
FRAFS Executive Committee Meeting – January 17, 2012

Meeting Location: Coast Hotel, Kamloops BC
9:30am – 1:00pm

A. PARTICIPANTS

Meeting Chair: Ken Malloway

Neil Todd, Murray Ross, Thomas Alexis, Adrian Wall Gord Sterritt
Phone: Terri Bonnet, Corey Jackson, Ernie Crey

Guests (phone): Corey Jackson, Kamaljeet Guram (DFO aquaculture)

Record Keeper: Aimee Arsenault

B. AGENDA

Agenda items

1. Roll call
2. Review and accept agenda
3. Review action items from the December EC meeting
4. Aquaculture consultation in the Interior
5. Review of budget status at December 31 – and forecast expenditure needs for January to March
6. Outlook for the FRAFS program in fiscal 12/13
 - Can we do the long form recipient assessment and achieve status in time for carrying over unspent funds into 12/13?
 - Report on progress re mid Fraser AAROM body and implications for the 12/13 budget and program
 - South coast Chinook strategic planning process – update and implications for FRAFS 12/13 budget
7. Ex-officio group membership
8. Other
 - Forum Planning Committee
 - St'at'imc Conservation forum
 - FRAFS EC ex officio group

C. DISCUSSION

1. **Roll call**
2. **Review and accept agenda**
 - Added: Forum Planning Committee, St'at'imc Conservation Forum, FRAFS EC Ex Officio
3. **Review action items from the December EC meeting**
 - **ACTION #1:** Have a conference call to discuss funding for Chinook ISC participants and technical support (January 4 at 1pm?). **Done.**
 - **ACTION #2:** CC the FRAFS EC on the letter to DFO regarding funding requirements for the Chinook ISC. **Not yet completed.**
 - **ACTION #3:** Circulate a note to the First Nations members of the Chinook ISC about potential activities, budget costs, etc. for the coming year. **Not yet completed.**

4. Aquaculture consultation in the Interior

- DFO provided an overview of the structure of aquaculture department at DFO and the aquaculture regulatory program, and discussed DFO's upcoming consultations with interior First Nations (February-April 2012).
- Four areas of enhanced focus for new aquaculture program: enforcement, information management, reporting, and compliance.
- In September-November 2010, established 4 classes of licenses: enhancement, freshwater finfish, marine finfish, and shellfish.
- DFO coordinated with the FNFC Aquaculture Working Group to host a series of dialogue sessions last winter/spring, and received a final report from these sessions in April 2011, which will be helpful in informing DFO's approach.
- Three current areas of focus – IMAP development, conditions of license, and management approaches and policies.
- IMAP plans and processes will be modelled after the IFMP. Will be moving to an area-based model. Hope to have the marine finfish plan drafted by December 2012 after more consultations with First Nations over the next 8-10 months.
- DFO is scheduling sessions in February-April to meet with interior First Nations to get input and feedback. They are requesting assistance from FRAFS on the communication and coordination for these sessions.

Discussion:

- There have been requests for area meetings. DFO will be seeking advice on First Nations' preferences for area vs aggregate meetings.
- DFO will work with FRAFS and the FNFC to identify dates and locations for 4 or 5 workshops (suggested areas: Fraser Valley, Merritt, Kamloops, Williams Lake, Prince George).
- First Nations want to deal with issues related to SEP facilities and salmon enhancement.
- Fraser Valley First Nations might be interested in doing a tour of the closed containment facility – could include that with the consultation workshop.
- There is a conservation forum scheduled for the St'at'imc Nation in March. DFO will be providing a WSP presentation. Could discuss opportunities associated with that forum with St'at'imc.

5. Review of budget status at December 31 – and forecast expenditure needs for January to March

- Provided a budget status update, as well as forecast expenditures to the end of this fiscal year. Most line items are on track. Identified surplus budget items.
- The EC agreed to develop a proposal for DNA analysis to use surplus funds (did a successful DNA project last year). Could also make additional travel dollars available to First Nations for meeting and workshop travel.
- The FRAFS EC will meet on February 8th in Chilliwack (during Roadmap) to further discuss budgeting plans.

6. Outlook for the FRAFS program in fiscal 12/13

- Long form recipient assessment: Entering the last year of the FRAFS agreement. Want to do an assessment as early as June for the next agreement. FRAFS will be assessed, but the host organization will also be a component of the assessment (NTA).
- First Nations in the Mid-Fraser are exploring the possibility of creating an AAROM body. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 2.
- South Coast Chinook: Sent out a draft TOR for the technical working group, currently waiting for feedback.

7. Ex-officio group membership.

- The EC agreed that ex-officio members of the EC do not always need to receive operational and budget information from the EC (with the exception of the final budget report). Will prepare a note to update the ex-officio members on this.

ACTION #1: Write a note to the ex-officio members of the EC to clarify what information they will and will not receive from the EC. Also contact the ITO and find out if they wish to retain an ex-officio seat on the EC.

9. Other

- Forum Planning Committee – Need to make First Nations more aware of the role of the FPC (Watershed Talk article?).
- St'at'imc Fisheries Conservation Forum – March 14-15. WSP will be on the agenda (update from DFO).
- Vacant Mid-Fraser EC seat on the FRAFS EC – a letter has been sent to interior groups, but no reply yet. Will re-send.

ACTION #2: Re-send the letter to Mid-Fraser First Nations re: vacant FRAFS EC seat.

D. NEXT EC MEETING

- Extraordinary meeting on February 8th, 2012 in Chilliwack at 5:30pm (Location TBD).

ACTION #3: Arrange venue and catering for the February 8th EC meeting (Chilliwack).

E. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

ACTION #1: Write a note to the ex-officio members of the EC to clarify what information they will and will not receive from the EC. Also contact the ITO and find out if they wish to retain an ex-officio seat on the EC.

ACTION #2: Re-send the letter to Mid-Fraser First Nations re: vacant FRAFS EC seat.

ACTION #3: Arrange venue and catering for the February 8th EC meeting (Chilliwack).