



# Fishery Monitoring Policy (FMP) and Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund Overview

November 2024



# Overview

- Fishery Monitoring Policy (FMP) Overview
- FMP Implementation Framework
- Pacific Region Implementation Approach
- Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund
- Resources and further reading



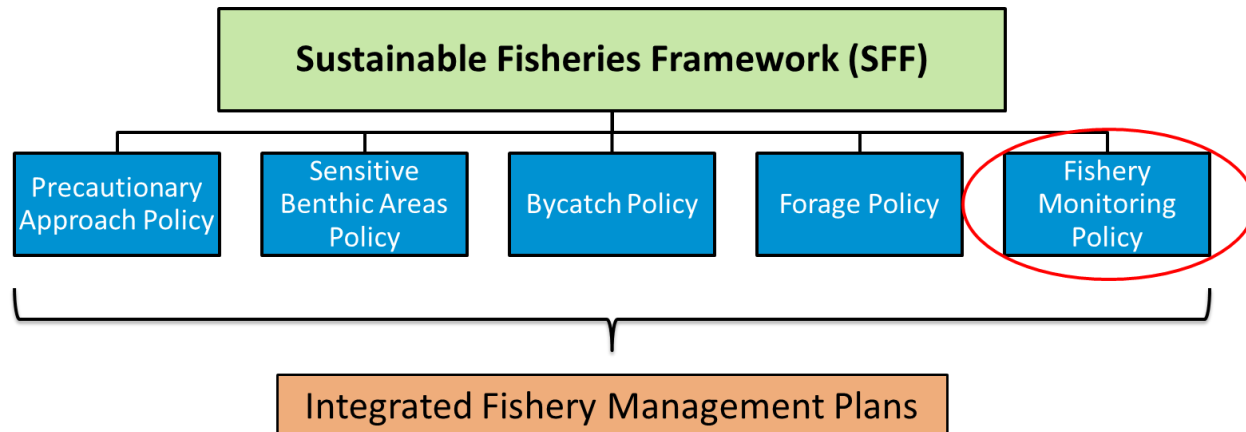
# Fishery Monitoring Policy Overview

## Sustainable Fishery Framework (SFF)

- The SFF was launched in 2009 and provides the basis for ensuring that Canadian fisheries support conservation and sustainable use of resources.

- The framework:

- Establishes a precautionary approach
- Provides the basis for an ecosystem-based approach
- Includes tools to monitor and assess environmentally sustainable initiatives
- Combines new and evolving fisheries management policies with current ones



- The FMP is the latest policy in the DFO's suite of SFF policies. Many of these policies require access to dependable information and the FMP supports that objective.



# Fishery Monitoring Policy Overview

- Within the SFF, gaps were identified in DFO's fishery monitoring approach including:
  - Although Pacific Region launched the *Strategic Framework on Fishery Monitoring and Catch Reporting in Pacific fisheries* in 2012, DFO never implemented a national approach to review monitoring programs against objectives or any set of consistent criteria.
  - Monitoring is done fishery-by-fishery, sometimes providing useful information on local quotas, catch composition, etc., but improvements can be made to provide useful data on total catch at the stock level.
  - Monitoring objectives, parameters to measure, and basic information on monitoring design and delivery are not consistently documented across fisheries.
  - No process to evaluate the quality of DFO's catch data.
- **Solution:** development of the national *Fishery Monitoring Policy* in 2019.



# Fishery Monitoring Policy Objectives

The FMP systematically reviews existing catch monitoring programs to meet **three main objectives**:

1. To have dependable, timely and accessible fishery information necessary to help ensure that Canadian fisheries are managed to support the sustainable harvest of aquatic species
2. To have dependable, timely and accessible fishery information necessary to carry out enforcement activities to ensure compliance with the *Fisheries Act*, the *Oceans Act*, the *Species at Risk Act* and their associated regulations and support sustainable management of aquatic species
3. To apply a common set of procedural steps to establish fishery monitoring requirements across fisheries, to ensure consistent application of the policy



# Fishery Monitoring Policy Principles

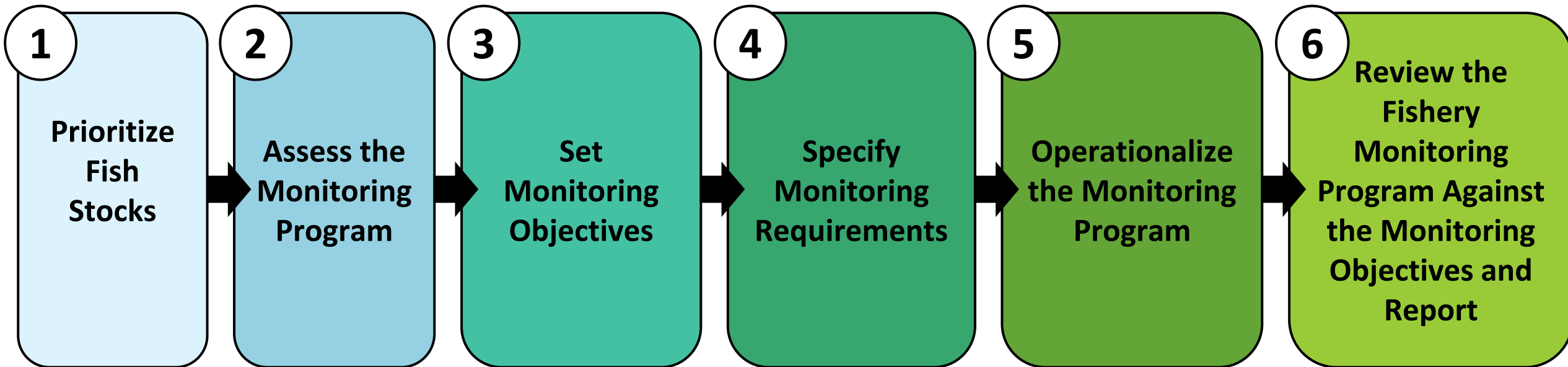
**Four principles** guide fishery monitoring in all fisheries:

1. Respecting Indigenous and Treaty rights
2. Monitoring requirements should respond to the degree of risk associated with the fishery and the complexity of the fishery
3. A fishery monitoring program should be designed to achieve the fishery and policy objectives, and take into account cost-effectiveness and practicality of implementation
4. Shared accountability and responsibility



# FMP Implementation Framework

The policy establishes **six procedural steps** to be applied to fish stocks that will guide the selection of monitoring tools to be used:





# Priority Fish Stocks

FMP will eventually be implemented on all major fish stocks.

In Pacific, Phase 1 of implementation will focus on 4 priority stocks that are:

- Stocks identified as priorities in reconciliation agreements
- Stocks listed in regulation under the Fish Stocks Provisions;
- Stocks that are tied to measures identified in rebuilding plans; and/or,
- Stocks that were previously identified as priorities under the Pacific Strategic Framework

Region	Fish Stock
Pacific	Yelloweye Rockfish - Inside
	Yelloweye Rockfish - Outside
	Quillback Rockfish - Inside
	Quillback Rockfish - Outside





# Pacific Region Implementation Approach

- Pacific Region is implementing a **project-based approach**, from 2023 – 2028, to address known monitoring gaps within the regional recreational fishery. The FMP tools, RST and QAT, will not be applied at this time.
- Three distinct projects have been identified to address known monitoring gaps in the recreational fishery, these include:

## Project #1: Internet Recreational Effort and Catch (iREC) Calibration of Priority Groundfish Stocks

Develop procedures to apply calibration between iREC and the creel survey to standardize iREC derived estimates for priority Yelloweye and Quillback stocks on an annual basis

## Project #2: Creel Surveyor Designation Process

Examine the creel surveyor designation process and strengthen recreational reporting requirements

## Project #3: Creel Survey Data Review

Examine and enhance current creel survey data collection and reporting processes



# Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund

## Who is the fund for?

The IFMF seeks to support meaningful engagement and collaboration with Indigenous communities across Canada to:

1. Support Indigenous participation in Fishery Monitoring Policy (FMP) implementation
2. Help build capacity for Indigenous groups to participate in fisheries monitoring activities

## How much funding is available nationally?

2024 – 2025 FY	2025 - 2026 FY	2026 - 2027 FY	2027 - 2028 FY
\$1.15 Million	\$1.15 Million	\$1.15 Million	\$400,000



# Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund

## Who is eligible?

- Indigenous communities, Bands, Chiefs' Councils, Tribal Councils, fishing authorities, boards, organizations, associations, commissions, corporations, cooperatives or aggregates responsible for managing fish harvesting and related monitoring activities, including:
  - Food, social and ceremonial or subsistence fisheries
  - Indigenous owned and operated commercial or communal commercial fishing enterprises
  - Other economic fishing opportunities
- Indigenous-led partnerships, joint ventures or other service providers mandated to work with, or on behalf of, Indigenous communities or organizations in fish harvesting and related monitoring, including:
  - Partnerships between Indigenous communities or organizations
  - Academic and/or research organizations hired by an Indigenous community or organization
  - Technology and/or fishery monitoring related service provider hired by an Indigenous community or organization



# Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund

## What types of projects are eligible?

Projects must:

- Come from an eligible Indigenous group
- Meet one of the objectives of the Fund
- Support the outcome of the FMP:
  - Ensuring the provision of dependable, timely and accessible fishery information necessary for sustainable fishery management by improving fishery monitoring.
- Involve a **fishery** of a **federally regulated stock**

Projects could:

- Be single or multi-year
- Be part of existing DFO agreements (e.g. AFS or AAROM) (not required)

## What types of projects are not eligible?

Projects cannot:

- Come from non-Indigenous parties (3 exceptions from slide 11)
- Be used for purely scientific or environmental projects (stock health assessments, etc.)
- Exceed government stacking limitations



# Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund

## How can you apply?

Submit a written proposal that describes your proposed activity to: [DFO.NCRFRMIFMF-FSPAGRHCN.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.NCRFRMIFMF-FSPAGRHCN.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca), including:

Proposal Criteria	
<b>Duration of the project (months/years)</b>	<b>Any product or process</b> that will be developed and/or acquired, including and information-sharing processes between you/your group and DFO
<b>Eligibility description</b>	<b>Expected results or outcomes of the project</b> beyond contributing to the policy's objectives and achieving the objectives of the fund
<b>Fish stock(s)/ populations(s)</b> on which the proposed activity will be focused, if applicable	<b>Total funding request</b> , breakdown of how funds will be spent and, if the request is over \$100,00/year, a prioritization of activities
Action(s) that will be undertaken and how these actions: (1) <b>achieve the objectives of the fund</b> and (2) <b>contribute to Fishery Monitoring Policy objectives</b>	



# Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund

## What is the deadline to apply?

- There is **no deadline** to apply in fiscal year 2024-2025
- Applications will be evaluated as they are received until the annual total funding is distributed by **January 31, 2025**
- Starting in fiscal year 2025-2026, a set deadline and evaluation period will be established and posted on the fund's website



# Resources & Further Reading

- [FMP – Policy Statement](#)
- [FMP – Procedural Steps](#)
- [Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Policy Fund](#)
- Research Document: [Unified framework for the statistical assessment of fishery monitoring programs](#)
- Research Document: [Review of catch monitoring tools used in Canadian fisheries](#)
- Technical Report: [Guidelines for the quality assessment of estimates derived from catch monitoring programs in Canada](#)
- Science Advisory Report: [Framework for the qualitative assessment of the dependability of catch data from existing fishery monitoring tools](#)
- Science Advisory Report: [Assessment of the dependability of fishery catch monitoring programs](#)



# Questions?

Fishery Monitoring Policy contact: [Caroline.Wells@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Caroline.Wells@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Indigenous Fishery Monitoring Fund: [DFO.NCRFRMIFMF-FSPAGRHCN.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.NCRFRMIFMF-FSPAGRHCN.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)