



2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

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Fisheries and Oceans Canada
200 Kent St
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0E6

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Executive Summary

The 2022-2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS) sets out the Government of Canada's sustainable development priorities, establishes goals and targets, and identifies actions to achieve them. The *Federal Sustainable Development Act* requires federal organizations to prepare their own strategies that comply with, and contribute to, the FSDS, within one year of the FSDS being tabled in Parliament.

This 2023-2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy (DSDS) describes Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Canadian Coast Guard's objectives and plans for sustainable development appropriate to its mandate. It captures the Department's contributions towards the goals and targets of the FSDS and the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, as well as the application of strategic environmental assessments.

The Department will contribute directly through its DSDS to eight of the seventeen goals of Canada's 2022-2026 FSDS:

- Goal 4: Promote Knowledge and Skills for Sustainable Development
- Goal 8: Encourage Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth in Canada
- Goal 10: Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Inequality
- Goal 12: Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles
- Goal 13: Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts
- Goal 14: Conserve and Protect Canada's Oceans
- Goal 15: Protect and Recover Species, Conserve Canadian Biodiversity
- Goal 16: Promote a Fair and Accessible Justice System, Enforce Environmental Laws, and Manage Impacts

SECTION 1

Introduction to the Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

The [2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy \(FSDS\)](#) presents the Government of Canada's sustainable development goals and targets, as required by the [Federal Sustainable Development Act](#) (the Act). This is the first FSDS to be framed using the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and provides a balanced view of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development.

In keeping with the purpose of the Act, to make decision-making related to sustainable development more transparent and accountable to Parliament, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) support the goals laid out in the FSDS through the activities described in this Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy (DSDS).



The Act also sets out [seven principles](#) that must be considered in the development of the FSDS as well as DSDS(s). These basic principles have been considered and incorporated in the Department's DSDS.

In order to promote coordinated action on sustainable development across the Government of Canada, this departmental strategy integrates efforts to advance Canada's implementation of the 2030 Agenda National Strategy, supported by the Global Indicator Framework (GIF) and Canadian Indicator Framework (CIF) targets and indicators. The strategy also now captures SDG initiatives that fall outside the scope of the FSDS to inform the development of Canada's Annual Report on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

SECTION 2

Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Sustainable Development Vision

DFO and CCG are responsible for a wide range of activities including promoting habitat restoration and marine protection; protecting aquatic species and fish stocks; ensuring safe and accessible waterways; advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples; and, supporting fishery workers and the fish and seafood sector. We work with other federal departments, other levels of government, Indigenous partners, industry, and stakeholders to ensure Canada is positioned to succeed in the fast-growing global ocean sectors while advancing reconciliation, conservation, and climate change objectives. As part of our ongoing work to improve these services and ensure they are delivered by a skilled workforce that is representative of the peoples and communities being served, we will continue to foster diversity and inclusion amongst our employees.

We recognize that sustainability is a dynamic concept, and we embrace the evolving nature of our efforts to protect ecosystems, promote equity, and ensure a healthy environment for future generations. The integration of environmental, economic, and social factors into decision-making aligns with our commitment to a holistic approach to development. In particular, we emphasize the essential role of Indigenous Peoples in supporting sustainable development – recognizing their profound connection to the land, waters, and resources; Indigenous Knowledge; and, their unique understanding of ecological systems. We believe that collaboration with Indigenous Peoples not only respects their rights but also ensures a more resilient and harmonious approach to sustainable development. Across all activities, we continue to prioritize reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and the recognition of their rights related to fisheries, oceans, aquatic habitats, and marine waterways.

The principles of accountability and a results-driven approach underscore our commitment to tangible progress. By setting clear objectives and tracking our advancements through measurable indicators, we strive to ensure that our actions translate into meaningful outcomes for Canada's environment, society, and economy.

Our vision is captured under the following FSDS goals:

Goal 4: Promote Knowledge and Skills for Sustainable Development

We recognize the critical role of education and research in achieving our sustainable development goals. We are committed to fostering a culture of innovation, scientific inquiry, and knowledge-sharing, and supporting learning and training opportunities that will build a knowledgeable and skilled ocean science community. We prioritize scientific research and monitoring to enhance our understanding of marine ecosystems, fish populations, and the impacts of human activities. Through robust research programs, data collection, and analysis, we strive to generate accurate information and science advice that informs evidence-based decision-making.

Goal 8: Encourage Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth in Canada

We embrace the concept of the blue economy, which seeks to balance economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Canada's Blue Economy Strategy will accelerate the transformation of Canada's marine sectors from a traditional ocean economy to a sustainable blue economy, in which technology, innovation and ecosystem restoration drive renewed prosperity and opportunity, in particular for Canada's coastal and Indigenous communities. In doing so, we will harness the potential of Canada's three oceans to support long term livelihoods, strengthen the resilience of rural and coastal communities, and advance climate and reconciliation objectives, while restoring and safeguarding the health of aquatic ecosystems for future generations.

Goal 10: Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Inequality

We respect and value Indigenous Knowledge and the expertise and governance of Indigenous Peoples in managing fisheries and oceans throughout the country. Through the recognition and implementation of Indigenous rights, meaningful collaboration, co-development, and cooperative partnerships, we will work alongside Indigenous Peoples to achieve sustainable outcomes that support the well-being of Indigenous communities and the stewardship of aquatic resources.

Goal 12: Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles

We are committed to greening government operations and minimizing the environmental footprint of our activities. We strive to lead by example in adopting sustainable practices and integrating environmental considerations into our policies and procedures, and are committed to implementing effective waste management and procurement practices to minimize the environmental impact of our operations and promote resource efficiency.

Goal 13: Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts

In response to the challenges posed by climate change, we are committed to integrating climate considerations into our policies, programs, and decision-making processes. We will prioritize climate change adaptation measures to ensure the resilience of Canada's fisheries and oceans, as well as contribute to global efforts by implementing strategies to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our footprint. By investing in clean and renewable energy sources, and promoting sustainable and climate-resilient practices, we will support the transition to a low-carbon economy, while creating green jobs and driving economic growth.

Further, under the modernized *Fisheries Act*, we will continue to implement new fisheries management approaches to support the resilience of the fish and seafood sector and the sustainability of Canada's fisheries resources in response to quickly changing environmental, social and economic conditions, including climate change. These activities are based on research and monitoring that help us understand our oceans and aquatic ecosystems. With the impacts

of climate change, understanding our ocean ecosystems is now more important than ever for improving management and conservation measures.

Goal 14: Conserve and Protect Canada's Oceans

We recognize the importance of establishing and effectively managing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) as a means of safeguarding marine biodiversity, protecting sensitive habitats, and maintaining the ecological integrity of our oceans. Through science-based assessments, collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, including via large-scale Indigenous led Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiatives, and stakeholder engagement, we aim to conserve and effectively manage areas that represent a range of habitats, species, and ecological processes. This commitment is demonstrated through Canada's ambitious target to conserve 25% of our oceans by 2025, and 30% by 2030.

We aim to support sustainable fisheries that balance ecological, social, and economic considerations. Through science-based decision-making, robust monitoring and enforcement, and the adoption of innovative fishing practices, we support the conservation and responsible management of fish stocks. This approach not only protects the livelihoods of fishers and rural and coastal communities, but also contributes to the stability and growth of the fish and seafood sector.

These activities are based on research and monitoring that help us understand our oceans and aquatic ecosystems. With the impacts of climate change, understanding our ocean ecosystems is now more important than ever for improving management and conservation measures.

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard is responsible for two FSDS targets under Goal 14:

- Conserve 25% of marine and coastal areas by 2025, and 30% by 2030, in support of the commitment to work to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 in Canada, and achieve a full recovery for nature by 2050; and,
- By 2026, at least 55% of Canada's key fish stocks are in the Cautious and Healthy zone.

Goal 15: Protect and Recover Species, Conserve Canadian Biodiversity

We are committed to the conservation and recovery of species at risk in our oceans and waterways. We recognize the critical importance of protecting and restoring populations of at-risk species to ensure their long-term survival and the integrity of marine and freshwater ecosystems. We also recognize the significant ecological and economic threats posed by aquatic invasive species, and are committed to actions to prevent their introduction and spread, while effectively managing established populations to minimize their impact on native biodiversity and ecosystems.

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard is responsible for one FSDS target under Goal 15 (with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change):

- By 2026, increase the percentage of species at risk listed under federal law that exhibit population trends that are consistent with recovery strategies and management plans to 60%, from a baseline of 42% in 2019.

Goal 16: Promote a Fair and Accessible Justice System, Enforce Environmental Laws, and Manage Impacts

We recognize the critical importance of effective fisheries enforcement to ensure the sustainability of fisheries resources, promote compliance with international and domestic regulations, and combat illegal activities. We are committed to robust enforcement measures that deter illegal fishing, protect vulnerable species, and support responsible and sustainable fishing practices.

SECTION 3

Listening to Canadians

As required by the *Federal Sustainable Development Act*, the Department has taken into account comments on the draft 2022-2026 FSDS made during the public consultation held from March 11 to July 9, 2022.

During the public consultation, more than 700 comments were received from a broad range of stakeholders, including governments, Indigenous organizations, non-governmental organizations, academics, businesses, and individual Canadians in different age groups and of various backgrounds. The draft FSDS was also shared with the appropriate committee of each House of Parliament, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, and the Sustainable Development Advisory Council for their review and comment. More information on the FSDS public consultation and its results can be found in the [FSDS Consultation Report](#).

What We Heard

Across the submissions received, we identified the sustainable development priorities and issues noted by our stakeholders. Some specific comments advocated for the need to ensure Indigenous partners are involved in the establishment and management of marine protected and conserved areas; and, continuing our efforts to tackle plastic pollution and waste from the fishing industry.

What We Did

We took the above-mentioned comments into consideration throughout the development of our 2023-2027 DSDS. Goal 10 includes information on our work with Indigenous partners to manage and monitor marine protected and

conserved areas. Goal 14 includes information reinforcing our commitment to prevent and mitigate abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (also known as ghost gear) through the Ghost Gear Program.

SECTION 4

Fisheries and Ocean Canada's Commitments





GOAL 4: PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

FSDS Context:

We recognize the importance of knowledge and capacity building in the context of fisheries management, marine conservation, and the sustainable use of ocean resources. This is reflected in various activities undertaken by the Department, including: developing outreach programs to raise awareness of the importance of marine conservation; partnering with educational institutions and Indigenous organizations to advance research on aquatic ecosystems; and, investing in capacity building and training initiatives to enhance the knowledge and skills of marine partners and stakeholders.

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

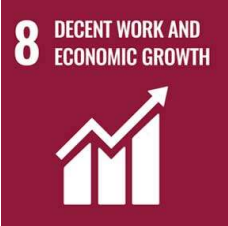
This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Promote knowledge and skills for sustainable development**” but not a specific FSDS target.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Promote environmental knowledge and data sharing</p>	<p>Report annually on the state of Canada's oceans and aquatic ecosystems</p> <p>Program: Aquatic Ecosystem Science</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of Canada's State of the Ocean reports published.</p> <p>Starting point: Since March 31, 2016, DFO has published 4 State of the Ocean Reports.</p> <p>Target: 4 additional reports by March 31, 2027.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Canada's State of the Ocean reports are summaries of the current status and trends of marine ecosystems in Canada's three oceans. An ongoing reporting cycle presents information on one of Canada's oceans per year; followed by a national report being undertaken in the fourth year. A plain-language public report along with communication and outreach products is published annually so that all Canadians are more informed on the current and ongoing state of the Atlantic, Arctic and Pacific oceans.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by providing annually updated and recent technical and plain-language information on Canada's marine ecosystems. This program uses outreach and knowledge sharing initiatives to communicate ocean science to all Canadians</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 4: This action contributes to SDG 4 by ensuring that accurate, clearly communicated information is available on Canada's ocean ecosystems in order to inform Canadians and the general public on the science on which decision-making is based.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 4 – Canadians have access to inclusive and quality education throughout their lives GIF Target: 4.7 – By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 4 – Quality Education

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Ocean Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>Continue to advance the Open Science Action Plan to promote knowledge equity and science literacy. DFO will leverage modern digital tools to more easily share scientific data with the Canadian public, and enable scientists to publish their research in open access journals.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 4.7: By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development
<p>Continue to support learning and training through the establishment of academic awards, professional development opportunities, educational resources, capacity exchange programs, and other initiatives to support current and future members of the ocean science and technology workforce.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 4.7: By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development



GOAL 8: ENCOURAGE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN CANADA

FSDS Context:

We are committed to fostering a blue economy, which balances economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability in the maritime sectors. This is reflected in various activities undertaken by the Department, including: promoting sustainable and science-based practices in the fish and seafood sector; supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy; and, creating initiatives that generate economic opportunities and innovation in sectors such as marine tourism, coastal restoration and protection, marine renewable energy, and ocean technology.

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal ‘**Encourage inclusive and sustainable economic growth in Canada**’ but not a specific FSDS target.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Support workers, businesses and communities	Promote opportunities in the fish and seafood sector for the protection and restoration of Pacific salmon in British Columbia	Performance indicator: % of funded projects that support the protection and restoration of wild Pacific salmon.	Contribution to the FSDS: The British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund is a contribution program that supports protection and restoration activities for priority wild fish stocks, including salmon, and ensures

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Program: Fish and Seafood Sector</p>	<p>Starting point: 60% as of March 31, 2021.</p> <p>Target: 75% by March 31, 2026.</p>	<p>the seafood sector in British Columbia is positioned for long-term environmental and economic sustainability.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by supporting the commercial fishing industry in British Columbia to participate in activities that promote the sustainability of the fish and seafood sector. Through this work, internal and external salmon restoration and stewardship actions are targeted towards conservation priorities.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 8: This action contributes to SDG 8 through the creation of opportunities in the fish and seafood sector that align with the protection and restoration of Pacific salmon, fostering economic development while simultaneously addressing environmental sustainability. The fish and seafood sector plays a crucial role in the regional economies of British Columbia, and by promoting opportunities that are aligned with the protection and restoration of Pacific salmon, we achieve a balance between economic growth and the conservation of vital aquatic ecosystems and their inhabitants.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 8 – Canadians contribute to and benefit from sustainable economic growth GIF Target: 8.4 – Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Ocean Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>Publish the Blue Economy Strategy to outline Canada’s plan for transforming its ocean sectors from a traditional ocean economy toward a sustainable blue economy. The strategy will highlight the key strategic objectives that will be used to guide future actions and investments in the ocean space and address regulatory gaps within the blue economy. This will include examining how to sustainably grow Canada’s ocean and freshwater economy, and will support the long-term sustainable growth of Canada’s fish and seafood sector.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 8.2: Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors
<p>Complete the Blue Economy Regulatory Review to examine how regulatory practices that apply to ocean sectors can be adapted to better enable the introduction of new technologies and practices offering environmental and economic benefits, while continuing to prioritize health, safety, security, and environmental responsibilities in the blue economy.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 8.2: Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors
<p>Provide financial support through Canada’s fisheries funds and provide commercial fish harvesters and other users with safe and accessible Small Craft Harbours.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 8.4: Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead



GOAL 10: ADVANCE RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TAKE ACTION ON INEQUALITY

FSDS Context:

We recognize the importance of addressing inequalities, particularly in the context of fisheries and oceans management, where the rights of Indigenous Peoples play a significant role. Fisheries and oceans are of significant cultural, economic, spiritual, and social importance to Indigenous Peoples, particularly in coastal areas. We actively engage and collaborate with Indigenous partners, recognizing their unique relationship with the land, waters, and resources. Through meaningful partnerships and co-management arrangements, as well as negotiated agreements such as treaties, the Department and Indigenous partners work together to ensure that Indigenous perspectives, expertise and Indigenous Knowledge are integrated into management decisions.

Target theme: Advancing reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities

Target: Between 2023 and 2026, and every year on an ongoing basis, develop and table annual progress reports on implementing *the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Implement the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i>	Engage with Indigenous partners to implement the UNDA Action Plan Program: Internal Services	Performance indicator: # of Action Plan Measures (APMs) where engagement has been undertaken. Starting point: 0 as of March 31, 2023. Target: 11 by March 31, 2028.	Contribution to the FSDS: Collaborative engagement empowers Indigenous communities to play a central role in shaping policies and decisions that directly affect their rights, lands, and well-being. Involving Indigenous partners in the co-creation of APMs facilitates a genuine and respectful exchange of knowledge and perspectives, ensuring that the Act’s implementation is rooted in Indigenous voices and priorities. This action contributes to the FSDS target by recognizing the distinct needs and aspirations of Indigenous communities and ensures that Indigenous voices, perspectives, and priorities are integrated into policies, programs, and decisions that affect their rights and well-being. Contribution to UN SDG 10: This action contribute to SDG 10 by ensuring that Indigenous communities are active participants in the process of formulating concrete and context-specific measures that align with their unique needs, aspirations, and rights. This approach fosters a more inclusive society and contributes to the overarching global goal of reducing inequalities and ensuring that no one is left behind. Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 10 – Canadians live free of discrimination and inequalities are reduced GIF Target: 10.3 – Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
		Performance indicator:	Contribution to the FSDS:

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Increase cultural competency of departmental staff and support a broader understanding of the impacts of government decisions on Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous communities</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Percentage of departmental staff who have completed Canada School of Public Service (CSPS) online foundational course IRA101.</p> <p>Starting point: 27% as of March 31, 2023 (3,825 completed /13,835 workforce).</p> <p>Target: An increase of at least 5% annually.</p> <hr/> <p>Performance indicator: Percentage of departmental staff who have completed CSPS online foundational course IRA102.</p> <p>Starting point: 25% as of March 31, 2023 (3,504 completed / 13,835 workforce).</p> <p>Target: An increase of at least 5% annually.</p>	<p>Public servants are in a unique position to help build respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada. This action contributes to the FSDS target by encouraging departmental staff to increase their cultural competency skills and awareness of issues related to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis in Canada, and their knowledge of the UN Declaration. This action contributes to the development of necessary cultural competency knowledge and skills to implement the UN Declaration.</p> <p>The following CSPS courses will be strongly encouraged for all departmental staff in fiscal year 2023-24:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IRA101: Reflecting on Cultural Bias: Indigenous Perspectives - IRA102: The Uncomfortable Truth: A Brief History of the Relationship Between Indigenous Peoples and the Government of Canada <p>Contribution to UN SDG 10: This action contributes to SDG 10 by supporting employees to engage more effectively with Indigenous communities and issues, fostering a more inclusive and informed approach to policy-making and service delivery. As staff gain a deeper understanding of the history of Indigenous Peoples and their relationship with the Government of Canada, they are better prepared to collaborate on initiatives that address disparities, amplify Indigenous voices, and contribute to building a more equitable and just society.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 10 – Canadians live free of discrimination and inequalities are reduced GIF Target: 10.3 – Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and take action on inequality**” but not a specific FSDS target.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Co-manage natural resources, collaborate, and share benefits with Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Engage Indigenous Peoples in collaborative decision-making and management bodies</p> <p>Program: Marine Planning and Conservation</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of new federal Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and/or Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) with active co-management agreements.</p> <p>Starting point: 0 as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 24 by December 31, 2025.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: MPAs and OECMs are measures that contribute to biodiversity conservation by prohibiting, or otherwise managing, human activities. DFO works with Indigenous partners through co-management agreements to effectively manage MPAs and OECMs.</p> <p>This action supports the FSDS goal by creating a collaborative and inclusive approach to the management of MPAs and OECMs with Indigenous partners. Through this work, Indigenous Peoples are engaged in collaborative decision-making and management bodies on new sites.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 10: This action contributes to SDG 10 by strengthening relationships, and supporting Indigenous reconciliation. It addresses historical marginalization, and upholds the rights of Indigenous Peoples by involving them in the development of policies and programs. By amplifying Indigenous voices in decision-making processes, advancing new and innovative partnerships, and by collaborating with Indigenous Peoples in developing policies and guidance, we can make meaningful change, prevent further injustices, and continue on our path towards reconciliation.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions:</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			CIF Ambition: 10 – Canadians live free of discrimination and inequalities are reduced GIF Target: 10.2 – Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
Work with Indigenous partners to better integrate Indigenous Knowledge, governance and expertise into planning and policy decisions through the Indigenous Habitat Participation Program .	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
Advance reconciliation and nature protection by supporting Indigenous-led partnerships in conservation including Project Finance for Permanence initiatives.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
Develop and operationalize a DFO-CCG Northern Recruitment and Retention Strategy in collaboration with Inuit, First Nations and Métis governments and organizations to ensure a representative workforce in the North.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>Create opportunities through the Ecosystems and Oceans Science Contribution Framework for Indigenous partners to engage in aquatic science projects.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
<p>Continue to implement the DFO-CCG Arctic Regions and establish regional governance tables with Inuit, First Nations and Métis governments and organizations in the North.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 10.3: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
<p>Negotiate and implement treaties, reconciliation agreements, and other collaborative arrangements that recognize and implement Indigenous rights related to fisheries and oceans.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 10.3: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard



GOAL 12: REDUCE WASTE AND TRANSITION TO ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES

FSDS Context:

We work to reduce the impact of human activities on marine ecosystems through proper waste and disposal practices, as well as through the implementation of pollution prevention measures. This is reflected in various activities undertaken by the Department, including through initiatives that minimize waste, prevent and respond to marine pollution, and promote resource efficiency. This work is guided in part by the Greening Government Strategy, which aims to reduce environmental impacts within federal operations on waste, water and biodiversity.

Target theme: Federal Leadership on Responsible Consumption

Target: By 2030, the Government of Canada will divert from landfill at least 75% by weight of non-hazardous operational waste (All Ministers)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Maximize diversion of waste from landfill	Complete waste audits for large facilities (i.e., more than 10,000m ² of total floor space) situated within a municipality (or equivalent with a population of	Performance indicator: % by weight of non-hazardous operational waste diverted from landfill in Crown-owned buildings.	Contribution to the FSDS: Actions that reduce the generation of non-hazardous operational waste will help to reduce Scope 3 emissions for the production, transport and disposal of material. Diverting waste from landfill reduces landfill gas and transport hauling emissions. Material

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>over 100,000) where waste diversion services are available and report annual rate of diversion of non-hazardous operational waste from landfill</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Starting point: 74% in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p>Target: At least 75% by March 31, 2031.</p>	<p>recovery via recycling reduces emissions for the extraction and production of virgin materials.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target as waste audits inform decision-making and guide strategic efforts for waste reduction and diversion. These audits enable targeted interventions by identifying key sources of waste generation, and provide the foundation for targeted waste reduction strategies. The waste audit reporting cycle is every five years for all required facilities.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by providing valuable data on waste generation, enabling us to identify areas for waste reduction and prevention. Implementing strategies such as source reduction and improved procurement practices can contribute to more responsible consumption patterns. Additionally, waste audits highlight opportunities for recycling, reuse, and resource recovery, supporting the transition to a circular economy.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner CIF Indicator: 12.3.1 – Total waste diversion per capita GIF Target: 12.5 – By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>
	<p>Complete waste audits for large buildings (i.e., more than 10,000m² of total floor space) situated within a municipality (or equivalent with a population of over 100,000) where waste diversion services are available and report annual rate of</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % by weight of plastic waste diverted from landfill in Crown-owned buildings.</p> <p>Starting point: 27% in fiscal year 2022-23.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Actions that reduce the generation of plastic waste will help to reduce Scope 3 emissions for the production, transport and disposal of material. Diverting plastic waste from landfills reduces the transport hauling emissions. Material recovery via recycling reduces emissions for the extraction and production of virgin materials.</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	diversion of plastic waste from landfill Program: Internal Services	Target: At least 75% by March 31, 2031.	This action contributes to the FSDS target as waste audits inform decision-making and guide strategic efforts for waste reduction and diversion. These audits enable targeted interventions by identifying key sources of waste generation, and provide the foundation for targeted waste reduction strategies. Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by providing valuable data on waste generation, enabling us to identify areas for waste reduction and prevention. Implementing strategies such as source reduction and improved procurement practices can contribute to more responsible consumption patterns. Additionally, waste audits highlight opportunities for recycling, reuse, and resource recovery, supporting the transition to a circular economy. Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner CIF Indicator: 12.3.1 – Total waste diversion per capita GIF Target: 12.5 – By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

Target: By 2030, the Government of Canada will divert from landfill at least 90% by weight of all construction and demolition waste (All Ministers)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Maximize diversion of waste from landfill	Ensure construction project general contractors track and	Performance indicator:	Contribution to the FSDS:

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>disclose the amount of construction and demolition waste generated, as well as the amount diverted from landfill for projects with a total of over \$5 million and in areas where commercial waste services are available</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>% by weight of construction and demolition waste diverted from landfill in Crown-owned buildings.</p> <p>Starting point: 97% in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p>Target: At least 90% by March 31, 2031.</p>	<p>Actions that reduce the generation of constructions and demolition waste will help to reduce Scope 3 emissions for the production, transport and disposal of material. Diverting waste from landfill reduces landfill gas and transport hauling emissions. Material recovery via recycling reduces emissions for the extraction and production of virgin materials.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by increasing accountability, transparency, and data-driven decision-making, ensuring that waste management practices align with the broader environmental objectives of sustainable development. Diversion rates will be reported on once, in the year in which the project is completed.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by identifying opportunities to minimize waste generation, improve resource efficiency, and implement sustainable construction practices. Tracking waste allows for the identification of specific waste streams and their sources, enabling targeted interventions for waste reduction and prevention. Disclosing this information promotes transparency and accountability in the construction industry, encouraging stakeholders to adopt more sustainable practices.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner CIF Indicator: 12.3.1 – Total waste diversion per capita GIF Target: 12.5 – By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>

Target: The Government of Canada’s procurement of goods and services will be net-zero emissions by 2050, to aid the transition to a net-zero, circular economy (All Ministers)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Transform the federal light-duty fleet</p>	<p>Each year, at least 75% of new light-duty on-road conventional fleet vehicle purchases will be zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) or hybrids, where suitable options are available and meet operational feasibility</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of new vehicles purchased annually as replacements or additions to the light duty vehicle fleet that are ZEV or hybrids, where suitable options are available and meet operational feasibility.</p> <p>Starting point: (57 new ZEV or hybrid vehicles purchased / 66 new vehicles purchased) = 86% in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p><i>Additional information by vehicle type for fiscal year 2022-23:</i></p> <p>[6 Battery Electric, Hydrogen or Fuel Cell Vehicles purchased / 66 new vehicles purchased] = 10%.</p> <p>[42 Hybrid Electric Vehicles purchased / 66 new vehicles purchased] = 64%.</p> <p>[9 Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles / 66 new vehicles purchased] = 14%.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: This action contributes to the FSDS target by reducing emissions, promoting sustainable consumption and production, fostering innovation, and showcasing leadership in the adoption of environmentally friendly transportation technologies and practices through the purchase of ZEVs and hybrid vehicles.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by promoting sustainable and responsible consumption and production patterns. This transition reduces resource consumption, lowers emissions, encourages technological innovation, and aligns with the broader goal of advancing sustainable development through more environmentally friendly transportation choices.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner CIF Target: 12.1.1 – Zero-emission vehicles represent 10% of new light duty vehicle sales by 2025, 30% by 2030 and 100% by 2040 CIF Indicator: 12.1.1 – Proportion of new light-duty vehicle registrations that are zero-emission vehicles GIF Target: 12.7 – Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Target: 75% annually.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Figures are adjusted based on calculation of suitable options that are available and meet operational feasibility from Treasury Board Secretariat Greening Government Office.</p>	
	<p>Fleet management and renewal will be optimized with the objective that the conventional light duty on-road fleet will be comprised of 100% ZEVs by 2030, where suitable options are available and meet operational feasibility</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of conventional light duty fleet that is ZEV, where suitable options are available and meet operational feasibility.</p> <p>Starting point: 3% as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p><i>Additional information by vehicle type, as of March 31, 2023:</i></p> <p>[12 vehicles in conventional light duty fleet are Battery Electric, Hydrogen or Fuel Cell Vehicles / 1381 vehicles in conventional light duty fleet] = 1%.</p> <p>[37 vehicles in conventional light duty fleet are Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles / 1381 vehicles</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: This action contributes to the FSDS target by reducing emissions, promoting sustainable consumption and production, fostering innovation, and showcasing leadership in the adoption of environmentally friendly transportation technologies and practices through the purchase of ZEVs and hybrid vehicles.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by promoting sustainable and responsible consumption and production patterns. This transition reduces resource consumption, lowers emissions, encourages technological innovation, and aligns with the broader goal of advancing sustainable development through more environmentally friendly transportation choices.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner CIF Target: 12.1.1 – Zero-emission vehicles represent 10% of new light duty vehicle sales by 2025, 30% by 2030 and 100% by 2040 CIF Indicator: 12.1.1 – Proportion of new light-duty vehicle registrations that are zero-emission vehicles</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>in conventional light duty fleet] = 3%.</p> <p>[104 vehicles in conventional light duty fleet are Hybrid Electric Vehicles / 1381 vehicles in conventional light duty fleet] = 8%.</p> <p>Target: 100% by March 31, 2030.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Figures are adjusted numbers based on calculation of suitable options that are available and meet operational feasibility from Treasury Board Secretariat Greening Government Office.</p>	<p>GIF Target: 12.7 – Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities</p>
	<p>Reduce GHG emissions from the conventional light duty fleet</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % change in GHG emissions from fleet vehicles from fiscal year 2005-06.</p> <p>Starting point: 9,619kt in 2005-06.</p> <p>Target: 40% reduction by March 31, 2025.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: This action contributes to the FSDS target by reducing emissions, promoting sustainable consumption and production, fostering innovation, and showcasing leadership in the adoption of environmentally friendly transportation technologies and practices through the purchase of ZEVs and hybrid vehicles.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by promoting sustainable and responsible consumption and production patterns. This transition reduces resource consumption, lowers emissions, encourages technological innovation, and aligns with the broader goal of advancing sustainable development through more environmentally friendly transportation choices.</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			<p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner CIF Target: 12.1.1 – Zero-emission vehicles represent 10% of new light duty vehicle sales by 2025, 30% by 2030 and 100% by 2040 CIF Indicator: 12.1.1 – Proportion of new light-duty vehicle registrations that are zero-emission vehicles GIF Target: 12.7 – Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities</p>
<p>Strengthen green procurement criteria</p>	<p>Ensure all procurement and materiel management specialists are trained in green procurement (such as, the Canada School of Public Service course on green procurement, or equivalent) within one year of being identified</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of procurement and materiel management specialists trained in green procurement within one year of being identified.</p> <p>Starting point: 77% in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p>Target: 100% annually.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Green procurement incorporates environmental considerations into purchasing decisions and is expected to motivate suppliers to reduce the environmental impact of the goods and services they deliver, and their supply chains.</p> <p>This action contribute to the FSDS target by equipping procurement specialists with the knowledge and skills to support the prioritization of environmentally friendly products and services, fostering a culture of sustainable consumption and production.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by equipping specialists with the knowledge and skills to integrate sustainability considerations into their purchasing decisions. Trained specialists can assess suppliers based on environmental criteria, such as energy efficiency, waste management, and sustainable sourcing. This promotes the procurement of environmentally friendly products and services, reducing our overall environmental footprint.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			GIF Target: 12.7 – Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Reduce waste and transition to zero-emission vehicles**” but not a specific FSDS target.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Remediate high-priority contaminated sites	<p>Close sites currently in DFO’s inventory of suspected, or known contaminated sites, by conducting assessment and remediation activities at the sites</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of closed sites in DFO’s inventory of suspected, or known contaminated sites.</p> <p>Starting point: DFO is responsible for 1,837 open sites in the Federal Contaminated Sites Inventory, as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Open sites in the inventory are sites where contamination may exist, or is known to exist, and may pose harm to the environment or human health.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Through the renewed Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan, DFO is committed to the federal government’s long-term target to close 95% of existing contaminated sites by 2035. Sites are closed when human health and ecological risks are reduced to acceptable levels, and financial liabilities are reduced to zero. A contaminated site is where substances occur at concentrations that are above background levels and pose, or are likely to pose, an immediate or long-term hazard to human health or the environment, or exceed levels specified in policies and regulations.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by remediating contaminated sites that pose risks to human health and the environment. This work will effectively mitigate or manage ecological and human health risks and help to reduce waste, helping Canadians to live in clean, sustainable communities.</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>DFO's current remaining inventory of open sites (1,837) represents an 83% closure of DFO's total inventory of 11,033 suspected, or known contaminated sites (i.e., 9,196 sites have been closed to date).</p> <p>Target: Increase the % of closed sites in DFO's inventory of suspected, or known contaminated sites from 83% to 88%, by March 31, 2027.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The 5% increase in closed sites amounts to 600 open sites being closed over the four year period, or approximately 150 sites per year.</p>	<p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by promoting sustainable land use practices and mitigating the environmental and health risks associated with contamination. Cleaning up and closing these sites helps prevent further pollution, protects ecosystems, and ensures the well-being of communities.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner GIF Target: 12.4 – By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</p>
<p>Research innovative solutions for plastics</p>	<p>Increase the uptake of new technologies to reduce and better manage plastic waste, including Ghost Gear</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of proponents acquiring or piloting retrieval and fishing gear technologies in Canada.</p> <p>Starting point: 34 proponents have received funding for projects which acquire or pilot retrieval and fishing gear technologies in Canada, as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target:</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Ghost gear, also known as abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG), exacerbates the global plastics crisis as much of this gear is constructed from persistent plastic materials. Gear can break down into fragments which are ingested by marine species and then enters the food chain, posing risks to both aquatic ecosystems and human health.</p> <p>DFO's Ghost Gear Program was recently renewed for five years until 2027, with an overarching priority outcome that marine pollution from ghost gear is prevented and reduced. This will be achieved through improvements to data collection, lost and retrieved gear reporting systems, a regulatory review, and promotion of sustainable gear and best practices.</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>A further numerical target cannot be assigned to this performance indicator prior to proposals being received following future public calls for proposals.</p>	<p>The Ghost Gear Fund (under the Program) supports fish harvesters to acquire new clean technologies to reduce gear loss. It encourages the acquisition and/or piloting of market-ready technologies aimed at prevention, reduction, and retrieval of ghost gear.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by supporting technologies that reduce the amount of ghost gear in Canadian waters. Through this work, technologies to identify, retrieve or reduce the frequency and/or impact of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear are acquired or piloted.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by supporting the development of biodegradable materials, improved recycling technologies, and sustainable waste management practices, thereby minimizing the environmental impact of plastic waste. By promoting collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the adoption of sustainable practices, these efforts contribute to creating a circular economy, reducing resource consumption, and mitigating the adverse effects of plastic waste on ecosystems and human health.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner GIF Target: 12.5 – By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>
	<p>Support new approaches in commercial fisheries to reduce or mitigate the impacts of ghost gear</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of commercial fisheries in which: 1) in-season ghost gear retrieval are piloted; and, 2) alternatives to plastic gear tags are piloted.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Piloting in-season ghost gear retrieval and exploring alternatives to plastic gear tags is a proactive approach to directly reduce plastic waste in marine environments.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal as successful pilot programs demonstrate the potential of timely gear retrieval to</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Starting point: 1) 2 commercial fisheries in which in-season ghost gear retrieval are being piloted; and, 2) 0 commercial fisheries in which alternatives to plastic gear tags are being piloted, as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 1) 3 commercial fisheries pilot in-season ghost gear retrieval; and, 2) 3 commercial fisheries pilot alternatives to plastic gear tags, by March 31, 2025.</p>	<p>prevent plastic fragmentation, while exploring alternative gear materials showcases the viability of reducing plastic content in fishing equipment. Through this work, Canada pilots new approaches in commercial fisheries to reduce or mitigate impacts of ghost gear.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by reducing marine litter and minimizing the adverse impacts of plastic waste on marine environments. By encouraging the implementation of innovative gear designs and materials that reduce plastic components and mitigate gear loss, this action contributes to the reduction of plastic pollution in oceans.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 12 – Canadians consume in a sustainable manner GIF Target: 12.5 – By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>DFO will implement a five-year program ending in 2026-27 to explore and implement solid non-hazardous waste and plastic waste management improvements at targeted Real Property, Canadian Coast Guard, and Small Craft Harbour sites owned by the Department. This initiative will evaluate risk mitigation strategies that address waste management challenges, redirect waste back into the economy, and develop systems to ensure that accumulation of waste is avoided.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 12.5: Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse



GOAL 13: TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

FSDS Context:

We recognize the significant impact of climate change on the health of aquatic ecosystems, as well as the livelihoods and well-being of rural and coastal communities. Our commitment to take action on climate change is reflected in various initiatives including: conducting research on climate change and its impacts to identify and address vulnerabilities; integrating climate change considerations into decision-making processes, including adaptive fisheries management decisions to ensure the resilience of the fish and seafood sector and the sustainability of Canada's fisheries resources in response to increasingly complex and uncertain environmental, social and economic conditions; taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from internal operations; and, supporting global initiatives and agreements to collectively tackle climate change.

Target theme: Federal Leadership on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions and Climate Resilience

Target: The Government of Canada will transition to net-zero carbon operations for facilities and conventional fleets by 2050 (All Ministers)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Apply a greenhouse gas reduction life-cycle cost analysis for major building retrofits</p>	<p>Incorporate GHG emissions reduction into the departmental decision-making process using GHG options analysis methodology for major retrofits (over \$2.5 million) and any other significant real property project that affects energy consumption (e.g., building envelope upgrades and HVAC replacements)</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of completed major retrofits and other significant real property projects that affect energy consumption with a completed GHG reduction life-cycle cost analysis.</p> <p>Starting point: Measured on an annual basis.</p> <p>Target: 100% annually.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Actions that rationalize the portfolio, share facilities, reduce the demand for energy or switch to lower carbon sources of energy will lead to reductions in GHGs from real property operations.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 13: This action contributes to SDG 13 by prioritizing actions that help reduce GHG emissions, helping to identify alternatives that result in lower emissions and increased energy efficiency. Additionally, it highlights opportunities for incorporating energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy sources, ensuring projects are designed with sustainability in mind.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions CIF Target: 13 – By 2030, reduce Canada’s total greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 45%, relative to 2005 emission levels. By 2050, achieve economy-wide net-zero greenhouse gas emissions CIF Indicator: 13.1.1 – Greenhouse gas emissions GIF Target: 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning</p>
<p>Implement the Greening Government Strategy through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and green the government’s overall operations</p>	<p>Reduce the Department’s greenhouse gas emissions from facilities and on-road vehicles</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % change in GHG emissions from facilities and on-road vehicles from fiscal year 2005-06.</p> <p>Starting point: Facilities = 39.8 kt CO₂e in 2005-06. On-road fleet = 9.6 kt CO₂e in 2005-06.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Actions that rationalize the real property portfolio, share facilities, reduce the demand for energy or switch to lower carbon sources of energy will lead to reductions in GHGs from real property operations.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 13: This action contributes to SDG 13 by addressing the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By integrating new technology, completing energy efficiency projects, and ensuring new buildings and major retrofits are designed and constructed to minimize</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Total = 49.4 kt CO₂e in 2005-06.</p> <p>Target: 40% reduction by March 31, 2026; and, 90% reduction by March 31, 2051.</p>	<p>energy consumption, these changes in facility and fleet leads to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions CIF Target: 13 – By 2030, reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 45%, relative to 2005 emission levels. By 2050, achieve economy-wide net-zero greenhouse gas emissions CIF Indicator: 13.1.1 – Greenhouse gas emissions GIF Target: 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning</p>
	<p>Replace or convert all existing equipment that uses 10kg or more refrigerants with a Global Warming Potential (GWP) above 2,200 to use lower-GWP refrigerants by 2030, and all new HVAC-R equipment installations to use lower-GWP refrigerants where economically and technically feasible</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of existing HVAC-R equipment using 10 kg or more of refrigerants with a GWP over 2200 that have been replaced or converted.</p> <p>Starting point: 0% of existing HVAC-R equipment (0/124 units) using 10 kg or more of refrigerants with a GWP over 2200 have been replaced or converted, as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 100% (124/124 units) of existing equipment that use 10kg or more of refrigerants with a GWP above 2,200 are replaced or converted to use lower-GWP refrigerants by</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Limiting the use and procurement GWP potential and ozone depleting refrigerants will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in government operations. GWP examines each greenhouse gas’s ability to trap heat in the atmosphere compared to carbon dioxide (CO₂). The larger the GWP, the more that a given gas warms the Earth compared to CO₂ over that time period.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 13: This action contributes to SDG 13 by addressing the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By reducing the use of high GWP refrigerants, there are reduced greenhouse gas emissions through the occurrences of accidental releases. These targets accelerates the pace of converting/replacing equipment that have higher environmental risk to refrigerants that have lower environmental risk.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		2030-31 (where economically and technically feasible).	<p>CIF Target: 13 – By 2030, reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 45%, relative to 2005 emission levels. By 2050, achieve economy-wide net-zero greenhouse gas emissions CIF Indicator: 13.1.1 – Greenhouse gas emissions GIF Target: 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning</p>
	<p>Disclose the amount of embodied carbon in the structural materials (i.e., concrete) of major construction projects based on material carbon intensity or a life-cycle assessment, and reduce the embodied carbon by 30%, starting in 2025, using recycled and lower-carbon materials, material efficiency and performance-based design standards</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % reduction of embodied carbon of construction materials of major construction projects compared to Regional Industry Average Environmental Product Declaration.</p> <p>Starting point: New action – reporting requirement beginning in 2023-24.</p> <p>Target: Starting January 1, 2025, reduce the embodied carbon of the construction materials of major construction projects by 30% compared to Regional Industry Average Environmental Product Declaration.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> An Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) is a document that quantifies environmental impact data from manufacturing a product. It is a summarized report</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: “Embodied carbon” refers to carbon dioxide emitted during the manufacture, transport and construction of building materials together with end-of-life emissions. Embodied carbon forms a significant proportion of the whole life carbon emissions from construction projects. The <i>Standard on Embodied Carbon in Construction</i> sets minimum requirements for the procurement of design and construction services to disclose and reduce the embodied carbon of major construction projects.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by reducing the amount of embodied carbon released by major construction projects. Major construction projects are defined as projects over \$10 million where design services are solicited on or after December 31, 2022. Major construction projects typically include the renovation or new construction of buildings or engineering assets. The scope changes to projects over \$5 million where design services are solicited after December 31, 2024. All projects in-scope must also use a minimum of 100m³ of material.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 13: This action contributes to SDG 13 by addressing the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by ensuring new buildings will be designed and constructed to minimize their carbon footprint and energy consumption. This encourages the adoption of energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy integration, and</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>extracted from an in-depth Life Cycle Assessment (LCA).</p>	<p>sustainable building practices, leading to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions CIF Target: 13 – By 2030, reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 45%, relative to 2005 emission levels. By 2050, achieve economy-wide net-zero greenhouse gas emissions CIF Indicator: 13.1.1 – Greenhouse gas emissions GIF Target: 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning</p>
<p>Modernize through net-zero carbon buildings</p>	<p>All new buildings (including build-to-lease and public-private partnerships) will be net-zero carbon unless a life-cycle cost-benefit analysis indicates net-zero-carbon-ready construction</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of new buildings built that completed a greenhouse gas life-cycle cost analysis and are built to net-zero carbon or zero-carbon ready in a given fiscal year.</p> <p>Starting point: Measured on an annual basis.</p> <p>Target: 100% annually.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Actions that rationalize the portfolio, share facilities, reduce the demand for energy or switch to lower carbon sources of energy will lead to reductions in GHGs from real property operations.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 13: This action contributes to SDG 13 by addressing the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By promoting net-zero carbon standards, new buildings will be designed and constructed to minimize their carbon footprint and energy consumption. This encourages the adoption of energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy integration, and sustainable building practices, leading to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions CIF Target: 13 – By 2030, reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 45%, relative to 2005 emission levels. By 2050, achieve economy-wide net-zero greenhouse gas emissions CIF Indicator: 13.1.1 – Greenhouse gas emissions</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			GIF Target: 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

Target: The Government of Canada will transition to net-zero carbon national safety and security fleet operations by 2050 (Ministers with national safety and security fleets)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Improve environmental performance of national safety and security fleets	<p>Renew the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG)'s national fleet to improve environmental performance and reduce GHG emissions</p> <p>Program: Fleet Maintenance; Fleet Procurement</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % change in GHG emissions from CCG fleet operations from fiscal year 2005-06</p> <p>Starting point: 145 kt CO₂ eq in 2005-06</p> <p>Target: 40-45% GHG reduction below 2005 levels by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: CCG is committed to reducing GHG emissions from its national safety and security fleet, while continuing to provide Canada with effective operational capability. Expected to be completed in 2024, CCG's first iteration of the Operational Fleet Decarbonization Plan (OFDP) will highlight focused efforts towards reducing the fleet's operational GHG emissions.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by ensuring CCG's national safety and security fleet utilizes green technologies and low-carbon fuels when available, affordable and operationally feasible. Through this work, a renewed national safety and security fleet will generate early and cross-cutting Greening Government Strategy net-zero 2050 results.</p> <p>The CCG intends on analyzing 100% of its vessel classes identified in the 2019 Fleet Renewal Plan for the potential of green technology and low carbon fuels.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 13:</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			<p>This action contributes to SDG 13 by reducing GHG emissions associated with fleet operations. This includes transitioning to cleaner energy sources and implementing measures to enhance fuel efficiency. Additionally, it sets an example for other maritime organizations, encouraging the adoption of environmentally friendly practices and contributing to global efforts to combat climate change.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians reduce greenhouse gas emissions CIF Target: 13 – By 2030, reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 45%, relative to 2005 emission levels. By 2050, achieve economy-wide net-zero greenhouse gas emissions CIF Indicator: 13.1.1 – Greenhouse gas emissions GIF Target: 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning</p>

Target: The Government of Canada will transition to climate resilient operations by 2050 (All Ministers)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Reduce risks posed by climate change to federal assets, services and operations	Assess the risk of climate change impacts at mission critical assets Program: Internal Services	<p>Performance indicator: % of mission critical assets where the risk of climate change impacts is assessed.</p> <p>Starting point:</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: By assessing the risks of climate change impacts at mission critical assets, and developing plans to reduce the risks, the risk of disruption of critical service delivery to Canadians is reduced.</p> <p>Mission critical assets are defined through the Policy on Government Security and the Mandatory Procedures for Business</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>New program beginning in fiscal year 2023-24.</p> <p>Target: 100% by March 31, 2027.</p>	<p>Continuity Management Control in the Directive on Security Management. Priority Sites are defined in DFO’s National Portfolio Strategy.</p> <p>Climate risk assessments include high-level vulnerability assessments (e.g., Climate Infrastructure Vulnerability tools) and/or site-level risk assessments (e.g., the Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee [PIEVC] Protocol).</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 13: This action contributes to SDG 13 by increasing the understanding of the vulnerability of critical Departmental assets to climate change, such as rising sea levels, extreme weather events, or changing temperature patterns. With this knowledge, we can develop targeted plans and strategies to mitigate the identified risks, enhance resilience, and minimize potential disruptions.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change GIF Target: 13.1 – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries</p>
	<p>Complete climate change risk assessments for all new buildings, major retrofits and energy performance contracts</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of completed new buildings, major retrofits and energy performance contracts with completed climate change risk assessments.</p> <p>Starting point: Measured on an annual basis.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: By assessing the risks of climate change impacts at mission critical assets, and developing plans to reduce the risks, the risk of disruption of critical service delivery to Canadians is reduced.</p> <p>The assessments should be conducted by an infrastructure resilience professional or equivalent, and be based on a vulnerability assessment methodology such as the Engineers Canada’s PIEVC Protocol.</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Target: 100% annually.</p>	<p>Contribution to UN SDG 13: This action contributes to SDG 13 by increasing the understanding of the vulnerability of critical Departmental assets to climate change, such as rising sea levels, extreme weather events, or changing temperature patterns. With this knowledge, we can develop targeted plans and strategies to mitigate the identified risks, enhance resilience, and minimize potential disruptions.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 13 – Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change GIF Target: 13.1 – Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 13 – Climate Action

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>DFO will focus on adapting harbour facilities in response to climate change by incorporating climate change adaptation tools into infrastructure design.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>CCG will complete a Roadmap to Climate Change Resilience to provide guidance for CCG to increase its resilience to climate change through a series of adaptation and mitigation key actions in the short, medium, and long-term.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
<p>CCG will complete an Operational Fleet Decarbonization Plan, outlining near- and long-term strategic objectives and lines of effort to achieve emission reductions through 2030, 2040 and 2050. The Plan focuses on reducing GHG emissions in the small and large vessel fleet and includes shore infrastructure as a component of a long-term energy system development roadmap.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning



GOAL 14: CONSERVE AND PROTECT CANADA'S OCEANS

FSDS Context:

We are the primary federal organization responsible for the management and stewardship of Canada's fisheries and three oceans, and play a vital role in supporting and promoting the health, resilience and sustainability of marine ecosystems. Our work in undertaking scientific research and monitoring the ocean, protecting and conserving marine ecosystems, sustainably managing fisheries, addressing marine pollution, supporting climate change adaptation and resilience, and collaborating with Indigenous communities all contribute to achieving the targets and objectives of this FSDS goal and SDG 14.

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard is responsible for two FSDS targets under Goal 14, which will be reported on in a future FSDS Progress Report:

- Conserve 25% of marine and coastal areas by 2025, and 30% by 2030, in support of the commitment to work to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 in Canada, and achieve a full recovery for nature by 2050; and,
- By 2026, at least 55% of Canada's key fish stocks are in the Cautious and Healthy zone.

Target theme: Ocean Protection and Conservation

Target: Conserve 25% of marine and coastal areas by 2025, and 30% by 2030, in support of the commitment to work to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 in Canada, and achieve a full recovery for nature by 2050 (Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Build knowledge of coastal and marine ecosystems and marine protected areas</p>	<p>Conduct scientific research on coastal and marine ecosystems and marine protected areas</p> <p>Program: Aquatic Ecosystem Science</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of scheduled science advisory processes on MPAs and OECMs that were completed.</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p>Target: 90% annually.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: DFO conducts scientific research and monitoring activities to better understand aquatic ecosystems, ultimately creating a stronger evidence base for decision-making. This work helps inform effective conservation and management strategies, contributing to the sustainable use of marine resources. As well, data are collected to support establishment and management of MPAs and OECMs, which are essential for safeguarding biodiversity and preserving critical habitats.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by developing scientific information that informs the conservation of marine and coastal areas. Through this work, scientific information on Canada’s oceans and other aquatic ecosystems is available to inform management decisions.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by developing a deeper understanding of the ecological dynamics, biodiversity, and environmental processes within coastal and marine ecosystems. This research helps identify and assess the impacts of human activities, climate change, and other stressors on these ecosystems. The findings from scientific research provide valuable insights for</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			<p>policy-makers to develop evidence-based conservation and management strategies.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks CIF Target: 14.1.1 – Conserve 25% of Canada’s oceans by 2025, working towards 30% by 2030 CIF Indicator: 14.1.1 – Proportion of marine and coastal areas conserved GIF Target: 14.5 – By 2020, conserve at least 10% of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Protect, manage, and restore marine and coastal areas</p>	<p>Establish new MPAs and OECMs</p> <p>Program: Marine Planning and Conservation</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of new <i>Oceans Act</i> MPAs established.</p> <p>Starting point: 14 <i>Oceans Act</i> MPAs as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 15 additional <i>Oceans Act</i> MPAs by December 31, 2025.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: MPAs and OECMs are measures that contribute to biodiversity conservation by prohibiting, or otherwise managing, human activities. MPAs and OECMs both contribute to marine conservation targets. As of March 31, 2023, Canada has established 14 MPAs under the <i>Oceans Act</i>, and 60 OECMs. These areas contribute to conserving 14.66% of Canada’s marine and coastal areas.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by creating new MPAs and OECMs to achieve this target. Through this work, Canada’s network of protected areas is expanded and strengthened.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by safeguarding marine biodiversity, protecting critical habitats, and preserving ecosystem services. By designating new MPAs and OECMs, Canada demonstrates its commitment to marine conservation and sustainable resource management. These protected areas support</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Performance indicator: # of new marine OECMs recognized.</p> <p>Starting point: 60 marine OECMs as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 1 additional marine OECM by December 31, 2025.</p>	<p>the conservation of sensitive species and habitats, promote the recovery of ecosystems, and contribute to the resilience of marine ecosystems in the face of various threats such as overfishing, habitat destruction, pollution, and climate change.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks CIF Target: 14.1.1 – Conserve 25% of Canada’s oceans by 2025, working towards 30% by 2030 CIF Indicator: 14.1.1 – Proportion of marine and coastal areas conserved GIF Target: 14.5 – By 2020, conserve at least 10% of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information</p>
	<p>Effectively manage existing MPAs to ensure they achieve their conservation objectives</p> <p>Program: Marine Planning and Conservation</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of MPAs that are effectively managed.</p> <p>Starting point: Data are not available as the framework for measuring effective management of existing MPAs is currently under development. It is expected to be developed by in fiscal year 2024-25.</p> <p>Target:</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Effectively managing MPAs helps to conserve and protect marine species and aquatic ecosystems while supporting sustainable development and benefiting coastal communities. Effective management can enhance species and ecosystem resilience, support climate change adaptation, and preserve cultural heritage. MPAs also promote public awareness and understanding of Canada’s marine heritage through recreation, tourism, and education activities.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target through ongoing monitoring, adaptive management practices, and community engagement, which are crucial for assessing ecosystem health, adjusting strategies based on new information, and incorporating</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		100% by December 31, 2025.	<p>local perspectives. Site specific reports that will describe management efforts in MPAs will be developed to demonstrate how MPAs are being managed and a national report will be published every five years (first iteration released in 2021) on national management. Through this work, Canada’s estuarine, marine, and coastal ecosystems and marine natural heritage are conserved and effectively managed.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 as effective management of these protected areas is crucial to maintaining marine biodiversity within their boundaries. Effective management strategies require partnerships with Indigenous governments and communities, scientific monitoring, and enforcement and compliance efforts that help to prevent overexploitation, habitat degradation, and other threats to biodiversity.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks CIF Target: 14.1.1 – Conserve 25% of Canada’s oceans by 2025, working towards 30% by 2030 CIF Indicator: 14.1.1 – Proportion of marine and coastal areas conserved GIF Target: 14.5 – By 2020, conserve at least 10% of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information</p>
	Develop first generation marine spatial plans (or marine spatial planning frameworks) to enable improved decision making on ocean use	Performance indicator: # of conservation and/or management plans or frameworks developed.	Contribution to the FSDS: Marine spatial planning is a process for managing ocean spaces to achieve ecological, economic, cultural and social objectives. DFO advances marine spatial planning in Canada in collaboration with

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Program: Marine Planning and Conservation</p>	<p>Starting point: 0 as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 4 first generation marine spatial plans or frameworks by March 31, 2024.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> First-generation marine spatial plans and first-generation marine spatial planning frameworks support common objectives (i.e., showcasing the progress made in relation to marine spatial planning processes in the different planning areas). While the terms are essentially synonymous the distinction in terminology is important for marine spatial planning partner relationships. Regulators and users are involved in the process of decisions and use information in development of plans.</p>	<p>other federal departments, provincial, territorial and Indigenous governments as well as relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target as marine spatial plans contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, the maintenance of ecosystem services, and the sustainable utilization of marine resources. Through this work, ocean regulators and users use information relating to the conservation and management of the marine environment to make decisions in a transparent manner.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by providing a comprehensive framework for managing and allocating marine space and resources in a sustainable manner. By integrating ecological, social, and economic considerations, marine spatial plans support a variety of uses of marine areas, minimizing conflicts between different sectors and ensuring the protection of sensitive habitats and species. These processes facilitate the identification of suitable locations for various activities, such as fishing, aquaculture, shipping, renewable energy development, while also identifying areas where conservation efforts should be advanced. By promoting an ecosystem-based approach, marine spatial plans contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, the maintenance of ecosystem services, and the sustainable utilization of marine resources.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.2 – By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Work with Indigenous Peoples, provinces and territories, industry, and local communities to support the design of MPAs and OECMs</p> <p>Program: Marine Planning and Conservation</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of advisory committees established to support the design of a proposed MPA.</p> <p>Starting point: 3 as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 13 additional advisory committees established by December 31, 2025.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: DFO collaborates with provincial and territorial governments; Indigenous governments and communities; industry and other maritime economy stakeholders; and, environmental groups while working towards the establishment and ongoing management and monitoring of MPAs and OECMs.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by working with industry, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, and external parties to better support the design of MPAs and OECMs. Through this work, industry, local communities, and external parties support the design of MPAs and OECMs.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by ensuring that the design of MPAs and OECMs are inclusive, culturally sensitive, and aligned with local and traditional knowledge and practices. By engaging domestic and Indigenous partners, their expertise and Indigenous Knowledge can be leveraged to enhance the effectiveness of MPAs and OECMs. Their involvement strengthens the connection between communities and Canada’s protected areas.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.2 – By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans</p>
	<p>Develop a national network of trained responders to strengthen marine pollution response</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of coastal marine response teams (CMRT) trained, equipped,</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: In November 2022, Canada announced over \$1.2 billion for the next phase of the Oceans Protection Plan. This includes establishing a</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Program: Marine Environmental and Hazards Response</p>	<p>and ready to respond to marine pollution incidents.</p> <p>Starting point: 1 as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 19 by March 31, 2027.</p>	<p>national network of trained emergency responders that includes multiple levels of government, Indigenous Peoples, and coastal communities to strengthen marine emergency response.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by ensuring responders are better prepared to respond to marine pollution, resulting in increased protection for marine and coastal areas. Through this work, the federal government and rural and coastal communities have improved capacity to respond to marine incidents.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by enhancing the Department’s preparedness and response capabilities in addressing maritime pollution. By training responders, we can effectively and efficiently manage marine accidents, oil spills, vessel collisions, and other incidents that pose risks to marine ecosystems and human safety. This ensures a coordinated and swift response to mitigate the impacts of emergencies, minimize environmental damage, and protect marine biodiversity.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.1 – By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>
	<p>Expand the number of risk assessments conducted for wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of risk assessments conducted on wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels.</p> <p>Starting point:</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: This departmental action supports the FSDS target by identifying and conducting risk assessments on wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels, in order to prioritize remediation operations for hazardous vessels and wrecks. Addressing these vessels helps to</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Program: Marine Environmental and Hazards Response</p>	<p>2,733 risk assessments were conducted on wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>As of March 31, 2023, there are 1,490 vessels in the Department’s national inventory of wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels.</p> <p>Target: 1,490 vessels remain in the national inventory and more are reported daily. The goal is to continue to conduct risk assessments on all vessels currently in the national inventory by March 31, 2027.</p>	<p>mitigate the impacts they pose to the marine environment, its species and ecosystems.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by minimizing the impact of hazardous vessels on the marine environment which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of Canada’s oceans, seas and marine resources.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.1 – By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>
	<p>Test and implement new technologies to monitor hazardous vessels in Canadian waters</p> <p>Program: Marine Environmental and Hazards Response</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of vessels in the national inventory of wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels equipped with BRNKL remote monitoring units.</p> <p>Starting point: 0 as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 39 vessels in the national inventory of wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels are equipped</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: This departmental action supports the FSDS target by ensuring that hazardous vessels in Canadian waters are more closely monitored through the use of BRNKL Rapid Deploy units. The device offers the Canadian Coast Guard near real-time status updates and alerts, allowing for faster deployment of marine environmental and hazard response teams to high-priority areas. Through a partnership with Innovative Solutions Canada, 39 of these remote monitoring devices are planned to be installed on hazardous vessels across the country.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by enhancing the Department’s ability to monitor wrecked, abandoned or hazardous vessels and ensure they do not negatively impact the marine environment. This</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		with BRNKL remote monitoring units, by March 31, 2024.	<p>helps with conservation and sustainable use of Canada’s oceans, seas and marine resources.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.1 – By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>

Target theme: Ocean Sustainability

Target: By 2026, at least 55% of Canada’s key fish stocks are in the Cautious and Healthy zone (Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Build knowledge to support sustainable fisheries	Conduct scientific research and monitoring activities for fisheries Program: Fisheries Science	<p>Performance indicator: % of scheduled fisheries science advisory processes that were completed.</p> <p>Starting point: 82% in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p>Target:</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Through scientific research, data is collected on fish stocks, their habitats, and the impacts of fishing practices. This knowledge helps inform evidence-based fisheries management strategies, such as setting catch limits, implementing conservation measures, and establishing protected areas.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by developing science advice on fisheries resources, their productivity, and factors</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		90% annually.	<p>affecting them to support sustainable fisheries management. Through this work, scientific information on fisheries resources is available to inform management decisions.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by supporting scientific research to better understand Canada’s fisheries, including their population dynamic and, migration patterns. This knowledge is crucial for implementing effective fisheries management strategies, setting sustainable catch limits, and preventing overfishing. Monitoring activities, such as data collection, stock assessments, and bycatch monitoring, provide valuable information for making informed decisions and adjusting fishing practices accordingly.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks CIF Indicator: 14.2.1 – By 2023, major fish and invertebrate stocks are managed and harvested at levels considered to be sustainable, from a baseline of 96% in 2016 GIF Target: 14.4 – By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics</p>
Implement policies for sustainable fisheries	<p>Support sustainable, long-term fisheries through the continued implementation of the Sustainable Fisheries Framework policies</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of key fish stocks that have limit reference points and harvest control rules</p> <p>Starting point:</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Implementing the Sustainable Fisheries Framework policies provides the basis for ensuring that Canadian fisheries support conservation and sustainable use of fish resources. One of those policies, the Precautionary Approach Policy, requires DFO to develop and implement limit reference points and harvest control</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>44% as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: Equal to or greater than 50%, annually.</p>	<p>rules for key fish stocks to help ensure harvests of these stocks are within limits and maintain the stocks at healthy levels. The Sustainable Fisheries Framework provides the basis for ensuring that Canadian fisheries support conservation and sustainable use of resources, including through creating limit reference points and harvest control rules.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by ensuring that all key fish and invertebrate stocks are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and taking into account ecosystem factors. Through this work, Canadian fisheries are sustainably managed.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by providing a comprehensive approach to fisheries management, encompassing environmental, social, and economic dimensions. Through the Sustainable Fisheries Framework’s policies, we support science-based management measures, such as catch limits and fishing gear restrictions. This helps to prevent overfishing, and ensures the preservation of fish stocks and marine biodiversity.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks CIF Target: 14.2.1 – By 2023, major fish and invertebrate stocks are managed and harvested at levels considered to be sustainable, from a baseline of 96% in 2016 CIF Indicator: 14.2.1 – Proportion of fish stocks that are sustainably harvested GIF Target: 14.4 – By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Prescribe in regulation major fish stocks, thus making them subject to the Fish Stocks provisions (ss. 6.1-6.3) of the <i>Fisheries Act</i></p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of major fish stocks prescribed in Schedule IX of the <i>Fishery (General) Regulations</i>.</p> <p>Starting point: 30 as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: Greater than 90 by December 31, 2025.</p>	<p>time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics</p> <p>Contribution to the FSDS: The Fish Stocks provisions (ss. 6.1-6.3) of the <i>Fisheries Act</i> impose binding obligations on the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to: (i) implement measures to maintain major fish stocks at levels necessary to promote sustainability; and (ii) develop and implement rebuilding plans to rebuild stocks that have become depleted. Moreover, the Fish Stocks provisions require that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard take into account the environmental conditions affecting the stock. These provisions only apply to stocks prescribed in regulation.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by ensuring that the objectives of Department’s 2009 Precautionary Approach Policy are elevated to a legislative requirement for DFO’s major fish stocks.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by providing a binding obligation to manage prescribed fish stocks sustainably, and to implement plans to rebuild prescribed stocks when they become depleted. These obligations will be met using science-based management measures, such as catch limits and fishing gear restrictions. This helps to prevent overfishing, and ensures the preservation and restoration of fish stocks and marine biodiversity.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks CIF Target: 14.2.1 – By 2023, major fish and invertebrate stocks are managed and harvested at levels considered to be sustainable, from a baseline of 96% in 2016</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			<p>CIF Indicator: 14.2.1 – Proportion of fish stocks that are sustainably harvested</p> <p>GIF Target: 14.4 – By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Conserve and protect Canada’s oceans**” but not a specific FSDS target.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Reduce marine litter and support the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste</p>	<p>Prevent and reduce marine pollution from Ghost Gear</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Amount (in tonnes) of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear removed from areas affected by Hurricane Fiona.</p> <p>Starting point: New action in response to Hurricane Fiona.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: The Ghost Gear Fund provides financial support to assist Indigenous groups, fish harvesters, and the aquaculture industry to take concrete actions to support ghost gear prevention, retrieval and responsible disposal.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by removing ghost gear, and lessening its impacts on the surrounding marine environment. Through this work, abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear is removed from Canadian waters.</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Target: 100 tonnes of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear is removed from areas affected by Hurricane Fiona by March 31, 2024.</p>	<p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 as marine litter, particularly fishing gear such as nets and lines, poses significant threats to marine ecosystems, wildlife, and habitats. By implementing effective management strategies and initiatives, such as improved waste management systems, recycling programs, and responsible fishing practices, we can mitigate some of the impacts of marine litter. This includes promoting proper disposal and recycling of fishing gear, encouraging the use of biodegradable materials, and supporting the development of innovative solutions for gear retrieval and prevention of lost gear. Additionally, raising awareness among fishing communities, coastal residents, and the general public about the importance of reducing marine litter and its negative consequences can drive behavior change and foster a culture of responsible waste management.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.1 – By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>
	<p>Manage Canada’s commercial fisheries to reduce the risk of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG)</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of wild capture commercial fisheries whose licences are revised for ALDFG (“ghost gear”) best practices based on gear type.</p> <p>Starting point: 0% of wild capture commercial licences had been revised as of March 31, 2023.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Effective management of commercial fisheries is a crucial step in minimizing the risk of ghost gear, which poses significant threats to marine ecosystems. By implementing strategies such as standardized gear marking, responsible deployment and retrieval practices, and advanced monitoring techniques, fisheries can substantially reduce the occurrence of abandoned, lost, or discarded fishing equipment.</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Target: 20% by March 31, 2026.</p>	<p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by minimizing the unintended consequences of ghost gear on aquatic ecosystems, safeguarding marine biodiversity and supporting the livelihoods of fish harvesters and coastal communities that depend on healthy oceans. Through this work, Canada’s commercial fisheries are managed such that the risk of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) is reduced.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 as measures such as gear marking, responsible deployment and retrieval practices, and enhanced monitoring help to reduce marine litter and prevent the environmental impacts of plastic waste. This approach promotes responsible patterns of production and consumption by reducing waste generated from fishing activities and ensuring the sustainable use of marine resources.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.1 – By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>
	<p>Improve the collection and quality of lost and retrieved fishing gear data</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of loss reports reported by commercial harvesters through the Fishing Gear Reporting System (FGRS).</p> <p>Starting point: 15% as of March 31, 2023.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: The FGRS is an online reporting system which makes it easier for commercial harvesters to report lost fishing gear. It will help DFO to identify hotspots for gear loss and inform areas to target for gear retrieval and find solutions to prevent future gear loss.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal as accurate and comprehensive data (e.g., types of gear, specific locations) enables informed decision-making, policy development, and targeted</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		<p>Target: 35% by March 31, 2027.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Loss reports are reported to the Department by fish harvesters either via a PDF submitted by e-mail or through the FGRS system. The percentage is calculated based on submitted reports.</p>	<p>interventions to address the issue of ghost gear effectively. Through this work, collection and quality of lost and retrieved fishing gear data are improved.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by enhancing our understanding of the scale and implications of ghost gear in aquatic ecosystems, supporting the reduction of marine pollution, protection of biodiversity, and restoration of aquatic ecosystems.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.1 – By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>
	<p>Support new approaches in commercial fisheries to reduce or mitigate the impacts of ghost gear</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of commercial fisheries in which 1) in-season ghost gear retrieval are piloted; and, 2) alternatives to plastic gear tags are piloted.</p> <p>Starting point: 1) 2 in-season ghost gear retrievals are being piloted; and, 2) 0 alternatives to plastic gear tags are being piloted as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 1) 3 commercial fisheries pilot in-season ghost gear retrieval; and, 2) 3 commercial</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Piloting in-season ghost gear retrieval and exploring alternatives to plastic gear tags is a proactive approach to directly reduce plastic waste in marine environments.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal as successful pilot programs demonstrate the potential of timely gear retrieval to prevent plastic fragmentation, while exploring alternative gear materials showcases the viability of reducing plastic content in fishing equipment. Through this work, Canada pilots new approaches in commercial fisheries to reduce or mitigate impacts of ghost gear.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 12: This action contributes to SDG 12 by reducing marine litter and minimizing the adverse impacts of plastic waste on marine</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		fisheries pilot alternatives to plastic gear tags by March 31, 2025.	<p>environments. By encouraging the implementation of innovative gear designs and materials that reduce plastic components and mitigate gear loss, this action contributes to the reduction of plastic pollution in oceans.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.1 – By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>
Support sustainable aquaculture	<p>Conduct targeted regulatory research to improve environmental decision-making and the sustainability of the aquaculture industry</p> <p>Program: Aquaculture Science</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of sustainable aquaculture research projects that provide information or advice to policy makers and decision makers.</p> <p>Starting point: 27 in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p>Target: 2 annually.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: The objective of the Aquaculture Science Program is to provide a strong science base to underpin regulatory, policy, and program decision-making on aquaculture.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by developing science advice to increase the stability and soundness of aquaculture-related decisions. Through this work, scientific information on fisheries resources is available to inform management decisions related to aquaculture.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14: This action contributes to SDG 14 by supporting research that allows policymakers to gain valuable insights into the environmental impacts of aquaculture practices and identify effective mitigation measures. This research helps in developing evidence-based regulations and guidelines that promote sustainable aquaculture practices, minimize pollution, and protect aquatic ecosystems.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions:</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			<p>CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks</p> <p>GIF Target: 14.a – Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries</p>
<p>Support the recovery and protection of Canada’s endangered whales</p>	<p>Continue to implement management measures in support of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> (SARA) Recovery Strategy and Action Plan related to Southern Resident Killer Whale (SRKW), Northern Atlantic Right Whales (NARW) and St. Lawrence Estuary Beluga (SLEB)</p> <p>Program: Fisheries Management</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of identified management measures implemented to address actions under the SARA Recovery Strategies for SRKW, NARW and SLEB.</p> <p>Starting point: 100% as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 100% annually.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Department to continue to adapt and implement new measures as identified based on best available information.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Budget 2023 announced \$151.9 million over three years to continue to protect endangered whales, including the SRKW, NARW and SLEB, and their habitats.</p> <p>Management measures for SRKW, NARW and SLEB include: ensuring prey availability by expanding area-based and fishing closures; regulating acoustic and physical disturbances from vessels; establishing interim sanctuary zones; implementing adaptive fishing closures to reduce the risk of entanglement; implementing innovative “whalesafe” gear requirements to mitigate entanglement risk; supporting marine mammal response to endangered whales in distress, including disentanglement and necropsy; and, implementing further controls to reduce the threat of contaminants.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by taking action to help protect Canada’s endangered whale populations. Through this work, management measures are in place in support of the SARA Recovery Strategies for SRKW, NARW and SLEB.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14:</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			<p>This action contributes to SDG 14 by addressing critical threats to Canada's endangered whales, including fishing gear entanglement, habitat degradation, noise pollution, vessel strikes, and declining prey availability. By implementing management measures, such as establishing fishing closures, implementing vessel speed restrictions, reducing underwater noise, and enhancing prey availability, we can improve the conservation status of these species and their habitats. These measures not only directly benefit the targeted species but also contribute to the overall health and resilience of aquatic ecosystems.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.2 – By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans</p>
<p>Support the recovery and protection of Canada's marine ecosystem and wildlife</p>	<p>Support aquatic restoration projects in coastal and upstream inland communities that protect and restore Canada's coastal areas</p> <p>Program: Fish and Fish Habitat Protection</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of square meters of aquatic habitat in marine and coastal areas of Canada that have been restored.</p> <p>Starting point: New indicator, starting point to be established by March 31, 2024.</p> <p>Target: 700,000,000 square meters by March 31, 2027.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: The Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration Fund supports projects that conserve and restore marine ecosystems. Projects will cover all of Canada's coasts and further inland to create opportunities for freshwater and oceans sectors, and coastal and upstream inland communities.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by restoring aquatic ecosystems and mitigating human impacts on Canadian coastal and marine environments. Through this work, marine ecosystems are restored and proactive measures are in place for the ongoing protection against the impacts of marine shipping.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 14:</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
			<p>This action contributes to SDG 14 by supporting restoration initiatives that play a crucial role in enhancing the health and resilience of aquatic ecosystems. These projects also contribute to the protection of biodiversity, including fish stocks and migratory species, while supporting the livelihoods of rural and coastal communities.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 14 – Canada protects and conserves marine areas and sustainably manages ocean fish stocks GIF Target: 14.2 – By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 14 – Life Below Water

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
Finalize a Canadian Ghost Gear Action Plan by 2027 to reduce threats to vulnerable fish stocks, marine mammals and vital ecosystems.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 14.1: Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
Continue dedicated whale management, science and technology programming through the renewal of the Whales Initiative to support the recovery of the endangered North Atlantic right whale, Southern resident killer whale and St. Lawrence Estuary Beluga.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 14.2: By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
Advance nature protection by supporting Indigenous-led partnerships in conservation including Project Finance for Permanence initiatives through multi-party agreements to achieve long-term sustainable conservation.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 14.2: Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
Work in close collaboration with provincial and territorial authorities, Indigenous partners, fishing and stewardship organizations and implicated communities to implement the Pacific Salmon Strategy .	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 14.4: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics
Implement new protection standards for federal marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, including marine refuges, to help to protect and restore marine biodiversity.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 14.5: By 2020, conserve at least 10% of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information
Strengthen domestic and international ocean science partnerships to advance innovative, solution-based science to support policy and decision-making, and to ensure a strong Canadian contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030).	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 14a: Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries
Provide financial support through Canada’s fisheries funds and provide commercial fish harvesters and other users with safe and accessible Small Craft Harbours.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 14b: Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>Support global and regional efforts to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing as well as to reduce the number of overfished stocks internationally, working through regional fisheries management organizations and similar arrangements.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 14c: Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of "The future we want"



GOAL 15: PROTECT AND RECOVER SPECIES, CONSERVE CANADIAN BIODIVERSITY

FSDS Context:

We are committed to supporting the management and stewardship of fisheries and oceans, in part through the protection and conservation of marine biodiversity. This is reflected in various initiatives, including: working to protect and conserve biodiversity through species at risk programs; promoting effective prevention measures and practices to minimize the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species; protecting critical habitats; and, restoring degraded areas.

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard is responsible for one FSDS target under Goal 15, which will be reported on in a future FSDS Progress Report (with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change):

- By 2026, increase the percentage of species at risk listed under federal law that exhibit population trends that are consistent with recovery strategies and management plans to 60%, from a baseline of 42% in 2019.

Target theme: Conservation of Land and Fresh Water

Target: Conserve 25% of Canada's land and inland waters by 2025, working toward 30% by 2030, from 12.5% recognized as conserved as of the end of 2020, in support of the commitment to work to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 in Canada, and achieve a full recovery for nature by 2050 (Minister of Environment and Climate Change)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Support Indigenous leadership in conservation</p>	<p>Provide support for projects that support the recovery and protection of aquatic species at risk projects that are inclusive of Indigenous groups and Indigenous Knowledge</p> <p>Program: Species at Risk</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of Indigenous groups involved as project leads or partners that participate in DFO-supported stewardship activities that support the recovery and protection of aquatic species at risk.</p> <p>Starting point: 110 as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 30 through the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk by March 31, 2026; 20 through the Habitat Stewardship Program by March 31, 2026; and, 60 through the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk by March 31, 2026.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: The Government of Canada recognizes the important role that Indigenous Peoples play in wildlife conservation and the need to consider Indigenous Knowledge in the assessment of species at risk, as well as in the development and implementation of relevant protection and recovery measures. As such, DFO funds stewardship actions for species at risk through three funds: Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk, the Habitat Stewardship Program, and the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by supporting meaningful collaboration with Indigenous Peoples and organizations to support the protection and recovery of aquatic species at risk across Canada. Through this work, projects are inclusive of Indigenous groups and Indigenous Knowledge and contribute to species protection and the recovery and conservation of Canadian biodiversity.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 by supporting the implementation of stewardship activities that support the recovery and protection of aquatic species at risk and aim to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in the marine and freshwater environments in Canada.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs

Target theme: Species Protection and Recovery

Target: By 2026, increase the percentage of species at risk listed under federal law that exhibit population trends that are consistent with recovery strategies and management plans to 60%, from a baseline of 42% in 2019 (Minister of Environment and Climate Change; Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard)

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Implement, innovate and modernize the regulatory and policy framework and tools to protect species at risk, other fish and fish habitat</p>	<p>Publish recovery and management documents on the SAR Public Registry</p> <p>Program: Species at Risk</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of aquatic species/populations at risk listed under the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> for which a recovery strategy/management plan is completed.</p> <p>Starting point: 90% (126/140) as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 80% annually.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The target for this performance indicator is a benchmark that DFO strives to maintain. The actual result will fluctuate as species are added to Schedule 1 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> (which will increase the denominator).</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Access to information regarding species at risk and their critical habitat is a foundational element of species protection and recovery. By developing and publishing recovery and management documents on the Species at Risk Public Registry in a modernized and accessible way to the Canadian public, DFO contributes to disseminating information on aquatic species at risk and their critical habitat.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by supporting Canadians’ ability to take steps to comply with the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> and, more broadly, to the FSDS goal of species protection and recovery and conservation of Canadian biodiversity. Through this work negative impacts on Canada’s oceans and other aquatic ecosystems are minimized or avoided.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 by communicating to all partners and the general public actions required for the recovery and management of listed aquatic species at risk to enable the implementation of recovery measures aiming to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in the marine and freshwater environments in Canada.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>For species with critical habitat identified, protect the critical habitat for the survival or recovery of species at risk by implementing regulatory tools</p> <p>Program: Species at Risk</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of listed aquatic species at risk, with critical habitat identified (either partially or completely) for which a protection order has been made.</p> <p>Starting point: 98% (57/58) as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 100% annually.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The actual result may fluctuate as species with critical habitat identified (either partially or completely) are added to or removed from Schedule 1 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> (which will change the denominator).</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: A Critical Habitat Order is a regulatory tool that triggers protections against the destruction of any part of the critical habitat of a listed endangered or threatened species.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target as the legal protections afforded to the critical habitats of aquatic species at risk are a key element contributing to the FSDS goal of species protection and recovery and conservation of Canadian biodiversity. Through this work, partner and other key stakeholders have the information and direction to make decisions and guide behaviour for the conservation of listed aquatic species at risk and their critical habitat.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 by providing legal protections to the critical habitat of aquatic species at risk, which contributes to species protection and recovery and to halting and reversing biodiversity loss in the marine and freshwater environments in Canada.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>
	<p>Administer and ensure compliance for development projects taking place in and</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of development projects occurring in or near water that</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: The Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program promotes effective prevention measures and practices to protect critical aquatic</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>around fish habitat under the fish and fish habitat protection provisions of the <i>Fisheries Act</i> and the relevant provisions of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i></p> <p>Program: Fish and Fish Habitat Protection</p>	<p>effectively avoid, mitigate or offset impacts to fish and fish habitat.</p> <p>Starting point: 93% as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 100% annually.</p>	<p>habitats from works, undertakings or activities that may result in harmful impacts on fish or fish habitat, specifically the death of fish by means other than by fishing, or the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat. The Program undertakes monitoring activities to report on compliance with its requirements, effectiveness of its activities, and on outcomes for fish and fish habitat, and supports proponents with projects near water through advice and the issuance of authorizations.</p> <p>This departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal by ensuring that impacts to fish are minimized, and the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat is mitigated. Through this work, negative impacts on Canada’s oceans and other aquatic ecosystems are minimized or avoided.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 by helping to maintain healthy fish populations and preserving critical habitats, which are essential for maintaining ecosystem balance and resilience. Human activities, such as construction, dredging, and land reclamation, can destroy critical habitats like spawning grounds, affecting fish breeding and migration patterns. Further, pollution from various sources, including industrial discharge, agricultural runoff, and plastic waste, can contaminate aquatic ecosystems, causing habitat degradation and harming fish health.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Work with partners to enhance foundational knowledge of species, habitats and ecosystems</p>	<p>Identify critical habitat, either partially or completely, for the survival or recovery of aquatic species at risk in recovery documents</p> <p>Program: Species at Risk</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of listed Endangered or Threatened aquatic species, with critical habitat identified (either partially or completely), in a proposed or final Recovery Strategy or Action Plan.</p> <p>Starting point: 70% (58/83) as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 80% annually.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The actual result could fluctuate as species with critical habitat identified (either partially or completely) are added to or removed from Schedule 1 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> (which will change the denominator).</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: The identification of critical habitat contributes foundational knowledge of endangered and threatened species habitat for their protection and recovery. After critical habitat is identified it is legally protected by a Critical Habitat Order, prohibiting its destruction.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target as by identifying and protecting the critical habitat of aquatic species, DFO supports their recovery, and supports species protection and the recovery and conservation of Canadian biodiversity. Through this work, partner and other key stakeholders have the information and direction to make decisions and guide behaviour for the conservation of listed aquatic species at risk and their critical habitat.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 by enhancing foundational knowledge that is required to enable the implementation of recovery measures aiming to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in the marine and freshwater environments in Canada.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>Publish an online aquatic species at risk map that lets Canadians know where aquatic species at risk and their critical habitat are located across Canada</p> <p>Program: Species at Risk</p>	<p>Performance indicator: # of unique page views to the National Aquatic Species at Risk Map.</p> <p>Starting point: The National Aquatic Species at Risk Map received an average of 541 unique page views per week, for an overall 28,133 unique page views in fiscal year 2022-23.</p> <p>Target: A consistent number of page views, with a target of 500 per week.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: Publishing information regarding species at risk and their critical habitat is a foundational element of species protection and recovery. By developing and maintaining an online aquatic species at risk map, DFO contributes to disseminating information on aquatic species at risk and their critical habitat.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target by supporting Canadians’ ability to take steps to comply with the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> and, more broadly, to the FSDS goal of species protection and recovery and conservation of Canadian biodiversity. Through this work, partner and other key stakeholders have the information and direction to make decisions and guide behaviour for the conservation of listed aquatic species at risk and their critical habitat.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 by enhancing foundational knowledge that is required to enable the implementation of recovery measures aiming to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in the marine and freshwater environments in Canada.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>
<p>Work with partners to implement the Pan-Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk</p>	<p>Work with partners to implement recovery measures for aquatic species at risk</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of measures in recovery documents (Recovery Strategy,</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: DFO relies on close collaboration with partners across Canada to implement recovery measures that support the protection and</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Conservation in Canada and the Framework for Aquatic Species at Risk Conservation</p>	<p>Program: Species at Risk</p>	<p>Action Plan, or Management Plan) that are underway or completed to support aquatic species at risk.</p> <p>Starting point: 20% as of March 31, 2023.</p> <p>Target: 30% by March 31, 2026.</p>	<p>recovery of aquatic species at risk. Measures in recovery documents are implemented by DFO as well as partners such as Provinces and Territories, environmental non-governmental organizations, and Indigenous groups.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS target as the implementation of recovery measures, using multi-species, place-based and threat-based approaches when appropriate, supports species protection and the recovery and conservation of Canadian biodiversity. Through this work, protection and recovery action for species at risk is enhanced.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 by supporting the implementation of recovery measures aiming to halt and reverse biodiversity loss in the marine and freshwater environments in Canada.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Protect and recover species, conserve Canadian biodiversity**” but not a specific FSDS target.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Prevent, detect, respond to, control and manage invasive alien species</p>	<p>Conduct science research, monitoring and provide advice to support the Department and partners in addressing aquatic invasive species</p> <p>Program: Aquatic Invasive Species</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of approved requests for science advice on aquatic invasive species completed each year.</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in fiscal year 2022-23 (3/3).</p> <p>Target: 90% annually.</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: This action contributes to the FSDS goal by developing science advice to inform management decisions related to aquatic invasive species. Through this work, negative impacts on Canada’s oceans and other aquatic ecosystems are minimized or avoided.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: This action contributes to SDG 15 as by studying the biology, behavior, and ecological impacts of invasive species, we can better understand their pathways of introduction, assess their potential impacts on native species and habitats, and develop effective management strategies. Through monitoring programs, we can track the distribution and abundance of invasive species, detect new introductions, and evaluate the success of control measures. This knowledge enables us to make informed decisions and provide evidence-based advice to stakeholders, including other levels of government, industry, and local communities. By addressing aquatic invasive species, we protect biodiversity, maintain the integrity of ecosystems, and prevent the negative economic and environmental consequences associated with invasive species. Moreover, by collaborating with partners, sharing knowledge and expertise, and implementing coordinated management approaches, we enhance the effectiveness of invasive species control efforts and foster a collective response to this global challenge.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations GIF Target: 15.8 - By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
<p>Uphold international commitments related to wildlife</p>	<p>Support commitments made to halt human induced extinction of known threatened aquatic species as well as the recovery and conservation of species</p> <p>Program: Species at Risk</p>	<p>Performance indicator: % of listed aquatic species at risk that, when reassessed (and for which trends could be determined), showed progress towards the population and distribution objectives laid out in the recovery strategies or management plans.</p> <p>Starting point: In alignment with the SARA Annual report, the % of listed aquatic species at risk that were reassessed (and for which trends could be determined) that showed progress towards population and distribution objectives laid out in the recovery strategies or management plans was 64%, as of March 31, 2022.</p> <p>Target: 60% by March 31, 2026.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The reassessed listed aquatic species for which trends could be determined represents a subset of the total number of listed aquatic species at risk that were reassessed. The calculation method for this indicator has</p>	<p>Contribution to the FSDS: By working with partners and taking action to protect and recover aquatic species at risk, DFO is supporting the Government of Canada’s international commitments related to wildlife, including those in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as they relate to management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species, as well as the recovery and conservation of species as defined under Target 4: Species Recovery.</p> <p>This action contributes to the FSDS goal by supporting the preservation of aquatic biodiversity and the restoration of aquatic ecosystems. Through this work, listed aquatic species at risk are prevented from extirpation or extinction and are supported in their recovery.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 15: By looking at innovative ways to increase the percentage of aquatic species at risk listed under federal law that exhibit population trends that are consistent with recovery strategies and management plans, the departmental action contributes to SDG 15 objectives related to species protection and recovery and to halting and reversing biodiversity loss in the marine and freshwater environments in Canada, in alignment with international commitments.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 15 – Canada ensures all species have healthy and viable populations CIF Indicator: 15.2.1 – Proportion of species at risk showing progress towards their population and distribution objectives</p>

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
		changed from the Department’s 2020-23 DSDS.	GIF Target: 15.5 – Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 15 – Life on Land

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
Support the protection and recovery of aquatic species at risk, including by providing support for stewardship actions under the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk for priority threats, species and places.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
Develop an inclusive, collaborative approach for restoring and rebuilding wild Atlantic salmon populations and their habitats.	This work advances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – GIF Target 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species



GOAL 16: PROMOTE A FAIR AND ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE SYSTEM, ENFORCE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS, AND MANAGE IMPACTS

FSDS Context:

We support the sustainable governance of marine resources by implementing effective regulatory frameworks, policies, and management practices. We recognize the critical importance of effective fisheries enforcement, both within Canada and internationally, to ensure the sustainability of fisheries resources, promote compliance with regulations, and combat illegal activities. We collaborate with a number of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, working towards effective governance and cooperation in shared fisheries resources, and implement robust enforcement measures that deter illegal fishing, protect vulnerable species, and support responsible and sustainable fishing practices.

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal **“Promote a fair and accessible justice system, Enforce environmental laws, and manage impacts”** but not a specific FSDS target.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
Implement monitoring, inspection and enforcement activities	Promote fisheries compliance and conservation by carrying out inspections, conducting investigations when a possible violation of the <i>Fisheries Act</i> is	Performance indicator: % of inspection activities that have resulted in compliance actions.	Contribution to the FSDS: DFO enforces the <i>Fisheries Act</i> and associated regulations. Enforcement activities are carried out by fishery officers across Canada, who conduct regular patrols on land, sea, and air.

Implementation strategy	Departmental action	Performance indicator, starting point, target	How the departmental action contributes to the FSDS goal and target and to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy and the UN SDGs
	<p>identified, and choosing the appropriate enforcement when an alleged violation is discovered</p> <p>Program: Conservation and Protection</p>	<p>Starting point: 60% as of March 31, 2022.</p> <p>Target: Equal to or less than 60%, annually.</p>	<p>This departmental action supports the FSDS goal by ensuring compliance with the <i>Fisheries Act</i>, which improves protections for marine and freshwater species. This work ensures that fisheries, oceans and other aquatic ecosystems are protected from unlawful exploitation and interference.</p> <p>Contribution to UN SDG 16: This action contributes to SDG 16 by supporting the crucial role of Inspections and investigations in detecting and addressing instances of non-compliance, illegal fishing activities, and other violations. By taking appropriate enforcement actions, such as warnings, fines, or prosecutions, we deter future violations and send a strong message that adherence to the <i>Fisheries Act</i> is essential for sustainable fisheries management. This approach fosters a culture of compliance, strengthens the rule of law, and ensures equitable access to fisheries resources for present and future generations.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: CIF Ambition: 16 – Canadians are safe and secure, in person and online GIF Target: 16.3 – Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada's implementation of SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

The following initiatives demonstrate how Fisheries and Oceans Canada's programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

Planned initiatives	Associated domestic targets or ambitions and/or global targets
<p>Prioritizing enforcement related to high risk activities and species allows the Department to hone its monitoring, patrolling and investigative activities where the resource is at greatest risk and most vulnerable. Enforcement activities align with departmental initiatives and commitments, such as for combatting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, protecting Marine Conservation Areas in Canada and protecting threatened salmon species through the Pacific Salmon Strategic Initiative (and its Atlantic counterpart).</p> <p>Further, DFO has acquired a ship for the first Canadian-led high seas enforcement mission to combat IUU fishing in the Pacific. In July 2023, this joint Canada-US operation departed for the distant North-West Pacific. It had Canadian fishery officers and US Coast Guard officers onboard. This goal of the patrol is to promote compliance of fisheries requirements under the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, and will subject distant water fishing fleets to various inspections.</p>	<p>This work advances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIF Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

SECTION 5

Integrating Sustainable Development

Consistent with the Government of Canada's strong commitment to sustainable development, the Department's policy, plans and program proposals will continue to consider potential environmental effects identified through the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process.

The SEA is a systematic and comprehensive process of evaluating the environmental effects of a policy, plan, or program. It includes an analysis of the impacts of the given proposal on the environment, human health and socio-economic conditions including on relevant FSDS goals and targets. The Department also determines whether specific environmental effects are positive or negative and investigates whether the policy, program, or proposal would affect the environmental footprint of Canadian government operations. By answering these questions the Department fully integrates environmental considerations in the analysis of each option presented before Ministers along with economic and social analysis.



The SEA process comprises three steps, applied progressively as warranted. The first step is called the preliminary scan, and consists of a series of questions the proposal lead has to consider in order to evaluate if their proposal has potential positive, negative or uncertain impacts on the environment and on FSDS goals and targets. The departmental SEA Centre of Expertise coordinator helps to play a challenge function to ensure that the assessment of potential environmental impacts is comprehensive, robust and fulfill the requirements of the [*Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals*](#).

If the preliminary scan identifies the potential for important environmental effects, or if there is a high level of uncertainty or risk associated with the outcome, then an analysis of the environmental effects should be conducted through a strategic environmental assessment (also called a detailed SEA). The detailed SEA builds on the preliminary scan assessment and provides a more comprehensive analysis when important environmental effects are identified, including strategies to mitigate the negative, or enhance the positive, effects, or proposed measures to address any possible public or stakeholder concerns.

Public statements on the results of the Department's assessments are made available when an initiative has undergone a detailed SEA (see [here](#)). The purpose of the public statement is to demonstrate that the environmental effects of the approved policy, plan or program, including the impacts on the achievement of the FSDS goals and targets, have been considered during proposal development and decision making.