



**Summary  
FRAFS Executive Committee  
Jan 25, 2016, 10:00 a.m.  
Sheraton Airport, Richmond**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda
2. Old business:
  - Notes from the previous meeting
  - Action items from the previous meeting (Walter)

**A. Charter meeting (10:30-12:00) with FNFC**

**B. Regular business meeting, Tier 2**

3. 1:00 Steelhead Update
4. CSPI update
5. JTWG update
6. Nanaimo Forum-memorial
7. Finance Report: December budget update, projections, options
8. Standard of participation (EC ToR) - EC discussion
9. 2016/2017 draft Workplan development - EC discussion
10. Develop priorities for *potential* meeting with Minister Tootoo in Ottawa - EC discussion
11. Re-confirm February and March FRAFS EC: teleconference/ in-person; start time
  - a. For March EC meeting - List of questions from the NTA for FRAFS EC response
12. AFN Briefing Note



- 1. Roll call, review, adjust, and accept the agenda**

- 2. Old Business**

Notes from the previous meeting

The notes have been revised, finalized and sent to FRAFS EC members.

Action items from the previous meeting

- Action items are up-to-date.

**A. Charter meeting (10:30-12:00) with FNFC**

Three FNFC participants.

The EC decided that the Charter meeting could be Tier 2 as the Charter had been signed at a Tier 2 session of the FNFC AGA.

FNFC representative: The Charter is a two-way street, an opportunity for FRAFS to offer thoughts on collaborative work. FNFC suggests that First Nations should be looking at responding strategically and collectively responding to issues.

DFO rep: It'd be helpful to DFO to understand the connection between FRAFS and FNFC on the FSC Access allocation issue.

FNFC rep: There've been initial Tier 1 discussions and we're working on coordinating our efforts.

First Nations rep: It's important that FNFC and FRAFS get closer. He suggested:

- FRAFS Operations Manager participate in the monthly FNFC call;
- quarterly planning meetings between FRAFS and FNFC; and
- a FNFC report at the Forum.

  

- There were no requests for revisions to the Charter.



## **B. Regular business meeting**

### **3. Steelhead Update**

DFO staff:

- Analysis and assessment by DFO on reducing impacts on interior steelhead (IFMP objectives; this was shared with shareholders and First Nations).
- Meetings between DFO and the government of BC. Provincial officials posed the question: Do we have the right objectives? Concern about gaps in information. Province also observed that there is no in-season mechanism by which DFO could respond to lower numbers of steelhead.
- Upcoming meetings between DFO and BC re: management regime. DFO feels that there has to be “robust” engagement with First Nations (Tripartite).
- Thompson system tripartite planning process ongoing.
- DFO generates mortality rates for the Thompson R.

First Nations representative: Requests a copy of the Jim Scott report on steelhead killed by catch and release (1980s). Steelhead is important for Sto:lo, Secwepemc and Tsilhqot'in people.

There was discussion about the DFO process for getting management advice on steelhead (ex.: provincial Impact Analysis going through CSAS).

DFO staff explained that there is some stock assessment and management recommendations that come via CSAS. And there are cases where DFO uses models and approaches that haven't gone through CSAS. JTWG is an example of a process where data is reviewed.

First Nations rep.: Has there been discussion on habitat protection?

DFO staff: There's an inventory of threats to steelhead in the province involving different groups.



DFO staff: Update re: changes in structure on the BC Ministry side (agencies with work related to steelhead):

- Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations
- Ministry of Agriculture
- MARR
- BC Food Secretariat (a multi-agency coordinating body).

First Nations representative: First Nations are the only ones with a natural right to steelhead. The Sparrow decision said if First Nations needs are not being met there should not be any other fisheries.

It was agreed the starting point for a tripartite meeting would be at the Executive Committee level. An EC member thanked the department “stickhandling” the tripartite meeting.

#### **4. CSPI update**

FRAFS biologist 1:

- Analytical tools are being developed by CH technical committee and the DFO habitat group. They’re ‘close-to-ready’ but the Data Generation model won’t be done by March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Mid-March: Steering/Planning Committee and the Technical Committee put together a package to be ready by the end of the year.
- Table of Contents: 40 page Summary of documents and Appendices re: CUs.
- Threat Matrix re: potential reduction of overall CH productivity.
- Long-term goal: Analytic models up and running to detail fisheries options and impacts on CUs.

There’s been a maturation of First Nations technical capacity.

#### **5. JTWG update**

At today’s JTWG meeting:

- Approximately 20 people attended in-person and teleconference



- Management Tracker is being updated and will be the basis of the Forum presentation.
- Review of DFO's presentations at the Forum. But, some DFO presentations needed updating. Perhaps JTWG should happen one week before the Forum.

First Nations' representative: If there's not enough post-season information for the January Forum, this might create issues when pre-season planning starts.

#### **6. Nanaimo Forum-memorial**

The EC considered a ceremony at the Nanaimo Forum to acknowledge the work, and the time away from family, of the late Greg Wadhams and Jeff Thomas on behalf of Fraser salmon. All agreed that it'd be good to show that respect to their families.

#### **7. Finance Report: December budget update, projections, options**

The EC decided to hold the CSPI workshop in the first quarter of the new fiscal. There were "placeholder" funds identified if the EC had to travel to Ottawa to meet the new Minister of Fisheries.

#### **8. Standard of participation (EC ToR)-EC discussion**

The EC discussed the importance of attendance for these meeting.

#### **9. 2016/2017 draft workplan development-EC discussion**

Based on previous experience, the DFO rep recommended an initial draft be developed for review by the FRAFS EC and staff. Two-step timeline for 2016-17 Work Plan:

- February 15 EC teleconference: first draft ready for review
- Mid-March: Send Work Plan in for approval.

#### **10. Develop priorities for potential meeting with Minister Tootoo in Ottawa-EC discussion**

The EC decided to align agenda items with the Mandate letter re: meeting with the Minister in Ottawa on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Confirm with EC members.

#### **11. Re-confirm February and March FRAFS EC: teleconference/ in-person; start time**



Dates and locations confirmed.

**12. Request for a Briefing Note re: AFN fisheries committee on February 25th**

The EC took steps to ensure that Fraser salmon issues are addressed in a fulsome manner at the upcoming AFN fisheries meeting.