



## FRASER RIVER ABORIGINAL FISHERIES SECRETARIAT

c/o Nicola Tribal Association  
PO Box 188 • Merritt, BC • V1K 1B8  
Tel: 250-378-4235 • Fax: 250-378-9119  
[www.frafs.ca](http://www.frafs.ca)

### Executive Committee Meeting – Notes

Date	Time
Mar 26, 2018	17:00 – 21:00
<b>Location</b>	Savona Room, Sandman Signature Kamloops, 225 Lorne Street Kamloops BC
<b>GoTo</b>	<a href="https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/541215749">https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/541215749</a>
<b>Dial in</b>	Tel.: 1.866.512.0904 / Access code: 1773489 #

**Attending:** Ken Malloway, Pat Matthew, Thomas Alexis, Linda Stevens, and Matthew Parslow; Gord Sterritt and Howie Wright, Aidan Fisher, Pete Nicklin, Mike Staley, Greg Witzky, and Allison James; Ernie Crey called in

**Guests:** Peter Hall (dial in) @ 6:30, Les Jantz (in person) @ 7:00

#### Summary of Action items:

-**Outstanding:** Linda/ Matthew will find out more about Southern Coho consultation and report back at next meeting

-White Sturgeon: Greg will follow up to clarify what is required and ToR and whether NTA can administer the funding.

-RDG meeting agenda: Greg will start a draft and circulate via email for input from the EC

#### Agenda Items

**1. Open Meeting (KM):** Roll Call; review, adjust, and accept the agenda.

#### 2. Old Business:

-Finalize the notes from the previous EC meeting (AJ)

-Action items from the EC previous meeting (GW)

**Outstanding:** Linda/ Matthew will find out more about Southern Coho consultation and report back at next meeting

-Notes/ Action items from Work Planning session (GW)

#### 3. Finance Report (GW):

##### Budget Surplus Recommendations:

Nobody objects to OM request for week of wages + MERC

GW asks EC if invoices for March will match budget estimates. The response is, that if anything they will be slightly less.

There may be some issues with DNA processing related to funds coming in. Howie suggests a Special Purchase Account (SPA). MS says 10,000 would be enough for 500 samples (20/sample). Howie suggesting putting this line item under the Chinook Review Contract. Some smaller line

items such as projector upgrade, mobile teleconference equipment can be included in the contract.

#### **4. Steelhead: SARA listing process Peter Hall calls in at 6:30**

PH describes stocks that are listed, SARA vs COSEWIC, and department's responsibility, assessment chart etc.

PM: this is similar to Karen Leslie's presentation. We really want focus on the engagement/consultation process on this listing decision.

PH says FN consultation occurs in the SARA listing process during Recovery Potential Assessment (RPA), Proposed Management Scenarios, Socio-Economic Analysis and Consultation. Paul Grant is the Science lead in the RPA process which is currently underway, and has been in touch with the JTW: in data collection stage, not report writing yet. Josh Korman has been contracted to work on the RPA. Once RPA is peer reviewed, management scenarios are developed. Developing management scenarios is a key entry for input from First Nations. RPA would be finished in a few months, optimistically. Socio-economic analysis occurs on the proposed management scenarios then public consultation occurs.

PM: KL said there is no socio-economic assessment under the emergency listing as it's listed in this presentation; that proposed management scenarios go directly to the Governor in Council (GiC) to decide.

PH: Emergency listing process is streamlined; what KL meant is that the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (MECC) does not consider socio-economic factors when determining if there is an imminent threat to a species

PM: the science piece is really important under the emergency listing as it will be a key factor for the imminent threat assessment but it is still unclear if existing or proposed management measures also get considered. If an imminent threat is determined then the decision goes to the GiC where they require the socio-economic analysis anyways.

PH: Only the GiC can decide to list a species under SARA and that decision requires a socio-economic analysis.

KM: there is way less information available on steelhead lifecycles than salmon lifecycles. The loss of steelhead will have a major impact on our people, not just on jobs and business but on our Aboriginal Rights and Title. Socio-economic analysis must consider this. Tier 3 meetings are a waste of time too. Jim Scott study shows more steelhead are killed from catch and release than traditional fishing. KM has requested a copy of this study. 30 minutes is not enough time to talk about steelhead we need a day or time.

PH: Current RPA does have limited data to work with, Science work does identify these gaps and makes recommendations for future work to be done. Regarding socio-economic impacts, we will have to get the information from First Nations themselves. Regarding rec fisheries, that will be included in terms of management scenarios. We welcome any information on studies done on steelhead. He agrees having time to discuss steelhead is important. Still in the early stages of RPA.

KM: finally met with Mike Ramsey to discuss Steelhead just recently.

PH: SARA Listing impacts depends on allowable harm determined in the RPA and if it's listed as endangered it will be under the responsibility of the Federal government.

New timelines for listing decisions for aquatic species, simple and complex, (steelhead are complex) are 24 and 36 months. This doesn't apply to emergency listing, only regular listing.

There will likely be no decision on listing Steelhead under SARA prior to this year's fishing season

but there are management actions being planned for 2018 that Resource Management staff will be consulting on.

PH: Wraps up with time lines slide. Input can be provided through Matthew Parslow and the JTWG.

##### **5. Pacific Salmon Treaty: Renegotiation of Chapter 4 (Sockeye) Les Jantz**

LJ: Review response letter (DFO to KM). Internal follow up done since letter was received, tried to set a date for a call with Fraser Panel. Multiple meetings a year are recommended, spread out throughout Province. Previous chapter consultations had 4-5 regional meetings and were a series of meetings (Spring and follow up in the Fall). Potential locations are Kamloops, Prince George, Campbell River or Nanaimo, Richmond, or Chilliwack. DFO likes to work with FRAFS and Tier 1 and Tier 2 concepts. DFO is open to input on how much time is needed for each. Timeline is going to be December 2018 for language in Chapter 4.

PM recommends getting all First Nations together to provide collective input as opposed to input from each region which may result if sessions are regional. Pat wants it domestic versus international issues made clear.

GS: we want a more iterative process and should have communicated that to the FN reps on the Fraser Panel. Fall is almost too late for a follow up session.

HW: if you keep the current chapter the same and we can talk about domestic issues outside of it, then let's demonstrate that.

PM asks what the next step is.

LJ: a conference call next week or the week after.

PM: would be okay with regional sessions that provided notes are taken to identify common themes, followed by a consultation in a central place.

LJ: next panel meeting is the second week of April, first round of meetings will follow that, next panel meeting in June or July, and last one in September.

PM: what about using the FRSSI process?

LJ: that process would not like up with the timelines we have for renegotiations.

Discussion on what the US may be doing for conservation units. They get 16.5% TAC

GS: maybe FN Caucus can meet this week to discuss a potential follow up to the PST proposal.

##### **6. FSCM: Negotiations Update (TA)**

Negotiating meeting via conference call earlier today. The DFO is working internally on language they like for the agreement. Transition planning will take place after the agreement is finalized which could take a few months. A workplan has been provided to Greg based on numbers provided by the DFO.

##### **7. Work Plan; 2018/19 AAROM work plan – No discussion. Linda will finalize**

##### **8. White Sturgeon: First Nations Engagement in SARA listing process:**

Who would be best to engage regarding a Species at Risk Act recommendation for two populations of White Sturgeon: Lower Fraser River and the Middle Fraser River from Hells Gate to Prince George (management scenarios, socioeconomic analysis, options, and recommendations). Erin Gertzen is the Recovery Planner/ DFO Contact.

MP: potential listing may have an impact on Salmon fisheries, so what interest is there from FRAFS to participate? FRAFS has good coverage of the impacted communities.

PM wants to know what DFO wants FRAFS to do, what are the ToR.

MP: facilitate meetings and engagement.

Greg will follow up to clarify what is required and ToR, and whether NTA can administer the funding.

**9. RDG Agenda:**

Develop/confirm agenda for RDG meeting on April 17, 2018

Greg will start a draft and circulate via email for input from the EC

MP says having the draft as early as possible is helpful.

KM: Agenda may be shaped by what happens at the forum, and can be brought up during the Tier 1.

PM would like to see a tracking procedure from previous meetings with RDG.

KM wants to consider having more time for EC meetings

**10. Upcoming meeting(s):**

April 17<sup>th</sup> – Meeting with RDG in Vancouver. EC meeting in AM and RDG in afternoon.

May 15<sup>th</sup> – via conference call (9 – 3)

June 19 - TBD

July 17 - TBD

August 21 - TBD

September 18 - TBD

First Nations Caucus Meeting Notes: Discussion on DFO's Proposal for Ch. 4