

Attachment 3: Wildlife Dialogues Breakout Groups – Detailed Feedback from Participants

Session 1 Detailed Feedback: Ecosystem Health Oversight

1.1 Feedback from Indigenous Participants

What do we mean by Ecosystem Health Oversight, particularly as it applies to wildlife and wildlife habitat?

Key Themes

- Implement Holistic, Long-Term Stewardship of Ecosystems
- Prioritize Co-governance over Consultation
- Incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Recognize Existing Processes Not Leading to Meaningful Outcomes
- Invest in Stronger Regulatory Enforcement
- Consider Cumulative Effects
- Address Accountability for Industry, Forestry and Resource Projects
- Recognize Opportunities in Forest Landscape Planning

Theme	Feedback
<p>Implement Holistic, Long-Term Stewardship of Ecosystems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewardship must consider wildlife, habitat, water, cultural values, and interconnections across landscapes and be culturally grounded. • Current approaches are too narrow, often focusing on single species or individual projects, should rather focus on whole systems. • Many wildlife and cultural values are concentrated in riparian and wetland areas, yet these are inadequately protected under existing buffer standards. • It should be about managing the ecosystem – not just about managing the resources; there is a systematic problem with viewing nature as resources and the focus on managing those resources which is too narrow of an approach. • Overharvest of wildlife is a major issue; need to reduce harvest and invest in holistic ecosystem management. • There needs to be a focus on restoration before healthy ecosystem maintenance. • There needs to be a realistic implementation timeline to make improvements to ecosystem health; it takes a century to grow a mature forest and governments do not have the ability to manage those timelines. • Significant need to manage these harvest areas on a longer time horizon; there needs to be accountability for restoring the natural processes of the ecosystem. • There is a need for shared understanding of key terms (e.g., ecosystem, biodiversity, values) for effective collaboration. • Protect without siloing; ecosystem health is holistic, while government is siloed; things have to be managed together, not independently.

Prioritize Co-Governance over Consultation

- Co-governance over consultation, with greater Indigenous authority over Indigenous lands.
- Although Nations feel “heard” at times, their priorities are not acted on.
- Nations would like to be exposed to more files with more authority; the relationship between Nations and the Province can be difficult but there are still avenues for getting the work done.
- There seems to be a preference by the Province to work with Nations that are “business oriented” rather than those that are concerned with cultural values.
- Joint decision-making is needed; whereas B.C. has a focus on “shared decision making”; B.C. will listen to First Nations, but the Province is ultimately the decision maker.
- Nation reps shared examples of feeling treated like stakeholders rather than rights holders.
- Perception that B.C. places responsibility for difficult issues onto Nations.
- Provincial working groups follow provincial agendas or those of the leaders of the working groups; feels like their opinion and direction can’t be swayed.
- Call for the Province to ensure all overlapping Nations are included in planning processes; some Nations have been excluded from tables where they have overlapping territories, despite Supreme Court rulings.
- Request for the Province to address influx of sport fisherman, hunters and trappers in a timely manner; Nations are experiencing push back from land users feeling entitled to be on the Nations traditional and reserve lands, and attempting to provoke the Nations so they could take legal action against them.
- It’s disheartening to take direction from government bureaucrats and their incomplete calculations on Limited Entry Hunting, vs Nation knowledge keepers who have actual understanding of numbers on the ground.
- Nations are encouraged to strengthen connections with other Nations, as well as G2G relationships with Province.
- Some Nations are now moving ahead with their own wildlife projects, developing their own land-use plans and wildlife policies.
- Some Nations are participating in wolf reduction programs to support caribou recovery, despite cultural discomfort, to uphold stewardship responsibilities.

Incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge

- Each Nation has its own understanding of ecosystem health, rooted in inherent laws, teachings, and cultural values.
- Indigenous recommendations and traditional ecological knowledge are frequently not incorporated into final decisions.
- Lack of belief in provincial moose numbers; high level of activity noted in their communities and that they know how many moose are killed.
- Sometimes current practices don’t align with traditional knowledge and management practices; traditional knowledge can be portrayed as historical, but it brings a recipe for managing lands.
- Lands need time to heal and restore – if land is healthy, animals will come back.
- Western science is great at tracking and testing, but Nations do have equivalent tracking systems and would know if there is something terribly wrong within their herds.
- Looking after the land is like taking care of a child, and is how we heal; waters are affected by western society; animals heal the land.
- The land created those relationships between Nations in the past; should go back to Indigenous ways, laws, and relationships to look after each other and the land.

<p>Recognize Existing Processes Not Leading to Meaningful Outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frustration with repeated provincial meetings and existing processes (consultation, engagement mechanisms, agreements) without meaningful influence or outcomes. • Frustration with inaccurate Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) harvest reporting, and lack of implementation around timing restrictions, numbers of people on the land, and other cultural considerations • Without formal Section 7 agreements, Nations struggle to get their policies endorsed or implemented. • Perceived government stalling; concerns were raised that delays by the Ministry are intentional, enabling continued harvesting that Nations oppose. • Confusion around conflicting provincial statements, e.g. the Minister of Forests citing fibre shortages while Nations push for reduced harvesting; how can the Province claim improvement while ignoring the conflict between goals? • When speaking of accountability from the Province, Nations need to have trust and reassurance if they provide their authority and advice; G2G needs trust and respect. • Impact assessments often fail to account for cultural and spiritual values, traditional hunting/food, ecosystem service, and language and heritage sites.
<p>Invest in Stronger Regulatory Enforcement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frustration that regulatory processes often rely on minimum legal standards rather than best practices. • Professional associations need to be accountable for ecosystem health with enforcement behind it. • Existing scientific guidelines (e.g., compendium guidelines) are not consistently applied or written into permits; best-practice guidelines are frequently treated as optional rather than mandatory. • Many permits do not require comprehensive wildlife mitigation plans or adherence to best-available science. • Weak enforcement of existing legislation, including the <i>Wildlife Act</i>. • Current policies are inadequate and inconsistently applied; policies often prioritize fisheries, forestry, or mining interests over integrated ecosystem health. • Policies are fragmented, reactive, and poorly aligned with Indigenous stewardship systems. • Riparian and wetland protections are outdated and insufficient for wildlife and cultural values. • Regulatory mechanisms exist but are limited in scope and enforcement. • Concerns about attempts to monetize or quantify cultural values within existing policy frameworks. • Ministry processes are seen as a barrier to stewardship work (e.g., requiring provincial approval even when Registered Professional Foresters sign off) • Ministry approaches are inconsistent, wildlife spans across more than one ministry (Agriculture, WLRS) and processes can restrict Nations. • Administrative boundaries are sometimes unsuitable, e.g. management units such as for grizzly bear are too large of an area, which encompasses multiple Nations territories
<p>Consider Cumulative Effects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There doesn't seem to be a coordinated approach to assessing cumulative effects; we can not expect to enhance and protect ecosystem functions when we do not assess the impacts. • Lots of diverse pressures – roads, range use, wildfire, etc; rather than looking at impacts one at a time, they should be considered as a whole • Ongoing cumulative effects include forestry overharvest, mining, and pipelines; cumulative effects should be considered before permits, allocation, etc. are considered

<p>Address Accountability for Industry, Forestry and Resource Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Provincial Forestry Advisory Council (PFAC) just released their report; wildlife and habitat were infrequently mentioned • Would like to see a commitment from WLRS to ensure that the Ministry is included in the response to Provincial Forestry Advisory Council (PFAC)'s <u>final report</u>; it is crucial that biodiversity, ecosystem, wildlife and cultural values be considered when reviewing and responding to the recommendations listed in the final report. • Clearly industry dictates how British Columbia views the land; industry is not accountable and accountability metrics are lacking. • Silos have always been an issue; resource users should be in the same room together. • Industry has been witnessed on the landscape acting without sufficient plans and without sufficient documents • It's not just about opposing industry, but it's about how a project is implemented; if good decisions are made at the outset for resource projects (such as not having a narrow focus), that will help communities make better decisions regarding support for resource projects.
<p>Recognize Opportunities in Forest Landscape Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's important to integrate more Indigenous knowledge into the Forest Landscape Planning process. • Forest Landscape Planning is a good tool and there's opportunity to customize and do something novel - paradigm shifts are possible • Forest management needs to be viewed through an ecosystem health lens. • Entire ecosystems are being taken out by logging, wildfires, resource extraction, but animals depend on them to survive; going forward things like refuge for animals, wildlife tree patches etc, can be addressed through Forest Landscape Planning. • There should be space to talk about other industries in Forest Landscape Planning. • Resources are impacted through climate change, overharvesting, pine beetle, bud worms, B.C. hydro impacts, wildfires, salvage harvesting; while Forest Investment Program helps to manage these areas, they're only looking for return on investment. • Sometimes tables can be a distraction and can take too long. • Should think outside box of harvest plant regrow, working units, manage a bigger area instead of focussing on cut block level. • Need to come up with solutions to shrinking supply of timber, and managing for value-added; More Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) should go to First Nations • Need to enhance forest operations for other values like wildlife or sustenance gathering; important to manage the remaining old growth for wildlife habitat areas and deal with salvage.

<p>Links that were shared in the meeting include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Kootenay Connect Priority Places - Kootenay Conservation Program</u> • <u>Wildlife Connectivity – Squamish Environment Society</u> • <u>Our Work – Níkanêse Wah tzee</u> • <u>Healing the Land – Fort Nelson First Nation</u>
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How can we make practical improvements to ensure and strengthen accountability?
 For example, through amendments to the Wildlife Act; the way Forest Landscape Plans are being used; or other mechanisms?

Key Themes

- Implement Landscape-level Planning across Sectors
- Address Need for Long-Term Funding
- Support Nation-led Data Governance
- Strengthen Compliance and Planning Processes

Theme	Feedback
Implement Landscape-level Planning across Sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move away from project-by-project approvals toward landscape-level planning across sectors. • Think outside the box of harvest plant regrow, and focus on working units; implement improvements to forest practices, manage a bigger area instead of focusing at cut block level. • Enhance forest operations for other values like wildlife habitat or sustenance gathering.
Address Need for Long-Term Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address funding imbalances; implement ecosystem-based funding prioritizing ecosystem stewardship rather than inventory. • Address the need for long-term, stable funding for land-based, Nation-led Guardian and monitoring programs.
Support Nation-led Data Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize the importance of Nation-led data governance, to track habitat condition and to enforce commitments. • Standardize the use of best-practice guidelines in all permits. • Embed Indigenous priorities into permit conditions. • Natural Asset Initiatives and mapping platforms are useful tools to document valued areas and priorities.
Strengthen Compliance and Planning Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require wildlife mitigation and monitoring plans; Increase monitoring of nests, roosts, wetlands, and critical habitats. • Update regulatory processes to require best practices, beyond relying on minimum legal standards

Examples and Challenges of Nation-driven Oversight & Effective Community-Led Stewardship Models include:

- **Guardians and Community-Based Monitoring Programs**
 - Guardians and community-based monitoring programs are seen as central to meaningful, on-the-ground oversight; Most effective when grounded in traditional knowledge
 - Guardian programs are trying to do best to manage and steward territory, but run into road blocks and delays

- Great initiative but they need more teeth, such as to enforce laws; should have stronger jurisdiction for land guardians
- Suggestions on training on things like drones and templates for collecting data and to bring guardians together for meetings/workshops to discuss what the gaps are; to develop a curriculum for Guardians, informed by Nations
- Lack of consistent funding for maintaining guardian programs; usually funding focuses on starting guardian programs up but not enough for the ongoing funds to sustain programs
- Nation-led forestry models emphasize connectivity and diversity in stand, leaving more on the block post-harvest, enhancing wildlife, water, fish, ungulate habitat, supporting caribou recovery through improved habitat conditions
- Indigenous-Led Protected Areas & Forest Landscape Plans must include stronger legislation to protect ecosystems and meet conservation goals. There is a desire for meaningful Indigenous involvement in Forest Landscape Planning (FLP), including monitoring and incorporating Indigenous perspectives.
- Nation-led Land Stewardship Systems with Nation-specific forest harvest principles and system-based land management approaches, including cultural and ceremonial protocols

What would be the benefits to B.C. from a biodiversity and ecosystem health framework and an office of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health?

- Participants felt that a formal framework could:
 - Improve consistency across sectors and regions
 - Reduce reliance on minimum standards
 - Support long-term ecosystem planning
 - Increase accountability and transparency
- An oversight office could help ensure that:
 - Best practices are applied consistently
 - Indigenous stewardship systems are recognized
 - Commitments are monitored and enforced
- A framework could better integrate ecological, cultural, and social values into decision-making.
- Improved coordination could reduce fragmentation between ministries and agencies.
- A framework could support cumulative-effects management rather than isolated project assessments.



Session 1 Detailed Feedback: Ecosystem Health Oversight

1.2 Feedback from Stakeholder Participants

What do we mean by Ecosystem Health Oversight, particularly as it applies to wildlife and wildlife habitat?

Key Themes

- Improve Processes for Functional Ecosystem Health Oversight
- Prioritize Watersheds and Wetlands
- Consider Connectivity
- Strengthen Accountability and Communication
- Provide More Enforcement
- Provide Clear Objectives and Binding Direction

Theme	Feedback
<p>Improve Processes for Functional Ecosystem Health Oversight</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are different definitions of Ecosystem Oversight; a concrete, shared definition is needed, as each professional has a different idea; what should be important is the desired future state. • Oversight should function for the backend, monitoring and enforcement side of things but there also needs to be front end research and inventory. • There's a gap between the ecosystem health concept and implementation; current management focuses too much on structure rather than function. • True ecosystem health requires understanding processes that sustain resilience; good indicators of ecosystem health could be intact habitat, presence of thriving wildlife, and food availability for the wildlife. • Need a novel planning perspective such as with area-based planning to capture the linkages from the oversight perspective. • Need to ensure biodiversity and habitat, and related objectives, are not considered as a lowest priority for activities like forestry, mining; should be on same level as other objectives such as fibre.
<p>Prioritize Watersheds and Wetlands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands illustrate the need for long-term monitoring and planning to maintain space for natural ecological change. • Bring discussions back to water and watersheds - all systems relate back to water; it cannot be planned and managed at a provincial level, there are many opportunities to manage at an integrated/collaborative network level for water and community. • Water is central to ecosystem function; aquatic ecosystems underpin overall health.
<p>Consider Connectivity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change needs to come from unity (all groups and Ministries) rather than a fragmented approach; in B.C. we don't have enough partnerships – there's an us and them mentality which can be adversarial. • There should be a broad conservation approach to conservation design and include regional level, ecosystem and species components. • Ecosystem health oversight is reminiscent of info in, and info out; there is a siloed approach not just administrative-wise, but content-wise. • Ecosystem health oversight should include consideration of climate change and connectivity and look at fragmentation on the landscape. (e.g. there are companies trying to cut down habitat where others are trying to restore it).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity, disturbance (seasonal, annual) and fragmentation need to be balanced. (e.g. mule deer habitat). • Should make sure that the biodiversity targets address things like connectivity; habitat attributes alone don't ensure that the biodiversity is there, it's larger scale and bigger than a tenure or ownership.
<p>Strengthen Accountability and Communication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.C. needs to do a better job of working together and communicating; the concept of oversight seems quite dubious. • Accountability is critical, and it doesn't seem to be there; there is no accountability and follow through with monitoring and objective setting. • There is a lot of work being done by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) and other organizations but then they are beholden by legislation. • Regional Wildlife Advisory Committees (RWAC's) felt very disillusioned and participants weren't sure what the Province was doing and there was no clarity of communication from the Province; the RWAC's felt performative, it is very political what gets priority. • Challenge for NGO's to educate bureaucrats on their business and relay their objectives to B.C. due to high amount of B.C. staff turnover.
<p>Provide More Enforcement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry is not in compliance with land use plans. • There is a lack of enforcement with Department of Fisheries and Oceans and conservation officers; there is very little follow up for violators and enforcement professionals get paid very little. • Big issues moving into land use planning especially about mining and the lack of accountability with Environmental Assessment Office; nobody seems to check on outcomes and there is very little accountability; while there are tools, they don't seem to get used. • There must be thresholds and triggers and then repercussions if targets are not met. (Example of why stronger repercussions are needed even when thresholds are in place: Old Growth targets are not being met by forestry companies in the West Kootenays, they are out of compliance with legal biodiversity targets but continue to harvest older and older forests in the area.) • Professional associations must hold their members accountable or risk losing their designations.
<p>Provide Clear Objectives and Binding Direction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be clear on what the currency is for biodiversity, and whether that will be robust to climate change; need to think about what the metrics and baselines are. • B.C. shows reluctance to manage with clear objectives for wildlife population size (e.g. specific number of animals); other jurisdictions (e.g. some US states) have these clear population objectives which creates accountability. • There needs to be a compensation model in terms of habitat loss; industry must pay to play. • Should be clear on what the currency is for biodiversity, and whether that will be robust to climate change; need to be clear on what the baselines and metrics are • Need willingness for B.C. to provide binding direction regarding ecosystem health; could look different ways, (e.g. regulations), or treating it as a foundational consideration, province-wide or multi-industry from the start.

- Not enough funding going towards habitat restoration which is very expensive; for some aspects, research is lacking to back things up.
- Concept of how to “front-end” the non-timber values into the planning process has been talked about for decades; in Alberta, the strength in the 1990s was there was an area-based management approach; volume-based is a barrier.
- There are acts that define species, but it depends on the act. Some lists of species have not been updated since 2006 and the Identified Wildlife List was stalled years ago; the public thinks that species that are identified as red or blue are being cared for but they are not.

How can we make practical improvements to ensure and strengthen accountability? For example, through amendments to the Wildlife Act; the way Forest Landscape Plans are being used; or other mechanisms?

Key Themes

- Consider Limitations of the Wildlife Act for Adaptive Management
- Provide More Monitoring, Reporting, and Resourcing
- Provide More Enforcement and Fees
- Improve Biodiversity Legislation and Transparency
- Address Gaps in Data

Theme	Feedback
<p>Consider Limitations of the Wildlife Act for Adaptive Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions about whether the <i>Wildlife Act</i> is the correct level for these changes; the <i>Wildlife Act</i> is not adaptable. • The system is dysfunctional because the Act’s are dysfunctional (Wildlife, FRPA, RAPR, etc); what is needed is a provincial Species at Risk Act, or roll this into the <i>Wildlife Act</i> and a revised Forestry Act for ecosystems/plants. Once the protection is in place then discussions on habitat/ecosystem protections can happen. Until then it will be the same path that has been tried for 50years. • Concern that forestry decisions override wildlife needs; accountability must extend beyond <i>Wildlife Act</i> reforms. • Plans often lack monitoring and reporting; accountability must be built into Land Use Planning and Forest Landscape Planning with planning tools and funding resources to deliver on goals. • The <i>Wildlife Act</i> should include legal requirements to maintain habitat conditions (disturbance thresholds, road density, etc.). • The <i>Wildlife Act</i> and Forest Landscape Plans must work together; the <i>Wildlife Act</i> can provide legal oversight while plans offer flexibility. • Forest Landscape Plans are seen as key, but require biodiversity integration. • Need alignment from stand-level to landscape-level objectives; the <i>Wildlife Act</i> should act as a lever, not the sole tool.
<p>Provide More Monitoring, Reporting, and Resourcing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider a Chief Ecosystem Officer or Chief Ecologist role (parallel to Chief Forester) to oversee things with authority, answer to cabinet and can act on things. • Suggestion of independent auditing body for ecosystem health.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silos should be reduced not just across Ministries, but across legislation. • Need SMART objectives and repercussion if unmet; if you can't measure it, you can't manage it. • More regulation and monitoring around recreational land use and its impacts to ecosystem health. • More collaboration between groups, e.g. inclusion of agriculture at the table with regards to biodiversity and ecosystem health. • Lots of opportunities to work with landowners; need more conversations to support understanding of how private land could support conservation. • Need to link site-level and landscape-level decision-making.
<p>Provide More Enforcement and Fees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fee for recreational usage of land for various activities, and it can go to the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation; fees for land use is not new, there has been discussion around this for years. • These are complex natural systems and the key to managing them is to have legal binding contracts, so we have biodiversity in the future.
<p>Improve Biodiversity Legislation and Transparency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Biodiversity Health Framework would encompass everything; current systems are outdated and they don't even include grasslands. • Need more biodiversity legislation that is enforced and applies across all Ministries; unclear if the review process includes true evaluation of environmental considerations because it is so untransparent. • Need more transparency with how decisions are made, including for resort approvals under the Mountain Resorts Branch. (It is not clear what sort of professionals on the board which approves these resort proposals or the criteria which they use)
<p>Address Gaps in Data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can't have oversight without transparent and accessible data. • Need clear objectives, e.g. a healthy moose population is not an objective, it needs to be more specific than that. • There are gaps in knowledge to restore restoration plans, there is not enough information and key information is missing; Studies should be funded that can help with this.



Session 2 Detailed Feedback: Habitat Restoration

2.1 Feedback from Indigenous Participants

What are the key priorities for Habitat Restoration in B.C.? For example, are there geographic areas which are more important for wildlife; are there habitat types which need priority, or is there a different way to determine priorities for restoration?

Key Themes

- Address Major Impacts to Habitat
- Promote Wetland and Riparian Restoration
- Mitigate Industrial Impacts
- Commit to Long-term Thinking
- Update Legislation to Strengthen Legally Enforceable Obligations
- Consider Value of Co-Governance vs Litigation
- Focus on Culturally Sensitive and Important Species

Theme	Feedback
<p>Address Major Impacts to Habitat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old growth must remain old growth; current practices are not sustainable, stop cutting what little is left. • Old growth isn't about restoration, it's about conservation; important for supporting aquatic systems. • Human overcrowding also impacts habitat, especially in high-tourism areas; need to examine both what humans aren't doing and what we are over doing. • Elders teach that beings living on the land are "the hardest working"; restoration must support their ability to replenish ecosystems and maintain balance. • Wildfire-affected landscapes should be a priority (ground stabilization, range rehabilitation). • Land has been burned in many areas, especially in the winter range; range and grazing management are often under-addressed, particularly in post-wildfire landscapes. • Prescribed burning and cultural burning are valuable tools for habitat restoration, fuel reduction, and ecosystem renewal; Wildfire Urban Interface fuel reduction is a potential restoration tool. • High road densities and public access = habitat degradation. • Road deactivation and recontouring for restoring watershed and habitat functions. • Valley bottoms should be a priority area due to high development pressure and wildlife use (corridors). • Restoration priorities include species-specific initiatives, such as: mountain sheep habitat restoration, moose habitat restoration, support for ungulate populations. • Disease management (e.g., chronic wasting disease) is essential to ensure restoration investments are effective. • Need to look at how we have historically managed, not hunting animals for sport; once you restore the land, animals will return but once it comes back you need to leave the animals alone • Trapping is critical and now it is restricted and limited by permits and regulations; trying to find a balance and bring back traditional knowledge.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees from surcharge increases should go towards HCTF and restoration; should not go back in general revenue. • Ministries are siloed and have different priorities which can lead to restoration projects failing, and wasting money. • Overgrowth is a major concern in many mountain areas—too many trees limit food sources for wildlife.
<p>Promote Wetland and Riparian Restoration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland and riparian restoration are a priority, especially in relation to climate change, drought, and water scarcity. • Water is a top habitat priority; creek remediation and restoration of spawning areas is essential and restoration should prioritize salmon-bearing streams. • Watersheds need to be managed better for water retention, pollution reduction (also stream protection); priority areas are the riparian areas and buffer zones. • Species such as salmon have broad importance; summertime rearing habitat for fish, and riparian habitat; creek dewatering is damaging and strands fish. • Can pump a lot of money into things like river restoration, but it's not always aligned with other regional planning processes; there could be mining or logging upstream which can impact things that are being managed for downstream.
<p>Mitigate Industrial Impacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry operations need to be curtailed; lack of timber in some areas, and some is being shipped elsewhere to be milled, which is not sustainable. • Currently there isn't much accountability with post-mining situations (e.g. mining around prime moose population, it takes years to repair the damage.); we need to address the legacy of these mines, and let placer mining phase out. • With importance of clean and pristine water, reducing industrial impacts on watersheds needs to be high priority
<p>Commit to Long-term Thinking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of short-sighted thinking that is resulting in habitat destruction, affected by political cycle. • Legacy issues because we are dealing with results of decisions long ago and by previous administrations. • B.C. should be transparent about why habitat restoration is needed in the context of the <i>Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i> and the need to protect a way of life that depends on a sustainable forest model and intact ecosystems. • It's important to understand historical ecosystem conditions, including past carrying capacity and landscape function, to guide restoration priorities.
<p>Update Legislation to Strengthen Legally Enforceable Obligations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation can create accountability which will help boots-on-the-ground, e.g. Great Bear Rainforest Order gives additional guidance. • Should legislate how to follow through on restoration obligations with guiding principles and best practices.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling back to the legislation and regulations can lead to a lack of flexibility especially around forestry with stocking standards and harvesting techniques. • Legislation should be in place, because litigation takes a long time and costs lots of money.
<p>Consider Value of Co-Governance vs Litigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work together to protect sacred/special places; regular communications with licensees because they follow Nations’ plans. • We have the <i>Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i> which tells the Province what needs to be done, but the Province wants to amend it. • There needs to be a momentum shift in B.C. government; otherwise Nations will continue to go to court and more resources will be spent fighting each other. • Should find a way to get to a place where folks with different priorities and world views come together in an ethical space and engage in co-governance.
<p>Focus on Culturally Sensitive and Important Species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on Nations sustenance needs, that can identify priority areas. • Challenges with meeting food security needs and preferred way of life for Nation members; restoration should focus on supporting those needs • Caribou populations are declining and industry has not stopped; restoration should focus on species that are important to Nations including salmon and all species that are harvested. • Mule deer winter range is key area that need attention, to bring back habitat and sustenance; First Nation communities have knowledge of their territory. • Concern about deer and moose populations; grizzlies, wolves and hunters are contributing to their decline which is impacting Nations food security.
<p>Other Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All components of the ecosystem are connected and significant; when identifying “priorities,” avoid implying that other areas or values are less important. • Difficult to generalize priorities because Nations differ in food security needs, cultural values, and regional conditions. • Priority-setting should consider things like degree of ecological degradation, feasibility and cost of restoration and accessibility/logistical constraints. • Connectivity across landscapes is essential for culturally significant and wide-ranging species.

How do we ensure there is accountability for Habitat Restoration? Are there ways the renewal of the Wildlife Act could help? What about Forest Landscape Plans?

Key Themes

- Implement Enforceable Restoration Obligations for Industry
- Restore Nation-Led Monitoring and Stewardship
- Incorporate Co-Governance and Indigenous Authority
- Address Hunting Concerns
- Improve Monitoring and Measuring of Restoration Implementation

Theme	Feedback
<p>Implement Enforceable Restoration Obligations for Industry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry commitments often feel voluntary; need legally enforceable restoration obligations for industry. • Accountability needs to be tied to those who have gained the most from exploitation; agriculture and forestry sectors need stronger accountability for restoration impacts • Disappointing to see major companies pocket significant profits when ignoring the damage done to these communities; need more accountability and different market mechanisms to hold companies to account; companies are privatizing the profits while socializing the costs • Measurable actions, clear timelines, and transparent public reporting; concerns that many restoration efforts lack systematic evaluation of outcomes. • Shared agreements must include consequences for both B.C government and industry if commitments are not met. • Regulatory oversight is limited by low staffing levels/resources, infrequent inspections; concern about insufficient on-the-ground enforcement and monitoring • Examples were shared of widespread encroachment, pollution, and habitat degradation going unaddressed. • More focus on incentives for responsible forestry practices.
<p>Restore Nation-Led Monitoring and Stewardship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term funding and respect for Indigenous law and knowledge are essential; traditional knowledge is often excluded in favour of western science. • Reintegration of Nations onto the land is critical as meaningful participation in land healing. • Nations need authority to ensure decisions are followed; need development of auditing processes to track compliance with co-decision agreements. • Short-term or project-based funding limits effectiveness; long-term, stable funding is needed for monitoring, compliance, Guardian programs, and restoration. • Importance of Indigenous involvement in law development, enforcement, and management. • Guardian programs are effective “boots on the ground” for identifying issues and supporting restoration. • Concern that reduced provincial funding for conservation officers and technical staff has weakened oversight capacity; need more funding for Guardians to do the monitoring of projects; get youth on the landscape

<p>Incorporate Co-Governance and Indigenous Authority</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations from First Nations have to be incorporated into land decisions; knowledge holders sharing information which is formed into a recommendation should be supported; a “we will take that into consideration” attitude isn’t acceptable. • Authority is important and Nations have expressed themselves in the <i>Wildlife Act</i> review; rules that exist are not being enforced and limited requirements are not being followed up on. • Co-governance needs to be in the <i>Wildlife Act</i>; Nations need greater authority not just B.C. decisions; must incorporate co-governance into government processes and discussions. • Nation to Nation planning is needed with the Province in the room observing as Nations are the ones developing it.
<p>Address Hunting Concerns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The traditional way is for people to ask if they can hunt or fish in a Nations territory; now hunters just show up and there is no communication; Nations should have ownership and control over licenses. • Concern that guides make lots of money and they do not use what they take, they are lobbyists. • Concern that hunting areas are congested, people from outside the areas are hunting and scaring animals; should be a food source, not a sport
<p>Improve Monitoring and Measuring of Restoration Implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration must consider how areas link together, not just isolated sites; concerns that many restoration efforts lack systematic evaluation of outcomes. • While monitoring is required, resources aren’t available; need to monitor whether restoration efforts achieved what was set out to do. • Lots of projects are not monitored, e.g. invasive plants, line of sight; there are good monitoring practices available but not implemented. • Also incorporate that upon evaluation, target values for a plan need to be kept in mind; as restoration areas come to a point, the function of that restored area may shift; must interconnect long term planning. • Ground-truthing is essential - data used in decision-making often doesn't match on-the-ground realities. • Landscape-level planning must reflect actual conditions, not models alone. • Accountability and restoration improve when people are physically present on the land.
<p>Other Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should reference way of life instead of economic measures; as forests are gardens for wildlife, should plant species that benefit forests and not just the economy, this can bring back traditional plants and medicines. • Riparian and wetland are key, restoration of those areas important; a healthy ecosystem can benefit adjacent ecosystems. • Most trees planted are invasive, rather should be planting plants that are native to the area. • Every animal has a carrying capacity – consider the value of taking away berries, wetlands, habitat; industry in the rest of the world has to calculate the loss of carrying capacity through their activities, but we don’t do that in B.C. (hydrology, sustenance, medicine, traditional plants, etc) This is required in other parts of the world, why not in B.C.?

- A pine forest is not a replacement for a complex ecosystem; there is existing science to do this, the models exist; what is the loss of ecosystem goods and service or culture from logging this cut block?
- Seed selection matters - need to avoid genetically modified or hybridizing stocks; use seed sources appropriate to the landscape and the cultural context.
- Safety inspections and mandatory updates consume time and resources, leaving little capacity for other habitat work (e.g. trout and salmon maintenance).

Renewal of the *Wildlife Act*

- Legislative renewal could strengthen habitat protection requirements and support co-management and Nation-to-Nation processes
- Formal Nation-to-Nation processes have not been consistently initiated across territories.
- Some Nations referenced existing land and resource codes that could inform *Wildlife Act* implementation.
- *Wildlife Act* amendments + other statutes don't do much if they aren't supported with adequate funding, clear enforcement mechanisms, and meaningful Indigenous participation
- Regulatory processes for prescribed and cultural burning are overly complex and burdensome.
- Permitting needs to be streamlined and bureaucracy reduced to enable restoration projects.
- Nations need meaningful access to land for cultural reconnection and stewardship.

Forest Landscape Plans

- Forest Landscape Plans are a potential tool for integrating restoration priorities at a landscape scale.
- Connectivity in Forest Landscape Plans is important
- Concern that Forest Landscape Plans are just for extracting Nation land resource and they are meant to distract by keeping Nations at the table.

Do you know of examples in B.C. where Habitat Restoration is occurring in a positive way?

Successful examples are typically community-driven, adequately funded, and supported by long-term monitoring.

Examples of effective restoration and stewardship were shared, including:

- Fisheries and watershed restoration initiatives
- Nation-led sheep and ungulate habitat projects
- Road deactivation and erosion control projects
- Wetland and riparian rehabilitation
- Cultural and prescribed burning programs
- Guardian programs are effective for monitoring habitat conditions, investigating disturbances and illegal activities, supporting restoration planning, and providing detailed territorial knowledge; some Guardian programs are supported through partnerships (e.g., Parks Canada, tourism-related funding).
- Wildfire fuel management projects in the wildland-urban interface have potential ecological benefits when combined with monitoring and follow-up restoration.

Session 2 Detailed Feedback: Habitat Restoration

2.2 Feedback from Stakeholder Participants

What are the key priorities for Habitat Restoration in B.C.? For example, are there geographic areas which are more important for wildlife; are there habitat types which need priority, or is there a different way to determine priorities for restoration?

Key Themes

- Prioritize Protection over Restoration
- Promote Restoration Priorities Driven by Connectivity Needs
- Integrate Data Tools and Mapping
- Promote Proactive Planning over Reactive Planning
- Prioritize Healthy Watersheds
- Implement Long-term Funding Mechanisms
- Improve Alignment between Regulators
- Prioritize Ecosystem Health Over Single-Species
- Strengthen Information Sharing
- Address Access Management
- Prioritize Meaningful Implementation of Wildlife Act Review and Forest Landscape Planning

Theme	Feedback
Prioritize Protection over Restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must shift away from reactive restoration toward proactive protection; maintaining what we still have and preventing further habitat loss.• Restoration is expensive; rather than restoring habitat that is lost, it's more important that habitat doesn't get lost in the first place.• Restoration should avoid impacting habitat and protect current intact ecosystems in the first place; once there is a road or cutblock, it's difficult to get back to full habitat values.

Protection should explicitly include:

- Salmon habitat and spawning/rearing areas
- Wetlands and Riparian areas
- Floodplains
- Grasslands and desert ecosystems
- Ecologically significant wildlife corridors
- Critical caribou habitat
- Douglas fir and hemlock forests, cottonwood ecosystems
- Land-sea and land-sea habitat connections
- Large ranges for umbrella species like grizzly bears

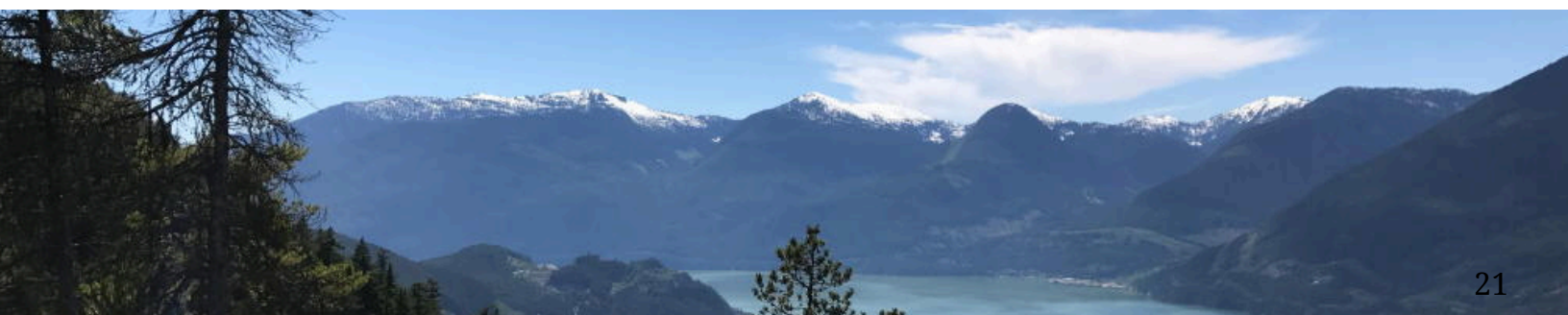
<p>Promote Restoration Priorities Driven by Connectivity Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connectivity is important and restoring that should be a key priority; focus on connectivity at a landscape scale and at multiple scales. • Consider necessary ecosystem and habitat elements for focal species e.g. wolverine and lynx. • Consider corridors important for wildlife; consider connectivity between land and sea. • Connectivity also matters between people; restore connections between Nations, stakeholders, communities. • Need spatial connectivity, but also connectivity temporally to support effective restoration (commitment over decades is needed - won't work if it gains and loses support over time). • Working across ecosystems is important, which requires working across administrative boundaries. • Priorities are those which have the highest value for connectivity and those with value to industry, but also need to bring in the lens of climate change including aquatic ecosystems and how flow is affected. • Restoration comes down to working directly with people on the land, in their location, focusing on their issues; not just about the bureaucratic approaches – need integration of economic, social, and environmental factors and participation of those with interest.
<p>Integrate Data Tools and Mapping</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are tools to identify ecosystems at-risk, which can help map them out e.g. habitat mapping; should integrate these tools into Forest Landscape Planning, and ensure monitoring. • Tend to focus on structural elements in landscapes, but structural elements are derived from functional processes - first need to understand the functional processes that ensure that an ecosystem is healthy or can operate. • Mapping needs to include private land for connectivity and resiliency. • Red and blue listed species need critical data to move restoration plans forward. • Wildlife corridors are frequently intersected by roads and infrastructure without planning for safe wildlife passage; decommissioning old linear features is a practical and necessary action. • Need to bring together information and mapping to assess impact of different restoration projects collectively, and compare that to what's happening with the scale of resource extraction; the scale of restoration is key – e.g. within caribou habitat, there are some smaller scale projects within their habitat, but scale of resource extraction is much larger
<p>Promote Proactive Planning over Reactive Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration is hindsight – instead need pro-active planning; how can we maximize land for its carrying capacity? • Land use and restoration are often thought of around how it is impacted by humans and looked at individually, but there should be focus on cumulative impacts as it relates to restoration • Many planning issues are tied to bureaucracy; decisions are too often made relying on dated information. • Need to move from crisis to anticipatory planning and actions.

<p>Prioritize Healthy Watersheds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streams are like the arteries of the landscape; can use stream health as surrogate for landscape health • Shift from focus at a small scale to thinking about watershed scale. • Some watersheds are too damaged and would need too much investment to make a difference; instead should look for where a smaller investment can make a bigger impact. • Need water retention structures like beaver dams or artificial structures; shading of riparian areas. • For fish habitat restoration move from site-based to process-based approach; focus on repairing ecosystem processes to recruit those types of habitats, which gets more gains over time (site-based gains can be short-lived, don't have population impacts and are not broad enough). • Retaining water is important - if you supply a habitat with water, this can promote habitat recovery. • Healthy watersheds are foundational; salmon are a high-priority species and indicator of watershed health.
<p>Implement Long-term Funding Mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult to find long-term funding for restoration; it can take decades until results of restoration are seen, which doesn't align with political cycles. • Should involve Nations from the beginning, and provide funding support with their capacity. • Should implement funding to create regional communities of practice for habitat enhancement. • Suggestion of a tax on recreational users and recreational equipment, and to use that tax for wildlife and environmental causes (HCTF, etc), targeted for those land bases, non-permitted and non-licensed activities. (additional viewpoint: while not averse to raising taxes, focusing on user groups separates humans from environment - ultimately it's the responsibility of people to protect the environment we live in). • Accountability is required alongside increased service fees, ensuring fee revenues do not go back into general revenue.
<p>Improve Alignment between Regulators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There can be a lack of alignment between regulators, and a conflict between science and local bylaws, e.g. a riparian protection zone around a lake, where fire crews told they can't do any fire-smarting, but that results in a fuel load and risk. • There tends to be layers of different rules; for practitioners, it's an immense amount of admin burden to know what the rules are on one side of the road; there should be one set of rules across region or province, it'll be too onerous if these are small level plans. • B.C. should be more lenient with trying to support more innovation for restoration, if there's science to back up the work; provincial regulatory system is designed well for development but the regulations do not help with supporting restoration.
<p>Prioritize Ecosystem Health Over Single-Species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move from single species site level restoration to larger focus restoration; don't focus on one species or place but focus on bigger picture. • Identify ecologically significant corridors which are important on landscape scale; refugia, ungulate winter range, and where all these things layer over top of each other are important.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect the interconnectedness of species; need to let species do what they must do to get that balance back. • Caribou habitat should be restored, such as where there are linear features that affect predator-prey relationships. • Use coarse filter approach to complex ecosystems or fine filter species specific, both scales need to be looked at. • Consider ecological and wildlife functions, migration, and different needs of wildlife during different life stages and seasons; needs to be large enough scale to be functional.
<p>Strengthen Information Sharing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current processes with all the permits, forests, mines etc. don't include information sharing with other user groups. • User groups don't get information in time to support industry in minimizing impacts. • B.C. needs to do better job of outreach on restoration projects • Need tools to protect restored public lands, there are places where funding was found and restoration completed that have had roads built through them. • People want to be able to hunt and trap for generations to come, but are not involved in the decisions; once it's logged the door is closed - need input at the front end.
<p>Address Access Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access management is important; if restoration is happening, letting people in to these areas may not let the land rest and restore; unrestricted access increases habitat degradation and wildlife disturbance • Hunting is a privilege, not a right, and requires stronger regulation. • To restore our connection and relationships to these places, we must restore relationships between people and then with the land; this should be part of important messaging for outreach and communications.
<p>Prioritize Meaningful Implementation of <i>Wildlife Act</i> Review and Forest Landscape Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wildlife Act</i> amendments must address habitat protection meaningfully, not only features. • The <i>Wildlife Act</i> review and Forest Landscape Planning could be huge, depending on scope and what happens between B.C. and First Nations; is there political will to make those things happen? • <i>Wildlife Act</i> review needs Species at Risk teeth; the <i>Wildlife Act</i> does not adequately protect endangered species and needs reform. • It is good to see Land Use Planning coming back; First Nation Land Use Planning has done amazing work. • Landscape planning is important because with no vision we can't get there. • We're at a point where we must acknowledge problems as a province, i.e. 100,000 resource roads, but no change; it's about a lack of political will. • Political will is needed to make meaningful action on the recommendations already provided by the First Nations – BC Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Forum. • It is important to build political will through collective responsibility and coordinated effort.

Other Comments

- The bulk of biodiversity issues are in valley bottoms where people live, not forests; housing, valley bottoms and lowlands should be tied to regulation framework; municipal governments have no support to implement Biodiversity Management Plans for habitat and housing.
- Most commercial forestry focuses on conifers for replanting, but should also include deciduous trees; could enhance water retention and groundwater if the species planted were more diverse.
- A lot of these ideas are not new and have been discussed for years; energy runs out after 10-20 years, a new cohort comes along with same ideas.
- Desired future states: conditions that created the past state are not present now; climate change has changed things and it is not achievable to go back in time.
- Grasslands and desert ecosystems require urgent attention; grasslands face poor legislative protection and significant private land pressures.
- Critical caribou habitat is a key area of restoration; decommissioning old linear features can have large scale impact.
- Salmon and riparian habitat; protecting and safeguarding salmon spawning/rearing areas is important.
- Grizzly bears require large ranges and migration – an umbrella species – must meet their needs to help protect many other species; concept of meeting the needs of wildlife is important - each individual animal/species has a purpose and a role in a healthy ecosystem.
- Biodiversity hot spots need to be protected with focus on highly impacted areas; no Species at Risk legislation, no protection.



How do we ensure there is accountability for Habitat Restoration? Are there ways the renewal of the Wildlife Act could help? What about Forest Landscape Plans?

Key Themes

- Create Restoration Targets with Time-Bound Commitments
- Improve Accountability and Enforcement Mechanisms
- Promote Long-term Timelines for Funding and Monitoring
- Promote Connectivity and Trust Across Boundaries
- Consider Alignments and Economics

Theme	Feedback
<p>Create Restoration Targets with Time-Bound Commitments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should create legal mandates to protect and restore habitat, with legal definitions of terms; regulators to have enforceable permit conditions. • Need legal restoration targets with time bound commitments. • Restoration should sit within landscape-level plans; regulators need metrics to enforce conditions. • Measure outcomes and not just effort, e.g. has flow been increased, not just trees planted. • Long-term accountability is not always well enforced; there needs to be strict standards enforced for projects that are required as compensation. • Need standardized monitoring metrics to track progress; must have public progress tracking, and teeth in plans. • Should learn from unsuccessful projects rather than abandoning them. • Decision-making needs accurate, ground-verified data and Nations require land access to meaningfully participate in oversight.
<p>Improve Accountability and Enforcement Mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountability, enforcement and professional ethics need to be supported as legal, not voluntary, with serious consequences for those who do wrong; Legally enforceable measures should be required, rather than just voluntary guidelines. • B.C. needs to compel corporations and force them to do ecosystem recovery - “polluter pays”; ecosystem restoration should be part of the cost of doing business. • Need accountability of restoration (top down) and forest planning (bottom up) to reach together, and more bottom-up approach on funding side. • There is currently no effective enforcement body for hunting infractions across different user groups. • Need to implement high-level ecological oversight of the forestry industry. • Important to redirect revenue from licensing to ecosystem health and restoration, rather than general revenues. • Need a Chief Ecologist for the Province to help profile and highlight the challenges and provide a framework. • There should be a new requirement for foresters to have ecological training.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There needs to be professional and corporate accountability to those designated individuals who contribute to ecosystem destruction. • Compliance and enforcement representatives need to do their job, and people should not be able to appeal, and have it take years. • Industry is still not at the table working with NGO's towards similar goals; need true collaboration and clear accountability for long-term impacts of resource extraction. • Mining is a concern, particularly companies that go out of business and leave environmental damage behind; implement mandatory deposits or financial securities to cover potential environmental catastrophes. • Industry should be required to have a bond to make sure they do the restoration afterwards, otherwise they come in, destroy, and leave.
<p>Promote Long-term Timelines for Funding and Monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term timelines (7 generations) are crucial; ecosystems need time to recover. • Without commitment to long-term investments, learning and adaptive management fail. • Timelines are too long and industry only cares about site-specific areas, but habitat can't be driven down to site-specific areas, or we will not have wildlife in seven generations. • New themes within active forestry management like salvage logging and thinning; it is good to see this concept of restoration.
<p>Promote Connectivity and Trust Across Boundaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need partnerships including with private land holders; animals do not recognize boundaries. • Government is tightening up financially and when decisions are made regarding habitat, we need to focus on connectivity. • A holistic approach is needed, rather than piecemealing; should ask how other Ministries can support biodiversity. • We need to encourage trust and work across boundaries; we need G2G to G's – plural. • Local community-driven projects and collaborations play critical roles. • People need to come together and not be divided.
<p>Consider Alignments and Economics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at functions, alignments, accountability, and economics; what is it costing to replace forests that are logged to the ground?; how are we accounting in the energy of the investment? • More attention needs to be put on cumulative effects, which could be part of what the <i>Wildlife Act</i> speaks to.; avoid one-off, fragmented projects. • There is an area-based push that Ministry of Forests are doing and big component of this is regionalizing and this one size approach does not work for the entire province. • When people speak of restoration, that means putting it back the way it was, but that can't happen with climate change; rather than the word "restoration", the real word is "adaption".

Other comments

- The word “mitigation” should be legally barred from conversation, it is our biggest enemy.
- Use seed sources that match ecological and cultural context; avoid hybridized stock.
- Federal dam regulations create heavy administrative burdens that limit habitat work.
- Promote interest in beaver-mimicry hydrologic restoration as a natural method.
- Wildlife and habitat conservation laws should supersede the Right to Farm.
- Offsets don’t work as they don’t replace what has been destroyed.

Ecosystem Health Oversight was framed as including:

- Protection of movement corridors and habitat connectivity
- Recognition of cultural and ceremonial sites
- Maintenance of traditional food and medicine sources
- Intergenerational knowledge and relationships to the land

Ecosystem Health Oversight must:

- Incorporate multiple perspectives and focus on ecosystem-level health and climatic zones, not only individual populations.
- Be grounded in clear definitions of desired ecosystem conditions; need clarity on goals and objectives.
- Include early warning systems, thresholds for action, and obligations to act before species decline; must include cumulative impact assessment and diverse knowledge.
- Ensure adaptive management and willingness to pivot based on results.
- Include measurable objectives for government that have been missing for decades.
- Be on the ground and lead to results, rather than bureaucracy and supervisory oversight

