PST Chapter 4 Renewal Discussion

Jan 25, 2019 12:30 – 3:00

Summary of Advice and Actions:

- Make reporting on in-season management numbers mandatory for Alaska in the negotiations
- Start a method to process in-season information so that when the US is close to their share, Alaska's catch can come out of the share in years of low abundance.
- Chapter 4 should have more say over Alaskan bycatch not just chapter 2.
- Both Chapter 2 and Chapter 4 should consider the DNA analysis of Alaskan Bycatch to determine the composition.
- The Fraser Panel (Can/US) should not be defining management of the stocks. Canada should control # of management units and then FP should implement.
- Let First Nations FSC catch provide the information the test fisheries provide in years of low abundance. this could be a collaboration between DFO and First Nations.
- The DFO will follow up with a way for reps in the room to bring confidential proposed language changes back to Communities/ Nations for consideration

Alaskan Bycatch

Slide 18-22

Mike Staley on Slide 21: the shares are moving targets based on final relinquishment of catch numbers (final in-season run size)

Chief Lee Spahan: make reporting on in-season management numbers mandatory for Alaska in the negotiations. Jennifer says Chapter 2 is already negotiated so no changes can be made but we could ask for some sort of endowment fund proposal or deal with in the future. Chief Lee disagrees with dealing with it in the future when it should have been negotiated before.

Kelsey Campbell: Alaska has the most impact during years of low abundance, on FSC. We want to start a method to process in-season information so that when the US is close to their share, Alaska's catch can come out of the share in those years. DFO refers back to 5-year process of reviewing the Alaskan sockeye bycatch. KC: Chapter 4 should have more say over Alaskan bycatch not just chapter 2. KC wants clarification around the commitments of the 5-year review of Alaskan bycatch.

DFO will consider in future Chapter 2 negotiations

Dave Moore: wants to clarify that bycatch from Alaska are mature salmon. Response is that it is both Jack's and Adult. Mike Staley and Les Jantz agree there are unknowns around this (3, 5, 6 are caught).

Gord Sterritt: both Chapter 2 and Chapter 4 should consider the DNA analysis of Alaskan Bycatch to determine the composition.

Bernard John: Wants Alaskan bycatch analysis to consider Skeena and Nass, as well as Fraser stocks. DFO referred him back to chapter 2. Marcel adds this comes up at the panel from the north.

Fred: context of a good Skeena return is 200,000. Age old question is the migration patterns of the fish. Furthermore, Alaskan do not have to return bycatch from pink fisheries (where Canadians work really hard to limit bycatch as a result of their fisheries).

Pauline asks for clarification on the bycatch – Alaskans keep everything except Chinook. They target pink and everything else is bycatch Alaskans can keep and sell.

AFE language and distribution across Management Units

Slides 23-26

Number of MU's

Gord: the Fraser Panel (Can/US) should not be defining management of the stocks. Canada should control # of management units and then FP should implement. Listing stocks is under Canadian authority so foreign entities should be forced to comply with our stock listings. US endangered listings are less impacted by Canadians.

JN reminds that the country with the conservation issue bears the brunt of conservation. Gord wants our conservation concerns as part of Ch. 4 negotiations. Jennifer says escapement plans and FRSSI deal with conservation.

Dave Moore: elaborate on FSC harvest (first bullet on slide 26) and Harrison Sockeye in MU's.

Les: most FSC management is based on constraining stocks.

Pat Matthew: Why can't US fish in Johnson Straight, to limit their access to stocks outside of the early summer? This was discussed but not considered as advice from First Nations.

Tony Roberts Jr: Why not let US fish in Kamloops Lake?

Test Fishing Issues

Slide 27

Tony Roberts Jr: Let First Nations FSC catch provide the information the test fisheries provide in years of low abundance. DFO responds that this proposal needs to be submitted to the Southern Endowment Fund and DFO will support. Kelsey adds that we need support to get the proposal off the ground and this could be a collaboration between DFO and First Nations

Dave Moore: how do Non-panel waters fit into test fisheries (Qualark and Thompson River below Kamloops Lake). Dave would like to see this model in the mouth of the Fraser. How does getting more TAC in-river for Test Fisheries fit into this?

Duration

Slides 28- 29

No questions but recommendations should come forward with rationales because there is a difference in opinions

Proposed Language Changes

Confidential, provided by DFO for First Nations consideration.

-adjusting the Fraser Panel area, through mutual agreement

-roles and responsibilities

-FP pre-season planning changed to include in-season planning

-redefine catch in panel authorized fisheries

-addition of test fisheries plans developed by both parties.

KC: how can we take these proposed changes back to our people if it is confidential? DFO will follow up

Gord: In the IFMP, and US fishing plans developed by April, Does the FP actually develop plans? DFO says yes, in June.

Next Steps:

February 6th meeting in Bellingham to prep for Portland, week of Feb 11. A webinar can follow if folks think it's necessary.

Pat: In January we talked about a technical group doing analysis which included what analysis will look like in the future with changes to productivity (better or worse) and that was not reported on today. The response is that some work was done on it but it is not finished yet and may be ready for forum

KC: what is the most appropriate time to submit letters? DFO responds ASAP, in advance of Feb 6th/11th