



# PICFI UPDATE

January 31, 2011

# Background

- PICFI announced on July 16, 2007
- 5 year program (2007-2012) - \$175M
- Expected results
  - build FN capacity / fishing enterprises to participate in integrated commercial fisheries
  - secure access for Aboriginal Commercial Fishing Enterprises (CFEs) established under PICFI
  - initiate multi-stakeholder co-management of fisheries
  - enhance fisheries management accountability measures for all fisheries
- Two-stage application process
  - Expressions of interest; Business plans
  - Internal & external reviews

# [ Overview: 4 Elements ]

1. Access and Distribution - \$115M
  - Funds to relinquish licences and quota; about 10% of budget set aside for vessels and gear
  - Developing a distribution plan that responds to First Nations interests as identified in Business Plans, is regionally fair and consistent with treaties.
2. Capacity Building - \$12.4M
  - Support for business and training planning
  - Support for skills development in support of CFEs
3. Enhanced Accountability – \$11.2M
  - Improved catch monitoring/reporting and compliance to support conservation of fisheries resources
  - Improve management, integration and access to fisheries information
  - Support emerging traceability requirements, eco-certification
4. Co-Management \$11.6M
  - Improve First Nations role in co-management and policy development
  - Improve multi-interest decision-making
  - Design and implement share based salmon management

# 1. Access and Distribution - Status

## Results to date

- Access relinquishment program set up to meet value for money for Canadians and minimize disruption to existing fisheries
  - Rigorous process developed to eliminate potential bias
- Relinquishment results to date
  - \$70.5M expended on range of opportunities (approx \$10M since Sept)
  - 314 licences, 6.3% Halibut TAC and 7.0% of Sablefish TAC
- Short term distribution of quota, herring and prawn licences
  - Provided economic opportunities for First Nation communities and allowed PICFI to “test” access agreements
  - Opportunities were broad and not necessarily reflective of what would occur in long term
- Development of “Cross Program Database”
  - Sums ATP, AAROM, AFS support across aboriginal programs to guide evaluation of Expressions of Interest and Business & Training Plans

# [ Access criteria – short term ]

## ■ Broad ST distribution criteria

- Distribution of quota as the highest priority, followed by licences where a reasonable opportunity to fish a given species under those licences remains in the balance of the current fiscal year;
- Ability of the First Nation to fish the commercial access themselves;
- Ability of the First Nation to secure training and employment opportunities as part of a leasing arrangement;
- In the case of quota, whether the First Nation holds a licence to which the quota could be attached;
- Participation in a PICFI Expression of Interest (EOI) submitted to DFO (and received by the deadline);
- Consideration of the fishery monitoring & catch reporting history of the First Nations, with priority given to those with a positive history.

# [ Access criteria – long term ]

- The following criteria were considered in determining the “notional allocations” of PICFI access
  - Size/population of group, location of group, existing access (ATP), capacity of group, total number of applicants anticipated
- Actual allocation of licences/quota is done in working with the PICFI applicants
  - Allocation is linked to business planning

# [ 2. Capacity Building - Status ]

## Progress achieved

- Completion of the application and EOI evaluation phase
  - Received 36 Expressions of Interest (EOIs) by Oct 31, 2009 deadline
  - 25 EOIs approved; 4 interior, 21 coastal; 5 individual First Nations, 20 aggregates
  - 12 funded Business & Training Plan projects; 8 contribution agreements in development
  - Developed strong internal and external business evaluation process
  - Increased communications, compliance, negotiation with client groups
  
- Training Plan Toolbox developed
  - 6 Training Plans in review, 6 more in development
  - Feasibility Trials and In-River Technical training (Demonstration fisheries)

# [ 3. Co-Management - Status ]

## Progress achieved

- First Nations Co-Management (\$2.6 M in 2010-11)
  - First Nations “Resource Centre” for Co-Management with First Nations Fisheries Council; co-management / joint management WG established
  - Progress toward a DFO-FN Co-Management process for Fraser Salmon (Forum / FRAWG process)
  - Support for Lower Fraser First Nations Strategic Plan
  - 4 new Co-Management / Data Coordinator Positions with First Nations (Cowichan, NTC, UFFCA, SFC); now 8 funded.
  - Establish 6-8 new Co-Management / Data Coordinator Positions with First Nations
  
- Multi-interest co-management (\$1.7 M in 2010-11)
  - Work on Governance and Monitoring and Compliance under the Integrated Salmon Dialogue Forum (ISDF)
  - Funding for key Wild Salmon Policy (WSP) projects
  - Developing DFO “Co-Management Framework”
  - Integrated planning under WSP with focus on Skeena, Barkley and Fraser
  
- Demonstration fisheries and support for share-based salmon fisheries

# 4. Enhanced Accountability - Status

## Progress achieved

- Strategic Framework for Catch Monitoring developed
  - progress on Catch Monitoring Standards
  - monitoring improvements for commercial, recreational and FSC
- New tools
  - E-logs: prototype tested, rec guides (45 units/12 lodges, Atlegay model)
  - developed CREST = Catch & release estimation tool
- Developed and implementing Information Management tool: PACFISH and Accountability Working Group
- C&P Enhanced Accountability
  - Improved infrastructure and operational readiness
- Inspection and information-based policing project
  - Developed capacity with focus on staffing and training

# Summary of PICFI Formative Evaluation Report

- PICFI evaluated against two criteria:
  1. Relevance
  2. Performance
    - effectiveness
    - efficiency and economy
- Process:
  - DFO Evaluation Directorate lead; consultant did case studies and interviews (November 2009-April 2010)
  - Draft report and recommendations plus development of Departmental response (May 2010-October 2010)
  - Departmental Management Committee discussion (December 2010)
  - Requires DM sign-off prior to release

# Evaluation recommendations

- 1. DFO should show more flexibility on requirements for Aggregate Bodies.
  - Any criteria, for example on minimum numbers of bands, should be developed in consultation with FNs and communicated to FN clients.
  - At the same time, fruitful collaboration might be encouraged simply through sharing information on potential opportunities.

# Evaluation recommendations

- 2. DFO should consider ways to improve consultation and communication, possibly through a steering committee that includes FN representation.
- Increased cooperation with the First Nations Fisheries Council should be considered.
- Consultation should include the following areas:
  - Strategic planning for acquisition of licenses and quotas (the relative amount of various species to meet FN and DFO objectives);
  - Interim access in order to provide timely access to FNs with the capacity to fish licenses and quota that have been acquired;
  - Encouragement of a mentoring system based on the traditional approach;
  - Demonstration fisheries that respect traditional methods and knowledge
  - Communication between RHQ and area offices should be improved, particularly with respect to any requirements from FNs.

# Evaluation recommendations

- 3. PICFI should lead a move toward a terminal fishery for salmon.
  - Decisions on a balance between ocean and in-river allocations should be made in consultation with FNs.
  - The transition should be coordinated with license acquisition, so that appropriate species are available to mitigate any potential loss to FNs that might otherwise have received increased allocations to fish for salmon in the ocean.

# Evaluation recommendations

- 4. DFO should streamline application/approval processes and ensure adequate funding or support capacity to meet the demands that this process places on FNs.
  - All criteria against which EOI are evaluated should be clearly communicated. FN communities should receive adequate explanation of and justification as to why their EOIs have been declined or approved.
  - Lessons learned from the EOI application and evaluation process should be applied to any future activity, particularly with respect to Business Plans.
  - Requirements and evaluation criteria should be clear, information requested from FNs should be consistent and adequate to apply the review criteria.

# Evaluation recommendations

- 5. DFO should continue to investigate the potential for cooperation with other departments in this area, including INAC, WED, HRSDC, Industry Canada and other levels of governments.
  - DFO should consider working with the Treasury Board Centre of Expertise in Grants and Contributions to facilitate interaction regarding INAC's proposed sector-oriented aboriginal economic development program, which might address limited departmental mandates and contribute to a whole-of-government view of strategic outcomes.

# Evaluation recommendations

- 6. The AICFI model should be used judiciously. Lessons may be learned in the area of Business Plan development.
  - Consideration should be given to involving Aboriginal organizations (e.g. Aboriginal Capital Corporation, Northern Native Fishing Corporation etc.) that have experience in providing business development support services to FN communities.
  - In particular, Business Development Teams (BDT) under Aboriginal organizations should be considered.
  
- 7. DFO should plan for the continuation of PICFI activities after the 5-year program ends, contingent on available resources.
  - PICFI long-term activities such as co-management, CFE capacity building, and enhanced accountability and monitoring should be continued in one form or another within DFO