

SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 17, 2013



In-person meeting
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council, Kamloops
9:30 – 2:00 p.m.

A. PARTICIPANTS

- Murray Ross (Meeting Chair)
- Thomas Alexis
- Ernie Crey
- Ernie Victor
- Gord Sterritt
- Howie Wright
- Mike Staley
- Neil Todd
- Walter Quinlan
- Dave Reedman
- Terri Bonnet, Jamie Scroggie and Pete Nicklin via teleconference

B. AGENDA ITEMS

After review and adjustments, the agenda was finalized and accepted:

1. Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda
2. Old business – review draft minutes and Action Items from July 16th meeting
3. Budget Expenditures: update and report
4. Meeting Calendar: Road Map and Forum
5. Update: Southern BC Chinook Planning Initiative
6. FNFC/FRAFS EC Discussion
7. JTWG TORs
8. Pink and Coho Impacts / Sockeye fishery issues
9. December EC Meeting: teleconference or in-person
10. Visions conference

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C. DISCUSSIONS

1. Roll call:

Attendance noted as listed under “Participants.”

2. Old Business – Action Items

EC meeting schedule and locations

The October EC meeting will be in-person. It will be held in Quesnel on the day preceding the UFFCA meeting. November’s meeting will be a teleconference; December’s will be in Chilliwack.

The Communications Coordinator reported that all other Actions Items had been completed, or, were in-progress, as per their respective Target Date.

3. Budget Expenditures

The Operations Manager submitted a written update: *Expenditure Summary by Activity and Month* (AAROM funding only). He went through each budget item and reported on current level of expenditure and noted that expenditure rates are generally lower than for the same time period in the previous fiscal year. The EC accepted the report.

The Operations Manager shared with the Committee that the Pacific Salmon Commission sent a note thanking FRAFS for assistance provided re some of the coordination with the First Nations participants, as well as for the Honoraria for the Opening Prayer and drummers at the Hell’s Gate event.

Question: What’s the timeline for PICFI funding for CSPI and Road Map? Funding was partially allocated to a maximum of \$50,000 per project to start with, and the remainder would be delivered in January/February, 2014.

The Operations Manager reported that he had attended a FNFC teleconference regarding the formation of the **Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee (AMAC)**. This committee is structured much like the IHPC and that First Nations have seven seats on the AMAC, six of which are Coastal. Questions that arose:

- How big is the AMAC? There are 21 members in total.
- How important is it for First Nations to be involved with the AMAC? How will it interact with FRAFS?
- Will the AMAC meet First Nations needs?

The importance of research on disease was pointed out: We’re catching a lot of salmon that aren’t looking that good.

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Meeting Calendar and Venues: Road Map and Forum

The Communications Coordinator presented a meeting calendar for the Forum and Road Map covering the period November, 2013 to March, 2014, along with a spreadsheet that showed a comparative analysis of the costs of doing business with five different hotels in the Richmond area.

There are plans taking shape for an October meeting of the Forum Planning Committee (FPC) to discuss agenda development and locations.

With respect to Forum agenda development, there was a concern raised about the disconnect between the Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG) and the FPC. Questions posed:

- How much that was discussed in last year's Forum was useful in- season?
- How do we link the JTWG with the FRAFS EC and FPC for agenda development?

The Operations Manager said that there was a recent meeting of the FPC where agenda development was discussed in response to the Facilitator's report. The FPC is looking at revising the agenda to create more Tier 1 time.

The issue of availability and control of data was discussed. Timing is a concern too because DFO is trying to move up timeline for IFMP as per the Minister's needs.

From this discussion flowed these Action Items:

- FPC meeting notes will be shared with the FRAFS Executive Committee; and
- the Terms of Reference of the FRAFS EC and the FPC, respectively, will be amended to reflect JTWG's participation.

CSPI Update: Project Lead Consultant

Project Lead Consultant

CSPI small group is currently reviewing the two proposals for project lead.

FNFC/FRAFS EC Discussion

The concern was raised that the mid-river is by and large absent from processes (such as the Fraser Panel). There should be greater Aboriginal representation around the table. The make-up of the Fraser Panel should also reflect the changing nature of fisheries (ex.: more inland commercial fisheries).

It was noted that almost all Panel appointments are open this fall, which may provide an opportunity for the RDG to consider some of the changes recommended by FRAFS.. The EC agreed to a draft a letter to be to the RDG at the FNFC meeting planned for October. The thrust of the letter is to explain to DFO that it's in both DFO and First Nations interest to have a mid-river First Nations appointment.

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Questions that arose from the discussion included:

- Are they just going to roll over fall Panel appointments?
- Do we have to go through the FNFC process for First Nations' re-appointments?

Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG) Terms of Reference: Recommended draft changes from the Co-chairs

The FRAFS Fisheries Biologist prefaced his draft read-through with three points:

- we took bit of a step backwards last year with respect to information sharing between DFO and the JTWG;
- there should be stronger links from the JTWG to other important parts (ex.: FPC; FRAFS EC); and
- the JTWG should have background information on all items addressed at the Forum

He also recommended an annual review of the JTWG's Terms of Reference based on the template he presented.

In his view, the two key issues driving this review are:

1. How do we handle a gap in information when it occurs?
2. Any new information, or, major change to existing information, must be communicated to the JTWG sooner, rather than later.

He then led the EC through the draft TOR.

Pink and Coho Impacts / Sockeye fishery issues

The FRAFS Fisheries Biologist expressed a sense of urgency in starting the process of learning from the past season. In 2014 there should be a significant number of sockeye salmon returning which will overlap with stocks of concern (e.g. coho). January is too late to start planning, now is the time. The goal is to be better prepared in 2014 for unexpected events.

Question: How there could be better collaboration between DFO and First Nations. He also recommended that the FRAFS EC provide guidance to the JTWG to put together their Work Plan very soon. Lastly, he advised that the RDG needs to be informed that "we're ready, willing and able to assist with the Coho file and the RDG needs to organize the department to collaborate." There was agreement from around the table.

Action Items:

- FRAFS EC direct JTWG co-chairs to develop the Work Plan.
- The Operations Manager recommended that the JTWG should be convened sooner rather than later.
- Ascertain who the DFO contact will be.

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December 17th EC Meeting

In-person at the Sto:lo Resource Centre beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Visions Conference

The Operations Manager said that there was money in the budget and asked the EC for ideas.

It was suggested adding it before or after a Forum to reduce travel costs. Another idea: it would be good for CSPI in March when there would be presentations from the Science Report that could be made.

Action Items

Action Item	Status
EC meeting schedule / locations for the rest of the year.	Oct. 15th: in-person Quesnel Nov. 18th: teleconference Dec. 17th: in-person Chilliwack
Appendix to the Charter: First Draft done. Work to continue for further discussion at the October in-person meeting.	Target date: October 15, 2013
Invite Ecotrust representative to an EC meeting.	In progress.
Forum Planning Committee (FPC) to liaise with the JTWG as part of agenda development.	Oct. 30 th FPC teleconference to be re-scheduled.
FPC meeting notes distributed to the FRAFS EC	Done.
Edit FRAFS EC and FPC TOR's to reflect JTWG participation.	In-progress

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Draft letter to deliver to the RDG in Oct. re: mid-river representation. Follow up with FNFC.	In-progress
Send revised draft of the JTWG TORs to the FRAFS Comms Coordinator and Ops Mgr . Distribute document.	Target date: October 15, 2013