

MINUTES
SALMON SUB-COMMITTEE
September 3-4, 2008, Meeting #65
Whitehorse, Yukon

MEETING DATES 2008-2009

Past Meeting Dates

Salmon Sub-Committee	February 26-28, 2008	Whitehorse
Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association	February 25-28, 2008	Grayling, Alaska
Porcupine River Working Group	March 19, 2008	Old Crow
Yukon River Panel	March 31-April 4, 2008	Whitehorse
YFWMB	April 29 – May 1, 2008	
YFWMB	June 10 – 12, 2008	
Dawson Public Meeting	May 20, 2008	Dawson City
Salmon Sub-Committee	September 3-4, 2008	Whitehorse

Upcoming Meeting Dates (tentative)

YFWMB	October 22-23, 2008	Whitehorse
Salmon Sub-Committee	November 18-20, 2008	Whitehorse
Yukon River Working Group	November 21, 2008	Whitehorse
Vision 2020 Symposium	November 26-28, 2008	Whitehorse
Porcupine River Working Group	December 2, 2008	Old Crow
Yukon River Panel	December 8-12, 2008	Anchorage
YFWMB	December 9-11, 2008	
Alsek Working Group	TBA	
YFWMB	January 27-29, 2009	
State of the Salmon Conference	February 2-5, 2009	Vancouver
Yukon River Panel	TBA	Whitehorse
Salmon Sub-Committee	March 17-19, 2009	

MEETING SUMMARY

1. **Review Agenda**
2. **Announcements**
3. **Review Action Items**
4. **Review Minutes from July 2008 Meeting**
5. **BNA Update**
6. **Administration**
7. **SSC Budget**
8. **Yukon Queen II**
9. **State of the Salmon Presentation Development**
10. **Youth Contest Package/Update (Postponed)**

11. **Yukon Queen II Submission**
12. **Policy Development regarding waterways ie. Yukon Queen**
13. **Aquaculture Policy**
14. **Members' Updates**
15. **Review Calendar**
16. **Other Business**

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday - 9:00am – 4:30pm – September 3rd, 2008

Location: Large Boardroom, 419 Range Road

Present: Carl Sidney (Chair), William Asp, Vicky Josie, Dan McDiarmid, Lorelei Smith, Steve Smith (DFO), and Louise Naylor (recorder)

Meeting was called to order by Chair Carl Sidney at 9:00a.m.

Opening Prayer

1. Review Agenda

- Agenda was reviewed and accepted with changes.

2. Announcements

- Carl – A small Chinook was caught when fishing for freshwater fish in a lake near Teslin (approx. 3 years old). Most FN's have managed their fishery by either reducing their fish harvest by half or they didn't fish.
- DFO Staffing Actions- DFO has recently hired Managers for Oceans Habitat and Enhancement Branch (Briar Young), and Conservation & Protection (Tom Hlavac). DFO has also run a number of administrative competitions; from these competitions three FN's have been hired.
- YR Chum Update – To date there are 615K chum past Pilot Station. Most of the fishing that occurred is prior to pilot station. A number of concerns were expressed with the bi-catch of Chinook caught during the US summer chum commercial fishery. Management discussions proposed opening the Canadian Chum fishery early but due to the restrictions put on the Chinook fishery and concerns of Chinook being caught in the bi-catch, the Canadian Chum fishery would be delayed until the chance of catching Chinook as bi-catch was reduced.

ACTION ITEM #65-1: SSC requested ½ day to be made available during the next meeting for the SSC to discuss protocols of the in season fishery decision making with Frank Quinn and Sandy Johnston.

3. Review Action Items

ACTION ITEMS#63-13: Gerry and Lorelei to review the IRG report and summarize the response in a letter for the committee to review.

Done – Letter sent August 14

ACTION ITEM #64-4: Admin to Email previous habitat job description to Lorelei Smith.

Done – Sent August 1, 2008.

ACTION ITEM #64-6: SSC to discussed availability of office space options with YFWMB.

- Done

ACTION ITEM #64-9: Send letter to TD Bank revising signing authorities; include all the SSC members' names on signing authority list.

- Done

ACTION ITEM #64-12: Carl to contact Frank Quinn to request assistance in getting Alaskan representative to attend the vision 2020 symposium.

- Done

4. **Review Minutes from July 2008 Meeting**

- Preliminary draft minute's available, final draft to be reviewed during November meeting.

5. **BNA Update**

- There was agreement during the last BNA workshop (March 2006) with the FN, for DFO to develop a draft document with input from affected FN's. To date not all FN who are affected have provided their information.
- DFO was to provide input into the document once all the information was received from FN's.
- DFO is seeking information from FN's who are effected by this and did not provide information on original document.
- Next step is to meet with effected FN to review options and develop a framework document for how negotiations would occur.

SSC concerned that the other stakeholders (ie. Commercial, domestic and recreational fishers) are not being represented during these discussions.

- LUNCH BREAK -

6. **Administration**

- Office Space
 - Salmon Sub-Committee viewed the available space at the YFWMB office. Space to be consider as a possible alternative for their present office space.

MOTION: Motion was made that the SSC move their current office location to share space with the YFWMB. Once confirmation of costs and approval from board has been received, all present were in favour, decision pending information from YFWMB.

ACTION ITEM #65-2: Carl to request quotes from YFWMB on cost of office space, for SSC to review during November meeting.

7. **SSC Budget**

- Reviewed summary of expenditures to date
- Revise Forecasts to include:
 - 20:20 vision members costs (October) (All Members)

- State of the Salmon Symposium expenses (All members)

ACTION ITEMS #65-3: SSC Members to register individually for the 2020 symposium

8. Yukon Queen II

- YESAB online registry is now available for comments on the Yukon Queen II; comment submissions are due by September 30.
- SSC submission to YESAB drafted for the sub-committees review and revision.

ACTION ITEM #65-4: Members to review submission and provide feedback by Sept 4th, 2008

9. State of the Salmon Presentation Development

Committee reviewed State of the Salmon 2009 Conference options

ACTION ITEM #65-5: Steve to inquire into options of SSC presenting during the State of the Salmon Conference.

ACTION ITEM #65-6: Current pictures of SSC members to be taken at the November meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:40 p.m. by the Chair Carl Sidney.

Thursday – 9:00am to 4:30 pm – September 4th, 2008

Location: Large Boardroom, 419 Range Road, Whitehorse.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Carl Sidney.

10. Youth Contest Package/Update

- Update postponed till November meeting

11. Yukon Queen II Submission

- The SSC reviewed and made revisions to the draft SSC YESAB submission on the Yukon Queen II as follows:
 - Include sections from the Habitat destruction Act as well as Fisheries Act, on fish habitat destruction.
 - Recommend that mitigation measures are imposed if the decision is for the boat to remain in operation.
 - And that the government agencies develop a navigational utilization plan, policy and or regulation.
- Cover letter to include:
 - Quote the SSC mandate chapter 16 under section 16.7.17 of the UFA
 - The Yukon River returns are low, there is no real information on why the returns are low, but nothing is being done to stop the Yukon Queen from operating, when reports show that the Yukon Queen is killing salmon smolts.
 - Request of YESAB that the submission be elevated to a higher level, so that an intensive review is carried out.

12. Policy Development regarding waterways ie. Yukon Queen

- Discussed putting a waterways policy in the SSC management plan
- Concerns raised that government will support and approve the YESAB submission, and the boat will continue to operate as is, with no restrictions.
- Suggested that the SSC include it as one of the discussions items during their public meetings.

MOTION: Public Waterways and impacts on salmon to be included on public meeting agendas as a consultation discussion item. All in agreement.

13. Aquaculture Policy – Lorelei

- In 2005 the SSC developed an aquaculture policy; this was done as the SSC were not in agreement of the DFO decision on Aquaculture. The policy was initiated to protect the SSC decisions when issues arose on aquaculture.
- SSC members reviewed the existing policy, and the DFO Aquaculture policy for wording related to management.
- Discussed the possibility of trying to incorporate the SSC aquaculture policy into the IFMP.
- No further work required

- LUNCH BREAK -

14. Members' Updates

- Faro Tour - William Asp
 - William provided an aerial photo of the contaminated pits for SSC members to view
 - a budget commitment of 7.2M annually for 3 years, for care and maintenance of the Faro mine site.
 - Transfer of responsibilities for the care and maintenance has begun; Denison Environmental Services has started working with Deloitte and Touche, final hand over of all responsibilities will take place in March 2009;
 - There were problems with dust control at the contaminated site; this is being controlled in the interim by a plastic cover.
 - Access to area is a problem; road conditions are poor due to the high levels of rainfall and limited road maintenance.
 - Taking part on the tour was an eye opener, seeing first hand what kind of damage can occur if precautions are not taken or put in to place at the start of a mining operation.

15. Review Calendar

- * October 23-25, 2008 - 2020 Vision Symposium (Vicky, Craig, Carl, Lorelei) (**Date revised to Nov 26-28**)
- * November 18-20, 2008 - SSC General Meeting
- * November 21, 2008 - YR Working Grp.
- * November 24-26, 2008 - Geo-Science Forum (available participants to contact Exec. Secretary).
- * December 8-11, 2008 – Yukon River Panel, Anchorage (available participants to contact Exec. Secretary)
- * February 2-5, 2009 - State of the Salmon Conference, Vancouver (all members to participate)

- * March 17 – 19, 2009 (Tentative) – SSC General - Whitehorse
- * TBA - Porcupine Rv – Working grp (Vicky to coordinate dates with FN Nov- early Dec) (Proposed date Dec 2)
- * TBA - Alsek Drainage – Working grp (to be coordinated after TTC meeting, Exec. Sec to coordinate with Craig)
- * Community meetings tentative week of March 23rd following Panel meetings – w/ RRC and FN's (Carmacks, Pelly, Mayo, Dawson)

ACTION ITEM #65-7: Yukon River Panel – Notify the co-chair that the SSC preference is to have the Panel meeting take place in early or mid-march.

ACTION ITEM #65-8: Contact communities to determine if the community meeting is preferred as a public meeting, RRC meeting or FN meeting or both. Update members at November meeting. Determine if DFO staff are available to attend community meetings. Discussion issues Waterways utilization how it is dealt with in different areas, effects of the different boat sizes on fish and habitat.

ACTION ITEM #65-9: Request a presentation from Transport Canada on their roles in relationship to Waterway utilization and the shipping act. Determine what Regulations are in place and examples of what occurs in areas, and what is in place on the Yukon River and what needs to be put in place to put limitations on the Yukon River. Request DFO's participation.

16. Other Business

- Community Updates
- Old Crow - Jul 10 Community meeting in Old Crow regarding yellow zone FN fishing restrictions. Present were Natural Resources (Shel), Esau Shaffer (FN council), and RRC.
 - Questions were raised that the numbers being used are old? A- explained that a numbers of members are not reporting harvest numbers, this impacts the numbers being used, stressing the importance of members reporting numbers.
- SSC members are being approached by members of the public and community members, blaming SSC members for the management decisions made to restrict and close the fisheries during the 2008 season.
- Agenda for next SSC Meeting
 - Elections - Chair and Vice-Chair
 - Postseason review
 - Strategic Plan (1day discussion)
 - Budget for FY2009/2010
 - Waterways Utilization (input from Transport Canada/OHEB)
 - Operating Procedures
 - Contribution Agreement – discussion with Lawyer

Meeting adjourned by Chair Carl Sidney at 3:15 p.m.