

Virtual Initiative Spotlights Schedule

2024 Oceans Protection Plan Pacific Dialogue Forum

Transport Canada is excited to host the annual Pacific Dialogue Forum, with both virtual and in-person components.

Starting October 17, 2024, we are hosting the Virtual Initiative Spotlights every Thursday from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM PT. The Spotlights will provide updates on OPP and related initiatives to an audience that includes: First Nations, coastal communities, industry stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, academia, and different levels of government.

The Initiative Spotlights will be held on MS Teams. This is your chance to learn and ask questions about the work the federal government and others are doing on oceans protection and marine transportation on the Pacific coast. You will be able to raise your hand, unmute, and come on camera during Q&A periods.

For the most current schedule, please refer to the online version. Sessions may be updated or rescheduled, and the online version will reflect the latest changes. Avoid downloading the document to ensure you have the most accurate information.

Tip: Scroll down for session descriptions and presenter bios.

October 17, 2024 **Draft Ocean Noise Strategy for Canada – Information Session**

October 24, 2024 **Two-Part Session: Community Hydrography Program Update & Indigenous Community Response Training (ICRT)**

October 31, 2024 **Potential regulations to increase access to marine emergency services and to improve response to pollution incidents**



November 07, 2024	The Navigation Safety Assessment Process
November 14, 2024	Salish Sea Interactive Map (SSIM)
<i>November 21, 2024</i>	<i>No Session</i>
November 28, 2024	Oceans Protection Plan 2.0 Domestic Vessel Oversight Review
December 05, 2024	Environmental Recovery from Ship-Source Oil Spills
December 12, 2024	Empowering Indigenous Community Participation in the Management of Wrecked, Abandoned, and Hazardous Vessels
December 19, 2024	Navigating Oil Pollution from Ships and Boats: Liability and Compensation
<i>December 26, 2024</i>	<i>No Session – Winter Holidays</i>
<i>January 02, 2025</i>	<i>No Session – Winter Holidays</i>
January 09, 2025	Adaptive Management to Underwater Noise Reduction Mitigations
January 16, 2025	Transport Canada's Approach to Protecting Southern Resident Killer Whales
January 23, 2025	Co-Development of Indicators to Assess the Quality of First Nations Partnerships
January 30, 2025	Community Priorities & Environmental Baselines: A Discussion About Training Needs and Opportunities in Marine Research and Monitoring
February 06, 2025	Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping - BC South Coast Regional Assessment Work

February 13, 2025 *No Session – South Coast Event*

February 20, 2025 **Multi-Partner Research Initiative - supporting advancements in oil spill response in Canada**

February 27, 2025 **Coastal Marine Response Teams**

March 06, 2025 **Active Vessel Traffic Management and Anchorages in the Salish Sea
(UPDATED SESSION DESCRIPTION)**

March 13, 2025 **Pre-SCAT Data Gathering with Coastal First Nations (UPDATED
SESSION DESCRIPTION)**

October 17, 2024 - Draft Ocean Noise Strategy for Canada - Information Session

Sharing Information

Seeking Feedback

Fulfilling Engagement Requirements

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

Human-generated ocean noise can negatively impact marine animals that rely on sound to navigate, communicate, find food, and more. Through Canada's Oceans Protection Plan, the Government of Canada is committed to protecting marine ecosystems, including addressing the threat of ocean noise, through the publication of a draft Ocean Noise Strategy for Canada.

The draft Strategy aims to create a coordinated federal approach to better understand and address ocean noise through:

- science and innovation,
- assessment and management, and
- communication and engagement.

Building on existing work, the draft Strategy will help maximize the use of knowledge and resources, coordinate actions and guide future partnerships and initiatives to minimize impacts on marine life.

Join us for this information session to gain a deeper understanding of the draft Strategy and explore how you can contribute to the development of a final version of the Strategy and a Federal Action Plan on ocean noise.



Presenters

Neville Johnson

Senior Policy Advisor

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Neville Johnson is a Senior Policy Advisor in the Marine Environmental Quality Program at Fisheries and Oceans Canada. With a career spanning multiple roles within the department, Neville has developed a deep passion for marine conservation since joining the Marine Planning and Conservation directorate in 2017. He holds an educational background in biology and environmental science, complementing his dedication to protecting marine ecosystems and ensuring sustainable environmental practices.

Jonathan Hill

Acting Director

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Jonathan Hill is an acting Director of Marine Conservation at Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) with a focus on Marine Environmental Quality and addressing underwater ocean noise. Jonathan has a educational background in Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry as well as Public Administration (Science and Innovation). Jonathan worked with Environment and Climate Change Canada in various capacities associated with the assessment and management of chemical substances for 12 years prior to joining DFO in 2017.

October 24, 2024 - Two-Part Session: Community Hydrography Program Update & Update on Indigenous Community Response Training (ICRT)

Part One - Community Hydrography Program

Sharing Information

Seeking Feedback

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

The Community Hydrography Program supports coastal community interested in collecting and using bathymetric data for different purpose from navigation safety to habitat mapping. This presentation will provide the audience with projects overview in Canada and on the BC Coast.

Part Two - Indigenous Community Response Training

Sharing Information

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast

The Indigenous Community Response Training (ICRT) Program is in its eighth year of delivering training and equipment to First Nation mariners and support for the growing Coastal Nations Coast Guard Auxiliary. This session is an update on accomplishments, successes, and challenges.

Presenters

Michel Breton

*Manager, Community Hydrography
Canadian Hydrographic Service*

Michel Breton has 15 years of experience with the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS). Michel initially worked as multidisciplinary hydrographer surveying and charting the west coast of Canada. Over time, a knack for innovation and data management led him onto projects meant at improving data integration in the organization. Since 2019, Michel has been involved in the digital transformation initiative at the CHS, with S-100 implementation, and more recently with crowdsourced bathymetry data. Michel is currently managing the Community Hydrography Program, a program designed to enable coastal communities in Canada to collect and utilize bathymetric data. Michel is representative for Canada on the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Crowdsourced Bathymetry Working Group (CSBWG).

Geoff Carrow

*Deputy Superintendent, Search and Rescue
Canadian Coast Guard*

Geoff has worked in the professional delivery of Search and Rescue in mountain, ground, and maritime environments for the past 25 years. His current responsibilities include managing the Indigenous Community Response Training program that connects First Nation mariners with training, equipment, and a partnership with CCG SAR. I live in Victoria and am the very proud father of two amazing girls.

October 31, 2024 - Potential regulations to increase access to marine emergency services and to improve response to pollution incidents

Sharing Information

Seeking Feedback

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

Following changes to the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 completed in 2023 to strengthen marine safety and environmental protection, Transport Canada is launching work to develop new rules and processes in a few areas. This includes considering requirements for some vessels to have arrangements in place for certain marine emergency services, hazardous and noxious substances preparedness and response including response plan requirements for vessels and handling facilities and introducing the role of a response coordinator to help implement vessel pollution emergency plans. Transport Canada will provide an overview of initial intentions and share information on how to provide input.

The presentation will also include an update on the Government of Canada's National Strategy to address wrecked and abandoned vessels, particularly the creation of a long-term regulatory funding program to address vessels of concern.

Presenter

Brent Hardy

Policy Advisor

Transport Canada

Brent Hardy is a Policy Advisor for the Strategic and Regulatory Affairs team of the Oceans Protection Plan at Transport Canada. He has worked for Transport Canada for over seven years and joined the Oceans Protection Plan in 2022. He helps advance legislative and regulatory initiatives under the Oceans Protection Plan. Brent was born and raised in Manitoba and currently lives and works in Ottawa.

November 07, 2024 - The Navigation Safety Assessment Process

Sharing Information

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Industry, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

TERMPOL was a voluntary technical review process for proposed marine terminals and transshipment sites. It focused on vessel safety and operation in Canadian waters along shipping routes. Through the Oceans Protection Plan, a review of the TERMPOL process was completed. The result of the review concluded that, for

marine terminal projects subject to federal impact assessment under the Impact Assessment Act, integrating TERMPOL within the impact assessment process could provide for a more timely, efficient, transparent and effective review of project navigation safety. Transport Canada subsequently developed a national policy framework to support the transition of TERMPOL to the Navigation Safety Assessment Process (NSAP) and its integration within Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) requirements to assess potential project Accidents and Malfunctions, including navigation safety considerations. This session will provide an overview of new NSAP process.

Presenters

Cat Galbrand

*Senior Marine Programs Analyst
Transport Canada*

Cat is a Senior Marine Programs Analyst with Marine Safety and Security at Transport Canada and the Pacific Region lead coordinator for the Navigation Safety Assessment Process.

Bob Gowe

*Senior Navigation Safety Analyst
Transport Canada*

Bob is a Senior Navigation Safety Analyst with Marine Safety Security at Transport Canada providing technical expertise in the Navigation Safety Assessment Process.

November 14, 2024 - Salish Sea Interactive Map (SSIM)

Sharing Information

Seeking Feedback

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

The SSIM is being created as part of the Salish Sea Initiative (SSI), one of the Trans Mountain Expansion accommodation measures. The 33 First Nations invited to participate in the SSI were also invited to co-develop this online map. The SSIM is an easy-to-use mapping platform. It is populated with public-facing information relevant to marine stewardship and complete with Indigenous language keyboards and a place naming function to reflect the cultures participating in the SSI. There is a wide range of data presented on the SSIM: topographic, bathymetric, modeled and charted ocean parameters, ShoreZone, vessel traffic density, modeled fisheries surveys, invasive species surveys, cumulative impact estimates and more. Join us to see what the map can do and to talk about where it might go from here.

Presenter

Tamara Fraser

Senior Biologist, Salish Sea Initiative
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

I am very grateful to have worked with the 33 First Nations invited to participate in the Salish Sea Initiative over the past 5 years. I have worked at DFO for a few decades in chemistry labs at sea and on land. I bring an understanding to this work of how much effort is involved with data creation and a love of making data understandable.

November 28, 2024 - Oceans Protection Plan 2.0 Domestic Vessel Oversight Review

Sharing Information

Seeking Feedback

Fulfilling Engagement Requirements

Building Awareness of Future Engagements

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Industry

The goal of the Oceans Protection Plan 2.0 Domestic Vessel Oversight Review is to modernize Canada's domestic vessel oversight regime by 2027 through a holistic view that integrates new approaches and technologies to ensure best practices that focus on aligning safety with risk and to promote greater confidence in Canada's marine safety system.

During this virtual session we will explain the work done so far, including options that are being developed for a way forward. We want to hear about vessel safety issues in your communities and how Transport Canada might address those issues going forward.

Presenters

Dominique Jolicoeur

Acting Manager, Oceans Protection Plan 2.0 Domestic Vessel Oversight Review, Marine Safety & Security
Transport Canada

Dominique Jolicoeur is the acting manager for the Oceans Protection Plan 2.0 Domestic Vessel Oversight Review project in the Domestic Vessel Regulatory Oversight Directorate, Marine Safety and Security, Transport Canada. She is leading, in collaboration with national and regional subject matter experts, the analysis of the current domestic vessel oversight regime, including resources, tools, results and risks, and the analysis of alternate oversight regimes in other maritime administrations to develop a new proposed delivery model for domestic vessel oversight.

April Gleeton

*Marine Safety Inspector, Domestic Vessel Regulatory Oversight, Marine Safety & Security
Transport Canada*

April Gleeton is a Marine Safety Inspector for Domestic Vessel Regulatory Oversight, Marine Safety & Security at Transport Canada. She joined Marine Safety and Security as an inspector in the Atlantic Region in 2015 and has since held different roles. Most recently, she has joined the Flag State, Compliance and Enforcement branch.

December 05, 2024 - Environmental Recovery from Ship-Source Oil Spills

Sharing Information

Setting the Stage for an In-Person Forum Session

Seeking Feedback

Building Awareness of Future Engagements

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is currently leading the development of the Recovery Framework for ship-source marine oil spills. The Recovery Framework will guide efforts by the federal government, in consultation with provinces and territories, Indigenous communities, industry, and other partners, to minimize the long-term consequences of marine oil spills by monitoring and addressing long-term impacts and supporting the return of affected areas to a healthy state within a well-functioning ecosystem.

This session will serve as an engagement opportunity with key partners and stakeholders within the Pacific region (including Indigenous partners) to propose functions and activities that the Government of Canada believes to be necessary for an effective recovery phase for feedback and discussion. Engagement for this session will be based upon a discussion paper which covers a proposed definition of recovery, areas of focus, principles, proposed functions and activities, and other elements and a process flow chart – both of which will be published on the OPP let's Talk website once approved and finalized.

Presenters

Stuart Lee

*Manager Policy and Preparedness
Environment and Climate Change Canada*

Stuart Lee is the manager of the Policy and Preparedness team of the Environmental Emergencies Division at Environment and Climate Change Canada. His academic training has been in natural and social sciences, with some post-doctoral work on the interplay of Indigenous Knowledge systems on Western resource management.

His career has been mainly within Environment and Climate Change Canada, and has focused on topics where science meets policy, such as the ecosystem effects of GMOs, monitoring systems to understand the cumulative effects of oil sands development, environmental and impact assessment policy, and now leads on files that support the department's continuing policy development in various aspects of Emergency Management.

Megan MacDonald

Senior Policy Advisor

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Megan MacDonald is a Senior Policy Advisor within the Environmental Emergencies Policy team at Environment and Climate Change Canada and holds a master's in political science. She is currently the policy lead for the development of the national recovery framework. She has previously worked at CIRNAC and Parks Canada, where she supported the advancement of key Indigenous policy priorities.

Andrew Labaj

Senior Policy Advisor

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Andrew is a Senior Policy Advisor with the Environmental Emergencies Policy team at Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Marie-Pierre Raymond

Senior Environmental Emergency Officer

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Marie-Pierre is a biologist with a master's degree in environmental management. As a Senior Environmental Emergency Officer, she has worked for over 17 years in the field of spills and emergency management, environmental impacts, and contamination. She has responded to several major incidents in Canada, particularly in the British Columbia region. She is now responsible for developing the recovery program at ECCC's National Environmental Emergencies Centre.



December 12, 2024 - Empowering Indigenous Community Participation in the Management of Wrecked, Abandoned, and Hazardous Vessels

Sharing Information

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

Wrecked, Abandoned, and Hazardous Vessels (WAHV) continue to present a major threat to communities and ecosystems in all of Canada's waterways but particularly in British Columbia where nearly 75% of all WAHVs are located. Cando has been working on a pilot with South Vancouver Island First Nations, Canadian Coast Guard, and Canadian technology companies to look for innovative and community driven approaches to identify, assess, monitor, and remove WAHVs from our waters. This session will describe how the pilot got started, what the initial goals were, what has been learned and how that has shifted the scope of the project, as well as what is next.

Ryan Cutler

Project Manager

Cando

Ryan Cutler was born and raised in the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw People and has spent the majority of his career working in remote First Nations communities throughout BC. His background in engineering and business and experience living and working in First Nations communities leads him to seek out pragmatic but community-focused solutions to the issues we face.

Recently, he has been working with South Vancouver Island First Nations on a pilot project to manage and address the issue of wrecked, abandoned, and hazardous vessels that threaten our coastline. Ryan originally obtained his SVOP/MEDA3 certifications to be able to volunteer as an ambulance boat operator and he continues to connect with Coast Salish territory on his expedition kayak and by surfing, fishing, diving, and spearfishing whenever he has the chance.

December 19, 2024 - Navigating Oil Pollution from Ships and Boats: Liability and Compensation

Sharing Information

Seeking Feedback

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

If a ship or boat spills or threatens to spill oil into Canadian waters, those affected are entitled to compensation from our Ship Fund. The session we propose to run in collaboration with Transport Canada will provide information on the types of damages the Ship Fund compensates, claimant eligibility, the evidence required, as well as the deadlines for submitting claims. The Ship Fund covers all types of ships and boats, including abandoned or derelict vessels as well as “mystery” spills, where there is no identifiable shipowner to sue. The session will also provide information on the current scope of Canada’s marine liability and compensation regime, the legislative framework regarding pollution in the Marine Liability Act, and the tools to access compensation while also mitigating losses.

Presenters

Ryan Gauvin

*Legal Counsel
Ship Fund*

Ryan is a maritime lawyer and has been with the Ship Fund since 2018.

He holds a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Dalhousie University and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in History from the University of British Columbia. As Legal Counsel, he advises the Ship Fund’s Administrators on decisions relating to the compensation of claimants. His work also includes pursuing financial recovery from liable shipowners and their insurers, often in the Federal Court.

Prior to his legal career, Ryan was a teacher on both sides of the Pacific. When not at his desk, he might be found in the mountains, along the coast, or in the kitchen. It’s not easy to keep him inside on a sunny day.

Joel Fryer

*Policy Advisor, International Marine Policy
Transport Canada*

Joel Fryer is a senior policy advisor with over eighteen years of marine policy experience at Transport Canada, working in a mix of economic, trade, and liability and compensation issues. He has specialized expertise in Protection & Indemnity and 3rd party marine insurance issues, particularly as it relates to pollution. Joel has played a key role in advancing Canadian sanctions in the marine sector and the implementation of the Hazardous and Noxious Substances Convention in Canada.



January 09, 2025 - Adaptive Management to Underwater Noise Reduction Mitigations

Sharing Information

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, South Coast, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

For a decade, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority-led Enhancing Cetacean Habitat and Observation (ECHO) Program has been leading underwater noise reduction efforts for endangered southern resident killer whales (SRKW) in the Salish Sea. Since the program first trialed a voluntary ship slowdown in 2017, the on-water initiatives have grown in scope and duration, adapting with emerging science, changing priorities, and the presence and behaviour of SRKW in our region. The key to successful engagement in threat reduction measures has been the willingness of members, advisors and industry participants to learn and adapt. In this presentation, ECHO Program representatives will speak to the lessons learned from eight seasons of voluntary on-water initiatives, and what the future may hold as the program investigates the potential for more dynamic on-water underwater noise reduction measures to support SRKW recovery.

Presenters

Melanie Knight

Program Manager

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

Melanie Knight is the manager of the award-winning Enhancing Cetacean Habitat and Observation (ECHO) Program, led by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. Melanie has worked with the program since its launch in 2014 and became the program manager in May 2023. Melanie has worked across Canada supporting collaborative marine initiatives that bring diverse groups together to find solutions that benefit the marine environment. She holds a BSc. in marine biology from Memorial University of Newfoundland and lives in Vancouver.

Jennifer McIntyre

Collaborative initiatives specialist

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

Jennifer McIntyre is the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's ECHO Program specialist. She collaborates with advisors and program partners to advance the ECHO Program's voluntary initiatives for large commercial ships to reduce underwater noise for at-risk whales.

Jennifer has over 10 years of experience in project management and science communications, with a Bachelor of Science degree in conservation and ecology, and a Project Management Professional certification. She is passionate about the reduction of anthropogenic impacts on the marine environment, and environmental education.

January 16, 2025 - Transport Canada's Approach to Protecting Southern Resident Killer Whales

Sharing Information

Setting the Stage for an In-Person Forum Session

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, South Coast

Since 2019, Transport Canada has been supporting the recovery of the endangered Southern Resident killer whale by implementing annual Interim Orders under the Canada Shipping Act, 2001. This virtual session will outline Transport Canada's approach, processes, and development of management measures to address acoustic and physical disturbance from vessels. Additionally, this Initiative Spotlight will help prepare potential participants for an in-person workshop at the South Coast Dialogue Forum event on February 13, 2025, dedicated to discussing how First Nations values and goals should be reflected in future whale protection measures by Transport Canada.

Presenters

Emma Giesbrecht

Policy Advisor

Transport Canada

Emma Giesbrecht is a Policy Advisor with the Whale Protection Policy team at Transport Canada. Emma has been working on the annual Interim Order protection measures relating to the recovery of the Southern Resident killer whale since 2019. She holds a Masters of Marine Management from Dalhousie University, a Bachelor of Science (Honours) from Queen's University, and an Ecosystem Restoration Graduate Certificate from Niagara College.



January 23, 2025 - Co-Development of Indicators to Assess the Quality of First Nations Partnerships

Sharing Information

Setting the Stage for an In-Person Forum Session

Seeking Feedback

Fulfilling Engagement Requirements

Building Awareness of Future Engagements

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, North Coast, South Coast

This session will provide an overview of the transformative work on the Co-Development of Indicators initiative, which began under OPP 1.0 and continues to evolve in OPP 2.0. Representatives from Transport Canada and the Assembly of First Nations will guide participants through the project's origins, objectives, and its potential benefits and risks. The session will also outline upcoming milestones and next steps planned for the months ahead.

Presenters

James MacDonald

*Director of Fisheries, Fisheries Sector
Assembly of First Nations*

James MacDonald joined the Assembly of First Nations as the Director of the Fisheries Sector in February 2023. He has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Alberta and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Alaska Southeast. James is passionate about protecting and conserving fish and fish habitat with a focus on salmon in particular. James lives and works in Whitehorse, Yukon.

Jacob Muirhead

*Policy Advisor
Transport Canada*

Jacob Muirhead is a Policy Advisor with Transport Canada's Oceans Protection Plan Community Engagement and Partnerships Team. Jacob joined Transport Canada in 2018. He has a PhD in Political Science from McMaster University. Jacob loves the outdoors and spent much of his youth outside camping and canoeing in Northwestern Ontario. He cares deeply about social justice.

Roxanne O'Halloran

*Research/Analysis Officer
Transport Canada*

Roxanne O'Halloran joined Transport Canada in March of 2023. She has Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Master of Arts in Sociology from Carleton University. Roxanne is an avid pianist and curler. Roxanne lives and works in Ottawa, Ontario. Her favourite marine mammal is a narwhal.

January 30, 2025 - Community Priorities & Environmental Baselines: A Discussion About Training Needs and Opportunities in Marine Research and Monitoring

Sharing Information

Setting the Stage for an In-Person Forum Session

Seeking Feedback

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, North Coast, South Coast, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

Join representatives from Environment and Climate Change Canada's Wildlife Research Division to learn about our marine bird research, and to discuss how training could support communities in their marine research and monitoring goals. What training does your community or Nation require to meet your goals, and what opportunities already exist? Our presentation will include some background on who we are and what we do; a short summary about the pilot of a Marine Technician Training Program that Vancouver Island University co-developed with Nanwakolas Council, with support from ECCC; and an opportunity to inform us about your marine research training interests and needs.

Presenters

Sarah Hudson

*Wildlife Research Coordinator, Science and Technology Branch
Environment and Climate Change Canada*

Sarah Hudson is a Wildlife Research Coordinator with the Science and Technology Branch, ECCC, in BC. She is a White Canadian-born settler originally from Treaty 6 territory. Her work supports marine bird programs, including those exploring seabird habitat use and Indigenous marine training. Sarah has worked on many different species of birds in field settings ranging from the Tundra to the Tropics, and holds a PhD on the evolution of sexual size dimorphism and ecology of Magnificent Frigatebirds.

Vivian Pattison

*Marine Research Liaison, Science and Technology Branch
Environment and Climate Change Canada*

Vivian Pattison is a Marine Research Liaison with the Science and Technology Branch, ECCC, in BC. Her work supports Community Based Partnerships for Marine Response, including the development and delivery of trainings focused on marine wildlife monitoring. Vivian has worked on seabirds throughout the coast, from Murrelet monitoring with Laskeek Bay Conservation Society in Haida Gwaii and Storm-Petrels on Triangle Island to Gulls throughout the South Coast. Vivian received a Masters from the University of Victoria, in which she used GPS tagging to investigate where seabirds from two different Ancient Murrelet colonies in Haida Gwaii foraged during the breeding season.



Jessie Russell

*Assistant Community Partnerships Coordinator
Environment and Climate Change Canada*

Jessie Russell is a british-canadian settler who grew up in Katzie and Kwantlen territory. She graduated from Simon Fraser University with a Bachelor of Environmental Science. Jesse has been with ECCC since 2021, first as a Compliance Promotion Coordinator focused on the Migratory Birds Convention Act and its regulations and most recently as an assistant coordinator for the Community Based Partnerships for Marine Response in the Science and Technology Branch.

February 06, 2025 - Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping - BC South Coast Regional Assessment Work

Sharing Information

Setting the Stage for an In-Person Forum Session

Fulfilling Engagement Requirements

Building Awareness of Future Engagements

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, South Coast, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

Transport Canada's Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping (CEMS) Initiative has been working to develop a shared, collaborative approach to better understand coastal ecosystems and the potential impacts of regional marine shipping activities on the environment and surrounding communities. This initiative has been active in South Coast BC, focusing on enhancing the understanding of the cumulative effects from marine vessel activities. It emphasizes strengthened collaboration and partnerships between the federal government, First Nations, coastal communities, marine stakeholders, and other interested parties.

Key topics will include:

- Context setting for CEMS in South Coast BC.
- The collaborative approach being used with interested South Coast First Nations.
- An overview of the cumulative effects assessment methodology.
- Timing for results.
- The engagement strategy planned for 2025-2026.
- Opportunities for external parties to share information and feedback related to new, current or planned strategies to mitigate cumulative effects of marine vessel activities in South Coast BC.

Presenters

Paula Doucette

*Regional Manager, OPP-Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping, Pacific & Arctic Regions
Transport Canada*

Paula Doucette is the Regional Manager for Pacific and Arctic regions for the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping Initiative under Transport Canada's Oceans Protection Plan. Paula has been responsible for conducting regional assessment and engagement activities as part of the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping Initiative since 2017. Prior to this, Paula conducted impact assessments on behalf of Transport Canada and DFO.

Nataschia Tamburello

*Senior Systems Ecologist
ESSA*

Dr. Nataschia Tamburello is a Senior Systems Ecologist at the environmental consulting company ESSA, based in Vancouver, and is the contractor's project lead for the implementation of the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping Assessment on the South Coast of BC.

Nataschia is a marine ecologist and science communication specialist by training, with 10 years of experience working at the intersection of research, education, strategic planning, and evidence-based decision-making across for coastal and marine ecosystems for diverse organizations in BC, Canada, and the Caribbean.

Etana Tam

*Coordinator, Marine and Coastal Management
First Nations Fisheries Council of BC*

Etana is a coordinator with the First Nations Fisheries Council of BC (FNFC), supporting projects pertaining to marine and coastal management. FNFC is a non-rights holding organization that works to facilitate discussions and processes that amplify First Nations rights, jurisdiction and management authority. Etana supports FNFC's work on the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping initiative, convening a committee of delegates from interested south coast First Nations that guide, inform, and advise work on this project. Her other work with FNFC focuses on Indigenous-led marine planning and community capacity building

Annie Chalifour

Senior Aquatic Biologist & Ecotoxicologist

LGL

Dr. Annie Chalifour is a Senior Aquatic Biologist at the environmental consulting company LGL, based in Sidney, BC, and is leading the vessel discharges assessment in the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping Assessment on the South Coast of BC.

Annie is an aquatic ecotoxicologist by training, having worked on the impacts of metals, pesticides, flame retardants and pharmaceuticals on aquatic life, as well as their fate in the environment. She has a long experience in writing publications and presenting results in front of various specialist and non-specialist audiences.

February 20, 2025 - Multi-Partner Research Initiative - supporting advancements in oil spill response in Canada

Sharing Information

Seeking Feedback

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast, South Coast, Industry, Academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, Government

The Multi-Partner Research Initiative (MPRI) is a funding program led by Natural Resources Canada, aiming to improve oil spill response knowledge, tools, and techniques to support evidence-based decisions to minimize the environmental impacts of oil spills and enhance habitat recovery.

The Initiative gathers leading researchers and knowledge holders, domestically and internationally, to design and collaborate on research projects related to oil fate, behaviour, environmental impacts and spill response in marine, coastal, and freshwater environments.

In 2024, to advance the inclusion of Indigenous voices in oil spill response research, preparedness, and decision-making, MPRI initiated an Indigenous Research Stream to support projects led by and focused on priorities of Indigenous Peoples. This presentation will provide an update on the MPRI program with a focus on the recently initiated Indigenous-led projects.

Presenters

Lisa Isaacman

*Physical Science Policy and Planning Officer
Natural Resources Canada*

Lisa has been a Science Policy and Planning Officer with the MPRI at NRCan since late 2022. Prior to that she was a Policy Analyst with the MPRI at Fisheries and Oceans Canada for 3 years.

Since completing a Bachelors and Masters in Environmental Sciences and Studies from University of Guelph and Dalhousie University, respectively, she has worked in the federal government (NRCan, DFO and ECCC), academia, and non-profit organizations on various issues related to supporting environmental protection, including watershed and wetlands conservation, habitat conservation planning, marine renewable energy, species at risk, and currently oil spill response science.

Lisa currently lives in Halifax, NS, but was raised in Toronto and has also lived in northern Ontario, northern Alberta and Cape Breton Nova Scotia. In her spare time she likes easy hiking and volunteering for animal rescue and environmental causes.

Anika Altiman

*Policy Analyst
Natural Resources Canada*

Anika Altiman, Turtle Clan, is an Ojibway woman from Walpole Island First Nation, where she resides with her family. With a background in education (BASc, BEd, MEd) and a passion for community-based research, her experiences have aligned with collaborative efforts to build capacity, amplify voices, and address gaps within First Nation education, health, and governance.

She is grateful for the research relationships over the last 25 years and looks forward to continued conversations, spaces, and collective action filled with trust, honesty, kindness, wisdom, and love. Anika joined Natural Resources Canada in 2023 as a Policy Analyst with the Multi-Partner Research Initiative. Outside of MPRI, she serves her community as an elected councillor and enjoys puzzles in her free time.

February 27, 2025 - Coastal Marine Response Teams

Sharing Information

Building Awareness of Future Engagements

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, North Coast, South Coast

This session will introduce the Coastal Marine Response Teams (CMRT) project under the Ocean's Protection Plan. We will share information about the project, and what our next steps are.

Presenters

Liz Love

Project Manager

Canadian Coast Guard

Liz has been with the Coast Guard (CCG) since 2018 and managing projects since 2022. She has a passion for collaboration, and is honored to be leading Coastal Marine Response Teams, as well as Hazardous and Noxious Substances and CCG.

March 06, 2025 - Active Vessel Traffic Management and Anchorages in the Salish Sea **(UPDATED SESSION DESCRIPTION)**

Sharing Information

Target Audience: South Coast

This session will provide a joint update from Transport Canada and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority on the progress and status of the Active Vessel Traffic Management Program and Southern Gulf Island anchorages proposal.

Presenters

Emilie Gelin

Director, Domestic Shipping Policy

Transport Canada

Emilie Gelin is the Director of Domestic Shipping Policy at Transport Canada. She works closely with a number of industry stakeholders, federal partners, and Indigenous communities on a range of issues.

Sean Baxter

*Director, Marine Operations and Harbour Master
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority*

Responsible and passionate for the safe and efficient movement of marine traffic within the Port of Vancouver, Sean joined the port authority in 2011 following a five-year seagoing career. In addition to navigation officer certifications, Sean holds an Executive Master of Business and Administration from Simon Fraser University. Born and raised in Vancouver, Sean and his family live on the traditional territory of the kʷikʷəǵəm (Coquitlam) First Nation.

March 13, 2025 - Pre-SCAT Data Gathering with Coastal First Nations (UPDATED SESSION DESCRIPTION)

Sharing Information

Building Awareness of Future Engagements

Target Audience: Indigenous Groups, Local Communities, North Coast

The Emergencies Science and Technology Section (ESTS) of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) supports Canadian emergencies science through laboratory analysis, response countermeasures, and shoreline field-based research. Since 2014, ESTS has partnered with Indigenous Peoples to develop, gather, and complete Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (Pre-SCAT) to characterize Canadian shorelines.

Pre-SCAT surveys support environmental spill preparedness, response, and recovery by gathering information about different types of shorelines before spill incidents occur. Pre-SCAT surveys in recent years have included partnering with First Nations for discussions and field participation for site identification, cultural importance of shoreline segments, and knowledge sharing of shoreline sensitivities. The resulting reports improve decision-making capacity in coastal communities in the context of a response to an environmental emergency.

Presenters

Pola Wojnarowicz

*Physical Research Scientist
Environment and Climate Change Canada*

Pola Wojnarowicz is a research scientist working with ESTS' Shoreline Unit since early 2024. A toxicologist by trade, Pola has been worked from laboratory to field and academia to industry. Prior to her work with the shoreline unit, Pola worked with the province of BC in development of the Environmental Recovery section in support of environmental spill operations and policy development.

Sonia Laforest

*Unit Head, Shoreline and Assessment Unit
Environment and Climate Change Canada*

Sonia Laforest has been a shoreline treatment expert with Environment and Climate Change Canada for over 20 years. While part of the National Environmental Emergencies Centre, she travelled across the country and the world responding to oil spills. For the last 10 years, she has been with the Emergencies Science and Technology Section and is now building a Shoreline Unit, sharing knowledge to protect Canada's shorelines for years to come.