



## **FRASER RIVER ABORIGINAL FISHERIES SECRETARIAT**

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### **Summary**

**FRAFS Executive Committee**  
**Monday, Nov 16, 2015, Conference Call**

#### **DRAFT AGENDA**

1. Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda
2. Old business:
  - Notes from the previous meeting
  - Action items from the previous meeting
3. October budget expenditure update
4. FishTank/PICFI update
5. Nicola Tribal Association and FRAFS (Discussion about the NTA/FRAFS working relationship)
  - a. Introductions, history, present relationship next steps
  - b. Review the updated ex-officio ToR
6. Mission/Qualark, FRSSI and CSPI update
7. Forum Planning update
  - a. Update on venues
  - b. Review the updated ToR for Forum Planning Committee (FPC) and Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning
8. FSC Allocation update
9. Letter to the RDG – FN Caucus Finalize letter and confirm consensus on dates: April 26, 27 or 28<sup>th</sup>
10. Set next meeting FRAFS EC: teleconference or in-person; start time
  - a. Discuss meeting in-person with FNFC Executive per our Charter commitment in Dec.
  - b. JTWG prioritization plan
11. JTWG DFO Co-chair

12. GoTo meeting for FRAFS

**1 Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda**

**2. Old business:**

**Notes from the previous meeting**

The notes have been revised, finalized and sent to FRAFS EC members.

**Action items from the previous meeting**

- Operations Manager will confirm with IMAWG their reps on the Forum Planning Committee following their November 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Operations Manager sent the 2014-15 post-season summary to people and has asked for their projections for the remainder on 2015-16.
- The Chair suggested that the EC send a letter to the new Prime Minister. Communications Manager suggested that the PM's Mandate letter to the minister would be a good way to frame the FRAFS letter. EC asked Operations Manager to draft the letter.

**3. October budget expenditure update**

1. Following discussion, the current budget expenditure update was accepted by the EC.

**4. Fish Tank/PICFI update)**

With the sunset of PICFI, DFO is doing an evaluation of First Nations co-management projects and processes. The FNFC's Fish Tank has been doing its own analysis, with the intention of ensuring good work is continued. There are no commitments yet from DFO, but there seems to be hope of bridge funding.

**5. Nicola Tribal Association and FRAFS**

NTA Executive Director the former Operations Manager joined the EC for a discussion about the NTA/FRAFS working relationship. After discussion, the E.D. was asked to draft a list of questions that NTA might have for FRAFS. It was agreed that in the near future the FRAFS EC meeting would be held in Merritt at the NTA office.

**Review the updated ex-officio ToR:**

It was decided that the Operations Manager would send the revised TOR to the Communications Manager for posting on the FRAFS website.

## **6. Update: Mission/Qualark, FRSSI review and Chinook update**

### Mission/Qualark

Senior Biologist: PSC is going through a strategic review of sockeye and pink management, including the cost of Mission and Qualark. A draft report has been done for the FPC Tech oversight committee. There will probably be resources for Qualark for 2016. Interim report to commissioners in January 2016 and final report in the fall. FRAFS Senior Biologist will continue to be involved given First Nations interest in Mission and Qualark.

Chair: Is this report current with the Minister's Mandate letter (ex: "funding for freshwater research; scientific evidence; Cohen.")?

FRAFS Senior Biologist suggested to wait and see what unfolds at the PSC meeting in January.

### FRSSI (Fraser River Sockeye Spawning Initiative)

Bio 1: FRSSI generates harvest rules for sockeye aggregates. But there's a need to deal with the diversity of stocks within those aggregates. One model/representation of harvest in one place was applied to the entire aggregate. The model is being worked on to take into account that there could be stocks within an aggregate that could be harvested, even if there isn't for the aggregate as a whole. People in-river would like to fish their stocks when there's abundance in those stocks regardless of what's going on in the overall aggregate. Need a more disaggregated management approach to accommodate stock diversity.

The "extended steering group" will have a teleconference in early January.

Bio1: The policy is to manage the 4 aggregates. I don't know if it's a strict policy but the Minister has signed off on it in the IFMP.

Bio 2: That's the question that could be asked at the extended group: What's the specific policy?

### Southern BC Chinook Strategic Planning Initiative (CSPI)

There was a Steering Planning committee meeting a week ago. The points of focus:

- I. An update where the tech committee is in developing analytic tools for understanding implications of various strategies. There has been some progress (harvest; survival rates; hatcheries). Work plan goal is to have these tools in place in order to address these questions in early 2016.
- II. Systematic review of the draft Table of Contents for the eventual Strategic Plan.
- III. Work Planning: There will be a follow up meeting with steering/planning and technical committees (Feb?).

## **7. Forum Planning update**

### Update on venues

- Richmond: Executive Airport
- Nanaimo: Vancouver Island Conference Centre
- Kamloops: Sandman Signature

The EC approved these selections.

### Review the updated ToR for Forum Planning Committee (FPC)

It was decided that the Operations Manager would send the revised TOR to the Communications Manager for posting on the FRAFS website.

### Review the updated TOR Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning

Further discussion required.

## **8. FSC Allocation work group: update**

From the October 20<sup>th</sup> EC meeting, a small work group tasked with framing the issue was formed and had two-hour teleconference on November 9<sup>th</sup>. They went over:

- Historical background.
- Scope: limited to Fraser River sockeye.
- Address issue of lack of transparency
- Need a brief 3 to 5 page summary: define issue and draft a funding proposal for next fiscal

A First Nations EC member said that it comes down to defining what FSC is from a First Nation perspectives (principles, strategies, numbers). A literature search would be worthwhile. Having an undefined FSC is a big barrier to fisheries management. FRAFS can get the ball rolling, but this is a broader issue, involves many others, probably need a legal analysis.

A DFO representative said that it's very beneficial to have the questions grouped as suggested. It would prepare everyone for the discussion.

Chair: Minister's Mandate letter refers to Cohen Commission.

**9. Letter to the RDG – FN Caucus Finalize letter and confirm consensus on dates in April**

- Proposed dates for next meeting: April 12, 13 or 14

**10. Set next meeting FRAFS EC: teleconference or in-person; start time**

Discuss meeting in-person with FNFC Executive per our Charter commitment.

**11. JTWG Co-chair participation on FRAFS EC**

The FRAFS JTWG Co-chair said that it'd be worthwhile to have the DFO Co-chair included in JTWG discussions at the EC. Agreed.

**12. JTWG prioritization plan**

The Co-chairs plan to present a form to present to the December FRAFS EC that can be used to prioritize the top 10 to 15 issues for the next season (December to June).

**13. GoTo meeting for FRAFS**

FRAFS Assign sign-on credentials to the Communications Manager.