

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Focal and Fine Filter Species Analysis to Inform Full Implementation of EBM</b>
<b>Program Area</b>	Ecological Integrity
<b>Element</b>	Focal Species
<b>Project No.</b>	EI02c
<b>Related Projects</b>	DS01 – Data Access & Management DS04 – Subregional and Landscape scale analysis scenarios & Reserves Co-location project EI01 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Old Growth Workshop EI03 – Establish Ecological Baseline EI04 <sup>1</sup> – NonTEM data gaps - Focal/fine filter species Habitat mapping
<b>Start Date</b>	March, 2008
<b>Completion Date</b>	January, 2009

**Overview**

Neither the CCLRMP nor the NCLRMP finalized landscape zoning or management objective recommendations related to focal/fine filter species management due to time constraints. Both LRMPs recommended that these be completed via further process. Furthermore, the EBMHB identifies the need to manage focal/fine filter species as a component of meeting ecological integrity requirements (i.e. full implementation of EBM) but notes that this should be undertaken via additional work, rather than providing specific targets and thresholds similar to those provided for other ecological elements.

This project is intended to provide analysis of the implications of various scenarios at subregional and forest management unit scales on focal/fine filter species habitat supply, information that will in turn inform:

- the further development of detailed strategic plans (DSPs) by each First Nation,
- PIMC discussions on implementation, and
- G2G discussions between First Nations and the Province related to the harmonization of DSPs and the full implementation of EBM.
- spatial delineation of OGMA and/or focal/fine filter species reserves as a key component of EBM implementation

The project will undertake the following:

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<sup>1</sup> although this may be folded into the EI02 project code through streamlining

- As appropriate<sup>2</sup> and/or necessary, update and refine existing habitat supply models for key focal/fine filter species (already developed for the CIT ecosystem spatial analysis) using finer scale ground-truthed focal/fine filter species habitat maps (EI04)
- Time permitting, provide updated GIS habitat supply information as inputs to spatial co-location project, subregional and landscape level scenarios analysis (DS04) OR,
- Undertake a habitat connectivity pilot to test the importance of this for identified focal and fine filter species
- Convene domain experts and/or peer reviewers for each focal/fine filter species to
  - Review quality of modelled habitat layers (identify level of confidence in model data)
  - undertake post-hoc analysis of outputs from spatial co-location project and subregional/landscape level scenarios for ability to meet habitat supply needs for key focal/fine filter species<sup>3</sup>
  - Identify the importance of connectivity needs for specific species.

### Objectives

- To update and improve the quality of existing focal and fine filter species habitat models by incorporating field data collected in 2007 **as appropriate** and comparing these results to model outputs
- To test adequacy and identify what, if any, incremental requirements may be needed to effectively manage focal and fine filter species in various subregional scenarios (DS04)
- To provide advice on the effectiveness of OGMA reserves identified in the spatial co-location project to meet focal species requirements

### Expected Use/User/Benefits

- Inform First Nation DSP planning activities
- Inform PIMC implementation discussions
- Inform First Nation and Provincial discussions related to harmonization of DSPs and full implementation of EBM.

### Key Tasks

1	Confirm and hire project manager, identify list of appropriate domain experts	GD and JH
2	Refine outstanding technical questions and finalize detailed work plan deliverables, timing relationship to other projects and budget requirements (in particular, identify the role for a connectivity pilot project as appropriate)	GD & JH

<sup>2</sup> Note that comparability of models may be an issue and needs to be addressed

<sup>3</sup> In order to identify whether something is adequate, it is necessary first to establish benchmarks via expert opinion to answer such questions as: how much is enough (to sustain existing levels or historical levels?), is it functional and working and how does it relate to habitat supply management in the matrix? How does it relate to the 70% RONV OG target? How do you evaluate the effect of time and regrowth of ecosystems? How related to critical habitat targets identified for SARA species?

3	Confirm key focal/fine filter species to analyze	DS03 steering committee?
4	Collate/collect all existing focal/fine filter species modelling and ground-truthed information available.	Chuck Rumsey / Pablo Vimos
5	Convene domain experts and/or peer reviewers for individual focal/fine filter species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality check/ peer review available focal/fine filter species information</li> <li>• Determine whether more appropriate to provide inputs or analyze outputs from DS 04 Co-location project</li> </ul>	Workshop with Steering Committee + domain experts
6	On basis of quality check, either provide inputs to DS04 receive DS04 outputs for analysis	
7	Expert review of DS04 scenario outputs for sufficiency for individual focal/fine filter species	Domain experts/peer reviewers
8	Draft written report and any associated management recommendations for individual focal/fine filter species	Domain experts/peer reviewers
9	Final report	Domain experts/peer reviewers

### **Deliverable(s) and/or Milestones**

- Project workplan
- Preliminary report summarizing interview findings for each species
- Focal species domain experts workshop delivered and workshop summary report produced
- Proposed study design for ground-truthing DS 04 co-location project outputs (where recommended)
- Draft report and maps
- Final peer reviewed report and maps

### **Responsibilities**

- EBM WG Lead via a project subcommittee consisting of:
  - o Glen Dunsworth (CFCI), Steve Gordon (MoE), Jody Holmes (RSP)
- Major partners = First Nation DSP Technical representative (e.g. Dan Cardinal, Grant Scott, Wally Eamer etc.)

### **Linkages to other EBM Projects or Initiatives**

- Data Management Tool (DS01) needs to be completed and populated with key datasets required for this project and/or data needs to be shared from DSP datasets in order to run comprehensive subregional model
- Ecological Baseline (EI03) needs to be completed in conjunction with this project as modelling outputs at time 0 should correspond to GIS summaries for key focal/fine filter species. Current condition of focal/fine filter species habitat compared to original condition may inform expert opinion on risk associated with particular scenarios. Specific areas should be analysed that have had comprehensive field verification completed under EI04.
- EI 02a habitat inventory mapping results will be reviewed under this project to determine the quality and accurateness of the information and, where possible, to inform the effectiveness of OGMA reserves, identified in the co-location project (DS 04) in meeting focal and fine filter species requirements.

- EI01 (2<sup>nd</sup> Oldgrowth workshop) outputs and/or recommendations on how to “account” for old growth at the stand and landscape scale under different management regimes may be related to efficacy for focal/fine filter species?
- Subregional SELES scenario modelling (DS04) will either take inputs from this project and/or provide outputs to this project for analysis.
- Reserve “co-location” project (DS04) will either use spatially explicit focal/fine filter species habitat modelling information from this project and on the ground critical habitat identification (EI04) to maximize overlapping values for spatial reserve scenarios. Or domain experts will be used to test the efficiency of OGMA reserves identified to meet focal species needs

Note: Explicit linkages to project EI04 (Non TEM data gaps – focal/fine filter species inventory) need to be maintained for this project to be successful.

**Peer Review Requirements**

Peer review is integral to this project with domain experts essentially functioning as peer reviewers for existing information. Domain experts may act as a form of peer review for the SELES scenario project as well (DS04).

**Method of Implementation**

- State the implementation approach (check box with an “X”):

- Contract: Project manager
- Expert Panel / Workshop
- Internal EBMWG Task
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Budget**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Source</b>
Project manager	\$20,000	EBMWG
Domain Experts and/or peer reviewers – 3 per focal/fine filter species * ~5 focal/fine filter species = 15 domain experts/peer reviewers for 4 days each @\$1,000/day	\$60,000	EBMWG
Workshop costs (travel, room rental, food etc)	\$10,000	EBMWG
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>	<b>EBMWG</b>