



DFO Perspectives on Scales and Co-Management

First Nation Fisheries Assembly

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Scales

- Co-Management and decision-making take place at a number of different "scales"
 - Can be natural/conceptual (e.g. ecosystem), geographic (local, regional, watershed) or political/territorial (e.g. First Nations band or nation level)
 - Examples include:
 - Local / community
 - Aggregate / regional
 - Watershed / sub-watershed
 - Ecosystem
 - Provincial / territorial (BC, Yukon)
 - Pacific Region
 - National
 - International
- DFO and First Nations have begun looking at scales as an important consideration and conceptual framework for co-management
- Consensus is emerging that different types of discussions and decisions are most appropriately held at different scales





Scales cont'd

- The FNFC Co-Management Discussion Paper and today's presentations all deal with the concept of scales in some detail
- Scales provide an important tool for thinking about co-management
 - Activities, governance structures, capacity, roles and responsibilities and other issues related to co-management can all be thought of in terms of scales
- There are some important considerations related to co-management and engagement at different scales
 - While many discussions require engagement at the local / community level, the nature of fisheries resources, potential impacts of decisions on other First Nations, etc. often require discussions at a broader scale (e.g. Fraser and Skeena salmon)
 - High-level discussions regarding policy and programs may be more appropriately held at a Regional, Provincial or even National level



Scales cont'd

- An important focus for DFO and First Nations moving forward will be determining which discussions and activities are best held at the various scales
 - Could lead to a set of joint guidelines or understandings
- DFO is also interested in discussion about how engagement at different scales can be coordinated and complimentary
 - Avoiding overlap and duplication will be more efficient, provide for more transparency and help avoid confusion regarding who is engaged at what level
- Goal is to ensure the appropriate involvement of First Nations in co-management and decision-making processes which reflects the different governance structures, organizations, authorities and interests that exist at different scales

