



Update on Aquatic Stream of Canada's Nature Legacy

January 24, 2019

CC-IUCN



Presentation Overview

- Context
- Objectives
- Criteria and priorities
- Priority threats & places
- Engagement
- Indigenous partnerships
- Considerations
- Details of G&C fund
- Critical path



Context

- The Government of Canada has invested \$1.35 billion from Budget 2018 in Canada's Nature Legacy.
- DFO's Ecosystem Management sector received \$55 million in Grants & Contributions over 5 years to contribute to the recovery of aquatic species at risk through the establishment of a new contribution program, the Nature Fund.
- The Fund seeks to support recovery actions in priority places for aquatic species at risk, to mitigate priority threats, and support stewardship and capacity building for Canada's aquatic ecosystems.
- The Fund will contribute to the sustainability of aquatic ecosystems in Canada through the engagement of Indigenous organizations, provinces and territories, resource users, local groups, communities, industries and academia.



Objectives

The Nature Legacy Fund aims to slow the decline of aquatic species at risk and enable a leap forward in species recovery through the injection of targeted funding for recovery activities that address priority places and threats.

The objectives of the Nature Fund are to:

- Align with the larger, coordinated, and integrated federal approach to conserving biodiversity (i.e., the Nature Legacy for Canada);
- Promote strategic and lasting collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, stakeholders, and other interested parties;
- Leverage capacity, expertise and resources through collaboration and engagement;
- Achieve protection, recovery actions and reporting that support the conservation and stewardship of species at risk; and
- Demonstrate outcomes that are transparent, measurable, timely, and align with the Government's conservation policy priorities.



Criteria and Priorities

- The Fund is intended to provide targeted, directed funding to high capacity organizations and groups to recover aquatic species at risk in priority places and address priority threats.
- Criteria for priorities:
 - Presence and status of COSEWIC-assessed or SARA-listed aquatic species at risk
 - The key threats to the species and the severity/significance of the threats
 - Threat management potential
 - Multispecies and ecosystem benefits
 - Potential for collaborators, partners, applicants, and leaders
 - Results that could be achieved within 2-5 years
- **2 marine priority threats and 7 freshwater priority places have been proposed.**



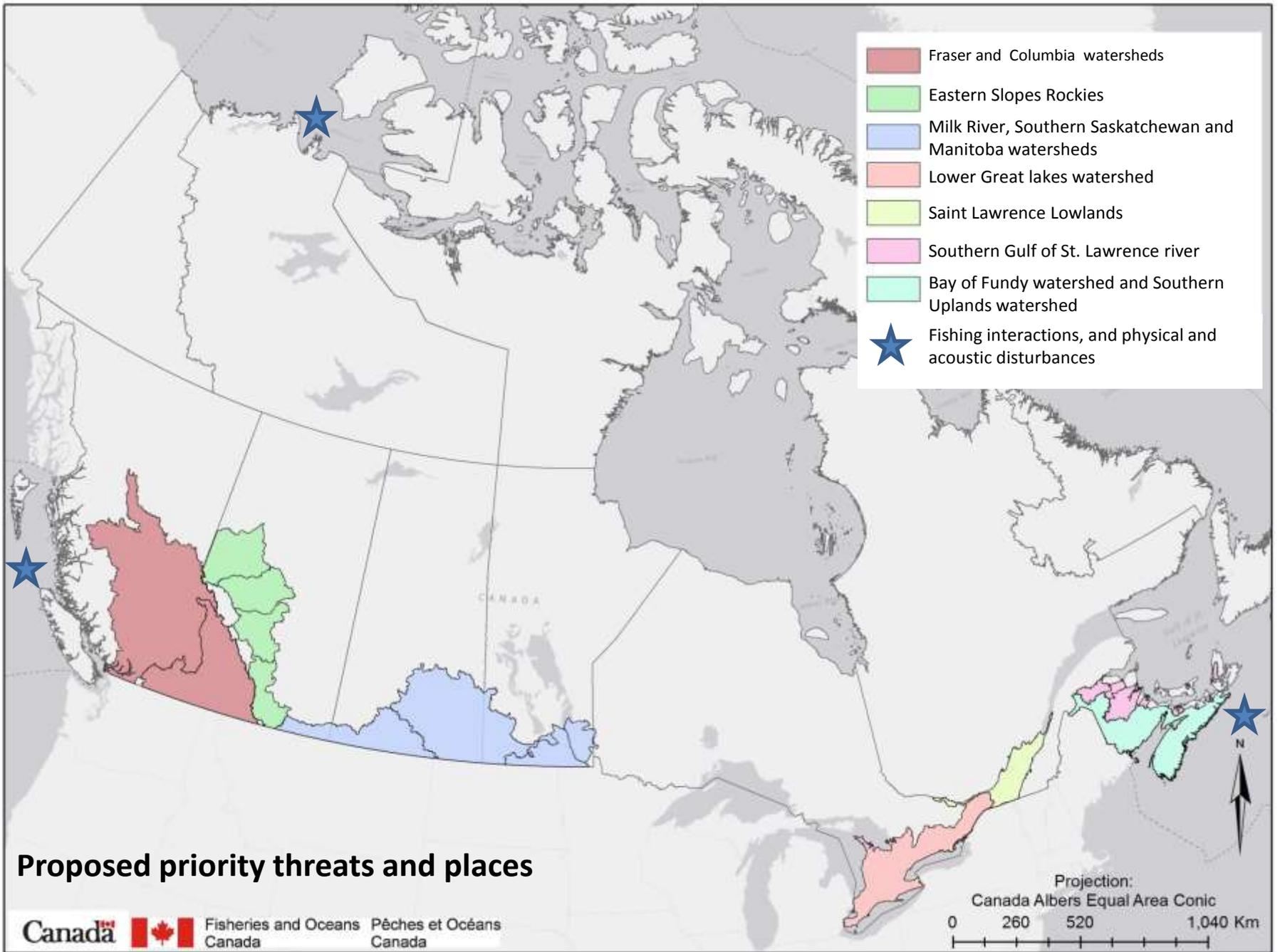
Proposed Priority Threats & Places

Two marine priority threats:

1. **Fishing interactions** includes entanglements and bycatch of aquatic species at risk (geographic scope: all oceans)
2. **Physical and acoustic disturbance** includes ship strikes & noise (geographic scope: all oceans)

Seven freshwater priority places:

1. **Fraser and Columbia watersheds (BC)**
2. **Eastern Slopes Rockies (AB)**
3. **Milk River, Southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba watersheds (AB, SK, MB)**
4. **Lower Great lakes watershed (ON)**
5. **Saint Lawrence Lowlands (QC)**
6. **Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence river (NB, NS, PEI)**
7. **Bay of Fundy watershed and Southern Uplands watershed (NS, NB)**





Engagement

- The Fund It is anticipated to be launched early to mid-February 2019. Information about the fund, priorities, and application forms will be made available through DFO's website.
- Collaboration with Indigenous organizations, provincial & territorial governments, and NGOs / ENGOs, and stakeholders is desired using established bodies and mechanisms.
- Two-phased approach: Expressions of interest followed by directed requests for proposals for multi-year funding will be solicited.
- Outreach to national governance bodies is ongoing (e.g. Assembly of First Nations (AFN), First Nations Advisory Council on Species at Risk (FNACSAR), National Aboriginal Council on Species at Risk (NACOSAR), Species at Risk Advisory Committee (SARAC), Canadian Wildlife Directors' Committee (CWDC)).



Indigenous Partnerships

Objectives

- Reflect and support Indigenous interests as part of the Nature Fund's implementation
- Recognize and leverage existing capacity and expertise when developing partnerships
- Further invest in capacity and leadership through stable, multi-year funding
- Advance reconciliation by promoting the role of Indigenous people and organizations in the stewardship of SAR

Funding for Indigenous Organizations

- Approximately 15% of DFO's Nature Legacy Fund will be allocated towards Indigenous capacity building, engagement and Indigenous-led projects each year.
- For the current year, \$200K is available to support participation, engagement and proposal development.
- DFO's Indigenous Programs branch will support the disbursement of funds through its long-standing terms and conditions (T&Cs)



Considerations

Coordination & communication

- Multi-party relations - bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous interests together during planning.
- Directed Proposals - identifies key watershed-based alliances and encourages coordinated proposal development
- Managing flexible funding relationships
- Coordinated communications with all interests, and across departments, DFO sectors, and programs will be key, given the number of G&C funds available.

Additional priority places, species and threats

- Limited resources are available - there is a need to balance the number of priorities with the ability to demonstrate a leap forward in species recovery.
- Fall 2019 to winter 2020 - assessment to determine if changes to priorities are warranted.



Details of G&C

Eligible recipients under the Nature Fund include:

- Canadian post-secondary academic institutions;
- Canadian non-governmental organizations, industry, and their associations;
- Indigenous organizations and groups in Canada; and
- Canadian provincial, territorial, and municipal governments.

Note the program allows Canadian governments (i.e., Federal, Provincial/Territorial, and municipal) to support 100% of the total eligible expenditures of a project. However, no more than 50% of funding for a project can come from the Federal government.

For Indigenous recipients, the total Federal government assistance cannot be more than 80% of the total eligible expenditures of a project.



Details of G&C

Eligible activities under the Nature Fund include:

- Protecting and recovering aquatic species at risk;
- Promoting and supporting stewardship, outreach, and education;
- Mitigating threats;
- Protecting or enhancing aquatic species' habitat;
- Building capacity; and
- Necessary research.*

* Research that has to happen to enable recovery actions to occur (e.g. research on species reintroductions and translocations may be necessary to confirm risks and timing before these actions occur).



Details of G&C

Preference will be given to those projects that:

- Address a Nature Fund priority area or threat;
- Benefit multiple aquatic species at risk including SARA-listed aquatic species at risk and or COSEWIC-assessed aquatic species at risk;
- Involve Indigenous partners in the planning, development, or implementation of the projects;
- Engage a broad number of partners;
- Are multi-year projects; and
- Are between approximately \$100,000 and \$1,000,000 per year



Critical Path

Early to mid-February 2019

- Launch Nature Fund

February 2019

- Outreach to local partners that may be interested in accessing the fund for Expressions of Interest

March – April 2019

- Expressions of Interest due; assessment; request for full proposals

May 2019

- Submission deadline for full proposals & evaluation

June 2019

- Notification to organizations & Contribution Agreement development initiated



Contact Information

National Program Leads

- **Kate Ladell, A/Director**

Email: Kate.Ladell@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (613) 463-2019

- **Anne Phelps, Manager**

Email: Anne.Phelps@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (613) 720-4578

Newfoundland and Labrador

- **Shelley Decker**

Email: DFO.HSP-NFL_PIH-NFL.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (709) 772-8746

Maritimes

- **Jennifer MacDonald**

Email: DFO.HSP-MAR_PIH-MAR.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (902) 407-8175

Gulf

- **Fabiola Akaishi**

Email: DFO.HSP-GLF_PIH-GLF.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (506) 851-6790

Quebec

- **Marie-Michèle Bourassa**

Email: DFO.HSP-QC_PIH-QC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (418) 775-0529

Ontario

- **Melanie VanGerwen-Toyne**

Email: DFO.HSP-ON_PIH-ON.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (204) 983-5137

Prairies and Northern Region

- **Melanie VanGerwen-Toyne**

Email: DFO.HSP-PNR_PIH-RCA.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (204) 983-5137

Pacific

- **Anita Bedo**

Email: DFO.HSP-PYR_PIH-RPY.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Tel: (604) 666-3340