



First Nations Fisheries Council Communiqué September 2010

FISHERIES ISSUES UPDATES

Council Executive & Priority Areas

September 23, 2010 the First Nations Fisheries Council has appointed new members to its Executive. The Council has appointed as its new co-chairs John Henderson (Coastal) and Grand Chief Ken Malloway (Interior). The portfolio-holders for the Council's working groups are: Chief Allan Claxton (lead) and Cliff Atleo (alternate) for Aquaculture; Russ Jones for Economic Access; Howie Wright for Co-Management; and Walter Joseph for Food Social and Ceremonial Section 31 (1) Protected Fisheries.

The four joint First Nations Fisheries Council – Fisheries and Oceans Canada working groups are all in the process of developing workplans which will outline priority work for the Working Groups. Please note that background information on all of the priority areas, as well as working group meeting notes are available on the Fisheries Council website at www.fnfisheriescouncil.ca.

New Pacific Aquaculture Regulations

On September 8th, 2010 the 60-day comment window for the draft *Pacific Aquaculture Regulations* closed. The regulations can still be viewed at <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2010/2010-07-10/html/reg2-eng.html>.

Although the comment window has concluded, the assessment of incoming regulations and the associated work related to the development of a policy and management framework for aquaculture remains a priority for the Fisheries Council. The Council, as well as the Aquaculture Working Group, have been working to urge Canada to develop an engagement and consultation strategy which will allow First Nations meaningful input into the development of the new aquaculture management regime.

The Fisheries Council, along with many other B.C. First Nations and First Nations fisheries organizations have been active in corresponding with DFO with respect to concerns and recommendations. Any correspondence provided to the Council, and updated information relating to the Aquaculture Working Group is available to First Nations to view on the Fisheries Council's website: <http://www.fnfisheriescouncil.ca/index.php/mission-a-work-of-council/working-groups/aquaculture-working-group>.

Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative

On September 22nd, the Fisheries Council hosted an open call with B.C. First Nations on the issue of the Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative. Fisheries and Oceans Canada provided an update, and members of B.C. First Nations communities posed a number of questions. Additional discussions on PICFI are planned, and interested communities should contact the Council or refer to the Fisheries Council's Listserve for additional information.

Cohen Commission

The Cohen Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of the Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River is currently in the midst of holding a series of public forums to provide an opportunity for community members to share information relevant to the mandate of the Commission. Upcoming public forums include:

Chilliwack: September 29 – Coast Hotel Chilliwack – 6:30 pm

Kamloops: October 21 – Coast Canadian Hotel – 6:30 pm

Further details on locations and times are available at the Commission's website. All forums are open to the public; however, **participants must apply through the Commission website in order to make a presentation at these sessions.**

As a reminder, the Commission previously released a schedule of topics for the 2010 evidentiary hearings, which will take place October 25 through December 16. Hearings will be held Monday through Friday, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm each day. Hearings are open to the public and will be held at the Federal Court at 701 West Georgia Street, 8th floor. For further information, please visit: www.cohencommission.ca.

First Nations Fisheries Council Annual Fisheries Assembly

The 2010 Fall Assembly's theme is *'Co-Management: Developing a Shared Vision for the Future'*, and will take place in Prince Rupert November 2-4, 2010. For online registration and additional information, please see the FNFC website at <http://www.fnfisheriescouncil.ca/index.php/the-fn-fisheries-council/meetings/2010-fall-assembly>.

Fish in the News

The Fisheries Council continues to maintain an up-to-date archive of media reports relating to fisheries issues in British Columbia of interest to First Nations. The Fisheries Council website also provides the latest information about upcoming meetings, job opportunities, and other fisheries related news. Please see the FNFC website at www.fnfisheriescouncil.ca.

REGIONAL FISHERIES ORGANIZATIONS CONFERENCE CALLS

The next bi-weekly B.C. First Nations Fisheries Organizations conference calls for B.C. First Nations Fisheries Organizations and technical staff (Tier 1 – internal to First Nations only) will be held:

Wednesday, October 6 (9:00 am to 10:30 am)

Wednesday, October 20 (9:00 am to 10:30 am)

Please contact the Fisheries Council for dial-in information and agendas, or refer to past meeting summaries on the FNFC website. Meeting summaries are available to First Nations only; therefore, access is permitted with the use of a username and password. A confidential login is available to anyone who is a member of a B.C. First Nation or who works on behalf of a First Nation in the area of fisheries. For more information on this or any of the items mentioned above please contact the Fisheries Council at info@FNFisheriesCouncil.ca.

JOINT WORKING GROUPS

The Fisheries Council and DFO have established four priority area working groups: Aquaculture, Section 35.1 FSC Fisheries, Economic Access, and Co-management. All working groups have had at least one meeting, and will be developing joint work plans in the fall. Meeting notes, working group terms of reference, and additional information will be available on the Fisheries Council [website](#).

Many of these documents are internal to First Nations only, and require a username and password to access. A confidential login is available to anyone who is a member of a B.C. First Nation, or who works on behalf of a First Nation in the area of Fisheries. Please contact the Communications Coordinator at info@fnfisheriescouncil.ca to get your login.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

First Nations Fisheries Council members are appointed by First Nations around B.C. through processes that they determine at a region scale. There are 14 Council seats available. The intent of the Regions is that First Nations will work collaboratively to determine which area they participate in and how they wish to see appointments made. These are your current Fisheries Council members.

Council Members

Allan Claxton
Cliff Atleo
John Henderson
Steve Carpenter
Russ Jones
Don Roberts
Walter Joseph
John Ward
Howie Wright
Thomas Alexis
Vacant
Ken Malloway
Wayne Sparrow

Region

South Island
Nuu-chah-nulth (West Coast Vancouver Island)
Kwakwaka'wakw (Northern Vancouver Island & Mainland Inlets)
Central Coast
Haida Gwaii
North Coast
Upper Skeena
Northern Transboundary
Columbia Transboundary
Upper Fraser
Mid-Fraser (2)
Fraser Valley
Lower Fraser/ Lower Mainland

CONTACT US

For more information about the First Nations Fisheries Council, please visit our website at www.fnfisheriescouncil.ca. You can also reach the Communications Coordinator for the Fisheries Council at info@fnfisheriescouncil.ca.