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Moving Toward a new Relationship for the Co-Management of Fraser Salmon: DFO Perspectives on the Roadmap Initiative

Fraser Roadmap Workshop

March 21-22, 2011

Prince George



Context

- Moving toward Co-Management is a DFO priority
 - Reflected in WSP, Fisheries Reform, PICFI, etc.
- Fraser salmon management is also a key priority for DFO and First Nations
- *Forum* created as an interim (Tier1/Tier 2) process for DFO and First Nations to collaborate on management of Fraser stocks
- *Roadmap* building toward a more permanent, structured process for co-management of Fraser salmon





DFO Objective for the Roadmap Process

- DFO is committed to the goal of jointly building a co-management process with First Nations for Fraser Salmon that includes a vision, objectives, roles and responsibilities, clear outcomes, as well as a process for getting there.
- Meeting this goal will require:
 - Strong commitment from both DFO and First Nations
 - Agreement on a vision, objectives and outcomes
 - Agreement on a strategic plan (e.g. What needs to be achieved, in what timeframe and by whom)



An Engagement Continuum

Minimum participation

Maximum participation



Information

Consultation

Collaborative
Decision Making

Delegation

Decision
Authority

- Increasing decision making authority and accountability generally involves moving from the left to the right of this continuum
- Extent of decision making responsibilities and accountabilities varies
 - depends on the fishery, activity or type of decision
- Different decisions and activities are undertaken at different scales (some local, others more broadly)



Building a Foundation for Co-Management

- Vision statement with principles and outcomes
- Agreement on roles & responsibilities will require considerable work and are essential elements for both DFO and First Nations
 - Appropriate governance and representative structures (both DFO and First Nations)
 - Capacity
 - Accountability
 - Efficiencies in the use of resources (human & financial)



Strategic Elements

- Make incremental progress—build from a narrower to a broader focus (e.g., initially First Nations fisheries management)
- Clarify roles and linkages to other processes and organizations (e.g. First Nations Fisheries Council, Intertribal Treaty Organization, Sub-regional AAROM bodies)
- Engage individuals with the appropriate skills
- Use support teams as necessary (working groups)
- Develop an effective communications strategy



Next Steps

- Commitment from DFO and First Nations to move toward a co-management agreement / arrangement
- Next steps might include:
 - Identifying a negotiation framework with a Terms of Reference with participant mandates
 - Determine Process and timelines
 - Political involvement
 - Identifying negotiating teams (First Nations and DFO)
 - Ratification process



Key Documents Relevant to the Roadmap Process

- *Fraser Salmon Roadmap: Document Analysis and Process Recommendations*, Julie Gardner, PH.D. Dovetail Consulting Group, February, 2011 [posted on Fraser Aboriginal Fisheries Secretariat Website]
- *Establishing a Fraser Watershed Process*, by Brenda Gaertner, August 2003 (include Appendix E – 13 Recommendations [posted on Fraser Aboriginal Fisheries Secretariat Website])