



ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

in RECOVERY PLANNING

Guidance from ROMAN
National Recovery Handbook
2 March 2004
Victoria, BC



OUTLINE

- Overview of RENEW planning structure
- Government responsibilities
- Flexibility in recovery planning and approach
- Role of Recovery Teams
- Recovery Implementation Groups (RIGs)
- Formation and membership of Recovery Teams
- Good practices for Recovery Teams
- Overview of RENEW process
- Process refinements being considered
- “RENEWing” existing Recovery Teams





PLANNING OVERVIEW

- National level:
 - CESSC (F/P/T Ministers)
 - CWDC (F/P/T Directors)
 - NRWG (F/P/T, Technical) & Recovery Secretariat (EC)
 - ROMAN ("RENEW + SARA")
- Regional level:
 - SARCCs
 - Bilaterals
- Species level:
 - Responsible jurisdictions
 - SARA responsible agency
 - Recovery teams, RIGs



RESPONSIBLE JURISDICTIONS

- **CWS:** Migratory Birds (MBCA); species on federal land not under jurisdiction of PCA or DFO
 - **DFO:** Marine species; species in Marine Protected Areas & on Coast Guard lands; co-lead: freshwater fish including mussels
 - **PCA:** species which occur on lands under PCA jurisdiction (National Parks, National Historic Sites, National Marine Conservation Areas)
 - **Provinces & Territories:** all other species, where they occur on non-federal land
 - **WMB:** involvement through land claims agreements
- ★ **Every listed species has a “SARA responsible agency”**



RESPONSIBLE JURISDICTIONS – Responsible for?

RESPONSIBLE JUR's (RENEW)

- Commitment under Accord
- Accountability – legislation, policies (e.g., landowner contact)
- Decide on recovery planning approach, feasibility
- Establish & direct RT (or alternative)
- Conflict resolution
- Information mgmt

SARA RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

- Legal authority for SARA [CWS, PCA, DFO]
- SARA-compliancy:
 - Define Residence
 - Cooperation & consultation
 - Content (CH)
 - Timelines
- Approvals
- SARA public registry



Recovery Planning -- FLEXIBILITY IS KEY!!

- Recovery planning models:
 - “Traditional” recovery team, RIGs
 - Short-term recovery team (to develop strategy)
 - Consultant / contractor working with responsible jur(s)
- Single vs. multi-spp vs. ecosystem recovery approaches:
 - Single species, esp. at strategy stage (“default” approach)
 - Integrated ecosystem / multi-spp planning at action stage
 - SAR component of broad-scale conservation programs





RECOVERY TEAM - Role

- Effect recovery of one or more species
- Non-political advocate for their species
- Provide expert, independent advice to responsible jurisdictions
- Develop knowledge-based recovery strategy (science + ATK + other)
- Evaluate and report on progress
- Assist Recovery Implementation Groups (RIGs) with developing action plan
- May be involved in implementation



RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION GROUPS (RIGs)

- Specialized group communicating with RT or directly with responsible jurisdiction(s)
- Develop and/or implement action plan
- Provide advice to Govt (e.g., S-E considerations)
- Do / lead recovery projects (research, monitoring, habitat management, public outreach...)
- Connect with others working in same geographic area, to integrate conservation activities (e.g., RIGs for other spp.), develop joint funding proposals, etc.
- Evaluate and report on progress, recovery success



RECOVERY TEAM – Formation & Membership

- Responsible jurisdictions invite members
- Letter of invitation / instruction
- Terms of reference, deliverables, timelines
- Additional experts identified & invited
 - ** balanced team membership**
- Chair (usu. govt) or co-chairs selected
- RT membership will change as mandate of team changes (strategy – action plan – actions)





RT CHAIRS, MEMBERS - Role

- RT Chairs:
 - Keep team on track
 - Ensure process is followed; aim for consensus
 - Communicate with responsible jur's, RIG Chairs...
 - Be responsible for pre-work
 - Maintain RT records, etc.
 - Be spokesperson for RT (e.g., media)
- RT members:
 - Provide expertise (e.g., keep abreast of relevant science)
 - Further species recovery, not personal / professional agenda
 - Attend meetings, follow RT meeting protocols
 - Comment on drafts in timely manner
 - Support RT Chair (e.g., consistent messages to media)
 - Seek conflict resolution if necessary



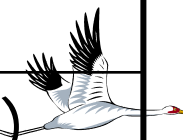
RECOVERY TEAM – Good Practices (summary)

- Hire/assign a facilitator at key decision points
- No lobbying; provide insight and expertise
- Consider socio-economics at action plan stage to develop advice / options for jurisdictions
- Seek advice in resolving conflicts
- Maintain minutes from RT meetings, records of all decision-making and activities, etc.
- Keep abreast of new thinking in conservation science, research of relevance to target species & habitat, other activities planned or underway in target area



Recovery Process Overview (Table 2 in ROMAN)

| | |
|------------|---|
| - 1 yr - 0 | Anticipate assessments, start planning well in advance of COSEWIC's designation |
| 0-1 mo | National & regional planning |
| 1-2 mo | RT formation & training; pre-work recov strategy |
| 2-3 mo | 1 st RT meeting; 1 st draft strategy |
| 4-6 mo | 2 nd RT meeting; 2 nd draft strategy |
| 7-8 mo | Jurisdictional technical review |
| 9-10 mo | Consultation / peer review |
| 11-13 mo | 3 rd RT meeting; 3 rd draft strategy |
| 14-17 mo | Govt acknowledgement / SARA approval |
| 18-21 mo | SARA public registry (60 day public comment) |



Process Refinements Needed

- ☞ *Recovery planning is taking **too long***
- ☞ *Current process won't handle **increased volume** / number of strategies that are going to be needed*
- ☞ *SARA requirements need to be incorporated*
- ☞ *Process is in transition from voluntary to regulatory*
- ☞ *Roles and responsibilities need to be clarified*
- ☞ *Workloads have reached existing **capacity***
- ☞ *On-the-ground partnerships, especially with Aboriginal people, are **not** being adequately fostered and supported*
- ☞ *Recovery teams are **not** being adequately **supported** with direction, funding, etc.*









Process Refinements Under Consideration

- ☞ *More **jurisdictional coordination** and support*
- ☞ *More **pre-work** on templates, etc. (next slide)*
- ☞ *Pre-write first draft of recovery strategy*
- ☞ *Fewer & more **focused** recovery team meetings*
- ☞ ***Delegation** of responsibility to lowest possible level for RS approval*
- ☞ *All meetings, peer reviews & consultations are **prescheduled***
- ☞ *Streamlined products (e.g., new strategy template)*
- ☞ *Increased **planning**, priorities, and co-ordination*
- ☞ *Begin process early, as soon as species appears **likely** to be assessed as being at risk*



Streamlining Recovery: Pre-work Elements

-  *Information Management Tracking system*
-  *Framework for Aboriginal Engagement*
-  *Criteria for determining when recovery is clearly not feasible*
-  *Guidelines for adequate communication / cooperation / consultation*
-  *Template for Terms of Reference, letter of invitation, work plan, meeting agenda, etc.*
-  *Conflict of Interest Policy*





“RENEWing” Existing RTs

- RENEW process and guidelines are a moving target; we don't expect RTs to keep changing their recovery strategies to fit latest template, etc.
- On the other hand, there are new realities:
 - More involvement and support from Govt
 - Tighter timelines, more structured operations
 - Need for SARA-compliant recovery strategies and action plans
 - RT membership may need to change to correspond to current mandate of RT
- RENEW builds on experience; let us know what does or doesn't work for you
- Providing regional training to RTs is a priority
- Jurisdictional contacts & Recovery Secretariat provide advice (see NRWG contact list in ROMAN)





Take Home Messages

- Recovery teams and RIGs continue to have important roles in recovering species under “RENEW + SARA”
- Guidance & policies are evolving but we will keep you informed & provide advice
- Retaining flexibility is important; there’s no cookbook approach to recovery
- Responsible jurisdictions will be working more closely with recovery teams
- The recovery program will be more structured
- There will be more public interest in what we do, and more accountability

