

## Joint Sport Fishing-First Nations Working Group



**Date:** Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 2 – 5 PM

**Location:** Sumas First Nations Health Center Boardroom

### Attendance

Special Guests:

- Doug Wilson, FVRD
- Doug Clift, C&P

Dave Barrett, Fraser River Salmon Table

Dave Moore, Fraser River Salmon Table ED- notes

Frank Kwak, Fraser Valley Salmon Society

Vic Carrao, Peace Maker Co-Chair and Fraser Valley Angling Guides Association

Rod Clapton, BC Federation of Drift Fisher

Ed George, BCWF

Don Simpson, LFFA

Ernie Crey, Sto:lo Tribal Council

### Agenda

This meeting is organized around a review of a rolling draft Terms of Referenced generated by the group for this body. As well we will review the status of the access study and signage activities in the lower Fraser River and plans for the next 12 months including safety committee. The group will set follow-up meeting dates, and where funding is involved, discuss proposals for joint activities with agency partners in 2012/13.

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Summary notes and action points from last meeting (April 10): All
3. Presentation of draft TOR for the group: Rod Clapton/Dave Barrett/Dave Moore (attached)
4. Fraser River Public safety Event for August: Clapton, Dave Barrett, Don Simpson/Ernie Crey
5. Review progress on access study and discuss linkages to conceptual proposals for First Nations meeting with Vancity: Barrett/Reyerse
6. Review progress report on lower Fraser signage plans and discuss next steps: Moore
7. Review plans Safety focus group: D. Barrett\D. Simpson/R. Clapton
8. Other?

***Special thank you to Rod Clapton, BC Federation of Drift Fishers for taking the first cut at a draft TOR for the group!***

***The Fraser River Salmon Table and the Joint Working Group gratefully acknowledges the support and contributions to this dialogue provided by DFO and the Fraser Basins Fraser Salmon and Watershed's Program since 2009.***

## Summary Notes

### 1. Welcome and introductions

### 2. Summary notes review and action points from last meeting (April 10): All

- i) Peace Makers: *Sts'ailes* representatives have been replaced on Peacemakers list;

Follow-up meeting with RCMP: Ernie Crey sent e-mails, letters and phone calls to RCMP to no response Recommend letter from the Fraser River Salmon Table to encourage their participation;

#### Follow-up:

- Dave Barrett: Will draft a letter for signature by participating groups – liaison, participation in Peace Makers, outstanding issue from Last year (D. Werk). Wish to meet with Superintendent Robertson;
- Dave Barrett will draft letter to Dean Werk re: process unfolding and he is not forgotten

- ii) Public Education signs: production complete

**Follow-up:** D. Moore needs receipt from FVRD/Doug Wilson to send

- iii) Meeting has occurred with Seabird and awaiting for date with Chawathil

**Follow-up:** Seabird Island Band planning to attend future meetings of this group, thankful we are waiting

- iv) Tier 3 – next meeting of FRAFS is in Prince George on May 8/9. TOR draft re-circulation included Barry Huber

**Follow-up:** Moore/Barrett will be following up with DFO

- v) Safety Strategy: Committee meeting pending next week.

- Will finalize 10 safety tips for river fisheries: next draft circulated
- Planning for August event: discussion the FVRD pending
- Planning a joint safety focus group meeting (Ramada?): awaiting LFFA to recommend date/DFO to set first pan-lower Fraser First Nations pre-fishery meeting
- DFO planning a safety media blitz (via coroner)

**3. Presentation of draft TOR for the group: Rod Clapton/Dave Barrett/Dave Moore (attached)**

- Reviewed draft submitted by Rod (brief overview)
- Plan to complete input in by end of May and finalize in June
- FVRD and Dave M. To follow up with potential funding request/contribution to this group

**Action:** Participants requested to submit comments by end of May and be prepared to discuss for ratification in June.

**4. Fraser River Public safety Event for August: Clapton, Dave Barrett, Don Simpson/Ernie Crey, Doug Wilson**

- August 11 – Island 22 ...whole facility can be used
- FVRD endorsed idea and approved use of the Island 22 facilities for the event as proposed
- FVRD will look after hosting needs (hospitality washrooms, staff support, etc.) and are awaiting the detail from the committee
- Committee should identify plans for central theme, booth display plan, salmon barbeque, guests etc.
- LFFA will consider this and discuss ways to contribute to themes and plans
- Need to determine needs, budgets and plans that need to be booked well in advance (fish and dancers are very busy in August)
- Planning for a fish barbeque is very complicated and needs to be well thought out
- Need to identify catering company and cost/logistics needs (note an easy pre-cooked order of burgers are \$0.88 each patty)
- Need to pay specific attention to ways in which to effectively engage First Nations in the event
- Would like to see life jacket companies like Mustang taking responsibility for demonstrating life jackets
- Invites and promotion Doug can help with notices/promotion
- This group should be planning to have a joint booth among members
- Connections to Experience the Fraser?, life-jacket companies doing a survey to assess needs??
- Don't forget local chapter of Power Squadron (Larry Neilson) and Search and Rescue
- Doug Wilson/FVRD can supply a coordinator – Meagan Stewart (recommended to Rod to extend an invitation to Meagan to the next Committee meeting)

**Action:** Doug Wilson will organize a planning committee meeting: (perhaps meet at the FVRD Office)

- Recommendations: Frank Kwak, Rod Clapton, Don Simpson/Ernie Crey, DFO?, Others?

**5. Review progress on access study and discuss linkages to conceptual proposals for First Nations meeting with Vancity: Barrett**

- Chawathil is already planning expansion of current camping operation in Hope and we will know more detail after a chance to meet
- Seabird Island to attend subsequent meetings

**Action:** awaiting response from Chawathil on meeting date/hope to see Seabird Island reps at a future meeting

**6. Review progress report on lower Fraser signage plans and discuss next steps: Moore**  
See action notes #2

**7. Review plans Safety focus group: D. Barrett\D. Simpson/R. Clapton**

See action notes #2

**8. Other?**

- i. **Catch and Release Mortality Study:** Reviewed suggestion from PSF to arrange for JO Thomas to come to present on the catch and release mortality study – most folks and their organizations are satisfied that they have received updates through their organizations

**Action:** D. Moore will graciously decline offer

- ii. **Award proposal for rescue of First Nation fisher last year:** D. Barrett has continued communications re: Governor Generals Award for the rescue of the Cheam Band member

**Action:** D. Barrett to forward address and contacts for the me involved in rescue to the awards secretariat

- iii. **Issue emerging around Fraser Canyon Canyon Chum CU:** a communication from DFO has indicated First Nations in that area are conserving this stock and looking for broader support – has been raised with the LFFA. The SFAB has been asked by DFO to state a position on this and it is unclear whether folks understand the issues/or will in time to make a decision;

**Is it a mandate of this group to discuss these issues?** For information purposes is safe...noted the value in adding some reference to this in the TOR for the group so that it is useful, constructive and clear what this table could discuss;

**It was suggested that this group consider an information workshop** with lower Fraser First Nations and DFO on chum management/status issues to become better informed.

**Action:** All report back that this is a contentious issue and should be prepared to consider information sharing to better inform future decisions, but it is too late for this group to assist at this juncture...perhaps a future workshop? Resources? First Nations interest in?

**Next Meeting:** Same place June 12