

Forum on Conservation & Harvest Planning

JOINT TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (JTWG) UPDATE

DECEMBER 16, 2014

Today

- Terms of Reference Overview
- Overview of December 15 meeting
- Feedback from JTWG to Forum

JTWG TOR

- Key items in TOR
 - JTWG takes direction from the FRAFS EC
 - Resources are limited: JTWG process is part of consultation process, but not the whole part
 - Discussion will seek consensus: where consensus is not achieved – perspectives will be presented in report to FRAFS EC
 - Option to move un-resolvable issues from JTWG to FRAFS EC
 - Will review the TOR at the end of “Meeting Season”

JTWG TOR in action

- JTWG Co-Chairs submitted memo to FRAFS EC March 5, 2014
- Memo has resulted in hiring Karl English to complete chinook work related to Fraser chinook Run Reconstruction. Also process has been set for receiving other Chinook information.
- Based on recommendation from JTWG participants: JTWG Co-Chairs request written response to Memo to close the loop on this issue
- JTWG can't replicate some of the historical CWT results – need this to inform management and as long as chinook management is underpinned by June 2012 DFO letter...will be an issue

Overview of December 15 Meeting

- First in-person of “Meeting Season”
- 16 people (stand up please)
- Topics:
 - Background: Concentrate on Forum information
 - Lower Fraser CWT methods and data
 - Thanks to Chuck Parken and Matt Parslow for presentation
 - There were some recommendations from the JTWG table with respect to data/data treatments and methods that could be considered – recommend a more detailed discussion could cover w/in the Lower Fraser and BCI then report back to JTWG

Overview of December 15 Meeting

- Interior Fraser Coho
 - CSAS review: biological benchmarks, status
 - Benchmark (the standard) for FN technical involvement – involved from TOR to presentation for Peer Review
 - Paper accepted with minor revisions: being revised
 - 5 CUs: 3 Amber, 2 Amber-Green
 - Status is based on low productivity regime
 - Need to be clear on what benchmarks are telling us (didn't just base status on dashboard indicators)

Overview of December 15 Meeting

- Interior Fraser Coho
 - CSAS: Need better FN involvement on Straight of Georgia Coho (draft paper was rejected by CSAS)
 - CSAS review of mortality distribution for IFC: currently an internal DFO process: need follow-up and response from DFO on this: **NEED FN INVOLVEMENT**
 - 2014 IFC post-season review: JTWG requests full discussion of IFC information: 1 day in-person meeting – requires discussion during development and completion

Overview of December 15 Meeting

- Post-season Presentations
 - Sockeye:
 - as part of February JTWG meeting - look @ MA as part of the full Fraser sox discussion
 - CU Status: DFO currently doesn't have a decision framework that clearly integrates CU status
 - Chinook: will need to look at the Spring/Summer escapements and compare to the in-season abundance estimate and associated range

Overview of December 15 Meeting

- Lower Fraser Coho
 - JTWG requests a more detailed discussion and info related to Lower Fraser coho in order to be able to provide more detailed information and communication (understand the data and uncertainties – align better with IFC information)
- Steelhead
 - Need better engagement on steelhead at the data level: need to understand uncertainties and how the data/results/data treatments are used to implement fisheries and fit into management framework
 - Province?????

Clarification & Input from JTWG participants?

- Questions?
- Comments?
- JTWG to meet January, February and March

Thank you!