

From: Sneddon, Debra <Debra.Sneddon@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2009 10:29 AM
To: Grout, Jeff <Jeff.Grout@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

FYI

Debra

From: Sneddon, Debra
Sent: August 17, 2009 9:20 AM
To: Farlinger, Susan; Trager, Diana; Adams, Devona
Subject: RE: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

Sorry, forgot to point out that as of 4:15 on Friday we still weren't sure what area we were closing (Mission to Hope vs. Aggasiz to Hope) and the difficult position we were in on the consultation front when making decisions on this short of notice.

Debra

From: Sneddon, Debra
Sent: August 17, 2009 8:48 AM
To: Farlinger, Susan; Trager, Diana; Adams, Devona
Subject: RE: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

I did speak to Frank Kwak but it was after the notice came out, he was down working on the C&R study all day. I was in several tackle shops this week and talked to the owners Gary Wardroper (Chilliwack Dart & Tackle) and Terry Skipper (Reaction Fly & Tackle) and both said they felt we were likely going to end up where we did so no surprise on their part.

Couple things, I wasn't on the sox/pink WG call on Tues the 4th so not sure what was discussed but on the 11th we talked about there being no TAC for recreational fisheries and that we issued the no fishing for sockeye notice. This should not have been a surprise to anyone, I have been forwarding out all the information from the FRP this season as well as the minutes from this WG and we have discussed it at length on the weekly calls. The wording below in red was in the minutes from the meeting on the 11th.

- 3) The Department released a fishery notice today announcing that there is no fishing for sockeye in the non-tidal Fraser as there is no TAC available for recreational fisheries. In addition, the catch and release impacts need to be reduced and we are encouraging folks to fish using methods that can target the species you are fishing for. It is important to let the recreational community know that there is no fishing for sockeye.**

FYI, I was on the river yesterday and saw Ed George our lower Fraser River SFAC Chair bottom bouncing on spring bar, nice to see our advisory board members complying with the

regulations!

It interesting to note too that the final words in the notice on the no fishing for sockeye were:

If sockeye encounters are not reduced to ensure the adequate passage of sockeye, then further actions such as spot closures or a "no fishing for salmon" restriction may be implemented.

As I stated on the FRIMT calls I didn't think we gave them enough time to get the word out and change the behaviour before announcing this closure nor do I think their impact on sockeye warranted this closure however the amount of flak I have received over the above wording (which many called a threat) is insane. In my view they can't say they didn't see this coming.

Finally, maybe I am naive but I was under the impression that we would let the SFAB know what we were considering, get their advice and consider it, but would not tell them that the decisions were made before we announced them to the public. If I should have been doing this then please let me know as I may have some fences to mend.

Debra

From: Farlinger, Susan
Sent: August 17, 2009 8:30 AM
To: Trager, Diana; Adams, Devona; Sneddon, Debra
Subject: Fw: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

If there are further contacts we made please let me know.

Sue

Sent using BlackBerry
Susan Farlinger

From: Farlinger, Susan
To: Sprout, Paul
Sent: Mon Aug 17 11:28:43 2009
Subject: Re: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

We discussed with lower river guides Dean Werk and Vic Carron (sp). Before the closure as well as with Dan Cody

Sent using BlackBerry
Susan Farlinger

From: Sprout, Paul
To: Farlinger, Susan; Trager, Diana
Cc: Rosenberger, Barry
Sent: Mon Aug 17 10:40:29 2009
Subject: Fw: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

E-mail on closure as noted in previous e-mail

Paul Sprout
Sent using BlackBerry

From: Bill Otway <waycot@telus.net>
To: Sprout, Paul
Cc: Ed George <edgeorge@telus.net>; Wright John <johnwright@canada.com>; Rupert Gale <rupertg@telus.net>; Doug Daugert <kumdis@qcislands.net>; Elmer Fast <elmerfast@shaw.ca>; Jeremy Maynard <jmaynard@island.net>; J D PewCHAIRFWCOMM <jpew@telus.net>; Harling Wayne <harling@island.net>; Gerry Kristianson <gerrykr@telus.net>; Paul Rickard <paulrickard@shaw.ca>; Milligan Laurie <lmilligan@shaw.ca>; Murphy Marilyn <mmurphy@island.net>; McCulloch John <john.mcculloch@langara.com>; Kwak Frank <frankkwak@shaw.ca>; Bird Tom <tombird@shaw.ca>
Sent: Sat Aug 15 19:49:03 2009
Subject: Fw: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

Paul - I arrived home yesterday evening to find this e mail in my mail box.

I have to tell you that I find this underhanded action totally reprehensible.

First and foremost, making the announcement at 4:30 on a Friday afternoon is a total insult to the anglers who have worked so hard to work with DFO and manage this years fishery.

Of greater importance however is the fact that the SFAB has two committees on the lower Fraser. The Lower Fraser Valley Local Committee, Chaired by Ed George and the Upper Fraser Local SFAB Committee chaired by Frank Kwak.

Both the above have been very actively involved in the Catch and Release study at Grassy Bar and both have home, business and cel phones, all numbers well know to DFO. Neither were contacted until AFTER the closure notice was sent out.

On top of that we have the SFAB Sockeye Working Group which meets by conference call every Tuesday to discuss the Sockeye situation and give advice to DFO and to pass on to the anglers the situation with regards this fishery.

No one, I repeat NO ONE on this working group was contacted by DFO prior to the decision to close the river and the notice was released.

I was a part of the Sockeye working Group but by way of this e mail I am advising you that I will no longer participate in and give credence to a process that DFO obviously has no interest in hearing from nor listening to.

After almost a year of improving working relationships on the Fraser River we now see things have slipped back to a level lower than ever before achieved.

It is a sad, sad day indeed when DFO, who has touted the SFAB process world wide, had decided it no longer has validity.

Frankly I am also totally amazed at how cavalier DFO has been and continues to be over the state of the Fraser River Sockeye run when it comes to First

Nations fisheries.

If there really is a conservation problem, and I believe there is, then why is DFO not requiring First Nations to use angling gear or Beach Seines to catch their Chinook food fish?

Why is DFO continuing to put out notices indicating the recreational fishery poses a major threat to the Fraser Sockeye when your own studies show a release mortality rate of less than 1%?

And why are you not making public the number of illegal drift net fisheries that have and are taking place on the Fraser and the number and scope of the apprehension your C&P staff have made for illegal fishing and for the sale of Sockeye by First Nations.

Your office sends out claims of "needing every fish" but you fail to add the caveat, "except those caught, legally or illegally by Lower Fraser First Nations".

I can tell you first hand Paul that the First Nations in the interior area and reaching a point of total disgust, almost equal to mine, of the lousy management being carried out by DFO in controlling the Lower Fraser First Nations Fishery. I would not be at all surprised to see them go fishing themselves in spite of their honouring the DFO closures of their fisheries while allowing the Lower Bands to go as they wish. Frankly if they go fishing, I will very hard pressed not to object.

Bill Otway

----- Original Message -----

From: opscentre@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

To: WAYCOT@TELUS.NET

Sent: Friday, August 14, 2009 4:28 PM

Subject: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

Category(s):
RECREATIONAL - Salmon

Fishery Notice - Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Subject: FN0628-RECREATIONAL - SALMON: Region 2 - Non-tidal Waters of the Fraser River

Effective one hour after sunset Sunday August 16, 2009 until further notice, a no fishing for all Salmon species restriction will be in place from the Aggasiz / Rosedale Bridge upstream to the Highway No. 1 Bridge at Hope, BC.

Current run size estimates of Fraser River sockeye continue to be well below abundances required to provide a total allowable catch. The Department's priorities are to ensure that there is sufficient sockeye returning to the spawning grounds for conservation purposes. The Department is continuing to manage fisheries to minimize sockeye impacts and provide priority access to First Nations' fishing for food, social and ceremonial purposes.

Anglers fishing for chinook salmon in areas that remain open to salmon fishing are required to take every measure possible to ensure that their fishing activities are not impacting sockeye salmon. The Department is continuing to monitor the Fraser River to ensure compliance.

Recreational fishing opportunities for trout, steelhead and sturgeon and other non-salmon species in this area remain open. In addition, recreational fishing opportunities on the Fraser River for pink and chum salmon are anticipated. .

Variation order 2009-324 is in effect.

Notes:

For the 24 hour recorded opening and closure line, call toll free at (866) 431-FISH.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada Operations Center - FN0628
Sent August 14, 2009 at 16:27
Visit us on the Web at <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 8.5.392 / Virus Database: 270.13.57/2303 - Release Date: 08/14/09 18:10:00