

DRAFT Habitat Monitoring Strategic Framework (2010 – 2015)

VISION: Habitat compliance monitoring staff collect or analyse field-based information/data either directly (via to monitoring) or indirectly (via review of proponent monitoring reports) in order to better understand proponents compliance, and in so doing, to allow the Department to make program and policy adjustments to improve performance in meeting departmental objectives.

Outcome Objectives (2010 – 2015)

Short Term (2010-11)

Focus on training, methodology development and collection of compliance information.

Medium Term (2011-13)

Increasing effort in areas of effectiveness monitoring (training, methodology development). This may be done in parts of the country with more capacity/expertise with lessons learned and transferred to other regions over time.

Implement effectiveness monitoring aiming for a balance between effort directed at compliance monitoring and effectiveness monitoring.

Longer Term (2013-15)

Determine whether proponents are complying with the standards established by DFO.

Determine whether the standards established by DFO are effective at conserving fish and fish habitat.

Evaluate monitoring work and reassess best approaches after 3-5 years to determine if the program design is effective at achieving results.

Science development of ecosystem indicators to determine whether cumulative effects and other ecosystem level issues are being addressed.

Guiding Principles:

Use PATH for common base data collection and reporting on core Program Performance Indicators.

Regional flexibility in the monitoring area of focus applying standard methods and indicators for collection of monitoring data.

Wherever feasible collection of information done in partnerships with other environmental regulators.

Sharing of information and approaches within and between regions.

Focus attention (>80% of effort) on medium to high risk areas.

Strategic Goals:

Training: To build a highly skilled national team of monitoring staff to collect and analyse reliable field-based data relating to fish habitat mitigation, compensation measures/standards and occurrences.

Analysis: To contribute to the communication of performance results for the Habitat Management Program.

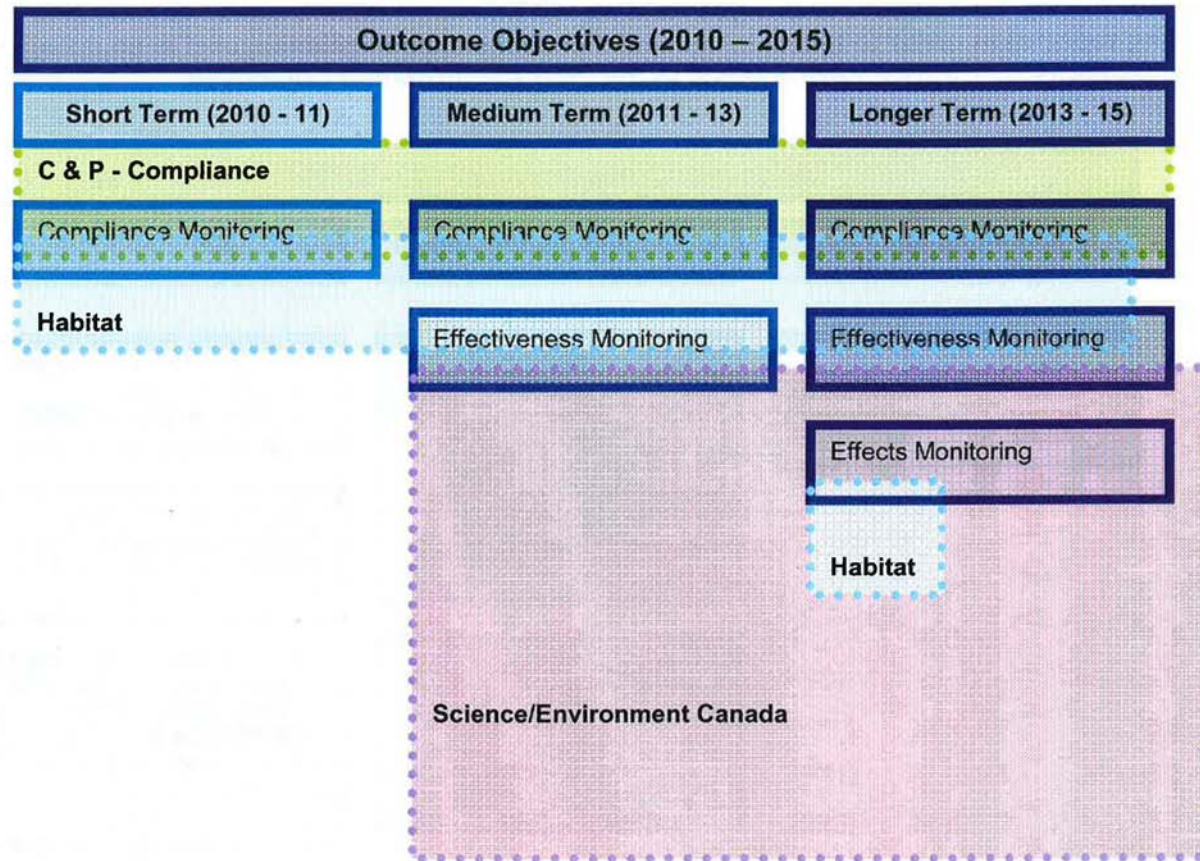
- Basic National Standards
- PATH Reporting
- Regional level performance stories.

Report: To identify specific risk areas requiring new or alternative regulatory approaches to ensure conservation of fish habitat.

- National templates with regional roll-ups

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