

HABITAT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM - SPECIES AT RISK STREAM APPLICATION OVERVIEW

PACIFIC REGION 2018 – 2019

It is our pleasure to announce the call for proposals for the 19th year of the Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP), for the Species at Risk Stream. Proposals will be accepted in British Columbia until **March 19th, 2018**. **All applicants are required to submit their application online, at <https://www.retablissement-recovery.gc.ca/HSP-PIH/index.cfm>**

The Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk (HSP) was established to provide funding for activities that support the conservation and recovery of species at risk (species listed under Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*) and their habitats.

Each year Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) identifies priorities for HSP funding. In the National Call Letter you will find a list of the over-arching national priorities, while the additional regional priorities (described as particular areas, species or threats) can be found below.

ECCC uses an Expression of Interest process, which allows the regional coordinator to assess eligibility and provide support to applicants early in the application process. We highly encourage those considering applying to book a time to speak with the appropriate regional coordinator in order to complete an Expression of Interest and to gain access to the application website.

Applicants must contact their regional HSP coordinator in order to receive login information for the HSP website. We recommend that you obtain login information and begin drafting your proposal as early as possible, in the event that you require assistance with the online application system.

All applications must be received by March 19th, 2018.

For detailed information on how to apply to the HSP, and for further program information, please refer to the National Call Letter and Application Guidelines. We hope that you will consider applying to the Habitat Stewardship Program. The program coordinators look forward to talking with you about your project ideas.

Regional Coordinator Contact Information:

For Terrestrial Species projects in British Columbia:

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Pacific Region Requirements and Priorities for 2018-2019

For the Species at Risk stream of the HSP, in order to be eligible for funding, projects must conduct work on species that are listed under Schedule 1 of SARA. For a complete list of SARA Schedule 1 species, please refer to the SARA Registry: www.sararegistry.gc.ca

Applicants are encouraged to review existing recovery documents for species-specific threats and recovery actions. Applicants are also encouraged to contact the appropriate aquatic or terrestrial species lead for advice and guidance during the development of their project proposal to ensure coordination with other recovery activities and consistency with program priorities for 2018-2019.

We strongly encourage projects that utilize a coordinated multi-species approach to stewardship and recovery, and projects which take advantage of partnerships with other organizations and communities as much as possible.

Please note that groups proposing outreach-based activities will need to clearly demonstrate that the outreach is focused on achieving the goals of recovery for the target species by being linked to the HSP's expected results. Further, survey/monitoring activities will only be supported if they are direct precursors to stewardship action, and will only be funded during the earlier stages of a project (e.g., only in years 1 and 2 of a 3-year project, with the expectation that the final year will be focused exclusively on the stewardship components). Research is not an eligible activity, even if it is highly applied.

Due to the high demand for funding, in order to be considered for HSP funding, proposals must address at least one of the national priorities (as outlined in the National call letter) and one or more of the regional priorities described below for fiscal year 2018-2019. Program priorities may be updated on an annual basis.

Aquatic Priorities for the HSP Species at Risk Stream, 2018-2019:

Priority Species:

- Northern Abalone (*Haliotis kamtschatkana*)
- Killer Whales (*Orcinus orca*)
- Large whales - Blue (*Balaenoptera musculus*), Fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*) and Sei (*Balaenoptera borealis*) Whales
- Western Brook Lamprey (Morrison Creek Population) (*Lampetra richardsoni*)
- Vancouver Lamprey (*Lampetra macrostoma*)

Priority Areas:

- Lower Fraser Valley / Fraser River watershed
- Columbia River watershed

Priority Threats:

- Invasive species
- Physical and acoustic disturbance resulting from vessel traffic
- Entanglement of marine species

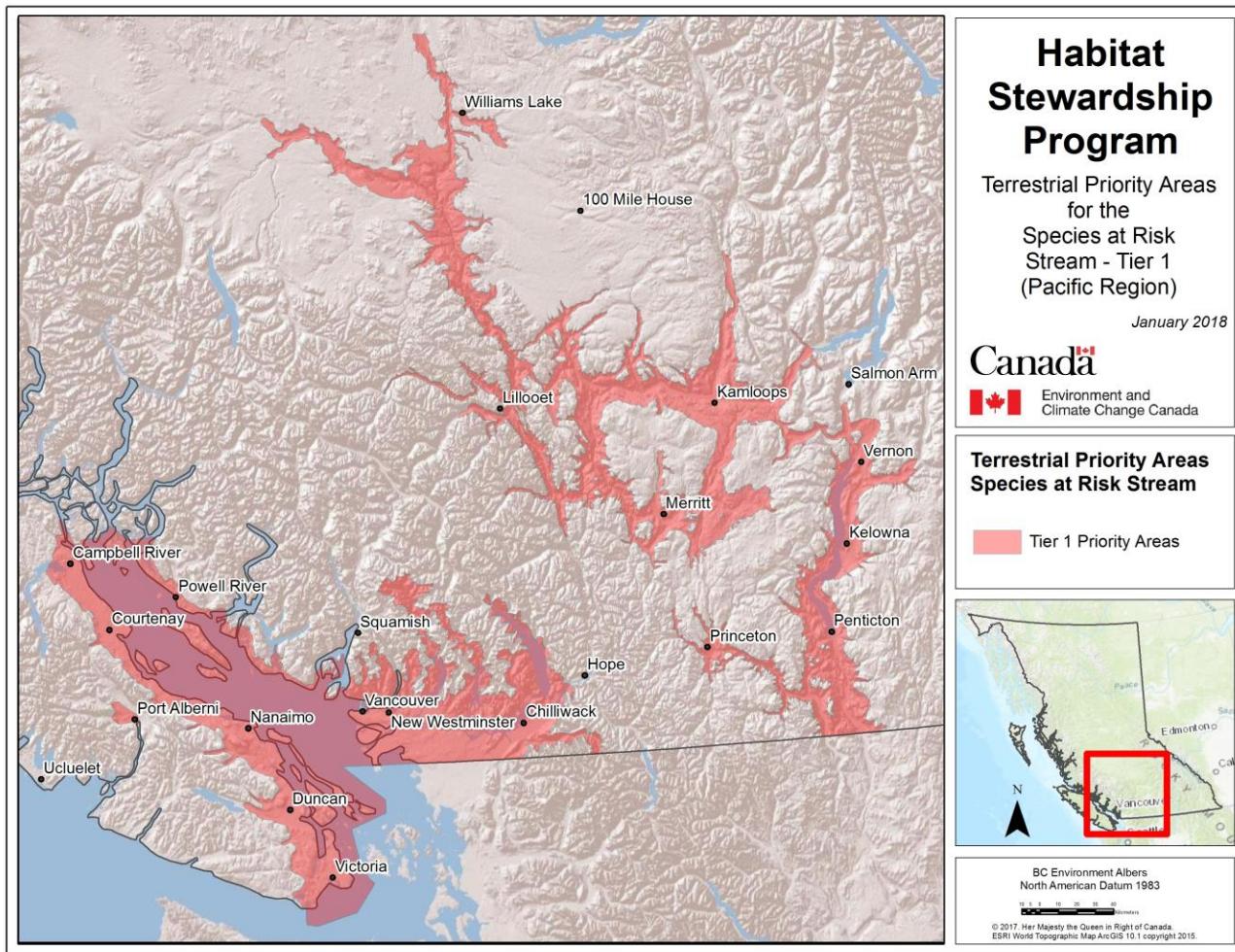
Terrestrial Priorities for the HSP Species at Risk Stream, 2018-2019:

A new tiered structure for regional priorities has been implemented in 2018-2019 for terrestrial projects. Under the new tiered structure, some priorities are common across programs and streams, while other priorities are unique to a given program or stream. It is anticipated that most of the available funding will be directed towards projects that address Tier 1 or Tier 2 priorities.

Tier 1: Focal Landscapes

- Projects occurring within the areas outlined in Figure 1 (East Coast Vancouver Island / Lower Mainland and Dry Interior).

Figure 1: Tier 1 Terrestrial Priority Area for HSP Species at Risk Stream.



Tier 2: Overarching Species, Sectors and Threats

- Projects directly supporting the recovery of the following national-scale priority species that occur in BC: **Woodland Caribou** (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) - **Boreal and Southern Mountain populations**; **Wood Bison** (*Bison bison athabascae*); **Little Brown Myotis** (*Myotis lucifugus*); **Northern Myotis** (*M. septentrionalis*); and **Monarch butterfly** (*Danaus plexippus*).
- Projects, targeting SARA-listed species, that directly address threats from or habitat loss/degradation caused by the **agriculture sector, forestry sector, or urban development**, where these threats are identified in a draft or final recovery document for the target species.
- Projects, targeting SARA-listed species, that pursue long-term/self-sustaining solutions to the issue of **invasive species introduction and spread** (e.g., bio-control, bylaw development, access restrictions, or complete eradication in systems with low risk of reintroduction), where this issue is identified in a draft or final recovery document for

the target species. This can include projects aimed at preventing the spread and/or mitigating the impacts of introduced pathogens (e.g., the fungus species responsible for causing White Pine Blister Rust and White Nose Syndrome).

Tier 3: Other Regional Priority Species, Threats or Areas

- Projects directly supporting the recovery of **Vancouver Island Marmot** (*Marmota vancouverensis*).
- Projects addressing **recreational activities** that are having a detrimental impact on critical or important habitat for species at risk, and that are described in a draft or final recovery document.
- Projects occurring within the areas outlined in Figure 2 (Creston Valley, and portions of the Ponderosa Pine biogeoclimatic zone that are not already captured within the Tier 1 area).

Figure 2: Tier 3 Terrestrial Priority Areas for HSP Species at Risk Stream.

