



Update on Use of Fish for Financing Salmon Test Fishing Activities in 2014

January 2014



Purpose

- The purpose of this presentation is to:
 - Provide you with information related to section 10 of the *Fisheries Act*, “Fish allocation for financing purposes”.



Background

- In 2012, the *Jobs, Growth and Long-term Prosperity Act* received Royal Assent.
 - As a result, the *Fisheries Act* was changed granting the Minister the authority to allocate fish or fishing gear / equipment for the purpose of financing a scientific or fisheries management activity as described in a joint project agreement, commonly referred to as “use of fish”.
- DFO adopted a two track approach to implement the authority provided under section 10 of the *Fisheries Act* to address both the immediate and long-term needs.



Track 1: Interim Implementation

- Focused on transitioning 35, pre-identified, critical science activities to the new authority nationally, where feasible, for a period of one year (2013-2014) pending the completion of Track 2 (national policy framework).
- Key issues identified during Track 1 helped inform the development of the draft national policy framework:
 - The timing of TAC decisions created difficulties in setting aside an amount of fish or fishing gear /equipment for s.10;
 - Determining/defining appropriate consultation;
 - Eligible costs and the value of fish;
 - Flexibilities for regions and collaborators; and,
 - Timelines for making decisions.



Track 2: Policy Development for Long-Term Application

- The policy development process began shortly after the Budget 2012 announcement. Input was received at various points:
 - Comments / reaction from stakeholders.
 - Discussions in spring 2013 with the Fisheries Council of Canada, Canadian Council of Professional Fish Harvesters, the BC Seafood Alliance, and the Scotia-Fundy Roundtable.
- This policy framework aims to:
 - Describe the key principles for collaboration and allocating fish under section 10;
 - Outline processes for evaluating collaborative activities; and,
 - Ensure that the application, decision-making, and evaluation processes are consistent with legal and other government requirements, and transparent.
- Target: Approved policy framework by Spring 2014 and implemented, where possible, ahead of the fisheries management decisions next year.



Questions

The draft National Policy for Allocating Fish for Financing Purposes has been mailed out to First Nations for review and comment.

- 1) Are there any issues or concerns with the proposed policy?
- 2) Are there any gaps you believe we should address:
 - a) In the policy statement?
 - b) In the guidelines?



Contact Us

- Please provide your comments / feedback to us by February 28, 2014. You can reach us at:

Paul Ryall, Director Resource management
Pacific Region

Suite 200 – 401 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 3S4

Paul.Ryall@dfo-mpo.gc.ca