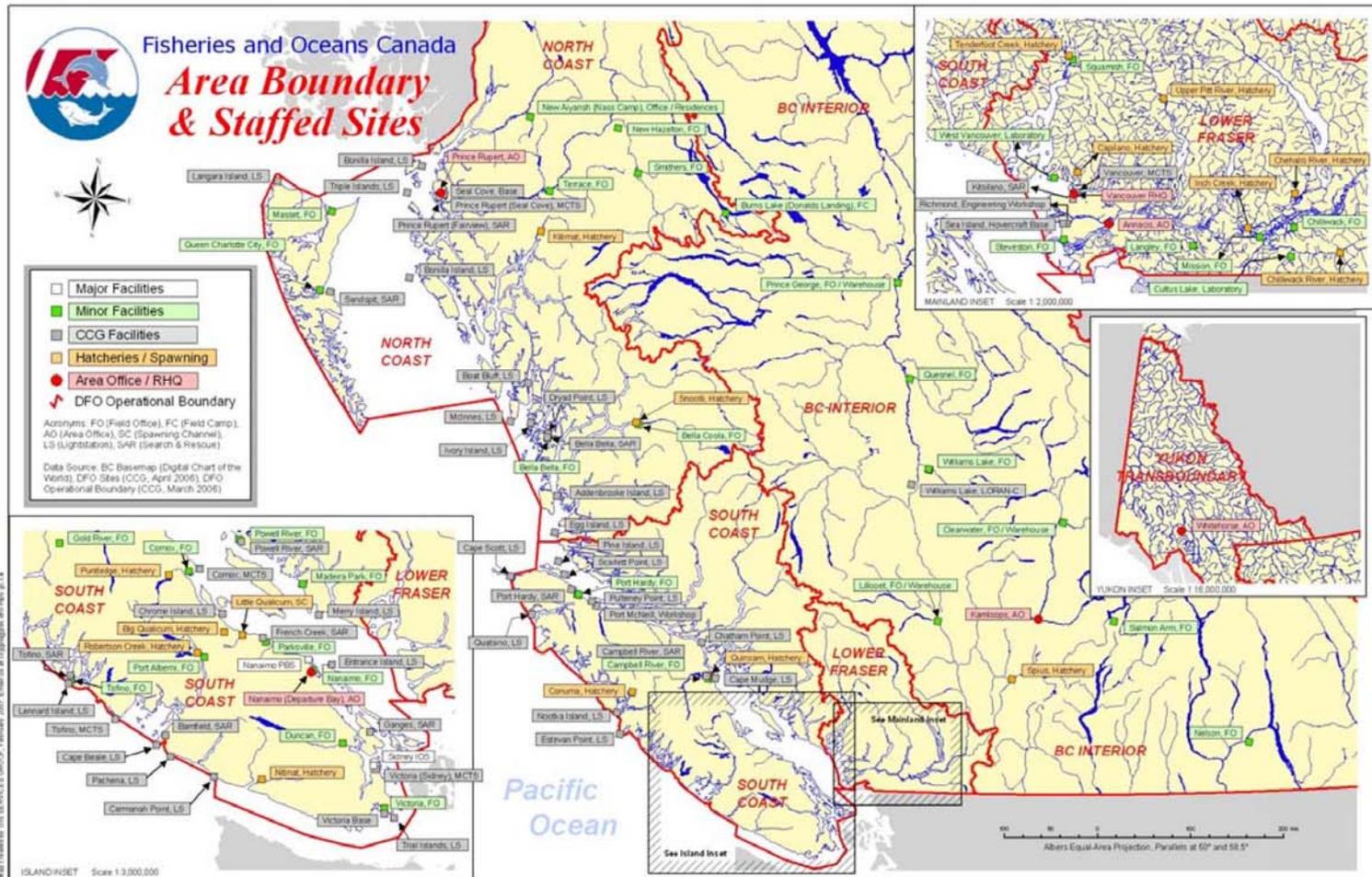
Organization model

- Branch has four major programs
 - Salmonid Enhancement Program
 - Habitat Management Program
 - Oceans Program
 - Species at Risk
- Matrix organization:
 - Regional Director OHEB functionally reports to 2 ADMs at NHQ and line reports to Pacific RDG
 - RHQ managers line report to RD OHEB
 - 5 Area OHEB managers line report to Area Directors, functional report to RD OHEB
 - 5 Area Directors line report to Pacific RDG

OHEB Management Team



Map of Pacific Region and 5 Areas



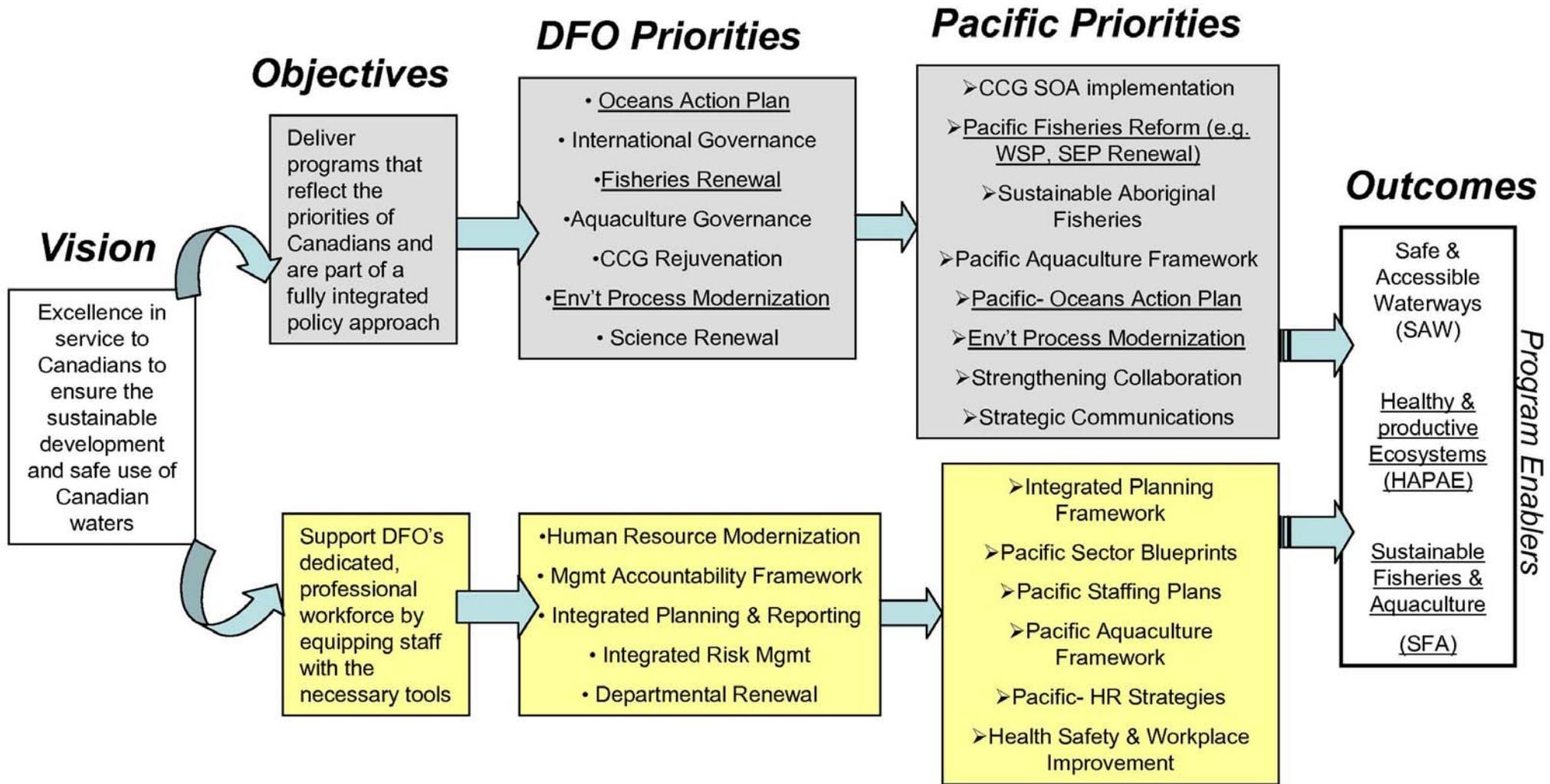
Branch Organization

- Salmonid Enhancement Program
 - Unique program to Pacific Region; delivered in RHQ and 5 Areas
 - Includes fish production, community stewardship, resource restoration
- Habitat Management
 - Delivered in Region and 5 Areas includes regulatory reviews, watershed planning, partnership and collaboration, information management, monitoring
 - Major Project unit in Regional Office
 - Includes Federal contaminated sites assessment office
- Oceans Program
 - Focus on Integrated planning, MPAs, ecosystem assessments, governance models with OGDs, province, First Nations and NGOs
 - Delivered in RHQ, South and North Coast Areas
- Species at Risk
 - Delivered through OHEB working with other sectors (i.e. Science, FAM, C&P).
 - Area involvement is indirect, mostly through incorporating recovery strategy requirements into *Fisheries Act* referrals and through planning processes

OHEB RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR 2010/2011

	HABITAT	Habitat (Fraser River Watershed)	SEP	SEP (Fraser River Watershed)	OCEANS	SAR
SALARY	8,161.6	2,594.2	13,922.9	4,648.6	1,026.8	1,403.8
O&M	2,313.5	521.1	12,127.5	3,059.4	325.7	2,860.2
G&C	-	-	962.0	-	150.0	-
TOTAL	10,475.1	3,115.3	27,012.0	7,708.0	1,502.5	4,264.0
FTE	106.9	13.7	213.0	65.6	13.0	18.0

DFO Strategic Plan – Pacific Implementation Plan



Salmonid Enhancement Program

SEP has three major functions:

- Salmon Production: Conserving and rebuilding vulnerable salmon stocks while providing harvest opportunities
- Resource Restoration: Restoring, developing and improving fish habitat in B.C. and the Yukon
- Community Involvement: Increasing public awareness and building community stewardship:
 - Significant cooperation with over 10,000 public volunteers supporting hatchery work, stewardship, restoration and public education
 - Includes public education – e.g. Salmonids in the Classroom

SEP also provides stock assessment information through fish tagging and hatchery assessment programs.

SEP facilities fall into 3 main categories:

- 23 major SEP operated hatcheries and spawning channels
- 21 contracted community and First Nation hatcheries, operated as part of the Community Economic Development Program
- about 350 public involvement projects supported by DFO Community Advisors

Oceans Program

- Integrated oceans management involves adopting a spatially-based planning and management approach, based on ecosystem-scale management objectives, which provide guidance to all ocean-related regulators.
- Associated governance structures provide a forum for bringing together ocean users and stakeholders including provinces, territories, Aboriginal groups, industry, and coastal communities to plan for activities in Canada's oceans.
- The development of plans that include ecological, social, and economic objectives is a key requirement of successful integrated oceans management.
- Marine conservation tools, including Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), support the sustainable management of the oceans resource by providing options to secure critical aspects of the ecosystem from harm.
- Since healthy and productive ocean ecosystems are the foundation of all ocean related activities, a number of actions including MPAs are undertaken to protect and manage unique and sensitive ecosystems.
- Further, DFO, Environment Canada, and Parks Canada are all mandated to establish MPAs for different but complementary reasons.
- Oceans Program focused on advancing implementation of Canada's Oceans Strategy through Oceans MOU and its attendance sub-agreements and developing Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area plan

Species at Risk Program

- Involves formally identifying, on the basis of science, species that are at risk or trending toward risk identification so that appropriate steps for protection or recovery may be developed and implemented.
- Involves the development of goals, objectives and approaches for recovery, as well as the identification of appropriate measures and actions to effectively achieve those goals.
- Recovery implementation ensures that actions identified in the planning stage are carried out to achieve recovery goals, objectives and strategies identified in both action plans and management plans, as well as the protection of critical habitat identified in those plans
- Measuring progress toward achieving set recovery goals

Habitat Management, including EAMP

- The Habitat program conserves and protects fish and fish habitat from the impacts of activities occurring in and around fresh and marine fish-bearing waters.
- The program reviews plans for works and undertakings that have a potential to result in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat. In many jurisdictions, OHEB staff work cooperatively and collaboratively in partnership with local and regional governments to review and assess development proposals.
- The program also involves conducting environmental assessments under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and other environmental assessment regimes for proposed projects, before making a regulatory decision under the habitat protection provisions of the *Fisheries Act* (listed in the Law List Regulations).
- The habitat program engages with other government agencies, (federal, provincial and local government) in land and water planning processes to incorporate fish habitat values directly into planning documents.
- Under the HCM initiative, monitoring for compliance with habitat sections of the *Fisheries Act* and with prescriptions set out in Habitat Authorizations takes place.
- The habitat program works together with conservation and protection officers when habitat violations under the *Fisheries Act* are encountered

OHEB Program Linkages

OHEB's 4 program components link in a number of important ways:

- Increasingly, an ecosystem based approach is being undertaken
- Integrated planning processes link program elements:
 - Enhancement program objectives link to stock status, fishery objectives and habitat productivity
 - Community Involvement programs foster and develop Public, First Nation and Industry interest and engagement in fish and habitat conservation programs
 - Ongoing and improving linkages through IFMP and Wild Salmon Policy integrated planning processes
- Stock Assessment relies heavily on SEP tagging information
- SARA programs rely on SEP expertise for fisheries rebuilding, and Habitat for regulatory and science expertise

Program Priorities into the Future

- Continual striving for improvement through adaptive management, including transparency, predictability and timeliness of decision making.
- Development and strengthening of feedback loops such as HCM and EPMP.
- Shift away from low risk development activities to focus on existing and developing priorities.
- Cautious movement to professional reliance model in appropriate circumstances when considering risks and outcomes.
- Ongoing movement to ecosystem management, within capacity of resources and science.
- Recognise inherent challenge of ecosystem approach to management when addressing site and temporally specific development activities in the face of stock, habitat and science uncertainty.
- Ongoing attempts to foster and lead partnerships with other levels of government and industry to manage scales of development that are difficult to manage through the Fisheries Act; chronic, incremental effects of historic and ongoing development.
- Regulatory and program complexity continually increases and challenges programs to act and respond to requirements and expectations in a timely manner.
- Continue to foster community support for all program elements through engagement and stewardship initiatives.
- Balance sustainable development, conservation and socio-economic components in decision-making.

Program Successes

- Extensive public awareness and support for fish and habitat values throughout the Region.
- Industry and public expectations of program continuity.
- Important economic development tool in remote communities (fisheries and facilities).
- Leading the development of coast-wide planning and marine protection areas.
- Expanded protection and rebuilding of the most vulnerable species in the Region.
- Recognized as having an important regulatory power to support and compel habitat protection.
- All 8 strategies of the original Habitat Policy have proven over time to be relevant and important. The challenge has been to maintain the effectiveness of all the strategies at the same time.
- The No Net Loss Guiding Principle continues to be foundational to the program.
- Pacific Region continues to struggle with balancing program priorities for salmon with regulatory habitat obligations throughout the Region. This requires cooperation and coordination with BC and the Yukon.
- Consultation is an ongoing component of the program to achieve intergovernmental agreement with BC, the Yukon, local governments, and increasingly, First Nations.
- Development and integration of the Risk Management Framework and EPMP have been successful in improving the timeliness and consistency of decision makers.
- Compared to other salmon species, sockeye stocks and habitat are relatively good. This is a function of their life history and habitat requirements. It is still possible to maintain and rebuild through ongoing positive program engagement and habitat protection.