



**To:** Forum Planning Committee (FPC) and Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG) Co-Chairs

**From:** Fraser Salmon Management Council (FSMC) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

**SUBJECT:** **Pre-Season Planning Process for Fraser River Salmon and Continued Role of the Forum Planning Committee and Joint Technical Working Group**

Dear Committee Members and Co-Chairs,

We write today regarding the pre-season planning process for Fraser River salmon and to seek your continued engagement and support for this work leading into the 2020-21 season.

As you are likely aware, the Fraser Salmon Management Council (FSMC) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) signed a Fraser Salmon Collaborative Management Agreement on July 5, 2019. This historic Agreement lays out a framework for the parties to work in a collaborative manner on the management of Fraser Salmon. FSMC and DFO are working together on the early stages of implementation for the agreement, including the identification of Executive and Fraser Salmon Management Board (FSMB) members, the establishment of a Joint Technical Committee (JTC), and development of an Annual Work Plan as outlined in the agreement.

We anticipate the Fraser Salmon Management Board will have their initial meeting early in 2020, at which time the parties will begin identifying priorities and drafting the Annual Work Plan for the coming year. This will include a plan for transitioning from current processes to new ones, as identified in the agreement. As part of this process, the parties will be working to populate the JTC and initiate meetings.

While this transition is underway, both the FSMC and DFO have highlighted the importance of ongoing, established processes for exchanging technical information and providing the opportunity for dialogue with First Nations to inform the 2020-21 Southern BC Salmon Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP). In particular, the FSMC and DFO would like to acknowledge the important work the Forum Planning Committee (FPC) and Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG) have undertaken in support of this process for many years, and seek your continued engagement while the above-noted transition occurs. In that context, we would like to offer our continued support for the Terms of Reference, attached, and recommend they continue to guide the work of both the FPC and JTWG in this interim period, until the FSMB and new JTC become operational.

We anticipate the engagement process will continue to evolve in the coming months as new processes under the agreement take shape, and we ask for your continued patience and support in those efforts.



If FPC or JTWG members have any questions or comments regarding the approach for the upcoming season, or implementation of the new collaborative agreement, please contact Matthew Parslow ([Matthew.Parslow@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Parslow@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)), Neil Todd ([ntodd@scwexmxtribal.org](mailto:ntodd@scwexmxtribal.org)), Greg Witzky ([gwitzky@scwexmxtribal.org](mailto:gwitzky@scwexmxtribal.org)) or one of the undersigned.

Thank you for your continued advice, expertise and support in the conservation and management of Fraser salmon.

Sincerely,

Darren Haskell  
President, FSMC

Andrew Thomson  
Regional Director, Fisheries Management (DFO)