

# **SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022**

**Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith**

**5130 Brenton Page Rd**

**Attending:** Jan Lemon, Ian Bruce, Paul Cipywnyk, Angela Kroning, Lesley England, Jim Shinkewski, ZoAnn Morten, Kevin Ryan, Mike Turner, Dave Kozakowski, Marjorie Lieuwen

**DFO:** Michael Crowe, Regional Manager, Community Involvement Programs  
Dale Desrochers, Regional Manager, Habitat Restoration Centre of Expertise

**Regrets:** Leandre Vigneault, Tracy Bond, Lee Hesketh, Dave Hurwitz, Kris Bullock,

**Guests:**

- David Didluck, Regional Director of Reconciliation & Partnerships
- Brigid Payne, Director, Salmonid Enhancement Program
- Julia MacKenzie, SEP Regional Manager – Enhancement Policy, Engagement and Strategic Initiatives, Salmonid Enhancement Program
- Stacey Larsen, Engagement Coordinator- Enhancement Policy, Engagement and Strategic Initiatives, Salmonid Enhancement Program
- Steve Newton, Regional Director – Salmon Stewardship
- Dave Semeniuk, Integrated Rebuilding Unit Manager, Salmon Stewardship
- Tanya Brown, Research Scientist, DFO, Adjunct Professor (School of Resource and Environmental management, SFU)

## **Sunday November 6, 2022**

### **Board Business** **(Lodge meeting room)**

1. **Meeting called to Order** at 1400 hr. by Jim Shinkewski
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
  - Moved by ZoAnn Morten. Seconded by Ian Bruce
3. **Adoption of minutes from June 26-28, 2022**
  - Moved by Jim Shinkewski. Seconded by Ian Bruce
4. **Standing Committee Reports**
  - 1) *Finance – ZoAnn*
    - SEHAB members did well on keeping the expenses down at the last meeting. The facilitator charged double than agreed so made budget very tight.
    - Running on last year's savings from having Zoom meetings. Current meeting covered.

# SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022

Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith

5130 Brenton Page Rd

## 2) Membership – Lesley

- a. North Coast – Smithers and NW BC: Natalie Newman Community Advisor (CA)
  - Cindy Verbeek has stepped down as an alternate. Replacement is Marjorie Lieumen
- b. BC Interior – Upper Fraser: Central Interior North of 100 mile – Guy Scharf CA
  - A candidate for Representative has been found – Jake Neustater. In process of collecting paperwork
  - Tracy Bond is looking at stepping down with a potential replacement identified for her.
- c. South Fraser – Tyler Thibault CA
  - Still looking for an alternate
- d. Lower Fraser – Brian Smith CA
  - Still looking for an alternate
- e. Fraser-Thompson: Central Interior Boston Bar to 100 Mile House – Melissa Hack CA
  - Still looking for an alternate
- f. Areas with no funding for Representative or Alternate
  - North Vancouver Island/Campbell River – Ian Douglas CA
  - West Vancouver and East Sound – Malcolm Wigham CA

Lesley recommended that SEHAB ask DFO to provide us with a new budget that would allow for all CA areas to be represented on SEHAB. It is recognized that there are challenges for all areas to find representation; however, all areas need to have the opportunity to bring on representatives as representatives and alternates are found.

**ACTION:** ZoAnn will take this forward for the next budget

There has been a question whether SEHAB representatives should be bringing concerns forward from First Nation SEP groups within their CA areas. There are First Nation SEP groups in Vancouver North who previously had representation and those groups feel that they are needing representation again via SEHAB. First Nations provide input through their SEHAB reps in many areas.

**ACTION:** Jim has sent this question to Michael to provide directions on.

## 3) Communications – Paul

- No communications to report

# SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022

Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith

5130 Brenton Page Rd

## 5. Working Group Reports

### 1) *South Resident Killer Whale Prey Technical Working Group (SRKW Prey TW) – Angela*

- SRKW Prey TWG Group meeting have started the process of recommending the Management Measures to the Ministers (DFO/TC/ECCC) for 2023. Angela has asked that the Transport Canada Interim Order "400m Approach Zone" be changed to "400m Avoidance Zone" - the name change would reflect what is wanted from everyone that is on the water when they encounter Killer Whales. Angela also asked that this Zone, which currently covers all southern waters from Campbell River around to just south of Ucluelet, be expanded to cover all of Sechelt Inlet (including Salmon and Narrows Inlets) and all of Jervis Inlet. Both areas are south (east) of Campbell River. They are often <400m wide but with their inclusion will make the Order more comprehensive. To back her request, Angela has contacted the BC Cetacean Sighting Network (on behalf of SEHAB) to request that they send Angela all their historic sightings of any Killer Wales. She has received data for the last five years with most species not known.
- Angela presented information on decision making by the SRKW Prey TW.
- Angela will be providing feedback to the working group that each option has rationale presented with that option (i.e., scientific paper)
- Question about Chilliwack Hatchery Chinook increase. But will not have any data until next year when first of the increased Chinook numbers return. Only one more year of releasing the extra Chinook

## 6. SEHAB discussion items

### 1) *SEHAB Correspondence – review of letters received/sent*

- Marking Feedback from SEHAB returned by Leandre

### 2) *SEHAB Communication and Outreach*

- One pager on SEHAB available on Basecamp in PDF and Word
- ZoAnn and Paul will look at getting this one pager printed for distribution

### 3) *Set dates for next two meetings*

- April 2-4 – Vancouver
- June 16, 17, 18 - Summer - Smithers do something with community

## 7. Meeting Adjourned at 1610

# SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022

Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith

5130 Brenton Page Rd

Monday November 7, 2022

(Lodge meeting room)

**1. Meeting called to order at 0900**

**2. Roundtable presentations with DFO present**

- All roundtables will be posted to Basecamp and sent to Webmaster by the Secretary for posting on the website.

**3. Presentation #1– David Didluck**

**Advancing Reconciliation in DFO Pacific Region**

- Overview of team roles
- Also building partnerships with those groups working with First Nations
- Provincial, territorial, and international relationships – therefore is complicated  
International – Pacific Salmon Treaty needs to balance

DFO Indigenous Context

- 216 First nations – most without signed treaties
- Over 60% of unique Indigenous languages found in the Pacific
- 106 Nations in BC engage in fisheries-related treaty/reconciliation negotiations at 44 table
- 11 Yukon First Nations have modern treaties and 2 negotiating at one transboundary table
- 8 Nations have signed modern treaties
- 20 Nations have signed reconciliation agreements

Reconciliation is a path – not a point in time

BCSRIF

- Partnership provincial and Federal – another \$128.55 M in funding for projects in Phase 2
- 64% funded projects funded to date are Indigenous led or include Indigenous partners

**4. Presentation #2 Brigid Payne – SEP Program Update**

- PSSI Pillar 2 review - Enhancement
- Organizational Changes at high level – more to come
- SEP expansion under PSSI
  - SEP focus is Pillars 1 & 2 – Conservation and Stewardship & Salmon Enhancement
  - Salmon Enhancement – Theme of Enhancement – Conservation focus, Theme of Enhancement -Harvest Focused

# SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD

**Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022**

**Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith**

**5130 Brenton Page Rd**

- Now have two directors – Brigid Payne (Salmon Enhancement) and Steve Newton (Salmon Stewardship)
  - Brigid – Regional Reporting
  - Both have functional coordination
  - Both under Executive Head, Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative
- Overview of Salmon Enhancement Directorate
- Review of modernization and PSSI capacity to modernize
- Review of PSSI enhancement actions for 2022-23
- Review of Key actions on the horizon

## **5. Presentation #3**

### **a) Michael Crowe: CEDP Review and Reinvestment**

#### A. Update on Staff

##### Community Advisor Changes

- No more CAs to be added but larger support – 4 biologists on enhancement for technical challenges
- Tech support positions – up to 8 across region – take some load off CA group
- Enhancement Engineers and Engineering Technicians – own specific specialist to come in and address long challenging issues
- Dedicated Section Heads will be added
- CA – New CA Jacob Melville for Sunshine Coast; Haida Gwaii (soon to be determined); new Acting CA Ryan Sear supporting Port Alberni
- Stewardship coordinators being brought on through Steve Newton's program
- Christy Wilson is the new Joanne Day
- Erica Blake – advancing a more expedited grant program to get funds to PIPS easier and faster.

#### B. Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative

##### Community Economic Development Program (CEDP)

- Developed in 1977-78
- Most located on the coast
- 20 in region – 13 First nations and 7 Not-for-Profit, only 17 active hatchery facilities
- Over 13 million fish are released annually
- Has had no investments in years
- PSSI conducted an evaluation and ranking process focusing on SEP Community Economic Development Program

# **SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022**

**Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith**

**5130 Brenton Page Rd**

- The purpose was to support strategic decision making for the appropriate PSSI funding to CEDP hatchery retrofits. Information for this was from interviewing Community Advisors
- Evaluation still in process of which CEDP facilities will be identified
- PIP groups will be worked with next. Money has been allocated within PSSI for PIP
- New potential CEDP's will be handled separately

## **Julia McKenzie: Interim DFO Enhancement Policy Framework**

- Review of the Interim Policy Framework
- SEP will be working to establish an enhancement policy to guide existing and new salmon enhancement programs.

## **6. Presentation #4 – Dave Semeniuk/Steve Newton: PSSI – Stewardship Directorate – Pillar 4 update and salmon rebuilding prioritization**

Steve Newton

- Reports to Sarah Murdoch
- SEHAB critical to success of PSSI
- Foundational pieces and a lot of work done internally to get this new Directorate set up, now need work externally
- Overview of plans for working with stakeholders.
- Overview of roles of Tina Chestnut (Partnership and Planning) and Dale Desrochers (Habitat Restoration)

Dave Semeniuk

- Prioritization and Stock management - How to make more streamlined under PSSI
  - Use a staged approach – phases reviewed
  - Are there any areas that are doing well, how do we continue to keep these doing well

## **7. Presentation #5 - Tanya Brown – The emergence of the tire chemical (6PPD-q) as a priority contaminant in Salmon habitat**

- 6PPD-q latest Urban Runoff Mortality Syndrome (URM) – initial studies released in late 1990's
  - Byproduct of initial tire additive reacting with ozone
  - Fish toxicity is seen in rainbow trout, brook trout, arctic char, white sturgeon, zebra fish. Coho remains most sensitive to this toxin today
  - Bioaccumulates to some degree
- Part 1 research overview presented.
  - Coho were more sensitive than Chinook
  - Findings are consistent with recently published urban roadway runoff exposure study
  - Paper not yet fully published and on-line

# SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022

Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith

5130 Brenton Page Rd

- Part 2 research -Water sampling in salmon streams for tire chemicals
  - Criteria presented
  - Current results presented
  
- 8. **Presenter #6 -Mike Turner:** Director of Policy, Fisheries & Aquaculture and Wild Salmon Branch - Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship
  - Outline of reorganization of department
    - Josie Osborn - Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and Minister Responsible for Fisheries
  
  - Riparian Zone Concern Riparian Areas Protection Regulation
    - Internal review to make it more efficient for local governments to use
    - What can be solutions? are being examined
    - Discussion on concerns around current Riparian Areas Protection Regulation and application by both Regional Districts and local municipalities. Mike will be taking concerns to the appropriate people in Provincial Government
  
  - Wild Salmon Strategy
    - Work ongoing with First Nations, DFO and Province to ensure not doing double work
  
    - Watershed Planning
      - Examining all provincial planning decision making
      - Looking at prioritizing recovery
  
  - BCSRIF
    - 2021 - 42.85 million from Provincial with Federal 100 million which doubles the amount from the 2019 announcement.
    - Overlapping five-year timeframes
    - Process
      - a) Both DFO and Province look at applications for funding prioritization
      - b) DFO and Province then get together for joint review
      - c) Final decisions of prioritization then go to further to Federal Minister and Provincial Deputy Minister for final prioritization
  
  - Ground Water
    - no exemptions
    - ACTION:** SEHAB will send letter to Josie Osborn and Provincial Minister. Lesley will develop this letter.

9. Meeting adjourned at 1650

# **SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022**

**Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith**

**5130 Brenton Page Rd**

**Tuesday November 8, 2022**

**(Lodge room)**

**1) Minutes from this meeting**

Moved by Angela. Seconded by Ian

**2) Date next meeting: April 2-4 – Vancouver**

**3) Ideas for the next agenda**

- Rheanna Drennan, PSF Coordinator, Salmon Watersheds Program work with the Pacific Salmon Explorer tool (ASKING 1.5 hrs.)
- Stewardship Update
- SEP enhancement update
- Vet update on best management practices – what should we be watching for when salmon return, what is being found what is affecting survival -- Paige Ackerman, Adjunct Prof at UBC, and Biologist at DFO
- Erika Blake – update on PIP grants
- Continuing provincial update with Mike Turner

# **SALMONID ENHANCEMENT AND HABITAT ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes: November 6, 7, 8 2022**

**Kiwi Cove Lodge, Ladysmith**

**5130 Brenton Page Rd**

## **4) Formulate RHQ update**

- Increase in funding for PIP grants - Erica Blake – update on PIP grants at next meeting
- Clarification on First Nations role in SEHAB. Should we be seeking input from SEP first nations groups that are already working with our Community Advisors.
- Grateful that DFO is working with the 6PPD-q issue.
- Due to increased environmental disasters, how do groups access emergency funds.
- Veterinarian update on best management practices for next meeting
- How are Representatives to be informed of a change in Community Advisor?

## **5) Meeting Adjourned at 1030**