

**Forum on Conservation & Harvest Planning for Fraser Salmon
December 16-18, 2014**

Best Western Tower Inn, 500 Reid Street, Quesnel, BC

Tel: 250-992-2201 (<http://www.bwtowerinn.ca/>)

Facilitator: Marcel Shepert

Forum Purpose (s):

Overarching Purpose: The FORUM is intended to provide an annual process for information sharing and discussion on Fraser salmon fisheries issues between DFO and First Nations (Tier 2) and First Nations with other First Nations (Tier 1).

December FORUM Purpose: The intent of this meeting is to start by having a discussion between DFO and First Nations on the FORUM process. The hope is that by starting off by addressing some of the issues from 2014 we can arrive at a common understanding of the process in order to commence discussions for 2015 on a positive note. This FORUM will also provide some preliminary information on 2014 salmon fisheries and some information to initiate thinking about fishery planning for 2015.

Day 1 (Tuesday, Dec 16th): First Nations and DFO together

9:00 Welcome/Opening Prayer – To be confirmed

9:15 to 9:45 am (30 minutes)

- Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning for 2015 – Adrian Wall
Context on previous FORUM meetings and why we are having these meetings followed by discussion between DFO and First Nations on the process, the value of the process to each respective group and ways and means to improve the process.

9:45 to 10:30 am

- Summary of meeting that took place between FRAFS Executive and RDG on September 29, 2014 – Ken Malloway (FRAFS) & Jennifer Nener (DFO)

10:30 Refreshment break

10:45 to 12 noon (75 minutes)

- Summary of 2014 Fraser Panel process – Ken Malloway (FRAFS) & Jennifer Nener (DFO)
- 2014 Post Season Presentations:
These will include escapement information where possible, a brief overview of 2014 management objectives and dates when you may expect and/or locations to access information that is not yet available, as well as preliminary catch information.
 - Very preliminary review of Fraser Sockeye – Jamie Scroggie (DFO)

12:00 Lunch will be provided

1:00 to 2:30 pm (90 minutes)

- 2014 Post Season Presentations (*continued*):
 - Very preliminary review of chinook, coho, chum – Jamie Scroggie (DFO)
- Interior Fraser Coho update - Jennifer Nener (DFO)
 - 2014 Post-season analysis – an update
 - An overview of the process for setting a 2015 IFR coho objective.

Note: Escapement and ER timelines will not be anticipated to be available until mid-March, 2015 as coho are still being enumerated in November and early December.

2:30 Refreshment break

2:45 to 3:30 (45 minutes)

- Fraser Watershed Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG) Update – Pete Nicklin (FRAFS) and Jamie Scroggie (DFO)
 - Canadian Scientific Advice Secretariat (CSAS) meeting updates from November 4 to 7, 2014 – There is a paper in draft form that looks at benchmarks for Interior Fraser coho.
 - Summary of joint technical working group meeting from December 15 – key items to be raised with FORUM participants.

3:30 to 4:00 (30 minutes)

- Wrap up of Day One Discussion.

Day 2 (Wednesday, Dec 17th): First Nations and DFO together

9:00 am Welcome/Opening Prayer

9:15 to 10:30 am (75 minutes)

- 2014 Upper Fraser First Nations Fisheries – Gord Sterritt and Linda Stevens (~30 mins)
- 2015 Salmon Outlook for Fraser River stocks - David Reedman (~45 mins)

The Outlook is intended to provide a high level overview of what might be expected in the upcoming season. A webinar on the entire Outlook (all Areas, not just Fraser) was presented on Nov. 28th. FN technical people were invited to participate.

Note: The 2015 sockeye forecast should be available in January 2015 and the 2015 coho forecast by March 2015.

- Productivity of Quesnel Lake (presented to Fraser Panel in 2014) – Dan Selbie (DFO)

10:30 Refreshment break

10:45 to 12 noon (75 minutes)

- Use of Fish – Speaker to be Confirmed (DFO)
- Fraser Salmon Management Council (FSMC) update – Chair of Main Table (TBD)

12:00 Lunch will be provided

Day 2 (Wednesday afternoon, Dec 17th): First Nations Only

1:00 to 2:30 (90 minutes)

- *Tier 1 Discussions Related to the FORUM Process and information presented during the Tier 2 portion of the Agenda.*

2:30 Refreshment break

2:45 to 4:00 (75 minutes)

- *Discussion Continued.*

Day 3 (Thursday morning, Dec. 18th): First Nations Only

9:00 to 10:30 (90 minutes)

- *Discussion Continued.*

10:30 Refreshment Break

10:45 to 12 noon (75 minutes)

- *Preparation for upcoming FORUM's in January and March 2015.*
- *Wrap-up*

Safe Journey Home!

FN Speakers:

Ken Malloway is chair of the Fraser River Aboriginal Fisheries Secretariat and the chair of the FORUM planning Committee.

Pete Nicklin is a biologist who works with both FRAFS and the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance. He is a co-chair (with Jamie Scroggie) of the Joint Technical Working Group and a member of the Pacific Salmon Commission (PST) Joint Coho Technical Committee.

DFO Speakers:

Jennifer Nener is the Area Director for the Lower Fraser Area and the Canadian Chair of the Fraser Panel.

Dave Reedman is a resource manager in the BC Interior area based out of Williams Lake.

Jamie Scroggie is a biologist who works for the BC Interior Resource Management group. He is also a member of the technical committee of the Fraser Panel and a co-chair of the Joint Technical Working Group (with Pete Nicklin). Jamie is a member of the Forum Planning Committee.

Dan Selbie is a scientist who works out of the DFO Cultus Lake laboratory and specializes in lake limnology.

Adrian Wall is the Aboriginal Affairs Advisor for the BC Interior and a member of the Forum Planning Committee.

DRAFT

Our Favorite Acronyms and maybe even some definitions:

Please let me know if this is helpful and feel free to suggest additions to linda.stevens@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

AABM	Aggregate Abundance-Based Management
AAROM	Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management
AFS	Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy
ATP	Allocation Transfer Program
CCTAC	Canadian Commercial Total Allowable Catch
COHO ABM	Coho Abundance-Based Management
COSEWIC	Committee for the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
CPUE	Catch Per Unit Effort
CSAS	The Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat
CSAB	Commercial Salmon Advisory Board
CWT	Coded Wire Tag
ER	Exploitation Rate
ESSR	Excess Salmon to Spawning Requirements
FNFC	First Nations Fishery Council
FRP	Fraser River Panel
FSC	Food, Social and Ceremonial
ITQ	Individual Transfer Quota
IHPC	Integrated Harvest Planning Committee
ISBM	Individual Stock-Based Management
LAER	Low Abundance Exploitation Rates
LRP	Lower Reference Points
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
PICFI	Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative
PSC	Pacific Salmon Commission (www.psc.org)
PST	Pacific Salmon Treaty
SARA	Species at Risk Act
SFAB	Sport Fishing Advisory Board
SHMF	Selective Hatchery Mark Fishery
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
TAM	Total Allowable Mortality
WSP	Wild Salmon Policy (Canada's Policy for Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon)

2015 FORUM Meetings:

January 2015

Squiala Community Centre (near Chilliwack).
8528 Ashwell Road, Chilliwack, BC
January 26, 2014 – Joint Technical Working Group
January 27th -29th - FORUM

March 2015

North Vancouver
Venue TBD.
March 9th - JTWG
March 10-12th - FORUM