

Forest Investment Account

Component: Strategic Resource Planning – Activity Area: Developing Management Unit or Watershed Level Strategies

Activity: Species and Ecosystems at Risk Recovery Strategies/Management Planning and Watershed-Based Fish Sustainability Plans (WFSPs)

Description/Eligibility:

This activity covers aspects of developing Recovery or Management Plans (for Species/Ecosystem at Risk) and Watershed-Based Fish Sustainability Plans that use existing information. Actions to develop the plans and collect associated information/data should be agreed upon by the planning table members.

The collection of new information/data to support the development of the strategy/plan should be covered under the appropriate “Information Gathering and Management” component.

The LBIR or SFM planning must justify the rationale and priority for the plan.

All reasonable actions and costs associated with the development of strategies or plans are eligible. For the purpose of this activity these include: Recovery Strategies, Recovery Action Plans or management Plans for Species or Ecosystems at Risk; and Watershed-Based Fish Sustainability Plans. FIA funds can be used when the Recipient:

1. Leads the development of a strategy or plan, by bringing prospective members together to form a **new** Recovery Team (where one for the species does not already exist) or a Recovery Implementation Group (RIG) or planning team.
2. Initiates and facilitates team meetings, specifically: a) administration of team (e.g. developing agendas, minutes, and administration of funds and budget); b) providing travel funds for team members; c) acting as co-chair(s); ensuring templates for minutes and agendas are available on a specified website.
3. Participates in a strategy or plan development process led by another party.
4. Leads and facilitates public consultation workshops related to plan development.
5. Analyzes the socio-economic benefits and costs of implementing the plan (standards to be agreed upon by the planning team).
6. Provides a contribution to a third party to lead the development of a strategy or plan.

In addition to regular FIA reporting to PwC, reporting under this activity will consist of completing minutes, draft plans and final plans and ensuring they are housed on the site specified by the Ministry of Environment (MOE) by sending the documents to Kari.Nelson@gov.bc.ca (Species and Ecosystems at Risk Recovery/Management Planning) or Andy.Witt@gov.bc.ca (Watershed-based Fish Sustainability Plans) within one (1) month of the meeting which generated the documents.

Standards (Species/Ecosystem at Risk Recovery Strategy/ Recovery Plan or Management Plan or Recovery Action Plan):

1. The objective of the team/RIG/strategy/plan must be to provide the best available scientific advice (to government and others) on how to recover the species/ecosystem.
2. The team/RIG is accountable to the Director of the Ecosystems Branch, MOE, and must operate under terms of reference approved by the Director.
3. Representatives of all jurisdictions/agencies with responsibility for the species in Canada must be invited to participate on the team.
4. RIGs must be formed under the auspices of, and report to, an existing recovery team.
5. Decisions must be made on a consensus basis, and the recipient/licensee must participate in good faith. If consensus is not reached, the Recipient/licensee must indicate due diligence in attempting to reach this goal.
6. The team/RIG must provide information to the Recovery of Nationally Endangered Wildlife (RENEW) Secretariat as requested for the RENEW annual report, and to the Director of the Ecosystems Branch for any other reporting requirements by posting on the required website (see above).
7. Funding from the FIA may cover a portion of the costs of one stage, and such funding does not commit the Recipient to use their allocated FIA funds for subsequent stages of developing the plan.

Standards (WFSPs):

1. The objective must be to have government sign off the final plan.
2. The Recipient must supply existing data upon the request of the planning table members, in order to fully participate in the development of a WFSP.
3. The plan must be developed with the goal of consensus, and the recipient/licensee must participate in good faith. If consensus is not reached, the Recipient/licensee must indicate due diligence in attempting to reach this goal.
4. The MOE and DFO must be invited to participate.
5. The Recipient/licensee must identify and support the delivery of products, as listed in the WFSP Guidebook (see reference below), for instance, as shown in the following sections:
 - a. Stage 1 – page 25.
 - b. Stage 2 – page 42.
 - c. Stage 3 – page 51.
 - d. Stage 4 – page 55.
6. Funding from the FIA may cover a portion of the costs of one stage, and such funding does not commit the Recipient to use their allocated FIA funds for subsequent stages of developing the plan.

Guidelines and Links to Existing Plans:

Information on recovery planning (including examples of recovery strategies and a list of existing recovery teams) is available on [MOE's Recovery Planning website](#).

Guidelines for recovery planning are provided in the RENEW Recovery Operations Manual, available from [Environment Canada's Species at Risk website](#).

Templates for recovery/management planning (terms of reference for teams, work plans, strategy templates, etc.) are available from Kari.Nelson@gov.bc.ca.

Information on individual species at risk is available through the [BC Endangered Species and Ecosystems Explorer](#).

[Watershed-Based Fish Sustainability Planning – Conserving B.C. Fish Populations and their Habitat, A Guidebook for Participants](#).

[Greater Georgia Basin Steelhead Recovery Action Plan, September, 2002](#).