

33. The Parties shall jointly develop and implement policies and procedures for planning, feasibility studies and operational methods. As a first step, the Parties shall undertake comprehensive cooperative regional planning and field surveys for possible salmon restoration and enhancement programs, the results of which shall be provided to the JTC. As part of this planning process, both Parties should incorporate fish genetic and health guidelines developed by the JTC.
34. The Parties understand that the financial contributions to the Fund shall be used for the programs described in Paragraph 32(b) to provide benefits for U.S. and Canadian fishermen on the Yukon River.

Principles and Guidelines for the Restoration and Enhancement Fund

Principles

35. Restoration and enhancement activities shall be consistent with the protection of the existing wild salmon stocks and the habitats upon which they depend.
36. Given the wild nature of the Yukon River and its salmon stocks, and the substantial risks associated with large scale enhancement through artificial propagation, these enhancement activities are inappropriate at this time.
37. Artificial propagation shall not be used as a substitute for effective fishery regulation, stock and habitat management or protection.

Guidelines

38. The priorities for implementing projects with the Fund shall be in this order: (a) restoring habitat and wild stocks; (b) enhancing habitat; and (c) enhancing wild stocks.
39. Careful planning is necessary before undertaking any restoration or enhancement projects that might impact any wild stock. Projects shall be evaluated by the Yukon River Panel based on a Yukon River basin wide stock rebuilding and restoration plan. A careful assessment and inventory of wild stocks and their health, habitat, and life history must be an integral part of restoration and enhancement planning.
40. The most stringent of the fish genetics and fish disease policies in place by the responsible management entity of either Party will be applied to salmon restoration or enhancement projects.