

**SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AUGUST 20, 2013**

TELECONFERENCE

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

A. PARTICIPANTS

- Ken Malloway (Meeting Chair)
- Thomas Alexis
- Dana Bellis
- Terri Bonnet
- Ernie Crey
- Murray Ross
- Gord Sterritt
- Ernie Victor
- Mike Staley
- Neil Todd
- Walter Quinlan

B. AGENDA ITEMS

After review and adjustments, the agenda was finalized and accepted:

1. Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda
2. Old business – review draft minutes and Action Items from May 28th meeting
3. Southern BC Southern Chinook Planning Initiative – Budget
4. Present a first draft concept of an Appendix to the Charter
5. Fraser Panel nomination process
6. Road Map update
7. Budget Expenditures: update and report
8. Fishing and enforcement update.

C. DISCUSSIONS

1. Roll call:

Attendance noted as listed under “Participants.”

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C. DISCUSSIONS (continued)

2. Old Business – Action Items

EC meeting schedule and locations

The EC would like to hold its meeting scheduled for September 17th in Kamloops. The October EC meeting will be in-person. It will be held in Quesnel on the day preceding the UFFCA meeting. November's meeting will be a teleconference; December's to be determined.

Forum dates

The Forum Planning Committee (FPC) recommended two changes to the dates originally proposed by FRAFS staff

(1) Move the January 28-30 forward to December 19-20

The EC confirmed that the Forum dates should remain January 28-30 as it would be difficult to get people out to a conference so close to Christmas.

(2) Move the March 18-20 dates forward to March 11-13

The FPC recommendation was based on the fact that the last two weeks of March are, depending on your school district, used for March Break. EC members felt this change “operationally makes sense” because budgets and planning are the priority during the last half of March. The EC confirmed moving the Forum dates forward to March 11-13.

All other Actions Items had been completed, or, were in-progress, as per their respective Target Dates. See page 7 for the complete list.

3. Southern BC Southern Chinook Planning Initiative – Budget

Budget

The original request for PICFI funding was the same amount as last year.

The draft budget that FRAFS put together provided funding for administrative and technical support as well as for the Project Lead. The response from DFO was that based on the concept of what was allowable a Project Lead contract, there wasn't any funding for the regular allocation for administrative work and support for technical work was “minimal.” There was some support for Tier 3 Steering/Planning Committee meetings.

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3. Southern BC Southern Chinook Planning Initiative – Budget (continued)

Project Lead

FRAFS has received two replies to the request for proposals for Project Lead. Both proposals are “firm” i.e.: they’re structured on completing the work this fiscal year for the quoted amount. The Steering/Planning Committee will be reviewing them and making a decision as soon as possible.

The Steering Committee will next meet when the science report comes out (late September or October).

4. Present a first draft concept of an Appendix to the Charter

A draft Appendix was presented by the Ops Mgr to the EC with the suggestion that the Committee take the time to review it, offer feedback, then work on the second draft at the October in-person meeting.

The FNFC representative suggested that it’d be worthwhile for the Committee to “work on the key things that you want to see in the Charter” and to leave the “wordsmithing for later in the process.” She also offered to “share the workload” with FRAFS and to offer some revisions from an FNFC perspective. It was agreed that this would be “a good next step.”

The Committee’s attention turned to Section 25 of the draft re: “the two organizations play complementary roles (occasionally meshing but not duplicating).” It was recommended, for example, that the Charter describe what “meshing” means. This comment was “helpful” in determining what level of detail the Charter text should be written to.

5. Process for nominating First Nations to the Fraser Panel

There was discussion about operations, the Northern Panel and the nomination process earlier this summer re the Fraser Panel.

Operations

FNFC provided a “loose framework” for the nomination process in June and the experience was “operationally valuable.” The Committee was asked for ideas on improving the process. The Committee felt that they had touched on this topic in the previous discussion about the Charter and that the nomination process should be discussed at an in-person meeting.

Northern Panel

In light of the recent call for nominations to the Northern Panel, a concern was raised that DFO uses this forum to discuss and make allocations of Fraser-bound salmon. The Committee was informed that the northern species are the focus of discussion. However, Fraser-bound salmon does come up and it was suggested that Commissioner Ned was the person to speak with.

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5. Nominations (continued)

Nomination process this summer

In June, FRAFS nominated two candidates from the mid-river Watershed for a First Nations seat on the Fraser Panel. Neither was successful; the candidate chosen was from the island.

There was a concern, not so much with process, but, that FRAFS was looking to see a Fraser River representative, and, it didn't end up there. It was noted in reply that DFO had been clear from the beginning that they wanted a commercial fisherman.

It was pointed out that this mightn't sit well with river First Nations, particularly mid-river. FRAFS has to communicate that we aren't telling people what to do, but, that we're working on their behalf.

FNFC "would like to see First Nations increasingly carry much more weight on the Panel and that it's an ongoing discussion with DFO.

There was an observation that DFO seems to have taken a new approach by using nominations rather than re-appointment processes and that the Committee has to look at its next step. While the Committee recognizes that there's a balance, it needs to start pushing for First Nations representation equal to that of the recreation sectors on the Fraser Panel

The Committee then discussed the RDG's letter announcing the appointment, specifically the section that read:

"While I share the conservation concerns of the FRAFS, the appointment of Mr. Roberts assists in providing First Nations representation on the Fraser River Panel from marine areas as well the mid-upper Fraser and Lower Fraser areas."

It was decided that the First Nation Caucus of the FRAFS EC would communicate their perspective to the RDG, stating a) there is no argument with the process; b) disappointment in, and disagreement with, the RDG's conclusion and the reasons for her decision; and c) a rationale for a different approach to the make-up of the Panel.

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6. Road Map update

Neil reported that there had been two responses to the request for Expression of Interest for a “Governance Consultant” to assist with the next steps in the process. On September 4th, a sub-committee of the Main Table will review the two submissions. The role of the Governance Consultant is to assist LOU Signatories in building an effective Tier 1 Governance structure.

March 31st 2014 is the target date to have a governance structure and negotiation framework in place.

7. Budget Expenditures: update and report

A written update was submitted. The committee reviewed each budget item and current level of expenditure to date respectively (in the form of percentage of budgeted amount).

The EC accepted the report.

8. Fishing and enforcement update

The EC was informed that the St'át'imc decided to refuse the authority of the DFO closure on Wednesday, August 14th and proclaimed an opening to carry on for the Thursday and Friday. DFO stayed close to the situation, provided information and emphasized conservation. All but two bands complied with the self-imposed Friday deadline, and on the weekend there was a confrontation. Between DFO Enforcement and the two Bands.

It was noted that raising awareness about conservation is an ongoing challenge. The Committee will continue its open communications with all communities and noted that the St'át'imc Government Services has allowed its Fisheries manager to be the Lillooet band's representative to the Road Map process. DFO then provided a Lower Fraser enforcement update by outlining the resources being deployed (ex.: helicopter; additional officers) and the number of people charged and vessels seized to date. The Stó:lō were working with the RCMP to distribute seized fish to people in the Stó:lō health program.

A Stó:lō representative added that he'd received a number of calls about certain DFO staff and that cultural awareness training might be in order. He was thanked by the DFO representative for his comments.

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Action Items

Action Item	Status
EC meeting schedule / locations for the rest of the year.	Sept.: in-person, Kamloops Oct.: in-person Quesnel Nov.: teleconference Dec.: TBC
The JTWG Terms of Reference to be reviewed with the results provided to the September meeting of the EC.	Target date: September 17, 2013
Appendix to the Charter: First Draft done. Work to continue for further discussion at the October in-person meeting.	Target date: September 17, 2013
Draft a letter to the RDG re: nomination process and circulate to the Committee for their thoughts.	Done
Send a note to the Forum Planning Committee to consider the Facilitator's recommendations, and to come up with a plan for a new meeting format and make recommendation to the EC.	Done
Alert the CSPI small group to begin work asap on a work plan and budget.	Done
Confirm Forum dates with the Planning Committee and the FRAFS EC.	Done: Jan. 28-30 / Feb. 18-20 / Mar. 11-13
Follow up with PSC re: Hell's Gate contribution.	Done
Invite Ecotrust rep to the October EC meeting.	Done