

Lower Fraser Sport Fishing-First Nations Working Group

June 14, 2011

Location: Sumas First Nation Health Board Room

Draft agenda

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| 2:00 PM | Review Joint working Group Action Plan and shared activities |
| 3:00 PM | Proposed Joint-monitoring and catch reporting pilot |
| 3:45 PM | What does the group plan to do this salmon season around Peacemakers and River Manners |
| 4:30 PM | Access planning – grants, work plans & next steps |
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Attendance

Dave Moore, Fraser River Salmon Table Executive Director: Facilitate and meeting notes
Ernie Crey, Sto:lo Tribal Council
Marion Robinson, Fraser Basin Council
Wayne Saito, M&C Panel & BC Government Liaison
Vic Ciarro, Fraser Valley Angling Guides Association
Dean Werk, Great River Fishing Adventures
Barry Huber, DFO
Frank Kwak, Fraser Valley Salmon Society
Rod Clapton, BC Federation of Driftfishers
Kim Charlie, Sts'ailes
Michelle Teung, FSWP
Terry Tebb, FSWP
Ed George, BC Wildlife Federation

Acknowledgements to Host, Sumas First Nation and to the Fraser Salmon and Watershed`s Program for sponsoring the meeting.

1. Review Joint working Group Action Plan and shared activities

i) Chehalis River Angler Access Trail

- Put up signs to reinforce trail plan to enhance access and minimize trespass/protect sensitive sites
- Noted how this may be relevant model to other sites
- Suggested Community legacy Fund – Salmon Table is looking into developing a grant application

- Reflected upon the CLASS application to the same fund for signage (FBC) – recommended an Island 22 replicate of the Chehalis trail sign
- FSWP noted a signage budget may be available for public education – see Michelle and Terry

Action 1: Group is enthusiastic about putting up signs/kiosk at high profile site like Island 22 to educate public. Propose a signage Committee: Frank K. and FVSS volunteered to consult with participants and make recommendations to the next group meeting. Open up discussion to broader communications suggestions.

Action 2: Requested that Barry Huber look into how this might fit into their current communications plan

ii) Rupert Street boat launch

- Salmon Table and this joint working group was referred to a opening conflict associated with a newly upgraded boat launch in Hope
- Angling guides led effort and funded upgrades to the low-water end of the launch- DFO enabled and supported upgrades plan
- Concerned adjacent land owner has experienced vandalism, pollution and disturbances that are typically out-of-town users, outside of day time use by fishers (i.e. partiers)
- Proposed to land owner that perhaps a site stewardship arrangement could be considered that engages local property owners
- Consider gate that he and his neighbours controlled would eliminate unauthorized night-time use

Action 3: FVAGA will lead a visit and look into property with Dave M. And a FN rep? Suggest someone from Seabird (i.e. Jim Harris and Shawn John from Chawathyl)

iii) Experience the Fraser

- Access points being digitized from last meeting – a consultant has been hired to digitize
- Digital copies can be made available to those that have ArcInfo
- Hard copy to be brought back to the group in a subsequent meeting
- FRAFS expressed interest in getting copy of the digitized map
- Map can be made available for subsequent work by this group in access planning, and value-added map can contribute to the *Experience the Fraser* Project

Action 4: Dave Barrett will follow up with a more detailed report at next meeting

2. Proposed Joint-monitoring and catch reporting pilot

- This group has made some progress in bringing this issue to the fore, but taking the project to the next stage of analyzing gaps is up to DFO
- DFO has been preparing an internal report
- This group can contribute to this analysis in conversation with DFO
- Key thing for this group to consider are the specific issues and needs around catch reporting between fisheries – perhaps we can have a discussion with DFO when they are ready about this as the next step

Action 5: Invite Mathew Parslo to a subsequent (focus group?) meeting to present report before discussing the project further – document completion in the fall

3. What does the group plan to do this salmon season around Peacemakers and River Manners

- Proposed river manners tour II – focus on time when aboriginal fishery is going on
- Include both regulators and interests
- Particular interest in the FSC fishery this time
- Demonstrate how to get along
- Do not shy away from opportunity to observe/examine conflict
- Work with DFO/LF to organize a delegates tour during sockeye fishery
- Work with this group and press to demonstrate how a “fishing Community” with many interests gets along on the river
- consider a public event or communications strategy during the pink fishery when there are fewer conflicts associated with greater abundance

Action 6: Salmon Table is completing its work plan with DFO PICFI and will include the river manners tour. Will follow up by e-mail and phone. There may still be a need for a face-to-face planning meeting during the summer (July or August), depending upon participant interest in meeting during summer fishery.

4. Access planning – grants, work plans & next steps

- Dave Barrett, Robert Reyerse and Murray Ned have been leading this project so far
- Received grant from ENP for \$10,000 to defray costs of building plan
- Last meeting group discussed changing name of plan from Gateway to something without baggage
- Consider a meeting in July with designates from each interest to meet with the land owner adjacent to the Hope boat launch
- It was noted that Chawathyl also uses the Hope boat launch
- Salmon Table to contact Chawathyl and Seabird rep`s to attend visit to boat launch

- Consider tying this visit to the Hope boat launch into a field trip to view other access points on the Haig Highway, and take the opportunity to have a more detailed discussion about issues and conflicts
- Contact information for adjacent land-owner to Hope Boat launch Mr. Corbett 604 869-5322
- See Ernie Crey about contact for Chewathyl Band fisher to attend tour (Romeo for Ron John)
- Jim Harris should be contacted from Seabird

Action 7: Dave Barrett will follow up with plans for access field trip - will be for July and-or August.

First Nations-Sport Fishing Dialogue in the Lower Fraser: Participant Contact List

Participants List* and Contact Information

Phone (daytime)

E-mail

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