

**YUKON SALMON SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**CONSULTATION AND RECOMMENDATION**  
**FRAMEWORK**

**Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee  
CONSULTATION AND RECOMMENDATION FRAMEWORK**

**Endorsements**

Approved on November 21, 2012 by the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Tara Christie', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Chair, Tara Christie**

**Effective Date**

The effective date for this Consultation and Recommendation Framework will be November 21, 2012.

**Policy Term**

The Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee Consultation Framework will be in effect, subject to revision, until indicated otherwise.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**1.0 General Provisions**

- 1.1 Definitions
- 1.2 Executive Summary
- 1.3 Policy Statement
- 1.4 Authority
- 1.5 Review and Amendment

**2.0 Consultation Process**

- 2.1 Consultation Scope
- 2.2 Consultation Goal
- 2.3 Consultation Obligations
- 2.4 Consultation Process

**3.0 Recommendation Process**

**Appendix A – *Umbrella Final Agreement***

**Appendix B – *Umbrella Final Agreement Implementation Plan***

## **1.0 General Provisions**

### **1.1 Definitions and Abbreviations**

#### **1.1.1 Definitions**

“Chair” means the Chairperson of the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee appointed under subsection 16.7.17.9 of the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“Consult” or “Consultation” has the same meaning as in the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“Executive Director” means the senior staff of the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee;

“Executive Secretary” means the senior official of Fisheries and Oceans Canada who serves the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee under subsection 16.7.17.10 of the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“Member” means a member of the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee appointed under subsection 16.7.17 of the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“Recommendation” means a recommendation in accordance with subsections 16.7.17.11, 16.7.17.12 and 16.7.17.15 of the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“Renewable Resources Council” means a Renewable Resources Council established in accordance with a Yukon First Nation Final Agreement.

“Salmon” has the same meaning as in the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“*Umbrella Final Agreement*” means the agreement between the Council of Yukon First Nations, the Government of Canada and the Government of Yukon.

“Vice-Chair” means the Vice-Chairperson of the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee.

“Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board” means the Fish and Wildlife Management Board established under Chapter 16 of the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee” means the Salmon Sub-Committee of the Fish and Wildlife Management Board established under Chapter 16 of the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

“Spawning escapement” means the number of salmon that return to their spawning grounds and are not harvested by Canadians.

“Border escapement” means the number of salmon that return to Canada.

“Harvest” means the number of fish that are taken through a fishery.

### 1.1.2 Abbreviations

UFA	Umbrella Final Agreement
YSSC	Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee
YFWMB	Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
IFMP	Integrated Fisheries Management Plan
YRDFA	Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association
YRP	Yukon River Panel

## 1.2 Executive Summary

The Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee (YSSC) has a broad mandate, with the authority to make recommendations to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and to Yukon First Nations on all matters related to Salmon, their habitats and management, including legislation, research, policies and programs.

To help ensure that the YSSC's policies are aligned with its vision and effectively address the interests and preferences of the Yukon public, the YSSC supports consultations that are transparent, accessible and accountable. This *Consultation and Recommendation Framework* creates the foundation for YSSC Members and Staff to build a common understanding and coordinated approach to consultations in support of the YSSC mandate pursuant to the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

## 1.3 Policy Statement

The YSSC will undertake consultations in order to improve the recommendation-making processes, promote understanding of Yukon Salmon and their fisheries, and strengthen relationships with DFO, Yukon First Nations, Salmon stakeholders and the greater Yukon public.

## 1.4 Authority

This *Consultation and Recommendation Framework* will be implemented within the jurisdiction and context of the YSSC in accordance with the *Umbrella Final Agreement*.

## 1.5 Review and Amendments

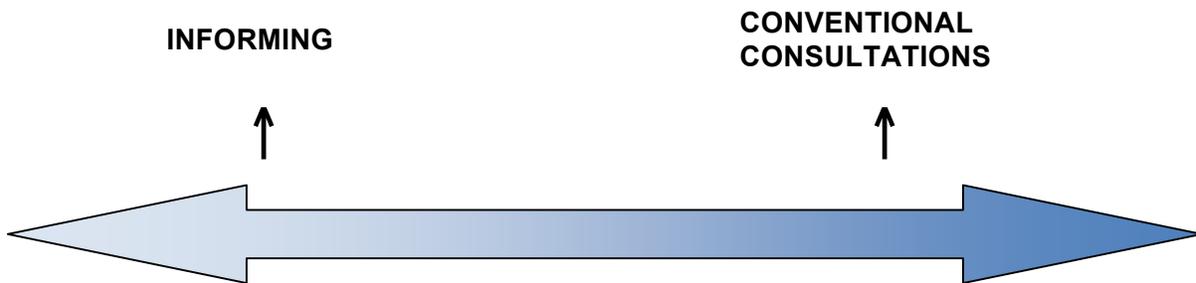
The YSSC may review and amend this *Consultation and Recommendation Framework* as required and in consideration of the changing needs of the YSSC.

## 2.0 Consultation Process

### 2.1 Consultation Scope

Consultation can have various meanings for different practitioners and participants. In some cases, consultation can be defined in legislation. In Yukon, consultation is defined in the *Umbrella Final Agreement* and in Yukon First Nation *Final Agreements*. Consultation can be *ad hoc*, which means something created especially for a particular occasion, or they can be regularized. Sometimes consultation is undertaken extensively, on broad issues with a wide-range of participants. At other times, consultation is more intensive, with a narrower focus and specifically-targeted participants.

For the purposes of describing the scope of the *Consultation and Recommendation Framework*, there are two different levels of consultation, depending on the degree of interaction between the YSSC and other parties involved. This forms a continuum from the lowest degree of interaction to the highest, as illustrated below. As the degree of interaction increases, the degree of influence also grows, along with the amount of time and resources required.



<b>Informing</b>	The YSSC distributes or makes accessible information on policies, decisions, programs and legislation. The information is provided in a balanced and objective manner to assist Yukon First Nations and the public in understanding the issues, opportunities and, or, solutions.
<b>Conventional Consultation</b>	The YSSC requests feedback on analysis and alternatives in a recommendation-making process after having defined the issue and having identified the participants in the process, and makes the final recommendation.

Conventional consultations solicit information, input and feedback from others. This can range in intensity from sending letters and background documents for soliciting input from targeted participants through to a series of public meetings. Conventional consultations can be organized as either *ad hoc* or on-going processes. However, these processes are not intended to force Yukon First Nations and stakeholders to reconcile their positions with other Yukon First Nations and stakeholders, as they tend to focus on the dialogue on and through the YSSC.

It is generally understood that consultation is a two-way exchange. It includes listening to other ideas, seeking suggestions to solve problems, and outlining proposals, while ensuring

there are opportunities for change. In the YSSC’s view, relationship-building facilitates meaningful consultation and to that end, the YSSC will endeavour to build relationships whenever and wherever possible.

**2.2 Consultation Goal**

The main goal of consultation done under subsection 16.7.17.12, paragraph (f), is to collect any comments, concerns and, or, suggestions on how Yukon First Nation subsistence harvesters may be affected by the annual *Integrated Fisheries Management Plans* for Salmon in the Yukon/Transboundary Rivers Area with a view to informing the YSSC recommendation to the Minister on allocation, in amount and by area, of Salmon to users.

**2.3 Consultation Obligations**

The YSSC is required to consult with affected YFN on an annual basis in respect of allocation, in amount and by area, of Salmon to users in accordance with Chapter 16 of the UFA, prior to making a mandatory, annual recommendation to the Minister of DFO concerning the same.

Consultation around subsection 16.7.17.12, paragraph (f) includes specifics around the border passage escapement, spawning escapement and harvest share allocation.

In Yukon, there are three distinct drainages: the Alsek River drainage, the Porcupine River drainage and the Yukon River drainage and the affected YFN in each drainage system are as follows:

<b>Alsek River Drainage</b> (Chinook, Sockeye, Coho)	<b>Yukon River Drainage</b> (Chinook, Fall Chum)	<b>Porcupine River Drainage</b> (Chinook, Fall Chum)
— Champagne and Aishihik First Nations	— Carcross/Tagish First Nation — First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun — Kwanlin Dun First Nation — Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation — Ross River Dena Council — Selkirk First Nation — Ta’an Kwäch’än Council — Teslin Tlingit Council — Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in — White River First Nation — Kluane First Nation	— Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

Within each drainage there are a number of stakeholders with an interest in Yukon Salmon. This may include: the affected area Renewable Resources Councils, Commercial fishers, Domestic fishers, Sport and Recreational fishers and the Yukon public in general.

For greater certainty, the YSSC has the discretion to undertake, at any time, other consultations in respect of any matter relating to Salmon, their habitats and management,

which includes legislation, research, policies and programs, with a view to making an appropriate recommendation to the Minister of DFO in the public interest.

## **2.4 Consultation Processes**

The YSSC utilizes a variety of tactics in order to facilitate meaningful consultation. In some cases, consultation is largely directed by one specific meeting (i.e. Drainage Working Group meetings), in others, multiple tactics may be used. The tactics used by the YSSC include:

- Public Committee Meetings
- Written correspondence and phone calls
- Website, email and social media
- Newspaper ads and general print materials
- Community and First Nation events, conferences and other meetings – presentation and attendance
- YRDFA Teleconferences
- Yukon River Drainage Working Group
- Alsek River Drainage Working Group
- Porcupine River Drainage Working Group

Consultation under the UFA includes the following groups:

- Yukon First Nation Governments
- Renewable Resources Councils
- Commercial Fishers
- Domestic Fishers
- Sport and Recreational Anglers
- Yukon Public

The UFA Implementation Plan states that the YSSC shall hold six meetings per year. This is made up of semi-annual public meetings, drainage meetings (Alsek, Yukon and Porcupine) and if required, one in-season meeting.

While, the Yukon River Panel is governed under the separately managed Yukon River Salmon Agreement, the UFA stipulates that the YSSC shall form the majority of the Canadian representatives on the panel. The Yukon River Panel meetings are important in the gathering of information and supporting consultation objectives.

The chart below identifies: the approximate annual timing of meetings, the target audience for consultation and the key initiatives featured during those meetings.