



# Update on Use of Fish for Financing Salmon Test Fishing Activities in 2014

January 2014



# Purpose

- The purpose of this presentation is to:
  - Provide you with information related to section 10 of the *Fisheries Act*, “Fish allocation for financing purposes”.



## Background

- In 2012, the *Jobs, Growth and Long-term Prosperity Act* received Royal Assent.
  - As a result, the *Fisheries Act* was changed granting the Minister the authority to allocate fish or fishing gear / equipment for the purpose of financing a scientific or fisheries management activity as described in a joint project agreement, commonly referred to as “use of fish”.
- DFO adopted a two track approach to implement the authority provided under section 10 of the *Fisheries Act* to address both the immediate and long-term needs.



# Track 1: Interim Implementation

- Focused on transitioning 35, pre-identified, critical science activities to the new authority nationally, where feasible, for a period of one year (2013-2014) pending the completion of Track 2 (national policy framework).
- Key issues identified during Track 1 helped inform the development of the draft national policy framework:
  - The timing of TAC decisions created difficulties in setting aside an amount of fish or fishing gear /equipment for s.10;
  - Determining/defining appropriate consultation;
  - Eligible costs and the value of fish;
  - Flexibilities for regions and collaborators; and,
  - Timelines for making decisions.



## Track 2: Policy Development for Long-Term Application

- The policy development process began shortly after the Budget 2012 announcement. Input was received at various points:
  - Comments / reaction from stakeholders.
  - Discussions in spring 2013 with the Fisheries Council of Canada, Canadian Council of Professional Fish Harvesters, the BC Seafood Alliance, and the Scotia-Fundy Roundtable.
- This policy framework aims to:
  - Describe the key principles for collaboration and allocating fish under section 10;
  - Outline processes for evaluating collaborative activities; and,
  - Ensure that the application, decision-making, and evaluation processes are consistent with legal and other government requirements, and transparent.
- Target: Approved policy framework by Spring 2014 and implemented, where possible, ahead of the fisheries management decisions next year.



## Questions

**The draft National Policy for Allocating Fish for Financing Purposes has been mailed out to First Nations for review and comment.**

- 1) Are there any issues or concerns with the proposed policy?
- 2) Are there any gaps you believe we should address:
  - a) In the policy statement?
  - b) In the guidelines?



## Contact Us

- Please provide your comments / feedback to us by February 28, 2014. You can reach us at:

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