
FRAFS Executive Committee Meeting – May 22, 2012

Meeting Location: DFO RHQ, Boardroom D, Vancouver BC
9:00am – 3:00pm

A. PARTICIPANTS

Meeting Chair: Ken Malloway

Neil Todd, Adrian Wall, Terri Bonnet, Mike Staley, Thomas Alexis, Gord Sterritt, Ernie Victor, Ernie Crey, Murray Ross (phone)

Afternoon session (agenda item #12): Lisa Wilson, DFO; Saul Milne, FNFC; Jordan Point, FNFC; Mark Duiven, FN ISH
Phone: Murray Ned, LFFA; Howie Wright, FNFC/ONA; Richard Sparrow, FNFC/Musqueam; Pat Matthew, SFC; Marcel Shepert; Les Jantz, DFO

Record Keeper: Aimee Arsenault

B. AGENDA

Agenda items

1. Roll Call
2. Review and accept agenda
3. Review draft minutes and action items from the March 20 meeting
4. Financial summary report from last fiscal year
5. Update on Chinook and sockeye management issues for the 2012 fishing year
6. Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning – evaluation of the process – yes? If yes, who? And how to fund?
7. Funding proposal for the FSRPG and the management agreement development workshops (Roadmap) in 2012/13
8. Review existing TORs for FRAFS – supported initiatives to prep for afternoon meeting
9. Development of a mid-Fraser First Nations' collaborative working group (if time allows)
10. Visions 2012 – discussion re what, why, where, who, when, etc. (if time allows)
11. LUNCH
12. Roundtable discussion concerning three initiatives/processes: Development of an agreement for the management of Fraser salmon; forum on conservation and harvest planning; First Nations integrated salmon harvest interim coordinating committee. The discussion is intended to:
 - Clarify for everybody's information what each of those initiatives does or attempts to do.
 - Identify any potential areas of duplication of purpose or effort; where duplication exists, identify if there is potential for convergence.
 - Identify where divergence should be maintained in order to preserve the best chance for an initiative to achieve its purpose.

C. DISCUSSION

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Review and accept agenda**

- Accepted as presented.

3. Review draft minutes and action items from the March 20 meeting

- Will review at the next EC meeting.

4. Financial summary report from last fiscal year

- Provided an update on last year's finances. The final year-end report will be provided to the EC upon completion.
- Spending is on track for the current fiscal year.
- Topics discussed: funding for participant travel for Forum/Roadmap/etc.; mid-river participation in fisheries management processes; etc.
- This is the final year for the current multi-year agreement (will finalize the new agreement by the end of this calendar year).
- First Nations Forum participants requested an additional meeting to discuss sockeye planning (Tier 1) on June 12 in Kamloops. The FRAFS EC agreed to fund the meeting with lunch and coffee.

5. Update on Chinook and sockeye management issues for the 2012 fishing year; update on southern BC Chinook management framework planning process – Mike

- Received a letter from DFO discussing options for managing spring and summer 5₂ Chinook in the event that the run size dictates a zone 1 management approach (management zone will be determined in mid June).
- 5₂ Chinook data is based on 2000-06 Dome CWT data.
- At the last Forum, technical staff identified issues with the data presented on FN catch of spring 5₂ Chinook (showed less relative impact by FN; reduced total returns; reduced number of recruits per spawner). The JTWG met to discuss the implications for spring 5₂ conservation, and for First Nations fisheries.
- DFO has not yet responded to the new analysis. The First Nations members of the EC expressed that this needs to be a priority for DFO.

ACTION #1: Write a letter to DFO discussing the data analysis issue, and clearly state how First Nations would like to see DFO deal with this issue (specific recommendations regarding time and resources).

- Also discussed general concerns about Chinook management, e.g. recreational harvest, lack of data, etc.
- Provided an update on the Southern BC Chinook Strategic Planning process, which FRAFS will play a role in coordinating. Some First Nations EC members expressed that this process needs to be a higher priority for DFO.
- A letter sent to DFO indicated that First Nations had reached consensus on Early Stuart management at the Prince George Forum; however, it appears that there were a few different understandings of the data, and therefore, the issue will have to be discussed further before consensus can be reached (will discuss June 12).

6. Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning – evaluation of the process – yes? If yes, who? And how to fund?

- Tabled.

7. Funding proposal for the FSRPG and the management agreement development workshops (Roadmap) in 2012/13 – Adrian

- Tabled.

8. Review existing TORs for FRAFS – supported initiatives to prep for afternoon meeting

- Tabled.

9. Development of a mid-Fraser First Nations' collaborative working group (if time allows)

- Tabled.

10. Visions 2012 – discussion re what, why, where, who, when, etc. (if time allows)

- Tabled.

11. LUNCH

12. Roundtable discussion concerning three initiatives/processes: Development of an Agreement for the Management of Fraser Salmon (Roadmap); Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning; First Nations Integrated Salmon Harvest Interim Coordinating Committee. The discussion is intended to:

- Clarify for everybody's information what each of those initiatives does or attempts to do.
- Identify any potential areas of duplication of purpose or effort; where duplication exists, identify if there is potential for convergence.
- Identify where divergence should be maintained in order to preserve the best chance for an initiative to achieve its purpose.

- The participants discussed coordination of effort for the Forum, Roadmap and FN ISH processes.
- Provided context by describing each of the processes.
- Need to focus on funding efficiencies, budgets for this fiscal year, reducing duplication of effort, fiscal and human resource savings, etc.
- Technical capacity at the local level is crucial (First Nations need to be involved in the science/technical side of fisheries).
- The meeting participants agreed that they are interested in exploring opportunities for coordination between the various processes. It was suggested that First Nations participants from each of the processes could come together in a facilitated session to discuss Tier 1 development.
- The FNFC committed to producing a discussion document in the next few weeks to outline convergence opportunities (will coordinate with FRAFS to develop the paper). This initiative will be kept at the Tier 1 level at this point, and might involve DFO later on as it moves forward.

ACTION #2: Draft a discussion document re: Tier 1 development, organizational alignment, etc. (timeline: next 3 weeks).

D. NEXT EC MEETING

- The FRAFS EC will schedule a conference call to discuss the tabled agenda items (date and time TBD).

E. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

ACTION #1: Write a letter to DFO discussing the data analysis issue, and clearly state how First Nations would like to see DFO deal with this issue (specific recommendations regarding time and resources).

ACTION #2: Draft a discussion document re: Tier 1 development, organizational alignment, etc. (timeline: next 3 weeks).