

MEETING SUMMARY
FRAFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
January 26, 2015



Meeting Summary
FRAFS Executive Committee
Chilliwack
January 26, 2014

AGENDA

1. Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda
2. Old business:
 - Notes from the previous meeting
 - Action items from the previous meeting
3. Financial Update
4. Report from the Transition Committee
5. Discussion: FN caucus of the FRAFS EC meet with RDG (before or after IFMP deadline?)
6. Idea for a fisheries management/aboriginal rights panel discussion at the March Forum.
7. Review of the FRAFS EC meeting notes in Quesnel, December 15th.
8. DFO request re: FSC area access allocation update from DFO at the March Forum.
9. JTWG Update

DISCUSSION

1. Roll call / Agenda

- Attendance noted as listed under “Participants.”
- After review and adjustments, the agenda was finalized and accepted

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2. Old Business

2.1) Notes from the previous meeting were previously circulated to EC members behind schedule. The DFO rep requested more time to review the notes.

2.2) Action Items from the previous meeting:

Agenda development process re: FN caucus of EC meet with RDG: See item 5 of this meeting.

3. Financial Update,

The Operations Manager presented the expenditures report to date. EC's Finance sub-committee to meet.

4. Transition Committee

It was agreed that the Transition Committee would step back in regard to the Operations Manager selection process. They would resume as the HR Committee tasked with monitoring progress of the new Operations Manager through the probationary period.

Selection Committee: There are First Nation EC members and a DFO rep will help out but will not be making any decisions. The Communications Coordinator will re-post the ad.

5. Discussion: FN caucus of the FRAFS EC meet with RDG (before or after IFMP deadline?)

The EC agreed that it would be better to meet before the deadline. Input from the whole watershed perspective will be taken to the RDG. The Operations Manager will contact the office of the RDG re: dates.

6. Idea for a fisheries management/aboriginal rights panel discussion at the March Forum.

The DFO rep noted that the department is only in a position to talk about how it *manages Aboriginal fisheries*, not recognizing or defining rights. EC members pointed out that if there a management decision that First Nations consider an infringement on Aboriginal rights, there's consultation but DFO refers any questions about accommodation to AANDC.

Questions: How do we address this issue? Could we partner up with a university (UBC, SFU or TRU) and FNFC to sponsor a post-Chilcotin legal workshop, next fiscal (before or after fishing season)? Should we put this on the agenda for the FRAFS / FNFC Charter meeting?

7. Review of the FRAFS EC meeting notes in Quesnel, December 15th.

Notes from the previous meeting were circulated behind schedule. DFO requested more time to review the notes.

8. DFO's request re: additional communal licenses update from DFO at the March Forum.

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DFO has asked to address the Forum on the topic of First Nations requests for increases to FSC allocation and areas where the Fraser River salmon are accessed. It would be an update based on requests from some marine approach First Nations. DFO would like to hear from First Nations in regards to the process, where and how it should take place.

A DFO EC member added that the department considers this a high priority and that the RDG wants it addressed and sees two issues:

1. Is the Forum the place to have the consultation?
2. Could it be FRAFS that facilitates the consultation? Other suggestions?

A lower Fraser EC rep noted that First Nations first asked about this years ago and it's only recently that we've started to hear from the RDG. Another lower Fraser representative said that it's not inappropriate to raise it at the Forum because it impacts everyone.

9 JTWG Update (presented by the First Nations Co-Chair)

CSAS

JTWG First Nations Co-Chair raised his concern that there were two CSAS papers near completion which First Nations had no involvement: IFC; and Strait of Georgia (includes Lower Fraser). He believes that the JTWG should be part of the process that decides the inputs into a CSAS review.

JTWG First Nations Co-Chair asked who the leads are for these papers. The DFO rep said he'd follow up with his colleagues the next day at the Forum. A question was drafted for presentation the next day by a First Nations political leader to DFO representatives at the forum.

Other points:

- A request to the JTWG for a "layman's" version of Dr. Selby's presentation to the Forum in Quesnel.
- A request that the Facilitator deliver a briefing note at the start of the Forum that DFO representatives are able to substantiate use of terminology such as "over escapement."
- JTWG to provide name of a First Nations representative to the FRSSI Steering Committee.