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MSC Evaluation of British Columbia Pink and Chum Salmon Fisheries

Final Performance Indicators and Scoring Guideposts for Assessment of BC Pink and Chum Seine, Troll and Gillnet Fisheries

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Guide to Performance Indicators and Scoring Guideposts Introduction to Scoring Methodology

Application of the MSC Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing

The MSC Principles and Criteria provide the overall requirements necessary for certifying that a fishery meets the Marine Stewardship Council's environmental standard for being well-managed and sustainable.

The certification methodology adopted by the MSC involves the application and interpretation of the Principles and Criteria to the specific fishery undergoing assessment. This is necessary, as the precise assessment of a fishery will vary with the nature of the species, capture method used, etc.

Accordingly, the assessment team for the Candidate Fishery has developed, from the MSC Principles and Criteria, a structured hierarchy of 'Performance Indicators' and 'Scoring Guideposts' in order to carry out the assessment. The performance indicators presented below have been adopted from performance indicators and scoring guideposts already used for assessing British Columbia sockeye salmon and the Alaskan salmon recertification.

Performance indicators represent separate areas of important information (e.g. Indicator 1.1.1.2 evaluates the level of agreement on stock units, 1.1.2.1 requires information on the estimates of removals from stock units, and so on). These indicators therefore provide a detailed framework of performance attributes necessary to meet the MSC Criteria in the same way as the MSC Criteria provide the factors necessary to meet each MSC Principle. Beside each indicator, individual 'Scoring Guideposts' (60, 80 and 100) are identified. It is at this level that the performance of the fishery is measured. It is important to note that the absolute numeric values assigned to each of these guideposts are not intended to reflect any type of percentile scoring system but were established by the MSC to help the assessment teams facilitate weighting and combining different performance indicators (see further discussion below).

Scoring Methodology

For each Performance Indicator, the candidate fishery's management characteristics are compared with pre-specified attributes for each of three Scoring Guideposts to establish a score. A 60 score is intended to reflect 'a pass with condition', a score of 80 represents 'a pass without condition', while a 100 score reflects 'perfect performance.' In order for a fishery to be certified it must accomplish three things:

- Achieve a minimum of 'a pass with condition' for every performance indicator (as defined by a score of least 60);

- Must achieve ‘pass without condition’ for each MSC Principle (an average aggregated score of 80 for each principle);
- A commitment to improvement for each performance indicator from ‘pass with condition’ performance up to the ‘pass without condition’ performance level within the five year certificate life (as defined by agreed actions to improve any indicator’s score to at least 80 if it has been scored between 60 and 80 in the assessment).

In fisheries where any given indicator scores below 60, a fishery cannot pass the evaluation process and be awarded certification until the performance issue(s) identified can be corrected to the satisfaction of the certification body and its expert evaluation team.

The evaluation framework noted above is referred to as the fishery assessment tree. It represents a hierarchical application of the Principles and Criteria. The scoring guideposts used to rate a performance indicator are meant to be hierarchical in that to meet a particular score, the scoring guideposts of all lower scores must also have been met. For any given MSC criterion, sub-criteria and performance indicators may be identified by the TAVEL assessment team as appropriate to the nature of the fishery. All sub-criteria and indicators are weighted indicating their relative importance in setting the overall scores for the fishery. The weighting process will proceed after the evaluation team has received public comments on this draft and been able to incorporate the comments to create a final set of sub-criteria, indicators, and scoring guideposts for use in the evaluation process.

Specific Assessment Approach for BC Pink and Chum Salmon Fisheries

To ensure transparency in this MSC assessment, the clients have requested that TAVEL Certification provide additional consultation opportunities over and above the MSC Fisheries Certification Methodology. The clients have requested that members of the environmental and conservation community in British Columbia, represented by the Marine Conservation Caucus (MCC), have open access to review and comment on documents normally provided to the public at later steps in the certification process, after appropriate review steps. Specifically, the client has agreed to simultaneously provide its documentation submission responding to the final version of TAVEL’s performance indicators to both the assessment team and the MCC. The objective is to ensure that the MCC members have the opportunity to review and comment on the documentary evidence being provided to the assessment team to prove the fisheries’ compliance with the MSC Principles and Criteria.

The client has also agreed that members of the MCC would have an opportunity to review and comment on the draft certification report (which is usually reserved for client review). This will be accomplished through a public stakeholder comment review period prior to provision of the reports to the selected peer reviewers.

TAVEL Certification will use the same performance indicators to evaluate the performance of the seven identified units of certification which include:

Pink Salmon:

- North Coast/ Central Coast British Columbia
- Mainland Inlets
- Fraser River

Chum Salmon:

- North Coast/ Central Coast British Columbia
- Inside Fisheries
- West Coast Vancouver Island
- Fraser River

The key to understanding the fishery evaluation performance indicators is to understand the differences between the MSC Principles. Principle 1 focuses on evaluating the target population, defined as stock units. Under this principle, the fundamental areas of concern which identify sound fisheries management are:

1. The definition of the target stocks;
2. The quality of monitoring and stock assessment programs;
3. The specific management goals for target stocks;
4. The procedures to ensure the recovery of target stocks if they are depleted; and
5. The fisheries are conducted in a manner that does not impair reproductive performance (e.g. the fishery does not significantly change the age, size and genetic structure of the target stocks).

Principle 2 focuses on the impact of the fisheries on the ecosystem and non-target populations. The Principle 2 assessments determine how the candidate fishery management deals with:

1. The importance of maintaining a productive, functional and diverse ecosystem;
2. Provisions to minimize the fishery impacts on endangered, threatened, protected or icon species; and
3. Procedures that ensure the recovery of any depleted non-target stocks or degraded ecosystems.

Principle 3 focuses on management and operational framework that has been put in place by Fisheries and Oceans Canada to achieve the management goals and objectives for the stock units. The assessment will evaluate the management policies, framework and plans used by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO Pacific Region) in Canada for these salmon fisheries.

Some indicators under Principle 3 appear to overlap with indicators under Principles 1 and 2, however, it is significant to note that the Principles 1 and 2 are concerned with the outcomes (products) of a management system respecting the fact that the resources are maintained at the desired levels of abundance, while Principle 3 is concerned with evaluating whether all of the processes for reaching management objectives are in place. Components unique to Principle 3 include:

1. The evaluation of the consultation process;
2. The procedures used to control fisheries;
3. The extent of internal and external review of the management system;
4. The compliance with legal and administrative requirements; and
5. The implementation of responsible fishing practices.

Concurrence between TAVEL Certification Assessment Tree and MSC Principles and Criteria

The following three pages present a diagrammatic presentation of how the assessment team has defined Performance Indicators and Scoring Guidelines to verify the requirements of the MSC Principles and Criteria.

Draft Performance Indicators and Scoring Guidelines

The remaining pages of this document display the draft Performance Indicators and Scoring Guidelines to be used in the assessment of the BC pink and chum salmon fisheries.

Any questions regarding this certification assessment can be forwarded to:

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MSC Principle 1

A fishery must be conducted in a manner that does not lead to over-fishing or depletion of the exploited populations and, for those populations that are depleted, the fishery must be conducted in a manner that demonstrably leads to their recovery.

MSC Principle 1 Criterion 1

The fishery shall be conducted at catch levels that continually maintain the high productivity of the target population(s) and associated ecological community relative to its potential productivity.

1.1.1

1.1.2

1.1.3

MSC Principle 1 Criterion 2

Where the exploited populations are depleted, the fisheries will be executed such that recovery and rebuilding is allowed to occur to a specified level consistent with the precautionary approach and the ability of the populations to produce long-term potential yields within a specified time frame.

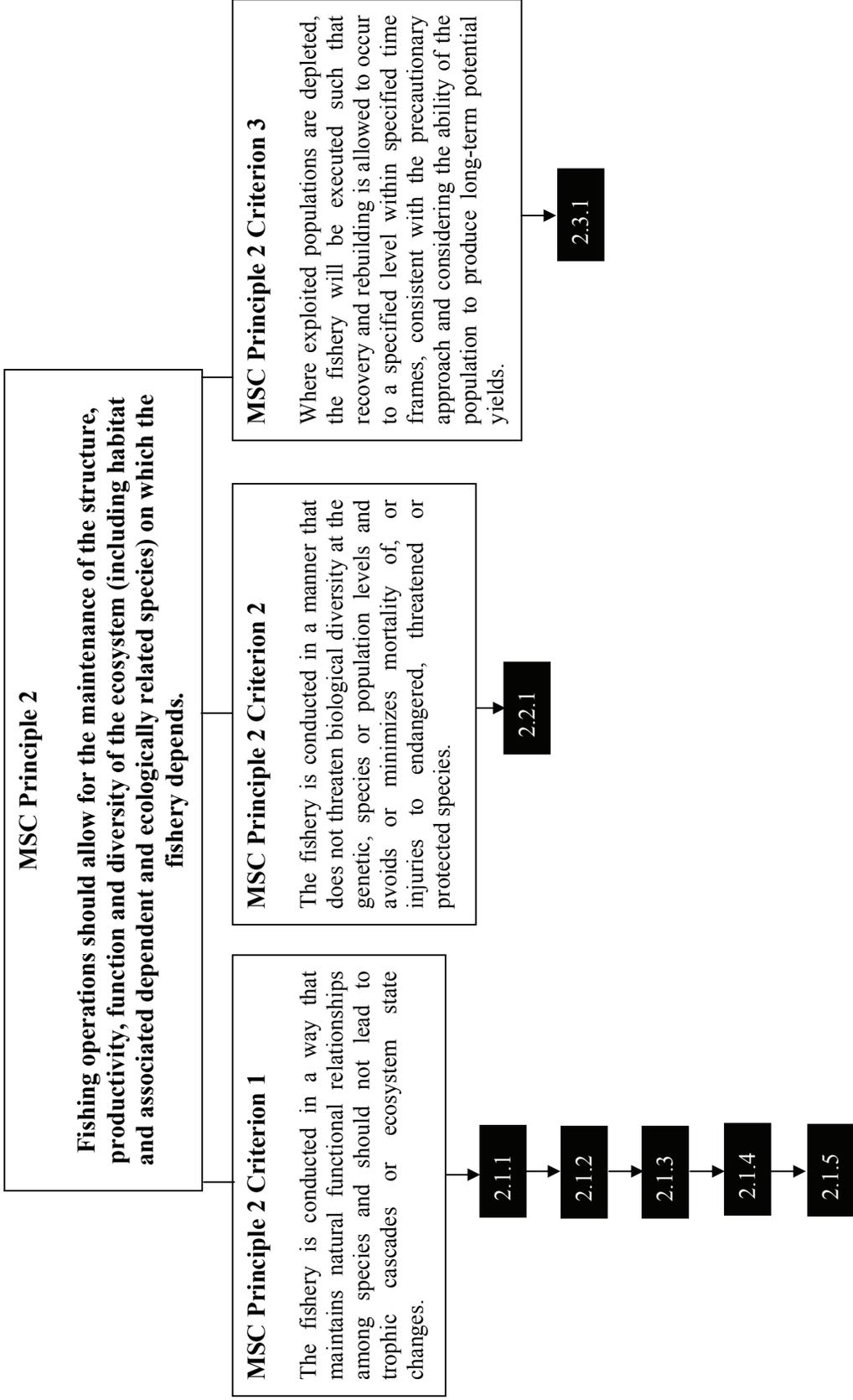
1.2.1

1.2.2

MSC Principle 1 Criterion 3

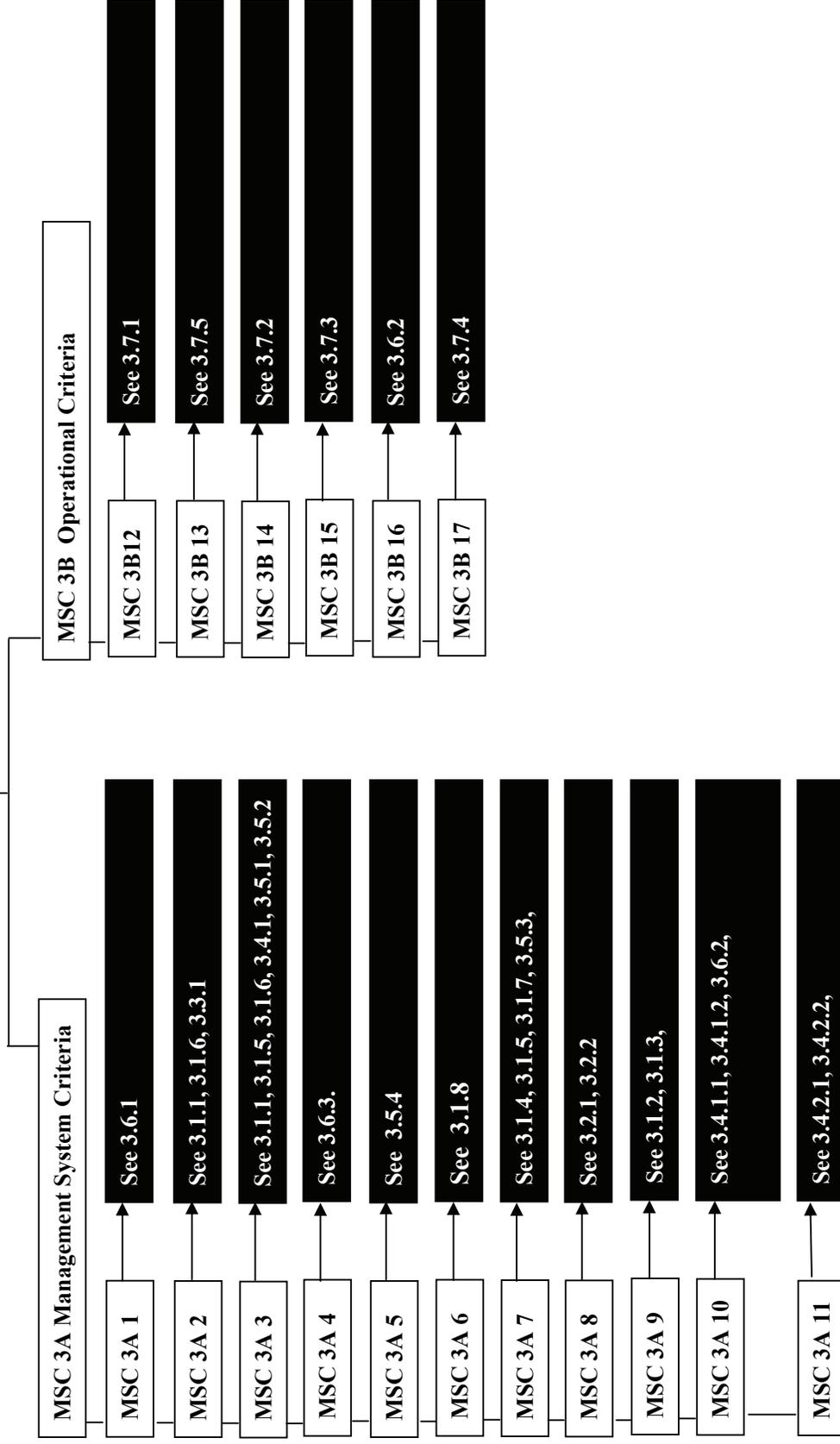
Fishing is conducted in a manner that does not alter the age or genetic structure or sex composition to a degree that impairs reproductive capacity.

1.3.1



MSC Principle 3

The fishery is subject to an effective management system that respects local, national and international laws and standards and incorporates institutional and operational frameworks that require use of the resource to be responsible and sustainable.



Definitions

The following terms can be found throughout this document. These are the definitions that the assessment team has accepted for these terms.

Bycatch – the harvest of non-target species or non-target stocks.

Enhanced stocks - stocks of salmon that have been directly augmented using artificial propagation techniques (e.g. hatcheries, in-stream incubators, spawning channels, hatchery out-planting).

Escapement – those mature salmon that are not harvested and thus may contribute to the spawning component of the stock.

Fisheries scientists outside the management system – this includes fisheries scientists that are not full-time employees of Fisheries and Oceans Canada but have demonstrated expertise related to the fisheries management or stock assessment issues in question. These could include professional scientists employed in the private sector, universities or other non-governmental organizations.

Harvest – those fish or other species that are caught and killed during a fishery or die as a direct result of fishing activity.

Indicator stock – a salmon stock for which detailed information is collected and used to manage a larger group of salmon stocks or stock management unit.

Limit Reference Point (LRP) - indicates the state of a fishery and/or a resource, which is not considered desirable. Fishery harvests should be stopped before reaching it. If a LRP is inadvertently reached, management action should severely curtail or stop fishery development, as appropriate, and corrective action should be taken. Stock rehabilitation programs should consider an LRP as a very minimum rebuilding target to be reached before the rebuilding measures are relaxed or the fishery is re-opened.

Majority – this could be a simple majority (e.g. >50% of the stocks in a stock management unit) or a numerical majority (e.g. >50% of the fish in a stock management unit or scientists in a region), where the management system has provided acceptable rationale for the definition used in their submission for each indicator.

Natural salmon stock – a naturally-spawning stock that includes spawners produced by hatcheries. This terminology is used to distinguish it from a “wild” or native stock that has not been influenced by artificial propagation.

Non-target species – species that are not the focus of the fishery but are caught in a fishery that is attempting to harvest other species.

Non-target stock – a stock of salmon that is not the focus of the fishery but is caught in a fishery that is attempting to harvest other salmon stocks.

PSC – Pacific Salmon Commission.

PSARC - Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee.

Precautionary approach - A set of measures and actions, including future courses of action, which ensures prudent foresight, reduces or avoids risk to the resources, the environment, and the people, to the extent possible, taking explicitly into account existing uncertainties and the potential consequences of being wrong.

Productivity, related to ecological community or the ecosystem – the rate of biomass production per unit area per unit time.

Productivity, related to salmon – the number of salmon per spawner per unit of time (usually per year). A common measure of productivity for salmon is the number of recruits per spawner, where a fish is classified as a recruit if it survives to be harvested or escapes to a spawning area.

Reference points - A (management) reference point is an estimated value derived from an agreed scientific procedure and an agreed model to which corresponds a state of the resource and of the fishery and which can be used as a guide for fisheries management.

Risk - the possibility of suffering harm or loss; danger; a factor, thing, element, or course involving uncertain danger, a hazard. In decision theory “the degree of probability of loss. A statistical measure representing an average amount of opportunity loss.” This terminology is used “when large amounts of information are available on which to base estimates of likelihood, so that accurate statistical probabilities can be formulated”

Risk analysis - Any analysis of unknown chance events for purposes of effecting or evaluating decisions in terms of possible penalties and benefits attending these events. A method for generating different probability distributions with accompanying cost and benefits that may attend different courses of action.

Stock – meaning a group of salmon defined by its species, spawning location or spawning region, and in some cases run timing.

Stock management unit – meaning the stock or group of salmon stocks that are treated as a single unit when setting management goals or making fisheries management decisions.

Target Reference Point (TRP) - corresponds to the state of a fishery and/or a resource, which is considered desirable. Management action, whether during a fishery development or stock rebuilding process, should aim at maintaining the fishery system at its level.

Target species – the species of salmon that a specific fishery is attempting to harvest.

Target stocks – specific salmon stock or stock management unit that a specific fishery is attempting to harvest.

Uncertainty - The condition of being uncertain. Doubt. Something uncertain. In statistics, the estimated amount or percentage by which an observed or calculated value may differ from the true value. The incompleteness of knowledge about the states or processes in nature.

Wild stocks – stocks of salmon that have not been augmented through artificial propagation techniques (e.g. hatcheries, in-stream incubators, spawning channels, hatchery out-planting).

(Adapted from FAO, 1995 The Precautionary Approach To Fisheries and its Implications for Fishery Research, Technology and Management: an updated review by S.M. Garcia, Fishery Resources Division, FAO Fisheries Department.)

MSC Principle 1	A fishery must be conducted in a manner that does not lead to over-fishing or depletion of the exploited populations and, for those populations that are depleted, the fishery must be conducted in a manner that demonstrably leads to their recovery.
<i>Intent</i>	<i>The intent of this principle is to ensure that the productive capacities of resources are maintained at high levels and are not sacrificed in favor of short term interests. Thus, exploited populations would be maintained at high levels of abundance designed to retain their productivity, provide margins of safety for error and uncertainty, and restore and retain their capacities for yields over the long term. It is recognized that environmental conditions will occasionally cause even well managed stocks to decrease to low abundance and the intent is that the management system will facilitate rapid recovery of such stocks.</i>

1.1 - MSC Criterion 1	The fishery shall be conducted at catch levels that continually maintain the high productivity of the target population(s) and associated ecological community relative to its potential productivity.
<i>Intent</i>	<i>Our interpretation of MSC Criterion 1: The performance indicators listed under Criteria 1 focused on the adequacy of the information used to manage the fisheries and stocks. For our assessment, we have organized the performance indicators into the three sub-criteria: 1) the definition of the stock units for each fishery; 2 the information available on the harvests, escapement, biological characteristic, and productivity; and 3) the management goals for each stock unit. As in the evaluations of other fisheries, the effect of the fishery on the associated ecological community will be primarily dealt with under Principle 2. However, the 100% level for indicators related to management goals under Principle 1 cannot be achieved unless information is collected on the associated ecological community and used in setting management goals.</i>

1.1.1 TAVEL Sub-Criterion	Scientifically defensible stock units have been defined and the geographic distribution of these stocks is known.
<i>Intent</i>	<i>The intention of this sub-criterion is to evaluate whether the definition of the stock units are clear and appropriate for each species harvested in the fishery.</i>

1.1.1.1	The stock units are well defined for the purposes of conservation, fisheries management and stock assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of stock units are defined. The rational for the majority of stock units for the target species is clear with regard to conservation, fisheries management and stock assessment requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The stock units are well defined and include details on the major component stocks. The rational for each stock unit for the target species is clear with regard to conservation, fisheries management and stock assessment requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an unambiguous description of each stock unit, including: its geographic location, run timing, details on all the component stocks, and rational for its definition. The rational for each stock unit is clear with regard to conservation, fisheries management and stock assessment requirements.
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PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
1.1.1.2	<p>There is general scientific agreement that the stock units are appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist within the management agency that the majority of stock units are appropriate for target species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The stock units for target species have been reviewed and found to be scientifically defensible and appropriate by the Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee (PSARC) or the appropriate Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) technical committee. There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist outside the management agency that the stock units are appropriate. There is general scientific agreement regarding the stock units for non-target species
1.1.1.3	<p>The geographic range for harvest of each stock unit in the fishery is known.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The information available on the geographic range for harvests of target stocks is sufficient to prevent the over harvesting for the majority of the stocks within each stock unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The geographic range for harvests of each stock unit in the fishery is estimated and documented each year. The information on the geographic range of harvests is monitored during the fishing season and used when making in-season management decisions.
<i>Intent</i>	<i>The intent is to confirm the geographical range (i.e. location) of fisheries which impact target stocks within stock units.</i>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>1.1.1.4</p> <p>Where indicator stocks are used as the primary source of information for making management decisions on a larger group of stocks in a region, the status of the indicator stocks reflects the status of other stocks within the management unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is limited scientific disagreement regarding the indicator stocks used by the management agency to formulate management decisions for the fishery. • There is a scientific basis for the indicator stocks used in the management of the fishery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientists within the management agency that the status of indicator stocks reflects the status of other stocks within the management unit. • There is no significant scientific disagreement regarding the indicator stocks used by the management agency to formulate management decisions for the fishery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The status of the indicator stocks is well correlated with the stocks that are most at risk from a conservation point of view, not just correlated with the most productive stocks in the region. • The indicator stocks used have been reviewed and found to be scientifically defensible and appropriate by the PSARC or the appropriate PSC technical committee. • There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientists outside the management agency that the indicator stocks are appropriate. • The relationships between indicator stocks and stocks of interest are assessed every three to five years.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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1.1.1.5	<p>Where stock units are composed of significant numbers of fish from enhancement activities, the management system provides for identification of the enhanced fish and their harvest without adversely impacting the diversity, ecological function or viability of wild stocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is general scientific agreement within the management agency regarding the impacts of enhanced fish on the resultant harvest rates or escapements of wild (un-enhanced) fish stocks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managers have some scientific basis for assuring that harvest rates for enhanced stocks are not adversely affecting the majority of wild (un-enhanced) stocks within each stock unit. 	<p>In fisheries where both enhanced and wild (un-enhanced) stocks are harvested at the same time, the harvest guidelines are based on the goals and objectives established for the wild (un-enhanced) stocks, and there is sufficient information on stock composition (i.e. hatchery and natural fish) to determine whether those goals are met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are adequate data and analyses to determine that the presence of enhanced fish in the management units does not adversely impact the wild (un-enhanced) fish stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries targeting enhanced stocks are geographically removed from wild (un-enhanced) stocks and separate terminal harvest areas are established for these fisheries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Times and areas have been identified where the majority of enhanced fish migrate through the general fishery. There is real time mark recovery program during the prosecution of the fishery that allows determination of harvest rates of the targets and naturally enhanced component of the run and these data are used in regulation of the fishery.
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1.1.2 TAVEL Sub-Criterion	The monitoring and assessment of fisheries and stocks is adequate for fisheries managers to maintain the high productivity of the target stocks and associated ecological community relative to its potential productivity.		
<i>Intent</i>	The foundation for the management of most salmon fisheries is information on fishery harvest and escapements. Long-term (>10 yrs) monitoring of specific stocks is generally required to compute estimates of productivity. For some target species, additional information on fish size and age is required. The relative importance of each type of information will vary across fisheries and the species harvested.		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>1.1.2.1</p>	<p>Estimates exist of the removals for each stock unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch estimates for the majority of target stocks are available. • Catch estimates are available for non-target stocks where the catch of the non-target stocks may represent a significant component of that stock. • Mechanisms exist to ensure accurate catch reporting and these mechanisms are evaluated at least once every 10 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch estimates are available for all fisheries in Canadian waters that harvest the target and non-target stocks harvested in the fishery being evaluated. • Mortality rates are available for the fish released or discarded during the fishery. • Catch estimates are available for fisheries outside Canadian waters that harvest the stocks that are the target of the fishery being evaluated.
<p>1.1.2.2</p>	<p>Estimates exist of the spawning escapement for each stock unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escapement estimates for target stocks are available, where escapement estimates are necessary to protect the target stock from overexploitation. • Fishery independent indicators of abundance are available for non-target stocks where the fishery harvests may represent a significant component of the harvest of that stock. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimates are available for the annual escapement for each stock unit harvested in the fishery. • In season indicators of escapement are available for all stock units (e.g. target stocks and non-target stocks) and are used to regulate the fishery.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
1.1.2.3	<p>The age and size of catch and escapement have been considered, especially for the target stocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The information on age and size of catch and escapement is adequate, where there is general scientific agreement that these data are important to assess the status of the stocks or adjust fisheries management decisions. <i>[For example: information on the age distribution of pink salmon harvests would not be considered important for stock assessment or fisheries management decisions where as age information would be important for the assessment and management related to most chinook and sockeye fisheries. Monitoring programs should be in place to detect changes in the size of the fish harvested for each salmon species.]</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodic monitoring programs collect data on the age and size of the catch and escapement for target stocks, and for non-target stocks where the fishery harvests may represent a significant component of the harvest of those non-target stocks. There is a scientific basis for the frequency of the sampling program to collect age and size data where there is a clear scientific basis for collecting these data.
1.1.2.4	<p>The information collected from catch monitoring and stock assessment programs is used to compute productivity estimates for the target stocks and management guidelines for both target and non-target stocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The available information and analyses are adequate to identify the harvest limitations and production strategies required to maintain the productivity of the majority of target stocks. The relative productivity of the non-target stocks is considered in the management strategy, where the fishery harvests may represent a significant component of those non-target stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientifically defensible productivity estimates (e.g. stock/recruitment relationships) have been derived for all target stocks and the relative productivity of non-target stocks is known. Risk assessment has been conducted to determine the impact of alternative harvest strategies on non-target stocks. The risk assessment should include an assessment of the uncertainties with estimates of stock productivity for both the target and non-target stocks.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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1.1.3 TAVEL Sub-Criterion
 Management goals have been set and are appropriate to protect the stocks from decline to their Limit Reference Point or operationally equivalent undesirable low level of abundance.

<p>1.1.3.1</p> <p>Limit Reference Points or operational equivalents have been set and are appropriate to protect the stocks harvested in the fishery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist within the management agency that the LRP's or equivalent are appropriate to achieve the management goals for target stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is some scientific basis for the LRP's for target stocks and these LRP's are defined to protect the stocks harvested by the fisheries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no significant scientific disagreement regarding the LRP's used by the management agency to formulate management decision for the fishery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Limit Reference Point for target stocks have been reviewed and found to be scientifically defensible and appropriate by the PSARC or the appropriate PSC technical committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist outside the management agency that the LRP's are appropriate. • There is general scientific agreement regarding the LRP's for non-target species.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>The Limit Reference Point (LRP) or operational equivalent set by the management agency has been defined above as “the state of a fishery and/or a resource, which is not considered desirable. Fishery harvests should be stopped before reaching it. If a LRP is inadvertently reached, management action should severely curtail or stop the fishery, as appropriate, and corrective action should be taken. Stock rehabilitation programs should consider an LRP as a very minimum rebuilding target to be reached before the rebuilding measures are relaxed or the fishery is re-opened.”</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>1.1.3.2</p> <p>Target Reference Points (TRPs) or operational equivalent have been set.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is general agreement among fisheries scientist within the management agency that the TRP's are appropriate for the target stocks. Target reference points have been defined for the majority of target stocks harvested in the fishery and these target reference points are not scientifically disputed. The management agency has taken into account the relative productivity of non-target stocks when setting the TRP's for the majority of target stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no significant scientific disagreement regarding the TRP's used by the management agency to formulate management decision for the fishery. The TRP's for the target stocks take into account variability in the productivity of each component of the target stock and the productivity of non-target stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Target Reference Point (TRP) for target stocks have been reviewed and found to be defensible and appropriate by the PSARC or the appropriate PSC technical committee. There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist outside the management agency that the TRP's are appropriate. The TRP's for the target stocks take into account variability in the productivity of each component of the target stock and productivity of non-target stocks.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>The Target Reference Point (TRP) or operational equivalent set by the management agency has been defined above as "the state of a fishery and/or a resource, which is considered desirable. Management action, whether during a fishery development or stock rebuilding process, should aim at maintaining the fishery system at its level."</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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1.2 - MSC Criterion 2	Where the exploited populations are depleted, the fisheries will be executed such that recovery and rebuilding is allowed to occur to a specified level consistent with the precautionary approach and the ability of the populations to produce long-term potential yields within a specified time frame.		
Scoring Intent	The MSC Technical Advisory Board directs that this Criterion is only Scored in the instance that the candidate fishery stock is determined to be in a depleted state hence a recovery plan is already in action. The decision whether the fishery is in a depleted state will be made at the beginning of the Fishery Assessment process.		
Team Intent	<i>Our interpretation of MSC Criterion 1.2: This criterion refers to “populations” where our indicators and evaluation criteria refer to stocks or stock units. The evaluation under this criterion will assess the degree to which the management strategy is designed to keep targeted stocks from becoming depleted, and to promote recovery if they become depleted. Note that this has already been partially assessed under Subcriterion 1.1.3.</i>		

1.2.1	There is a well-defined and effective strategy, and a specific recovery plan in place, to promote recovery of the target stock within reasonable time frames.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the event of severe depletion, recovery plans are developed and implemented to facilitate the recovery of the depleted stocks within 5 reproductive cycles Stocks are allowed to recover to more than 125% of the LRP for abundance before any fisheries are permitted that target these stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the event of severe depletion, recovery plans are developed and implemented to facilitate the recovery of the depleted stocks within 3 reproductive cycles. Stocks are allowed to recover to more than 150% of the LRP for abundance before any fisheries are permitted that target these stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are comprehensive and pre-agreed responses to low stock size that utilize a range of management measures to ensure rapid recovery. Stocks are allowed to recover to the TRP before commercial fisheries are permitted that target these stocks. The management agency does not use artificial propagation as a substitute for maintaining or recovering wild stocks.
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PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>1.2.2</p> <p>Target stocks are not depleted and recent stock sizes are assessed to be above appropriate limit reference points (or equivalents) for the target stocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist inside the management agency that the methods of estimating escapements and exploitation rates for the majority of target stocks are scientifically defensible. Management actions have reduced fishing as the target stocks approach the LRP and fisheries have only resulted in escapements that approach or are below the LRP escapement goal in no more than two years in a period of the most recent 5 consecutive years, for the majority of the target stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist inside the management agency that the methods of estimating escapements and exploitation rates for the target stocks are scientifically defensible. Management actions have reduced fishing as the target stocks approach the LRP and fisheries have only resulted in escapements that approach or are below the LRP escapement goal in one year in a period of the most recent 5 consecutive years, for any of the target stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is general agreement among regional fisheries scientist outside the management agency that the methods of estimating escapements and exploitation rates for the target stocks are scientifically defensible. Management actions have reduced fishing as the target stocks approach the LRP and fisheries have only resulted in escapements that approach or are below the LRP escapement goal in one year in a period of the most recent 10 consecutive years, for any of the target stocks.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>In contrast to Indicator 1.2.1, which evaluates the strategy for stock recovery, this indicator evaluates the current status of the target species or stocks, and the basis for being reasonably certain about their status. The Scoring Guideposts are arranged hierarchically, so that evaluation of the current status depends on the assessment, which in turn depends on data and knowledge about the stocks and the fishery.</p>		

1.3 - MSC Criterion 3	Fishing is conducted in a manner that does not alter the age or genetic structure or sex composition to a degree that impairs reproductive capacity
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>Our interpretation of MSC Criterion 1.3: The effects of fishing on the “reproductive capacity” of the target stocks have already been partially assessed under criterion 1.1 and 1.2. Criterion 1.3 considers specific concerns about impacts of fishing on age, size, sex and genetic structure of (target) stocks. Because genetic structure is very difficult to determine in most exploited fish stocks, impacts on component stocks (i.e. the stocks that comprise a stock unit) are used as a proxy at the 80 scoring level. Also included in this indicator is an assessment of the management agency’s ability to identify and manage the potential impact of enhanced stocks on wild stocks.</p>

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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1.3.1	<p>Information on biological characteristics such as the age, size, sex and genetic structure of the target stocks is considered prior to making management decisions and management actions are consistent with maintaining healthy age, size, sex and genetic structure of the target stocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The knowledge of the effect of fishing on the biological characteristics such as age, size, sex and component stocks is adequate to detect threats to the reproductive capacity of the majority of target stocks. • Management actions are consistent with maintaining healthy target stocks relative to biological characteristics such as age, size, sex or genetic structure for the majority of target stocks. • The management system includes provisions to minimize the major adverse impacts for the majority of un-enhanced stocks that may be due to the enhancement of other stocks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is comprehensive knowledge of the effect of fishing on biological characteristics such as the age, size, sex and genetic structure of the target stocks and the impact of changes in these factors on the reproductive capacity of the target stocks. • Management actions are consistent with maintaining healthy target stocks relative to biological characteristics such as age, size, sex and genetic structure of all target stocks. • Enhanced fish are identified and managed as separate target stocks.
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MSC Principle 2	Fishing operations should allow for the maintenance of the structure, productivity, function and diversity of the ecosystem (including habitat and associated dependent and ecologically related species) on which the fishery depends.		
<i>MSC Intent</i>	<i>The intent of this principle is to encourage the management of fisheries from an ecosystem perspective under a system designed to assess and restrain the impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem.</i>		
<p>Team Intent: The intent of this principle is to encourage the management of fisheries from an ecosystem perspective under a system designed to assess and restrain the impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem. The criteria and indicators developed are limited to the impacts of fishing operations and the response and effectiveness of the regulatory system to impacts external to the commercial fishing operations, such as other harvests, climate change, and habitat degradation. We acknowledge that forces other than commercial fishing may result in a fishery being unsustainable, and that these may be anthropogenic or natural forces. This certification process addresses the impact of commercial fishing on the harvested stocks and the ecosystem, and the response of fishers and managers to changes in external environmental factors.</p>			

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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2.1 - MSC P2 Criterion 1		The fishery is conducted in a way that maintains natural functional relationships among species and should not lead to trophic cascades or ecosystem state changes.	
<i>Intent</i>	The performance indicators listed under Criteria 1 evaluate impacts on marine systems (bycatch and biomass removal) and on freshwater systems (adequacy of escapements in maintaining the ecosystem and integrity of watersheds). These indicators are: 1) the adequacy of management plans, data collection and monitoring of directed marine fisheries on by-catch; 2) the adequacy of escapement objectives to address the freshwater ecosystem concerns. The degree to which the information is collected in the management of the fisheries under Principle 1 will apply for determining if this criterion is adequately addressed and will influence the evaluation scores.		

2.1.1.	The management plan for the prosecution of the fisheries provides a high confidence that direct impacts on non-target species are identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data on bycatch in the majority of the fisheries are available to determine impacts on non-target species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A monitoring program exists that provides estimates of bycatch. In known problem areas of high bycatch, there is an ongoing monitoring program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A monitoring program exists that provides estimates of bycatch that meet statistical criteria acceptable to external reviewers. All historic monitoring data is readily available to stakeholder groups and external reviewers. Quantities of gear lost are recorded, and the impacts of lost gear on target and non-target species have been researched and accurate projections of impacts have been completed.
<i>Intent</i>	The intent of this measure is to ensure that the management plans for the fisheries require collection of adequate data to address direct impacts of fishing on non-target species.			

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>2.1.2</p> <p>The management system includes measures to reduce marine ecosystem impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system does include measures to reduce marine ecosystem impacts to achieve management objectives. The management system has a history of responding to bycatch mortality problems and has procedures that are followed to limit bycatch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The effect of the fishery on the marine ecosystem has been addressed by the management system. Where problems are identified, fisheries managers make adjustments to reduce impacts on non-target species. Where conflicts exist between the harvest of fish and ecosystem concerns based on their removal, the balance achieved has been made known to stakeholders through publicly available information sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A risk assessment of bycatch concerns has been conducted as part of developing the management plan. The effect of the fishery on the marine ecosystem has been explicitly addressed in the management plan. Research has been conducted on marine piscivores that utilize the target species to ensure that commercial harvests do not present significant risks to the populations of these piscivores. Where conflicts exist between the harvest of fish and ecosystem concerns based on their removal, the balance achieved has been the subject of an open review by stakeholders. This information is presented in documents that are made available to stakeholders.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>For salmon fisheries, the primary concerns related to marine ecosystem impacts are related to the bycatch of non-salmon species and the removal of large numbers of the target salmon species.</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>2.1.3</p>	<p>Research efforts are ongoing to identify new problems and define the magnitude of existing problems, and fisheries managers have a process to incorporate this understanding into their management decisions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management agency collects or plans to collect data on bycatch problems or ecosystem concerns. • There are procedures established to incorporate any knowledge obtained about bycatch problems into management actions. • The management agency responds to data provided on bycatch problems by entities outside of their agency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is detailed knowledge of the relationship between the fishery and the marine ecosystem impacts or ongoing research is attempting to identify if such problems exist. • The management agency has a proven history of incorporating new research findings into management plans. • The management agency has a proven history of closing fisheries when bycatch mortality problems arise. • The management agency has supported the development of more selective fishing practices.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>The intent of this measure is to ensure that a research program has been established to evaluate historic and new data to identify future problems. It is also necessary to have an established management process that will ensure research conclusions can quickly be transparently incorporated into future management activities associated with prosecuting the fishery.</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>2.1.4</p> <p>The management system supports research efforts to understand the adequacy of existing escapement goals for meeting freshwater ecosystem needs.</p>	<p>The management system supports research efforts to understand the adequacy of existing escapement goals for meeting freshwater ecosystem needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing research is supported to determine the impacts of carcass on freshwater ecosystem processes and identify any tradeoffs between harvests and freshwater ecosystem concerns. The management system provides for the communication of research results to managers so that the results can be used in the development of escapement goals for meeting freshwater ecosystem needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is research to determine tradeoffs of fish harvests with ecosystem concerns such as providing for sustainable populations of dependent components of the aquatic ecosystem. Results and conclusions from research are made available to stakeholders.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>The intent of this is to encourage the collection of information and data that can be used to address freshwater ecosystem concerns. It is our intent that future reviews of Pacific Salmon certification demonstrate that the information developed from these research programs on ecosystem requirements, such as aquatic system nutrient requirements and piscivore food requirements are incorporated into the management system.</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>2.1.5</p> <p>The management system supports research efforts to understand human caused impacts on the environment caused by non-fishing activities (e.g., aquaculture, climate change, water removal, water quality, timber harvests, agriculture, etc.) ,the effect of these impacts on salmon production and incorporates this information into harvest management plans and escapement goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is some information on the effects of human caused environmental impacts on natural salmon productivity and capacity and the general magnitude of impacts is known. • Management attempts to minimize or mitigate impacts of some human caused impacts on the environment. • Non-fishing related human caused impacts on the environment are considered when developing harvest plans and escapement goals, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management has some research to evaluate effects of major environmental impacts on natural salmon productivity and capacity, though quantitative estimates not always available. • Management has track record for attempting to minimize or mitigate impacts of human caused environmental impacts. • Results and conclusions from research are made available to stakeholders and there are on-going efforts to incorporate this information when developing harvest plans and escapement goals, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management has research program to evaluate effects of human impacts on the environment, including cumulative effects of smaller impacts, on natural salmon productivity and capacity. • Management has a track record for implementing research findings to minimize or mitigate impacts of human caused environmental change. • Results and conclusions from research are made available to stakeholders and findings of lost production are used to re-evaluate harvest plans and escapement goals, if necessary.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>The intent of this indicator is to encourage the collection of data in freshwater, estuarine and the marine environment that can be used to evaluate changes in salmon survival and the capacity of the habitat to support salmon so that changes in harvests or escapement goals can be made, if necessary, to sustain natural populations.</p>		

<p>2.2 - MSC P2 Criterion 2</p>	<p>The fishery is conducted in a manner that does not threaten biological diversity at the genetic, species or population levels, and avoids or minimizes mortality of, or injuries to endangered, threatened, or protected species.</p>
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>This criterion focuses on direct impact of the fishery on non-target species and the adequacy of fisheries management for the target species to ensure significant sub-components of the target species are adequately protected such that they contribute to the genetic diversity of the target population. The impacted species of concern include icon species, such as marine mammals, bears, coastal wolves, and eagles. We also address the issue of harvests of fish stocks that have been created or enhanced through fisheries enhancement activities, such as fish hatcheries and spawning channels. Our concern is that the production or harvest of enhanced stocks does not affect the sustainability of natural spawning stocks by adversely impacting the genetic structure of the wild fish.</p>

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>2.2.1</p> <p>The management of the fishery includes provisions for integrating and synthesizing new scientific information on biological diversity at the genetic, species or population level of all species harvested in the fishery and impacts on endangered, threatened, protected or icon species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts are being made to assess the impacts of the fishery on the biodiversity of the endangered, threatened, and protected or icon species. • The impact of the fishery on endangered, threatened, and protected or icon species is identified and is considered in the management of fisheries. • There are provisions in the management system to reduce the impacts of the fishery on the biodiversity of the endangered, threatened, and protected or icon species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fishery has been monitored and the stock composition is assessed with a special effort to determine presence of rare, endangered, protected, or icon species. • The management agency has a history of incorporating new research into management as new research data on impacts of fisheries on biodiversity become available. • The fisheries management system includes provisions for harvest reduction when biodiversity concerns are identified for target or non-target species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A risk assessment has been conducted, based on current knowledge of direct and incidental mortalities from the fishery, to ensure the fishery does not pose a significant threat to the biodiversity of the target or non-target species. • Stock composition including enhanced component, is known within Fishery Management Units with the likelihood of harvest of endangered, threatened, protected, or icon species has been estimated. • Time and area of migrations of weak year classes, sub-stock or population components are known. • The management system contains provisions to reduce harvests based on biodiversity concerns of affected endangered, threatened, protected or icon species, or weak year classes, of stocks, including the enhanced components, of the targeted species.
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>The intent of this measure is to ensure that the management system incorporates available knowledge and considers the impacts of the fishery on biodiversity issues. This indicator includes the impacts of enhanced fishery harvests on these issues.</p>		

<p>2.3 - MSC P2 Criterion 3</p>	<p>Where exploited populations are depleted, the fishery will be executed such that recovery and rebuilding is allowed to occur to a specified level within specified time frames, consistent with the precautionary approach and considering the ability of the population to produce long-term potential yields.</p>
<p>MSC Scoring Intent</p>	<p>The MSC Technical Advisory Board directs that this Criterion is only Scored in the instance that non target species are determined to be in a depleted state hence a recovery plan is already in action. The decision whether the non target species are in a depleted state will be made at the beginning of the Fishery Assessment process.</p>

Team Intent

Are reductions in fish abundance caused by human activity, unrelated to the directed harvest, considered in the management plan and in the establishment of escapement goals? If so, is the management system sufficiently robust to accommodate the long term recovery of depleted populations and ensure that directed or by-catch harvests, including harvests on enhanced fisheries, do not present significant risks to the long term sustainability of these populations.

2.3.1

Management strategies include provision for restrictions to the fishery to enable recovery of non-target stocks to levels above established LRPs (Limit Reference Points)

- The management system attempts to prevent extirpation of non-target stocks and does have rebuilding strategies for the majority of the stocks.
- The management system ensures that the fishery is executed such that the recovery of depleted non-target stocks is likely to occur in a reasonable time period.
- The management system has a strategy for periodic revisiting escapement goals to respond to new data on recovery success or failure for the majority of the stocks.

- The management system includes assessment of plans for the recovery of non-target stocks to levels above established LRPs.
- Objectives for recovery consider historic stock abundance information.
- The management system ensures that the fishery is executed such that recovery of depleted non-target stocks is highly likely to occur in a reasonable time period.
- Monitoring and assessment programs are established to determine with a high degree of confidence and in a timely manner whether recovery is occurring.
- Escapement goals will be revised periodically to accommodate new data indicating success or failure of existing recovery plans.
- The management system considers the impact of non-fishing related human activity in the development of recovery plans for non-target stocks.

- The management plans and escapement goals have been shown to have a high degree of certainty of achieving a long-term recovery of depleted non-target stocks using risk analysis.
- Historic data have been thoroughly examined to ensure fisheries restoration objectives are based on the likely habitat capacity, rather than on trends that cover only the most recent decades, thus avoiding the “moving baseline” syndrome.
- Monitoring and assessment programs are established to determine with a high degree of confidence and in a timely manner whether recovery is occurring.
- Proposed management strategies have been reviewed and found to be scientifically defensible and appropriate by the PSARC or the appropriate PSC technical committee.
- The management system supports the collection of data on non-fishing related human activity in the development of recovery plans for non-target stocks.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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MSC Principle 3	The fishery is subject to an effective management system that respects local, national and international laws and standards and incorporates institutional and operational frameworks that require use of the resource to be responsible and sustainable.		
MSC Scoring Intent	MSC Intent: The intent of this principle is to ensure that there is an institutional and operational framework for implementing Principles 1 and 2, appropriate to the size and scale of the fishery.		
Intent	<p>For the purposes of this section, the management system is defined to mean all public sector entities with responsibility for managing salmon in British Columbia, including Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST), and Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC), in addition to scientific assessment groups such as PSARC (PSARC) and other governmental entities that provide advice to managers.</p> <p>Some indicators under Principle 3 appear to overlap with indicators under Principles 1 and 2, however, Principles 1 and 2 are concerned with the outcomes of a management system respecting the fact that the resources are maintained at the desired levels of abundance, while Principle 3 is concerned with evaluating whether all of the processes for reaching management objectives are in place.</p>		

Management System Criteria			
3.1 – MSC P3 Criterion 1	The management system has a strategy for management that clearly defines long-term objectives for managing the impact of fishing on target species, non-target species and the ecosystem; the objectives are consistent with a well- managed fishery and MSC principles and criteria; and the management strategy includes provision for the effective implementation of measures to attain these objectives.		
Intent	<p>The objective regarding this criterion dealing with Management Systems is to compare the Fisheries and Oceans Canada management system for British Columbia salmon, as detailed in the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for British Columbia Salmon, and elsewhere, with the standards for a well-managed fishery as defined in the MSC Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing. Particularly important is whether the management system has clearly defined objectives and goals that incorporate currently evolving standards for responsible fisheries management with respect to conservation of the species, regard for the ecosystem to which they belong, transparency of the management process and recognition of the impact of the fishery on social, cultural and economic issues.</p> <p>Throughout this section the term “impact on the ecosystem” is taken to mean the degree to which fishing alters the ecosystem relative to its non-fished state.</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.1.1</p>	<p>The management system has a clear and defensible set of objectives for the harvest and escapement for target species and accounts for the non-target species captured in association with, or as a consequence of, fishing for target species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management objectives are clearly defined and consistent with MSC criteria for a well-managed fishery for the majority of target stocks. • Harvest controls are effective for the majority of the fisheries on target stocks. • The management system provides for the estimation of catch, landing, and bycatch for the majority of the fisheries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management objectives are clearly defined for all of the target stocks and are consistent with the MSC criteria for a well-managed fishery. • Harvest rates and escapement goals are precisely set for each target stock unit in the fishery, as qualified by relevant environmental factors. • Target Reference Points and Limit Reference Points are clearly defined and documented for each target stock unit in the fishery. • Harvest controls are effective with respect to the attainment of management objectives for each target stock unit in the fishery. • The management system provides estimates for all catches, landings and bycatch.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.1.2</p>	<p>The management system provides for periodic assessment of the biological status of the target species and the impact of fishing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments or updates of the status of the stocks for the majority of the target species are made for major fishing regions within the fishery. Results of assessment or updates of the status of the stocks are made available to stakeholders. Technical analysis and methodologies used for the assessments are published or distributed to stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments or updates of the status of the stocks for the major target stock units are made on a periodic basis, dependent upon the level of exploitation. Results of assessment and updates of the status of the stocks are made available to stakeholders in a timely fashion. Reports on the methodologies used for the assessments are published in non-peer reviewed reports, and PSARC or the appropriate PSC committee reviews the technical analyses for the assessments.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an annual assessment or update of the status of stocks for each major target stock unit in the fishery. When results of the assessments or updates indicate that there has been a substantial change in the status of the stocks, this new information is made available to stakeholders in conjunction with the implementation of changes to management measures. Reports on the methodologies used for the assessments are published on a regular basis in peer-reviewed journals and PSARC, and/or the appropriate PSC committee regularly reviews the technical analyses for the assessments.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.1.3</p>	<p>The management system includes a mechanism to identify and manage the impact of fishing on the ecosystem.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management system takes measures to control the impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem in the majority of cases where impacts have been verified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management system includes mechanisms to identify and evaluate the impact of fishing on the ecosystem. • Control mechanisms are used to minimize impacts of fishing on the ecosystem. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring systems are in place to detect the impact of fishing on the ecosystem. • Where potential impacts of fishing on the ecosystem have been identified, the management system has clear and well-defined objectives for evaluating and managing the impact of the fishery on the ecosystem. • Control mechanisms are used to minimize impacts of fishing on the ecosystem. • There is sufficient evidence to indicate that when used, control mechanisms are adequate for meeting the management objectives.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.1.4</p>	<p>When dealing with uncertainty, the management system provides for utilizing the best scientific information available to manage the fishery, while employing a precautionary approach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system for the majority of newly developing fisheries is consistent with a precautionary approach. The management system considers the effect of implementation uncertainty on the effectiveness of the majority of the proposed management actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for the routine assessment of the level of uncertainty in the information collected for management and establishes management controls to address these uncertainties using the best available scientific information and a precautionary approach. The management system implements research efforts to address data gaps. For newly developing fisheries for which there is very limited data and information, the management system implements controls on the development of the fishery that are precautionary in nature. The management system always quantitatively evaluates the effect of implementation uncertainty (the tendency for actual harvest rates or escapements to differ from those intended by the management regulations) on the effectiveness of the proposed management actions.
<p>Intent</p>	<p>Uncertainty always exists in estimates of the status of a stock, and technically it is not generally possible to determine the accuracy of the assessments. This uncertainty results from sampling and measurement error, limited understanding of the biology of the fish being modeled, error in model assumptions, and an inability to model all of the important processes that affect the dynamics of the stock. It can also arise as a result of changing fishing technology. However, some idea of the uncertainty can be detected or measured through sampling theory, by lack of fit of the model being used, or by sensitivity analysis.</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR		SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
3.1.5	Management response to new information on the fishery and the fish populations is timely and adaptive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the majority of cases there are provisions for making timely adjustments to the management program, and when they are made the lag time is not so great as to result in the adjustments being ineffectual. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides a mechanism for responding to unexpected changes in the fishery. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When new information or findings support altering the management and conservation programs, adjustments are made within 12 months of obtaining the new information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides a mechanism for rapid adjustments to be made to its management programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When new information or findings support altering the management and conservation programs (such as stock recovery plans), there is evidence to demonstrate that such adjustments are made within 6 months of obtaining the new information.
Intent	The management system should be timely and adaptive i.e., new information used by the management system to initiate new management measures or to update and/or improve current management measures in a timely fashion, because characteristics of the fishery can change and/or the natural system can show reduced or increased productivity over time.			

3.1.6	The management system provides a process for considering the social and economic impacts of the fishery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system more often than not considers the views, customs, and interests of indigenous peoples who depend on fishing for a livelihood or food. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More often than not the management system considers the impact of the fishery on coastal communities that are closely tied to the fishery. For the majority of the fisheries there are no subsidies that threaten sustainable fishing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More often than not, the input of stakeholders is sought by the management system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system regularly undertakes to consider the views, customs and interests of indigenous peoples whose livelihood or food are dependent on the fishery. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system regularly takes into consideration the impact of the fishery on coastal communities that are closely tied to the fishery. There are no subsidies to the fishing industry that would lead to unsustainable fishing or ecosystem degradation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system regularly undertakes measures to understand the socioeconomic impacts resulting from the management of the fishery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There exists a formal and well-defined process to consider, over the short and long term, the views, customs, and interests of indigenous peoples who depend on fishing for their food or livelihood. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a formal and well-defined process to consider, over the short and long term, the impact of the fishery on coastal communities that are closely tied to the fishery. There are no direct subsidies to the fishing industry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system regularly seeks and considers input from stakeholders in an effort to understand and address socioeconomic issues related to the fishery.
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PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.1.7</p>	<p>The management system provides decision makers with useful and relevant information and advice for managing the fishery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of management decisions rely on data, useful and relevant information, or advice provided through the management system. • Risk assessments are considered in formulating important management decisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management system provides decision makers with a range of alternatives for achieving the objectives of management, including risk assessments for each alternative. • All management decisions are based on useful and relevant information and advice that is provided through the management system. • The management system, whenever possible, provides information to decision makers within a time frame that permits management controls to be determined before they need to be taken.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.1.8</p>	<p>The management system provides for socioeconomic incentives for sustainable fishing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for the use of social or economic incentives to ensure sustainable fishing. The management system attempts to understand the impact of its decisions on social and economic factors affecting the stakeholders in the fishery and is responsive to requests to reduce these impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has formal procedure for providing social and economic incentives to stakeholders in the fishery to develop and utilize sustainable fishing practices, particularly the development of selective fishing gear and practices that lead to improved conservation. The management system creates strong incentives for harvesters to not exceed target catches or exploitation rates The stakeholders in the fishery regularly avail themselves of the opportunity to utilize these incentives. Evidence provided by the management system demonstrates that such incentives have contributed to improved conservation. The management system continually attempts to understand the impact of their decisions on social and economic factors affecting the stakeholders in the fishery and regularly takes action to mitigate the impacts on stakeholders.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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3.1.9	<p>The hatcheries are subjected to regulations that ensure harvest management practices and protocols that sustain the genetic structure and productivity of the natural spawning population are followed and there is coordination between hatchery programs from different agencies/operators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management agency regulates the hatchery programs so that the hatchery related harvest management practices and protocols do not have substantial negative effects on the genetic structure and productivity of the natural stocks. The management agencies can determine hatchery contribution from the majority of production with coded-wire-tags (CWTs) other suitable marks, or other scientifically defensible methods, such that the proportion of hatchery produced fish can be (estimated in the catch and escapement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management agencies have a peer reviewed written plan that establishes harvest management practices and protocols for all hatchery programs with respect to practices that sustain the genetic structure and productivity of the natural stocks. The hatcheries mark all production with coded-wire-tags (CWTs) or other suitable methods such that reliable and meaningful estimates of hatchery composition of the catch and escapement can be computed.
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3.2 – MSC P3 Criterion 2	The management system provides for a framework for research, the results of which are pertinent to achieving the objectives of management.		
Intent	Under this criterion we are interested in evaluating whether there is a research component to the management system that is sufficiently broad in scope to include all target species and other components of the ecosystem that may be impacted by fishing, and which provides for the acquisition of information and data to support scientifically- sound management actions, and whether the research is timely, open to review by peers and stakeholders in general, and is adequately funded.		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.2.1</p>	<p>The research plan covers the scope of the fishery, includes all target species, accounts for the non-target species captured in association with, or as a consequence of fishing for target species, and considers the impact of fishing on the ecosystem and socioeconomic factors affected by the management program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research provides for the collection of catch statistical and biological data for the target species. • There has been useful research on the impact of fishing on target and non-target species taken in the fishery, and on the ecosystem in general. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management system incorporates a research component that considers relevant data and information needs for formulating management strategies for all target species, and also information leading to an understanding of the dynamics of the ecosystem including data on the catch, landings and discards of non-target species. • The framework for research includes investigations dealing with socioeconomic impacts of the fishery. • The research plan responds in a timely fashion to unexpected changes in the fishery. • Funding is secure and sufficient to meet long-term research needs. • There is significant continuing progress in understanding the impact of the fishery on target and non-target species, and the ecosystem in general. • Research results form the basis for formulating management strategies and decisions. • Research is regularly published in peer review journals and/or is reviewed by PSARC or the PSC.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.2.2</p> <p>Research results are available in a timely fashion to interested parties, and there is a mechanism for periodic review of the content, scope and results of the research plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While there are no formal arrangements for stakeholder research review, such reviews are held on a periodic basis for the majority of the research plans and/or results. While there are no formal arrangements for peer review of ongoing research, such reviews are periodically conducted for the majority of ongoing research plans and/or results. The majority of research results are available to interested parties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for periodic reviews by stakeholders in the fishery, of the content and scope of research, including funding requirements. There are periodic peer reviews of ongoing research. Inputs from these reviews are used by the management system to modify research plans. Research results are available to interested parties on a regular basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a formal and codified arrangement for annual stakeholder review of the content and scope of research plans and results, including matters related to its funding, which is open and transparent. There is a formal and codified arrangement for peer review of ongoing research The management system regularly incorporates into the research plan recommendations emanating from these reviews. Research results are made available to all interested stakeholders on a regular basis and in a timely manner.
<p>3.3 - MSC P3 Criterion 3</p> <p>Intent</p>	<p>The management system allows for transparency with respect to its operational details, including a consultative process that provides for the incorporation of information and data from stakeholders in the fishery related to matters of a social, cultural, economic and scientific nature.</p> <p>The objective here is to evaluate whether the management system is open and transparent with respect to all interested parties and whether the views of stakeholders are considered in formulating management strategies.</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.3.1</p>	<p>Provides for a consultative process that is open to all interested and affected stakeholders, which allows for their input on a regular basis into the management process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of interested and affected stakeholders are provided with a forum for input into the formulation of management plans and measures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides a formal arrangement for the direct participation of all interested and affected stakeholders from both the public and private sectors, on matters of a social, cultural, economic and scientific nature. The management system provides timely, advanced notice of meetings at which there can be stakeholder participation. The management system does not usually exclude involvement of any interested and affected stakeholder. The views of most interested and affected stakeholders are regularly considered in the formulation of management strategies.
<p>3.4 - MSC P3 Criterion 4</p> <p>The management system implements measures to control levels of exploitation in the fishery.</p>			
<p>3.4.1 TAVEL Sub-Criterion</p>	<p>The management system has provisions for controlling levels of exploitation to achieve the escapement and/or harvest rate goals for target stocks, and for the setting of harvest limits for non-target species, when there is information indicating such limits are necessary.</p>		
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	<p>Under this sub-criterion the issue of whether the management system provides for mechanisms such as closed areas, no take zones, and closed dates and times for placing controls on fisheries to ensure that objectives related to exploitation levels and escapement are achieved is evaluated.</p>		

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100	
3.4.1.1	<p>Utilizes methods to limit or close fisheries in order to achieve harvest and/or escapement goals, including the establishment of closed areas, no-take zones, and closed dates and times when appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvest rates and/or escapement goals for the majority of the target stocks are effective in halting declines in stock abundance caused by the fishery. Established harvest and/or escapement goals for target stocks consider the impact of the fishery on the majority of the non-target species, and on the ecosystem generally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvest rates and/or escapement levels designed to achieve target goals are regularly implemented. The management system provides for the establishment of closed areas, no-take zones and closed dates and times. Controls are set to maintain or restore target species to high productivity levels, and in a manner that does not contribute significantly to ecosystem degradation. Measures that limit harvest rates and set escapement goals are implemented when necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides a formal and codified system to achieve harvest and/or escapement goals for target stock units and, as appropriate, non-target species of fish. The management system provides a formal and codified mechanism for establishing closed areas, no-take zones, and closed dates and times for any areas of the fishery. Management sets exploitation and escapement levels designed to maintain the target stock units at levels of abundance that can sustain high productivity. There is no evidence provided by the management system to indicate that, as a result of fishing, target stock units are in serious decline or degradation of the ecosystem is occurring. Measures are currently implemented to achieve these objectives.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.4.1.2</p>	<p>Provides for restoring depleted target species to specified levels within specified time frames.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system includes measures for restoring the majority of depleted populations of target stock to the TRP or equivalent high level of abundance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a formal and codified mechanism, which is adequate for restoring depleted target stocks to the TRP or equivalent high level of abundance, as qualified by relevant environmental factors. The mechanism includes strict guidelines for restoring these depleted populations within a certain time frame are formalized by the management system.

<p>3.4.2 TAVEL Sub-Criterion</p>	<p>The management system incorporates measures to ensure that its objectives regarding the conservation of the stocks under its purview and the impact of the fishery on the ecosystem are carried out.</p> <p>Two major issues are dealt with under this topic. One examines whether the management system includes provisions to determine whether there is adequate enforcement of the measures established for achieving the objectives of management. In these evaluations, compliance is considered to be the result of adequate enforcement mechanisms by the management system and education with respect to providing clear and timely information to the fishing industry regarding such measures. The other examines whether the management system includes adequate monitoring of the fishery so as to evaluate the performance of the fishery with regard to the policies and objectives of management.</p>
<p><i>Intent</i></p>	

3.4.2.1	The management system includes compliance provisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system includes compliance provisions that are effective for the majority of the fisheries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system includes compliance provisions that are effective for the fisheries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infractions, which result in adverse impacts on the status of the stocks or on the ecosystem, are rare. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for a formal arrangement, such as a compliance committee or a staff review team on compliance, to review the effectiveness of enforcement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and enforcement procedures are implemented and applicable rules are consistently applied. Enforcement actions are effective in achieving the objectives of management. There are no infractions being consistently committed in the fishery.
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3.4.2.2	The management system includes monitoring provisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system includes provisions for a monitoring program to evaluate the performance of the majority of the fisheries against its policies and objectives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system incorporates an effective monitoring program, which evaluates the performance of the fishery relative to management goals and policies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring is broad in scope, and results are available to the majority of the stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system incorporates a formal, effective program for monitoring the fishery, which fully evaluates the performance in terms of whether the regulations are resulting in the intended harvest rates and/or escapements, and achievement of objectives regarding impacts on the ecosystem caused by the fishery. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring is comprehensive, and includes all relevant components of the fishery Results are reported widely on a regular and timely basis.
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3.5 - MSC P3 Criterion 5
The management system provides for regular and timely review and evaluation of its performance, and for appropriate adjustments based on the findings of these reviews and evaluations that are consistent with the objectives of the program.

Intent
 The objective under this criterion is to evaluate whether the management system has an effective mechanism for reviewing performance vis-à-vis the objectives and policies of the management programs. An effective mechanism would include both internal and external reviews, and, when appropriate, the recommendations from the reviews would be incorporated into the management of the fishery. Also, the issue of whether the management system provides a mechanism for resolving disputes emanating from such reviews, or any other sources, is evaluated.

3.5.1	There is an effective and timely system for internal review of the management system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for internal review of its performance, and when available, review results are made available to the majority of interested stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system includes provision for an internal review that is conducted periodically as the need arises. The results of the review are made available to interested stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for continuing internal review that is broad in scope, effective, and timely. The review process and results are made available to all stakeholders.
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3.5.2	There is an effective and timely system for external review of the management system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system is open to external review at least once every 10 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for a review of management performance by one or more independent experts at least once every five years. The format and standards of the review are established within the management system. Review results are made available to the public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system provides for one or more independent experts to review at least bi-annually all of the important components of management performance. The format and standards of the review are established with input from outside the management system. Provision is made for making public the review results.
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PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.5.3</p> <p>There is a mechanism for incorporating into the management system recommendations resulting from the review process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations from internal and external reviews are considered by the management agency and an explanation is provided for the actions or lack of action associated with the majority of these recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recommendations from internal and external reviews are usually, but not always, used to make changes to the management system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recommendations from internal and external reviews are always acted upon and, where appropriate, incorporated into the management system. The management system provides for a report to all interested stakeholders describing how it acted on the recommendations of these reviews.
<p>3.5.4</p> <p>There is an appropriate mechanism for resolving disputes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a mechanism for resolving disputes that is provided for by the management system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a dispute-resolution process for resolving significant disputes. The dispute resolution mechanism is available for use by affected parties, but is not routinely used. The dispute resolution mechanism does not discriminate against any disputing party. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a formal and codified mechanisms for resolution of disputes arising as a result of the fishery. Affected parties routinely use the dispute resolution mechanism. The dispute resolution mechanism is unbiased and fair respecting all disputing parties.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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3.6 - MSC P3 Criterion 6	The management system provides for the operation of the fishery to be in compliance with all relevant legal and administrative requirements.		
Intent	In this section we attempt to evaluate the management system with regard to whether it manages the fishery in a manner that is consistent with Canada's commitments under relevant international treaties and agreements, and with domestic laws and regulations that pertain to the fishery. In this context we also evaluate whether the management system is in conformity with the legal and customary rights of First Nations peoples, as established by treaties with those peoples, the Canadian Constitution, and other applicable instruments.		

3.6.1	The fishery is not operated in a unilateral manner in contravention to international agreements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system is in compliance with the majority of international treaty recommendations dealing with the fishery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system does not willingly act in contravention to any international treaty obligations pertaining to the fishery. The management system does not knowingly undertake unilateral exemption from any treaty obligation pertaining to the fishery. Evidence indicates any inadvertent action with regard to the contravention of any international treaty obligations by the management system is rare. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the stocks of fish under the authority of the management system are also under the authority of an international treaty to which the Government of Canada is a party, treaty obligations are respected, and actions by the management system are coordinated with the recommendations of the treaty organization. All measures taken within the management system are in compliance with relevant international treaty obligations. The management system does not undertake unilateral exemption from any treaty obligation pertaining to the fishery.
Intent	<i>For the purposes of this Indicator, only treaties and conventions which the government of Canada has signed, ratified or otherwise is a High Contracting Party to, shall apply.</i>			

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
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3.6.2	The fishery is carried out in a manner consistent with all relevant domestic laws and regulations relevant to the fishery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system conducts periodic assessments of the fisheries compliance with relevant domestic laws and regulations, and these assessments have not identified any violations that would result in failure to achieve the objectives of the management plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system conducts at least bi-annual assessments of the fisheries compliance with relevant domestic laws and regulations, and these assessments have confirmed that none of the violations that have occurred would result in failure to achieve the objectives of the management plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system conducts annual assessments of the fisheries compliance with relevant domestic laws and regulations, and these assessments have confirmed full compliance with these laws and regulations.

3.6.3	The management system exists within an appropriate and effective legal and/or customary framework which ensures that it observes the legal rights created explicitly or dependent on fishing for food or livelihood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a mechanism to generally respect the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood in a manner consistent with the objectives of MSC Principles 1 and 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a mechanism to observe the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood in a manner consistent with the objectives of MSC Principles 1 and 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a mechanism to formally commit to the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood in a manner consistent with the objectives of MSC Principles 1 and 2.
	Intent	<i>At the request of the client, DFO and the MSC, the assessment team agrees to adopt the wording of this performance element from the Fisheries Assessment Methodology (FAM), released in July 2008. The team's intention is to interpret this performance indicator based on the performance elements and definitions identified in the FAM document .</i>		

Fishing Operations Criteria	
3.7 - MSC P3 Criterion 7	Fishing operations make use of gear and fishing practices that limit ecosystem impacts.
Intent	The intention regarding this criterion relating to fishery operations is to evaluate the degree to which the management system is capable of implementing responsible fishing practices. The understanding here regarding responsible fishing practices refers to the criteria defined in the MSC, Principle 3.B., Operational Criteria 12-17, and with those sections of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible fishing dealing with the conduct of fishing practices by the fishing industry.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.7.1</p> <p>Utilization of gear and fishing practices that minimize both the catch of non-target species, and the mortality of this catch.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of fisheries are conducted in a manner that is consistent with the goal of reducing the catch of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through educational programs for members of the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders, the management system discourages the use of gear types and fishing practices that result in high catches of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species, and encourages them to avoid fishing in areas identified to have high concentrations of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking into consideration natural variability in population abundance, there is evidence that the capture and discard of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species is trending downward, or is at a level of exploitation that has been determined by management to be acceptable. Fishers generally conduct their fishing activity in a manner that is consistent with the goal of reducing the catch of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are requirements in the management system to reduce the capture of non-target species, which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Controlling the use of gear types and fishing practices that result in significant catches of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species, and/or Implementing closed seasons and no-fishing zones during times and in areas where the probability of making significant catches of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species is high, and Holding education programs for the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders to make them aware of the benefits of using fishing techniques and gear that minimize the catch of non-target species or undersized individuals of target species. Taking into consideration natural variability in population abundance and the possibility of declining abundance resulting from heavy exploitation, the management system can demonstrate the effective use of these methods by fishers by the existence of downward trends in the catches of non-target species. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system creates incentives to decrease the catch of non-target species (e.g. by providing more fishing time for vessels

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
			achieving certain standards for reducing such catches).
3.7.2	Prohibits the use of destructive fishing practices, such as poisons and explosives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system prohibits or discourages the use of destructive fishing practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system can demonstrate that destructive fishing practices, such as poisons or explosives, are not currently being used in the fishery. The management system prohibits fishing practices that utilize poisons or explosives, or other such devices that damage or destroy physical, chemical, and/or biological features or characteristics of the areas where such practices are prosecuted. Evidence can be provided by the management system that such destructive practices are not currently being employed in the fishery.
3.7.3	Minimizes operational waste such as lost fishing gear, oil spills, on-board spoilage of catch, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a program to reduce operational waste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a formal program to reduce operational waste in the fishery, with the long-term goal of eliminating such waste. The program is effective, as reflected by reduced incidents of operational waste. The management system has a formal program in which they work with the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders to promote the proper handling of catch.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORING GUIDEPOST 60	SCORING GUIDEPOST 80	SCORING GUIDEPOST 100
<p>3.7.4</p>	<p>The management system solicits the cooperation of the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders in the collection of data on the catch and discard of non-target species and undersized individuals of target species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch and discard data provided by the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders are sufficient to manage the harvests from the majority of the non-target species and undersized individuals from the majority of the target species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sufficient numbers of fish harvesters and processors comply with requests for data on catches and discards of non-target species and undersized individuals of target species to ensure that reliable estimates of total catches and discards for the fishery can be obtained. The majority of fish harvesters and processors are in compliance with management requests for the collection of data on catches and discards of non-target species and undersized individuals of target species. Continued improvement in the quality and quantity of catch and discard data is evident.
<p>3.7.5</p>	<p>Implements fishing methods that minimize adverse impacts on habitat, especially in critical zones.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a program for assessing the impact of the fishery on habitat, and for making fishers aware of suitable fishing gear and practices that are known to reduce adverse impacts on habitat. The management system undertakes measures to identify and document the impact of the fishery on habitat and to set guidelines for reducing habitat impacts. Fish harvesters are encouraged to follow the guidelines for reducing habitat impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management system has a formal program to identify and document the impact of the fishery on habitat, and implements measures to restrict gear and fishing practices that have been shown to adversely affect habitat. The crews of fishing vessels comply with such measures and thereby avoid damaging the habitat. There is no evidence of continued impacts of fishing on habitat.