

**Themes for Discussion at DFO-First Nations
Fraser Salmon "Roadmap" Workshop December 10, 2009
Views from DFO for Discussion**

1. Vision, Goals and Objectives

Establishing a common vision, goals and objectives for a co-management process in the Fraser River Watershed and Approach Areas is essential to building an effective structure that will work for both DFO and First Nations. A key outcome for this session will be a good dialogue and potential agreement on key elements of a vision, goals and specific objectives associated with collaborative management of Fraser salmon.

The following DFO views are offered for discussion:

- First Nations and DFO working together in a process intended to improve the management and conservation of migratory Fraser River salmon stocks
- First Nations and DFO working together guided by trust, respect and shared principles (potentially guided by a written agreement)
- Mandated participants responsible for communications and the conveyance of decisions including associated rationale for the decisions
- The annual process is clear, transparent and funded to support objectives and activities
- The new management process informs the participants, communicates with communities and allows for shared decision making

2. Mandate and Scope

An important element of building a new DFO-First Nations management structure for Fraser salmon will be determining the appropriate mandate and scope for this initiative. Early discussions in this regard will be helpful from a number of perspectives (e.g. differentiating the Roadmap process from other processes, making the linkages between the Roadmap process and organizations such as the First Nation Fisheries Council and the ITO, helping to identify potential resource requirements both in the development and implementation phases).

DFO views for consideration:

- New management process is focussed on Fraser bound salmon
- The management process encompasses southern BC and Fraser R. watershed
- Management and access of FSC fisheries is a priority, with consideration of other First Nation's fisheries and management issues

3. First Nation Representation

First Nations and DFO have identified representation as a key issue in developing a successful joint management approach for Fraser salmon. It has also been highlighted as an area of particular importance in reports by Brenda Gaertner, Bob Brown, Paul Kariya and others. Specifically, these reports have noted the importance of First Nations

collectively building and agreeing on a process for determining appropriate representation both during the development and implementation of a co-management process for Fraser salmon.

DFO view:

- DFO is seeking direction from First Nations on an appropriate representative process and structure that provides for accountability and links back to the community

4. *Role of Technical Capacity and Support*

Technical capacity has been identified as an important component of any new management process for Fraser salmon. While a significant amount of technical capacity exists among some individual First Nations and First Nation aggregates (e.g. AAROM bodies such as FRAFS), significant gaps exist and the Roadmap process will require consideration of the appropriate technical capacity required to support a future process (or processes).

DFO views:

- Technical support and capacity will be an integral part of the process, to assist First Nations participation in the process
- Efficiencies in the use of available resources will need to be considered

5. *Structural Options / Potential Models*

While these discussions are at an early stage, the first workshop in October 2009 included some initial discussion around a potential organizational structure or “model” for a Fraser watershed and approach management process (e.g. a First Nations Commission). It would be useful for First Nations and DFO to exchange ideas regarding potential structural options for a co-management process.

DFO views:

- DFO open to a wide range of models
- The process will need to have a manageable number of representatives to be effective
 - Appropriate political/management and technical representation (DFO & FNs)
- Development of and linking aggregate bodies (e.g., AAROM bodies) is seen by DFO as desirable to capitalize on expertise and capacity
- Should have linkages to other related processes (e.g., IHPC, Fraser Panel, Tribal organizations)