

# Howe Sound Cumulative Effects (CE) Project

## “Project Status Update”

Howe Sound Community Forum Meeting

April 29, 2016

**Jeff Juthans**, Land & Resource Specialist, South Coast Region

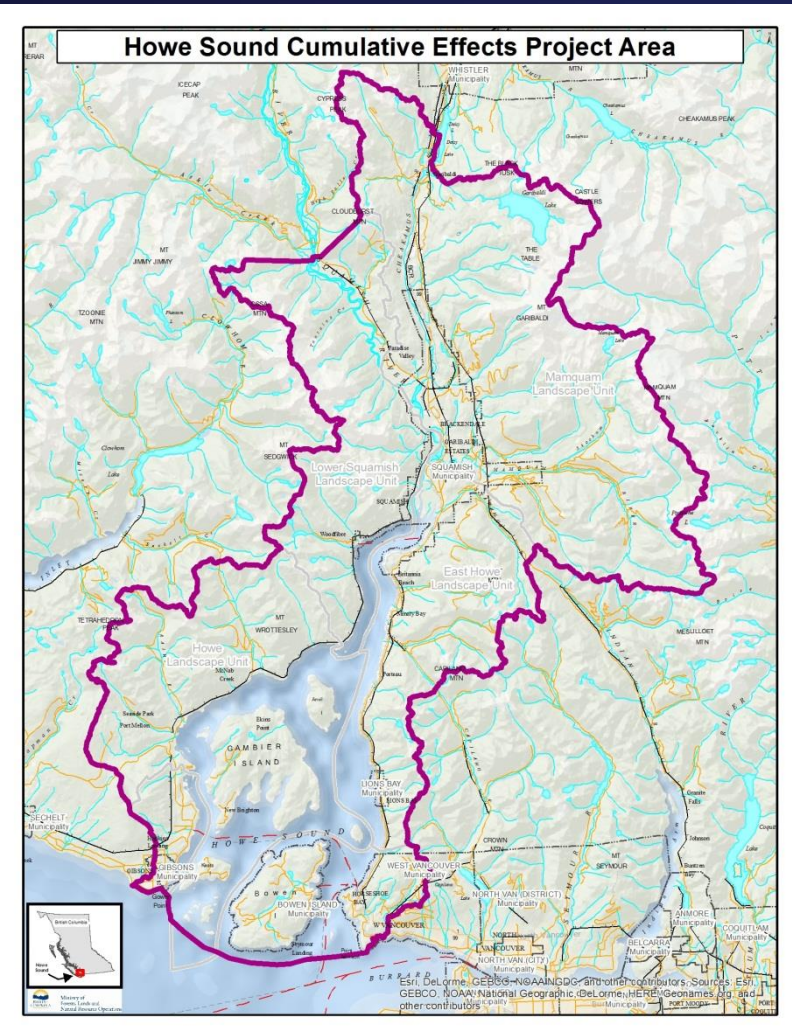
**Steve Kachanoski**, Resource Objectives Specialist, Victoria

Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO)

# ***Presentation Outline***

- 1) Project Implementation Status**
- 2) Sample CE Reporting Products**
- 3) Draft Provincial CEF Policy**
- 4) Project Next Steps**

# Project Status Update



## Values Confirmed for Howe Sound CE Project

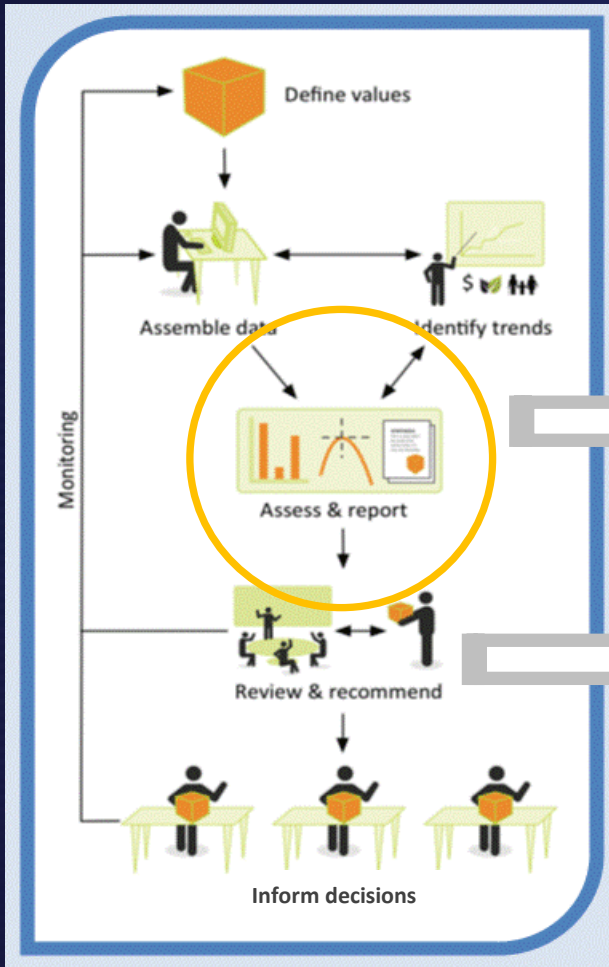
- ✓ Aquatic Ecosystems-watershed condition
- ✓ Forest Ecosystems- old growth (OGMAs)
- ✓ Forest Ecosystems- biodiversity (seral stage)
- ✓ Priority Wildlife- Grizzly Bear (habitat)

2015/16

- ✓ Priority Wildlife- Marbled Murrelet (habitat)
- ✓ Priority Wildlife- Elk (habitat)
- ✓ Visual Quality- Forest Visual Quality
- ? Air Quality
- ? Water Quality (marine water quality)
- ? Estuaries (habitat quantity/quality)
- ? Herring (herring spawn distribution)

2016/17

# Project Status Update



## **1<sup>st</sup> Report:**

### **Current Condition Report**

(7-11 CE values for Howe Sound by March 2017)

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Report:**

### **CE Assessment & Management Report**

(7-11 CE values for Howe Sound after March 2017)

# Sample CE Reporting Products

## Draft CE Assessment Protocols & Value Summaries

## Draft Current Condition Assessment Maps

**Cumulative Effects Framework**  
Assessment Framework for Aquatic Ecosystems

**Aquatic Ecosystems – Value Summary**

A value summary has been created for each of the Cumulative Effects Assessment Areas. The purpose of this document is to summarize the existing condition and draft cumulative effects assessment products, findings and recommendations for the area. The value summary is intended to be a draft document to be reviewed by the relevant stakeholders. The BCCEM technical and draft report is available via the project website. The value summary will be provided to the Province Aquatic Ecosystems Technical Working Group. The assessment will support water management and the reporting required for aquatic ecosystem value reporting.

Information for this summary was gathered from various reports produced by the Provincial Aquatic Ecosystems Technical Working Group, including the Cumulative Effects Assessment Framework for Aquatic Ecosystems and the Technical and Policy Assessment Method for Aquatic Ecosystems.

**Rationale for Aquatic Ecosystems Value Selection**

The importance of assessing aquatic ecosystems is reflected in the legal and policy objectives that apply to the assessment of aquatic ecosystems, including water quality, water quantity, and ecosystem health.

Freshwater aquatic ecosystems provide for physical, chemical, and biological processes that support biological diversity, regulation, and maintenance of environmental quality, and numerous other services. Aquatic ecosystems are critical to supporting First Nations and Aboriginal treaty rights and interests.

Aquatic ecosystems are subject to impacts from various impacts on the land base and as such are subject to cumulative effects. Aquatic ecosystems also support multiple flow path values and are subject to cumulative effects. Aquatic ecosystems also support multiple flow path values and are subject to cumulative effects.

Submodel 1: (Identifying identified species at risk)

Effects Aquatic Ecosystems provide habitat for aquatic organisms in all BC. Some species are listed as sensitive or at risk of extinction.

**Component**

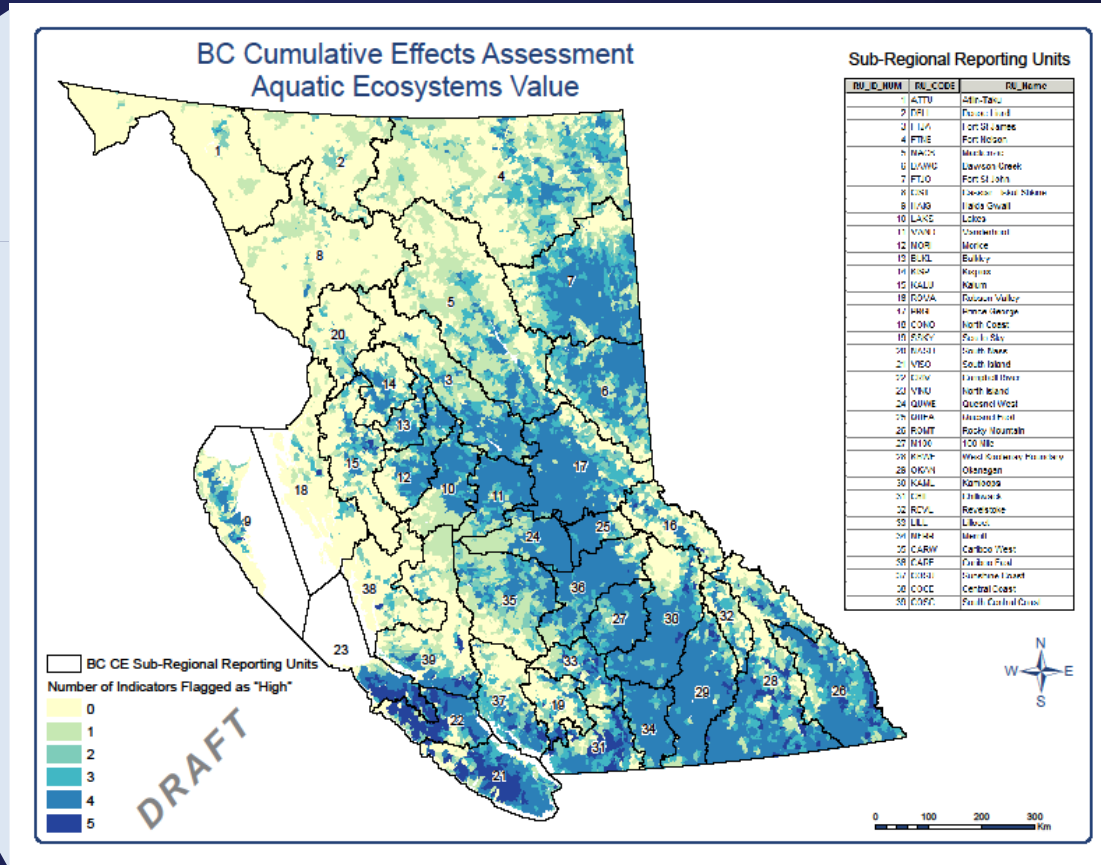
- Water Quality
- Water Availability
- Timing of Flows

**State Indicators**

- Surface and Groundwater Interconnection and Flowing
- Water Availability
- Timing of Flows

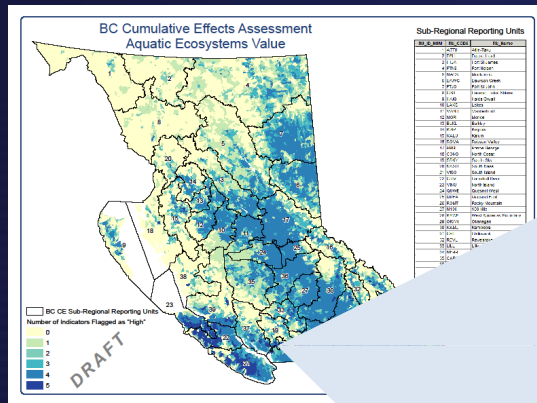
**Pressure Indicators**

- Land Use
- Population Density
- Water Quality
- Water Quantity
- Water Temperature
- Water Chemistry
- Water Flow



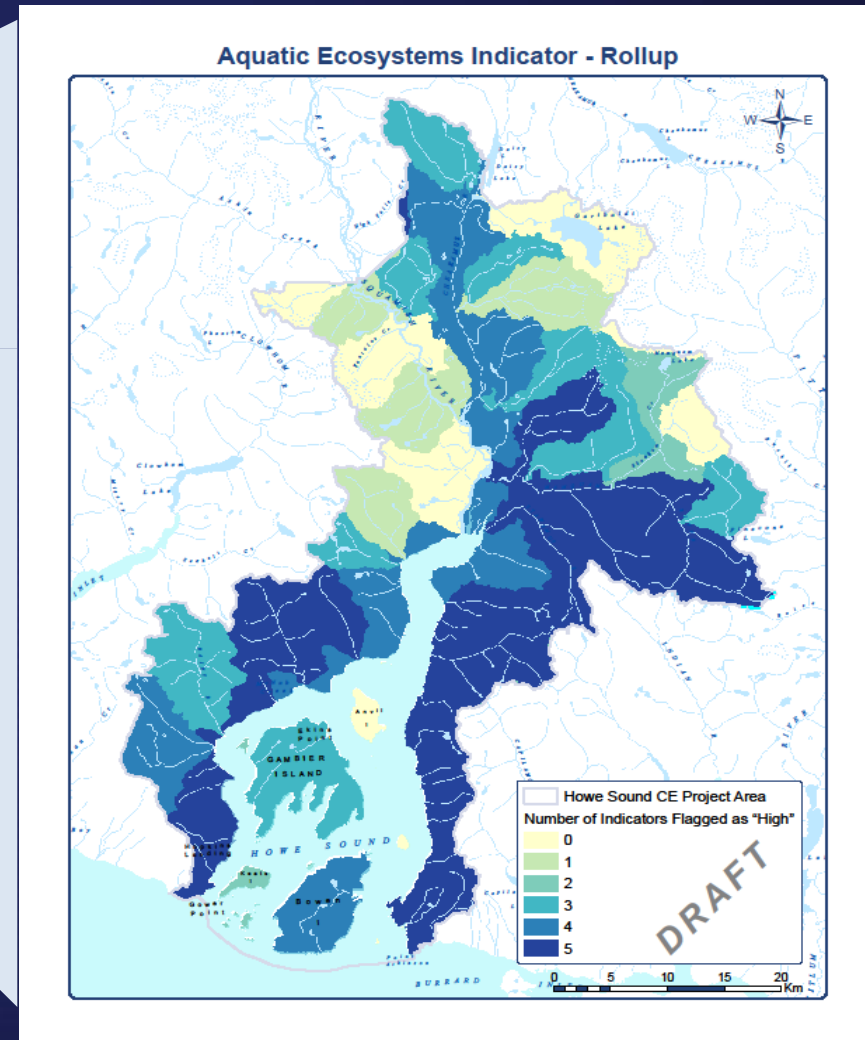
# Sample CE Reporting Products

## Draft Howe Sound Current Condition Maps (roll-up & indicator maps)

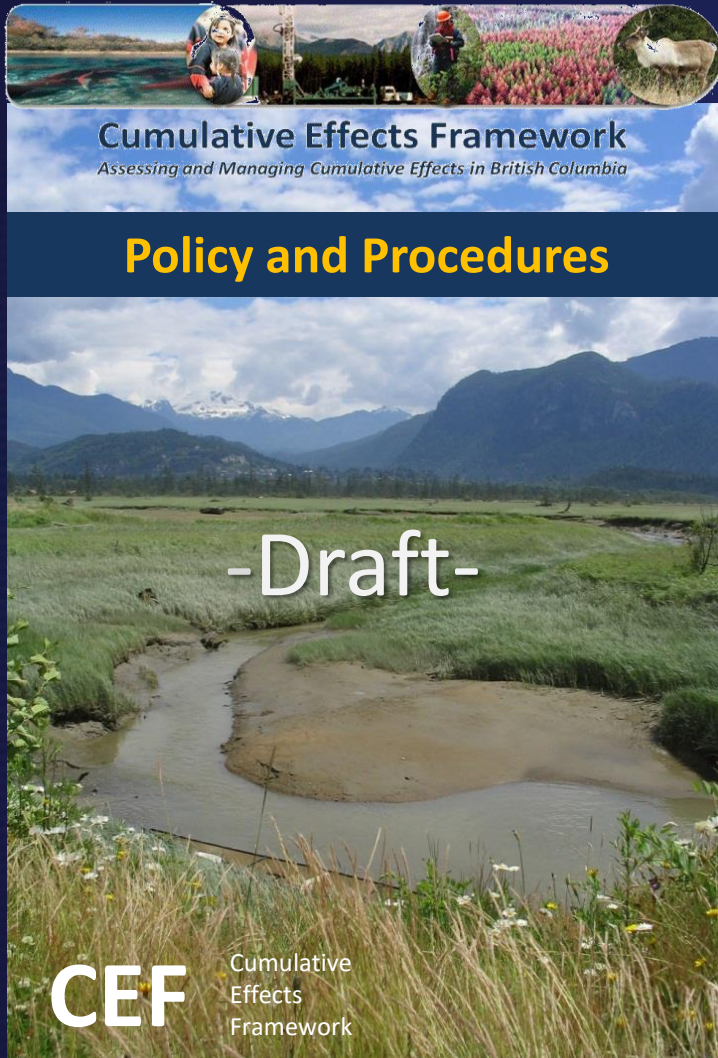


Draft maps being completed for:

- Aquatic Ecosystems
- Grizzly Bear
- Old Growth
- Forest Biodiversity



# Draft Provincial CEF Policy



- Draft CEF Policy documents developed to support the assessment of cumulative effects, and explain how assessments will inform provincial management decisions

- The Province plans to engage on these draft policy documents this spring/summer through internet sites, meetings and workshops

*Provincial Agencies*

*Interested First Nations & Associations*

*Other Governments, Key NRS Stakeholders & ENGOS*

*Professionals and Practitioners*

# Project Next Steps

## Howe Sound CE Project

- Complete draft Current Condition maps for the project
- Confirm if 3 Marine values can be included in the project
- Develop a Current Condition Report for the project (by March 2017)
- Develop an Interactive Web Tool to share CE assessment results (by March 2017)

