

First Nations-DFO Co-Management Working Group: Update and Proposed Workplan

Presentation to the
First Nation Fisheries Assembly

November 2-4, 2010
Prince Rupert, BC

DFO-FNFC Commitment to Action

- **The Commitment to Action (C2A) is focused on collaboration and identifies a number of priorities for joint work between the DFO and First Nations**
- **The Co-Management Working Group was developed to:**
 - Move forward on broad priorities identified in the C2A;
 - Identify key priorities for First Nations and DFO related to co-management; and
 - Identify and take-on specific tasks, activities and deliverables that support First Nations and DFO moving forward with co-management

Context for the Co-Management Working Group

- **Co-Management is extremely broad and complex**
- **Covers a wide range of activities, relationships, arrangements and processes at different scales**
- **Can range from high-level policy discussions to joint fisheries or stock assessment projects at a local level**

Role of the Co-Management Working Group

- **The working group is working to identify issues, areas and tasks that will provide the most value-added for First Nations and DFO**
 - For example, what type of information, tools and resources would be most helpful for First Nations moving forward with co-management?
- **The draft workplan reflects our initial discussions**
- **Needs to be refined based on further input from First Nations**

Membership

First Nations

- Howie Wright (c)
- Catherine Rigg
- Jordan Point
- Greg Wadhams
- Ross Wilson
- Pete Nicklin

DFO

- Corey Jackson (c)
- Angela Bate
- Brigid Payne
- Barry Huber
- Deborah Phelan
- Gerry Kelly

Progress To-Date

- Two meetings (September and October 2010)
- Identified Potential Priority Issues / Areas
- Developed Draft Workplan
- Input on Agenda and themes for the Assembly
- Exchanged Key Documents and Information Related to Co-Management

Draft Workplan & Objectives (1)

- **Objective A: Support engagement of First Nations to inform the development of a joint vision, tools, resources and/or approaches to co-management**
 - Presentation and input from 2010 Assembly
 - Tier 1 & Tier 2 Community Dialogue Sessions
 - Inform engagement through development of other tools, resources and/or analysis

Draft Workplan & Objectives (2)

- **Objective B: Develop foundational understanding of First Nations and DFO perspectives on co-management**
 - Outline DFO perspectives on co-management
 - Outline First Nations perspectives on co-management

Draft Workplan & Objectives (3)

- **Objective C: Undertake specific activities and projects related to high-priority issues identified by First Nations and/or DFO**
 - Additional analysis regarding key co-management issues (e.g. scales, decision-making, etc.)
 - Identification and analysis of case studies to identify best practices and opportunities to improve co-management arrangements

Draft Workplan & Objectives (4)

- **Objective D: Develop a draft “Co-Management Framework” or guiding document between First Nations and DFO**
 - This aspect requires further scoping
 - Build on the work completed under Objectives A, B and C to produce an over-arching or “guiding” document related to co-management between DFO and First Nations
 - Possible elements could include guiding principles, key priorities, objectives and specific recommendations related to co-management

Next Steps

- **Refine priorities and activities based on discussions at the Assembly**
- **Incorporate input and advice provided via the Assembly and refine workplan**
- **Submit revised workplan to FNFC and DFO Executive for approval (Dec or Jan)**
- **Begin work on tasks outlined in the workplan**

Discussion Questions

1. **Do the workplan and the proposed objectives make sense?**
2. **Is this work consistent with the issues and priorities identified by First Nations (e.g. Tier 1 discussions on Day 1)?**
3. **Will this work contribute to advancing co-management between DFO and First Nations?**
4. **Are there other issues, priorities or activities that should be considered in the workplan?**