

**Forum on Conservation & Harvest Planning for Fraser Salmon
March 8-10, 2016**

Vancouver Island Conference Centre,
101 Gordon St, Nanaimo, BC.

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). First Nation attendees have the opportunity to provide their advice and recommendations on management plans.

March FORUM Purpose: The intent of this meeting is provide an overview of the contents of the draft 2016/2017 IFMP for southern BC salmon and to initiate thinking about fishery planning for 2016.

Day 1 (Tuesday, March 8th): First Nations and DFO together

9:00 am Welcome/Opening Prayer

9:15 am to 9:30 am (15 mins)

- **Setting the stage** – Ken Malloway (Forum Planning Committee Chair) & Adrian Wall (DFO)

9:30 am to 10:40 am (70 mins)

- **2016 Fraser Sockeye Forecast** – Sue Grant

This presentation will provide the 2016 sockeye forecast. Sue Grant develops the forecast and she will also provide advice on how to read the forecast and some items to consider when using the forecast for pre-season planning purposes.

- **Fraser Sockeye Forecast Supplemental Information** – Sue Grant

This presentation will provide some contextual information related to environmental conditions and how they might lead to weighting the forecast either towards the high or low end. The information is provided to assist in 2016 sockeye planning discussions.

10:40 - Refreshment break (20 mins)

11:00 am to 12 noon (60 mins)

- **Proposed Sockeye Escapement Plans** – Ann Marie Huang

This presentation will include the draft escapement options outlined in the IFMP (fisheries reference points & LAERs) and the projected spawners to the grounds for each forecasted stock under each draft escapement option. The presentation will also include management adjustments used in conjunction with the escapement options which, at the time of the meeting, will be based

on historical data and an overview of when year-specific estimates of management adjustments, timing estimates and diversion estimates will be available (i.e., typically for June FRP meeting).

12:00 noon - Lunch (provided)

1:00 pm to 1:45 pm (45 mins)

- **Joint Technical Working Group Update** – Pete Nicklin/Jamie Scroggie

A presentation on what was discussed at February 25th and the March 7th JTWG meeting.

1:45 pm to 2:30 pm (45 mins)

- **Draft IFMP – Key Changes** – Jeff Grout

A presentation that highlights some of the key changes in the draft salmon management plan.

2:30 pm - Refreshment break (20 mins)

2:50 pm to 3:50 pm (60 mins)

- **Sockeye Key Management issues for 2016** – Ron Goruk

A presentation on some points to consider in advance of the upcoming season such as Early Stuart sockeye, length of the proposed window closure, considerations on when to commence test fisheries, considerations on how the LAER's might be managed,, how sockeye by-catch might be managed in fisheries targeting chinook salmon, etc. (from last year – to be updated)

3:50 to 4:00 pm (10 minutes)

- Wrap up of Day One Discussion.

Day 2 (Wednesday, March 9th): First Nations and DFO together

9:00 am Welcome/Opening Prayer

9:15 to 9:55 am (40 minutes):

- **Chinook Key Management issues for 2016** –Linda Stevens

A presentation to provide key information for planning considerations in advance of the upcoming season including any proposed changes to management actions.

9:55 to 10:25 am (30 minutes):

- **Chum Key Management issues for 2016** – Deb Sneddon

A presentation on some points to consider in advance of the upcoming season and some post-season information for 2015 if available.

10:25 Refreshment break (15 mins).

10:40 to 11:40 am (60 minutes)

- **2016 IFR Coho Management Approach** – Brigid Payne

Hope to have a discussion of 2015 post-season analysis and preliminary results, recent coho-related Science work and 2016 management options and approaches.

11:40 to 12:00 am (20 minutes)

- **FSMC Update** – Darren Haskell.

An informational update on recent work by the FSMC including the visit with the Minister in early February.

12:00 Lunch will be provided

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm (120 minutes)

- **Honouring and recognition of Jeff Thomas and Greg Wadhams**

Day 2 (Wednesday afternoon, March 9th): First Nations Only – Draft

3:00 to 3:15 (15 minutes)

- **Health Break**

3:30 to 3:50 (20 minutes)

- *Develop agenda for Tier1 portion of agenda based on DFO information and discussion provided during Tier 2 session– Marcel Shepert*

3:50 to 4:30 (40 minutes)

- *Initiate discussion on how the areas share fish in times and years of low abundances.*

Day 3 (Thursday morning, March 10th): First Nations Only - Draft

9:00 to 10:30 (90 minutes)

- *Discussion Continued.*

10:30 Refreshment Break

10:45 to 12 noon (75 minutes)

- *Preparation for upcoming FORUM in April 5 to 7th, 2016 in Kamloops.*
- *Wrap-up*

Safe Journey Home!

Informational Items/Hand-outs

- **Salmon Area Maps**

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.

Marcel Shepert is your friendly facilitator, a Fraser Panel member and the chair of the Salmon Co-ordinating Committee. He also works as the facilitation co-ordinator for the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance.

Darren Haskell is the chair of the Fraser Salmon Management Council.

DFO Speakers:

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

Sue Grant is a resource management biologist for the Lower Fraser Area.

Ann Marie Huang is a resource management biologist for the Lower Fraser Area and is the Canadian Chair of the Fraser Panel technical committee.

Jamie Scroggie is the resource management biologist for the BC Interior and the co-chair of the Joint Technical Working Group.

Ron Goruk is a member of the Fraser Panel technical committee.

Jeff Payne is the Salmon Coordinator for DFO Pacific Region.

Brigid Payne is working on various salmon related projects for DFO at Pacific Region Headquarters.

Linda Stevens is a resource manager for the BC Interior and a member of the Forum Planning Committee.

Deb Sneddon is the resource management program coordinator for the Lower Fraser Area.

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)

Upcoming Forums

April 5 to 7th, 2016 in Kamloops

Conference Location: Sandman Signature, 225 Lorne St, Kamloops, BC

To book: Please call 1-250-377-7263 and quote "47519" no later than March 21, 2016.