



# Overview of the Salmon Integrated Fisheries Management Planning (IFMP) Process

DFO-First Nations Tier 2 Workshop

October 24-25, 2011

Vancouver, BC



## What is an IFMP?

- IFMP is an *Integrated Fisheries Management Plan*
- What is it?
  - An IFMP is both a *process* and a *document*
- Primary goal: to provide a planning framework for conservation and sustainable fisheries and process by which a given fishery will be managed for a period of time.



## IFMP Process

- Integrates expertise and activities of DFO sectors (e.g. Science, Conservation and Protection, Aboriginal Policy and Governance, Oceans and Habitat, Policy and Economics, Aquaculture) in fisheries management planning under leadership of Resource Management
- Consultation and engagement with First Nations and stakeholders is key to shaping the IFMP and high level (e.g. regional) decisions regarding conservation and management of fisheries



# Consultation and Engagement Process

- Consultation on salmon IFMPs is carried out in multiple ways:
  - Public posting for comment
  - Meetings between DFO and First Nations at a variety of levels (community, aggregate group, watershed)
  - Meetings between DFO and stakeholders at a variety of levels
  - Multi-sector (Tier 3) meetings (e.g. Integrated Harvest Planning Committee)
- Begins with post-season review of fisheries (November-January)



## 2010 Example: IFMP Process and Timelines

- Nov 24/25 – Full IHPC meeting
- Nov- Jan – post-season review information; related meetings
- Dec 6 – NC IHPC post-season review meeting
- January through April – meetings with First Nations and stakeholders
- Jan 19-20 – SC IHPC post-season review meeting
- March 16 – Draft #1 of the IFMP for review/comment
- March 23-24 – Full IHPC meeting to review Draft #1 of IFMP



## IFMP Timelines con't

- April 29 – Draft #2 of the IFMP for review/comment
- May 4-5 – Full IHPC meeting to review Draft #2 of IFMP
- June/July – Final approval on the 2011/12 IFMP



# First Nations Consultation and Engagement in IFMP Development

- Tier 1
  - FN Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning (Fraser-origin salmon)
- Tier 2:
  - Draft IFMPs distributed to all First Nations communities for comment
  - Bilateral meetings between DFO and First Nations
  - Input provided by letters and other correspondence
  - Regional or Area meetings (e.g. IMAWG, First Nations Forum on Conservation and Harvest Planning (Fraser-origin salmon), Skeena Fisheries Commission, etc.)
- Tier 3 meetings
  - Integrated Harvest Planning Committee

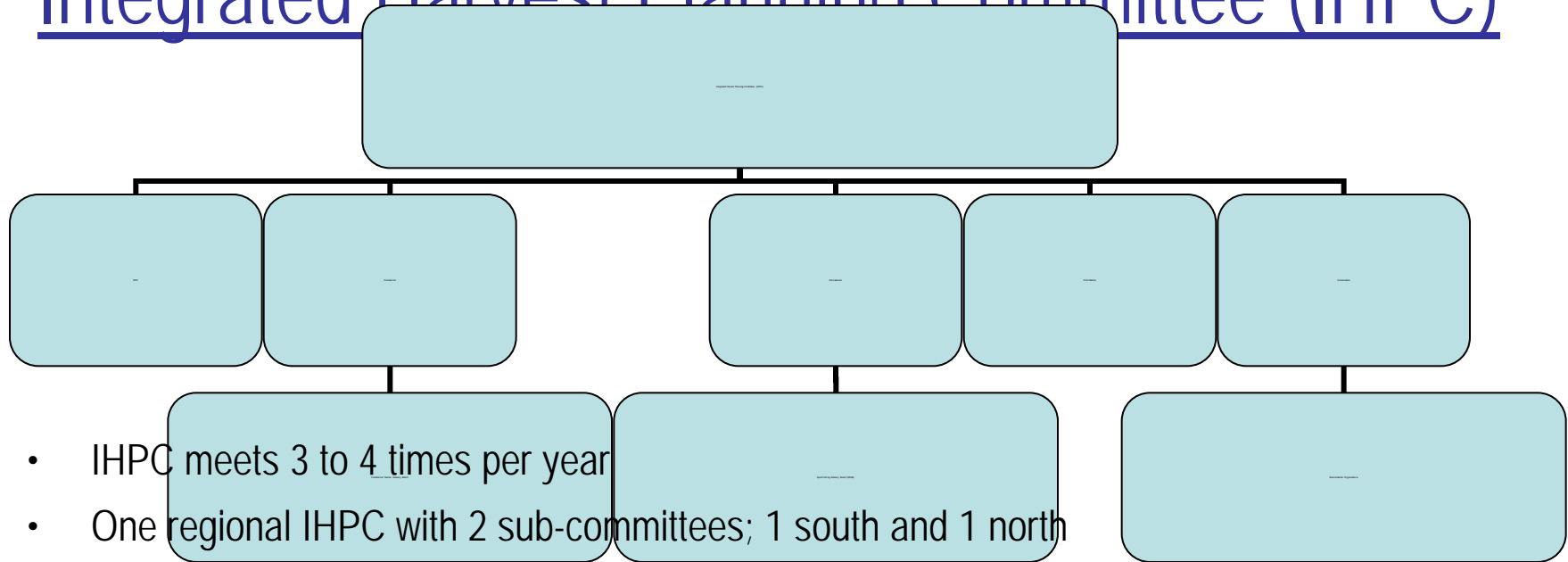


## What is the role of the IHPC?

- Purpose: The IHPC is being established by DFO to promote a more streamlined, representative, cross sectoral advisory process related to salmon harvest planning, management and post season review.
- The goal of the IHPC is to ensure fishing plans are coordinated and integrated, identify potential conflicts, and if there are disputes, make recommendations for solutions if possible.
- Terms of Reference: <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/consultation/fisheries-peche/smon/ihpc-cpip/torman-eng.htm>



# Integrated Harvest Planning Committee (IHPC)



- IHPC meets 3 to 4 times per year
- One regional IHPC with 2 sub-committees; 1 south and 1 north
- Membership (South): 6 CSAB, 3 SFAB, 2 Marine Conservation Caucus, 4 First Nations, 1 Prov. Of BC (ex-officio)
- Membership (North): 4 CSAB, 3 SFAB, 2 MCC, 4 First Nations, 1 Prov. Of BC (ex-officio)
- DFO-appointed independent facilitator



# First Nations Participation at the IHPC

- Negotiation of FSC harvest plans not within the scope of the IHPC
  - Determined through bilateral discussions (First Nations and DFO.
- DFO recognizes that some issues are best addressed in bilateral processes
  - Results of bilateral processes may subsequently lead to improved effectiveness of multi-sectoral processes
- Part of the role of First Nations participants is to help address inter-sectoral issues and co-ordinate fishing plans of First Nations with other fisheries
- Complexity and large number of First Nations in each geographic area make it impossible to fully represent all FSC interests would be difficult
- Expectation is that First Nations representatives can provide a general perspective and understanding of FSC and harvest management issues in their areas



## IFMP – the Document

- IFMP's first introduced in the mid-1990's
- Salmon IFMP's done separately for North Coast and South Coast
- Salmon IFMP's will have new layout for 2011
- See *Preparing an IFMP- Guidance Document*:
- <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/peches-fisheries/ifmp-gmp/guidance-guide/preparing-ifmp-pgip-elaboration-eng.htm>



## Revisions to the IFMP Template

- Fisheries Renewal initiative to renew IFMP template based on lessons learned since the mid-1990's and emerging issues.
- Common look and feel for all IFMP's nationally
- New components on stock assessment, science and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), and social, cultural and economic importance of the fishery.



# IFMP Contents

1. Overview of the Fishery
2. Stock Assessment, Science and Traditional Knowledge (NEW)
3. Economic, Social and Cultural Importance of the Fishery (new)
4. Management Issues
5. Objectives
6. Access and Allocation
7. Management Measures for the Duration of the Plan
8. Shared Stewardship Arrangements
9. Compliance Plan
10. Performance Review



## Discussion: Improvements to the IFMP and IHPC Process

- Advice on potential improvements to First Nations consultation and engagement in the IFMP process?
- Advice on potential improvements or a new process for supporting First Nations participation in IHPC?
  - IHPC TORs: *"In 2004, interim appointments by DFO will be based on recommendations made by major Aboriginal groups active in the [north/south]. For longer term appointments, DFO will continue to work with Aboriginal groups to identify a suitable process."*