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# Department of Fisheries and Oceans

## Salish Sea Initiative – Background



### Background

- The Salish Sea Initiative (SSI) is one of eight accommodation measures designed to address concerns expressed during consultation on the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX). The SSI is designed to respond to First Nations concerns about the potential environmental impacts of human activities on coastal and marine ecosystems in the Salish Sea, including cumulative effects.

### Capacity Building

- Grants and Contributions (G&C) funding is available to First Nations until March 31, 2024. This funding can be used to build administrative, technical, scientific and other related capacity required to plan and implement SSI related work. Examples include: staffing SSI teams (e.g. administrative staff, biologists, field technicians, and project managers), equipment, training, field work and outreach (for more information on Grants and Contributions please see the SSI Grants and Contributions Fact Sheet).
- The Salish Sea Initiative (SSI) supports eligible First Nations in building technical, science, and administrative capacity in their communities and in monitoring and evaluating the impacts of human activities on local marine ecosystems. The initiative will build capacity within the First Nations to enable: acquisition and reporting of data on baseline environmental conditions, tracking of environmental impacts and changes, assessing cumulative environmental effects from human actions, and determining Valued Ecosystem Components within the marine environment of the Salish Sea.
- A long-term investment strategy (the Arms-Length Fund) to support First Nations in evaluating the impacts of human activities on their local ecosystems and to provide for ongoing project delivery is another central objective of the initiative. (For more information on possibilities for this Fund please see the Arms-Length Fund Fact Sheet).

### Support

- The DFO SSI team can provide support in the development of your work plans and budgets, planning of capacity building, development and implementation of stewardship and monitoring programs, and annual reporting. (For more information on Science Support available through SSI, please see the SSI Science Support Fact Sheet).

### Contact us

[DFO.SSI-IMDS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.SSI-IMDS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)



# Department of Fisheries and Oceans

## Salish Sea Initiative – Science Support

### SSI Marine Stewardship Activities

A goal of the Salish Sea Initiative (SSI) is to fund administrative, technical and scientific capacity for First Nations to conduct stewardship activities, including environmental monitoring, youth education programs, traditional use studies, and cumulative effects assessments.

### SSI Science support – How can we help?

- DFO has established a team of scientists to provide research advice and scientific support based on the priorities and requirements identified by SSI First Nation participants.
- We are creating a toolkit of resources to support marine stewardship activities.

Tools include:

- An interactive map to outline valued ecosystem components (VECs), monitoring initiatives and results,
- Fact sheets (Topics include: interactive maps, stressors, VECs, cumulative effects),
- Guidance documents (Topics include: field survey guides),
- Electronic data collection forms for sampling and monitoring,
- Equipment requirement lists for sampling and monitoring.

### Our approach

- Through engagement and collaborative efforts, we aim to support development of the vision, goals, and planning of science-focused Salish Sea stewardship activities.
- We are open to learning and to help share best practices among the SSI collaborative.
- DFO will share new / pre-existing data on environmental components to help First Nations establish baseline conditions and make comparisons between current and future environmental conditions.
- We will identify relevant training opportunities and collaborations with other TMX initiatives, government, and non-government organizations when applicable.

### Contacts

Please contact the SSI science team to discuss how we can support your stewardship activity planning and implementation:

- [DFO.SSI-IMDS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.SSI-IMDS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)





## Salish Sea Initiative

### Grants & Contributions

#### Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide additional information regarding contribution funding agreements and guidance to the 33 Nations eligible for capacity-building funding under the Salish Sea Initiative (SSI). The document is intended to supplement other information available regarding the SSI and provide partner Nations with a better understanding of the Initiative's contribution agreement process and parameters.

#### Background

The SSI is one of several accommodation measures related to the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project and is designed to respond to concerns about the potential impacts from the TMX development on coastal and marine ecosystems along the marine shipping route. One of the objectives of the SSI is to enhance the capacity of First Nations to participate and engage in activities relating to cumulative effects in the Salish Sea through investments in community-based technical and science capacity, along with program development and governance capacity.

Overall, there is \$91 million in Grants and Contributions (G&C) funding available to the 33 SSI eligible First Nations over the five-year term (2019-2024) of the Initiative. In the first year (2019-20) of the SSI, \$560,374 of funding was provided to 10 First Nations. In year two (2020-21), up to \$16.85 million is available for eligible activities. The SSI Team is committed to working with partner Nations to develop work plans and flow funds.

#### Work Planning

The SSI Team has been reaching out to Nations bilaterally to introduce and discuss the SSI and potential G&C support. Since there is no formal SSI application process, once a First Nation's interest in SSI has been identified and an initial expression of interest for funding is received, the SSI Team will work with Nations to capture eligible program activities and associated budgets in a work plan, which will then form the basis of a contribution funding agreement. Nations may choose to receive funding through a "stand-alone" SSI Agreement, or through amendment to an existing Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) Agreement, if one is in place.

A sample work plan template, which may already be familiar to Nations that currently participate in the AFS program, is included as Appendix A below for reference.



## SSI Scope

To help guide and inform work planning discussions, a summary of eligible activities and costs that may be supported under the SSI is provided below. Activities generally fall into three categories:

Program Development and Delivery	Program Objectives	Program Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement and work plan development</li> <li>• Office management and administration, including staffing and hiring</li> <li>• Hiring administrators, planners, coordinators</li> <li>• Hiring biologists, contracting consultants</li> <li>• Program planning (e.g. to establish or enhance monitoring and stewardship teams)</li> <li>• Communications and story telling</li> <li>• Program reporting and evaluation</li> <li>• Governance and financial planning.</li> <li>• Youth mentoring, engagement, and leadership development</li> <li>• Outreach, networking, and relationship-building with potential partners including academic, industry, and NGO partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire and report data on baseline environmental conditions</li> <li>• Track and monitor environmental impacts and changes</li> <li>• Identify priority ecosystem components (e.g. eelgrass or kelp beds, key wildlife species) and marine habitats and populations</li> <li>• Collect and share data to inform cumulative environmental effects assessment</li> <li>• Gather First Nations and community knowledge (e.g. traditional use studies, community engagement activities)</li> <li>• Deliver training in research and monitoring techniques</li> <li>• Identify, scope, assess, select, compile and map Valued Ecosystem Components (VEC) along the marine shipping route</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish stewardship networks</li> <li>• Develop and implement shared resources for program objectives</li> <li>• Develop regional data collection methods, management tools, and protocols</li> <li>• Develop visualization and communications products, such as atlases or story banks</li> <li>• Develop regional partnerships</li> <li>• Teleworking and remote meeting and communications equipment and systems</li> </ul>

Eligible Costs in support of SSI program activities include:

Eligible Costs by category	Examples of costs
Administration	Administrative expenses (e.g. phone, fax, internet, other utilities, bank fees, office supplies and materials) <i>(Note: Administration costs are not to exceed 10% of total Agreement amount)</i>
Audit	Costs incurred in carrying out an audit of financial statements associated with the Agreement
Communications	Meeting expenses (e.g. hall, rent, supplies, hospitality) Outreach materials (e.g. printing costs, web sites)



General Operating Expenses	Repair and maintenance of equipment, facilities, vessels and vehicles related to the Agreement Operating expenses for equipment, vessels and vehicles for non-commercial enterprises
Insurance	Insurance expenses related to Activities under the Agreement
Professional Services	Contracted and professional service costs other than travel or litigation costs Consultation costs Legal fees related to the Agreement ( <u>excluding</u> litigation costs)
Property, Plant and Equipment	Purchase, lease or rental of equipment, supplies and materials Purchase, lease, rental or construction of facilities (e.g. storage and mobile accommodation but <u>excluding</u> rolling stock, wharfage and administrative buildings) in support of the Activities Construction of new vessels and/or gear
Rental of Space/Accommodations	Office lease or rent
Salaries, Wages and Related Costs	Human resource costs, including salaries and benefits (in-house)
Training	Training fees and expenses, including materials
Travel	Travel and related expenses for contracted professional service providers or other non-employees Travel and related expenses for employees

## Out-of Scope

While every effort is made to provide flexibility under the SSI, there are some activities that fall outside of the scope of the Initiative. While the following may not be supportable under SSI, other initiatives and programs may be available to support these elements. The SSI Team will be able to help identify the appropriate departmental contacts and resources to support further targeted discussions for these activities.

- Terrestrial monitoring & research
- Freshwater monitoring & research
- Fish habitat restoration or coastal ecosystem restoration projects
- Fisheries access and management
- Economic development planning
- Spill response or marine emergency response
- Shipping management including designation of anchorages
- Cumulative effects of oil pollution
- Assessments of marine water quality



## Contact Us

The SSI Team is eager to work with eligible Nations to support SSI participation, including collaboratively developing work plans and drafting contribution funding agreements. If you have questions or are interested in discussing the Initiative and potential next steps in the funding process, please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the SSI Team members listed below.

<i>Dr. Laura Brown</i>	<i>Director, SSI</i>	<a href="mailto:Laura.L.Brown@dfo-mpo.gc.ca"><u>Laura.L.Brown@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</u></a>
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## Appendix A: Sample Work Plan Template

Additional Activities may be added to the work plan, following this format.

<p><b>Annual Work Plan for Fiscal Year 20XX-20XX</b></p> <p><b>Activity 1:</b> <i>[Name of Activity/Project]</i></p> <p><b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST FOR ACTIVITY</b> <i> \${amount}</i></p> <p><b>Activity Description:</b> <i>[Describe the broad Activity objectives.]</i></p> <p><b>Task Description:</b> <i>[Describe the Key Tasks that you are going to undertake as part of the Activity. Consider the following: what, why, who, where, when, how many.]</i></p> <p><b>Expected Results:</b> <i>[Describe in measurable terms (either quantitatively or qualitatively) what you hope to achieve by performing the Tasks.]</i></p> <p><b>Products/Reports to provide to DFO:</b> <i>[List the products/reports related to this Activity.]</i></p>
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### Summary for Fiscal Year (Full costing by Activity)

PLANNED EXPENDITURE	BUDGET	NOTES ON EXPENDITURES
<b>Activity 1:</b> <i>[Name of Activity/Project]</i>		
Administration		
Audit		
Communication		
General Operating Expenses		
Insurance		
Professional Services		
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Rental of Space/ Accommodations		
Salaries, Wages and Related Costs		
Training		
Travel		
<b>Total</b>		





# Salish Sea Initiative

## Arms-Length Fund



### Overview

The Salish Sea Initiative (SSI) consists of two funding components. The first component supports eligible Indigenous Nations in building technical, science, and administrative capacity in their communities and in monitoring and evaluating the impacts of human activities on local marine ecosystems. The initiative will build capacity within the First Nations to enable: acquisition and reporting of data on baseline environmental conditions, tracking of environmental impacts and changes, assessing cumulative environmental effects from human actions, and determining Valued Ecosystem Components within the marine area of the Salish Sea.

The second component is a long-term investment strategy (Arms-Length Fund) to support First Nations in evaluating the impacts of human activities on their local ecosystems and to provide for ongoing project delivery beyond March 31, 2024.

### Vision for the Arms-Length Fund

- To be co-developed by the 33 Salish Sea Nations and the Government of Canada
- To be held by the Nations, as determined through the process of co-development, and not by the Government of Canada
- To fund the continuation of cumulative effects work by Nations beyond 2024

### Key Elements and Questions – something to help us start the discussions

- **What?** What activities will this Fund support?
  - E.g., Stewardship projects - regional or community level; Independent science authority...
- **Who?** Who will hold and govern the Fund?
  - E.g., A Fund Entity(ies), either existing or created for this purpose; individual Nations; an account held-in-trust...
- **How?** How will the Fund be set up?
  - E.g., **Contribution Agreement versus Grant Agreement:**
    - **Contribution Agreement options:** release the funds in a lump sum **or** release as payments in smaller, annual transfers (both types are typically multi-year and have performance conditions and adjustable reporting requirements).
    - **Grant Agreement options:** release the funds to an Endowment where it is invested by the Recipient to produce a longer-term source of funding for projects **or** release in smaller, annual installments via a multi-year agreement (both types are typically not subject to being accounted for by a recipient nor normally subject to audit by the department although if an Endowment is chosen, it comes with specific considerations).
- **When?** Timelines?
  - Transfer by March 31, 2022

### Next Steps

- Introductory Webinar discussion
  - Ongoing discussions **Contact Us:** [DFO.SSI-IMDS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.SSI-IMDS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)