

EIS Process and Timeline

Registration and Review

The Indian Head Expansion Project was registered (July 2018; reg. #1975) and reviewed.

In July 2021, the Minister requested an Environmental Preview Report (EPR). An EA Committee of provincial and federal representatives was appointed.



2018

Minister Decision

Following governmental and public review of the EPR, the Minister determined an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was required (October 2023).



2023

EIS Preparation

Draft EIS Guidelines were issued (January 2024) and after consideration of public feedback, Final EIS Guidelines were issued (March 2024).

The EIS, supporting baseline studies, and plans are prepared and public consultations occur (ongoing).

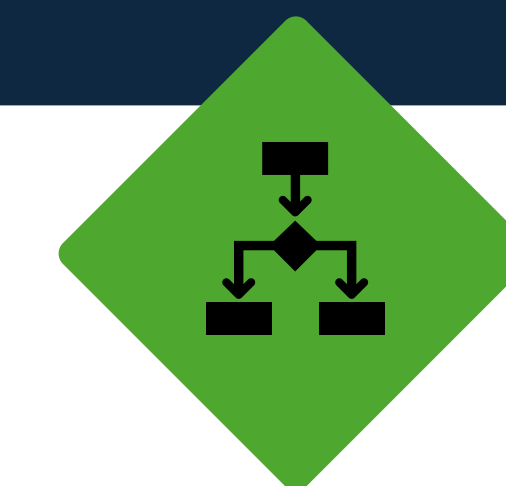


2024

We Are Here

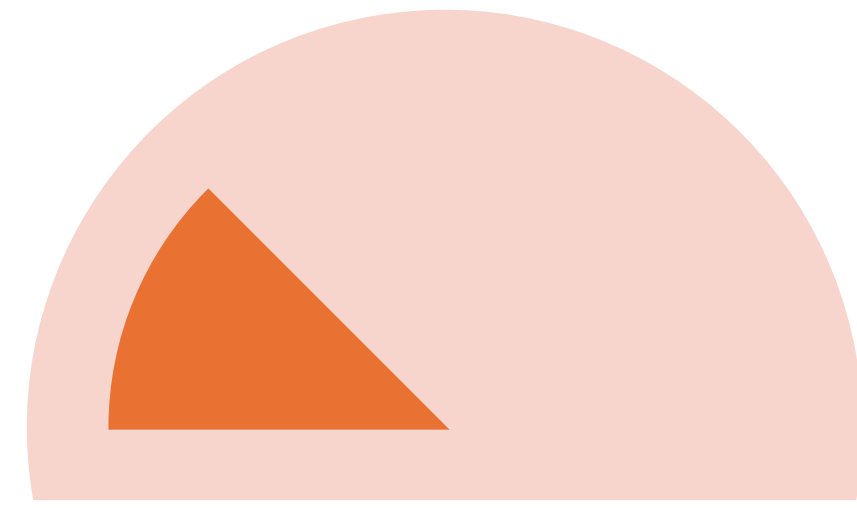
EIS Review and Decision

After consideration of governmental and public review of the EIS submission, the EA Committee makes a recommendation to the Minister. An EIS can be approved, rejected, or deemed deficient. The Minister then makes a recommendation to Cabinet (2025).

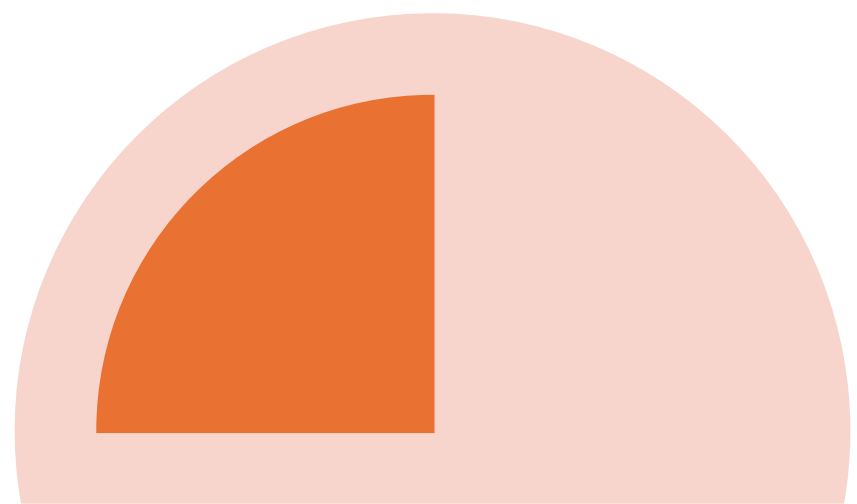


2025

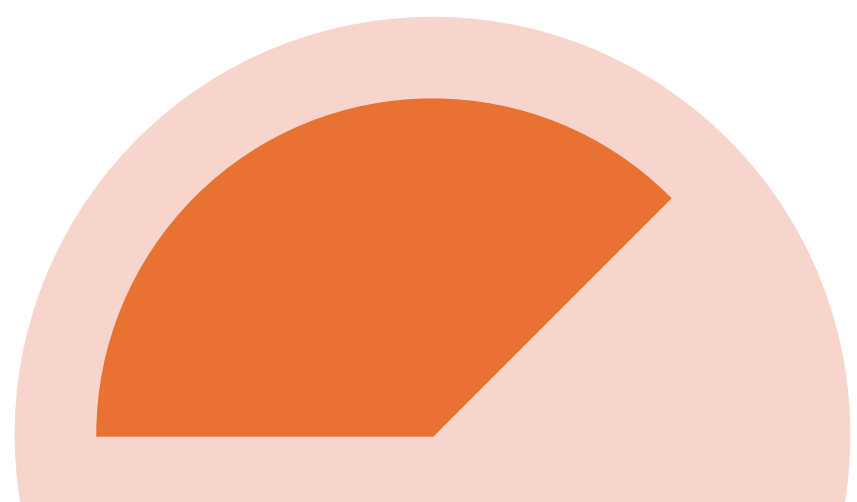
Public Consultation Process



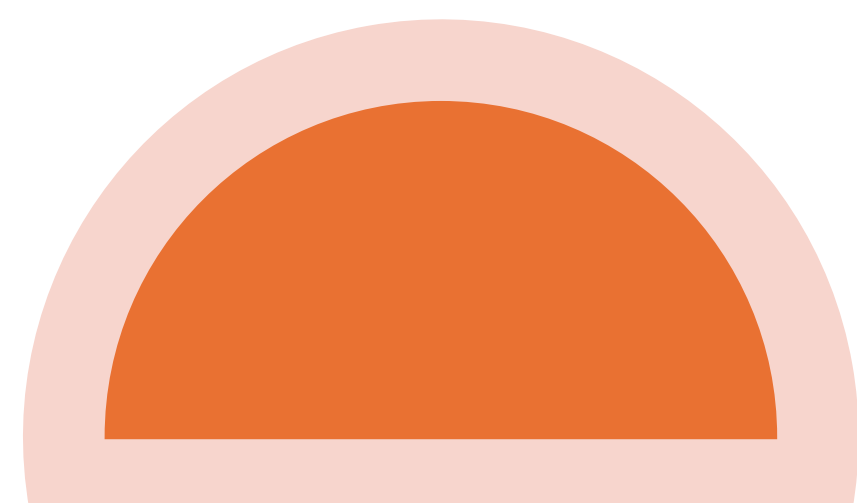
Approved Public Consultation Plan



Public information sessions and stakeholder meetings



Document concerns, questions, and statements of support



Summarize and address concerns for inclusion in the EIS

Baseline Studies

Wild Atlantic Salmon

- Population abundance, distribution, and migration
- Proximity of sea farm sites to rivers
- Genetic and ecological interactions with farmed salmon
- Model to predict potential for farmed salmon escapees

Sea Farm Sites (Bay Management Areas)

- Historical performance (escapees, sea lice, mortalities, treatments)
- Exposure zone modelling for fish health products
- Oceanographic, meteorological, water quality, and benthic habitat data and information
- Sea cage location and layout information

Fish and Fish Habitat

- Identify fish and fish habitat including those that support a fishery
- Identify Species at Risk, Aquatic Invasive Species, and marine mammals
- Benthic surveys and aquatic dispersion modelling

Environmental Plans and EEMPs



Plans

- Emergency Response/Contingency Plan
- Waste Management Plan

Environmental Effects Monitoring Programs (EEMPs)

- Genetic and Ecological Interactions of Escaped Farm Salmon on Wild Atlantic Salmon
- Groundwater Monitoring Program
- Benthic Monitoring Program
- Aquatic Invasive Species Management and Monitoring Program
- Climate and Meteorological Data Monitoring Program
- Marine Wildlife Monitoring Program

Key Issues

Potential Effects on Wild Atlantic Salmon

Genetic Integrity

Biological Fitness

Population-level Effects

Economics

Cultural and Social Significance

Mitigation of Environmental Effects

Fish & Farmed Salmon

Mammals

Benthos

Parasites

Diseases