

Tier 2 Meeting Notes

Co-Management Working Group Meeting

July 20, 2010

Teleconference

Attendance:

- Pete Nicklin (Stock Assessment Biologist, Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance)
- Catherine Rigg (Socio-Economic Planner, Haida Fisheries Program)
- Jordan Point (Musqueam Indian Band)
- Greg Wadhams (Councillor, Namgis First Nation)
- Ross Wilson (Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Department)
- Deana Machin (FNFC Co-Management Coordinator)
- Saul Milne (FNFC Policy Analyst)
- Alex Gagne (FNFC Policy Analyst)
- Brenda McCorquodale (FNFC Executive Director)
- Corey Jackson – PICFI Coordinator, DFO
- Angela Bate – Director, Special Programs, DFO
- Barry Huber – Aboriginal Affairs Advisor, DFO BC Interior area
- Brigid Payne – Policy Advisor, TAPD, Pacific Region
- Gerry Kelly – PICFI Coordinator, South Coast, DFO

Regrets:

- Howie Wright (Manager, Okanagan Nation Alliance Fisheries Department / FNFC Council Member / Gitksan Nation)
- Deborah Phelan (DFO Consultation Secretariat)
- Gord Curry (DFO Aboriginal Advisor, South Coast)

1. Introductions

- Catherine - Socio-Economic Planner for the Haida Fisheries Program, background in marine and land use planning
- Jordan Point – Currently the Gateway coordinator for Musqueam Indian Band, formerly worked with DFO in the Lower Fraser Area, Councillor for Musqueam Indian Band
- Pete Nicklin – Stock Management Biologist for the UFFCA, on the Chinook Technical Committee for the Pacific Salmon Commission
- Ross Wilson - Manager of the Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Team, working on co-management initiatives for the Heiltsuk since the mid 1990s

- Greg Wadhams – Councillor with the Namgis First Nation, holds the Aquatic Resource Portfolio, commercial fisherman with 30 + years experience, member of the Island Aquatic & Marine Working Group and the Fraser River Approach Working Group
- Angela Bate - Director of Special Programs, DFO Pacific Region
- Gerry Kelly –PICFI coordinator, DFO South Coast Area
- Corey Jackson – PICFI Lead, DFO Pacific Region
- Brigid Payne - Senior Strategic Policy Advisor, Treaty and Aboriginal Policy Department, DFO
- Barry Huber – Aboriginal affairs Advisor, DFO BC Interior Area

2. Review Agenda

3. Background/Context

- The FNFC worked with DFO to develop a joint ***Commitment to Action and Results*** – an MOU that identifies 4 priority areas that FNFC and DFO could work together to make progress on: Section 35.1 Fisheries, Co-Management, Aquaculture and Economic Access
- Establish 4 working groups to work on each of the priority areas. The WGs will each develop their own workplans, and will report regularly to the joint FNFC-DFO Executive. The WGs are designed to have an equal number of FN and DFO representatives and will meet regularly to make progress on the issues identified in the workplan.
- The objective of the Working Group is to broadly provide policy advice and guidance to support the development of co-management arrangements between First Nations and DFO

4. Review Working Group Terms of Reference

- Review the WG Terms of Reference
- The FNFC will post meeting notes and other WG information on its website to be accessible to First Nation members, communities and fisheries organizations
- Working Group will operate on an annual basis according to its work-plan
- The Working Group will report regularly and be accountable to the joint FSC-DFO Executive.

5. DFO Co-Management Activities

- Co-management high priority for DFO across the broad spectrum of their mandate
- Co-management is unique as it encompasses so much of the core activities
- Need to narrow an approach to determining the priorities we need to demonstrate progress on
- Pacific Fishery Reform and PICFI has provided DFO the context for co-management

- There is some funding through PICFI devoted to co-management beyond the commercial fisheries, including improving co-management arrangements between FN at a Tier 1 level and with DFO on Tier 2, and at Tier 3 level with the other sectors
- Primary decision making and broad policy within DFO, but try to be broad and flexible
- Supporting capacity at FNFC for policy analysis and engaging communities; helping to build a collaborative way forward for us to work together
- PICFI is funding eight staff positions with AAROM groups to build capacity around information (e.g. monitoring and compliance in fisheries, etc), economic opportunities, and co-management. DFO looking to fund more of those positions for the remainder of PICFI
- At the Tier 3 level, DFO supporting the Integrated Salmon Dialogue Forum and the Fraser River Salmon Table
- Other units and initiatives engaged in some aspect of co-management: TAPD, AAROM, AFS, PNCIMA, WCVI, FRAWG and others
- Key objective for DFO is to get a comprehensive picture of what we are engaging in and to identify gaps or redundancies and successes and challenges
- Objective for the working group would be to develop common vision and joint workplan
- Challenged to determine what the scope of work will be
- Need to map out current processes, figure out how to improve the interface

6. Discussion of Co-Management Issues and Priorities

- Working together we have had some problems - need to define co-management to meet both of our needs, need to build trust
- Reconciliation of First Nations' rights
- What does "decision-making" mean in a co-management context?
- Better relationship lead to better processes, and it makes it easier to work through challenging issues
- Working Group at a BC-wide scale - need to determine what can we do to support co-management at local scale
- FNFC has developed some background papers/discussion papers for First Nations related to various elements of co-management
- Definitions / common understanding / common vision
- Establishing Tier 1 structures
- Importance of scale – having the appropriate discussions at the appropriate scale
- Build a picture of where we are at now and having a clear picture of where we want to go from here and the process we use to get there
- To First Nations, co-management means that FN take their rightful role in decision making - perhaps we can ID that as a goal, then work to determine how do we get there
- Need to scope out a joint vision; examples, principles

- setting priorities in our vision, where do we focus on the short term and how do we make incremental progress
- How do we link what we are learning from the disparate processes that we are engaged in
- What are the key pieces that can be done before the sunset of PICFI
- Workplan should be specific to the resources we have
- Need some substantive results for communities
- Need a balance of being done right and being pragmatic.

Next Meeting Date: September 21, Vancouver (Tentative, to be confirmed)