



**The Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk**  
**Now Accepting Proposals for 2016–2017**

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## The Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk

### Now Accepting Proposals for 2016–2017

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Now into its 17th year, the Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP) for Species at Risk supports Canadians in stewardship of the environment by providing funding for protection and conservation activities intended to benefit the habitat of species at risk.

In 2014, the HSP was strengthened such that funding became available to support projects that will proactively prevent species, other than species at risk, from becoming a conservation concern in addition to expanding the funding for species at risk. The activities must take place on private land, provincial and Crown land, or Aboriginal land, or in aquatic environments across Canada.

Funding under HSP is separated into two streams:

- The HSP Species at Risk (SAR) Stream focuses on projects addressing the recovery of species at risk listed on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA); and
- The HSP Prevention Stream focuses on projects addressing other species, beyond those listed on SARA, to prevent them from becoming a conservation concern.

#### **Timelines:**

*The program will be accepting Expressions of Interest until December 18<sup>th</sup> 2015. The submission of an Expression of Interest is strongly encouraged, particularly for applicants who have not received HSP funding in the past or for those applying to a new stream.*

*The deadline for proposal submissions is January 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.*

#### **Note:**

Due to the election period, the 2016–2017 call for proposals was delayed. As a result, notification of 2016–2017 funding decisions will be received later than is typical. The Department will aim to have funding decisions made by mid-June 2016 for HSP. Applicants should therefore only submit an application for funding consideration for activities that will occur after mid-June 2016. For more information or to discuss implications for your project, contact your [Regional Coordinator](#).

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### **HSP SAR Stream National Priorities and Expected Results**

The national priorities for HSP SAR stream are projects or activities that focus on the following:

- Implementation of priority activities described in recovery strategies or action plans such as protection of critical habitat
- Implementation of multi-species projects with a focus on ecosystem-based recovery initiatives
- Implementation of projects involving collaboration among multiple stakeholders/partners
- Implementation of signed SARA Section 11 agreements
- The recovery of species at risk and threats to species at risk included as part of an international agreement

In order to be eligible, proposed projects must contribute to one or more of the expected results of the HSP SAR stream:



- Important habitat<sup>1</sup> for species at risk recovery is secured or otherwise protected
- Important habitat<sup>1</sup> for species at risk recovery is improved (restored/enhanced) and/or managed to meet species' recovery needs
- Threats to species at risk and/or their habitat that are caused by human activities are stopped, removed and/or mitigated
- Project benefits are sustained over time by engaging Canadians (landowners, resource users, volunteers) to participate directly in activities that support the recovery of species at risk

### **HSP Prevention Stream National Priorities and Expected Results**

National Priorities for the HSP Prevention Stream are projects or activities that focus on the following:

- Species assessed as “may be at risk” and “sensitive” by the General Status of Species in Canada
- Implementation of multi-species projects with a focus on ecosystem-based recovery initiatives
- Implementation of projects involving collaboration among multiple stakeholders/partners
- Implementation of priority activities in established wildlife and/or habitat conservation plans
- Supporting the enhancement of wildlife that are of cultural and/or socio-economic importance to local communities

In order to be eligible, proposed projects must contribute to one or more of the following expected results of the HSP Prevention Stream:

- Important habitat<sup>2</sup> for the target species is secured or otherwise protected
- Important habitat<sup>2</sup> for the target species is improved (restored/enhanced) and/or managed to meet their needs
- Potential threats to individual target species, and/or their habitat, caused by human activities are stopped, removed and/or mitigated
- Project benefits are sustained over time by engaging Canadians (landowners, resource users, volunteers) to participate directly in activities that prevent species from becoming a conservation concern

### **Regional Priorities for Both Streams**

In addition to the national priorities, each region has regional priorities that support the national priorities. These include target areas, species and threats that have been identified as priorities for the region. For the 2016–2017 funding year, emphasis shall be placed on projects that address regional priorities.

Please contact your HSP Regional Coordinator to receive further information on regional program priorities for projects in your area.

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### **For more information:**

<sup>1</sup> The program defines “important habitat” for SAR Stream as habitat that is considered as candidate for Critical Habitat or habitat that is important for the species but that is not actually identified in a recovery strategy/action plan/management plan.

<sup>2</sup> The program defines “important habitat” for Prevention Stream as habitat that is important for the species’ “conservation”.



- Information on the HSP is also available on the [HSP website](#).
- Please refer to the 2016–2017 HSP Application Guidelines for information on how to complete an Expression of Interest, how to submit a proposal, and other details on project eligibility. Separate guidelines are provided for the [SAR](#) and the [Prevention](#) funding stream.
- If you have any questions, please contact [HSP-PIH@ec.gc.ca](mailto:HSP-PIH@ec.gc.ca).

**Thank you for your interest in species at risk and in preventing other species from becoming a conservation concern. We wish you the best in your application!**